



SCHAF Newsletter for May, 2022

Reminder: The next SCHAF Open House will take place Saturday, May 14, 2022 from 10am-1pm at Hangar Y-1 Jim Hamilton/LB Owens Airport.

Foundation Happenings

April was a busy month for SCHAF. The open house in April was windy and cool so the hangar doors had to remain closed again. We have been very pleased that visitors are still finding their way to the hangar even though the large hangar door is closed. We were also very pleased to have the Military Timeline Impressions again. They set up an amazing Doolittle Raider display as well as a WAVE display. There were some very interesting books on display about the Raiders. One you may want to check out is "Four Came Home". The gripping story of the survivors of Jimmy Doolittle's two lost crews by Carroll V Clines.



Did anyone watch the Red Bull plane swap on Sunday, April 24th? A few SCHAF members watched the event together on a big screen. Two pilots in two separate planes jumped out of their respective planes to attempt to skydive into the other plane and essentially swap planes. While the plane swap did not actually end the way it was supposed to (one plane crashed), it was very interesting to see how they reconfigured the Cessna 182 for the event. To me, the dive brake on the Cessna looked exactly like the dive brake on the Dauntless SBD Dive Bomber. I kept thinking that 80+ years later, we are still using the same ingenuity on airplanes.

Also in April, along with the Military Timeline Impressions and the American Heritage Foundation, SCHAF set up a display for the Doolittle Raider Remembrance Event at the Skyline Club. Some great military vehicles were parked in front of the club. There were not one but two military fire engines on display! While it was hot and sunny, it is always great to get out and introduce SCHAF to visitors. There are several SCHAF members who are active in all three groups at the event. Bruce Cotner, Anna Amick and Gary Byrd wore WWII uniforms and had wonderful displays.



SCHAF display



SCHAF member, Gary Byrd

GF2 Progress

I often wonder how many people notice the very small details done during this restoration. As discussed in the February newsletter, there is a crawl space located above the bomb bay section. The restoration team has completed cleaning and painting this area. The pipes that ran along the wall have been painted and reattached to the fuselage. Two of the instruments are back in this area and attached with fabricated base plates. All of this was a very hard feat to accomplish due to the work had to be done while standing on a ladder with just your head, arms, and shoulders in the crawl space. The remaining instruments and handrail will eventually be placed in this area.



Great progress is being made getting the glass back in the nose of GF2. The fabricated bombs are sanded, primed and ready to be painted. The bomb rails are being installed in the bomb bay section. Next up will be attaching our new bombs to the rails. The skin underneath the front hatch is just about ready to be painted and riveted in place. This area has involved a lot of repairing, cutting, shaping, and drilling to get the skin back on the fuselage. It is very exciting to see these area getting nearer to completion. Come to an open house to see it in person.

Even if you cannot work on the restoration of GF2, there are still all sorts of volunteer opportunities. For instance, we can use artistic help designing displays for our open houses. If any of you like to write, we can use help getting articles about SCHAF in various newspapers/magazines. There are even some extremely unusual volunteer opportunities as described below. If you would like to volunteer your services, please e-mail or call SCHAF. The foundation can always use help.

In various places along the roof of GF2 were radio antenna wire insulators. The insulators were made of porcelain to not conduct electricity and to protect the antenna wire from rubbing against the aluminum fuselage. A few of these insulators can still be seen in GF2. We have a ceramic artist who has volunteered to make us replacement parts. Porcelain is more durable and therefore better able to handle extreme conditions such as the cold at high altitudes. However, since GF2 will always remain planted here on Earth, the replacement parts can be made of ceramic.



Doolittle Raider Correction

In the last newsletter, we mentioned two Doolittle Raiders who were native South Carolinians, Horace "Sally" Crouch and Bill Farrow. There was also one additional Raider, Nolan Herndon, who was born in Texas but settled in Edgefield, SC after the war. He was a bombardier-navigator for plane #8. Even though he was not born in SC, Nolan considered himself a South Carolinian.

“Guns” Garin Memorial Foundation Fly-In

On Saturday, May 28th, the “Guns” Garin Memorial Foundation will be holding their inaugural fly-in at the Jim Hamilton/LB Owen’s Field Airport (CUB). “Guns” was a local F-16 pilot, and the foundation in his legacy is offering flight training scholarships to eligible teens pursuing aviation. There will be warbirds as well as EAA-242 Young Eagle flights. SCHAF will have our hangar open with our planes/memorabilia on display for visitors. Any time we hear about warbirds coming to CUB we want to be there! There is nothing at all like the sound of a warbird. This is an event you do not want to miss!

Book Recommendations

Warm weather is here which means the summer reading list needs to be started. If any of you have any recommendations for good aviation/history books, please email SCHAF so we can include them in a future newsletter. Also, if you have stacks of aviation books with no more room for storage, consider donating your books to SCHAF. We are trying to build an aviation library at 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.

South Carolina Historic Aviation Foundation 803 731 3254
3100 Devine St, Columbia, SC 29205
www.schistoricaviation.org



JOIN TODAY

DONATE NOW