



It has been a pleasure serving the NGPA during the last two years. Please enjoy this issue of the Navegaytor and join me in welcoming David Pettet into his new position.

Steven Moore,  
Executive Director  
NGPA



## Meet New NGPA Executive Director DAVID PETTET

Our new Executive Director was announced in Provincetown. Look inside to read his welcome letter to the organization and get ready for the Palm Springs Winter Warm Up with David Pettet!



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**ALBUQUERQUE  
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# Our New Executive Director is in Town!

By David Pettet | October, 2014

Aloha my friends and family of NGPA. It is with much pleasure I write this first Navegaytor as your new Executive Director.

Those of you in attendance at our Provincetown event heard the announcement of the recent changes in the NGPA's leadership.

Our former Executive Director, Steven Moore, brought NGPA to a whole new level. One of the greatest things about this transition is I will be able to carry on his legacy while creating my own. Over the last several weeks and a few more to come, I will be finishing my "IOE" or "final training" with Steven Moore.

As many of you know, the people in charge have a huge love and passion for the NGPA and they volunteer their own time to keep our organization running. This month we have posted a Volunteer page that will show you specifically where we need help today! Please check out the volunteer section on the website. As we hunker down for



New NGPA Executive Director, David Pettet, Hawaii

the brutal winter that is forecast, keep in mind that Winter Warm Up is right around the corner. Be sure to book your room at the NGPA special rate. You can find the link to the Renaissance Hotel discounted rate on our website under the events tabs. Last year was the first time Winter Warm Up was hosted by the Renaissance property, and by popular demand we have chosen to return. The events committee continues to shine as they make final preparations to yet again break NGPA records in attendance.

Anybody buy a suit and refresh your résumé for the expo in Provincetown? Great news! The airlines are coming back! We are finalizing the airlines that will be attendance so stay tuned. After much discussion, it was decided to hold one airline expo every year to ensure both

parties involved benefit from the expo. That being said, due to the location and venue Palm Springs offers us, we will designate the Palm Springs Winter Warm Up as our annual airline expo that will require each person in attendance be an NGPA member to attend. Be sure to tell your friends!

Lastly, I would like to thank ALL of you for having confidence in me as the NGPA's next leader. If it weren't for the NGPA and its members, I would not be where I am today as a pilot, friend and partner. In Hawaiian, the word "ohana" means "family." NGPA is my ohana. Please don't hesitate contacting me regarding any questions, suggestions or concerns. I am here to listen and help make this organization better for YOU. Happy CHEMTrails!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "David Pettet".





# Palm Springs Winter Warm Up

By Steven Moore | October, 2014

Cape Cod Classic was record-setting, so don't wait to register for Winter Warm Up! Registration will open in the beginning of November. We have some things to be really excited about this year!

Check the Winter Warm Up page on the website to see the most up to date list of attendees. Are you a general aviation junkie? Did you love poking your head inside all of the airplanes at the Air Museum at last year's registration event? Good! We are having it there again this year! Winter Warm Up is going to be a blast in 2015—no question

about it! Record registration is guaranteed, so don't wait to get yourself set up! You can reserve your room by going to the following link for the NGPA room rate at Renaissance Hotel. We can't wait to see you there!

Click here to book now:

<http://tinyurl.com/pgxn7bg>

 THE NGPA PSP INDUSTRY EXPO  
Sunday, January 25, 2015 | 9 a.m.-2 p.m.  The Renaissance Palm Springs Resort

*Alaska Airlines*

*Horizon Air*

American Airlines 

**SkyWest**  
AIRLINES®

 EXPRESSJET™

SEA+PORT  
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# Cape Cod Classic Recap

By Steven Moore | Special Events | October, 2014

What a great weekend! If you didn't make it to this year's annual Cape Cod Classic, you missed a great one. We set a new record with attendance at 289 people registered, shattering every previous record!

We began the weekend with our annual registration party hosted at Ron Chapman and Crane McCune's beautiful waterfront home. We were nervous that there wouldn't be enough room for all of the people! The weather cooperated and people mixed and mingled inside and outside.

NGPA members, old and new, filled the house. They socialized and drank. They ate great food and some pizzas that were donated by Spiritus. While new connections were made, the volunteers at the registration table worked tirelessly to get all of the late registrants through the door. They worked until

there were only 30 minutes left of the registration event! After the registration event, members scattered all over town to find dinner. Later, we reconvened at the Porch

Bar at Gifford House. NGPA members filled every free corner and we packed into the bar, on the porch and the piano room. What an evening—and that place was FULL!







