



SCHAF Newsletter for April 2019

Reminder: The next SCHAF Open House will take place Saturday, April 13, 2019. 10am-1pm at Hangar Y-1 Hamilton/Owens Airport.

Foundation Happenings-

SCHAF is fortunate to have been given a generous donation from the Estate of Jim and Jan Causey. He was an avid pilot who spent many years building Vans RV airplanes. Over the years he accumulated aircraft tools which we are extremely fortunate to now have and are using to work on GF2. Among the aircraft tools are a new metal brake and hand dimpling tool. Also donated were numerous hand and electrical tools; i.e., drill press, band saw, and cordless drill. Along with the tools, Mr. Causey's niece donated boxes of bolts, nuts, drill bits, rivets, etc. There are too many items to list individually. It was like Christmas morning for us! We will be forever thankful to Bill Como and Ron Skipper for their help in obtaining such an amazing donation



We are also extremely fortunate to have new shelves for storing our aircraft parts. We would like to thank Berry's Freight for donating these shelves to us! These are big enough and strong enough to hold many of our items. We are hoping to have the hangar looking amazing very soon!



Ron has been working on the nose gear section of GF2. While cleaning the years of paint off the gear, he has uncovered some amazing parts. The first picture is a brass plate describing how to put the nose gear pin in place for towing the plane. Sorry but the brass plate is so shiny it makes it hard to get a good picture of the writing. The other piece is part on the nose gear strut. It is in such great condition that you can still read "Made in USA" on the part. It is hard to believe these were under water for 39 years!



SCHAF Wish List-

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, this will be a new section of our newsletter. These items do not need to be in mint condition. Please consider donating your unused items to SCHAF.

We still need the following items:

- Tool chest on wheels
- Plastic storage tubs
- Picture frames
- Unused bolts, nuts, screws, etc.

Throwback Pictures

Here is another old picture I found of GF2 being towed by none other than Ron Shelton. This was taken in 2013 prior to our tugs being repainted. Have you ever seen our two tugs we use to tow GF2 around Owen's Field?



Historical Notes-

This month marks the 76th anniversary of the Doolittle Raiders historic mission to bomb Japan and strike a blow against Japan following Pearl Harbor. For the raid, the B-25 planes were made as light as possible to facilitate taking off from an aircraft carrier. Knowing planes would be lost, the US did not want the Norden bombsight to get into the hands of the Japanese. Since the Norden bombsight worked best above 4000 feet and the Raiders would be flying at 1500 feet, the Norden would essentially be ineffective. Lt C Ross Greening designed a makeshift bombsight he called the “Mark Twain”. At the time, the cost of the Norden was \$10,000 while the cost of the “Mark Twain” was 20 cents. Pictured below is a replica of the “Mark Twain”.



Good Reads-

April 18th is the 76th anniversary of the Doolittle Raiders. Over the years, many books have been written about the Raiders. How many of these books have you read?

Target Tokyo: Jimmy Doolittle and the Raid that Avenged Pearl Harbor by James M Scott – This is an in-depth book about the planning and mission of the Doolittle Raiders. The research that went into the writing of this book can easily be seen when reading this book. (Thanks to Deborah Bailey for recommending this book)

I Could Never be so Lucky Again: An Autobiography of James H “Jimmy” Doolittle – While this book has been around for a long time, it is still a must read if you are interested at all in the history of the Raiders.

Lt Bill Farrow Doolittle Raider by John Chandler Griffin - Born in Darlington SC. He was the pilot of the 16th plane, “Bat Out of Hell” on the raid. Bill was captured and subsequently executed by the Japanese.

Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo by Capt. Ted Lawson – Almost everyone has seen the movie, but have you read the book? The books always go into much more detail.

Odds and Ends:

If you have something you would like to share in a future newsletter, 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

