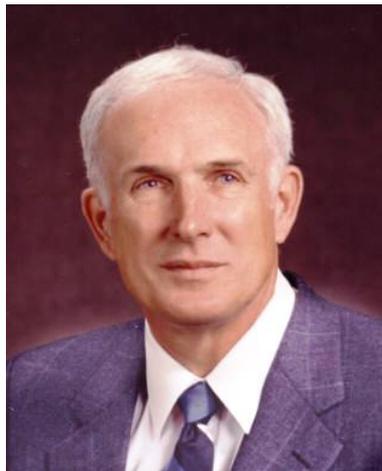




SCHAF Newsletter for June 2015

Reminder: The next SCHAF Open House will take place Saturday, June 13, 2015. 10am-1pm at Hangar Y-1 Hamilton/Owens Airport.

We start this month's newsletter with sad news concerning the death of Bob Russell, a leader in the aviation community in the Palmetto State as well as a leader in the business community. Bob was killed on Saturday, May 23rd when his plane crashed shortly after takeoff from Columbia Metropolitan Airport. He was on his way to Asheville, North Carolina. Bob would serve honorably in the United States Air Force and would later go on to found and lead one of South Carolina's most successful real estate firms, Russell/Jeffcoat Realtors. In 2003 Bob was inducted into the South Carolina Aviation Association's South Carolina Aviation Hall of Fame. The members and friends of SCHAF together join to mourn the loss of someone who contributed so much to aviation in South Carolina.



Bob Russell

Foundation Happenings-

The board of directors of the South Carolina Historic Aviation Foundation held their monthly meeting at Hamilton-Owens Airport on Thursday, May 21, 2015. Present were Ken Berry, Ron Shelton, Cantzon Foster, Xen Motsinger and Richard Hill. Among the items discussed, the acquisition of replica machine gun for the restoration of GF-2. It was reported that the restoration of the cockpit of GF-2 is progressing nicely and also the suggestion of looking into the possibility of getting the plane placed on the National Historical Register. Ron Shelton will research the matter. We'll keep everyone posted.

Ken Berry has come up with the idea of holding "movie nights" as a fund raiser for SCHAF. No date has been set but the idea for our first movie night will be to show the 1950's movie *Zero Hour* which was the movie that *Airplane* spoofed in the 1980's. After *Zero Hour* we would then show *Airplane*. Will let everyone know when things are finalized.

Ron Shelton reported that the family of Col. Dan Rossman has contributed thirteen audio DVD's that comprise his memories and recollections of World War II. It's an important addition to the materials SCHAF has dealing

with South Carolina aviation history and heritage. Ron also mentioned that later this year there will be a number of anniversaries dealing with the war in the Pacific including the 70th anniversary of VJ. The board is looking at some sort of event marking that important date in our history. Also discussion of coming up with additional activities to make our open houses more entertaining especially for young people with the goal of getting them interested in aviation. Ken said he might start working on getting some simple drones that young people could have a chance to look over and maybe fly.

Another area discussed was that of membership dues. I have to admit in the past SCHAF has been, how can I put it, a bit casual as far as policing the collection of membership dues. As SCHAF grows and becomes busier and takes on more projects and activities' the need for funds becomes more important. Check your records and make sure you are current on your dues. It will be greatly appreciated. In the coming months we will start working at determining who is current and mailing out statements to everyone. Ahhh, the growing pains of a successful organization.

Maj. General Irene Trowell-Harris (ret.), a member of SCHAF was the Grand Marshall of the Memorial Day Parade in Aiken, S.C. on Saturday, May 23rd. Earlier this year we were honored with a visit by General Trowell-Harris during one of our open houses. Hope to see you again soon.

On Tuesday, May 5th SCHAF was proud to welcome author James Scott to Columbia in a program at the Richland County Public Library. Scott is the author of the acclaimed [Target Tokyo](#) which is already being called the best book yet written about the historic Doolittle Raid of 1942. Scott was introduced by SCHAF president Ken Berry and the word is things went great with a full house of some 40 people in the Walker Local History Room. The crowd was well-informed and interested. It was a great evening. Scott, by the way, is from Charleston and formally was a reporter for the Post and Courier. We need to support a South Carolinian who is interested in the same things as SCHAF.



