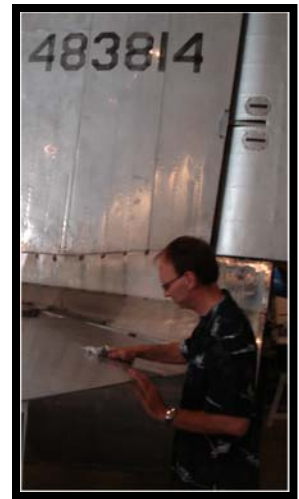


March 27, 2009

TO: B-17 Restoration Volunteers (Update # 5)

As we continue to remove storage residue from the outside of the airplane we have begun to examine polishing techniques and finishes with the expert guidance and support of one of our very generous contributing individuals and his organization. Much more on this in the coming weeks.



Thanks to the efforts of the Wednesday day-crew and the Wednesday night team, we were able to remove virtually all the paint and adhesives from the aircraft. The result is impressive as large areas of the bomber's skin is now bare metal. Next week will be devoted to rust removal on screw heads and the exhaust manifolds. The following week's work will focus on the remaining steam cleaning of the underside of the starboard wing and engines. Both of these tasks call for an "all hands" maximum effort. Call Jim Grismer (912) 308-8925 if you are unable to work on your regular shift in order that he can better schedule the sequence of work.



Another major contributor of time and skill to the B-17 restoration project is Ron Gunnells. Ron is at present photographing the individual loose parts of the plane that were removed and stored by NASM at the time they acquired the aircraft.

Ron is numbering each part, photographing it, and creating a sequential list. Sheila Saxon is taking that list along with each photo and creating a printed record which our team will take on their trip to meet Don Brooks and Tom Reilly. (See update #4). We trust they will identify and describe the use of the parts that we are otherwise unfamiliar with.

We know each of you are out there and we're looking forward to enlisting your help as the restoration continues.