

## UPDATE #15 – “City of Savannah”

**June 5, 2009**

After all the excitement of the polishing project, things were much less hectic here at the Mighty Eighth this week. The Wednesday crews finished steam cleaning #'s 1-2 engines and replaced the cowlings. They also moved the scaffolding and took the cowling off of the # 3 engine.

The Friday crew began the cleaning and restoration of the cockpit instruments which they will replace after the cleaning and painting of the aircraft interior is completed.

Restoration Project Coordinator Jerry McLaughlin will be meeting with the Wednesday volunteers on 10 June; and the Friday team on 19 June in order to obtain their input on the project Strategic Plan. Jerry, Jim Grismer and team supervisors Bill Liening, Jim Argo and Ron Gunnells will be meeting on 17 June with Tom Reilly, one of the world's top warbird restoration professionals. Tom will be making his second trip to the museum to inspect the “City” and to advise the team on the development of the Strategic Plan.



Pictured Above: Friday Crew Ron Gunnells, Mort Glick, Chuck Brisbin, and Scott Whitcher

On a totally different front, museum CEO Henry Skipper announced this week that the “City of Savannah” is about to become the centerpiece of a major art project. World renowned aviation artist Keith Ferris, who is the founder of the American Society of Aviation Artists, and who serves on the Board of Trustees of the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum, will be at the museum during the week of June 21<sup>st</sup> and will be holding a special class for art students on the 24<sup>th</sup> of June in the combat gallery. The students will be spread throughout the gallery and will be sketching the “City” and our volunteers as they work on the aircraft. This is a once in a lifetime event for many of the aspiring artists, and certainly a unique situation for our B-17 and the volunteers who have been putting in so many hours working on the aircraft. If all goes well we may be able to present some of the sketches in the update the following week.

More to come...