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▶ A Remembrance

Make a Lasting Legacy

As a means of continuing a remembrance of the past and establishing a bond with the future, remember the Glatton Memorial. It's as simple as adding a paragraph to your will.

The Memorial stands as a reminder of the price brave warriors paid in the defense of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.

If your attorney needs further information please have him contact

James L. Bass
P.O. Box 500, Cathage, TN 37030
P: 615.735.1122
jlbass@bassandbass.com

Last will & testament

I give and bequeath to the Glatton Memorial (c/o 457th Bomb Group Association) the sum of \$_____ to be used for the maintenance & upkeep of the Memorial.



▶ A Brief History

The Rochester Bridge Trust

Rochester and Conington, England have little visible connection. Located approximately 70 miles south-southeast of Conington (east of London), Rochester, England has a bridge that spans the River Medway. The bridge is a valuable asset to the town and has provided access across the river for more than 600 years. Over the years the owners have expanded operations to include commercial and agricultural properties and crossings on other streams.

The operations are controlled by a trust, the Rochester Bridge Trust, administered by the Bridge Clerk and Finance Officer.

Conington has no bridge. However, for much the same time the Rose Court Farm has been a valuable asset to the area. In 2008 the Bridge Trust purchased the farm and other surrounding properties in Conington. At the time of the purchase the Trust had no knowledge that sixty-four years previously the property was the site of a heavy bomber group busily engaged in the aggressive air war being waged over Occupied Europe.

Through the Trust's Surveyor, the Rose Court Farm operation is supervised by a farm agent from Peterborough and the daily operation is under the charge of a long-time tenant residing on the farm.

In addition to the operation of its holdings, the Trust has a long tradition of making many educational, charitable and religious grants.

Upon learning of the historical significance the farm played in this crucial period of history, the Trust became interested in the 457th Bomb Group and the Association, and has become a valued supporter.

James L. Bass

► Highlights

Living in the Past

The publishing of "Found in a Footlocker" has put my mind to living in the past. That April 5, 1945 with the crash of our *Miss Ida* on take-off, killing ten of the eleven on board, made me want to let the rest of the membership know what happened to me on that faithful morning. Upon reporting to the flight line, B-17 #881, piloted by Lt. Graves. I ground tested my spot jamming radar equipment and found it to be inoperative. This let me with sort of a dilemma. Radar jammers were instructed to ground test their equipment and instructed not to fly that mission if the equipment failed the test.

(Note: The formation flew with six radar jammers. The mission could continue with five operating in formation.) My dilemma was if the equipment that I tested, was grounded and sent to the shop for retesting, then proved to be operational and not defective I could have been court marshalled for desertion. I spent a long lonely day having to watch and wait as my comrades took off on a mission I should have been on. Needless to say, I was relieved to find that the radar equipment was malfunctioning and should have been grounded.

On my next mission, April 7, 1945, I was also assigned to aircraft #881 with a different crew and piloted by Captain Stansberry. The equipment worked perfectly. What I remember most about

that time on the tarmac was how long it took me to find anyone to give me a ride back to the billet area and continue my daily duties. I realize now that every available person was at the crash site assisting at what ever they could with the recovery.

What a day - I will never ever forget.

SSgt. James R. (Bob) Day

Radar Armor Gunner

750th Squadron / 457th Bomb Group

The Crash - Part II

Part 2 of Cliff Digre's article about the crash on December 23, 1944, of B-17 serial number 43-38812 will appear in the August issue of the FIREBALL.

457th Bomb Group Association: Membership Dues & Subscription Form

► Dues

Annual Dues: \$25 per person
(2 years)

Life Dues:

Age	Cost
under 60	\$110
61 - 65	\$90
60 - 70	\$75
71 +	\$60

► Mail Form To: make check payable to:

Lori Barnett, Treasurer

457th Bomb Group Association
304 Old West Point Road
Starkville, MS 39759

check applicable:

- New membership
 Renewal
 Address Change

Name _____		Nickname _____		Spouse _____	
Address _____		City _____		State _____ Zip (+4) _____	
Phone _____		email _____			

Are you a (check one):

- Fireballer Relative of Fireballer Other: _____

If you are a relative:

Name of Veteran _____		Relationship to you _____	
Birth Date of Veteran _____		Squadron # _____ Rank _____	
Dates Assigned _____		Duties _____	
Plane Name _____		Plane # _____ Pilot's Name _____	
Plane Name _____		Plane # _____ Pilot's Name _____	

POW? / Evadee? _____ Captured Date: _____ Escape/Release Date: _____

Retired Military? _____ Rank: _____

Comments: _____

► 2012 Glatton

**457th Bomb Group Assoc.
Mini Reunion**

Contact for room
reservations & plans:

Candy Fluman
717. 432. 1067
Flumancl@aol.com

**Memorabilia Room
to be available
beginning
Saturday during
Registration**



2012 Return To Glatton

May 26 - 30, 2012

Peterborough, England at the Bull Hotel

Agenda:

Saturday: May 26th

Registration at Hotel

Sunday: May 27th

Day in Conington

Airfield Visit

Conington Church Memorial
Services

Lunch

Monument Memorial Service

Afternoon Tea

Monday: May 28th

Memorial Service at Madingley
American Cemetery

Afternoon to be announced

Tuesday: May 29th

Closing Banquet

Wednesday: May 30th

Departure

► In Memory

Eugene Key

Eugene Key, member of the 457th Bomb Group Association, passed away on September 16, 2011. It is with gratitude for his service that we extended our sincere condolences to his wife, Tashti Key.