Saturday morning came too quickly! Members were starting to pour through the doors at 8:30, anxious for the breakfast, membership meeting, and our guest speaker. As usual, we moved the microphone through the room with a briskness that stayed consistent, and we made a few fun announcements made along the way.

Scott Dunham, safety inspector from the NTSB was our keynote speaker for the membership

meeting this year. Scott led a presentation on NTSB studies that dealt with past accidents and incidents. He discussed many different situations and scenarios that dealt with ground controllers all the way to center controllers. As a pilot, I found his talk to be thought provoking. It helped me to realize that we always need to stay

years past, Cape Air donated their hangar space, and we filled it! The BBQ was a blast. We had our annual Queen of the Fleet and Princess of the Fleet. It was a very large crowd and we had a record 26 airplanes fly in for the event! Tom Bishop (and his pup, Kylie) won the award for the Queen of the Fleet. Kylie's outfit helped with the win. Johnathon Deason and his Cirrus took 2nd prize, Princess of the fleet. They flew it all the way from California.



diligent while operating aircraft. We need to recall that there is a real-life person on the other side of the headset and they can make mistakes, too.

The weather was beautiful on the Cape for our Airport BBQ and Queen of the Fleet contest. As with

We hosted our Flight Deck Reception at the Harbor Lounge. Our Flight Deck members, the members that have donated \$300 or more to the operating fund of the NGPA, attended the reception. Board member Tom Buttgenbach graciously sponsored the event by donating \$1,500 as a way to show his gratitude to NGPA's top donors. The Harbor Lounge had an open bar and Bayside Betsy's catered this event for us. It was a great venue and a perfect way to show our donors how much we appreciate their donations.



## CAPE COD RECAP

The Saturday night banquet and auction followed the Flight Deck reception. Once we arrived in this room, the growing number of attendees became quite apparent as we squeezed into it. We're gonna have to reconfigure next year!

The event started by NGPA founder Brian Samuelson presenting me with a Founder's Award from himself and co-founder, Tim Sullivan. The award was a 'thank you' gesture to say thank you for my leadership over the past few years. It was a proud moment for me to be

recognized in that manner. The evening moved on and a few more important awards were presented. The Events Planning Committee also presented long-time member Dru Dunwoody with an award. In addition, I presented

Crane and Ron with the Executive Director MVP award. I did this in recognition for all they have done over the years for the NGPA.

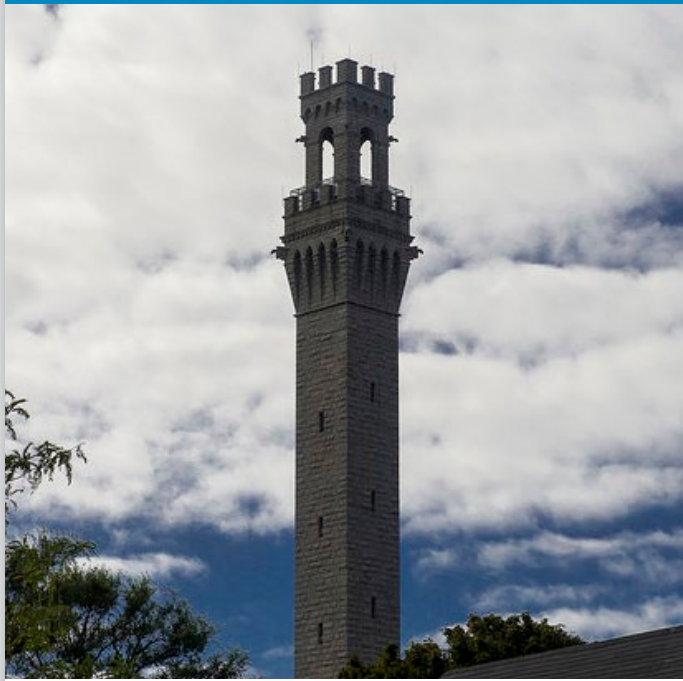
In his typical fashion, Dru found a way to liven up the crowd and

get people bidding! By the end of the evening, we raised over \$8,000 with combined silent and live auction totals and member donations. What a night to be proud of!

