



AIR AMERICA FOUNDATION

THE Provider Weekly



Greetings everyone. Last Saturday at the airplane was a productive day.

We were able to uncover a long-lost set of stairs but found out that they need new wheels there is only one axle on the set of stairs. This is a project for for the future. It is enough for now just to know where the stairs are and that we have them.

We were also able to pull our prop hoist out and get it ready to take over to the plane. We need to get the motor rebuilt, most notably the brakes so that if we do need to lift anything or hang our propellers we will be able to do so.

The problem we are having right now is that it is very hot and the work is very difficult. Once we get caught up we will be able to do smaller projects that will hopefully keep us out of the heat.

We're getting ready for hurricane season by coordinating all of our equipment and we are also getting ready to tie the plane down now that we have our tiedowns relocated. This is a process that we can complete quickly.

We also hope to have all of our equipment stenciled fairly soon so that we can create an inventory of our support equipment.

I want to thank Dennis for properly identifying the battery leads on the Buda tug. This will help us when we connect the battery charger because the original leads were installed backwards. Now we can perform a charging without frying a battery.

We are still shorthanded as everyone is out and about in parts unknown. Cal is in Canada, John is in Minnesota, Rod is in Georgia, Paul is in Georgia, and George is over in Louisiana or Texas. If you are available on Saturday mornings and would like to give us a hand we would sure appreciate it.

We're hoping by mid-summer to have most of our folks back with us make some good progress on the C123 once the heat breaks.

I want to thank Dick Hart for his continued efforts on our flight control surfaces. The man is a true craftsman and his skill with sheet metal is not easily duplicated. Thanks to Dick, we have almost a brand-new set of flight control surfaces that are ready for fabric covering. Um, Anyone want to give a class on covering flight control surfaces with fabric?

Continued...

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What's

NEW This

Week

- ◆ Message from the editor
- ◆ Prop hoist move
- ◆ Work update
- ◆ Facebook page
- ◆ Flickr link
- ◆ New website's up and running!
- ◆ New scans

*The Air America Foundation
is a 501 (c) 3 organization.*



We have not been taking any photos of the work we have been doing lately because the work we have been doing lately has not been very exciting. That does not mean what we have been doing is not important, it is very much so.

Every hour of organization that we put in now, will help us to be more efficient later when we get back to working on the plane.

On another note, the Valiant Air Command has set the dates for the 2012 airshow. The dates will be March 9th, 10th and 11th. As you recall this year's airshow was the anniversary of the Flying Tigers. It was an exciting airshow that was well attended, and the airship planned for 2012 should prove to be no less exciting.

The theme for the 2012 airshow is the 70th anniversary of the Doolittle raid. I'm sure there will be many exciting airplanes flying and much to see and do next March during the airshow.

There will be an exciting event this June at the Valiant Air Command. On June 16 the Space Coast Regional Airport will celebrate its ribbon-cutting on the new administration building at 10AM. Following this at 11 AM the Valiant Air Command will have a ribbon-cutting on the new Vietnam era hangar.

The event will feature the ribbon-cutting at 11 outside the hangar then the doors will be opened and the celebration will continue indoors with speeches by dignitaries and VIPs.

We are happy for the Valiant Air Command and we look forward to celebrating this event with them.

This evening I had an opportunity to tow the prop hoist over to the aircraft. This process turned out to be a spur of the moment event. I called and asked about scheduling a time to do this and was told, "I will meet you there in 45 minutes"

So we met Debbie from the airport operations center and we started towing the hoist over. This became potentially dangerous for two reasons. First, a storm was approaching quickly. I was less than excited about having a 20 foot high lightning rod attached to my truck.

Secondly, the threaded rod which holds the boom in place was not fastened correctly. The bolt was in place, but there was no nut on it. Halfway over the vibration shook the bolt out. Fortunately, the rod fell backwards and not forward. If this had fallen forward, it would have crushed the roof of my truck.

We have a couple of plans to reattach the support rod, but will have to see how they work out. We will look at this tomorrow.

I am going to leave you with a couple of scans. A couple are recent finds and the others are from the foundation's collection. Hope to see you all soon.

Historically Yours,



Air America stuff online to check out!

http://www.flickr.com/photos/ed_kindle/sets/72157624712147513/



**Got an idea?
Let us know!**

**Got a question?
Ask us!**



Sooner or later we are looking to have our own little museum. Please keep us in mind if you are cleaning out your closets. We can safeguard donated items in storage until we can display them.

I am also looking to do a special exhibit with the Historical Society of North Brevard in the North Brevard Historical Museum and would love to have lots of things loaned to us to have a special event. Let me know if you are interested in participating.

