



## **Southern Navion Air Group**

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Newsletter

JULY 2013

### **FROM OUR PRESIDENT**

Wanda and I just arrived home from our long trip to the 2013 American Navion Society Annual Convention at Paso Robles, California. We had a long, fun, and tiring journey. Wanda was in Austin, TX on business so I flew to Horseshoe Bay on Thursday and we stayed overnight with JT and Oradell McMahon.

On Friday Wanda and I rendezvoused with Greg Young, Bobby and Bruce Herrington, and Robert Gaines at Santa Fe, NM and were treated to an excellent meal by fellow Navion owner Ron Tarrson of Santa Fe Aero. Ron's shop is responsible for the beautiful panel in the AOPA Sweepstakes Debonair that can be viewed online at [aopa.org](http://aopa.org).

Saturday morning Greg and Robert, Bobby and Bruce, and Wanda and I headed for Paso Robles by way of Cottonwood, AZ for a quick fuel and rest stop. Just shy of Cottonwood we looked out to the south and saw another Navion who was busy looking for the traffic had reported that was on a collision course at the same altitude. It was Rick Mills in his beautiful 3 time Flagship Navion. The route between Santa Fe and Paso Robles can only be described as dry, hot, and high!

SNAG members who attended the convention were Ron Judy, Jim Waldron, Jeff Davis, Greg Young, Robert Gaines, Larry "Woody" Woodfin, Jean Norton, Mike Polley, Terri Polley, Ron Natalie, Margie Natalie, Bobby Herrington, Bruce Herrington, Bruce Herrington Jr., Wanda Herrington, and me. Some of our members hold membership in more than one chapter and flew for their home club.

On Monday we flew over to Harris Ranch for lunch at the highly rated restaurant there. Harris Ranch airport is just a short walk from the restaurant where pilots enjoy a discount on their meal and the food is excellent!

The flying events are traditionally held on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. SNAG members flying in the flying contests include Greg Young, Bobby Herrington, Bruce Herrington, Jeff Davis, and me. Jeff arrived too late in the week for the Speed Contest on Tuesday but flew his Navion in the Efficiency event on Thursday and the Proficiency event on Friday. Bruce and Bobby took turns flying their Rangemaster in the events. Robert was unable to fly his own Navion due to "minor" mechanical difficulties but flew with Greg Young all week.

On Wednesday we toured the famed Hurst Castle built high upon a hill overlooking San Simeon. The location is now a state park and is being preserved for posterity. The place does bespeak of a LOT of money. We also toured the Eberly winery at Paso Robles. They have an 8000 square foot cave that serves to keep wine cool during the processing phase of production. Our members enjoyed a very nice wine tasting outdoors on the deck overlooking the vineyard.

On Friday evening our awards banquet was held. There ANS Vice President and SNAG member Jim Waldron serves as emcee and announces the ANS members who are being recognized for special achievement and or service to the Navion community. Ron Judy was named as Navioneer of the Year, and Karen Mills was given the Nancy Judy Award. Long time ANS member Hal Kading was recognized for attending all 53 of

the Navion Society annual conventions. Hal is a Navion Rangemaster guy and is very knowledgeable about Navion history.

During the banquet the location of the 2014 ANS convention was announced. Next year we will hold ANS convention in the heart of SNAG territory at Nacthez, Mississippi. Wanda and I hope that ALL of you will attend and help us make next year the best ANS convention ever!

On behalf of SNAG Wanda and I hosted the hospitality suite again this year. We enjoyed catching up with our Navion friends and making new friends in California.

On Saturday morning we began our long journey home. If you do not respect density altitude try taking off from Winslow, Arizona on a hot summer day. Our companions reported climb performance to be "anemic". We did arrive home safely and are looking forward to seeing you at a SNAG fly in soon.

### ***SNAG WINS PARTICIPATION TROPHY FOR NINTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR!***

Every year at convention the ANS awards a trophy to the regional chapter that accumulates the most points by participation in the flying events held at convention. There is a points system used to determine which chapter gets the award. Every participant lists the chapter he or she is flying for, and the chapter is awarded one point for each member flying in the event. The chapter is awarded 10 points for each first place, 5 points for each second place and 2 points for each third place.

After the 2004 ANS Convention, then SNAG President Mitch Midyett challenged our members to capture the ANS Participation Trophy. Under Mitch's leadership and the tutelage of Dick McSpadden SNAG won the trophy the very next year. We have continued that tradition every year since and this year is no exception. SNAG had only four Navions flying in the events but won the trophy with 44 total points. The runner up had 11 points.

