

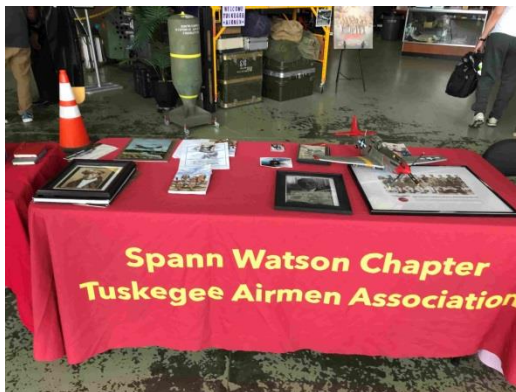


SCHAF Newsletter for March 2025

Reminder: The next SCHAF Open House will take place Saturday, March 8, 2025, from 10am-1pm at Hangar Y-1 Jim Hamilton/LB Owens Airport.

Foundation Happenings

The February open house was a fun one. We were thrilled to have the Spann Watson Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen Association set up a display. They always do an interesting and informative display. Melvin and Logan had great displays and impressions as well. We even had a big box of Valentine's chocolate that was raffled off to the lucky winners.

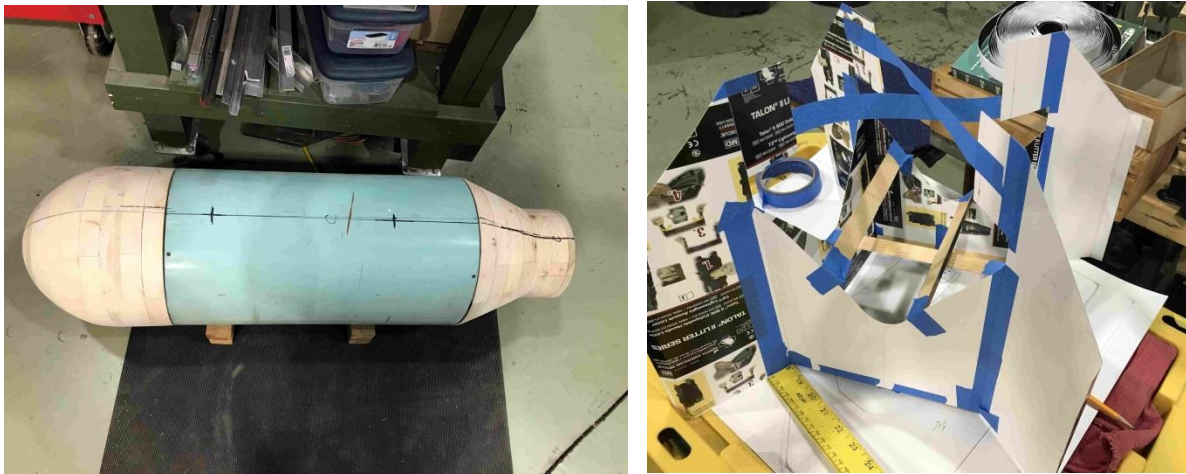


March is Women's History Month. Be sure to come see displays about female aviators and even meet some current female pilots.

Restoration Progress

Work is progressing on the ribs for the floor in the navigator's area. David and crew finished one rib and are working on the second one. They are getting better and faster at fabricating the ribs. Before long we will have a floor in the navigator's area. We have also begun researching all of the many parts in this area. There was a ton of radio equipment, table and other items crammed in a very small area.

Last month we showed pictures of the replica 500 pound bomb Sam made for us. We now have it in house. John is working on fabricating the fins, marking the bomb for the hooks, sanding and getting the bomb ready for display in the plane. A template for the fins is first made out of paper then the patterns can be cut out of aluminum. This is going to look unbelievable when it is mounted in the bomb bay area.



While David is working on the rib for the floor of the navigator area, Lanny is working on the top part of the lower turret. He is replacing the thick angle piece that was cut in half when the lower turret was removed. He was able to save a few of the important pieces such as the thick angle piece shown in the middle of the picture below. There are four of these thick pieces around the circle for mounting the lower turret. As you can see in the other pictures, the angle aluminum extends from one side of the plane to the other.





SC State Museum

Many of you already know that our original propeller is on loan to the SC State Museum. If you haven't been to the museum lately, make a trip to see our propeller. It is amazing to see how much the prop bent when it hit the water. Water and airplanes do not mix well. Also shown below is an original picture of the same propeller when GF2 was brought up from Lake Greenwood.



Renewals

A big thank you to all of you who renewed your membership in 2024. And another big thank you to those of you who have already renewed your membership for 2025. There are still a few of you who did not renew your membership in 2024. Please consider donating to help preserve SC aviation history.

Tuskegee Airmen Memorial

Just past Shaw Air Force Base is a monument to the Tuskegee Airmen. There is a real P-51 Red Tail Mustang on display. Have any of you made the trek to Sumter to see the monument? I remember when this monument was dedicated but am afraid to admit I have not driven to Sumter to see it. This is now on my bucket list for a drive to Sumter to see this monument.



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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