

# Project Phoenix

Update 5 – August 22, 2015



Work continues as the legendary Phoenix “rises from the ashes.” This month featured active duty volunteers from CGAS Miami and ATC Mobile fashioning new boots for the rotor mast and performing metalwork repairs on a newly-discovered corroded cabin window frame.



The instrument panel was re-installed and all wiring bundles were re-attached to the appropriate lugs under the panel. The magnetic compass fluid was drained and replaced. All limit markings were applied to the appropriate instruments.



The electrical rack, consisting of circuit breaker panel, ASE amplifier, Gyro tilt table, and auxiliary floatation pneumatic bottles has been reinstalled in the cabin. All of these components are restored to original exterior condition.



The pilot's and co-pilot's sliding windows were disassembled and corrosion was removed. New Plexiglas was installed and the components were re-assembled and fit-tested. All that remains is to obtain a weather seal strip and re-paint the emergency exit windows in yellow.



Even the pilots' ashtrays were reconditioned!



The aircraft was jacked and all three wheel struts (MLGs and tail) were removed. Major corrosion control and re-painting occurred before the struts were re-installed.





**As you can see, the condition of the tires is poor. Goodyear's Aviation Division has offered to replace all three! This is a \$1,000 value and we thank them for their support.**



The tail pylon fairing is undergoing repair at ALC's fiberglass shop. In the meantime, in preparation for final paint, orange paint was applied to detailed areas like rivets, seams and joints.



Preparation is underway to repair and replace the auxiliary float bags in early September. The aircraft restoration is proceeding ahead of schedule and under budget to deliver a gleaming white HH-52A with red and blue diagonal stripes in an appearance befitting "any mission-ready H-52 sitting on an air station flight line in 1975." Final paint may be applied sooner than expected. This aircraft will be immaculate when trucked to Udvar-Hazy for final assembly and suspension over the north hangar. Remember, CGAA has planned this project for ten years and we are excited it is coming to fruition. You will be able to take your children, grandchildren and great grandchildren to see this "first of its kind" technological marvel that set the stage for our modern turbine-powered craft.



Artist's conception of HH-52A 126 suspended in military aircraft wing of Udvar-Hazy

Let's turn for a moment to what is needed from you. We need your generous contribution toward this exhibit that will be viewed by millions of people over the coming years. This is the centerpiece of our 2016 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Coast Guard Aviation. We need to raise approximately \$150,000 to augment monies that have, or will be, expended from our USAA account just to complete Phoenix. Moreover, our goal is to have a substantial amount of money to fund 2016 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events. CGAA will award a life membership and a special commemorative challenge coin for a donation of \$250 or more, and a one year CGAA membership (including 3 25-page issues of the "PteroGram" newsletter) for a donation of \$30 or more. We urge you to recognize that this is, and will probably be, the first and only Coast Guard aircraft on display in this prestigious collection for many years. We will be grateful for a donation in any amount. Please send your donation by check to:

**Treasurer**  
**Coast Guard Aviation Association**  
**Post Office Box 940**  
**Troy, VA 22974-0940**