



Est. July 1971 ▶ Bentonville, AR

February 2015 ▶ Vol. 45 Issue 82



▶ Special Report

2015 State-Side Reunion

June 21 - June 25, 2015

The time is here to make plans for our biannual stateside reunion. I hope everyone is as excited as me to return to Savannah, Georgia, this year.

Once again, our "base of operation" will be the Hilton Savannah DeSoto, located in the heart of historic Savannah on East Liberty Street.

Room reservations can be made by calling: 1-877-280-0751. Be sure to identify yourself as part of the 457th Bomb Group Association. You may also make reservations online at www.desotohilton.com. (booking code: BBG).

The room rate is \$109.00 single/double during the reunion. Pre & post dates rate (3 days) is \$149.00 single/double. Make reservations by May 26 in order to secure the reunion rate.

For those of you who were with us in 2005 and 2009 for our reunions, the agenda is basically the same this year. We will have the same large room for our hospitality/memorabilia room. For newcomers, we will be visiting the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum on Monday, June 22. Tuesday is set aside for sightseeing on you own; there is an abundance to see and do in Savannah! The general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday morning and our banquet will be held on Wednesday night.

Flying to Savannah? Please let me know the date and time you will arrive, and we will have someone meet you at the airport.

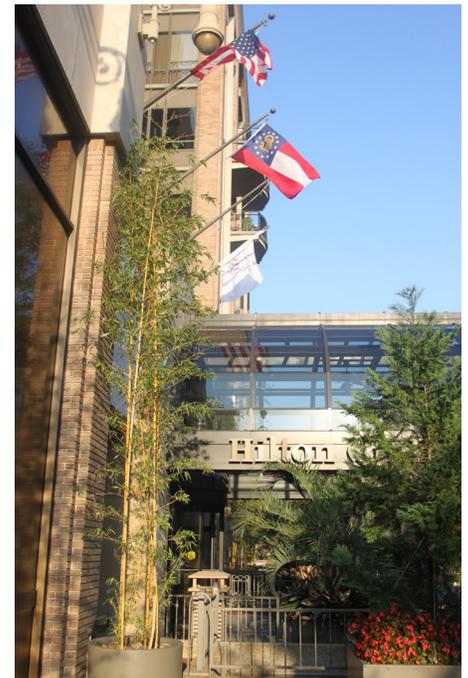
If I can help in any way to make your trip planning easier, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Email: lpbarnett223@aol.com

Phone: (662) 418-8563

I can't wait to see everyone in Savannah!

- Lori Barnett



This Issue:

- ▶ 2015 State-Side Reunion 1
- ▶ President's Review 2
- ▶ The Early Years 3
- ▶ Savannah Reunion Agenda 4
- ▶ Reunion Registration insert page
- ▶ In Memory 6
- ▶ Events Calendar 8

► President's Review

Dear Highballers,

Money! Everyone wants some. But.... hold on, Please read more.

Money is not all that is needed. The issue facing us is one requiring a cooperative effort by our compatriots and help from outside the group as well. The problem is future maintenance of the memorial monuments we have placed at locations here at home and in England where we served in 1944-45. We have had great support from FOTE and local English folks but they are like us getting fewer all the time as we recall and relive the wonder of past association and memories. So there is a pressing need to find a

way to preserve those monuments that will deteriorate without proper care. The American Battle Memorials Commission (ABMC) will do that, but only for as long a time as donations lasts. Discussion reveals that many members are aware of our responsibility in the future but there are only a few ideas offered in solution. Some other 8th Air Force groups have tussled with this difficulty and some have even simply vacated their responsibilities and abandoned all future efforts at preservation. The rather unsatisfactory idea of clearing the site and returning the real estate to the donor or host government may become our last resort. But hopefully the 457th can do better.

Anyone who is associated with those who have connections with the type of sources that could

underwrite a project to preserve these monuments could direct an appeal thru a spirit of patriotism. Certainly it is difficult to find a more effective way to show loyalty to the nation and honor those who elected defense of their citizens well being above their very life. Search your heart and mind to help if there is a way.

And come to Savannah; **everyone wants YOU there.**

Yours in the 457th,

William W. Siler, *President*
457th Bomb Group Association

Visit the website today
www.457thbombgroupassoc.org

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, 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

► Donations

Your Contributions Count!

