

SCHAF Newsletter for July 2015

Reminder: The next SCHAF Open House will take place Saturday, July 11, 2015. 10am-1pm at Hangar Y-1 Hamilton-Owens Airport.

Foundation Happenings-

A good open house on Saturday, June 13th. Not big crowds, but then again remember its summer, it's hot and folks are on vacation and traveling, but the folks we met with were enthusiastic and happy to learn about SCHAF. Met the Boy Scouts from Troop 777 from Second Chance Church in Camden. Really nice bunch of young people who expressed an interest in becoming involved in the project to restore GF-2 to her former glory. Also met some other families who seemed interested in SCHAF. SCHAF members present were Ken Berry, Niall McLaughlin, Ron Shelton, Scott Linaberry, Mary McIntosh, Ron Skipper and me. Interesting visitors included some crop dusters who were staging from Hamilton-Owens Airport that morning and everyone was entertained watching them take off and land. They came over and talked with us. Nice guys.



Boy Scout Troop 777



Ron Skipper working on GF-2



Crop dusters at work

SCHAF was at the 2015 Southeast Aviation Expo, which took place this year in Greenwood, South Carolina June 27th and 28th. Among the SCHAF members were Ken Berry, Ron Shelton and Xen Motsinger.



Ron and Xen with visitors



The Pin Up Dolls



SCHAF exhibit

As part of the SCHAF display Ron Shelton and Valerie Anderson put together a great audio/video presentation about the late Dan Rossman who was the left seat student pilot of GF-2 the day she was forced to ditch in Lake Greenwood. The presentation is on the internet and looks great. Follow this link to check it out:

<https://vimeo.com/130631626> . Thank you to both Ron and Valerie, a top notch job. I was proud to help them a small bit. Take a look it's worth seeing. There was also a visit from the Pin Up Dolls from Pin-Ups for Heroes, an organization that supports veterans and active duty military. Here's a link to their website: <http://www.pinupsforheroes.com> .

The board of directors of the South Carolina Historic Aviation Foundation met Thursday, June 18, 2015 at Hamilton-Owens Airport in Columbia. Board members present were Ken Berry, Ron Shelton, Cantzon Foster and Xen Motsinger. A letter is being prepared to send to the membership reminding everyone to keep current on dues. Also, discussion about the Southeast Aviation Expo and SCHAF's participation in the event. Also some discussion on having about having some special speakers later this year. Will keep everyone posted.

Would like to welcome a new member, Joe Morgan of Charlotte, N.C. He is a member of the North Carolina legislature. His father was a B-25 crewman during World War II. Welcome aboard Joe.

Earlier this year James Scott, author of the book [Target Tokyo](#), which many are calling the ultimate book written on the Doolittle Raid of 1942, spoke at the Richland County Public Library's downtown Columbia branch. Ken Berry, SCHAF president handled the introduction and Ken said that James is great guy. James is from Charleston, South Carolina and he used to be a reporter for the Post and Courier and maybe one day we can arrange for him to visit with us again. Anyway, here's a link from the Real Clear Defense website on five reasons to like Scott's book:

http://www.realcleardefense.com/articles/2015/06/11/five_reasons_to_like_target_tokyo_108056.html .

I had made mention in last month's newsletter of the passing of O. Stanley Smith, respected midlands businessman and World War II veteran. SCHAF member Nelson McLeod sent this picture of Smith meeting with Belgian Ambassador Johan Verbeke during a reception for veterans of the Battle of the Bulge. Thanks Nelson.



An item I forgot to mention the May newsletter but SCHAF member Pete Kote passed away in May. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family.

Again, as mentioned last month and above, we are in the process of getting current on membership dues, so check and make sure you're up to date. If not, a check would be appreciated. In the coming months we'll probably be mailing out statements to get everyone current. As SCHAF takes on more projects and things get busier the funds will make a big difference.

Historical Notes-

Here's a link provided by Jim Hamilton, former manager of Hamilton-Owens Airport of what is possible the last film footage of Amelia Earhart before she vanished: [Brief film taken before Earhart's last flight surfaces - AOL.com](#) . Thanks Jim.

