



Est. July 1971 ▶ Bentonville, AR

August 2017 ▶ Vol. 47 Issue 86



▶ Special Report

2017 State-Side Reunion Mesa, Arizona

October 11 - October 15, 2017

Register Today! Turn the page for the agenda and registration forms.

Join us in October for the 2017 Stateside Reunion at the Hilton Phoenix/Mesa in Mesa, AZ. The Reunion will kick off on October 12; early registration October 11.

Visit the Pima Air and Space Museum where we will visit two WWII hangers, the 390th Bomb Group Memorial Museum and take a tram tour of the airplane boneyard.

Tour the Arizona Commemorative Air Force Museum. Step inside the B-17, Sentimental Journey and take a few photos. It still flies, so it may be possible to buy a flight, if the plane isn't

in maintenance when we're there. The cost of a flight ranges from \$425-\$825.

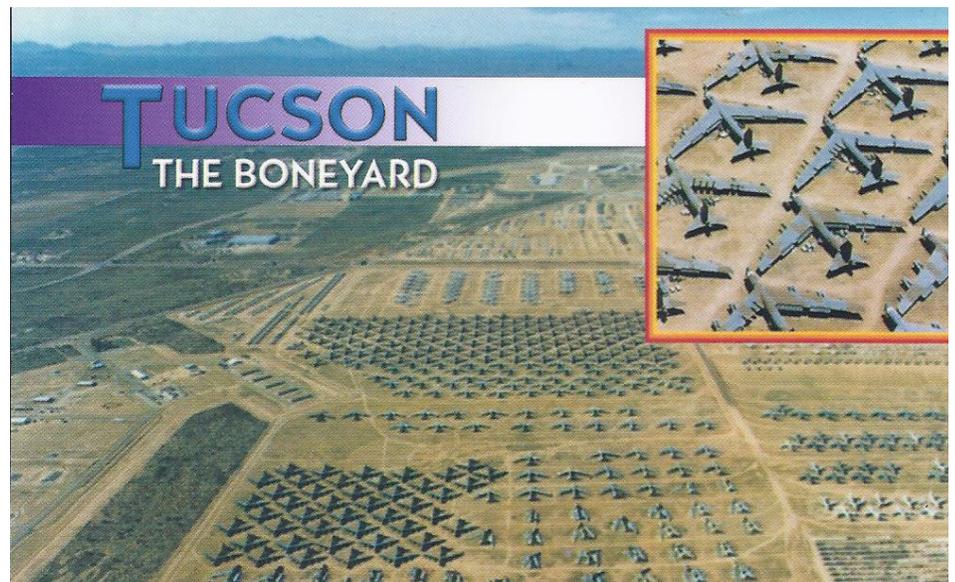
Accommodations will be at the Hilton Phoenix/Mesa. The hotel features oversized rooms, a bar, specialty coffee bar, room service, business and fitness centers, heated pool, whirlpool spa, Wi-Fi, and a restaurant offering dining with a majestic mountain view. A variety of restaurants are located within walking distance. The hotel is located 15 minutes from Phoenix-Sky Harbor International Airport. Our group rate is \$119 per night and includes complimentary buffet breakfast for two. **Reservation Deadline for this rate is September 11, 2017.**

To make reservations call 1.800.445.8667 (use group code 457), or online by going to our group specific reservation page at <http://tinyurl.com/h6srnzx>

Find this link, along with this newsletter and fillable registration forms on our facebook page and at www.457thbombgroupassoc.org.

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▶ Tucson Boneyard, Arizona

► President's Review

Hello and Best Wishes to All,

As we approach the end of summer and the celebration of Labor Day it's time to set our sights on our upcoming 2017 Reunion in Arizona. Trish and Gregg Robertson have done a terrific job making arrangements for our visit in October. We encourage all members, friends and family to make this trip this fall... Erwin de Mooij our Historian and Webmaster will be attending this year and we encourage everyone who may have unseen photos, interesting letters, ephemera etc. to bring those things to us so they may be added to the website. Erwin has worked tirelessly to grow the 457th legacy and we are always looking for fresh material. We will see you in October!

Will Fluman Jr, President

► Travel Fund

Travel Fund

Our sincerest appreciation to all of you who have contributed to the Travel Fund in the past. You have helped the Association cover a portion of our Historians' expenses when they join us in the U.S. The Travel Fund is an open account with our Treasurer and your contributions are welcome at any time. Contributions should be marked "Travel Fund" and mailed to:

Lori Barnett, Treasurer
457th Bomb Group Association
3110 Graystone Lane, Apt. 2105
Albany, GA 31721

► We Like You

Like us on facebook!