The 457th Bomb Group Association continues to undertake new projects, as well as maintain those that have been completed over the years.

Please consider a donation to support our ongoing Projects Fund.

Contributions should be mailed to

[Lori Barnett, Treasurer.](#)

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: _____

► Highlights

The Early Years

Reminiscing with historian, John Walker

by John Bains, July 7, 2014

John Walker, one of the founder English Historians of the Association has been the custodian of my dad's (Bernie Bains) 35 folders of photos and other documents, since 2000 when dad died. Recently, John very kindly agreed to let me have the folders so they can now safely be returned to the USA.

These folders were the focal point of the memorabilia room at the mini-reunions held in Peterborough every 2 years. They represented countless hours of painstaking research and record keeping done by John and my father over many years. Now, following a suggestion of James Bass and Will Fluman, Jr., I recently interviewed John to find out more about how it all began. How did these two men from Peterborough with no American connections end up spending most of their waking hours involved in the history of the 457th Bomb Group?

John and Bernie came to share a passion for aviation history, but they came to this point in different ways. Both men were avid readers and collectors of militaria, books, and models. John was a regular infantry soldier, having left his home in Whittlesey (one of the flattest places in the English fenlands) at sixteen and a half in 1945 to join the Highland Light Infantry based in Inverness in the Highlands of Scotland. He told me that coming home to Whittlesey in his kilt could be quite a challenge! His dad was the landlord of one of the pubs in the village. After serving in Palestine, India, Egypt and North Africa John left the army aged 27 and after various jobs worked for many years at Perkins Diesel, the major employer in Peterborough. He also later worked with the probation service for young offenders.

His real interest in aviation started when in 1938, as a young lad he went to an Empire Air Day at a local airfield and saw a Whitely bomber, which he recalls was the most amazing thing he'd ever seen. John also remembers having 3 hours flying time as a young air cadet visiting Conington. Apparently if you turned up in your cadet uniform you could be taken on training and maintenance flights. How the world has changed! John also told me that John Wilson, another local lad and air cadet, managed to clock up 90 hours flying. Upon leaving the army, John's interest in aviation history grew and he did research on some local RAF airfields.

My dad, Bernie, was always interested in models, books, and anything military, but during the war

because of health reasons worked as an electrician in Grantham (about 30 miles north from Peterborough) wiring Bren gun carriers. His father was a railway engine driver based in Peterborough and driving regularly between London and York. As far as I am aware neither John's father or Bernie's father were keen on military history. Like John, he also ended up working at Perkins and this is how the two men met. They lived on the same street for a number of years and would often meet on their cycle ride to work, but this was well before the Conington years.

In 1968, my dad, John Walker and some other works friends formed the Soke Military Society and held regular meetings where they would share their interest in aviation, army cap badges and medals, and indeed anything military. Also around this time they held an exhibition at the Perkins Social club, even when they had quite limited knowledge and information on the 457th. John and Bernie were desperate to find out more and a real breakthrough came when other local aviation enthusiasts put on an exhibition on the 401st Group, which was based at Deenethorpe. These men put John and Bernie in touch with a 457th veteran who came over (John recalls he was a banker but cannot remember his name). He then contacted Homer Briggs, one of the founding members I believe, who soon arrived in Peterborough with his family. Things then rapidly progressed.



► Bernie's mini in 1978, transport to Conington for so many vets - the smaller ones enjoyed journey better!

In the early seventies increasing numbers of the veterans were approaching retirement. Feeling nostalgic about their time at Conington, they wanted to visit and get more information. John recalls one or two even wandering around Glatton looking for signs of runways and huts. Homer Briggs' visit was certainly a turning point, and started the information flow, which would eventually result in the archive.

The churchyard memorial was not in a good state. A local man, and his son, Gordon Townsend, were finding it increasingly difficult to maintain because of its age and material. Gordon along with



► First monument 1978; left to right: John Walker, Eric Brumby, unknown, Bernie and Sadie

John Wilson and Eric Brumby would all play a part in making things happen in these early years.