As the evening moved forward, we celebrated our successes and each other. People had a great time. Miss Richfield 1981 gave us a surprise visit and popped around the crowd. She humiliated a few people—including







## CAPE COD RECAP

realized that this year's Cape Cod Classic will be the last event that I will attend as the Executive Director for such a great group of people! Thanks to each of you for all that you continue to do to ensure the success of the NGPA.

If you didn't

make it to Provincetown this year, be sure and mark your calendars to join us in Palm Springs January 23-25, 2015. It's going to be just as fun and much bigger. Our goal for registration is 400 members, and I'll need your help to accomplish that. Watch the website and Navegator for details!

one of our very special guests—Brandi Gross, a recruiter from Alaska Airlines! I was mortified, but it didn't do too much damage. Brandi was quick on her feet and she had a few witty responses for Ms. Richfield 1981. It must not have been too bad because Alaska Airlines has already agreed to return in Palm Springs!

Sunday morning marked a special day for us. We had 2 mainline carriers with us for the first time—American Airlines and Alaska Airlines. This caused a huge turn out for our event with long lines to talk to both airlines. In addition, we had several regional airlines recruiting, too. A special thanks to Envoy, GoJet, Cape Air and Silver Airways for their continued support of the NGPA. The feedback from all of our vendors has said that the NGPA is giving them a very great pool of potential candidates. It made me proud. As the weekend drew to a close, it was bittersweet for me. I

## CAPE COD BY THE NUMBERS

Raffle Proceeds:	<b>\$3,680</b>
Total Registered For Banquet (Record Crowd):	<b>250!</b>
Total Registered For Weekend (Record):	<b>279!</b>
Total Number Of Airplanes Flown In (Record):	<b>26!</b>
Number Of Airlines Recruiting (Record):	<b>10!</b>
Number Of Major Airlines Recruiting (First Ever):	<b>2!</b>
Number Of Industry Expo Attendees (Record):	<b>90!!</b>

DON'T FORGET TO UPLOAD YOUR PICTURES TO OUR CAPE COD CLASSIC ALBUM AT [HTTP://NGPA.ORG](http://ngpa.org)





THAT'S HOT

## Albuquerque Hot Air Balloon Festival

It's been a few years, but a while back, a bunch of NGPA members gathered for the national Albuquerque balloon festival. Recently, someone approached me and asked if we can organize a group for those interested in going. The more ways NGPA members can connect, the better!

Balloon Fiesta will take place October 4-12, 2014 in Albuquerque, NM. Get more information about the Balloon Fiesta by visiting <http://balloonfiesta.com>!

Click here for the link to the Google doc to register. <http://tinyurl.com/NGPAABQ>



LET'S GO

## AOPA Fly-Ins

AOPA held their first fly-in during May in San Marcos, TX. The gathering attracted over 2,400 pilots and aviation enthusiasts! Have you been paying attention to them? I want to make it easier for NGPA members to gather at these events and share our enthusiasm for general aviation. Register on the Events > Fly In tab of the NGPA website so you can connect with other members or share a ride. **The next fly-in will be at Simmons, GA (KSSI) on November 4.**



PALM SPRINGS PRIDE WEEKEND

## Celebrate Pride

Join members of Unusual Attitudes, Golden Gate Flyers and NGPA for a fun-filled weekend celebrating Palm Springs Pride Weekend, November 7-9. Activities will include a Friday night Meet and Greet cocktail party and Saturday BBQ Pool Party followed by a group dinner. Sunday activities include parade viewing and the Pride Festival in downtown. The weekend will conclude with a survivors cocktail hour or two. Contact Mike Hart at [psmike44@gmail.com](mailto:psmike44@gmail.com) for details.







## UPCOMING EVENTS

# Save the Dates!

The NGPA will be at the following events in the coming months. Be sure to mark your calendars and come join us!

**OCT 4** **BALLOON FESTIVAL**  
ALBUQUERQUE, NM  
OCTOBER 4-12, 2014

**NOV 8** **NGPA BOARD MEETING**  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN  
NOVEMBER 8, 2014

**NOV 4** **AOPA FLY-IN**  
SIMMONS, GA  
NOV 4, 2014

**NOV 8** **AOPA FLY-IN**  
ST. SIMONS, GA  
NOVEMBER 8, 2014

**JAN 22** **NGPA WINTER WARM UP**  
PALM SPRINGS, CA  
JANUARY 22-25, 2015

**APR 24** **SPRING FLING**  
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL  
APRIL 24-26, 2015

**SEP 8** **NGPA CAPE COD CLASSIC**  
PROVINCETOWN, MA  
SEPTEMBER 18 - 20, 2015



## TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

# You or your airplane could be featured in the next issue of NGPA News!

Did you see the last member profile in the NGPA News Magazine? A lot of our members live amazing lives and we're certain you do, as well! A lot of our members have really cool airplanes, too! Submit your profile or airplane by clicking the links below! Your submission is one part that is making the NGPA better!

