



THE FIREBALL

Est. July 1971 ▶ Bentonville, AR

May 2023 Vol 56 Issue 95



Memorial Day

"This is the day we pay homage to all those who didn't come home. This is not Veterans Day, it's not a celebration, it is a day of solemn contemplation over the cost of freedom." -Tamra Bolton

Stateside Reunion

Our Stateside Reunion will include our annual meeting and discussion of our proposed new Bylaw changes and Operating Procedures. We will have a vote by members in attendance on adopting these proposed changes. We will be having our next annual Stateside meeting this October 2023 in conjunction with the 8th Air Force Historical Society to be held in Ontario, CA (USA).

You can find a copy of the proposed Bylaws included in this issue, along with a copy of the new operating procedures for your review.

Please note upcoming IMPORTANT DATE:

You can now make your hotel reservations and register for our Stateside Reunion. All registration forms and payments made to the 8thAFHS must be received by

September 23, 2023 for the Stateside reunion. More details on page 4.

Reunion Info In This Edition:

Glatton, England Tour

We have our Glatton, England Tour scheduled for this August 16–21, 2023. More information can be found on page 2.

Glatton, England dates = arrive Wednesday, August 16—depart Monday, August 21, 2023.

Please note upcoming IMPORTANT DATES:

June 22 – final payment—(Reservations after this date will have to be made with full payment).

July 19 – last day for online reservations—(Reservation requests after this date will have to be made by email to Ralph Bennett: which will be subject to availability at the time.)

Mailing List

Please make sure we have your email address, as this will be our primary way to communicate with you in the future. We realize some of you may not have an email, and we will be happy to mail a black and white copy to you via post office. Our newsletters are issued twice per year, and you may receive other e-mailings during the year regarding important information.

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GLATTON, UK

August 16—21, 2023



GLATTON, ENGLAND TOUR

The 457th Bomb Group, 1st Air Division, Eighth Air Force B-17's, began combat operations during the Big Week of 20-25 February 1944 when American bombers carried out concentrated raids against German aircraft bases, factories, and assembly plants. The air crews' targets on that first mission were Gutersloh and Lippstadt. Although the Group continued to strike German industrial targets, they also undertook tactical missions. D-Day found them bombing coastal defenses along the Cherbourg peninsula. The Group continued to switch between strategic and support missions for the remainder of the war.

GLATTON TOUR SCHEDULE

Day 1 – Wed Aug 16 Arrival into London Heathrow airport. You will be met and transferred to your central London hotel. Orientation guided city tour of London West End: Trafalgar Square; Whitehall and 10 Downing Street, Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, Buckingham Palace. Dinner at own cost. Overnight London

Day 2 – Thu Aug 17 Breakfast. Full day guided tour of the city of London including WWII sites



and places of interest. St Paul's Cathedral and the American Memorial Chapel. The Tower of London, Tower Bridge, and the Thames. Lunch. Visit the Churchill Museum and Cabinet War Rooms. Welcome dinner and overnight London

Day 3 – Fri Aug 18 Breakfast. Depart London for East Anglia the main centre of operation for USAAF from 1942 to 1944. This afternoon we will visit USAAF places of interest. Dinner and overnight Peterborough



Day 4 – Sat Aug 19 Breakfast. Full day visiting the 457th BG sites and memorials when we will be joined by local people. Glatton airfield (Station 130) with its impressive mural and collection of photos. The Water Tower and Memorial. Bomb store area. Lunch in local pub. Conington All Saints church for service and historical tour. Stone Airman. Dinner and overnight Peterborough

Day 5 – Sun Aug 20 Breakfast. Visit Madingley



American Cemetery with wreath laying ceremony. Visit Duxford IWM and the USAAF Museum. Guided walking tour of Cambridge and its colleges. Final East Anglia dinner and overnight Cambridge

Day 6 – Mon Aug 21 Breakfast. Transfer to London Heathrow airport for return flight to USA.

UK tour price per person

USD \$1650 sharing a twin/double room

USD \$2050 in single room

Included in the price

5 Night's bed and breakfast in 4-star hotels

4 dinners and 2 lunches

Airport transfers and motor coach

City guide in London and Cambridge

Entrance fees to Churchill Museum, St. Paul's Cathedral, Duxford IWM

Tour Registration

Visit Tours International website @

<https://tours-international.com/battlefieldtours>

Click the photo for 457th BG 2023 England and Normandy Tour, then use the password *glatton130* for pricing information, making reservations, and making payments.

Our tour package is set up by Ralph Bennett of Tours International. Anyone wanting to arrive prior to Aug 16, 2023 may email Ralph Bennett (Ralph@international-tours.com) with flight number and arrival time to make arrangements for pre-tour reservations.

Important Note: this tour was to have an extended tour of Normandy, but due to lack of meeting the minimum quota of people, this portion of Normandy has been cancelled. The Glatton, England tour will be Aug 16—21, 2023.

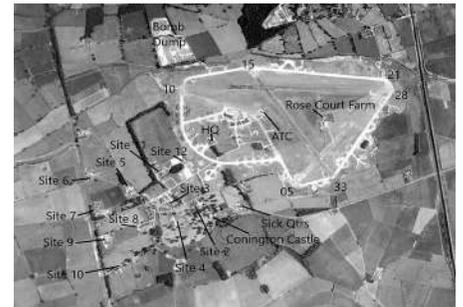
The tour representative, Ralph Bennett, has reminded us of the approaching deadlines to register and make payments for Glatton is:

June 22 – final payment—(Reservations after this date will have to be made with full payment).

July 19 – last day for online reservations—(Reservation requests after this date will have to be made by email to Ralph Bennett (Ralph@international-tours.com), which will be subject to availability at the time.)

August 16 – tour start date

Hope to see you there!