Do it for Justina Sechrist.

Thank you everyone who follows us on facebook.

Justina started the facebook page in October 2011. Since then we've acquired 1325 followers! It has become a hot spot for posts and pictures, and a forum for our 457th family and friends to gather, share stories, and ask questions.

If you haven't already - **like us today!**



Like us on facebook!

<http://tinyurl.com/qxvw9kw>

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:

457th Bomb Group Association

Attention: Trisha Mach Robertson
437 Kailua Rd #6103, Kailua, HI 96734

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.
3110 Graystone Lane, Apt. 2105
Albany, GA 31721

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: _____

► 2017 Mesa, AZ

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

AGENDA

► **Wednesday**October 11

Early Registration 1400 - 1900 hrs

► **Thursday**.....October 12

Registration 900 - 1600 hrs
visit memorabilia room / explore area

Welcome Reception 1700 - 2000 hrs

► **Friday**.....October 13

Breakfast (on your own) 630 - 815 hrs
Pima Air & Space Museum.. 1000 - 1400 hrs
Boneyard Tour..... 1400 - 1545 hrs
Memorabilia Room 1800 - 2000 hrs
Dinner (on your own)

► **Saturday**.....October 14

Breakfast (on your own) 630 - 815 hrs
Commemorative Airforce Museum
..... 900 - 1600 hrs
- Sentimental Journey B-17 rides: fee charged
- Lunch at Museum (on your own)
- Southwest Roadster Club auto display
Memorabilia Room 1700 - 2000 hrs
Dinner (on your own)

► **Sunday**.....October 15

Memorabilia Room 800 - 1000 hrs
457th BG Business Mtg/Memorial Service
..... 1015 - 1215 hrs
Memorabilia Room 1300 - 1630 hrs
Happy Our/Cash Bar..... 1800 - 1900 hrs
Farewell Banquet..... 1900 - 2000 hrs
- Semi-formal or favorite '40s outfit

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

October 11 - 15, 2017

Mesa, Arizona

Hilton Phoenix/Mesa, 1011 W Holmes Ave, Mesa, AZ 85210

Call Now for Reservations:..... 1.800.445.8667

Order Online:..... <http://tinyurl.com/h6srnzx>

Room Rate During Reunion:.....\$119 per night
(2 queens/1 king)

IMPORTANT: use booking code 457 when registering.

For Room Reservations call:

Hilton Phoenix/Mesa
1.800.445.8667

**Reservations must be made by
September 11** to secure the reunion
rate of \$119.00 single/double.

Breakfast buffet for two included.

Rate good between Oct. 10 & 16.

Fly into Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport.

Hotel does not provide shuttle service.

VIP Taxi: \$27 flat rate

Hotel parking is free.

Events Reservations:

\$170.00 per person

Registration fee includes reception,
museum entrance fees, buses, & banquet

Banquet entrée choice:

Prime Rib with Rosemary Au Ju

Mahi Mahi with a Tropical Fruit Salsa

Grilled Natural Chicken Breast with a
Piquo Pepper Coulis

Complete and mail the registration form,
along with your check. Be sure to include
each member in your party.

Checks payable to:
457th BGA Reunion

Mail to:
Trisha Mach Robertson
457th Bomb Group Association
437 Kailua Rd #6103, Kailua, HI 96734



► 2017 Mesa, Arizona

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437 Kailua Rd #6103, Kailua, HI 96734

457th Bomb Group Reunion: Mesa, AZ - October 11-15, 2017

► **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: \$170 per person (includes reception, museum entrance fees, buses & banquet)

_____ persons x \$170 each = \$ _____

► **Banquet Entrees:**

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

_____ Prime Rib with Rosemary Au Ju
_____ Mahi Mahi with a Tropical Fruit Salsa
_____ Grilled Natural Chicken Breast with a Piquio Pepper Coulis

Indicate special dietary needs: _____

► **Mailing Information:**

Send registration form and check by August 31; or email registration form to kai967@yahoo.com and send check to:

Checks payable to: **457th BGA Reunion**

Mail to: **Trisha Mach Robertson, 457th Bomb Group Association**
437 Kailua Rd #6103, Kailua, HI 96734

► **Special Events:**

Sentimental Journey rides: Cost; \$425 per person. World War II vets fly free. Once air born you will be able to move about to see what each area within the plane is like. If interested contact Bob at bobozman@verizon.net

