

UPDATE # 94 - "CITY OF SAVANNAH"
B-17 Restoration
April 8, 2011

This week's big event with the "City of Savannah" project was the All-Hands meeting held with the volunteers in the Museum's Combat Gallery, next to the airplane.

This was our largest turnout to date, with forty volunteers present. Also present were two guests from the Gulfstream Corporate offices, Dick Gorman, the company's Employee Communications Manager, and corporate photographer, Kathy Almand. Dick and Kathy were on hand to prepare an article on the Gulfstream employees who are active volunteers on the "*City of Savannah*" project.

Project Manager Jerry McLaughlin began the program by addressing the group about how the spirit and expertise of the volunteers has moved the project well ahead of where it was anticipated it would be after only twenty-six months of existence. Jerry also outlined plans for the future, to include interaction with other B-17 restoration projects and flying aircraft. Jim Grismer followed Jerry's remarks by announcing to the group that he will be traveling to Florida next week for a second parts purchase trip. He also described the rules that will be instituted regarding the new tools that he purchased last week. Guy MacDonald, head of the radio team, discussed plans to have the radio room fully operational by mid-July. The final speaker for the evening was Museum CEO Henry Skipper. Henry thanked the volunteers for their continued service to the Museum and to the project. He assured everyone that their efforts were much appreciated by the Board of Directors and other Museum supporters.

The highlight of the evening was the gathering of all of the volunteers (minus a few late arrivals) under the nose of the airplane for a group picture taken by Kathy, who volunteered her services to get us a professional quality photograph. Kathy's photo will be used by Skip Shelton to paint the much anticipated portrait of the project volunteers with the airplane.

Much more to come . . .