President's Message



From the Desk of our President May 2023

As promised in my first President's Message in the last newsletter, here's a summary of recent Board discussion and decisions on where our Association is headed in the future. In early February your Board of Directors held a zoom call meeting with most of the board members taking part. During the period for officer reports, the primary item presented was from legal advisor David Bass regarding our need to get caught up with corporation paperwork. He also noted that our corporate principal address currently is in Albany, GA, and recommended that it be changed to his business address in Carthage, TN, which was approved by the board. Will Fluman reported that all the 457th memorabilia we had for our 'store' has arrived at his home, and he will be looking for a WWII memorabilia dealer to purchase it all, with the proceeds going into our coffers.

Next was Old Business, starting with a discussion of holding our annual meetings in conjunction with the 8th Air Force Historical Society in the future. Based on an analysis I had previously distributed to the board members, it appears the costs for a member to attend the 8th AFHS meetings would be roughly the same as it cost to attend one of our meetings in the past. I attended the most recent 8th AFHS meeting this past October in Washington, DC, and talked with their executive director about what would be involved if we did this. She was very pleased we were interested and encouraged us to do so, noting there already were about 30 bomb groups and fighter groups that do so. While each person attending the Society's annual meeting has to be a Society member at \$60 per year, there would be no other fees our Association would have to pay the Society; all they needed was for us to let them know well ahead of time that we plan to be there. They could arrange a small suite for us in the host hotel, where we could hold our business meetings and set up displays for visitors. Of course, our organization would pay for this room cost, as has been the case with our own meetings in the past. The Society arranges for the host hotel and all tours and dinners, which would save us the time, effort and costs of doing these things for our meetings. One question Kurt Gunderson brought up was if we do meet in conjunction with the 8th AFHS meetings every year, did it mean we were no longer going to go to Glatton. And the answer is no it didn't mean that; we can still make plans to go to Glatton every two or three or four years. In years when we do go to Glatton, members would have the choice of going to Glatton or the Society meeting, or both. And there is no requirement that we have to have a meeting with the Society every year; we could choose to not have an annual stateside meeting in those years we go to Glatton. It's entirely flexible. After further discussion, the board voted unanimously to have future annual meetings in conjunction with the 8th AFHS. This

year's meeting will be on October 18-22 in Ontario, CA. Details are found elsewhere in this newsletter and on the 8th AFHS website (<https://www.8thafhs.org/>).

There was a lengthy discussion of the Glatton tour scheduled to take place on August 16-21, with a three-day extension tour of Normandy available. Ralph Bennett of Tours International has indicated there will need to be a minimum of 15 people on the Glatton tour and on the Normandy tour. (Note: since this was written, because of a lack of bookings for the Normandy tour extension, Normandy has been cancelled. The UK/Glatton tour will take place as planned.) If you haven't seen it yet, information on the tour can be found elsewhere in this newsletter and on our website (<https://457thbombgroupassoc.org/>). If you are planning to go and you haven't already done so, please get your deposits in as soon as possible (and any family members' deposits as well.)

Under New Business, the first item was the proposed new Bylaws and Operating Procedures. Our legal advisor David Bass and I worked on changes to our current documents over a couple of months, and copies of our recommended changes were sent to all board members for review prior to the board meeting. There were enough needed revisions to the old Bylaws that we ended up re-writing the whole document. There were a number of items in the old Bylaws (such as dues) that should be addressed in a manner that makes changes to them more flexible and under control of the Board rather than carved in stone in the Bylaws. The approach I've used for a couple of organizations I've written constitutions and bylaws for is to, in addition to bylaws, have a separate Operating Procedures document that can be amended by the Board of Directors and covers issues such as amount of dues, dates of meetings, definition of the fiscal year, standard policies, membership privileges, etc. These types of items where more flexibility may be needed are in the Operating Procedures that can be changed by a simple majority of the Board rather than the deliberately more cumbersome requirement of a two-thirds majority of the membership present at an annual meeting needed for changes to the Bylaws. The only requested change in the presented documents came from Nancy Archuleta, on behalf of newsletter editor Dorothy Enriquez, that in the Operating Procedures the requirement that the newsletter be published a minimum of four times a year be changed to two times per year. With no objection, this has been done. With unanimous board approval, the proposed Bylaws and Operating Procedures will be presented to the membership at the next annual meeting in October. According to the current Bylaws, an affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members present is required for adoption. The proposed new Bylaws and Operating Procedures will be posted on the Association's website for

review by the membership, and are included in this issue of the newsletter.

There were three other items of new business discussed, the first two suggested by my son, Eric J. Zemper. One was the idea of developing a virtual museum of memorabilia from the 457th BG. A lot of our people, whether first, second or third generation, probably have memorabilia related to the 457th sitting in their basements, packing boxes, drawers or whatever, that should be made available for people to see, rather than just gradually disappearing. They may not want to give these items away and we certainly don't want to become a physical repository for them, but they might be willing to give us good quality photographs/images of items such as pictures, documents, letters, medals, uniforms, etc. Then we could make them available for viewing on an online virtual museum. This idea will be discussed with our webmaster, Erwin DeMooy, and further information provided to the membership in the future. The second suggestion was a project to generate some income for the Association: a self-published, printed-on-demand coffee table quality book of pictures from the 457th BG collection. Since it's printed on demand, we don't need to keep an inventory of books on hand. The board agreed this was an idea worth pursuing. During this discussion Nancy Archuleta suggested including pictures and obituaries or life stories of original members of the 457th BG. The board liked this idea as well; however, with some 2,000 original members who served at Glatton, it was agreed that this would be more than enough material for a separate book. Finally, Chris Sechrist suggested we produce a new batch of window decals, as was done a few years ago. These could be used as give-aways to new members and in meeting packets, and could be sold as well. The board approved Chris pursuing this project, with payment for the production of the window decals coming from Association funds.