Ken Berry and James Scott

Friday, May 8th the Air Force ROTC unit at the University of South Carolina held their commissioning dinner at the SCHAF hangar at Hamilton-Owens Airport. Earlier in the day a dozen cadets received their commissions as 2nd Lieutenants in the United States Air Force and family and friends gathered to celebrate the proud moment. It was a casual affair with great Bar-B-Que and great people. Great to see LTC Stew Newton, Professor of Aerospace Science at USC. SCHAF is proud of its close and warm relationship with USC AFROTC. By the way, want to remind folks that during the year a number of USC AFROTC cadets have dropped by to help with the restoration of GF-2. See you next school year.



LTC Stew Newton, PAS at USC



Guests at commissioning dinner



More guests

SCHAF's monthly open house took place on Saturday, May 9th. A light turnout but a couple of groups dropped by and we met some nice people who seemed very interested in the work of the foundation. SCHAF members present were Ken Berry, Mary McIntosh and myself. A nice morning and always nice to be able to talk about SCHAF and show off GF-2.

Want to make mention that earlier this month South Carolina ETV aired another program in their continuing series of South Carolinians in World War II; this one dealing with the war in the Pacific. It featured comments by SCHAF members Murray Price and Bill Paulis, both of whom did an excellent job of recounting their experiences during the Second World War.

Very good news, the foundation has received a donation of \$1180 from Intel Corporation. The contribution was arranged by SCHAF member David Moxley, who formally worked for Intel and has put many hours in helping with the restoration of GF-2. Next time you're looking at purchasing a computer make sure it says "Intel Inside." It will be a nice way of saying thanks. This is part of a program where employees and former employees of a company can make donations through that companies matching donation program. If your company has a similar program you might think about getting involved and supporting SCHAF.



Historical Notes-

Starting in June of 1948 aviation history started to be made in the skies over a prostrate nation, a defeated enemy who only a few years before we had been at war with. It was in June of that year that the United States and Great Britain started airlifting supplies into Berlin in an effort to prevent the Soviets from bringing the divided city under their control by starving the city and forcing the Western allies out. One of the heroes was General William Tunner, who in World War II had been in charge of the supply operations over "the hump," the Himalayas in Asia. Another was an American pilot, Hal Halvorsen, who would go down in history as "the candy bomber" and beloved by the children of West Berlin. Want to know more about the Berlin Airlift? Follow this link: <http://www.traces.org/BerlinAirlift.html> .

Sir Barnes Wallis was truly one of the great figures in aeronautical engineering. He played a major role in the design of the Vickers Wellington, which in the early part of World War II was a mainstay of RAF Bomber Command. He would design the "bouncing bomb" used by 617 Squadron during their famous "dams raid" in 1943. After the war he would not rest on his laurels he would design a stratosphere chamber which would be used in high altitude research. It was recently opened to the public as part of the Brooklands Museum. Here's

an article about it: <http://www.warhistoryonline.com/war-articles/sir-barnes-wallis-stratosphere-chamber.html> .

Here's a great link provided by Ron and Linda Skipper regarding the discovery and restoration of a historic Supermarine Spitfire. The plane is currently being offered in auction by Christie's of London. Any SCHAF member or friend willing to step and secure another airplane for SCHAF (just kidding)? Here's the link: <http://www.christies.com/spitfire/interactive/index.html> . Thanks, Ron and Linda.

Here's a great video sent in by Charles Baxley, longtime friend of SCHAF. It's about the Willow Run assembly plant, a marvel of American industriousness which turned out the B-24 Liberator like a plant churning out automobiles. That's no accident given the plant was built and operated by the Ford Motor Company. Here's the link: <https://www.youtube.com/embed/iKlt6rNciTo?rel=0> .

One of the coolest articles of clothing around (at least in my opinion) is a flight jacket and none can match the "cool factor" of World War II flight jackets. Here's a good article on flight jackets and the artwork on them. Enjoy: <http://www.collectorsweekly.com/articles/wwii-war-paint-how-bomber-jacket-art-emboldened-our-boys/> .

