

## Update #35 – “City of Savannah”

B-17 Restoration  
November 6, 2009

This week we need to report some more history data on the original “City of Savannah”. If you remember from several weeks ago our historian, Doug Reed, had found a painting done in 1945 by a Savannah artist that identified the tail number of the original “City of Savannah”, 43-39049. Museum staffer, Brenda Elmgren, did some research in our library and found references to the aircraft in the 487<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group’s official history written by Ivo DeJong in 2004. Brenda was also able to locate the 487<sup>th</sup> BG website and found a picture of 43-39049 with a 487<sup>th</sup> combat crew. We hope to have details of the combat missions the “City” completed in a future update.



**Allensworth Crew – 487<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group, 839th Squadron**  
**Back row L to R:** William Allensworth (pilot), 2nd Lt Howard Duncan (Co-pilot), Radio operator (name unknown), Oscar Barney (navigator), Tom Harris (bombardier)  
**Front row:** Engineer, rear gunner, all others-gunners (names unknown)



Scott Witcher, B-17 Volunteer and Walter Sheridan from Sheridan Designs unloading the covers for our new display cabinets, built by Scott.

Special thanks to B-17 Volunteer Scott Witcher from Sun City, SC. Scott is our resident carpenter and has built us two display cabinets that will be used for small exhibits related to the project. The covers for the cabinets were delivered this week and Marshall Brooks is putting together some of the artifacts that will be displayed.

On a sad note, our project lost a good friend with the death of Mr. George Menzel. Last December when the National Air and Space Museum told us that our B-17 was available it was Mr. Menzel who arranged for funds to be made available to send the team to Virginia and bring the aircraft to Pooler. George was an 8<sup>th</sup> combat veteran, having flown as a navigator with the 401<sup>st</sup> Bomb Group.

For those volunteers who are planning to attend the pot-luck supper and/or make the trip to American Aero Services, please don't forget to contact Sheila ASAP (912) 748-8888.

More to come...