In summary, we've outsourced our next overseas reunion in August to a professional organization, and we will hold future in-country reunions/annual meetings in conjunction with the 8th Air Force Historical Society, beginning this coming October, both actions designed to reduce costs and effort on the part of individual members who have done this work in the past. We also are in the process of updating our governing documents to provide for a more efficient operation of our Association. And we're exploring some new activities that could prove interesting and relevant to our future mission (see a separate article in this newsletter for more on the future mission of our Association).

Eric D. Zemper, PhD President, 457th BGA



'Z' A/C4297131 'Home James'

STATESIDE

Ontario, CA



STATESIDE REUNION

It's time to start making plans to join us for our annual Stateside Reunion! This year we will be having our 457th annual meeting and reunion in conjunction with the 8th Air Force Historical Society (8th AFHS). We will meet in Ontario, California on October 18–22, 2023. As a reminder, we will be having our own annual 457th gathering/meeting in Ontario, CA, to include an important vote regarding the adoption of the new Bylaws and Operating Procedures.



One stipulation to this year's gathering is, you need to become a member of the 8th AFHS, to include membership dues of \$60/yr to be paid to the 8th AFHS upon your reunion registration. All necessary forms and information can be found on their website at: www.8thafhs.org

There, you can also find a vast amount of information and details on the upcoming reunion in October 2023, with forms to fill out and return to the 8th AFHS.



The deadline for reunion dues and registration payments is September 23, 2023.

We hope to see you there!

REUNION SCHEDULE

49th Annual 8th AFHS REUNION

DoubleTree by Hilton Ontario Airport ~ Ontario, CA
October 18-22, 2023

Wednesday Oct 18

8:00am – 5:00pm Reunion Registration open
6:00pm – 7:00pm Welcome Reception, followed by dinner on your own
7:00pm – 9:00pm 8th AFHS Board Meeting
7:00pm – until Hospitality Suites remain open throughout reunion

Thursday, October 19

7:30am – 8:30am Breakfast on your own*
8:00am – 5:00pm Reunion Registration open TBD**

8:30am – 4:30pm March Field Air Museum & Planes of Fame Museum ~ Includes Lunch
6:00pm – 9:00pm Cash Bar Open
7:00pm – 9:00pm Buffet dinner and program: Greg Stathatos ~ B-17 Archaeology Founder

Friday, October 20

7:30am – 8:30am Breakfast on your own
8:00am – 5:00pm Reunion Registration TBD
7:45am – 8:45am Group Meetings
9:00am – 4:00pm Palm Springs Air Museum ~ Includes Lunch
6:00pm – 9:00pm Cash Bar Open
7:00pm – 9:00pm Rendezvous Dinners

Saturday, October 21

7:30am – 8:30am Breakfast on your own
8:00am – 5:00pm Reunion Registration TBD
8:45am – 10:15am General Membership Meeting
12:00pm – 4:00pm 8th AFHS Board Meeting
11:00am – 4:30pm L. A. Farmer's Market & Hollywood [Includes Grauman's Chinese Theatre]

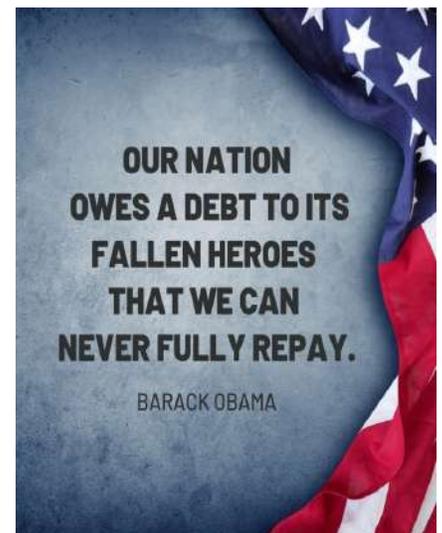
6:00pm – 9:00pm Cash Bar Open
7:00pm – 10:00pm Gala Dinner and Program ~ Col Erik L Aufderheide, USAF AFRC 452

Sunday, October 23

7:30am – 8:30am Breakfast on your own

*Breakfast is NOT included in our reunion package...please check times with hotel.

**TBD Registration may be closed during the time scheduled for certain tours and/or group meetings. Please pick up registration packets at your earliest convenience.





IN LOVING MEMORY



Frank David Hallson

May 3, 1916—May 4, 2023

Age 107 of Minneapolis MN passed away peacefully on May 4 surrounded by loving family and friends. Frank was born in Long Lake, Minnesota on May 3, 1916. He lived and worked in the Twin Cities area prior to enlisting in the US Army Air Corp in 1941. During World War II, Frank proudly served as a member of the 8th Air Force, traditionally known as the "The Mighty Eighth."

During the war, Frank met his beloved wife, Jeanette Truskolaski, and they were married in Long Island, New York in 1945. Frank and Jeanette permanently relocated to Minneapolis in 1947. There they raised their two children, Renee and David, and celebrated 68 years of marriage before Jeanette's death in 2013.

Frank worked as an accountant for several Minneapolis firms until his retirement in 1978, including 14 years with Tonka Toys in Mound MN. He was also an avid traveler. Ready in a heartbeat for a car trip to Yellowstone or a plane ride to Australia. He visited numerous foreign countries as well as all 50 states, and was still able to drive his car at age 106.

Frank was a beloved friend and neighbor in his Minneapolis Linden Hills neighborhood, and a faithful member of St Thomas the Apostle parish. He was preceded in death by his wife Jeanette; parents Emil and Alma Hallson; brothers John and Norman; sisters Henrietta, Margaret (Baker) and Ruth (Kingsrud). Survived by daughter Renee (Wayne) Paske, son David, grandsons Mark (Inna) and Stephen

(Megan), and great granddaughters Sophia Paske and Dana Collier.