It was an intriguing idea; an aircraft carrier that could launch its planes from high above the earth. Of we're speaking of a dirigible and in the 1930's they were considered cutting edge with many saying that the airship was the way to cover great distances. The idea of an airship that could launch its own covey of airplanes seemed very attractive. There was only one problem, the flying aircraft carriers had problems staying in the air. Here's the story: <http://gizmodo.com/americas-first-flying-aircraft-carrier-just-couldnt-sta-1657421656/+mattnovak> .

Another South Carolinian in aviation history; I've mentioned Bill Pawley in a past newsletter. He was from Florence, S.C. He made his money in Cuba where his interests included an airline, Cubana, which was later sold to Pan Am. His business interests in China included CAMCO, the Central Aircraft Manufacturing Co. He played a controversial role in the formation of the A.V.G., the Flying Tigers. He would also be involved in the formation of Hindustani Aircraft (now Hindustani Aerospace). Here's a link to a 1943 article in LIFE magazine about Pawley's operation in India: <http://cbi-theater-1.home.comcast.net/~cbi-theater-1/life032243/life032243.html> .

Here's a nice video sent in by Linda and Ron Skipper entitled "[Warbirds of America.](#)" Enjoy.

The F-22 Raptor is no doubt the premier air warfare platform flying today. It takes a highly trained pilot at the controls. How do you train those pilots who will protect America's skies in the coming years? Here's an article about [training F-22 pilots](#) and the aircraft that takes on the Raptor.

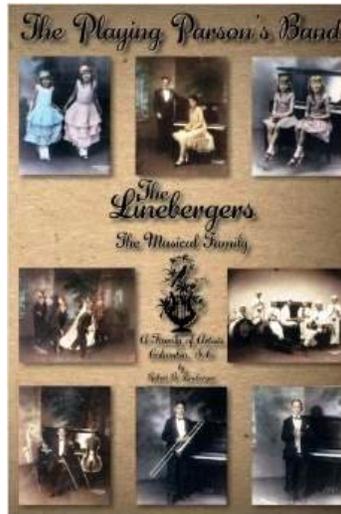
Speaking of Lockheed, [a good article from Smithsonian Magazine](#) about an aircraft that will probably never be equaled; the amazing [SR-71 Blackbird](#).

Good Reads-

A couple of items under the good reads heading this month. The first not actually a book but instead mention of the movie made from a book that was previously a SCHAF good read. In the January newsletter Laura Hillenbrand's [Unbroken](#) was featured. It's the truly inspirational and uplifting story of Louis Zamperini, Olympic athlete and later in World War II a bombardier on a B-24 Liberator. His plane would crash in the Pacific and after surviving for 47 days in a life raft he was captured by the Japanese and would survive brutal and horrific treatment. The book was a best-seller and last year made into a hit movie directed by Angelina Jolie. Finally got around to seeing it and it is great. If you think they don't make films like this anymore then rent or buy it because they do. [Unbroken the movie.](#)

The book I'm mentioning this month doesn't deal with aviation but is being mentioned because it was written by SCHAF member Robert Lineberger. Bob recently came out with a book about his family called [The Playing](#)

[Parson's Band](#). If you're interested in South Carolina history and the families who have played an important part in making the Palmetto State the great place it is then you'll be interested in this one.



Odds and Ends-

We would also like to mention the passing of another South Carolinian who contributed so much to our state and our nation. Early in the month Stan Smith passed away. While Stan was not involved with aviation he served his country in the United States Army during World War II, including service in the Battle of the Bulge. After the war Stan would become a successful businessman in the midlands of South Carolina and would play a pivotal role in the creation of Riverbanks Zoo. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family.

