



## ▶ Note From Reunion Chairman



Dear 457BG Association Members and Friends,  
Bombarded with stateside reunion reminders? We want to make sure you target the dates and join us for a wonderful Celebration of our beloved 457th Veterans and their families. This is the 75th anniversary of the 457th Bomb Group. Our theme is **Victory in Remembrance!**

New Orleans always promises to be a fun filled city and we have many opportunities for you to enjoy camaraderie, history, great food and just plain fun. At the business meeting you will vote for directors and at the board meeting officers will be elected. You will hear reports on association business and have the opportunity to offer ideas, volunteer opportunities and learn more about upcoming events.

This newsletter is dedicated to the reunion and filled with registration information. So, book your room, register, and select your meals. At this printing we are told that there are only nine rooms remaining under the special rate so register as soon as possible.

Make your plans to make this a **Fait Accompli**.

-Gina Morgan, Granddaughter of SSGT AH Enriquez , 751st Sqd, 457th BG

## ▶ Victory in Remembrance



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► 2019 New Orleans, LA

**457th Bomb Group Assoc.  
State Side Reunion**

**AGENDA**

(October 3-5):

► **Thursday**.....October 3

Registration.....	9:00a-9:00p
Memorabilia room.....	2:00p-9:00p
Welcome reception.....	5:00p-7:00p
hotel lobby	
Dinner (on your own)	
Games and door prizes	

► **Friday**.....October 4

Breakfast (on your own)	
WWII Museum.....	9:00a-3:00p
Movie.....	11:00a
Lunch/Show.....	12:00p-3:00p
Memorabilia room.....	5:00p-9:00p
Dinner (on your own)	
Games and door prizes	

► **Saturday**.....October 5

Breakfast (on your own)	
Memorabilia room.....	9:00a-7:00p
457th BG General Mtg/ Ceremony.....	9:00a
Big Week Presentation.....	11:30a
Lunch (on your own)	
Board of Directors Business Meeting.....	2:00p-3:00p
Reception/hors d'oevres....	6:00p-7:00p
Banquet.....	7:00p-11:00p
(Remembrances)	
Auld Lang Syne (Farewell)	
Games and door prizes	

With the purchase of the remembrance coin you are eligible to win prizes at the reunion. (see page 6)

**Memorabilia Room**  
Serves as our hospitality room combining history with opportunity for new memories.

**FUTURE NOTIFICATIONS:**

Information and updates will be emailed which you are able to unsubscribe if you wish.

**Find Updates Here:**

Website:<http://www.457thbombgroupassoc.org>

Facebook:<https://tinyurl.com/y7855qt7>

8th AF:<http://www.8thafhs.org>

► Special Report

# State-Side Reunion 2019

## October 3-5, 2019

New Orleans, Louisiana

*Embassy Suites by Hilton New Orleans Convention Center,  
315 Julia st. New Orleans, LA 70130*

Call Now for Reservations:.....1.800.362.2779

Order Online:.....  
<http://group.embassysuites.com/457BombSquad>

Room Rate During Reunion:....\$169(1 king) /\$189 (2 queens)

Use booking code 457 BOMB GROUP ( FFS) for registering

**Event reservations:**

**\$170.00 per person**

Registration fee includes reception, admission to museum, and banquet

**Banquet entree choice:**

Chicken Breast & Tasso Creme

Vegetarian Ravioli

Cajun Dusted Gulf Fish

Attire:

Business casual / Cocktail / 40's (encouraged)

► **We Like You**

**Like us on facebook!**



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

Go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1408261252566363>  
or use: <https://tinyurl.com/y7855qt7>

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

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

► 2019 New Orleans, LA

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State Side Reunion**

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Games and door prizes

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**Memorabilia Room**

Serves as our hospitality room combining history with opportunity for new memories.

**457th Bomb Group Reunion: New Orleans, LA-October 3-5, 2019**

► **Registration from:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Squadron \_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse/Guest #1 \_\_\_\_\_ Guest #2 \_\_\_\_\_  
Guest #3 \_\_\_\_\_ Guest #4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip (+4) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

May we include your phone number and email in the registration book

Yes  No

► **Registration Fee:**

Reunion Registration Fee: \$170 per person (includes reception, admission to museum, and banquet)

# \_\_\_\_\_ persons x \$170 each =\$ \_\_\_\_\_

► **Banquet Entrees:**

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

# \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken Breast with Tasso Creme

# \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian Ravioli

# \_\_\_\_\_ Cajun Dusted Gulf Fish

*Salad - Strawberry Spinach*

*Accompaniment - Bourbon Sweet Potatoes*

*Dessert - White Chocolate Bread Pudding With New Orleans Rum Sauce*

Indicate special dietary needs: \_\_\_\_\_

► **Mailing information:**

Send registration form and check by September 16 ; or email registration form to **narchuleta@chm611.com** and send check to:

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

Mail to: **457th Bomb Group Association**  
611 Holmes Ave. NE, Huntsville, AL 35801

## ► Special report

### Meet the man behind the 457th website and facebook page

My name is Erwin DeMooy and I am 42 years old. I live in the Netherlands with my beautiful girlfriend Nancy and my two daughters Lune and Noor. I would like to thank Nancy and the kids for allowing me to do this work and for their patience. I have the honor to work on the website and on our Facebook page. This is how I got involved.