Special thanks to the wonderful, medical and spiritual caregivers at Fairview Southdale hospital who did so much to comfort and support Frank in his final days.

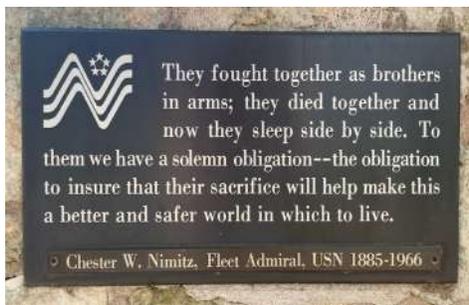
Mass of Christian Burial was on May 9, 2023 at 11:00 AM at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, 2914 W 44th St, Minneapolis. Visitation one hour prior to services. Private interment at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

Memorials preferred to World Vision, www.worldvision.org.

Washburn-McReavy.com

Edina Chapel 952-920-3996

Published by Washburn-McReavy Funeral Chapels - Edina on May 7, 2023.



An Airman's Prayer

By Chaplain John Eastwood

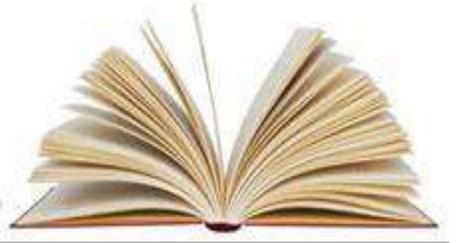
*God guard and guide us as we fly
Through the great spaces of the sky;
Be with us as we take to air
In Morning light and sunshine fair.
Eternal Father, strong to save,
Give us courage and make us brave;
Protect us whereso'er we go,
From shell and flak and fire and foe.
Most loved member of our crew,
Ride with us up in the blue.
Direct our bombs upon the foe
But shelter those whom Thou dost know.
Keep us together on our way,
Grant our work success today.
Deliver us from hate and sin,
And bring us safely down again.
O God protect us as we fly
Through lonely ways across the sky.*



**PROPOSED
BYLAWS OF THE
457th BOMB GROUP
ASSOCIATION**

**(To be voted on at the 2023
Stateside Reunion in Ontario,
CA, Oct 18-22,2023)**

Bylaws



Preamble The Principal Office of the Association is fixed and is located at 226 Main Street North, Carthage, TN 37030. The Board of Directors has full power and authority to change the location of said Principal Office.

Article I. NAME The name of this organization shall be: The 457th Bomb Group Association, and hereafter will be referred to as the Association.

Article II. PURPOSE The purposes of the Association shall be:

- A. The preservation of the historical significance of the 457th Bombardment Group (H), United States Army Air Corps, stationed at Glatton Airfield (Station 130), England, during the period January 1944 to June 1945.
- B. Pursuant to the Purpose listed in A above, encourage and actively participate in the development and maintenance of a written and pictorial history of the 457th Bombardment Group (H), and to arrange distribution of such materials to repositories that are accessible to the membership and other interested parties.
- C. The continuation of the spirit of friendship and camaraderie that first came into being among the veterans as a result of their military service in the 457th Bombardment Group (H) during World War II.

Article III. MEMBERSHIP

A. MEMBERS – Those persons intending to abide by and contribute to the objectives of the Association shall be Members upon payment of annual dues. Members in good standing shall be those whose dues are fully paid for the current calendar year. There shall be no other restrictions placed on becoming a member of the Association. Each Member is entitled to one vote.

B. MEMBERSHIP DUES – Dues for Association membership shall be established and adjusted as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors.

Article IV. OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

A. OFFICERS The officers of this Association shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. These officers shall be elected by majority vote of the Members present at a general membership meeting for a term of two (2) years. The President and Secretary shall be elected in even-numbered years and the Vice President and Treasurer shall be elected in odd-numbered years. An individual may be nominated, elected to and hold only one Association office at any given time. The retiring President shall serve as the Immediate Past President in an advisory capacity as a member of the Board of Directors.

B. DUTIES OF OFFICERS 1. President In addition to the normal duties of a President and duties specifically mentioned elsewhere in this document, it shall be the duty of the President to:

- a. Ensure observance of these Bylaws and the Operating Procedures of the Association.
- b. Call meetings of the Association membership or of the Board of Directors

whenever a special need arises for fulfillment of the Association's purposes.

- c. Preside at meetings of the Association general membership and of the Board of Directors.
- d. Solicit agenda items for the Board of Director meetings and any other Association meetings.

e. Appoint *ad hoc* committees as is necessary to facilitate the business of the Association.

f. Be an *ex officio* member of all Association committees.

h. In cooperation with the Treasurer, by the end of each fiscal year prepare and submit to the Board of Directors, for its approval, a budget for the following fiscal year.

i. Be a signatory on all bank accounts holding the Association's funds.

2. VICE-PRESIDENT It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to assume all normal duties of a Vice-President including, but not limited to, assisting the President in carrying out the business of the Association, and assuming the duties of the President in the absence of that individual.

3. SECRETARY In addition to the duties normally associated with this office, it shall be the duty of the Secretary to:

a. Serve as the recording and corresponding secretary of the Association.

b. Serve as the custodian of all committee records, except those specifically assigned to others by the President or these Bylaws or the Association's Operating Procedures.

c. Maintain, and have available at the annual meeting, a current list of all Board representatives, existing committees and their membership.

d. Maintain records in which these Bylaws and the associated Operating Procedures, any special rules of order, standing rules, written policies and procedures, and minutes are entered, with any amendments to these documents properly recorded. The current record book(s) shall be available at the annual meeting and at each Board of Directors meeting. Copies of these documents shall be made available to any member, upon request, at a nominal copying charge.

e. Assist the President in the preparation of the agenda for Board of Directors meetings and any other Association meetings.

f. Provide, or cause to be provided, minutes of each Board of Directors

meeting and general membership meeting to Board members within two weeks of the meeting.

g. Be a signatory on all bank accounts holding the Association's funds.