Before the Flying Tigers, before the China Air Task Force, there was Robert Short, the first American to fly for China. Here's his story: <http://fly.historicwings.com/2013/02/the-first-volunteer-for-china/> .

Here's a link to an English website about an Englishman who trained for the RAF in Camden, South Carolina at Woodward Field. Follow this link: http://www.andrewgent.me.uk/allangent/allan_gent_usa_camden.html

A couple of good postings from the Tails Through Time blog on the development of the computerized airline reservation system and C.R. Smith, the man who had a vision about making purchasing a ticket to fly somewhere easier, for both the passenger and for the airline he headed, American Airlines. Part one here: <http://www.tailsthroughtime.com/2015/06/american-automates-reservations-and.html> . Part two here: http://www.tailsthroughtime.com/2015/06/american-automates-reservations-and_16.html .

Something to remember, the 6th of June this year was the 71st anniversary of D-Day, the Normandy invasion, when allied forces dropped from the skies, stormed the beaches and began the liberation of an oppressed continent that for years had covered under the jackboot of Nazi tyranny. Few of the people who gave all that day to ensure a better world are with us now, but we should never forget their contributions to the world in which we live. Here's a good photographic essay on some of the people who risked and gave all for us: <http://www.warbirdsnews.com/warbirds-news/d-day-commemoration.html> . Another link about the importance of Operation Overlord and how veterans made our world a better place: http://www.realclearhistory.com/articles/2015/06/06/june_1944_more_than_fight_on_d-day_beaches.html .

Another ad from the Second World War. An example of how American industry rolled up its sleeves and got behind the war effort. The Oldsmobile Division of General Motors highlighting their role in the construction of a deadly and effective night-fighter, the Northrup Black Widow.

Ever wondered what it's like to land on an aircraft carrier then a few moments later a Japanese suicide bomber crashes into your ship. No, me neither, I'm only glad I wasn't in that situation. However, if you have wondered here's an obit from the Daily Telegraph of London about a pilot in the Fleet Air Arm who landed on the deck of

his carrier then moments later everything exploded:

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/obituaries/11649475/Captain-Terence-Pablo-Percy-obituary.html> .

Good Reads-

There are a lot of good books on the air campaigns in the Pacific but this one is a standout: [Pacific Air](#) by David Sears. It's the story of the fast carrier task forces that gained control of the Pacific, the men who flew the planes off the flattops and the men who built those planes. Especially good are the sections on Grumman, the aircraft manufacturer founded by Roy Grumman which would become known as the "iron works" for building tough, capable fighting machines that played a major role in crippling the ability of the Japanese to wage war in the Pacific. The author is a former officer in the U.S. Navy who served in Viet Nam. This is another one that belongs on your bookshelf. Put another way, this is one I've re-read a couple of times. It's that good.

Odds and Ends-

A great video that has been all around the internet regarding the appearance of the Boeing 787 at the Paris Airshow. This is awesome: <http://www.businessinsider.com/boeings-dreamliner-dazzles-the-crowd-at-paris-air-show-2015-6> .

A great posting from an Australian aviation blog about U.S. Marine Corps adversary or aggressor squadrons. Enjoy: <https://acesflyinghigh.wordpress.com/2015/06/10/us-marine-corps-adversaries/> .

A story from the Post and Courier in Charleston about a pilot from the lowcountry, his experiences as a POW and the end of World War II. Here's the link : <http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150507/PC1603/150509491/1177/victory-in-europe-charleston-pilot-was-there-at-the-end-70-years-ago> .

Quick reminder, if you're on the coast July 4th be sure to head out to the beach and catch Salute From Shore, a South Carolina Independence Day tradition. It's worth seeing. The planes will start at Cherry Grove at around 1pm and finish up at Hilton Head Island at around 1:45pm.



SCHAF member Ted Podewil sent info about a couple of organizations that should be of interest to anyone into military history. The first is the C47 Club, here's the link: <http://www.c47club.org/> . It's an international organization for folks interested in the "gooney bird." Looks to be a good organization. The other is the Military

Vehicles Collectors of South Carolina. Here's a link for their website:
<http://www.themvcsc.com/themvcsc/Welcome.html> .Thanks Ted.