John Walker recalls how the Homer Briggs' visit sparked the photocopying of crew and other photos, and important archive material, and of course, each new American visitor would bring along fresh photos, and vital information on crew names. John and Bernie also started corresponding with USAAF archive sources and gradually



► Left to right: Bernie, unknown, John Walker, John Wilson

a picture of the base began to become more concrete. John Walker tells me that John Wilson also had some important wartime photos of the airfield from the time he was an air cadet.

More and more contacts were made with veterans who either visited Peterborough or kindly sent valuable documents for copying. John mentioned Dan Graham, Ed Benson, and Tom Goff as leading lights during these early days, and the very first 457th reunion was held with just 4 couples who stayed in a hotel near Cambridge. The first large re-union was held in Peterborough with a large banquet and civic reception at the Peterborough Town Hall.

By this stage John Walker and Bernie were adding valuable material and information to their files, putting on local exhibitions and giving talks to interested groups. They acquired a USAAF Engineer's plan for the whole airfield. This enabled them to eventually build a scale model of site to show visiting veterans, with accuracy where their quarters were; most of which had long since been demolished.

continued on page 5

► 2015 Savannah, GA

**457th Bomb Group Assoc.
State-side Reunion**

AGENDA

(June 20-25):

► **Saturday** June 20th

Early Registration at Hotel

► **Sunday** June 21st

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Registration (1300 -1700 hrs)

Evening Reception (1800 hr)

► **Monday** June 22nd

Afternoon visit to Mighty
Eighth Museum

► **Tuesday** June 23rd

Enjoy Savannah

► **Wednesday** June 24th

General Meeting
Closing Banquet

► **Thursday** June 25th

Breakfast in Hotel Restaurant

457th Bomb Group Association **State-side Reunion**

June 21 - 25, 2015

Savannah, Georgia

Hilton Savannah DeSoto, 15 East Liberty Street, Savannah

Call Now for Reservations:..... 1- 877-280-0751

Order Online:..... www.desotohilton.com
(booking code:BBG)

Room Rate During Reunion:.....\$109 per night
(single/double)

Room Rate Before /After Reunion:.....\$149 per night
(3 days)

IMPORTANT: Reference the 457th Bomb Group
Reunion when registering.

For Room Reservations call:

Hilton Savannah DeSoto
1-877-280-0751

Reservations must be made by
May 26 to secure the reunion rate
of \$109.00 single/double.

Pre and post reunion date rate: \$149.00.

The Association will not provide a
breakfast buffet on Thursday morn-
ing, but the hotel restaurant serves
a buffet and plated breakfasts.

Events Reservations:

\$150.00 per person

Registration fee includes reception,
banquet & trip to Mighty Eighth Museum

Banquet entrée choice:

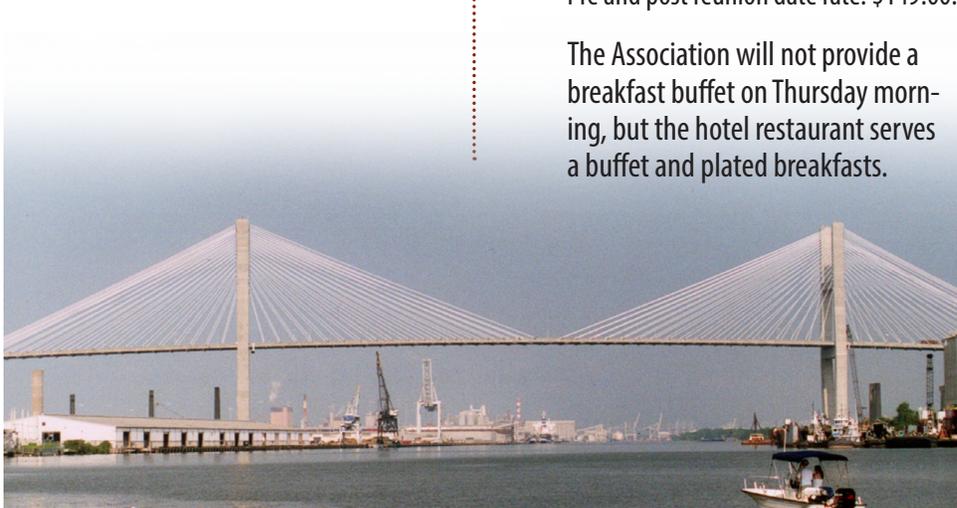
Stuffed Breast of Chicken
Sirloin Steak
Flounder Newberg

The visit to the Mighty Eighth Museum
includes transportation, the memorial service,
guided tour & dinner.