4. TREASURER In addition to the duties normally associated with this office, it shall be the duty of the Treasurer to:

a. Keep, account for, deposit and disburse the Association's funds, as approved by the Board of Directors.

b. Be a signatory on all bank accounts holding the Association's funds.

c. In cooperation with the President, by the end of each fiscal year prepare and submit to the Board of Directors, for its approval, a budget for the following fiscal year.

d. Monitor all expenditures and make a report of the Association's finances to the Board of Directors and the Association membership at each of its meetings.

5. IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT At the conclusion of his/her term of office, the President shall become the Immediate Past President and shall continue service as a voting member of the Board of Directors in an advisory capacity until the conclusion of the succeeding President's term in office.

6. EX OFFICIO MEMBERS Because of their importance to the operation of the Association, the following individuals shall serve on the Board of Directors in an *ex officio* capacity, with no vote: The Newsletter Editor, the Webmaster for the Association's website, any appointed Legal Advisor (who may also act as recording secretary if requested), and any Board designated US-based or European-based Group Historians.

C. TERM OF OFFICE The term of office shall be two (2) years, and officers shall be elected by majority vote of the Members at a regularly scheduled general membership meeting. Officers shall assume their responsibilities at the conclusion of the general membership meeting following their election. There is no limit to the number of consecutive terms an officer may serve.

D. VACANCY OF OFFICE An officer may resign at any time by providing written notification to the President. If the resignation is for the office of President, written notification shall be provided to the Secretary. A vacancy occurring in an elected office of the Association shall be filled for the remainder of the term by appointment by the President, with the approval of a majority of the Board of Directors. A vacancy in the office of the President shall be filled by the Vice-President. In the event that an officer becomes remiss in the performance

(continued on page 7)

of his/her duties, which could include but not be limited to allowing membership to lapse or an inability to perform assigned tasks, after proper notification of the officer involved and an opportunity to present to the Board an explanation of his/her actions, the officer may be relieved of his/her duties by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors, who shall then provide the officer with written notice of this action.



Article V. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A. COMPOSITION The Board of Directors shall consist of the four officers and the Immediate Past President, plus four (4) additional Members in good standing who shall serve as Directors. Directors shall serve terms of four (4) years with the option of being re-elected, but no Director shall serve more than two (2) full consecutive terms.

B. RESPONSIBILITIES The responsibilities of the Board of Directors are to:

- 1. Oversee and be responsible for the administration and conduct of the business affairs of the Association, including establishing dates and sites of annual general membership meetings.
- 2. Actively promote and uphold the purposes, objectives and policies of this Association, as stated in Article II of this document and in the Operating Procedures.
- 3. Work toward increasing and maintaining memberships, and developing and maintaining the various programs for the Association membership.
- 4. In cooperation with the President, establish written operating policies and procedures governing Association activities and programs.
- 5. Monitor the annual budget of the Association, as submitted by the President and the Treasurer.
- 6. Delegate to committee members such duties as directed by the President and/or the Board of Directors.
- 7. Establish membership fees or any such form of dues for membership.
- 8. In carrying out their overall supervisory responsibility, the Association officers and/or Board of Directors may request advice and reports from outside entities and organizations.

C. AUTHORITY The Board of Directors shall be fully empowered to expedite such administrative affairs as may require action between the annual meetings of the Association.

D. MEETINGS 1. Board of Directors Meetings. The Board of Directors shall meet in open session during the annual general membership meetings of the Association, and on such other occasions as called by the President. The Secretary will notify, or cause to be notified, all Board members of regularly scheduled meetings at least one (1) month prior to the meeting.
2. Special Meetings. The President may call special meetings of the Board of Direc-

tors, to be held in person or by electronic means. Notice of such meetings and the reasons therefore shall be transmitted to the members of the Board by the Secretary at least one (1) month prior to any such in person meeting or one (2) weeks prior to a meeting held by electronic means.

3. Minutes. Minutes of all Board of Directors meetings shall be furnished to the members of the Board within fourteen (14) days of said meetings.

4. Quorum. A majority of the voting members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the legal transaction of Association business.

5. Voting. Each Board member is limited to one (1) vote. Unless otherwise stated in this document, a simple majority is all that is necessary to conduct business requiring a vote.

E. VACANCY OF OFFICE A Director may resign at any time by providing written notification to the President. A vacancy occurring in a Director position shall be filled for the remainder of the term by appointment by the President, with the approval of a majority of the Board of Directors. In the event that a Director becomes remiss in the performance of his/her duties, which could include but not be limited to allowing membership to lapse or an inability to perform assigned tasks, after proper notification of the Director involved and an opportunity to present to the Board an explanation of his/her actions, the Director may be relieved of his/her duties by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors, who shall then provide the Director with written notice of this action.



Article VI. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

The four (4) Directors, each serving terms of four (4) years, shall be apportioned so that the term of one (1) Director expires each year. The election of the Board of Directors and any expiring officer positions shall be conducted in the following manner.

A. The President shall three months prior to the next scheduled annual general membership meeting:

- 1. Appoint, or cause to be appointed, a Nominating Committee of three to five Members in good standing (at least one of which shall be a Board member whose term is not expiring) to propose nominations for the Board or any officer position to be filled at the upcoming annual general membership meeting;
- 2. establish the schedule of closing dates regarding the nominating and election process; and
- 3. notify the general membership of the names of the appointed committee, closing dates, and call for general nominations.