► Highlights

457th Cockpit Comes Alive Again to Tell a Story

by Stefan Naef

I carefully drove up a rugged mountain road in late summer 1992 as far as my Fiat would take me. From there I continued hiking up the mountain in the general direction of where a friend told me there would be the debris of a B-17 at the end of a valley. Only days earlier when flying in a light airplane over the same area I had spotted what looked like a big part of a B-17 wing in the middle of a rocky slope. This view had initiated my trip up there. After losing directions on my hike a couple of times I finally came to a place where the mountains opened up and revealed the view on that same slope I had seen from the air. I was overwhelmed by the view of so many crushed airplane pieces in the middle of nowhere. Until then I had known World War II only from black and white photos and documentaries. But when I was holding pieces of that aircraft in my hands it seemed like it had only happened yesterday. All of a sudden I had lots of questions: Why did the aircraft crash here, who was flying it, what happened to the crew, are they still alive? This moment triggered something in me. But I had no idea that it would last for the next few decades. Less than half an hour after I arrived at the site it started to rain. I did not want to get caught in a storm alone in the mountains and had to return to the car much earlier than planned.



Despite returning home that evening completely worn out after that exhausting trip, one thing was clear: I had to visit this crash site again. Snow starts falling early at the 12,000 feet elevation of the site, which forced me to wait long eight months before I could return. I made use of the time to research this and other B-17 crashes in Switzerland. This one turned out to be B-17G serial number 42-31552 of the 457th Bomb Group which had crashed on July 12, 1944. The aircraft flown by Lt. Gerald Kerr was hit by flak



on a mission over Munich and was so heavily damaged that they were unable to return to Glatton. Instead of going down in Germany, they tried to reach nearby Switzerland to avoid becoming prisoners of war or being killed in Germany. Flying on only one and a half engines they were constantly losing altitude. When flying in the Alps between mountains and in and out of clouds Lt. Kerr gave the command to bail out. Seconds after the last enlisted men had bailed out the aircraft hit a mountain side taking the life of the four officers.

During my research I visited archives and Glatton airfield and was lucky to locate Harold Ahlfors in 1995 the last survivor of the crew at this time. I happily accepted his invitation to visit him in Arizona. It was very fascinating hearing his personal experience of their last mission and learning more about the crew. And I shared some of the pieces which I had picked up at the crash site with him. I continued to return to the crash site at least once every year and did meet other historians and collectors. One of them being Markus who too had visited the site for many years and also had a great interest in this particular B-17 and its mission. It turned out that both of us had found numerous pieces from the cockpit area. Some of them probably matching.

During the Second World War Switzerland was surrounded by the Axis and defended them-

selves heavily against potential attacks. They heavily invested in building fortresses inside the mountains. A number of these fortresses were converted into museums when they became redundant after the Cold War. One of them being the Festungsmuseum Crestawald in south eastern Switzerland. When the staff of the museum approached us for artefacts for a special exhibition they planned on USAAF bombers in Switzerland a few years ago it became clear for us, it's the time to bring our pieces together. Our goal was to reconstruct the cockpit section as much as possible. It was such a great personal experience bringing our pieces out of the boxes and reassembling them into an actual cockpit that tells the story of that fateful last mission. It is a special moment every time we can bring two pieces together again after these were forcefully separated more than 70 years ago. One can only imagine the tension and the activities in this cockpit when the crew was desperately looking for a way through the mountains. The four young men who tragically lost their lives in the crash and the survivors are always in our thoughts when we work on the cockpit.



We continue to visit the crash site and can add more pieces to the cockpit every year making it a living exhibit. 42-31552 was flying with the 457th for over six months before it crashed. We keep looking for photos of aircraft but so far have only found one with the original pilot Thomas Lee standing next to the tail. He had ferried it from the United States to Glatton and flew most of his missions on it.

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(continued from page3)

457th Cockpit Comes Alive Again to Tell a Story



What was originally planned as a temporary exhibition has become a permanent part of the museum now. We are happy it has found a home and we want to preserve this piece of history of the 457th for generations to come. The exhibits at the museum include more artefacts of other B-17s and B-24s which ended up in Switzerland. At the entrance visitors are welcomed by the ball turret of 42-31552. Which Markus has collected in many pieces and painstakingly reassembled. The museum is run by a group of volunteers and is open every year from June through October.