The results of the flying events are:

#### **SPEED**

310	Mike Mostrong	196.21 MPH
300	Rusty Herrington, First	192.11 MPH
	Greg Young	186.91 MPH
295L	Ryan Douthitt	185.33 MPH
285	Bobby Herrington, First	173.42 MPH
	Dave Desmond, Second	169.62 MPH
	Dave Bejvan	169.03 MPH
	Bob Webb	165.61 MPH
	Rick Mills	161.96 MPH
260C	Mike Polley	171.70 MPH
E225	Wayne Johnson, First	158.64 MPH
	Eric Johnson	147.06 MPH

#### **HANDICAP RACE**

Bobby Herrington, Winner

#### **EFFICIENCY**

Rusty Herrington, First	69.44 points
Greg Young, Second	61.96 points
Mike Mostrong, Third	61.45 points

## PROFICIENCY

Rick Mills, First	35 points (almost perfect score)
Ray Roussy, Second	190 points
Greg Young, Third	240 points

**CECIL AUSTIN HONORED BY THE FAA**

In February, our very own Cecil Austin was named the FAA Certified Flight Instructor of the Year! Theo Mavridoglou, the manager of the FAA Safety Team, who presented the award also happens to also be a long-time friend of Cecil's. Cecil has been a CFI for almost 42 years. We are so lucky to have Cecil as a friend, technical advisor and instructor.

**FACEBOOK UPDATE**

We now have 65 members on our Facebook group. You can join at any time to get up to the minute news from fellow Navioneers including pictures, videos and a current member roster. The group's name is: ***Southern Navion Air Group (SNAG)***. When you find us, you will need to request membership. Once approved (by me) you have complete access to current events, great pictures and other cool information.

We have the latest membership roster and all the newsletters uploaded for your convenience. -- Susan Holmes

**NEWEST SNAG MEMBER**

Josh & Jamie Heath are the proud parents of James David Heath born May 6 at 11:36am. 9 pounds 1 ounce 19.5 inches long.



**LABOR DAY FLY-IN**  
**AUGUST 30-SEPTEMBER 2, 2013**  
**FREDRICKSBURG, TX**  
**T82**

Howdy folks! I hope you are having a great summer. It's time to get your reservations for the Fredericksburg fly-in. The Holmes & McMahon's have a great weekend planned.

- **Friday** - fly in and hospitality (with good old Texas BBQ)  
**Members bring:**
  - A-H bring chips and dip
  - I-P bring nuts. fruit
  - Q-Z bring sweets
- **Saturday** - flying games or shopping & dinner
- **Sunday** - the Admiral Nimitz & national museum of the pacific war, including a possibility of attending a live reenactment program & awards dinner  
**Other Options** - golf, winery tours on both days & a day spa on site
- Monday - breakfast & head home

If you have not been to the Nimitz museum in a while, you are in for a major treat! The museum has been significantly expanded and it's fantastic.

We have a room block at the inn on Barron's creek. It's a newer facility which is quite beautiful and has great facilities but is still only 1 block from Main Street (shopping & dining). They are also giving us quite the deal on the rooms. All of which are small suites and the couch in every room becomes a fold out bed (for those with kiddos).

You must call for the SNAG group rate at (830) 990-9202 or (866) 990- 0202. Standard suite (2 queens or 1 king) are \$139.00 for Fri/Sat and \$109.00 on Sun

They also have some fancier rooms - for slightly more per night. You can upgrade to a creek side room that looks directly out on to the creek and was a part of the original B&B. Also available are king suites with a Jacuzzi tub.

We have 20 rooms in the block, but as of now they can accommodate more rooms if necessary. Because it's a holiday weekend, our room block won't last as the hotels always sell out for that weekend so call this week! We lose the block on august 1.

For additional information, you can call Ora Dell at 512-755-0539 or Susan at 254-780-6039. See y'all soon!

-- Susan Holmes

**FINAL 2013 FLY-IN:**

Bud Brown and Robert Dixon have agreed to host the fall fly in Georgetown, SC. The airport identifier is KGGG. The date is Oct 10-20, 2013. Stay tuned for more information.

***KEEP THOSE NAVIONS FLYING!***

**SNAG NEWSLETTER/JULY 2013**

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