B. Only current Members in good standing shall be eligible to be nominated to Board membership or officer positions.

C. A nomination may be made by the Nominating Committee for any Member who meets the eligibility requirements, or may be submitted by any Member to the Nominating Committee:

- 1. A nomination may be made by a Member on his or her own behalf;
- 2. a nomination may be made for another Member only with the nominee's consent;
- 3. nominations originating outside the Nominating Committee do not require a second;
- 4. nominations may be made by Members from the floor during the general membership meeting; and
- 5. members of the Nominating Committee are not precluded from being nominated for a position.

- D. Each Member is entitled to one (1) vote.
- E. Voting shall be by written secret ballot. An official ballot shall be distributed, or caused to be distributed, by the Secretary to each eligible voting Member at the general membership meeting; however, when a position is uncontested the membership may select a proper alternative, such as a voice vote by acclamation.
- F. Counting of the ballots shall be conducted at the general membership meeting by non-nominated members of the Nominating Committee and/or the Board of Directors.
- G. The nominee receiving the largest number of votes shall be elected. In the event of a tie, a new ballot, involving only those tied for a position, shall be distributed by the Secretary to the general membership with appropriate instructions.
- H. Notification of ballot results shall be made by the President to the general membership at the annual meeting, through publication in the Association newsletter, and on the Association website. Newly elected Board members and officers shall begin their term of office at the conclusion of the Association's general membership meeting.

Article VII. ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

A. MEETINGS

- 1. Annual Meetings. At such time and place as designated by the Board of Directors there shall be an annual meeting of the membership of the Association for the purpose of setting or reviewing the activities, policies and procedures of the Association. A preliminary notice of the date and site of the annual meeting shall be sent to the Association members at least 60 days prior to the annual meeting date.
- 2. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Association membership may be called as deemed necessary by the President or a majority of the Board of Directors.

B. NOTIFICATION OF MEETINGS Final written notification of the annual meeting, or the only notification of any special meetings or membership recourse meetings, shall be distributed to each Member in good standing thirty (30) days in advance to the listed address of record via surface mail, email and/or notification published in the Association's newsletter and website. An agenda for the meeting shall be included in the notification.

C. AUTHORITY At regular meetings any business of the Association may be transacted. At special meetings of the Association only that business for which the meeting was called will be transacted.

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D. **QUORUM** For official transaction of Association business at annual or special meetings, a minimum of ten (10) percent of the Members in good standing or twenty (20) Members in good standing (whichever is the lesser number) must be present to constitute a quorum, of which a minimum of two (2) must be officers.



E. **VOTING** Each Member in good standing is limited to one (1) vote. A simple majority is all that is necessary to conduct business requiring a vote. A secret written ballot may be called for by a simple majority with a show of hands, except as otherwise specified in this document.

Article VIII. STANDING COMMITTEES

The Standing Committees and *ad hoc* committees necessary to facilitate the business of the Association shall be appointed as necessary by the President in cooperation with the Board of Directors. The structure and operation of such committees are as follows:

A. **CHAIR** The Chair of each standing or *ad hoc* committee shall be a Member in good standing appointed on an annual basis by the President, with approval of the Board of Directors.

B. **MEMBERS** Each standing or *ad hoc* committee shall be comprised of two (2) to four (4) additional Members in good standing who are appointed by the Chairs of the respective committees, with the approval of the Board of Directors.



C. **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES** The duties and responsibilities of these committees shall be to assist Board of Directors in the carrying out of their duties. By the end of the third quarter of each fiscal year the chair of each standing or *ad hoc* committee shall inform the Treasurer of their committee's proposed budget for the following fiscal year, if Association funds are to be used.

Article IX. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The current edition of Robert's Rules of Order are the general rules of order, except where they may conflict with the provisions of this document or the Association's Operating Procedures, and in such cases this document or the Association's Operating Procedures shall prevail.

Article X. SAVING CLAUSE

Failure of literal or complete compliance with provisions of this document or the Association

Operating Procedures in respect to dates and times of notice or the sending or receipt of the same, or errors in phraseology of notices or proposals, which in the judgement of the members present at any meetings held do not cause substantial injury to the rights of members, shall not invalidate the actions or proceedings of the Board, officers or members at any such meetings.

Article XI. NON-DISCRIMINATION CLAUSE

Membership in this Association or its Board of Directors or its officers shall be without regard to age, sex, ethnic origin or disability.

Article XII. AMENDMENTS

This document can be amended only at the annual meeting of the Association, provided that the proposed amendment has been submitted in writing to the Secretary sixty (60) days prior the date of the annual meeting. The Secretary shall submit such proposed amendments to an *ad hoc* committee on constitutional amendments appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors. This committee shall review all proposed amendments and ensure that they are distributed to the membership, with the committee's recommendation for approval or rejection, no later than thirty (30) days prior the annual meeting. An affirmative vote by two-thirds of the Association's Members in good standing in attendance shall be necessary to amend this constitution.



**THE 457TH BOMB GROUP
ASSOCIATION
OPERATING PROCEDURES**

The following Operating Procedures are maintained as an extension of the Bylaws of the 457th Bomb Group Association (the Association).

Section 1. Basic Policies

A. This Association shall be noncommercial, nonsectarian and nonpartisan.

B. No part of the net earnings of the Association shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, directors, trustees, officers or other private persons, except that the Association shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article II of the Association's Bylaws.

C. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the Association shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (i) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or (ii) by an organization contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(2) of the Internal Revenue Code.

D. In the event of the dissolution of this Association, after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations of the Association, the remaining assets, including funds on hand, items of memorabilia, historical files, records,

books, etc., shall be distributed to group that qualify as tax exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(19) and/or 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended.

E. The Association or members in their official capacities shall not, directly or indirectly, participate or intervene in any way, including the publishing or distributing of statements, in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office, or devote more than an insubstantial part of its activities to attempting to influence legislation by propaganda or otherwise.

