

SCHAF Newsletter for July 2016-

**Reminder: The next SCHAF Open House will take place Saturday, July 9, 2016. 10am-1pm at Hangar Y-1 Hamilton/Owens Airport. During the July open house we will be honoring the Tuskegee Airmen. Come join us.**

### Foundation Happenings-

SCHAF's June open house just might have been the best one we've ever had. Good turnout by SCHAF members and a lot (I mean, a lot) of young people who had a great time and seemed very interested in learning about South Carolina's aviation heritage. We were visited by young people with the youth program of the Lexington County Sheriff's Department as well as young people from Ebenezer Pentecostal Church in West Columbia. The young people, about 50 of them stayed and enjoyed a pizza party put on by the Lexington County Sheriff's Department and it turned out to be a great, great open house.



*Young people enjoying open house and pizza*

The open house made even more interesting by the fact that a financial services firm brought a BAC (Hunting) Jet Provost, a jet trainer used by the RAF in the 60s and 70s to Hamilton-Owens Airport that day to give rides to their clients. It was great watching it take off and shot into the sky over Columbia. There was also a Boeing/Stearman PT-17 there, but it experienced mechanical problems and didn't fly that day.



*BAC (Hunting) Jet Provost*



*Boeing/Stearman PT-17 Kaydet*

SCHAF members who showed up for the open house were: Ron Shelton, Mary McIntosh, Scott Linaberry, Ken Berry, Niall McLaughlin, Robert Bruschy, Richard Hill, Katherine Cuddy, Xen Motsinger, Ron Skipper, Alton Blankes, Marvin Williams and myself.



Our July open house is going to be something special. We will be honoring the memory and heroism of the Tuskegee Airman, the African-American flyers who became a legend in the Second World War.

The board of directors of the South Carolina Historic Aviation Foundation held its monthly board meeting on Thursday, June 16, 2016 at Hamilton-Owens Airport in Columbia. Board members present were Ken Berry, Ron Shelton, Cantzon Foster, and David McIntosh. Members present were: Mary McIntosh, David Moxley, Niall McLaughlin, Terri Tokaz, Ron Skipper, Katherine Cuddy, Richard Hill and Gary Byrd.

There was discussion on the hangar dance that SCHAF plans to hold in October. Planning will start soon and we will need volunteers to help start at the work of getting things organized. We plan to have the B-25J from the Canadian Warplanes Heritage Museum at Hamilton-Owens that weekend and a Ford Tri-Motor will also be there. Rides on both planes will be available (for a price). Soon we'll be contacting people to help with organizing the hangar dance.

There was also discussion of the restoration of GF-2. Ron Skipper said he would need some guidance in working on the skin of SCHAF's B-25C. Xen Motsinger has donated metal to SCHAF which can be used in the restoration project.

Terri Tokaz said that the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Fort Jackson in Columbia will be next year and that her brother, John is in communication with officials at the fort about some sort of celebration and wondered if SCHAF would like to take part. The feeling is that SCHAF could host an aviation related event at Hamilton-Owens Airport which could also tie-in with the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Columbia Army Air Base.

Also, discussion on an area that has been discussed and mentioned numerous times; getting out membership renewal notices on an annual basis. This time we're really going to try and make it work. Katherine Cuddy was appointed to head the committee that will mail out invoices, probably in October of each year. I know, we've been kind of lax in this area over the past few years, but as SCHAF grows and expands its activities keeping membership rolls up to date and receiving dues on a timely basis becomes more important. It was also suggested that SCHAF hold an annual membership drive each year, possibly in the spring, to increase membership. Another committee being formed is the hanger clean-up committee. Soon we'll be looking to volunteers to come in and help clean up get hangar YF-1 looking more presentable. This is important since more and more people are coming by and showing interest in the work of SCHAF. It's vital that we put our best foot forward and present a professional image to the public.

On Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Ken Berry, Ron Shelton and Xen Motsinger were in Greenwood, South Carolina at the Southeast Aviation Expo of the South Carolina Aviation Association to spread the story of SCHAF. Word is that a lot of folks dropped by the SCAHF booth and were interested in learning more about our efforts

at promoting and preserving the Palmetto State's aviation heritage. SCHAF made a lot of good contacts with interested folks and other organizations. First picture below is Ken Berry with Greg Hall, a member of the SCAA board. The two young ladies at the table are Isabel Berry and her friend Catherine. The second picture is of Ron Shelton and Xen Motsinger.



Here's something interesting that SCHAF member Katherine Cuddy came across. It has to do with a cap from World War II. First some background. Horace "Sally" Crouch was a South Carolinian who was one of the Doolittle Raiders in 1942. He was a crewmember on aircraft #10. Katherine discovered some pictures of a hat it appears Crouch wore after crashing in China. Here's the interesting thing; it's sort of a kepi' with a Nationalist Chinese emblem on the front. On the inside are the initials "H.E.C." Ron Shelton has been in touch with Martin Crouch, "Sally's" son and he said he didn't really know anything about the hat but he thinks his father was given that type of hat while on China. Below are some pictures.



