

## **UPDATE # 87 - "CITY OF SAVANNAH"**

### **B-17 Restoration February 14, 2011**

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All three crews turned in full reports this week. On Wednesday the day crew moved and organized parts and tools in both the shop and second floor storage room. Sand blasting and painting of parts to be reinstalled on the airplane included the pilot's seats and the metal stands for the navigator, bombardier and radio operator's chairs. The back and seat pads for the chairs were delivered to an upholsterer who specializes in canvas and is donating his time to the project.

There was considerable discussion regarding the recently discovered portable generator that many B-17's carried. This particular generator had been in the Museum archives for many years with no paperwork attached. Tommy Garcia noted the significance of the "mystery box" during his tour of the archives and it was brought down to the shop area for inspection. Next week the crew will see what can be done with this surprise discovery.

The Wednesday night crew spent most of their time tracing, cleaning and lubricating the aircraft's flight and engine control cables. Saturday crew member Gil Patrick also pulled a double shift and came in on Wednesday night to finish the radio room table.

The Saturday crew completed several re-installations of original equipment from the bomb bay, to include bungee brackets and the door actuator. They also spoke with several interesting visitors with WWII B-17 histories. Both of the visitors left contact information for our project historian, Leslie Grainger, who has done a wonderful job of following up with our "Special Visitors" program.

In order to acknowledge the work of some of our volunteers this issue of the Update will be the first to include the profile of one of our "plank owners" – volunteers who have been with us from the very start, and continue to make major contributions to the project. Our first profile is of Scott Whitcher.



## SCOTT WHITCHER



*Scott Witcher is one of our talented carpenters, and is majoring in ammunition boxes. Early on he also constructed the two rolling exhibit cases that sit in front of the aircraft for visitors to review historical information on both the original and current “City of Savannah” aircraft.*

*Scott was born in Louisiana, where his dad, an artillery officer, was undergoing training in 1944 prior to his departure to Europe. He graduated from Glen Ridge High School, in New Jersey, in 1962, served in the US Navy, and graduated from both the RCA Institutes and Hawaii Pacific University.*

*Scott and his wife, Susan, moved to Sun City, South Carolina, in 2002, after Scott retired from a 38 year career at the National Security Agency. He is one of only six volunteers who have contributed over 100 hours of service to the project during both 2009 and 2010.*

*Scott – it’s our pleasure to have you on the “City of Savannah” team.*

*More to come . . .*