



SCHAF Newsletter for September 2024

Reminder: The next SCHAF Open House will take place Saturday, September 14, 2024, from 10am-1pm at Hangar Y-1 Jim Hamilton/LB Owens Airport.

Foundation Happenings

The August open house had a special theme of hurricane hunters. Stanley always comes up with interesting and unique impersonations. I knew right away who he was portraying but many people had never heard of the Grey Man. Bruce had a display commemorating Halsey and the Typhoon Cobra in 1944. The storm sank three destroyers, killed 790 soldiers, damaged nine other warships and swept dozens of aircraft overboard from the aircraft carriers.

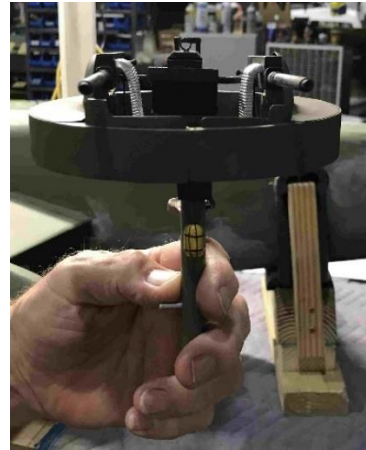


Restoration Progress

The second bomb bay door is complete except for some touch up painting. The team is now working on the motor and rods to operate these doors. Very exciting to see these in place!



Ron has been putting even more details into the large-scale model B-25. He scratch built cockpit seats, ammo cans, bombardier riding seat and bicycle seat. The upper turret is complete. If you look closely at the turret, Ron added a riding seat, oxygen tank and even a gun sight. This B-25 is museum quality. Lanny is continuing with repairs to the fuselage for the simulator.



Attached to the roof in the navigator's area is a bag for the signal flare pistol. Attached to the shelf behind the navigator's riding seat is the bag for the signal flares. Different colored flares were used to notify the airport of an emergency landing such as an aircraft malfunction or wounded on board the airplane. John made the bags for each of these and attached them to the plane. It is details such as this that really make the work on GF2 special.



College Bound

During her high school years, Katie has been a faithful volunteer with SCHAF. If you need detailed scale drawings for the restoration, she is the one to do it! Katie is heading off to Purdue. We wish her the best and hope she visits when she comes home.



Exciting News

In the May newsletter, we mentioned the donation of an original picture from when GF2 was put on a trailer and delivered to Columbia. Dwight Bundrick, who was one of the National Guard soldiers in charge that day in September 1984, brought us another donation of an original video showing GF2 being loaded on the trailer then driven thru the streets of Greenwood on her way here. To those of us working on GF2, seeing this original footage was like Christmas morning. We are hoping to have Dwight speak about that day and this video at a future open house.



Travels This Summer

SCHAF member and Dan Rossman's daughter, Hope Bloom, sent us pictures from the Pikes Peak Airshow in Colorado Springs. She said walking around the B-25 brought back memories of her Dad and GF2. As all of you know, Dan, was one of the student pilot's in GF2 on the day she crashed. This B-25, In the Mood, currently resides at the National Museum of World War II. The Indian Head insignia on her tail depicts the 345th Bombardment Group. The following is from the 345th Bombardment Group website:

"The 345th Bomb Group was first activated at Columbia Army Air Base, SC in November 1942. The 'Air Apaches' were the first full Air Force combat group sent to the Pacific in World War II and flew the B-25 Mitchell. Shortly after arriving in theater their B-25s were converted to strafers making them a low-level ground and shipping attack plane. The unit was awarded four US Distinguished Unit Citations and is one of the most decorated units of WWII."



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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