



SCHAF Newsletter for November 2017-

Reminder: The next SCHAF Open House will take place Saturday, November 11, 2017. 10am-1pm at Hangar Y-1 Hamilton/Owens Airport.

Greetings to all members and friends of the South Carolina Historic Aviation Foundation. I know I'm always saying it was a busy month but October really was a busy month, what with AeroFest 2017 and the 75th birthday party for GF-2. A number of other things have been going on and it seems that there's a lot of activity around SCHAF these days. Let's dive in and see what's been going on recently.

Foundation Happenings-

A very successful open house on Saturday, October 14th 2017. This was a very special open house as a birthday party marking the 75th anniversary of GF-2 arriving in the Palmetto State took place. Turnout was good and we were honored to have some very special guests. Among the special guests were Murray Price, Jack Starling, Richard Gimmi and Alton Blanks, all veterans and all great guys to be around. All of them have been enthusiastic supporters of SCHAF in the past years.

Everyone had a great time, there were refreshments and it was a great chance to mark the arrival of an historic airplane to the Palmetto State. One of our very special guests was Steven Gunzenhauser, the grandson of the late Dan Rossman, who was the left seat student pilot of June 6, 1944; the day that GF-2 was forced to ditch in Lake Greenwood. Col. Rossman was a faithful and enthusiastic member of SCHAF through the years. Everyone always loved seeing him when he made a visit to Columbia. Dan, you were quite a guy and you are still missed.



SCHAF members who attended were: Katherine Cuddy, Ron Skipper, David Moxley, John Chamberlain, Joe McDonough, Ted Podewil, Alton Blanks, Bruce Cotner, Edwin Scott and Xen Motsinger.

The board of directors of the South Carolina Historic Aviation Foundation met on Saturday, October 14, 2017 before the monthly open house. Board members present were David McIntosh, Katherine Cuddy and Ron Skipper. Members present were David Moxley and John Chamberlain. Since there was not a quorum no action was taken. However a report on the restoration of GF-2 was given. It was reported that seat cushions for the cockpit and bombardier's section have been completed. The upholstery was provided by Phillip Rhodes of Rhodes Upholstery. Fabric was provided by Glenn Raven Mills. The fabric used is a special type called Sunbrella. Thanks to both businesses for their support.

Below, a picture of some of the members of the SCHAF restoration crew. Pictured are: Ron Skipper, Lucien Lapierre, Katherine Cuddy, Niall McLaughlin, John Chamberlain and David Moxley. In recent months a great

deal of progress has been made and the ol' girl is beginning to look really good. Again, would like to thank the businesses that helped with the restoration of SCHAF's B-25C Mitchell bomber GF0-2.



Talk about something special; I had the chance during the October open house to take a flight in Rick Mantei's Boeing/Stearman PT-17 Kaydet bi-plane and it was great. Nothing like putting on the leather helmet and goggles and strapping into an open cockpit plane and winging your way over Columbia to get the true feeling of flight. Have never experienced anything quite like it. Thanks Rick for a really great flight. Rick is with Centraurus Financial and a former air force officer and the owner of a number of noteworthy aircraft including the PT-17, a BAC (Hunting) Jet Provost and a Curtiss Jenny. Again, thanks Rick. Below are some pictures.



Would like to express thanks to businesses and organizations that have recently shown support for SCHAF. Thanks go out to Jack Oliver Pools and to the Forest Acres Retail Merchants Association, both of whom made generous donations to SCHAF. Also, thanks go out to Colony Tire Service on Shop Road in Columbia for providing an inner tube for one of the tires on GF-2. Thanks to their support we were able to move GF-2 out of the hangar to take part in AeroFest 2017 which took place at Hamilton-Owens Airport on Saturday, October 21st. Below is a picture of the inner tube being installed and the tire re-mounted on GF-2.



