



SCHAF Newsletter for March 2015

Reminder: The next SCHAF Open House will take place Saturday, March 14, 2015. 10am-1pm at Hangar Y-1 Hamilton/Owens Airport.

Greetings to members and friends of the South Carolina Historic Aviation Foundation. It's only March and already it has shaped up to be a busy year with lots of good things taking place, a lot more in the works and numerous opportunities for everyone to get involved with making SCHAF a bigger and better organization.

Foundation Happenings-

Before we talk about what happened in February we would like to mention what will be coming up in March and this month's open house which is going to be something really special.

The South Carolina Historic Aviation Foundation (SCHAF) is observing Women's History Month by hosting a visit from the first African American female in the history of the National Guard to be promoted to general office. Aiken native Dr. Irene Trowell-Harris retired as a Major General in the Air National Guard. She later served as Director of the Department of Veterans' Affairs, Center for Women Veterans. She will be at Hamilton-Owens Airport Saturday, March 14 at noon during SCHAF's regularly-scheduled monthly open house to "inspect" the vintage B-25 bomber the aviation foundation currently is restoring to display standards. She will receive a special greeting from members of the Spann Watson Chapter, Tuskegee Airman. A Tuskegee Airman chapter located in Upstate New York is named for Trowell-Harris. She presently lives and works in Washington DC.

In addition that weekend Bill Rouw with the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum will be in town to assist SCHAF volunteers with the restoration of GF-2. Bill is the crew chief for the CWHM's airworthy B-25 and in recent months has provided a wealth of knowledge and assistance to SCHAF. Anyone who would like come by and learn how they can help in the restoration is welcome. Volunteers are always needed. Plans are to work on GF-2 that weekend.

Also present that morning will be Brigadier General Darlene Goff, Director of Joint Staff for the South Carolina National Guard.

And because it's Women's History Month we will have ladies dressed as "Rosie the Riveter." They will be on hand to talk about the important contribution of women in helping win World War II and defending our freedoms.

Also there will be a trailer sized realistic flight simulator for young people and other guests to experience. Word is that the simulator is out of this world. Sounds exciting.

This is shaping up to be one the best SCHAF open houses ever and we would love to have a good turnout from the membership. Tell your friends and bring them along and introduce them to the exciting world of aviation history. **Again, that's Saturday, March 14, 2015 from 10am-1pm at Hangar Y-1 at Hamilton-Owens Airport. Hope to see you there.**

The board of directors of the South Carolina Historic Aviation Foundation held their monthly meeting at Hamilton-Owens Airport in Columbia on Saturday, February 21st. Present were SCHAF president Ken Berry, along with Ron Shelton, Cantzon Foster, David McIntosh, Scott Linaberry, Xen Motsinger and SCHAF member Niall McLaughlin. Ken reported that an application has been submitted to the Richland County Conservation Commission for another grant to aid in the restoration of GF-2. There was also discussion of the March open house (see above) which promises to be really special. It was reported that the restoration of GF-2 is on schedule and going well. Niall McLaughlin reported that the Canadian Warplanes Heritage Museum is

providing SCHAF with a complete structural manual for the B-25. Scott Linaberry briefed the board on ideas regarding the restoration of the historic Curtiss-Wright Hangar at Hamilton-Owens Airport and possible involvement by SCHAF in the project. Ken and Scott will be at the March meeting of the Richland County Airport Commission to discuss the matter with commission members.

A successful open house on Saturday, February 14, 2015. Had some young people from Epworth Children's Home visit and they enjoyed learning about the foundation, GF-2 and South Carolina's aviation heritage. High winds that Saturday resulted in the folks from EAA 242 having to suspend the Young Eagles after only about half of the young people scheduled to fly were able to take their flights. Let's hope for better weather in March.



SCHAF members who were on hand for the February open house were Ken Berry, Cantzon Foster, Ron Shelton, Ron Skipper, David Moxley, Richard Hill, Mary McIntosh, David McIntosh, Anna Amick and Bill Paulis. By the way, a big thanks to Linda Skipper who sent a pound cake that was absolutely great.



Cantzon and Ron Skipper discussing restoration

Ken, Ron and Mary showing off GF-2 to visitor

Also thanks to Tyler Smuck who is a Navy JROTC cadet at Dreher High School who helps out EAA 242 with their Young Eagles program and came over and talked with visitors about SCHAF and aviation history. Tyler has helped in the past. Again, thanks Tyler. Look forward to seeing you again in the future.

In late January EAA 242 held their annual banquet at the SCHAF Hangar at Hamilton/Owens Airport. A good crowd was on hand and word is that everyone had a great time. Among the SCHAF members present were Ken Berry, Cantzon Foster, Marvin Williams and Xen Motsinger. Some pictures below.



