

**SCHAF Newsletter for December 2014**

**Reminder: The next SCHAF Open House will take place Saturday, December 13, 2014. 10am-1pm at Hangar Y-1 Hamilton/Owens Airport. Also after the open house volunteers are needed for a FOD (Foreign Object Debris) Walk at Hamilton/Owens Airport.**

**Foundation Happenings-**

On Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, members of the Richland County Conservation Commission visited the SCHAF Hangar at Hamilton/Owens Airport and had a chance to view the progress being made in the restoration of GF-2. Ken Berry and Cantzon Foster briefed commission members and staff on the project and the word is that they really enjoyed themselves and that they were impressed with the project. Our thanks to the RCCC for their support. They do great work in making Richland County a better place to live.



*Becky Bailey and Ken Berry*

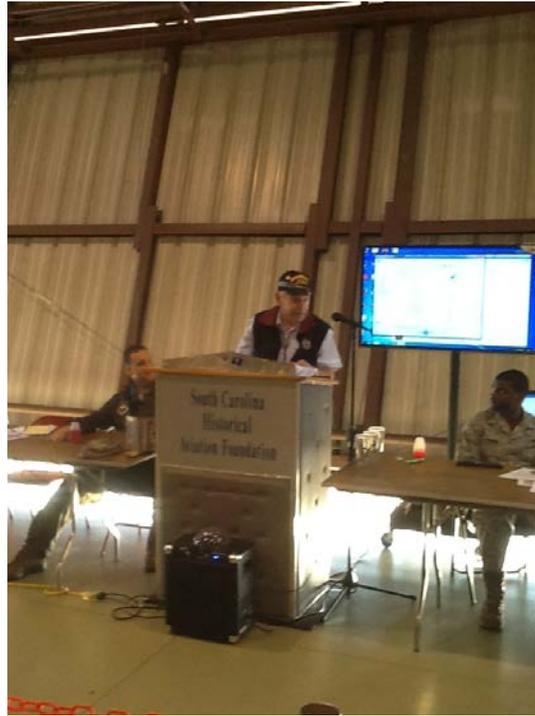


*Ken speaking with commission members*

On Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup> the Air Force ROTC unit at the University of South Carolina held their Combat Dinner at Hangar Y-1 and it was a chance to meet some great young people as well as LTC Stew Newton, Professor of Aerospace Science at USC. SCHAF member Bill Paulis spoke to the cadets about his experiences in World War II and they had a chance to examine GF-2 and learn more about the history of the United States Air Force and the aviation heritage of the Palmetto State.



A number of the cadets expressed an interest in becoming involved with SCHAF and helping out Richard Hill with project to return GF-2 to her former glory. Seems to be a lot of enthusiasm on the part of many of the cadets in getting involved with SCAHF. Again, it was great to meet an outstanding group of young ladies and gentlemen. It was a pleasure to meet cadets like Corey Hubert, Andrew Novo and Michael Martin. Sorry I didn't get a chance to speak with more.



*Bill Paulis speaking to cadets*

A great open house on Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. We were visited by Cub Scout Pack 303 from Lyttleton Street United Methodist Church in Camden. They were a really great bunch of kids who were very interested in our B-25 and eager to learn more about aviation and aviation history. Also credit to Tyler Smuck who was volunteering with EAA 242 and their Young Eagles program. He handled some of the tours of the SCHAF Hangar. Tyler is a Navy JROTC cadet at Dreher High School. Also a couple of the USC AFROTC cadets dropped back by Saturday morning to find out more about SCHAF and talk with Richard Hill about becoming involved with the GF-2 restoration. They later went over to help Ron Shelton with the Young Eagles program. Also Ron Skipper's dad Jack dropped by spent the morning with us. It was great to meet you. Among the SCHAF members present were Ken Berry, Richard Hill, Ron Skipper, Ron Shelton, John Tokaz, Mary McIntosh and myself.



*Cub Scout Pack 303 from Camden*



*Richard Hill, Ron Skipper and Jack Skipper*

The board of directors of SCHAF met on Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at Hamilton/Owens Airport in Columbia. Present were SCHAF president Ken Berry along with Cantzon Foster, Dave McIntosh and Xen Motsinger. Other SCHAF members present were Richard Hill, Scott Linaberry, Niall McLaughlin and Mary McIntosh.

There was discussion on the status of the restoration of GF-2. Richard Hill reported that the restoration process is going well and he and SCHAF volunteers are working on the instrument panel for the cockpit. He said that work on the structure under the nose is going a bit slower than expected. Hill said the focus right now is on the cockpit.

Ken Berry reported on the USC AFROTC Combat Dinner and said it was a great success. There was also discussion on when to hold SCHAF's second hangar dance. General feeling is sometime in late April or early May would be a good time. It was also mentioned that April 2015 is the 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hamilton/Owen Airport and that the folks at Hamilton/Owens are looking at holding a big event to celebrate the anniversary. It was agreed that SCHAF should do anything it can to cooperate with the event.

Niall McLaughlin reported on the visit by two friends from the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum and the feeling is that SCHAF should do everything possible to foster a good relationship with our friends up north. Niall also said that CWHM could be very helpful in securing parts for GF-2.