Speaking of AeroFest, it was a big success. The proceeds from AeroFest go to support Camp Kemo, a very worthwhile cause that provides recreational opportunities for kids undergoing chemotherapy. The folks from Military Timeline Impressions set up a table next to GF-2 and some of their members showed up dressed in World War II era uniforms. Thanks go out to Bruce Cotner, a member of SCHAF and Military Timeline Impressions for his help. Below are some pictures from AeroFest 2017 including one of the Ford Tri-Motor which paid a visit to Hamilton-Owens Airport. Also a picture of a very nice Vultee BT-13 that was at AeroFest.



A while back SCHAF came into possession of a Cessna 206 that was left to the foundation in an estate. After much debate on whether or not the plane should be restored for display or possibly into airworthy condition it was decided to sell the plane and use the proceeds to fund various SCHAF projects. Mission Air Care in Alaska purchased the plane and recently the owners picked it up and transported it to Alaska where it will be brought back to flying condition and to provide much needed relief services in that part of the world. Below is a picture of the 206 on its way to Alaska.



A brief note about something that will be taking place in January. Brig. General (ret.) Anthony Tata, who is now an author will be speaking at the SCHAF hangar on January 6th, 2018 at 10am. I'll be providing more details in the December and January newsletters but I thought I'd give everyone a heads up about an upcoming event.

Historical Notes-

Back in August along with my wife Mary and our daughter Carrie, I had the chance to visit the National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force in Savannah and wow, we were very impressed. Great facilities. Great exhibits and a knowledgeable, friendly and welcoming staff. They have the B-17 "City of Savannah," and a number of other aircraft including a P-51 Mustang, a Messerschmitt Bf-109 as well as a McDonnell F-4 Phantom II and a Mig 15. It is truly one of those places you have to put on your list for a visit. Here's the link to their website: <http://www.mightyeighth.org> . Below are some pix from our visit.



One of the truly great airplanes of World War II, the "wooden wonder," the deHavilland Mosquito:
<http://warfarehistorynetwork.com/daily/the-mosquito/> .

A recent item in the news, the discovery of the remains of a Short Stirling from World War II found in the North Sea: <http://www.edp24.co.uk/news/remains-of-second-world-war-stirling-bomber-found-in-north-sea-1-5165921> . Another link: <http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-tyne-41049104> .

One of the remaining “Dambusters” has a problem with revisionist history: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5026421/Surviving-Dambuster-hits-revisionist-historians.html> .

Something interesting; cities from the air in the 1930s: <https://www.theguardian.com/cities/gallery/2017/jul/05/1930s-cities-from-the-air-aerial-photographs-walter-mittelholzer-in-pictures> .

Good Reads-

Anyone who knows me knows that I’m a dog person. It’s just not a family without a dog. That’s why this month good read is a book I’m so enthusiastic about because it is a truly heartwarming and wonderful book. [The Dog Who Could Fly](#) by Damien Lewis is the story of Robert Vaclav Bozdach, a Czech bomber pilot in Royal Air Force during the Second World War and his dog Antis. The two would bond and Antis would accompany his master on missions; he even had his own oxygen mask made so he would accompany Bozdach on missions. By the end of the war Antis was even recognized with his own medal. A truly touching story sure to be enjoyed by anyone who loves animals or is interested in aviation history. Highly recommended. Here are couple of links about Antis: <http://www.radio.cz/en/section/czechs/the-story-of-a-czech-ww-ii-airman-and-his-remarkable-dog> and <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2482520/So-loyal-brave-dog-flew-Luftwaffe-awarded-animal-version-Victoria-Cross.html> .

Odds and Ends-

Man, I thought I was being clever last month when I posted an airline logo and asked for the name of the airline as the trivia question since I thought “well it’s an obscure airline.” Wrong, we’ve got some airline buffs for readers. Congratulations to John Tokaz for being the first to identify “Herman the Duck” as the logo” for North Central Airlines. Ron Skipper, Fred Knudsen and Gordon Sumner also had the right answer. In the late 1970s North Central would merge with Southern Airways to form Republic Airlines which would be acquired by Northwest. Northwest in this decade merged with Delta Airlines.