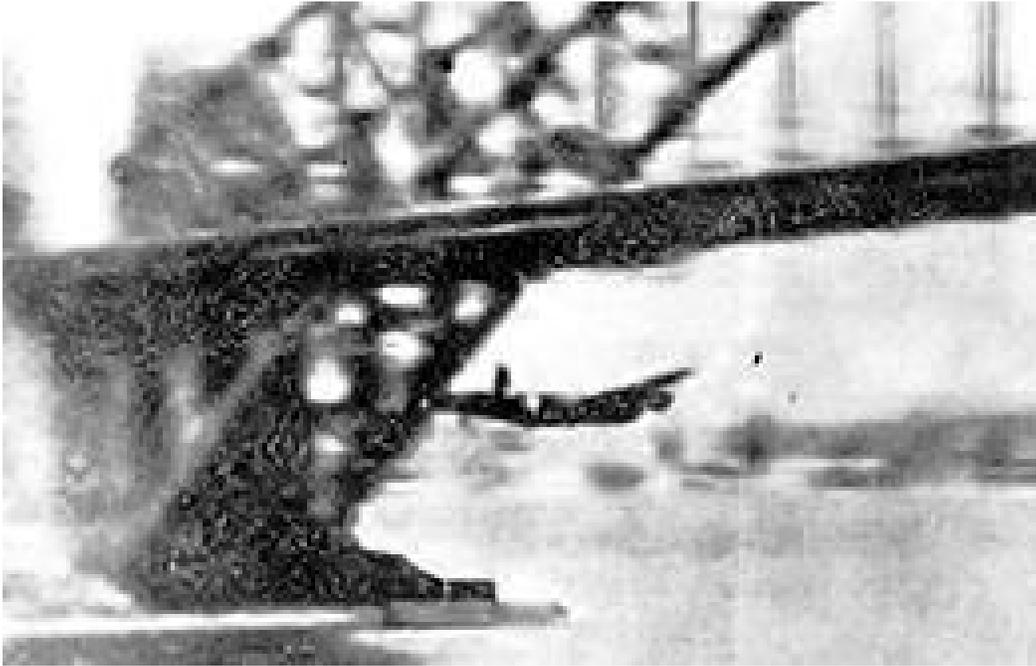
Good video on AFTV about the restoration of the "Memphis Belle." Follow this link:

<http://www.warhistoryonline.com/whotube-2/who-tube-yesterdays-air-force-belle.html> .

Some amazing pictures, EA-6B Prowlers of the United State Marine Corps being refueled over Afghanistan. Follow this link: <http://www.businessinsider.com/amazing-photos-of-a-us-marine-prowler-jet-refueling-over-afghanistan-2015-2> .

Good article about the man who flew underneath the Eiffel Tower in Paris in pursuit of a German fighter. If you don't know about Bill Overstreet, you should. Bill passed away in 2013. Here's an article about his exploits that was published about six months before his passed away: <http://www.warbirdsnews.com/warbird-articles/wwii-veteran-aviator-bill-overstreet-p-51-mustang-berlin-express.html> . Another article from the Daily Mail of London about his passing: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2533373/WWII-fighter-pilot-flew-THROUGH-Eiffel-Tower-dies-Virginia-aged-92.html> .

Faithful readers of this newsletter know that some of us in the foundation are tried and true fans of the Avro Lancaster, the workhorse of RAF Bomber Command during World War II. Here's a Wikipedia entry about an Australian pilot who served with Bomber Command by the name of Peter Isaacson, who won the DFC, DFM and RAF Air Force Cross. But he gained notoriety when in 1943 he flew his "lanc" Q for Queenie underneath the Sydney Harbor Bridge in Australia. Picture below. Truly a man with more courage than I'll ever have. Here's the link about Isaacson: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_Isaacson .



Last month's trivia question concerned the first individual to successfully execute an outside loop, a maneuver previously thought to be impossible and fatal. The answer: none other than the legendary Jimmy Doolittle, who in the 20's and 30's was probably second only to Charles Lindbergh as an aviator. Doolittle, while an executive at Shell Oil would also play the leading role in the development of 100 octane aviation fuel, considered during World War II an important factor that gave allied aircraft a decisive advantage over enemy aircraft using lower octane fuel. Congratulations to Ron and Linda Skipper for the correct answer. Also kudos to Frank Young as well as Stan Hood, former commander of the South Carolina Air National Guard, both of whom replied with the right answer.

Now, here's our trivia question for next month. Who was the first woman to become a pilot in the U.S. military? Now, I have to include some provisos, I'm not talking about WASP pilots (though they performed yeoman duty for the country during trying times), I'm talking about the first woman in the regular military and not in an auxiliary. Answer 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. Also, get involved with the foundation. **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.](#)** Your support of SCHAF is greatly appreciated

Till next time

Dave McIntosh (dmcintosh1@sc.rr.com)

South Carolina Historic Aviation Foundation 803 731 3254