### To become a featured member:

<http://surveymonkey.com/s/NGPAMemberProfile>

### To have your aircraft featured:

<http://surveymonkey.com/s/NGPAAircraftProfile>

# ngpaNEWS

NO MORE PLASTIC

## NGPA News is Coming Out!

Well folks, it has happened. You have received your final copy of the NGPA News in the white bag. Moving forward, we will not be shipping the NGPA News in a white bag any longer.

At the inception of the NGPA News, it was decided to send the magazine in a plastic privacy bag. This was understandable for many reasons: People didn't want to risk being 'outed' at work. We didn't have the same respect publicly that we do now. Over the years, shipping the magazine this way has become less of an issue, so I have decided that it's time to take the magazine out of the bag. In effect, we can say that the NGPA is 'coming out of the closet.'

Although there are some people who would like to keep the magazine in the bag for privacy, there are more who feel like it's time to take it out of the bag. Personally, I feel as though taking the magazine out of the bag is the

best decision to make because there is potential for those with either preference to be happy.

*Moving forward, we will no longer ship the NGPA News in a white bag.*

Those who wish to receive the magazine out of it's white plastic wrapper believe we are an organization that focuses on advocacy. "How can we claim to be advocates if we are still being closeted in shipping our magazine?" they ask. This is a valid argument. It becomes more valid when it is asked by people in management positions with firms that give our organization money!

Those who oppose receiving the magazine unless it's wrapped have a different argument. They say that it is not their neighbor or mail person's business about the mail they are receiving.

Thankfully, there are a few options which can ultimately keep both sides satisfied.

First, you can opt out of receiving the magazine by logging into your account online and choosing the option listed in your profile to opt out of the magazine shipment. Another option that all members have is to download the electronic version of your magazine from our website. Any paid member has the option to do this.

**Please be sure and update your profile on the website if you are a paid member and you wish to stop receiving the magazine.**

**The NGPA News will 'come out' effective December 1, 2014.**





BOARD MEETING

# NGPA Board of Directors to Meet in Minneapolis

Save the date! Next month on November 8, 2014, the NGPA board of directors will be meeting in Minneapolis, MN. Historically, when our board of directors meet for the annual board meeting, we extend an invite for a social gathering. We are still finalizing details for the social gathering. Please look for more information on our website, Facebook and the November Navegator.

**NGPA MEETING**  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**NOVEMBER 8, 2014**

Questions or RSVPs:  
Email [David.Pettet@ngpa.org](mailto:David.Pettet@ngpa.org)  
or RSVP on the Facebook events page.



GET SOCIAL

# Local Groups

Get social and meet other LGBT aviators in your area!

## Canada Aviation Pride Group

Attn Vancouver Pilots: If you're in the area, Mel Rushton and Tom Polgreen have agreed to host a pilot party at their beautiful condo on 10/18 from 7:30 - 11:00pm. There will be snacks provided, but please bring your own drinks. RSVP with Peter: [petermlitherland@gmail.com](mailto:petermlitherland@gmail.com)

## Golden Gate Flyers, San Francisco area

GGF will be holding its Annual Hangar Party and BBQ on Saturday October 4 at the Oakland Aviation Museum from 12-3pm. This event coincides with the weekend of Castro Street Fair, which is Sunday in the Castro. The BBQ is a hosted event, free for all GGF members. Guests and other NGPA members are welcome to attend for a nominal charge. Please contact Mike Fillman for details at [mike.fillman@gmail.com](mailto:mike.fillman@gmail.com).

## Windy City Flyers, Chicago NGPA Group

The Windy City Flyers are often meeting up for drinks, potluck dinners, and out making trouble. If you are in Chicago, you can get more information on this group's events in two ways. You can join their group on Facebook. [facebook.com/groups/chicagongpa](https://facebook.com/groups/chicagongpa). You can also email John Burdick at [john.burdick@me.com](mailto:john.burdick@me.com).