There was also discussion regarding SCHAF's role in the restoration of the historic Curtiss-Wright Hangar at Hamilton/Owens Airport. It was agreed that a task force be formed to study the best way to approach restoration and preservation of the CW Hangar and how SCHAF can take part, possibly in a lead role. Volunteers are needed. This could turn out to be a very important project; one that can assure that an important part of the aviation heritage of South Carolina and America will be around for future generations. This will be a big project if we can get it moving; one that will take fund-raising and other activities. We need people to step up and get involved.

Just to let you know after our December 13<sup>th</sup> open house SCHAF plans to hold a FOD (Foreign Object Debris) Walk at Hamilton/Owens Airport. Chris Eversmann and the folks at Hamilton/Owens have been extremely cooperative with SCHAF over the years and this is a way of showing out appreciation. We need about ten volunteers who would be willing to spend an hour or two walking the ramp in front of the hangars and picking up FOD. Please come out and help and show that SCHAF is a good citizen at Hamilton/Owens.



This summer SCHAF member Niall McLaughlin was part of the support crew for the Canadian Avro Lancaster that flew to the UK and toured Britain with the British Lanc. As always Niall brought back some great pictures. Thought I'd share a few of them. The second picture shows Niall in the rear gunner's position of the Canadian Lancaster. Word is that the six week tour of the two planes around the UK was a big success. Niall said it was an unforgettable experience.



On Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup> SCHAF member Niall McLaughlin brought a couple of friends from Canada who are associated with the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum, Bill Rouw and Shirley Solomon. Bill is the chief engineer for the museum's B-25 and Shirley is involved in a number of roles with the museum and is a crew member of the B-25. Ken Berry showed them our B-25 and talked about ways SCHAF and the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum can cooperate. Ken said it was great to meet them and talk about historic warplanes. By the way, during the visit Bill joined SCHAF. Welcome aboard Bill. Here's a link to the website for the [Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum](http://www.canadianwarplaneheritagemuseum.com/)

### Historical Notes-

Ron and Linda Skipper recently sent in this link to an inspiring video about two men from different worlds and later found out that even if you come from different backgrounds it is still a small world. Whatever differences we may have the best in us leads us to work together and work for each other. Here's the link: [http://www.youtube.com/watch\\_popup?v=agwnwqCdwI8](http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=agwnwqCdwI8).

On November 3<sup>rd</sup> of this year a moment in aviation history, the first carrier landing of the Lockheed Martin F-35 Lightning II. Here's a link to an article about the landing complete with video: <http://www.businessinsider.com/david-cenciotti-f-35-completed-aircraft-carrier-landing-2014-11>.

Here's another item from the pages of history. It was on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1947 that the "Spruce Goose" made its only flight. The gigantic plane, the brainchild of Howard Hughes and industrialist Henry J. Kaiser

continues to be one of the truly legendary planes in aviation history. Here's the link: <http://www.theaviationzone.com/factsheets/hk1.asp> .

**Great video on YouTube about the USAF Thunderbirds. Enjoy. Here's the link: [Fly Amongst The Solo Thunder - USAF Thunderbirds](#)**

### Good Reads-

In the December 2013 SChAF newsletter I made mention of the classic aviation novella *The Shepherd* by Frederick Forsyth and provided a link to the annual broadcast of the reading of the book on the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation by the late Al Maitland, known over the years as "Fireside Al." The Christmas Eve broadcast has become a tradition in many households of our neighbor to the north. Here's a link to his reading of *The Shepherd*: [The Shepherd read by Al Maitland](#) . The book is a great read and if you would rather read than listen here's a link for Frederick Forsyth's classic story of a young RAF pilot in need of a miracle if he is to make it home for Christmas. It's a great story about a season when thoughts turn to redemption and a new start for the world. Pick up a copy of this one and maybe start your own Christmas tradition. [The Shepherd](#) by Frederick Forsyth. Click on the title and it will take you to Amazon.

### Odds and Ends-

Our trivia question month was "what was the second jet airliner in the world to fly?" The answer is the Avro Canada C-102 Jetliner. It took to the air only thirteen days after the deHavilland Comet. The C-102 was developed in cooperation with Trans-Canada Airlines (now Air Canada). Among the people who expressed an interest in the C-102 was Howard Hughes who offered to begin production of a licensed version. Its first flight was in August of 1949, however delays in another program, Avro Canada's CF-100 jet fighter project resulted in the decision to scrap the one prototype. During its testing the C-102 would carry air mail for the first time by jet between Toronto and New York. The only surviving parts of the C-102 are the nose and cockpit section which are on display at the Canada Aviation Museum in Ottawa. The Boeing "Dash 80" from which the Boeing 707 was developed would not take to the air until July of 1954. The first flight of the Douglas DC-8 was in May of 1958. The CF-102 was a product of the post-World War period some call "the golden age of Canadian aviation."



Want to know more about the Avro Canada C-102? Follow this link: <http://www.avroarrow.org/jetliner/jetlinerintro.html>

Continuing our airliner theme of recent months, here is the trivia question for next month; what was the first turbine powered airliner to fly in North America? Here's a hint, the answer again involves Canada.

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. Remember if you have missed a previous edition of the SCHAF newsletter can go to our website to the downloads page and catch up. Here's the link:  
<http://www.schistoricaviation.org/downloads.htm>

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to everyone from the folks at the South Carolina Historic Aviation Foundation. Have a great holiday season.

Till next time

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