Now here’s this month’s trivia question. One of my favorite movies is [The Right Stuff](#), the story of the early test pilots and the Mercury 7 astronauts. In it, every time Chuck Yeager gets ready to take a plane up for a test flight he asks his friend Jackie Ridley for some chewing gum. “Hey Ridley, you got a stick of.....?” What’s the brand of gum that has always been popular among pilots? I’ll let you know next month.

It has been an unusually active hurricane season what with Harvey, Irma and Marie. Of course here in South Carolina many felt the effects of the outer bands of Irma. Hope everyone made it through okay. Anyway, wanted to pass this along; seems that even old warbirds can enjoy one more chance at doing their duty and performing valuable service. Seems that *Bluebonnet Belle*, a C-47 from World War II spend the Labor Day weekend flying supplies to the victims of Harvey in Texas. Here’s a link about her going back into action to help others: <http://www.mystatesman.com/news/local/world-war-plane-returns-action-delivering-hurricane-supplies/PSIIUaqLfIPU3BY9EAWKFI/> . Also this background on *Bluebonnet Belle*, which is part of the Highland Lakes squadron of the Commemorative Air Force: <http://www.highlandlakessquadron.com/aircraft/c47> . You just can’t keep an old warbird down, now can you?

An interesting article on why airlines pay to fly over other countries: <http://www.businessinsider.com/countries-charge-foreign-airlines-to-fly-through-airspace-travel-planes-international-flight-2017-9> .

On the subject of airliners, an article about the 1935 China Clipper: <http://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/Photos-of-the-1935-China-Clipper-over-SF-worthy-11259915.php> .

If you have been a reader of the SCHAF newsletter for any length of time you will know that I am a big fan of the Vickers Viscount, a classic airliner. One that was a pleasure to fly in. One of the most comfortable airplanes I've ever experienced. Here's a nice piece from the Vintage Wings of Canada site about the retirement of a Viscount that flew in the skies of the great white north:

<http://www.vintagewings.ca/VintageNews/Stories/tabid/116/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/529/Shutdown-Down-History.aspx> .

On the subject of airliners; ever wondered why most of them are painted white? Here's the answer:

<http://www.businessinsider.com/heres-why-most-planes-are-white-boeing-american-airlines-virgin-aviation-science-2017-7> .

Earlier this year one of the trivia questions dealt with Saab, the Swedish airplane manufacturer that produces the extremely capable Gripen, one of the world's leading multi-role combat aircraft. Here's a posting from the Shortfinals blog about an earlier plane from Saab, the Viggen:

<https://shortfinals.wordpress.com/2011/05/15/saab-viggen-the-swedish-thunderbolt/> . Another good posting from Shortfinals about an early helicopter, the Sikorsky R4B:

<https://shortfinals.wordpress.com/2010/12/01/the-great-leap-forward-or-upward-even-sikorsky-r4b/> .

SCHAF member Nelson McLeod sent this in about an event taking place later this month for the S.C. National Guard Foundation which provides scholarships to guardsman and their families:

<http://www.scngf.org/cof.html> .

In Closing-

Well, that wraps up this month's SCHAF newsletter. Hope that everyone has a great Thanksgiving. 2016 has been a very successful year for SCHAF but a new year is approaching. 2017 would be a great time to become more active in the work of the South Carolina Historic Aviation Foundation. Try and make it a point to become involved in the coming months. There's a lot going on and a lot you can become involved with. Again, have a great Thanksgiving.

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

Dave McIntosh (dmcintoshone@att.net)

South Carolina Historic Aviation Foundation 803 731 3254

www.schistoricaviation.org

3100 Devine St, Columbia, SC 29205



Happy Thanksgiving to everyone from the folks at SCHAF



JOIN TODAY

DONATE NOW