Folks at EAA 242 Annual Dinner



Cantzon Foster and friends

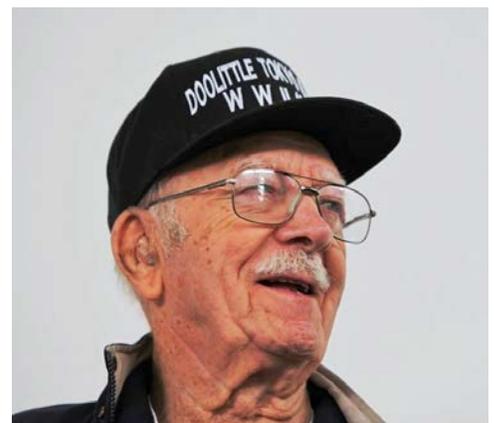


Setting up for EAA banquet

On Sunday, March 29th, a special ceremony commemorating the first US Army (Airborne) Division/Regimental size parachute drop in 1943 takes place at 2pm at the 82nd Airborne/505th monument at the Invista plant on US Highway 1 in Lugoff. SCHAF member Ted Podewil is one of the folks helping put the ceremony on. If you want more information you can e-mail Ted at army44d3@live.com or call 803-356-0611. This will be an event worth attending.

Historical Notes-

A sad note, the passing of one of the last remaining members of the Doolittle Raiders. Edward J. Saylor passed away in late January. Saylor was 94. Saylor was a crew member on the 15th of the 16 B-25 bombers that launched off the decks of the U.S.S. Hornet on April 18th, 1942. There are only three men out of the 80 who took part in that historic mission who are still with us. Here's a link to his obituary in [the New York Times](#).



Edward J. Saylor

Given that March is Women's History Month I thought I'd include this link from Monash University in Australia about two women in Texas who trained pilots for the Royal Canadian Flying Corps during World War I: Katherine and Marjorie Stinson. One was known as "the flying schoolmarm" and the other as "the flying schoolgirl." Here's the link: http://www.ctie.monash.edu.au/hargrave/stinson_bio.html

Another Women's History Month item about Jerrie Mock, the first woman to fly solo around the world. <http://www.historynet.com/jerrie-mock-record-breaking-american-female-pilot.htm> .

This is for all of the non-tech types out there (that includes me); ever wondered how a jet engine works? Here's a great info-graphic that explains everything: [How a Jet Engine Works](#) .

February was Black History Month and South Carolina played a major role in aviation history and the advancement of African-American aviators. The Tuskegee Airmen, the legendary "Red Tails" carried out their advanced fighter training in Walterboro, S.C. Today a monument at the Lowcountry Regional Airport in Walterboro celebrates the accomplishments and achievements of those pilots who in serving their country braved more than just the enemy. Here's a link about [the monument](#) .

An item I forgot to mention last September was the 67th birthday of the United States Air Force, which became a separate service in 1947. Here's an article that came out at the time marking the anniversary. Has some great pictures. Follow this link:

<http://www.businessinsider.com/air-force-67th-birthday-2014-9>



Thanks to SCHAF member Ted Podewil who sent in this link to an article in The Stars and Stripes about the C-130J Hercules. Here is the new **C -130 Hercules J**. It has six bladed propellers, 15 feet longer, greater fuel efficiency...more powerful Roll Royce engines to allow it to climb steeper to high altitude airstrips with a full load. See this link for the story and see the [interactive graphics](#) for more details:

<http://www.stripes.com/news/pacific/new-hercules-to-take-on-heavy-lifting-across-pacific-in-2017-1.324843>

Bet you didn't know that when you go to the store and take a package of Jell-O from the shelf you're actually involved with a bit of aviation history in South Carolina. Did you know that? Here's the story. Woodward Field in Camden is the Kershaw County Airport and during World War II was home to the Southern Aviation School which trained American and British pilots, among them Col. Robert Morgan, pilot of the *Memphis Belle* and *Dauntless Dolly*. The field is named in honor of Ernest Woodward, who donated 165 acres of land for an airport 1929. Woodward was a fan of thoroughbred horse racing which was how he ended up in Camden. His family made their fortune when they sold their company Jell-O to what would become General Foods Corporation. Woodward would also provide the funds for the construction of the Springdale Race Course in Camden, home of the Carolina and Colonial Cup steeplechase races, premier stops on the North American steeplechase circuit.

The name Lockheed is one of the most storied in aviation history. Famous aircraft such as the Lockheed Electra, the P-38 Lightning, the U-2 and the SR-71 have come of the drawing boards at this famous and historic company. Today it's known as Lockheed Martin (after merging with the firm started by another legend, Glenn Martin). What I didn't know until recently that this aviation firm can trace its roots to a young man who raced cars and through his half-brother ended up making airplanes; an article from Road & Track magazine

about Allan Lockheed: <http://www.roadandtrack.com/features/web-originals/happy-birthday-allan-loughead> .