Section 2. Membership Privileges

A. Members. Privileges of Membership in good standing shall include:

- 1) the right to vote in any election for any offices, in any business brought before the membership while in attendance at the Association's annual meeting, or in any matter brought to a vote of the entire membership by the Board of Directors.
- 2) eligibility to be nominated for election to an office in the Association.
- 3) receipt of Association newsletters and other communications.
- 4) authorization to purchase Association apparel and other Association items.

Section 3. Membership Dues

Members shall pay dues on an annual basis of an amount set by the Board of Directors, due at the beginning of the calendar year.

Section 4. Officers

The immediate past-president normally serves as the Immediate Past President on the Board of Directors. In situations where the current Association President is re-elected to another term of office, the Immediate Past President will continue in that role.

Section 5. Board of Directors

Each Board of Director member is encouraged to serve on at least one standing committee, or other ongoing committee overseeing Association activities.

Section 6. Fiscal Year

The fiscal year for the Association shall be January 1 to December 31 each year.

Section 7. Association Awards

The Association may maintain an Awards program overseen by an Awards Committee. Selection criteria for Association awards shall be developed and maintained by the Board of Directors.

Section 8. Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Association normally shall be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the 8th Air Force Historical Society, or at any other such time as designated by the Board of Directors.

Section 9. Board of Director meetings

Board of Director meetings normally shall be held quarterly, at such time and place or by such electronic means as designated by the President.



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Section 10. Association Newsletter

The Association shall publish a newsletter for the membership a minimum of two (2) times per year. One Member in good standing shall serve as the primary editor of the newsletter and shall be responsible for soliciting content, writing and editing content, and ensuring electronic or hard-copy distribution to the membership. This individual also shall serve as an *ex officio* member of the Board of Directors. In performance of the duties of Newsletter Editor, this individual may solicit assistance from one or more Members.



Section 11. Association website

The Association shall maintain an up-to-date website for the purpose of keeping the membership informed of Association activities, news, upcoming elections and other matters of interest to the membership as well as being a repository for historical documents and images related to the 457th Bomb Group. One Member in good standing of the Association shall serve as the primary editor and manager of the website. This individual also shall serve as an *ex officio* member of the Board of Directors. In performance of the duties of Website Editor, this individual may solicit assistance from one or more Members.

Section 12. Amendments

Unless stated otherwise in the Association By-laws, these Operating Procedures may be amended by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, provided any such amendments are submitted to the Board members forty-five (45) days prior to the meeting at which such vote is taken.

Section 13. Membership notification

Any notification of the membership required by the Association Bylaws or these Operating Procedures, or any communication with the membership required by the normal business of the Association, may be accomplished via e-mail or any such electronic means, for those members with an e-mail address on record, or by postal mail at the postal address on record for those members who do not maintain an e-mail address.

Poland Memorial Ceremony

On April 17, 2023 the Institute of National Remembrance in Warsaw, Poland held an unveiling ceremony of a monument honoring our veterans of two of our aircraft that were shot down over the Choczew Forests in Poland on April 9, 1944. Honoring the American Airmen of No. 42-97537 "The Chicken Ship", and No. 42-97465 "Scarlet Harlot".

Here are a few photos, submitted by Damian Drazkiewicz of the Exploratory and Educational Historical Association "White Stars".



► Bulletin Board

Newsletter by mail or online?

We hope you have had an opportunity to view the full color **FIREBALL** newsletter online at www.457thbombgroupassoc.org

We will continue to print and mail a black and white version, 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, contact us by email at: the457thbgnewsletter@yahoo.com

Our Departed Veterans

During each of our Stateside reunions, a ceremony is held to honor those veterans who have passed away since the previous Stateside reunion. Please let us know if your dear Veteran has passed by contacting: Sheila Vester, Association Secretary at: 716-864-9150

She will add the name to a list of those who will be honored during the next Stateside reunion.

If anyone has information about deceased members or obituaries, please forward those to us for the next Stateside Memorial Service, to: the457thbgnewsletter@yahoo.com

Thank you!

It has been an honor and pleasure to have been selected to be your Newsletter Editor for the last few issues. Due to my health issues, I am no longer able to serve in this capacity as Editor. I'd like to express my most heartfelt gratitude to Nancy Archuleta for trusting my work in this position. Also, to Nancy Archuleta and Mr. Eric Zemper, both of you have been absolutely the best Presidents of this Association to work under, thank you!

Sincerely, Dorothy Enriquez

Positions Available

The 457th Bomb Group Association is looking to fill the following two positions. If you are interested in volunteering for either position, please contact Eric Zemper at Zemper@msu.edu

Newsletter Editor

Member in good standing

Soliciting content, writing and editing content, and ensuring electronic or hard copy distribution to the membership at least twice per year.

Knowledge of word format and publishing applications necessary.

Secretary

Member in good standing.

In addition to regular secretarial duties as stated in the Bylaws in this issue, the secretary also keeps track of membership applications.

