



SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORIC AVIATION FOUNDATION

"Saving the past for the Future"



Newsletter for April 2013

Greetings to all SCHAF members-

It's been a busy and productive month for the South Carolina Historic Aviation Foundation. Thank you for the positive response to the first e-mail newsletter. Let's get down to business and catch up on all that's been going on.

SCHAF Conclave meeting-



Gary Byrd, member of SCHAF board and Cantzon Foster, President of SCHAF at "brainstorming" meeting that took place at Hamilton/Owens Field on March 13, 2013.

The board of the South Carolina Historic Aviation Foundation met March 13, 2013 at Hamilton/Owens Airport for what can best be described as a "conclave" to discuss the future direction of the organization and get ideas from folks involved in aviation and education. About twenty people were in attendance including such notables as Jim Hamilton, former airport manager of Hamilton/Owens Airport and a member of the South Carolina Aviation Hall of Fame, as well as Bud Coward, former head of the South Carolina Aeronautics Commission.

After a brief program on the foundation by Ron Shelton talk turned to ways the foundation can work toward the goal of preserving the Palmetto State's aviation heritage and educating people about South Carolina's important role in the history of flight. Cantzon Foster, president of SCHAF emphasizing just how important it is that South Carolina's aviation heritage not allowed to slip away and Gary Byrd, SCHAF board member pointing out that in the past other states have literally "filched and raided South Carolina's aviation history."

The long term goal for the foundation is something that will be called The South Carolina Aerospace Centre. The general consensus seemed to be that it is a worthy goal. Is doable, but will take a lot of money and the way to approach it is through small steps, possibly a smaller initial facility using the Curtis-Wright Hangar at Hamilton/Owens and the efforts of Scott Linaberry and his partners in redeveloping the hangar into some sort of venue.

One of the things that came out of the meeting was the importance of the educational aspects of the foundation and any proposed aerospace centre. A couple of educators were among those in attendance and they both pointed out that such a centre could become a popular and important resource for schools not only in South Carolina but neighboring states. But they also pointed out that with today's students it's important to make it interactive- in other words make it something they can touch- have displays with 3-D cutaways that explain a jet engine works, how an airfoil creates lift, that sort of thing. Make it more than just static displays of aircraft and other things and instead have content that pulls them into the story that such a centre would try to tell.

Another area folks talked about was the importance of getting today's young people interested in and familiar with history and the events involving things such as the Doolittle Raiders and World War II. Cantzon says that when he's had the chance to show the foundation's B-25 bomber to school groups the kids are fascinated and enthralled by the stories of World War II and how America became involved and how important it is to help future generations understand why things happened and why it was important a generation of young men and women decided to risk all to fight a horrible tyranny. Pretty much general agreement is that any such aerospace centre should also be strong in the area of history.

Continuing on the education theme it was pointed out by Jim Hamilton that the aerospace industry is going to need a lot of pilots and mechanics and technicians in the coming years and the foundation and the proposed aerospace centre can play a role in getting young people interested in a career in aviation and aerospace.

There was also discussion on the location of such a centre. This involves a number of factors and will probably be the subject of a longer posting in the coming months. There was also a suggestion of going down to Alabama to meet with the director of the museum in Birmingham and finding out more about what makes a successful aviation museum. Maybe a trip can be put together. Will keep everyone posted. Needless to say, it is a detailed matter that will need a lot of study.

All in all a good meeting. Lots of good comments and ideas and a good starting point for the foundation to starting planning and working toward some really worthwhile goals. Thanks to everyone who

attended. We're going to accomplish some great things. Might take some time and effort, but we can and will do it.

SCHAF Board meeting-

The board of the South Carolina Historic Aviation Foundation met on Thursday, March 21st at the Foster Law Offices in Columbia. Scott Linaberry reported that the project involving the Curtis-Wright hangar at Hamilton/Owens Field is moving ahead but still waiting on final approval from Richland County Council. He estimates that restoration work could begin in as soon as six months. Also some discussion on housing the foundation's B-25 during the construction process. A suggestion that GF-2 be partially disassembled and portions stored in various hangars. Doing this could allow some upgrade and restoration work to be performed on the plane. The board is also going to explore renting a larger hangar to house the plane during the restoration of the Curtis-Wright hangar.