In 2012 I had the honor of unveiling a memorial for the Lt. Gooch crew (after 11 years of research) in the Netherlands near my home town. Three members of the 457th Bomb Group Association came to the unveiling; mister Henson, mister Hanley and mister Siler. Bill Siler invited me to come to the reunion in the UK the following year. Just after the unveiling of the monument we got some very bad news, our year and a half daughter was diagnosed with a brain tumor. At that moment she was the most important girl on my mind and there was no time for the 457th Bomb Group. After an operation and a year of chemo she was dismissed from the hospital. She is now an 8 year old with long blond hair and an attitude. Bill Siler didn't forget his invitation to me and in 2014 I flew to England for the reunion. I met so many great people there. Somewhere in 2015 I emailed Will Fluman and made a comment about our website. It wasn't updated in a long time and info was limited. His reply was if I could work with websites. After another reply from me stating that I knew how to work with websites he emailed me all the login information and congratulated me with becoming

the new webmaster. I started with researching the group, missions, crashes and contacted family members and veterans to get photos and information which I could use for the website. It soon became a 24/7 job for me and I love every minute of it. Just this year I started working on a new website adding more information and getting it ready for many more years to come...even added a 457th Bomb Group movie to it filmed by Duane Zemper at Glatton in 1945!

In 2015 I met Justina Sechrist at the Savannah reunion. She was the Facebook admin and I asked her if I could help her with the Facebook page. We talked about making a new Facebook page making it much easier for people to post new items and messages. Unfortunately Justina passed away in 2016 and till this day very missed for her involvement and for the inspiring person she was. It was a hard decision to open the other Facebook page but it was important to both of us that we needed to make it easy for the people using it to get as many people involved as we could.

This year, during the reunion, I will be giving a presentation about our group during Operation Big



Week. Our first mission was flown during Big Week (February 21st 1944) and I will be zooming in on the missions, the men, the planes and the targets. I hope many people will join us during the reunion in October!

The work I am allowed to do for this great group is a very big honor to me. Keeping the memory alive to all those great men who gave us freedom is what it is all about and what drives me. The trust and freedom I have been given by the board to do what I do is also an honor and I would like to thank the board for this. I would also like to thank our members for sharing photos and information with me. Please know that I am still open to receiving new information (letters, diaries, stories, etc) and photos. This will help to expand the website and to give everybody full information.

Also, if you aren't a member yet, please join the Association. You can become a member of the Association for just \$25 dollars for a two year membership. Everybody is also welcome to donate to the Association. For the Association to keep doing what we are doing we need your help!

-Erwin



*In memory of Justina Sechrist  
12.26.1991-5.19.2016*





## ► In Memory



### **Robert Lewis Ball**

May 13, 2019

Robert Lewis Ball, age 95, of Three Rivers, MI passed away at home in the early hours of Monday, May 13, 2019. He was born on April 23, 1924 the son of Raymond and Esta (Krauss) Ball in Gaylord, MI.

He served his county honorably as an Air Force Cadet 8th air force, 457 bomb group, 748th bomb squadron and in the United States Army. He married the love of his life, Catherine Ann Berger, on December 23, 1947.

He is preceded in his passing by his wife.

He leaves to cherish his loving memory five children, Craig (Lesa) Ball, of Three Rivers, Alan (Nancy) Ball, of Gilbert, AZ., Pamela (Gerald) Curtis, of Middleville, MI., Dennis Ball, of Three Rivers,

and Susan (Edward) Etelmaki, of Midland, MI.; ten beloved grandchildren and seventeen great-grandchildren.



### **Horace H. Huey**

April 19, 2019

Horace Huey was born to Git Huey and Shee Leong in San Francisco Chinatown. He had three brothers. Their father suffered a severe stroke in 1929 and passed away four years later. After graduating high school, Horace worked at the Navy shipyard for about a year and a half. Then, "Uncle Sam needed me in combat more than in the shipyard," and he was placed into the 457th Bomb Group. After 4 months of training, Horace, along with his 9-crew members, flew a brand new Boeing B-17 to Europe to do their part to fight the Third Reich of Nazi Germany. Their primary targets were oil refineries, ball bearing plants, and military targets.

