

Our outgoing president, Gary Rankin, and his wife Alyce faithfully served the American Navion Society for 22 years. Gary and Alyce have been instrumental in steering the American Navion Society from financial difficulties as a for-profit corporation to prosperity as a nonprofit corporation. Alyce planned and arranged our conventions including hotels and activities for many years. To Gary and Alyce I say thank you for your hard work and service.

Our organization is not only centered around the Navion that brings us together, but is also about our families who gather at fly in events and keep in touch between events. We have first, second and third generation owners who fondly recall their annual trips to convention and the friends they have made during those trips. We will continue the tradition with interesting and fun locations for everyone to visit in the future.

Every year at annual convention we hold our annual business meeting. The meeting is held on Monday at lunch and the voting members present attend and elect board members. This year Beth Pontiff from the Northeast chapter was re-elected to the board, and David Bejvan from the Midwest Chapter along with Kevin Domingue from SNAG were elected to the board of directors. Robert Gaines, Bruce Herrington, Rick Mills, Eric Rice, Greg Young and myself comprise the rest of the board. Thank you to these volunteers for serving on the board.

Every year the board of directors elects officers. Rick Mills was re-elected Secretary and Treasurer, Greg Young was re-elected Vice-President and I was elected President. I am very honored to have been chosen and am looking forward to the challenge. I have Wanda's support, and I will strive to keep our organization vigorous and moving into the future.

Our mission to support Navion owners will remain the first priority of the American Navion Society. We will strive to ensure parts availability for our members at a reasonable cost as well as technical support to owners and their mechanics in order to keep Navions flying far into the future. We will monitor the regulatory guidance and keep our members informed regarding potential service bulletins and airworthiness directives. We are working on a new website that will better represent our Navion community with up to date information. The Navion Experience will continue as a list of members who are eager to show and demonstrate their Navions to others to promote the American Navion Society and Navion aircraft.

My dad bought our first Navion in the 1960s, N5002C. When I was old enough I received my pilots license in his Navion Rangemaster. Now I travel to and from work every week in our Navion and have accumulated over 5000 hours flying our Navion. While working full time as an Emergency Room Doctor I have also earned the A&P license and Inspection Authorization.

Wanda and I have made many good friends while attending our annual conventions and are looking forward to making many more friends. As President I expect to be an ambassador to the flying community and be available to all of our members who have questions regarding their Navions as well as prospective Navion owners.

May you have blue skies and go fly your Navion!

Rusty Herrington