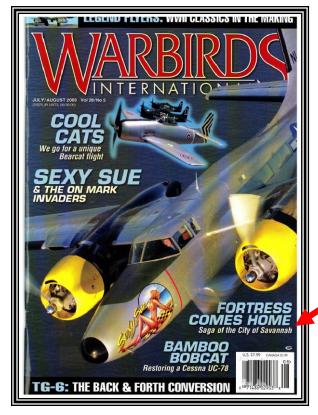# *Update #16 –* *"City of Savannah"*

June 12, 2009

For those of you with access to a good magazine distributer, you might want to find a copy of the current issue (July/August 2009) of <u>War Birds International</u> which has a full description and photos of how the "City" was brought from Chantilly, Virginia, to Pooler last January. Many, many thanks to our good friend, Michael O'Leary, for including the story in his magazine.

This was a week of mostly administrative chores on our restoration project. Jerry McLaughlin met with both of the Wednesday crews to get their input for the project's Strategic Plan. He will meet with the Friday crew next week.

The Strategic Plan will set out the milestones and requirements for the entire restoration project. It will include, among many important decisions that will be documented in the plan, the level to which the "*City of Savannah*" will be restored, the specific restoration steps that will be implemented, and guidelines for the aircraft's long term maintenance. The plan is due to be presented to museum management, in draft form, on July 1st. Copies of the draft will also be sent to several experienced warbird restoration experts for comment. When all of the comments and discussion are completed the plan will be put in final form, signed by CEO Henry Skipper, and implementation of the formal restoration of aircraft B-17G 44-83814 aka the "*City of Savannah*" will begin.

Next week will be an important one for the entire project and for the Strategic Plan. Tom Reilly will pay his second visit to the museum since the arrival of the "City". Tom is going to meet with Henry and the senior volunteer staff to provide his evaluation of the aircraft, and input on how the restoration might proceed. Many of you know, or have heard of Tom, who is one of the premier warbird restoration professionals in the world. We are honored that he has taken interest in our project and look forward, very much, to the time he will spend with our team.

More to come…