Complete the insert registration form.
Include each member in your party.

Checks payable to:
457th BGA Reunion

Mail to:
Lori Barnett
304 Old West Point Road
Starkville, MS 39759



► 2015 Savannah, GA

**457th Bomb Group Assoc.
State-side Reunion**

AGENDA

(June 20-25):

► **Saturday** June 20th

Early Registration at Hotel

► **Sunday** June 21st

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Registration (1300 - 1700 hrs)

Evening Reception (1800 hr)

► **Monday** June 22nd

Afternoon visit to Mighty
Eighth Museum

► **Tuesday** June 23rd

Enjoy Savannah

► **Wednesday** June 24th

General Meeting
Closing Banquet

► **Thursday** June 25th

Breakfast in Hotel Restaurant

► **Mail Form & Fee To:**

Checks payable to:

457th BGA Reunion

Mail to:

Lori Barnett

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

457th Bomb Group Reunion: Savannah, GA - June 21-25, 2015

► **Registration Form**

Name _____ Squadron _____

Spouse/Guest#1 _____ Guest #2 _____

Guest #3 _____ Guest #4 _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip (+4) _____

Phone _____ email _____

May we include your phone number in the registration book? Yes No

► **Registration Fee**

Reunion Registration Fee: \$150 per person (includes reception, banquet & trip to Mighty Eighth Museum)

_____ persons x \$150 each = \$ _____

► **Daily Events:**

► **Sunday:**
June 21

Registration

Time: 1300 - 1700 hrs

Evening Reception

Time: 1800 - ???? hrs

► **Monday:**
June 22

Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum

The Memorial Service for those who have passed away since the last Reunion will be held in the Chapel of Fallen Eagles at the Museum. (price includes transportation, admission, & dinner at the museum)

Time: 1230 - 1930 hrs museum

► **Tuesday:**
June 23

Enjoy Savannah

Suggested activities will be included in your registration packet.

► **Wednesday:**
June 24

Banquet

Time: 1800 - 1900 hrs happy hour
1930 - ???? banquet

Indicate special dietary needs: _____

Please indicate your choice of banquet entrée & number of each:

_____ Stuffed Breast of Chicken

_____ Sirloin Steak

_____ Flounder Newberg

► **Thursday:**
June 25

Breakfast Buffet in Hotel Restaurant (on your own)

(continued from page 3)

The Early Years

Things also began to happen with the rebuilding of the memorial in the churchyard, and after an unsuitable initial replacement, today's airman was commissioned from a local stonemason. John recalls himself and Bernie going every 2 weeks to



► Unveiling new memorial (present one) 1984

the mason's yard to supervise, and the actual head was made by a Cambridge sculptor. He tells me Les Freid's original head was returned to the States. John also mentioned that at one time he and dad thought the inscription on the crumbling old memorial said 'Les Died'. Les corrected this when he visited in person!

In these early years John and Bernie regularly attended meetings of the newly formed 'Friends of the Eighth'. John vividly recalls their first meeting in Bury St Edmunds; quite a journey from Peterborough.

One year they also managed to collect some important remains from the crash of the 'Miss IDA', and enlisted the help of a local farmer on whose land the crash happened. An exciting bonus for them was the fact that the farmer had a light aircraft and took them for flights where they could still see the crop marks on the crash site.

Although John Walker never went to America, my father and mother were frequent visitors at Stateside re-unions due to the generosity of Tom Goff and other members of the Association, and of course over the years the information base expanded into the 35 folders we have today. Bernie and Sadie were hosted by so many of the veterans



► Bernie far left top row, Homer Briggs centre

on their visits, and they in turn hosted visitors to Peterborough, picking them up from the train station, taking them for tours of Conington, and getting even more photos and information. John and Sylvia Walker were also very much involved in these tours.

All of this information gathering was done of course before we had computers and scanning, and involved a tremendous effort in corresponding with veterans and official sources. Each new veteran visitor would provide extra valuable information such as missing names on crew photos, and the memorabilia room became a real focal point of the Peterborough re-unions, complete with models, files, log books, uniforms – in fact anything to do with the 457th they could collect.