For more information visit:

The Festungsmuseum Crestawald webpage at www.crestawald.ch

Bomber Museum, a short feature of the Swiss National TV about our B-17 project at www.srf.ch/play/tv/schweiz-aktuell/video/bomber-museum?id=b6e80056-cdb2-4eb9-a3d3-0938a03fa8ab

The B-17G Cockpit Restoration page on facebook at www.facebook.com/457th.Swiss.B17/

► Special Report

Madingley, England

Thank you Angie and Tim Newell for, once again, attending the Memorial Day ceremony at Connington National Cemetery. Tim graciously took part in the ceremony by laying the 457th Bomb Group wreath. During the fly past the plane dropped poppies which landed on the cemetery.



► Notice of Meeting

457 Bomb Group Association Business Meeting

This is the Official Notice that The 457th Bomb Group Association will meet at the Hilton Hotel, Mesa, Arizona, October 11-15, 2017. The Business Meeting of the Association will convene in session during the meeting for the purpose of electing a board of directors for the ensuing term of office, receiving reports 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.

► Special Report

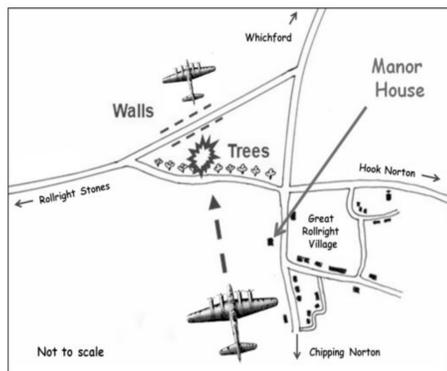
Update

Great Rollright, Oxfordshire

by Chris Sechrist

The article 'B-17G Flying Fortress Crashes', Great Rollright, Oxfordshire appeared in the February 2017 issues of the Fireball newsletter. James Tolan provides a vivid account of the hours and minutes before the fateful crash that took the lives of all but one member of the Flying Fortress.

On April 30, 2017, a monument, dedicated to the eight airmen who lost their lives, was unveiled in the garden next to the village Hall; and near the site of the crash. The ceremony was well attended despite the cold, dreary day. Among those who represented the 457th Bomb Group Association were Tim and Angie Newell, and Erwin de Mooij.



► Crash location



► Unveiling ceremony

Pilot.	Lt.	Clifford Hendrickson.	Jasper, Indiana.
Co Pilot.	Lt.	Walter B. Graves.	Seymour, Tennessee.
Navigator.	F/O.	Joseph L. Kilmer.	Mexico, New York.
Bombardier/Gunner.	F/O.	David E. Williams.	South Orange, New Jersey.
Engineer/Gunner.	T/Sgt.	George H. Bruer.	Saint Augustine, Florida.
Radio Operator.	Sgt.	Robert H. Riedel.	Cleveland, Ohio.
Ball Gunner.	Sgt.	Edmund T. Fitzgerald.	Taunton, Massachusetts.
Waist Gunner.	Sgt.	George B. Hawley.	Pine Lawn, Missouri.

► Crew members who lost their lives



► Wreaths adorn the newly unveiled monument



► Erwin de Mooij attended the ceremony



► Monument dedicated to the eight crewmen who lost their life on December 23, 1944



► Highlights

Erwin de Mooij receives award



On April 26, 2017, during a ceremony in Lisse, Netherlands, Erwin de Mooij received a Royal Decoration. The following is taken, in part from a letter sent by Hans Sandberg van Boelens, Cdr RNLN (ret.):

Erwin de Mooij will receive a Royal Decoration next Wednesday the 26th of April 2017 at 09.30 hours in the morning (local time in Holland) during a

ceremony in the Town Hall of the village of Lisse in the Netherlands.

He has since the year 2000 been in frequent contact with you. The services Erwin rendered to the Association have made him one of the most worthy members, you wrote to me. Erwin has since a long time the function of lead historian and webmaster of this American Association.

Together with Harald Janssen – an in the USA living Dutchman – Erwin wrote the book “Broken Wings”, the true story of a B-17 bomber crew lost over Holland in September 1944.

The intense way and the great interest and devotion with which Erwin, in his free time and independently of self-interest, has employed, have resulted in making contact with a great number of persons and institutions.

Erwin’s knowledge became reason for many important initiatives. The book, the monument, bringing the history of the Second World War into the mind of the younger generations; and that they will realize, and will have the notion that, it is the sacrifices made by the United States of America and their Allies that we now live in peace here.

Erwin’s efforts have also resulted in a greater social cohesion for the next of kin, families, and friends of the crews.

