

## Update #28 – “City of Savannah”

B-17 Restoration  
September 18, 2009

Much of the activities this week involved projects off of the airplane. Bill Burkel’s Wednesday daytime crew re-organized the ever expanding shop area and then rigged a water run off system for the continuing steam cleaning of the fuselage interior. Bill Leining’s Wednesday night crew steam cleaned the bomb bay doors and prepared the nose compartment for a second steam cleaning.



The Friday crew continued with the corrosion inspection. Ron Gunnells has done an exceptional job of

documenting the minimal amounts of corrosion his team has located and Mort Glick is following the inspection to clean out any corrosion before application of the corrosion retardant.



WWII B-17 Pilot Rudy Froeschle and B-17 Historian Doug Reed exploring the Archives at the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum

Also on Friday, we were honored by a visit from Rudy Froeschle. Rudy was a WWII B-17 pilot and was instrumental in acquiring our B-17 (44-83814, now known as the “City of Savannah”) for the North Dakota School District #5, where it lived from 1947 until 1951. Our historian, Doug Reed, arranged for Rudy’s visit and conducted a 1 ½ hour video of Rudy discussing his WWII experience and purchase of the B-17.



The “City of Savannah” during her time with Kenting Aviation in the early 1950’s.

We are still recruiting for the Saturday crew as they prepare to attack the most difficult chore of cleaning the bottom of both wings. If you would like to join J.E.B. Harper’s merry band please call Sheila at 912-748-8888 X 107.

More to come...