Here's a link to the forum where Katherine discovered the pictures as well as some background on "Sally" Crouch: <http://www.usmilitariaforum.com/forums/index.php?/topic/266236-sallys-chinese-cap-plane-10-the-doolittle-raid/> .

SCHAF member Herbert Plott would like everyone to know that the International Plastic Modeler Society USA will be holding its National Convention at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center August 3<sup>rd</sup> through the 6<sup>th</sup>. If you've never seen the work of a skilled and dedicated modeler you owe it to yourself to pay a visit and see some wonderful models of airplanes, ships and more. Find out more by going here: <http://www.ipmsusa2016.com/> .

## Historical Notes-

Even wanted to step inside the cockpit of a historic aircraft? Follow this link and find out more:

<http://www.businessinsider.com/cockpit-photos-iconic-aircraft-2016-6> .

Folks are familiar with the Curtiss and its importance in the development of aviation. Of course at Hamilton-Owens Airport we have the historic Curtiss-Wright Hangar which will soon be gaining a new lease on life. Curtiss-Wright Corporation is still around and still involved in the aerospace industry but no longer producing aircraft. Here's a link to a story about the end of the line for Curtiss-Wright as an aircraft manufacturer:

<http://www.tailsthroughtime.com/2016/02/the-end-of-line-for-curtiss-aircraft.html> .

Here's the story of how a French balloonist invented aerial photography:

<http://mentalfloss.com/article/68322/how-eccentric-french-balloonist-invented-aerial-photography> .

And here's the story of Britain's first jet, the Gloster E28/39: <https://warbirdtails.net/2016/05/18/britains-first-jet-the-gloster-e2839/> .

## Good Reads-

[The World's Greatest Civil Aircraft: An Illustrated History](#) by Paul E. Eden. Another example of what great books can be found in the bargains section of a bookstore. If you're into airliners, and I am, this is a wonderful book to have on the shelf. Includes historic airliners from the start of civil aviation all the way to the present day. Nice drawings and photographs with interesting and informative summaries on almost any airliner that has flown. This one would be a nice addition to any collection of aviation books.

## Odds and Ends-

Our trivia question last month involved an airplane; we were looking for an airplane made by a firm that became famous in general aviation. The plane was used as a trainer and was called the "bamboo bomber" by the folk who flew it. It was used for multi-engine training. The plane we were looking for is the Cessna Bobcat or AT-17. Numerous pilots got their multi-engine rating after training in the AT-17. In the 1950s Kirby Grant would star in the popular TV series "Sky King" as a flying rancher who helped law enforcement. In the early episodes he would fly a Cessna Bobcat. In later episodes he would pilot a Cessna 310B, in my opinion one of the most beautiful general aviation planes every built. Congratulations go out to SCHAF member Bob Lineberger for being the first the correct answer. In fact Bob replied within 15 minutes of my sending out the newsletter. Bob sent another e-mail and said he was on the bus headed to Shawfest in May at Shaw Air Force Base and ended up talking to another gentleman who had been in the Air Force. He said that his favorite plane to work on was the AT-17. Also credit goes to SCHAF member Bill Rouw from Canada. He also guessed that "Sky King" was the TV show I had in mind. Bill, by the way is the crew chief for the Canadian Warplanes Heritage Museum's B-25J. The folks at CWHM are a really great bunch. Thanks to everyone at CWHM for supporting SCHAF. Also coming up with the correct answer were SCHAF members Anna Amick, Katherine Cuddy and Frank Young.



## Cessna AT-17

Now for this month's trivia question we would like to know which airline was the first one in the United States to go all pure-jet? Here's a hint, it happened in April of 1967. Send in your answers all of you airline buffs.

Want to make mention that some middle school students in the ATEC summer camp in Kershaw County were able to tour the Boeing plant in North Charleston on Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>. ATEC (the Applied Technology Education Campus) is the vocational school for the Kershaw County School District and one of the leading "voc" schools in the Palmetto State. ATEC director Gordon Morris said that 21 Kershaw County students were able to tour the plant and take part in various activities and that they really enjoyed it. The tour was part of Boeing's Dreamliner Educational Program for schools around South Carolina. Kudos go to the folks at ATEC for working to get young people interested in aviation and the aerospace industry. I've mentioned in previous newsletters that as older generations of pilots, mechanics and others approach retirement age the U.S. faces a crisis in having enough young follow to take their place. If you are an educator, know this, aerospace is a field bright with promise as a career for a young person. If you know an educator, make them aware of that fact. Again, thanks ATEC for introducing some young people to aviation. I now yield my place on the soapbox.

