



SCHAF Newsletter for March 2024

Reminder: The next SCHAF Open House will take place Saturday, March 9, 2024, from 10am-1pm at Hangar Y-1 Jim Hamilton/LB Owens Airport.

Foundation Happenings

For the March Open House, SCHAF will be celebrating Women's History Month. There will be female pilots, female history displays, and even a Rosie the Riveter hands-on-display. You do NOT want to miss this one. Be sure to come to the open house to see the visitors, displays and the restoration progress on GF2.



Open House

The February Open House was cloudy but nice. SCHAF was thrilled to have the Spann Watson Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen Association on hand to talk to visitors. James brought his RV painted like the Tuskegee Red Tails. It is a beautiful airplane.



Panic Motorsports even brought a Mazda racecar painted to look like the Tuskegee Red Tails. If you look closely at the front of the car, you can see miniature 50 caliber machine gun barrels.

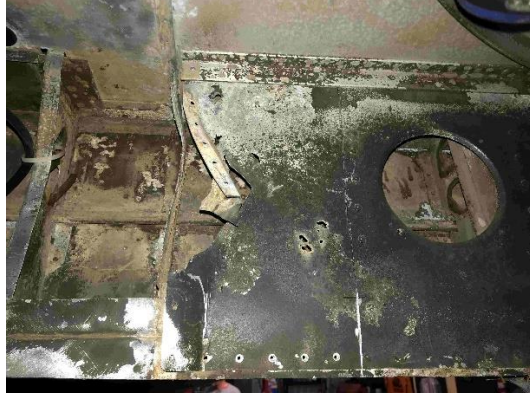


Restoration Progress

The astrocompass is now installed in the top section of the navigator's area. As was quoted in last month's issue from the NAA Maintenance Manual: "...the astrocompass is used to provide the navigator accurately and rapidly with the heading of the airplane and the true bearing from distant objects."



Work has begun on the area around the lower turret. When starting on a new section of the plane, the area is first cleaned to remove corrosion. The picture on the left below shows the newly cleaned aluminum under the radio operator's area. If you look toward the rear of the plane, you can see the round circle where the lower turret was positioned. Sometimes after cleaning the area, the broken pieces of aluminum are removed and replaced with new pieces. The picture on the right shows a broken piece of aluminum where the rivets have been removed along the bottom in preparation of cutting out the affected area.



The tunnel to the bombardier's area is now painted. It is amazing the difference when areas are cleaned and painted.



Recent Additions

SCHAF was able to acquire this old trailer. It will be cleaned, painted, and used in future events such as Memorial Day parades. The plan is to put SCHAF banners around the sides. A mount will be placed in the center of the trailer that will hold the large B-25 model currently in the hangar.



Ron is adding details to the B-25 model that will be used for the display on the trailer. The picture on the left below shows the reinforcement placed in the bomb bay area of the model to be used for mounting the plane. He is currently working on the bomb bay doors to be placed around this area. The picture on the right shows a 3-inch scratch build 30 caliber machine gun to go in the nose of the model. The engines have been repainted. This model is starting to look like it will fly right out of the hangar.



Wrap Up

If you have something you would like to share in a future newsletter or if you have any questions, please send an email directly to SCHAF at info.schaf@gmail.com.

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