Assigned as a top gunner, Horace was trained to take flight control

if anything happened to the pilot or co-pilot. He flew on many missions and had a commanding 360-degree view from his gun turret. While at war, Horace lost his adoptive father, Chang Wo, and in the process, his mother was unable to defend the family's interest in their restaurant from the other two partners. Upon returning Stateside, Horace gained employment with SF Muni driving buses in San Francisco to help the family. Horace worked almost four decades serving the citizens of San Francisco get to their destinations, while taking care of his mom and his brothers. He entered hospice care twice and returned home, regained his strength, and never lost his passion for watching football. While in hospice for the third time, Horace Huey passed away peacefully on a quiet evening in his sleep at home with friends by his side.

Preceding him was his father, mother, stepfather (who "died June 1945 while I was in the army, and I could not return home for the funeral"), and brothers Kenneth, Calvin, and Wallace. Horace was the last to survive from his flight crew, the Patty Ann.

*For more of Mr. Huey's story please visit our website [www.457thbombgroupassoc.org](http://www.457thbombgroupassoc.org)*

## ► Rememberence Coin



This coin commemorates the 75th Anniversary of the 457th BG, the Fireball Outfit. The tail insignia, U and the motto, Fait Accompli on one side and the U.S. Army Air Corps Eagle on the other, are symbolic for the Bomb Group that finished off the war. Owning this coin makes you eligible to win prizes at the Reunion.

*Special thanks to William Henson*

## ► 457 PX Giftshop

These items will be available to purchase at the reunion and online thereafter



## ► Officers, Directors & Appointments

<b>Nancy Archuleta</b> President (Interim)	narchuleta@chm611.com 611 Holmes Ave. NE, Huntsville, AL 35801	P: 205.425.1674
<b>Vacant</b> Vice-President		
<b>Lori Barnett</b> Treasurer	Lpbarnett223@aol.com 3110 Graystone Lane, Apt. 2105, Albany, GA 31721	P: 662.418.8563
<b>Kathy Collins</b> Director	Kcollins18@cox.net Seville Dr, Pensacola, FL 32503	P: 850.206.6670
<b>Gregg Robertson</b> Director	greggwrobertson@aol.com 437 Kailua Rd. Apt. 6103, Kailua, HI 96734	P: 808.721.5389
<b>Trisha Mach Robertson</b> Director	kai967@yahoo.com 1302A Kamahale Street, Kailua, HI 96734	P: 808.799.8854
<b>William Henson</b> Director	wsluffer1@aol.com 885 County Rd. 1600 N Cisne, IL 62823	
<b>Kurt Gunderson</b> Director	kgunderson@briighthouse.com 5701 Burke Way, Bakersfield, CA 93309	P: 661.835.0787
<b>Will Fluman, Jr</b> Immed. Past Pres.	MR-SHORT-CUT@hotmail.com 132 Ore Bank Road, Dillsburg, PA 17019	P: 570.971.5757
<b>James Bass</b> Legal Advisor	jlbass@bassandbass.com P.O. Box 500, Carthage, TN 37030-0500	P: 615.735.1122 F: 615.735.3149
<b>Curt Musheno</b> Website Technician	webmaster@457thbombgroupassoc.org 2001 Heim Hill Road, Montoursville, PA 17754	P: 570.974.1940
<b>Gerardo Morgan</b> Newsletter Editor	panforte09@gmail.com 5707 Bent Tree Ct, Colleyville, Tx 76034	P: 817.374.0599
<b>Erwin de Mooij</b> Webmaster/Facebook Admin.	webmaster457thbombgroup@outlook.com Mondriaaniaan 31, Sassenheim, 2172 DG Netherlands	P: 0031612972293

## ► European Historians

<b>Tim Newell</b>	tim.newell@ymail.com Cemetary Chapel, Stoke Doyle Road, Oundle, Northants, England PE8 5TR	P: 44 1487 830450
<b>Erwin de Mooij</b>	b17research@gotmail.com Mondriaaniaan 31, Sassenheim, 2172 DG Netherlands	P: 0031612972293

## ► Past Presidents

<b>1973-75:</b> William Willborn	<b>2001-03:</b> Will Fluman (d)	<b>2005-07:</b> James Bass
<b>1976:</b> Howard Larsen (d)	<b>1988-89:</b> Donald Sellon (d)	<b>2007-09:</b> George Grau (d)
<b>1977-79:</b> Bill Siler (d)	<b>1990-91:</b> John Welch	<b>2009-11:</b> Joe Toth
<b>1980-81:</b> Edward Reppa (d)	<b>1992-93:</b> Roland Byers(d)	<b>2011-13:</b> John Pearson
<b>1982-83:</b> Daniel Graham (d)	<b>1993-97:</b> Billy Hightower (d)	<b>2013-15:</b> William W. Siler (d)
<b>1984:</b> William Good (d)	<b>1997-99:</b> Lee Zimmerman	<b>2015-18:</b> Will Fluman, Jr.
<b>1985:</b> David Summerville (d)	<b>1999-01:</b> Craig Harris (d)	
<b>1986-87:</b> Clayton Bejot	<b>2003-05:</b> Don Nielsen	

## ► Notice of Meeting

### 457 Bomb Group Association Business Meeting

This is the Official Notice that The 457th Bomb Group Association will meet at the Embassy Suites, 315 Julia Street New Orleans, Louisiana, October 3-6, 2019. 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.

