

## Update #22 – “*City of Savannah*”

B-17 Restoration  
July 31, 2009

This week a great deal of work took place on behalf of the “*City of Savannah*” – some of it was on the aircraft, and some took place in the museum boardroom. Last Friday Ron Gunnells’ interior crew removed the nose piece and the flat Plexiglas side windows from the nose compartment, giving our airplane quite a different look. The Wednesday day crew came in this week and began cleaning the 65 years of accumulated dirt out of the nose compartment and found a crumpled piece of newsprint beneath the floorboard that bore the title of the Puma Air Museum, where the “*City*” was in outside storage for several years in the 1980’s. The Wednesday evening crew continued on the cleaning/polishing of the upper wings.



While the evening crew was working on the wings the five crew chiefs and the project managers, Jerry McLaughlin and Jim Grismer, were upstairs in the museum board room using the recently approved Strategic Plan to formulate the sequence of events that will carry the project through its

first anniversary, on January 5, 2010. The plan the group decided upon calls for museum management to handle arrangements for the aircraft’s exterior painting (nose art and unit markings) and for the five work teams to coordinate the continuing early restoration work, to include the cleaning/polishing of the aircraft’s exterior surfaces, an in-depth corrosion inspection of the entire aircraft, removal of all cockpit glass and Plexiglas, and a total cleaning of the nose compartment in order for that compartment to be used as a test bed for cleaning and painting of the interior of the aircraft. The Crew Chiefs that will lead this work include; Bill Burkel (Wednesday Day), Bill Liening (Wednesday Evening), Ron Gunnells (Friday) and JEB Harper (Saturday).

More to follow.....