Cedric Priest

Cedric N. Priest, member of the 457th Bomb Group Association, died September 27, 2011 after a two year battle with lung cancer.

Cedric entered into military service in 1943 as an active part of WWII, serving in the Army Air Corps 8th Air Force as a lead radio operator on the B-17 *Flying Fortress*. He flew 31 missions over Europe and received many medals, including the Distinguished Flying Cross. Cedric was discharged from military service in 1945. Upon his return home Cedric spent his life raising livestock and farming. He was an active member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and American Legion organizations. Cedric also looked forward to and enjoyed attending the 457th Bomb Group Reunions.

Receiving the **FIREBALL** was always something he looked forward to as well. The hours of reminiscing were always pleasurable.

submitted by Alice Priest

► President's Review

Willmore Fluman

I regret having to report the passing of one of our members. Will Fluman, Past President, passed away at his home in Boiling Springs, PA, on February 23, 2012. His funeral was held in Williamsport, PA, on March 1.

Will served as President of the 457th Association in 2001-2003. Over the years he was a very strong worker for and supporter of the Association. He brought about successful reunions, stateside and in England, and was always on hand assuring that everything went smoothly.

Will is survived by daughter, Candy, and son, Will, Jr. They have been attending and working with their Dad at recent reunions. They plan to continue with the task.

Will Fluman was an outstanding member of the 457th Bomb Group Association and will be sorely missed.

John S. Pearson, President

► Officers & Appointments

John Pearson President	jonpearson@cavtel.net 1900 Lauderdale Drive C-315, Richmond, VA 23238	P: 804. 740. 2635
Joe De Luccia Vice-President	jaadeeluu@aol.com 214 Cambridge Ave., Saddle Brook, NJ 07663	P: 201. 797. 9245
Trisha Mach Secretary	secretary.457thbombgroupassoc@yahoo.com 3101 Woodbridge Drive, Bedford, TX 76021	P: 817. 354. 8624
Lori Barnett Treasurer	Lpbarnett223@aim.com 304 Old West Point Road, Starkville, MS 39759	P: 662. 418. 8563
Vacant Director - 2 year		
James Hanley Director - 4 year	hanley25@hotmail.com 2552 Thorn Oak Drive, #80, Medford, OR 97501	P: 541. 840. 1301
Will Fluman, Jr. Director - 6 year	MR-SHORT-CUT@hotmail.com 132 Ore Bank Road, Dillsburg, PA 17019	P: 570. 971. 5757
Joe Toth Immed. Past Pres.	jandjtoth@comcast.net 449 Sunset Lane, Pueblo, CO 81005	P: 719. 566. 1714
James Bass Legal Advisor	jlbass@bassandbass.com P.O. Box 500, Carthage, TN 37030-0500	P: 615. 735. 1122 F: 615. 735. 3149
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Chris Sechrist Newsletter Editor	nephoto@embarqmail.com 36 Shank Road, Carlisle, PA 17015	P: 717. 776. 5313

► English Historians

John Walker	29 Chancery Lane, Eye, Peterborough, England PE6 7FY	P: 44 1733 222994
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Richard Pobgee	richardpobgee@hotmail.com 42 New Road, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, England PE7 1SU	P: 44 1733 701872
Chris Cronin	chris_cronin@live.co.uk	

► Past Presidents

1973-75: William Willborn	1986-87: Clayton Bejot	2001-03: Will Fluman (d)
1976: Howard Larsen (d)	1988-89: Donald Sellon	2003-05: Don Nielsen
1977-79: Bill Siler	1990-91: John Welch	2005-07: James Bass
1980-81: Edward Reppa (d)	1992-93: Roland Byers(d)	2007-09: George Grau
1982-83: Daniel Graham (d)	1993-97: Billy Hightower (d)	2009-11: Joe Toth
1984: William Good (d)	1997-99: Lee Zimmerman	2011-13:
1985: David Summerville (d)	1999-01: Craig Harris (d)	2013-15:



Visit the website today at www.457thbombgroupassoc.org

► 2012 Calendar of Events

► May 26 - 30, 2012

Return to Glatton mini reunion; details will also be posted on the web

► June 30, 2012

Newsletter article deadline

► July 2012

Summer Newsletter

► November 30, 2012

Newsletter article deadline

► January 2013

Winter Newsletter

► Editors Report

Newsletter by mail or online?

We all receive the **FIREBALL** newsletter by U.S. Mail but I hope you have had an opportunity to see the full color newsletter online. If not, I invite you to take some time and scroll through the photo galleries on page 5 of the January online newsletter.

We would like to offer you the option of being notified by email when a new **FIREBALL** issue is available. If you are interested in being notified by email please contact Trisha Mach at secretary.457thbombgroupassoc@yahoo.com. She will send you a link that will take you directly to the latest newsletter.

Our Departed Veterans

During each of our Stateside reunions a ceremony is held to honor those veterans who have passed

away during that year. Additionally, if you desire, we will recognize your loved one in the **FIREBALL** newsletter. Please let us know if your dear Veteran has passed away, by contacting

Trisha Mach

3101 Woodbridge Drive, Bedford, TX 76021
or by email at:

secretary.457thbombgroupassoc@yahoo.com

She will add the name to be memorialized.

You may also send Chris Sechrist a short article to be placed in an upcoming newsletter.

Contact

► **mail:**

Chris Sechrist
36 Shank Road, Carlisle, PA 17015

► **email:**

Chris Sechrist
nephoto@embarqmail.com

Visit the website today at
www.457thbombgroupassoc.org