



SCHAF Newsletter for September, 2022

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

Foundation Happenings

The August open house was a Top Gun theme complete with the original Top Gun movie on the big screen, a mannequin and a Maverick helmet for the kids to wear. The day seemed to be a big hit for the young and old.



The last open house had some exciting visitors. Dale returned from U.S. Navy boot camp to visit the hangar. He will be stationed in Charleston training. Logan also flew in for the open house. He looked very dapper in his WWII uniform.



GF2 Progress

After months of Ron's hard work, the nose is complete with just a few cosmetic touches remaining. It has been several years since the Plexiglas has been back in the nose. It is amazing how much it changes the profile of GF2. Come see it in person to fully appreciate all of Ron's hard work.



SCHAF received a couple of donations this month. The first is a smaller sized oxygen tank originally used on the upper turret. The second is an original fire extinguisher which was used in the rear of the airplane. These will eventually be installed in GF2.



Restoration work is continuing in the bomb bay area as well as the floor around the front hatch. It is funny seeing the different contortions and positions the team has to obtain in order to rivet. Sometimes it helps to have long arms. Sometimes it helps to have small hands. It doesn't take brute strength but it does take a dedicated team of volunteers who love history and who dearly love GF2. Come see the work in person.

Tug Restoration

A complete overhaul of the tug is being worked on by new SCHAF volunteer/member, Lanny. The tug will soon be running like a brand new one! It will be used to pull GF2 out of the hangar. The tug now has working brakes which is very important when towing an airplane! So far, Lanny has rebuilt the master brake cylinder, rebuilt the carburetor, replaced the fuel line, replaced the brake light switch and is currently replacing the thermostat. During the repairs, it was discovered some of these parts were completely missing. Pictured on the right is the cleaned and painted thermostat housing. David jokingly said they painted it brown to match the rust on the engine.



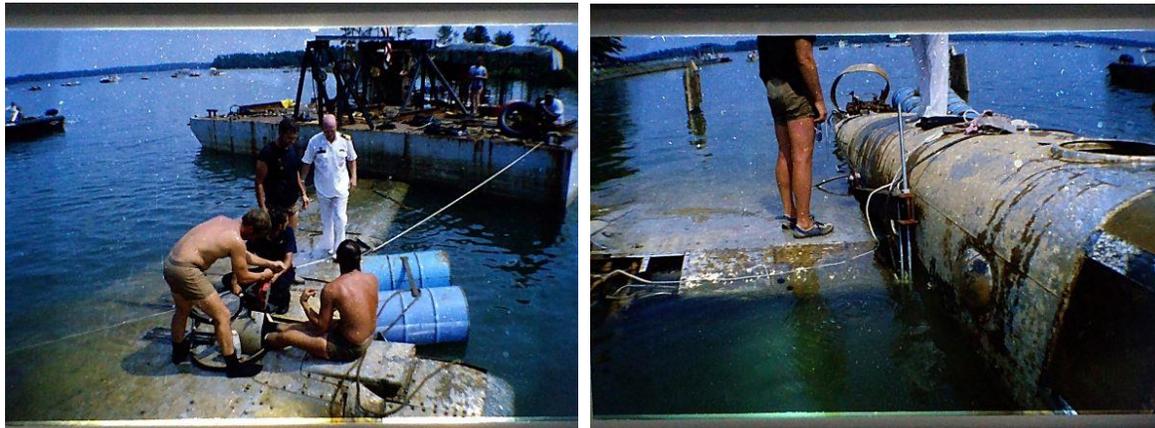
Donation of Slides of GF2

When Mike Putnam, the Navy Senior Chief in charge of the salvage operation, visited SCHAF in June, he donated a box of 35mm slides from the recovery of GF2. SCHAF member, Niall, volunteered to scan the slides for the foundation. We will be showing some of these slides in future newsletters. We will also need to get Chuck and Mike to identify the names of the recovery team members pictured in these slides.



The two pictures above are of some of the instruments and parts recovered from GF2. These are great because the picture on the left shows the original fire extinguisher. This is like the one that was just donated to SCHAF. The picture on the right shows the original drift meter which is just like the one we currently have in GF2. Very exciting to have pictures to back up our restoration work.

The two pictures below are of the restoration team. I believe the man in the Navy whites is Mike but will have to confirm with Chuck and Mike. It made me smile that he would wear Navy whites while walking on the wing of GF2. We believe they are pumping oil out of the engines. Amazing pictures!



Birthday Celebration in October

Don't forget about a very special open house in October. We will be celebrating the 80th birthday of GF2. You will not want to miss this one.

In October 1942, GF2 rolled off the assembly line and into history. Given the tail number, 41-13285, she was sent to Kansas for some additional modifications arriving in Columbia in December of 1942.

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



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