Looking at the files today I have my own very strong memories of my dad using a home-made photo copying rig and being helped by John Walker's amateur photography skills in developing their photographic records. They also bought a microfiche reader for reading mission and accident reports. I also recall the hundreds of letters in Dad's personal files. It really was a 'labour of love' by these two men and their wives and became a key part of their lives, particularly in their retirement. I often think that both men in other times and with other opportunities should probably have been working as archivists or librarians and not in a factory making diesel engines, but it was the diesel engine factory work which thankfully brought them together.

Footnote: John Walker is very much alive and well; my dad, Bernie sadly passed away in 2000 and I am very proud and grateful to the Association to see his name



► Present memorial John Walker left, Bernie right, with two sons of vets.



► Bernie, at new village sign

honoured on the plaque on the churchyard memorial. Every time I see Conington church across the fields as I travel to and from London by train I have fond memories of how important the 457th was in my mum and dad's lives. I also like to think about my grandad driving his train to and from London during the war who would also have seen the church across the fields and the B-17s landing and taking off.

► Upcoming Highlights

We are grateful to those individuals who choose to share their personal accounts with other *FIREBALL* readers.

The 2015 summer edition of the *FIREBALL* Newsletter will include three articles; *Somewhere in England, An account of the Lt. Walter Graves Crew*, by James Bass; *They Were Not Turned Back, The mission of May 28, 1944*, by Bill Hanson; and *A History of the 457th*, by Michael Rogers

► We Like You

Like us on facebook!

by Justina Sechrist

Thank you to all who follow us on facebook.

We started the facebook page in October 2011 and since then have acquired over 400 followers! It has become a hot spot for posts, pictures and a forum for 457th family and friends to gather, share stories, and ask questions.

We would like to urge even more participation, believing this to be a great social resource in building our 457th family. With so many people looking for information about their loved ones we want to encourage you all to join us!



Like us on facebook!

<http://tinyurl.com/qxvw9kw>

► Special Report

A History Project

by Erwin deMooij

It has been nearly 70 years since the end of WWII. With this milestone we are aware that only a few veterans remain. I am honored to have met and talked with some of these men but their memories can only be passed to our children if they are preserved. Some stories have been captured on film and in books, others are in the hands of families or collectors. The 457th Bomb Group memories are scattered across the world.

We are creating a history project; a database of 457th veterans to centralize the WWII photo's, letters, diaries, documents, of the 457th!

We are beginning by developing a list of all 457th members; more then 3800 in total. We will collect as much information as we can (listed below), and then make files for each member and fill the files with documents. With all this work, we are asking anyone who wants to help us to digitize their items. This is a lot to ask but it is impossible to visit all 3800 veterans or families and mailing items is not ideal with mail getting lost or getting damaged. You decide if we can use your items. A consent form will be available to you granting us or a third party to use your documents for research or publication. If you decline, your information will only be added to the database.

All information gathered will be given to the 457th Bomb Group and a copy will be donated to the 8th Airforce Museum in Savannah. We have already written some letters and emails but our current focus is to gather and process information. We will write to as many family members as we can. Please feel free to contact us with questions historyproject457th@outlook.com.

What we can use: WWII era photo's, letters to and from home, documents, newspaper clippings, diaries and photo's of veterans when older. Donate items: These items will be stored in a climate controlled archive.

► Notice of Meeting

This is the Official Notice that The 457th Bomb Group Association will meet at the Hilton Savannah Desoto Hotel, Savannah, Georgia, June 21-25, 2015. The Business Meeting of the Association will convene in session on Wednesday morning, June 24, 2015 at 9:00 a.m., local time, for the purpose of receiving reports, electing officers and members of the Board of Directors for the ensuing term of office and to transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting. Regular and life members are voting delegates and are entitled to vote on each matter properly coming before the membership requiring a vote.

► In Memory

Delbert Stephen Schwab

January 31, 2014

Delbert Schwab born July 18, 1922, lived a happy childhood with loving parents, William and Della (Poling) Schwab and left this earth on January 31, 2014. He served his country during WWII as a member of 457th Bomb Group, Eighth Air Force. After the war, he traveled the world including the U.S., Europe, the Orient and Africa. He retired from Alameda Naval Air Station, returning to the Toledo area in 1986. Del's High School sweetheart, Helen Rose Molnar was his wife and love for over 63 years. After her passing, his dear friend Valerie became his love. He is survived by Valerie, his brother, William Schwab, Jr. and many nieces and nephews. Del was preceded in death by his wife, Helen Schwab; parents; sister, Edna Carr and brother, Ronald Schwab.