Ken Berry also gave a brief report on the restoration of the foundation's two aircraft tugs. One has been painted and the other is being prepared. Ken says he will send some pictures of the tugs and they will be included in next month's newsletter. Ken thinks the project should be completed shortly.

Also discussion on the "conclave" meeting the week before, the general feeling that it was successful.

Upcoming events-

The Earl Yerrick Memorial Aircraft Static Display will take place on Saturday, April 6th from 10am to 4pm at Hamilton-Owens Airport in Columbia. The foundation's B-25, GF-2, will be one of the aircraft on display. Other aircraft will include a C-47, a Chinook helicopter, and a Boeing/Stearman PT-17. There will also be homebuilt and experimental aircraft. Cocky will also be there. For more information the number to call is 803-771-7915 or visit their Facebook page Hamilton-Owens Palmetto Cup.

The Sparkleberry Country Fair takes place at the Clemson Experiment Station in Richland Northeast on April 27th. SCHAF will be there again this year. Volunteers are needed to man the SCHAF table. If you would like to help contact Ron Shelton. His e-mail is sheltr@mindspring.com. The website for the Sparkleberry Fair is <http://www.sparkleberrycountryfair.org/>



Ron Shelton and Dave McIntosh at the 2012 Sparkleberry Country Fair.

The next weekend (May 4th and 5th) Armies Through Time takes place at Historic Camden Revolutionary War Site in Camden. Over the years this has been a very popular event for folks interested in military history and the folks at Historic Camden are as good of a group of folks as you'll ever find. This year SCHAF will be taking part. The dates are May 4th and 5th. Again, volunteers are needed to man the SCHAF table and get the word out. If you would like to volunteer let Ron or one of the other board members know. Again, you can reach Ron at sheltr@mindspring.com. Other officers of the foundation may be contacted at www.schistoricaviation.org.

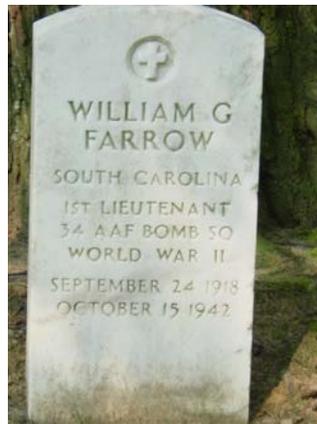
Recent events-

1st Lt. William "Bill" Farrow, a South Carolinian, who was one of the Doolittle Raider pilots, was an honoree during ceremonies of the South Carolina Hall of Fame in Myrtle Beach, on Monday, March 25th. Farrow attended the University of South Carolina and joined the service at Fort Jackson in 1940. Farrow was executed by the Japanese in October of 1942. After the war his remains were re-buried in Arlington National Cemetery. Lt. Farrow is also featured in a Columbia Army Air Base WWII exhibit at Columbia Metro Airport that SCHAF members produced: http://www.schistoricaviation.org/special_events.htm

Here is a link about Lt. Farrow. <http://www.doolittleraider.com/raiders/farrow.htm>



1st Lt. Bill Farrow



Gravestone at Arlington

Tom Griffin, a Doolittle Raider passed away in February of this year. There are only four "raiders" left with us now. Later this month the remaining Doolittle Raiders will hold their final reunion in Fort Walton, Beach, Florida. Here is the story from The State newspaper. [Doolittle Raider dies at 96.](#)

Feedback-

Heard from SCHAF member Niall McLaughlin; Niall will be in Virginia Beach the weekend of May 17th at the Military Aviation Museum and he says that the folks at the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum will be bringing down several planes including an Avro Lancaster. He'll be helping the "Lanc" crew out. Says plans may include a fly-by featuring a Spitfire, a Hurricane and a P-40 and possibly the Mosquito that flew last year in New Zealand (see below). Great to hear from you Niall. Let us know how things go in Virginia Beach. If you can get some pictures that would be great, too.