All the information and details, especially about the minute-to-minute described events of the fatal flight of the B-17 “Jayhawk”, have resulted



in answers to the many questions of the families of the crew and giving the events a better place in their hearts.

Not at least, but the qualities, such as a striking modesty, refinement and a nice association with other people, may not kept unmentioned.

With my kind regards and greetings,

- Hans Sandberg van Boelens, Cdr RNLN (ret.)

Thank you, Erwin de Mooij, for your contribution to preserving the spirit and well being of the 457th Bomb Group Association!

► In Memory

John F. Welch

March 15, 2017

John F. Welch died March 15, 2017 in Rapid City, South Dakota. A native of Baileyville, KS, he enlisted in the aviation cadet program after the attack on Pearl Harbor, earned his wings and between August 1944 and February 1945 was assigned to the 457th Bomb Group and flew thirty-five missions over Germany. Later he authored “Dead Engine Kids” which chronicled his and his crews experiences during the tour.

At the conclusion of World War II he was placed in the Active Reserves, returned to college, studied engineering and ultimately obtained a degree in Aeronautical Engineering which led to working as a Research and Design Engineer on the B-58. In 1966 he was assigned to serve as Air Liaison Officer and Forward Air Controller in Viet Nam. Later he authored “My Year in Viet Nam” telling the story of his year in Viet Nam.

Before retiring from the military he helped design the Short Range Attack Military System, which became a part of the B-52 armament. Upon retiring from the military in 1970, as a colonel, he started a second career in business, civilian aviation and writing. He was a registered professional

engineer. He provided professional pilot services, flying instructions, air taxi and air ambulance services. Other writings included editing “Fait Accompli, a Historical Account of the 457th Bomb Group”, “RB-36, Days at Rapid City”; updating the fifth through the eighth edition of Van Sickle’s “Modern Airmanship” and “Flight Instructions Pocket Companion”, telling flight instructors how to teach people to fly.

His many awards include the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with 20 oak leaf clusters, the Legion of Merit, the Air Force Commemorative Medal, battle campaign ribbons and many citations. He logged over 15,000 hours of flying time in his career. He is survived by his wife of 68 years, two children, seven grandchildren, eight great grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends.

Hugh Hudson Arnold

November 15, 2016

Hugh Hudson Arnold, passed away on November 15, 2016, just two days shy of his 92nd birthday. He received a full ride scholarship to Amherst College and began his freshman year there. However, after his 18th birthday in November, 1942, he entered the Army Air Corps. He became an advanced flying instructor before going overseas to

command the B-17 Bomber. He flew 14 missions with the Eighth Air Force over Europe. During this time he was attacked by the German state of the art fighter plane, the Me-262, which was the first plane without propellers that the Allies had ever seen. The Me-262 shot down the plane off his right wing as well as the group leader. The vision of that beautiful airplane peeling off of his left wing was a vision he would never forget.

-Submitted by Allison Arnold Minnick, daughter

John W. Brown

November 28, 1920 – November 8, 2016

On November 8, 2016 Joan Brown, her four sons, and their families lost a loyal, dedicated husband and father. John Brown was 95 years old.

Dad humbly grew up in Bonner Springs, KS and Mt. Grove, MO. In 1945, when his country called him to Europe to defend people he had never met, he didn’t hesitate. Dad was stationed with the 8th Air Corps 130th, 457th Bomb Group near Glatton, England. He was the waist gunner for the B-17s ‘Swedish Shamrock’ and ‘Home James’. His 25th and last mission, the night before D-Day, took him somewhere along the Normandy coast.

continued on page 7

► In Memory (cont.)

He never considered himself, or allowed anyone to call him a hero. He spent his last and many years in Banson, Missouri with his loving wife, Joan. When I think of dad and his positive attitude, I'm reminded of a Reagan quote; "Enjoy life, it's ungrateful not to".

Good bye, Dad. Thanks for your lessons, wisdom, and great examples that I will continue to use the rest of my life.

-Submitted by, Warren Brown, loving son

Robert G. Miller

February 17, 2017

Robert G. Miller, age 98 of Freeport, IL, passed away Friday, February 17, 2017 at the Presence St. Joseph Center in Freeport. He was born February 11, 1919 in New England, ND; the son of the late Fred and Maybelle (McNair) Miller. He graduated from Davis High School. Robert married Iva M. Meier on August 31, 1946 in Salina, KS.