Richard Bruha

November 1, 2014

Richard A Bruha passed away November 01, 2014 in Sun City, Az. Richard is survived by a daughter in-law Dr Lynn Greenhouse of Elko, Nev. and several nieces and nephews.

Richard (Dick) was born in La Crosse Wisconsin December 19, 1918. He married Mildred (Millie) Petrie who preceded him in death along with two daughters and his only son. Dick was a building contractor by trade, and he was a rock hound, a passion he shared with Millie and their son Douglas. They spent many vacations hunting and collecting specimens. Retirement brought him to Arizona where he enjoyed his hobbies of collecting and jewelry making.

Dick served as B-17 bomber co-pilot in WWII. Stationed in Glatton with the 457th. Dick and his crew were shot down while on a mission over Germany. They served the remainder of the war in a POW camp. As children of the post war years we were told not to ask Uncle Dick about his war experience. As adults we prodded him for stories. He told us many but was always reticent to mention his own role in that fateful mission. We have since read accounts by other crew members and we know what he did. I visited Uncle Dick two years ago. He was 95, and as I watched him raise the American flag every morning and lower it each night, no one had to tell me, this man was a hero!

submitted by Tom Bruha for the Bruha Family

Peter Hall

January 2, 2015

It is with sadness that we report the death of Peter Hall. Peter had a long association with Conington (Glatton) and went to Conington school when our American allies were stationed here. He was given a wooden toy lorry by one of the men which he treasured and displayed at various 1940's events. Peter spent many childhood hours searching for bullets around the airfield. His proximity to the "action" during his early years sparked a lifelong interest in history, the war and the 457th. With his knowledge he regularly gave talks to local History Societies. In recent years Peter became more actively involved in the Mini Reunions held in Conington (Glatton) and organized the visit to Holmewood Hall in 2014.

Another of Peter's passions was the history of the Church in Conington, and he conducted tours on a regular basis. In recognition of Peter's association and love of the Church it was opened for his funeral. Those who are attendees at the UK reunions will understand what an honor this was. The Church was overflowing for his funeral, which was a great testament to his life and those he touched."

submitted by Angie Newell

Nicola Toscano

March 28, 2014

Nicola Toscano, 88, passed away on March 28, 2014. A proud, loving member of the 457th Bomb Group, he flew 30 combat missions while stationed at Glatton. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, of almost 62 years; his children, Anthony; Carmola O'Hallorn (Tom); and 2 grandchildren. He is very profoundly and greatly missed

submitted by Margaret Toscano

Paul Roberts

May 24, 2014

Paul Martin Roberts passed from this life on May 24, 2014 at the age of 92. Born in Chicago, IL, he was a graduate of Cornell College and a B-17 pilot for the 457th Bomb Group during WWII. Married nearly 70 years, he is survived by his loving wife, Anita, and sons, James and Thomas, along with 4 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren. Paul was honored for his service at Hospice just 2 days before his death and his Veteran honor flag proudly hangs on Anita's wall.

submitted by his loving wife, Anita Roberts

► In Memory (cont.)

Alvin Kollaja

October 17, 2013

Alvin A Kollaja, passed away on October 17, 2013 at the age of 90. A member of the 457th Bomb Group, he is survived by his wife, Clare.

submitted by his loving wife, Clare F. Kollaja

Irving Lewis

January 2014

Irving Lewis, Buffalo Grove, IL passed away in January 2014 at age 98. Beloved husband of Sue Lewis and the late Lorraine Lewis; loving father of Anthony (Barbara) and Terry (late Michael) Ratner; grandfather of 5 and great grandfather of 6. Irving retired from the U.S. Air Force after 33 years.