### Business Agenda

Call to order  
 Pledge of allegiance  
 Invocation  
 Reading of notice of meeting  
 Determination of quorum  
 Approval of minutes of membership  
 Recognitions  
 -Guest  
 -Board of Directors  
 Reports  
 - President  
 - Treasurer  
 - Newsletter editor  
 - Reunion Coordinator  
 - Secretary  
 - Website  
 Report of nominations committee  
 Election of Directors  
 Other Business  
 Announcements  
 Adjourn

## 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
66 - 70	\$75
71 +	\$60

► Mail form, check payable to:

#### 457th Bomb Group Association

611 Holmes Ave. NE,  
 Huntsville, AL 35801

**check applicable:**

- New membership  
 Renewal     Address Change

### ► Donations & Travel fund

#### Your Contributions Count!

Please consider a donation to support our Travel Fund and ongoing Projects Fund.

Contributions should be mailed to

Bill Henson  
 885 County Rd. 1600 N  
 Cisne, IL 62823

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: \_\_\_\_\_

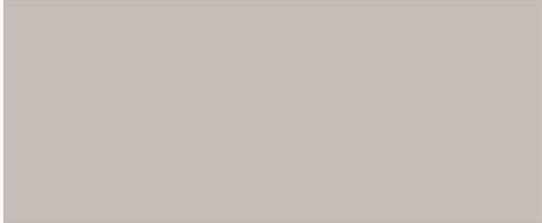
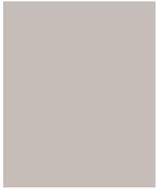
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send my Fireball newsletter by:**     email     mail (black and white only)

**457th Bomb Group Association**

611 Holmes Ave. NE,  
Huntsville, AL 35801

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Visit the website today at [www.457thbombgroupassoc.org](http://www.457thbombgroupassoc.org)

**Newsletter by mail or online?**

I hope you have had an opportunity to see the full color **FIREBALL** newsletter online. [www.457thbombgroupassoc.org](http://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 [narchuleta@chm611.com](mailto:narchuleta@chm611.com). We will send you a link that will take you directly to the latest newsletter. Remember to let us know if you change your email address.

- Gerardo Morgan, *editor*

**▶ December, 2019**

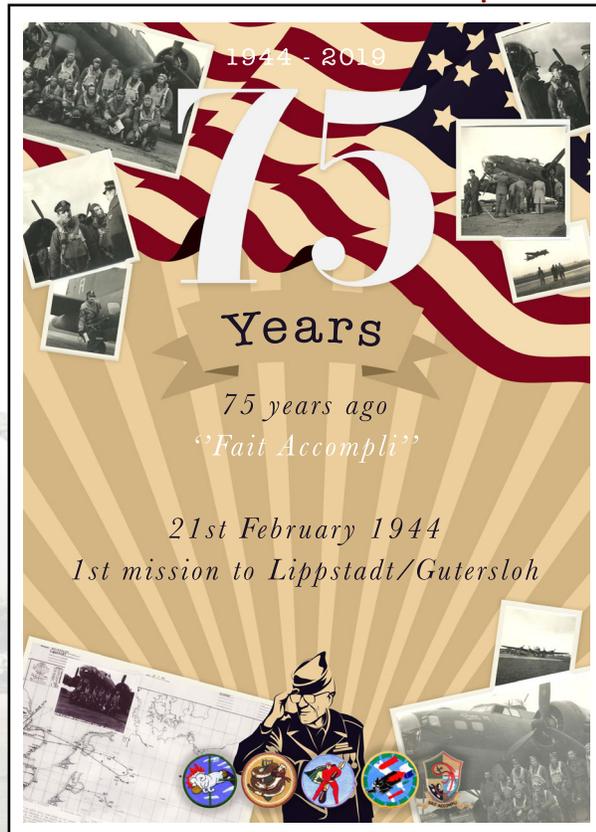
Winter Newsletter

**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:

**Nancy Archuleta -narchuleta@chm611.com**

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



*The graphic work has been made by Olaf Heilker from the Netherlands. His great grandfather was General Major Jacobus Jans. Before the war started he retired but during the war he was an important resistance man who received the Medal of Freedom in 1954 from the Americans.*