

## Update #18 – *“City of Savannah”*

B-17 Restoration  
June 26, 2009

The attached picture depicts just a portion of the artists that took part in the Society of Aviation Artists symposium here at the Mighty Eighth on the 24<sup>th</sup> of June. We witnessed some excellent artwork evolve during the six hours the artists spent in the Combat Gallery. Jim Grismer even had a personal caricature presented to him by a cartoonist in the group. We hope to present some of the finished products to you in the near future.

While the Wednesday day crew were not modeling for visitors they managed to steam clean the #3 engine and remove the vent covers for the inter-coolers on the left wing. Most of the night crew missed the art action and actually had to do some work. They removed the inter-cooler vent covers on the right wing and continued the never ending removal of storage residue from the top of that wing.



Shown above: Students from the Savannah College of Art and Design

Next week we hope Steve Ward will be back with us for a train-the-trainer session that will prepare our crews to finish the polishing of the fuselage and wings.

We are in the process of establishing contact with the 388<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group Association to obtain written confirmation of the markings of the original *“City”* as of December, 1944. That is the date that we have picked as the target point for our restoration decisions. We are currently searching for the right type of person - or company - to do the painting of the *“5,000<sup>th</sup> Aircraft”* nose art and Squadron/Group designations.

We are very grateful to Scott Witcher, from the Friday cockpit crew, who has volunteered to take on the carpentry project of constructing exhibit display counters for the front of the aircraft. Scott is going to actually build the counters in the combat gallery, as we are getting considerable feedback from museum visitors that they enjoy seeing work being done as part of the exhibit.

More to follow...