George Cole

June 12, 2014

George Logan Cole, Sr., died peacefully at home in Kinston, NC on June 12, 2014. Born on October 14, 1924 to Edward and Hester Cole, he enlisted in the Army Air Corps during WWII, flying 30 missions as a tail gunner with the 748th Squadron. George then joined the US Air Force active reserves, served in the Korean War, and retired from active reserves in 1971. As a civilian, George was a licensed electrician. He and his first wife, Helen, raised three children in Jacksonville and were active members of Enon Chapel Baptist Church. After Helen's death, George married Jean Braxton Humbles and moved to her home in Kinston, NC., where they spent many happy years traveling. He is survived by his wife, Jean; sister, Naomi D'Onofrio (Joe), daughters, Rebecca Saddler (Tibor) and Katherine Cole (Steve Garfinkel); son, George L. Cole, Jr. (Pat Speidel); stepdaughters, Judy Bass (Ed) and Jo Anne Suomala (Don); 6 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and two special nephews; and their families. George's dry wit, sense of humor, and unending sunny outlook will be missed.

submitted by his loving wife, Jean Cole

► Travel Fund

English Travel Fund

We appreciate all who have contributed to the English Travel Fund in the past. You have helped to cover a portion of our English Historians' expenses when they join us in the U.S. This small, but extremely important, group leads the way to future Return To Glatton reunions. The 2115 Savannah reunion on our doorstep, but the Travel Fund is an open account and your contributions are welcome at any time. Contributions should be marked "English Travel Fund" and mailed to:

Lori Barnett, Treasurer
457th Bomb Group Association

► Officers & Appointments

William W. Siler President	wwsiler@att.net 2661 Nutmeg Ave., Morro Bay, CA 93442	P: 805.771.0167
Joe De Luccia Vice-President	jaadeeluu@aol.com 214 Cambridge Ave., Saddle Brook, NJ 07663	P: 201.797.9245
Trisha Mach Robertson Secretary	kai967@yahoo.com 1862 Halekoa Dr., Honolulu, HI 96821	P: 808.799.8854
Lori Barnett Treasurer	Lpbarnett223@aim.com 304 Old West Point Road, Starkville, MS 39759	P: 662.418.8563
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
John Pearson 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
Curt Musheno Webmaster	webmaster@457thbombgroupassoc.org 2001 Heim Hill Road, Montoursville, PA 17754	P: 570.974.1940
Chris Sechrist Newsletter Editor	fireballnews@outlook.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
Tim Newell	tim.newell@gmail.com Virginia Cottage Church Lane, Conington, Peterborough, England PE7 3QA	P: 44 1487 830450
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: John Pearson
1985: David Summerville (d)	1999-01: Craig Harris (d)	2013-15:

457th Bomb Group Association

36 Shank Road
Carlisle, PA 17015



Visit the website today at www.457thbombgroupassoc.org

▶ **2015 Calendar of Events**

▶ **June 20 -25, 2015**

Winter newsletter article deadline

▶ **July 15, 2015**

Summer newsletter article deadline

▶ **August, 2015**

Summer Newsletter

▶ **January 15, 2016**

Winter newsletter article deadline

▶ **February, 2016**

Winter Newsletter

▶ **Editors Report**

Newsletter by mail or online?

I hope you have had an opportunity to see the full color **FIREBALL** newsletter online. www.457thbombgroupassoc.org

We will continue to print and mail a black & white version of the newsletter but we are always looking for ways to conserve funds. If you would like to be notified by email when a new **FIREBALL** issue is available, **in lieu of a printed version** please contact Trisha Mach Robertson at kai967@yahoo.com. She will send you a link that will take you directly to the latest newsletter.

Chris Sechrist, *editor*

Our Departed Veterans

During each of our State-side reunions a ceremony is held to honor those veterans who have passed away since the previous State-side Reunion. Please let us know if your dear

Veteran has passed away, by contacting:

Trisha Mach Robertson

1862 Halekoa Dr., Honolulu, HI 96821
or by emailing Trisha at kai967@yahoo.com

She will add the name to a list of those who will be honored at the Savannah 2015.

Additionally, if you desire, we will recognize your loved one in the **FIREBALL** newsletter.

Feel free to submit obituaries, memoirs, & family stories... past or present to Chris Sechrist. I will place your article in a future newsletter.

Contact

▶ **mail:** Chris Sechrist
36 Shank Road,
Carlisle, PA 17015

▶ **email:** Chris Sechrist
fireballnews@outlook.com

Visit the website today at
www.457thbombgroupassoc.org