Ahhh, there was a time when flying by airliners was something special. Men put on a suit, ladies dressed well and traveling by air was something, well something different. Remember those days with this article about flying by Pan Am in the thirties: <http://blog.longreads.com/2015/02/10/glamorous-crossing-how-pan-am-airways-dominated-international-travel-in-the-1930s/> .

Good article about the helmets worn by helicopter pilots during the Viet-Nam War and how they were decorated: <http://www.collectorsweekly.com/articles/vietnam-helicopter-pilots-wore-their-hearts-on-their-helmets/> .

An obit from the Daily Telegraph of London; in May movie director Walter Grauman passed away. In the mid-sixties Grauman directed one of the great aviation movies made [633 Squadron](http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/obituaries/11499714/Walter-Grauman-film-director-obituary.html). Here's the link to his obit: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/obituaries/11499714/Walter-Grauman-film-director-obituary.html> . Here's a link to one of the flying scenes from the movie: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=su5JWj8Wlec> . Love those Mosquitos.

Ever wonder why many consider the A-10 Warthog the greatest air support aircraft to ever take to the air? Here's why: <http://www.wearethemighty.com/a-10-warthog-cas-2014-11> .

Here's a nice video piece sent in by Ron and Linda Skipper about the restoration in the Midwest of the U.S. of a Supermarine Seafire, the naval version of the Spitfire: <https://www.youtube.com/v/TneYPcyGbbY%26autoplay=1%26rel=0> . Thanks Ron and Linda, you always send in great links and articles.

Here's an item sent in by SCHAf member Gary Byrd about some young people doing a reconstruction of part of a B-25. Thanks Gary. Link: <http://www.youngaviators43.com/b25.html>.

When I was a kid few things could rival the excitement of getting of the comics section of the Sunday morning paper. For a kid who loved airplanes the great comic strips were *Steve Canyon* and *Terry and the Pirates*. Well, kids of earlier generations were also enthralled by airplanes and the folks who flew them. The first of the comic strips that revolved around adventures in the air was *Tailspin Tommy*. The artist was Hal Forrest. Want to know more? Go [here](#).



Did you know that the airline world has a tiny little secret? Yes, they do, follow this link and find out more: <http://www.businessinsider.com/the-airline-world-has-a-tiny-secret-2015-3> .

Again, this link to the SCHAf video presentation about Col. Dan Rossman, here's the link: <https://vimeo.com/130631626> .

Last month our trivia question was “who was the first woman to become a pilot in the U.S. military?” We were looking for the first female pilot in the regular military, not an auxiliary organization such as the WASP pilots during World War II. Katherine Cuddy had the right answer: Barbara Ann Rainey. She became a naval aviator in February of 1974. She would reach the rank of Lt. Commander. Tragically, she was killed in an aircraft crash in 1982 while serving as a flight instructor. Katherine also sent along the names of some other notable women pilots in the military. LTC Martha McSally was among women trained in the USAF as a fighter pilot. During Desert Storm she became the first woman in history to fly a combat mission. Major Marie Rossi become the first female pilot to give her life while flying in a combat zone. Her Chinook helicopter crashed near her base in Saudi Arabia. In 1999 COL Eileen Collins became the first woman to command a space shuttle mission. Major Nicole Malachowski was the first female pilot selected to fly as part of the Thunderbirds of the USAF. Her call sign is “FiFi.” Thanks Katherine. By the way, Katherine is SCHAF’s very own “Rosie the Riveter. She’s done yeoman duty helping with the restoration of GF-2.

Here’s this month’s trivia question: Boeing is renowned around the world for building leading edge airliners as well as military aircraft. Since its beginning Boeing has stood at the forefront of the aviation industry. Early in its history the company also operated an airline, Boeing Air Transport. In the 1930’s Boeing Air Transport would be split apart from the parent Boeing Company and merged with another company to form a new airline. What’s the name of the airline that can trace its beginnings to Boeing Air Transport? We’ll tell you 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

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