Also heard from Bob Lineberger. Glad you liked the first newsletter. Heard from Scott Linaberry, too. Glad, we can keep you caught up on things. It was good to speak with you at the “conclave.”

Good reads of the month-

Flying Tigers by Daniel Ford. Probably the best book around about the American Volunteer Group, better known as the Flying Tigers. First came out in the 90’s. Stirred up some controversy but has stood the test of time. Ford has updated his book for a revised edition. In Ford’s telling their accomplishments are even more amazing given the odds that were against them. Well worth reading. [Flying Tigers-Chennault-Volunteers-1941-1942](#) . Ford also has a website called The Warbird’s Forum. Has lots of info on the AVG, the Brewster Buffalo, the development of fighter tactics and other aviation topics. Worth a visit-<http://www.warbirdforum.com> .

Another good read is by one of our own members Rachel Haynie. It’s called [Cornfield-Airfield-History-A History of Columbia Army Airbase](#) and tells of the beginnings of what we are familiar with as Columbia Metropolitan Airport. It includes the story of the formation of the Doolittle Raiders at CAAB. Chock full of great pictures and memorable stories. I’ve read it and can recommend it highly. If you don’t have a copy on your bookshelf , you should. This is a book everyone should have in their collection.

In the News-

Last fall at an air show in New Zealand a World War II De Havilland Mosquito took to the air for the first time since the 90’s (when the last airworthy “mossie” crashed in the UK). Here are a couple of stories by New Zealand TV networks- [De Havilland Mosquito first flight](#) . And stories from New Zealand newspapers about the first flight-[Mosquito makes big aviation crowd buzz](#) and [Thousands flock for the buzz of the Mosquito](#) . Kudos to the “Kiwis” who made it possible. Currently a team in the UK calling themselves “[The People’s Mosquito](#)” is working to make another “mossie” airworthy. Thought everyone would be interested.

Odds and Ends-

Don’t know if any of you are familiar with a brand of beer and ale in the UK called Spitfire. It’s a product of Shepherd Neame Brewery and it’s a popular brand in the UK. They’re known for their clever and humorous advertising campaigns focusing on the Battle of Britain and British aviation history. Thought everyone would enjoy. Their slogan is “The Bottle of Britain.”



Palmetto Sport Aviation (PSA) is Chapter 242 of the Experimental Aircraft Association(EAA)and over the years they have had a very successful Young Eagles program. Young Eagles is the EAA program that gives free airplane rides to kids. PSA anticipates giving their 10,000th Young Eagle free airplane ride by May 11th of this year. There will be a public celebration that day at the PSA clubroom at Hamilton/Owens Airport. Young Eagle flights will take place that day starting at 9am. A number of SCHAF members take part in PSA activities. You can find out more about PSA's Young Eagles program and the National Young Eagles at www.eaa242.org . Go to "Young Eagles" then go to "Blog."

In Closing-

A big thanks to Ron Shelton and Anna Amick for their help in putting out the first SCHAF newsletter. Couldn't have done it without either of you. By the way saw Anna at the March meeting of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge at the Officer's Club at Fort Jackson. She's the secretary for the South Carolina chapter. Great to see you Anna. Also met Doug Patterson, a member of the South Carolina Military History Club (they're members of SCHAF). Good to meet you Doug. Hope to see you at the next VBOB meeting.

That's all for now. If you have news of upcoming events, items of interest, ideas, thoughts or suggestions, or just want to say 'hello,' please [e-mail](mailto:dmcintosh1@sc.rr.com) me or any of the board members for inclusion in future newsletters. Send in comments, kudos and criticisms. If you like we'll include them in sort of a "letters" section. The idea is get all of the membership talking with each other. Also please feel free to pass along the newsletter. If you know someone you think would like to receive it each month let me or one of the board members know.

We can do great things working together.

Till next time, Dave McIntosh (dmcintosh1@sc.rr.com)

South Carolina Historic Aviation Foundation 803 731 3254 www.schistoricaviation.org

3100 Devine St, Columbia, SC 29205