On the subject of education and getting young people interested in the aerospace field, the folks at Richland School District 1's Challenger Center are holding summer space camps. Carolyn Donnelley is the director and she does an outstanding job of introducing young people to the excitement of space and aviation. Here's a link to a story about their summer space camps: <http://coladaily.com/2016/06/04/to-infinity-and-beyond-richland-one-launches-space-camps-for-summer/>. Now, I really do yield my place on the soapbox.

Another Doolittle Raider passes away. David J. Thatcher, who was an engineer/gunner on crew #7 passed away in the early morning hours of Wednesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 in Missoula, Montana. Richard Cole is now the only Doolittle Raider still with us. Follow this link for more:

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/david-thatcher-one-of-last-survivors-of-world-war-iis-doolittle-raid-dies-at-94/2016/06/23/51dfb99a-394f-11e6-8f7c-d4c723a2becb\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/david-thatcher-one-of-last-survivors-of-world-war-iis-doolittle-raid-dies-at-94/2016/06/23/51dfb99a-394f-11e6-8f7c-d4c723a2becb_story.html).

On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, a member of the U.S. Navy's Blue Angels lost his life while practicing for an air show. Here's a nice video tribute to U.S. Marine Captain and Blue Angel Jeff Kuss:

<http://www.popularmechanics.com/flight/a21504/video-tribute-to-a-fallen-blue-angel/>.

Another passing, this one a South Carolinian. Brig. General Charles Culbertson passed away Friday, June 10, 2016. BG Culbertson served during World War II in the CBI, the China/Burma/India Theatre flying the "hump" or the Himalayas. Here's a link to his obit:

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/thestate/obituary.aspx?n=charles-boyd-culbertson&pid=180305066>.

A good column from The State newspaper by the director of the State Museum regarding the contributions of Boeing and the aerospace industry to the Palmetto State: <http://www.thestate.com/opinion/op-ed/article84873817.html>. Might be behind a paywall.

[ColaDaily.com](http://coladaily.com) is a site that deals with local news and works to keep folks informed about what's happening in the midlands. Recently they had an article about the restoration of the Curtiss-Wright Hangar and the plans of the Hunter-Gatherer for a brewing operation. Article includes a picture of GF-2. Here's the link:

<http://coladaily.com/2016/06/21/taking-flight-hunter-gatherer-expansion-underway-in-curtiss-wright-hangar/>.

Here's news item from earlier this year. Steve Townes, founder and CEO of Ranger Aerospace in Greenville, S.C., has been named chairman of SCAerospace, He will serve a two year term. Here's the story:

<http://www.rangeraerospace.com/news.php?news=10>.

A good video I found on YouTube. Ever wonder why the engines on jet airliners have gotten so big? Watch and learn: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ueTGiegTKoo>. Oh, here's another "have you ever

wondered," this one dealing with winglets: <http://www.businessinsider.com/boeing-airplanes-winglets-nasa-2016-4> .

Continuing with technology subjects, some videos dealing with the history of jet engines: <https://theartsmechanical.wordpress.com/2016/04/12/the-history-of-the-jet-aircraft-engine/> .

Now here's an interesting story. It's about a man who purchased an old Boeing 727 and turned it into his home. A bit over the top, but as they used to say "whatever floats your boat." Here's the link: <http://www.businessinsider.com/engineer-lives-in-a-boeing-airplane-2016-2/> .

Earlier this year what is the longest aircraft in the world was unveiled in the UK. Here's the story: <http://www.popularmechanics.com/flight/a20065/airlander-longest-aircraft-in-the-world/> . I'm familiar with the place where the airship is; Cardington (formally RAF Cardington) is right outside of Bedford. Even seen from the highway the airship hangars are enormous.

A short piece on solving the problem of re-entry from space into the earth's atmosphere. Or keeping Buck Rogers from going boom: <http://spectrum.ieee.org/aerospace/space-flight/stopping-buck-rogers-from-going-boom> .

A good piece from the Australian site [Aces Flying High](http://acesflyinghigh.wordpress.com/2016/04/03/restoring-the-last-surviving-raaf-consolidated-b-24-liberator-2016-update/) on the restoration of a Consolidated B-24 down in Oz: <https://acesflyinghigh.wordpress.com/2016/04/03/restoring-the-last-surviving-raaf-consolidated-b-24-liberator-2016-update/> .

## In Closing-

Well, that wraps up this month's SCHAF newsletter. Remember we are starting work on the October hangar dance so if you want to get involved let me or another board member know and we'll find something for you to do. It's going to be a great event' one you don't want to miss and one you'll have fun helping to put on. Again, as I always do, I encourage everyone to get involved with SCHAF. It's a worthwhile organization and one that's a lot of fun to be involved with. You'll get to know some nice and interesting people and learn new things in the process.

If you have something you would like to share please [e-mail](#) me or any of the board members for inclusion in future newsletters. **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

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