Robert was a Veteran of World War II, having served as a Staff Sgt working as a Crew Chief on B-17s in the 457th Bomb Group, 8th AF in England from January 1944 to June 1945. After the war, he served with (SAC) 8th AF until 1959 when he transferred to the 15th AF in Guam. He was assigned to 499th Organizational Maintenance Sq (SAC) at Westover AFB, MA upon his return to the States in November 1961, retiring as Master Sgt there in 1963. He worked for the US Post Office in Tampa, FL and Fair Oaks, CA. until retiring in 1981. After 35 years in Roseville, CA he and Iva returned to IL.

Robert was a member of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Freeport and a former member of St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Citrus Heights, CA. He is a Son of the American Revolution. His memberships also include the American Rose Society, Sierra Foothills Rose Society in Citrus Heights, CA, a former member of the Sacramento Rose Society for 27 years. He enjoyed golfing, a member of the Sierra View Country Club in Roseville, CA over 20 years. While living in California, he cared for roses at his home, church and Country Club. He enjoyed following the PGA, and Champion Golf tours, traveling with Iva to such places as Spain, Gibraltar, Algiers, Japan, Hong Kong, Germany, France and England.

Robert is survived by his wife of 70 years, Iva Miller, niece, Deborah (Wenger) Fortner, Davis, and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Maurine (Miller) Wenger; niece, Karlene (Wenger) Dornink and several aunts and uncles.

Robert (Bob) was a gentle loving husband, who is deeply missed, and forever in our hearts.

-Submitted by his loving wife, Iva

► Officers & Appointments

Will Fluman, Jr. President	MR-SHORT-CUT@hotmail.com 132 Ore Bank Road, Dillsburg, PA 17019	P: 570. 971. 5757
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 437 Kailua Rd #6103, Kailua, HI 96734	P: 808.799.8854
Lori Barnett Treasurer	Lpbarnett223@aol.com 3110 Graystone Lane, Apt. 2105, Albany, GA 31721	P: 662.418.8563
Kathy Collins Director - 2 year	Kcollins18@cox.net Seville Dr, Pensacola, FL 32503	P: 850.206.6670
vacant Director - 4 year		
Nancy Archuleta Director - 6 year	narchuleta@chm611.com 611 Holmes Avenue NE Huntsville, AL 35801	P: 256.425.1674
vacant Immed. Past Pres.		
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 Website Technician	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	
Erwin de Mooij Webmaster/Facebook Admin.	webmaster457thbombgroup@outlook.com	

► English Historians

John Walker	29 Chancery Lane, Eye, Peterborough, England PE6 7FY	P: 44 1733 222994
Tim Newell	tim.newell@ymail.com Cemetary Chapel, Stoke Doyle Road, Oundle, Northants, England PE8 5TR	P: 44 1487 830450
Chris Cronin	chris_cronin@live.co.uk	

► Past Presidents

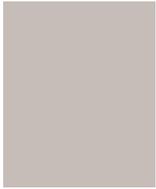
1973-75: William Willborn	2001-03: Will Fluman (d)	2005-07: James Bass
1976: Howard Larsen (d)	1988-89: Donald Sellon	2007-09: George Grau (d)
1977-79: Bill Siler (d)	1990-91: John Welch	2009-11: Joe Toth
1980-81: Edward Reppa (d)	1992-93: Roland Byers(d)	2011-13: John Pearson
1982-83: Daniel Graham (d)	1993-97: Billy Hightower (d)	2013-15: William W. Siler (d)
1984: William Good (d)	1997-99: Lee Zimmerman	2015-17:
1985: David Summerville (d)	1999-01: Craig Harris (d)	
1986-87: Clayton Bejot	2003-05: Don Nielsen	

457th Bomb Group Association

437 Kailua Road #6103

Kailua, HI 96734

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Visit the website today at www.457thbombgroupassoc.org

▶ **2017-2018 Calendar of Events**

▶ **October 11-15, 2017**

State-Side Reunion in Masa, AZ

▶ **January 15, 2018**

Winter newsletter article deadline

▶ **February, 2018**

Winter newsletter

▶ **May 28, 2018**

Memorial Day celebration at Cambridge American Cemetery

▶ **July 10, 2018**

Fall newsletter article deadline

▶ **August, 2018**

Fall 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. Remember to let Trisha know if you change your email address.

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

437 Kailua Rd #6103, Kailua, HI 96734

or by emailing Trisha at kai967@yahoo.com

She will add the name to a list of those who will be honored during the next State-Side Reunion.

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

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