OFFICERS

President Eric D. Zemper	zemper@msu.edu P. O. Box 130537 Ann Arbor, MI 48113	M. 734-276-2758
Vice-President Robert Parker	rpaker15@hotmail.com	M. 254-824-0237
Treasurer Adele Gilmore	pickwickantiques122@gmail.com 3070 37th Ave. S. St. Petersburg, FL 33712	727-433-2550
Secretary Sheila Vester	adksheilav@yahoo.com 5001 Transit Rd. Apt. 313 Depew, NY 14043	716-864-9150
Past- President Nancy Archuleta	narchuleta@chm611.com 160 Mistee Dr. Brownsboro, AL 35741	M. 256-656-9155
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Gregg Robertson	greggwrbertson@aol.com	806-721-5389
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Tim & Angela Newell Europe	Cemetary Chapel, Stoke Doyle Rd. Oundle, Northants, England PE8 5TR tim.newell@ymail.com ang.newell@ymail.com	44 1487 830450
Erwin de Mooij Europe	Mondriaanlaan 31, 2172 DG Sassenheim The Netherlands b17research@hotmail.com	003 1612972293

► Past Presidents

1973-75: William Wilborn	1988-89: Donald Setton	2005-07: James Bass
1976: Howard Larsen	1990-91: John Welch	2007-09: George Grau
1977-79: Bill Sier	1992-93: Roland Byers	2009-11: Joe Toth
1980-81: Edward Reppa	1993-97: Bily Hightower	2011-13: John Pearson
1982-83: Daniel Graham	1997-99: Lee Zimmerman	2013-15: William W. Siler
1984: William Good	1999-2001: Craig Harris	2015-19: Will Fluman, Jr.
1985: David Summerville	2001-03: Wil Fluman	2019-2022 Nancy Archuleta
1986-87: Clayton Bejot	2003-05: Don Nielsen	

FUTURE NOTIFICATIONS

Information and updates will be emailed.

OUR FUTURE MISSION

The purpose of the 457th Bomb Group Association, when it was first established by the men who had been members of the 457th during WWII, focused on commemorating the Group and continuing the camaraderie of those who had served in the Group. In the years since, there has been the natural attrition among those men, and it is obvious that these men and their camaraderie are passing from the scene. It is now for us, the second, third and fourth generations to carry on their mission and keep alive the memory of those men and the 457th Bomb Group in which they served.

As part of the updating of our By-Laws, a new statement of Purpose has been developed. It reads:

"The purposes of the Association shall be:

A. The preservation of the historical significance of the 457th Bombardment Group (H), United States Army Air Corps, stationed at Glatton Airfield (Station 130), England, during the period January 1944 to June 1945.

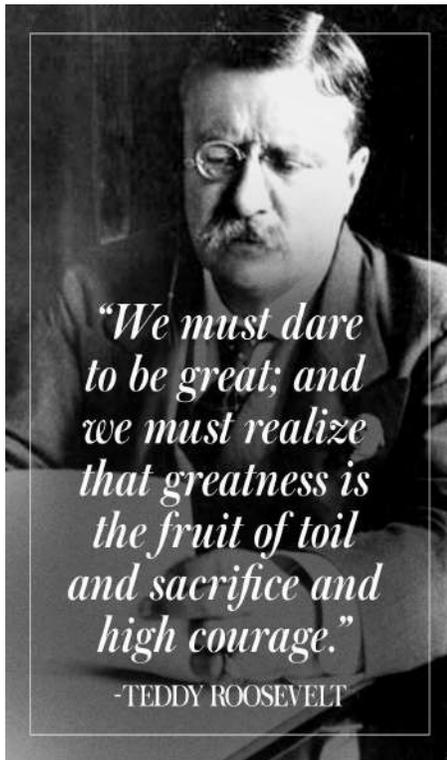
B. Pursuant to the Purpose listed in A above, encourage and actively participate in the development and maintenance of a written and pictorial history of the 457th Bombardment Group (H), and to arrange distribution of such materials to repositories that are accessible to the membership and other interested parties.

C. The continuation of the spirit of friendship and camaraderie that first came into being among the veterans as a result of their military service in the 457th Bombardment Group (H) during World War II."

The first and third purposes are slight modifications of the original wording. The second purpose is new, and emphasizes our new role in preserving the history of the 457th BG and making it available to future generations. You are urged to help us fulfill this new aspect of the mission of our Association.

Photo courtesy of the
Zemper Collection
Formation

'F' A/C4232101 'El Lobo II',
'O' A/C4231568,
'P' A/C4297087 'Tujungal',
'W' A/C4297591



This is a hotspot for posts, pictures, and a forum for our 457th family and friends to gather, share stories, and ask questions.

Find us at:

www.facebook.com/groups/457thbombgroup

LIKE us on Facebook TODAY

Editor's Notes

We would appreciate it if all members, (including Board members), would check their contact information for accuracy.

Should anyone have any comments, suggestions, or questions for our newsletter, please feel free to email us. We'd be happy to include your comments in our next issue.

For any comments or questions, please email: the457thbgnewsletter@yahoo.com

Find Updates Here

Website: www.457thbombgroupassoc.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/457thbombgroup

8th Air Force HS: www.8thafns.org

PLEASE Join Us

Become a member of the 457th Bomb Group (H) Association and receive our newsletters. Fill out the Membership form included in this newsletter on the last page, then make sure to include your annual dues when you mail in your form to our Treasurer, Adele Gilmore.

Annual Member Dues = \$25/yr.



457th Bomb Group Association
611 Holmes Ave. NE
Huntsville, AL 35801

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Visit the website today at www.457thbombgroupassoc.org to subscribe online for membership, or, fill in the form below and mail in your subscription and dues to Adele Gilmore, Treasurer.

457th Bomb Group Association: Membership Dues & Subscription Form

► Dues

Annual Dues: \$25 per person (per Year)

Only Annual Memberships are available. Per the Association and Board meeting held in October of 2019, Lifetime Memberships are no longer available. Existing Lifetime Memberships will continue to be honored, and all WWII veterans are granted honorary Lifetime Membership.

► Mail form, check payable to:

457th Bomb Group Association

Attention: Adele Gilmore, Treasurer
3070 37th Avenue S.
St. Petersburg, FL 33712

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

Adele Gilmore, Treasurer
3070 37th Avenue S, St. Petersburg
Florida, 33712

Name _____ Nickname _____ Spouse _____

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

Phone _____ email _____ Please print clearly. Email is the primary means by which we communicate with you.

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: _____

Send my Fireball newsletter by: mail email