



23 August 2003

Dear Golden Gate Navioneers:

Two weeks ago we had our August fly in to Woodlake Airport. Woodlake is a small airport about 25 miles east of Visalia and nestled up against the foothills. It has a very nice small café that a lot of pilots and locals come to for breakfast or lunch. The weather cooperated in that it was not too hot given that it was the middle of August. There is a shaded deck in front of the café, and we decided to have our lunch outside on the deck. We had a total of eight planes (7 Navions and 1 RV-6) and eighteen people gathered for this fly-in. I enjoyed this fly-in as well as any that we have had so far this year, and I hope that the others did also.

I am starting to sense a reinvigoration for our organization in that there is beginning to be more participation and because several people have contacted others and me expressing interest in the Golden Gate Navioneers. A couple of members have expressed a desire to try some other one day type of gatherings and have given some vague examples. I am in favor of this idea, but I would like more specific information. I would encourage any of you to help me and others to specify and help plan some of these other gatherings.

Next month we will have a barbeque in the park here in Angels Camp. Please note that this fly-in will be on Sunday, September 14, 2003, and not on Saturday. I would have preferred Saturday, but the park has been booked up for every Saturday through October, so the only day I could reserve the park is on Sunday. For those of you who fly in, you will fly into Calaveras County Airport. I will have someone to shuttle everyone to the park and back to the airport. For those of you who use your GPS, the airport designator is CPU (or KCPU), however, if you have older GPS software, the airport designator may still be identified as O03 (that's zero Oh three). Plan on arriving around 1130 hours (someone will be at the airport starting around 1100 hours). We will plan on eating around 1300 hours. The rides back to the airport will be at your convenience both for those who need to leave early and for those who wish to stay awhile to enjoy the visiting and the park. For those who decide to drive in, the park is on the highway that passes through the middle of town. It is a couple of blocks north of the old downtown area on the west side of the road and below the highway level. There is plenty of parking at the park. If anyone needs to contact me, my cell phone number is 209-770-1912 (sometimes the reception fades up here in the foothills).

It is such a hassle for anyone to make a potluck dish and transport it in a plane, so we will provide everything. If any of you can't or won't eat beef, please let me know. I am asking for a donation of \$7.50 per person to be paid at the picnic. If we are short a little (I don't think that will be the case) the balance will be made up from the treasury, and if there is a surplus, it will go to the treasury. I request that you contact us if you think you will come (home phone: 209-736-4943; email: dbdooley@caltel.com). There should be plenty of food, so if any of you decide to come at the last minute, please do not let the fact that you had not made reservations stop you (but reservations will help us better plan for this picnic). The weather should be pleasant, and I am sure that all who come will enjoy.

Looking down the road, there will be a bye in October (that's no fly-in), the November fly-in will be at Watsonville (hope the weather cooperates), and the Christmas Party in December will be at the same location as in the past few years. All our lives are full and busy and it is hard to make time for many of the things we wish we could do. I am hopeful that you will see fit to help bring this organization back to its vibrant days of years past, and it is you and not just me who can make that happen.

Sincerely,

Dennis Dooley, President



Note: This picture was taken in front of the old outhouse next to the café.