A footnote from the early days of aviation when the air mail routes were impacted by a poultry farm. From the Historic Wings website: the story of [Cackle Corner](#) .

Good Reads-

[Lost in Shangri-La](#) by Mitchell Zuckoff the exciting World War II true story of a flight that was only supposed to last a few hours to see a last valley in Dutch New Guinea from the air that turned into a harrowing adventure for the survivors of a horrific crash. Its characters include a pretty young WAC, an inspirational airborne officer and his unit of Filipino paratroopers thirsting for action and the headman of a tribe that time forgot. Can the survivors be rescued in time? Can a rescue mission even be mounted given the unforgiving terrain? If so, how? Ever wonder what happens when the Stone Age meets the air age? Read this story, one straight out of a Saturday morning serial and find out.

Odds and Ends-

He was one of America's greatest fighter pilots yet his name is barely known in this county. During World War II he scored 23 kills (some sources credit him with 25 kills) against the Axis, but it was only in 2005 that he was even recognized by his home state for his heroism. Who was this unknown man of aviation? His name was Lance "Wildcat" Wade. Follow this link and find out about "Wildcat" Wade, distinguished American fighter pilot: <http://fly.historicwings.com/2013/01/wildcat-wade/> .

Interesting article: [13 Things you don't know about the Boeing 747](#). Enjoy.

SCHAF is proud of its association with Hamilton-Owens Airport, one of the outstanding facilities in the Palmetto State and a true addition to the midlands community that plays an important role in aviation and the growth of metropolitan Columbia. Visit it and you'll see a well-run facility with professionals who ensure that day to day operations run smoothly. Did you ever stop to think about all that goes into providing a community with a top notch facility such as Hamilton-Owens? Here's a good article regarding the construction of runways and the planning process for making improvements at an airport. Interesting. I never knew all that went into keeping an airport at the forefront of things. [Holding Up to Heavy Metal: What Airport Runways Are Made Of](#).

On May 27th the Snowbirds of the Royal Canadian Air Force will be at the Anderson Air Show at the Anderson Regional Airport in Anderson, S.C. Along with the Thunderbirds, the Blue Angels and the RAF Red Arrows, the Snowbirds are considered one of the world's premier aerobatic teams. They will perform two shows that day. Should be a trip well worth taking. Here's a link to the website for the Snowbirds: <http://www.rcf-arc.forces.gc.ca/en/snowbirds/index.page> .

Please spread the word, forward this information to others. Honor Flight of South Carolina is searching for WWII Veterans - Time is precious. Please help find as many WWII veterans as possible to part of the **May 13, 2015 flight**. Time is not on our side. We have lost so many of our WWII Heroes and many of those that are still with us are becoming very frail. This may be the only flight this year so please help us locate WWII veterans that have not had the opportunity of seeing "THEIR" WWII Memorial. Go to [Honor Flights SC](#) and print an application, complete and mail. For more information please call 803-582-8826. **Applications are due by April 15, 2015.**

Last month our trivia question was: who was the first person to pilot an aircraft in Australia. The answer: the world-renowned magician and escape artist Harry Houdini, who was also a pilot. Here's the link to a page from Monash University in Australia about Houdini's aerial exploits in the land down under: http://www.ctie.monash.edu.au/hargrave/houdini_bio.html .



Harry Houdini

We had one correct answer. The person who came up with Houdini asked that he remain anonymous.

Here's our trivia question for this month. The legendary Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress is truly one of the great airplanes of history. Air armadas comprised of the "might fort" along with its stable mate, the B-24 Liberator, would rain destruction down upon the Nazi Reich. B-17's would see action in the Pacific though in the late stages of the war its bigger, younger brother the B-29 Superfortress would deliver the knockout blow against the Japanese Empire. Now here's the question. After the guns of World War II fell silent the B-17 would, within a couple of years find itself back in action, fighting in another conflict. What was the war where the B-17 last saw operational action in combat? We'll fill you in next month.

In Closing-

Well, that wraps up this month's SCHAF newsletter. If you have something you would like to share please [e-mail](#) me or any of the board members for inclusion in future newsletters. If you've missed any of the past newsletters you can always go the downloads page of the SCHAF website and catch up on things. Here's the link: <http://www.schistoricaviation.org/downloads.htm>. Also, get involved with the foundation. A lot of things are in the works and help is always needed. **Oh, and by the way, if you have not renewed your membership, do so at your earliest convenience. [Go to the SCHAF membership page on the foundation's website.](#)** Also if you have changed your e-mail address recently, please let us know so we can update our records. Your support of SCHAF is greatly appreciated

Till next time

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