## Cascade Flyers Seattle Area

The Cascade Flyers are based in Seattle and they are a very active group. You can find them on Facebook at [facebook.com/groups/cascadeflyers](https://facebook.com/groups/cascadeflyers). You can also email Russ Borgnin for information on events at [russborgnin@gmail.com](mailto:russborgnin@gmail.com).



## Mile High Flyers, Denver Area

Hey Denver aviators!!! Find us on Facebook for the local members in the Denver area. Search us out at "Mile High Flyers." Mile High Flyers is a local group based in Denver. Our purpose is to promote networking and social events within the GLBT aviation community including our supporters and other aviation enthusiasts. We meet monthly, do fly-ins and other fun social events. For information or to join the group, find us on Facebook and/or email [steven.moore@ngpa.org](mailto:steven.moore@ngpa.org).

## Unusual Attitudes, Southern California Area

Unusual Attitudes is dedicated to providing an enjoyable, social atmosphere for all gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender members of the aviation community. Our members include pilots (private, commercial, student and ATP), controllers, A&P mechanics, flight attendants and other aviation enthusiasts. We hold social gatherings and fly-ins each month throughout Southern California and the Southwest. Contact David Ford at [dbford92054@yahoo.com](mailto:dbford92054@yahoo.com).

## Liberty Fliers, Philadelphia Area

Philadelphia's only local gay pilot group is for any pilot

or aviation enthusiast in the Philadelphia region. Liberty Fliers will start out with monthly social meetings at some of Philly's local hot spots. We are planning to have fly-ins, dinners, and participate in local pride events. Join or "like" us on both our Facebook group and page. For more information, contact Mark Schmid at [mark.schmid@ngpa.org](mailto:mark.schmid@ngpa.org) or 609-221-6623.

## Twin City Flyers, Minneapolis Area

The Twin City Fliers is a group representing the Minneapolis-St. Paul gay aviation community within the National Gay Pilots Association. We are working to create a network of people in the area for social functions as well as career networking. We are going to be hosting regular events such as fly-ins, dinners, happy-hours, etc. for meeting and interacting with people in the area. Our Facebook page is accessible at: [facebook.com/groups/TwinCityFliers](https://facebook.com/groups/TwinCityFliers). Feel free to send them a message!



## Mach1 Flyers, Southern Florida Area

Mach 1 Flyers is a social and networking group for gay and lesbian pilots, and aviation professionals in the South Florida area. NGPA membership is encouraged, but not required. Mach 1 Flyers meets monthly for a social meeting. They also organize fly-ins around the south Florida area! Check them out! Email Cale Choi at [cale.choi@me.com](mailto:cale.choi@me.com) or look them up on Facebook at Mach1Flyers.

## Rainbow Flyers, Dallas/Fort Worth Area

The Rainbow Flyers is a group of GLBT aviators, their supporters and aviation

enthusiasts in and around the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. The Rainbow Flyers meets monthly for social gatherings and fly-ins. Contact Mel Rushton at [Mel@melandtom.net](mailto:Mel@melandtom.net) for more information or to join the group. You can also find us on Facebook by searching for Rainbow Flyers.

## Heartland Flyers, Kansas City Area

Heartland Flyers is a new group organized primarily around the greater metropolitan Kansas City area for the purpose of fostering social interaction and regular meet-ups. We welcome all gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender members of the aviation community, including both commercial and general aviation pilots and people from all aspects of the industry, as well as aviation enthusiasts. The group meets monthly for brunches, dinners, special events and fly-ins. For more information about the group and our activities, contact Ron Davis at [flynba@gmail.com](mailto:flynba@gmail.com) or visit our Facebook page at [facebook.com/groups/heartlandflyers](https://facebook.com/groups/heartlandflyers).

## CaCtuS FLYErS Phoenix Area

The Cactus Flyers have their monthly dinner near the first of every month. If you are in the Phoenix area, contact them! E-mail [cactusflyers@aol.com](mailto:cactusflyers@aol.com) or call (602) 540-6241.

## Out on the Runway, Washington DC Area

Out on the Runway has an activity scheduled every month in the mid-Atlantic region, we have several new members and are looking for new ideas for get-togethers! If you are in the greater Washington DC Metro area and you are interested in meeting LGBT pilots, contact the group's coordinator, Russ at [Red911forme@gmail.com](mailto:Red911forme@gmail.com). You can also find their group on Facebook! [facebook.com/groups/OutOnTheRunway](https://facebook.com/groups/OutOnTheRunway)