14 TIMES WINNER OF ANS BEST REGIONAL NEWSLETTER



Southern Navion Air Group

Newsletter April 2023

**Shade Tree Airfield SNAG Fly-in**

Our annual fly-in to Shade Tree, hosted by Danny & Janet Miller, was great but attendance from the east region was hampered by strong thunderstorms. We ended up with eight Navions in attendance with the following folks present: Kevin and Phyllis Domingue, Greg Young, Dr. Rusty and Wanda Herrington, James and Melissa Herrington w/posse, Bruce Herrington, Lee & Susan Holmes, Art Hutchison and Ann Bormolini, Dick & Ann McSpadden, Dave & Monica Knesek, Chris & Jodie Meaux, Paul Wright, Jeff Davis and Wayne Whitaker. Instead of a dawn patrol, we slept in and then had a fly-out to New Orleans’ Lakefront Airport where we had a fantastic cajun seafood brunch at their refurbished 1940’s art deco terminal building restaurant Messina’s Runway Café. After returning to MS82 we had the bombing and spot landing contests, electing to eliminate the balloon busting there due to the high close-in pine trees. Winning bombing 1st and 2nd was Chris Meaux and Spot landing was Rusty Herrington in 2nd with Chris again taking 1st. We had a wonderful BBQ dinner Saturday evening at the field and Sunday everyone blasted off early to avoid the approaching walls of weather. Look forward to seeing you at Fayette, TN and Branson, MO at the ANS annual convention (more on that below).

**Words from the President:**

Hello SNAG family, we had a good turn-out in Shade Tree, MS this year. Weather wasn’t the best and did keep a few from making it but for those of us that were able to make it all had a great time as usual.

We had our business meeting as scheduled and I would like to provide you with a brief summary of the items we discussed.

Greg Young, VP of the ANS gave an update of the state of the American Navion Society (ANS) and all of us are concerned, as a group, after his update. The ANS is in need of participation and a stated mission with a clear vision as to what ANS is to be as an organization for all members. There were several SNAG members that used to serve on the ANS board and all had the same message to convey: ANS is not working effectively under the current structure. There has been a declining participation at the ANS convention and it is felt that this is due in part to the lack of vision as to what ANS is to be and how ANS is to survive as an organization. With firsthand knowledge in participating in my first voting member meeting last convention, I was stunned at the contentious discussions regarding parts, the web site, and an overall lack of business decorum. The website was vehemently not supported by some. Consequently, Greg Young has rolled out a new ANS website at his own expense, set it up and is maintaining it as the current web master. I brought up the plan to SNAG membership that I will take on rolling out a website for SNAG under the ANS website as a chapter. I will take on migrating our membership roster online as well as making our renewals and payments all on-line. Furthermore, this will also migrate the newsletter. SNAG will keep mailing out the newsletters for some undetermined time into the future. To be clear, those SNAG members present loved the idea of online access for membership dues, newsletters, communication updates, and the need for ANS parts to be all available with inventory lists to paid members.

The next item we discussed was parts. The purchase of DeLuca’s parts by Jerry Neglio with Navions West was announced. Jerry sent a $ 250 dollar donation to SNAG as well as (4) $100 gift certificates which we awarded at the meeting to select members. Thank you, Jerry! The need to be on good terms with all of our parts suppliers including Navions West, Navion Customs, Josh Anderson, and of course our STC holder, Sierra Hotel, owned by Chris Gardner should be a priority for all members. The idea is to work to bridge relationships with all parts suppliers and this should be a function of ANS in the best interests of all Navion owners.

Do you realize our STC holder and parts suppliers do not attend the ANS convention. I will make this a priority to change. They need to be present and working with ANS to promote their businesses because we need them and they need us! I announced to the membership that I will run for the ANS board this year. As of this writing, my application for the Board of Directors has been emailed and mailed appropriately. It is my pledge to both SNAG and ANS that I will personally do my best to contribute in the revitalization of the Navion community across the US. I am proposing to do this by outreach to parts suppliers and flying clubs and working together towards a common goal of flying, supplying parts, and promoting what we all love- The Navion. SNAG believes we need to work with everyone and pull together as a community.

We start this revitalization by participation with an effort to make the fly-ins when scheduled. The next fly-in is a joint fly-in with the Midwest Navioneers club. Come and participate, this means YOU! I will be reaching out to the IV club as well. My goal and pledge to you is in two years we will have a fly-in of 50 or more Navions at an ANS or a joint club fly-in. We need your help so come fly your Navion with me and let’s rebuild the community and get this back on track.

*Kevin Domingue*

**FLY-IN SCHEDULE:**

* May 12th – 14th – Fayette County, TN (KFYE) – Joint Fly-in with the Midwest Chapter
* June 11th-17th - American Navion Convention - Branson, MS (KWFB)
* OCT – NOV Timeframe; TBD – Hosted by Nick Kanakis

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| **Book your group rate for SNAG - Southern Navion Air Group**You will find the information for your online reservation link below. If you have questions or need help with the link, please do not hesitate to ask. We appreciate your business and look forward to a successful event. |
| **Phone: 901.245.0640** |
| SNAG - Southern Navion Air Group |
| Start Date: Friday, May 12, 2023 |
| End Date: Sunday, May 14, 2023 |
| **Last Day to Book** @**Group Rate**: Wednesday, April 19, 2023 |
| **Hotel(s) offering our SNAG special group rate:** |

* **Fairfield Inn & Suites Memphis Arlington for $179 USD per night**

**WANT TO HOST A FLY-IN?**

We have a neat checklist from Ann McSpadden with all the instructions anyone needs to host a fly in! Contact Lee or Susan Holmes for a copy. What a great way to show off your local airport and part of the US. If you are willing to possibly host a fly-in for the 2024 season, please contact Kevin Domingue @ **KevinDomingue6429@gmail.com** or 409.656.4444

##### SNAG NEWSLETTER/MARCH 2023

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