

Dear Fireballers:

You will never know how much correspondence we received because no bumper stickers were enclosed. Ha.....Fooled you! Now they are finally ready so find them enclosed. Sorry to say, but due to the bad connection between the travel agency and men--there aren't too many on the same charter--several are traveling a week or so later. The Briggs will be on the later flight. We have 5 or so men from England who have invited us to contact them. Will give a report on trip in the Fall newsletter; hopefully Dan and Norma Graham will have some pictures to show us at the reunion.

HELP: --- VOLUNTEERS *****

We need every state to bring a souvenir from their state. These can be obtained from the capital--free sometimes. Send me your name if you want to be responsible. At present, everyone who writes says they will come to the reunion. The officers have decided that by Sept 1975 Committees will be appointed to start work for July 1976. Some will not need to work much ahead of July '76. Committees and the Chairman will be printed in late Fall newsletter. PLEASE volunteers -- send your name and what you will work on.

1. Registration: Mickey Briggs & Betty Baker, coordinator for Lost Bridge, will chair this--but need women to help at (2) different shifts.
2. Greeting: Homer Briggs will chair, need (4) men, (4) women.
3. Reunion: Future date - year - place.
4. Nominating Committee
5. Float for parade
6. Arranging mementoes (special locked room)
7. Bars ?? Dry County. Mo. State Line is close. Private party, supply your own liquor
8. Banquet -- MC and program
9. Memorial (Mickey has made a scroll with deceased name; new names are added).
10. Memorial of B-17 plane (if we obtain one) ?

OVERSIGHT:

Joseph Zozwiak - a Topeka attendee, was left off the original list--check your list and see if someone else was left off.

MINIATURES:

Pewter B-17 tie tacks can be ordered thru Mickey for \$3.50 each. However, we will only take orders to be given out at reunion. Send order and money well before April 1976. Keep your canceled check in order to exchange it for tie tacks at registration time.

PRESIDENT -- Bill Welborn

Bill has been on sick leave and in hospital quite a spell, send him a note.

TOM GOFF:

writes he visited Bill & Becky Gordan in Canada and got some men's names. Bill Gordan lived across the road on base in England. They would be glad for any visitors. Tom Goff has the address.

REUNION - 1976 July 3 - 9th MEN - WIVES - KIDS

Lost Bridge Village, a hill-top summer resort overlooking beautiful Beaver Lake, has been reserved--private--with bust at our disposal. Single rooms, double rooms in the Lodge; vacation homes (sleeps 8, with kitchen). Families wanting to share would be great. Private air strip. A 30 minute drive from Homer & Mickey's. Headquarters in Bentonville, also at nearby house at Lake. At later date prices & reservation cards will be sent to you.

July 3rd Saturday arriving - registration

July 4th Sunday afternoon--Springdale Rodeo Bicentennial Parade, we as a group

B-17 MEMORIAL FUND

The B-17 Fund has been set up at the Bank of Bentonville -- some have donated to it. If you want us to purchase the B-17 for scrap metal we must have donations from the interested ones now. A list of men and donations will be kept on file. If we do not use this for the plane the money can be refunded.

FIRST 8th AIR FORCE REUNION (direct quote from newsletter)

The 8th AF will hold its first reunion - to be held on Miami Beach on 10-12 October 1975. The reunion schedule will start with a Friday evening reception. On Saturday there will be a morning business meeting and an afternoon tour. A cocktail party and banquet are planned for that evening. Brunch will top off this historic "First reunion" on Sunday. All units should be well represented as we move to organize -- THE EIGHTH AIR FORCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY !!! For details--send number and location of your unit to --- Lt Col John H. Woolnough, 7752 Harbour Blvd, Miramar, Fla 33023. 8th Friends of the eight, known as FOTE --- contact Chris Gotts, 6 Gravelfield Close, Valley Drive Estate, Norwich, Norfolk NOR 86P, England. He has lists of interested historians. UNQUOTE Charlie Gallagher, 99 Kinross Rd, Cambridge - CB4 1 Q.U., England -- one of the founders of FOTE.

FRIENDS OF THE 8th AIR FORCE

Bernard Bains, 29 Western Ave, Peterborough, PE 1 - HS, England writes he is an interested historian, wanting any-and-all information, pictures, data, you can send about the 457th. Please visit me if you're in England. Another who wants visitors: Cyril J. Orman, 16 Rye Crescent, Cople, Belford MK 44, 3 TJ, England.

REMINDER . . .

Many have not filled out their questionnaires -- please do so and return to Homer Briggs as soon as possible.

MEMBERSHIP:

We need to work on our names that have been sent to you. Tom Goff has turned in from 20 to 40 good addresses. Let's all try to beat him !! We traced 5 new members during January with (1945) order sheet and hometown addresses, so if you have copies--try to locate the men or send copy to me. If anyone wants names from their county--let me know, it is possible to trace them from the county court house.

Good names from recent list who have moved; if you have these addresses (new ones) contact me.

F.P. Payne	Charles Blackwell	Elder Karl Zillmer
John Haight	Louis Qualls	Bill Wilson
E.F. Gallersick	Ken Hogenson	Carl Johnson
Harry Cornll	Jim McCorkindale	Bill Murdock
Neil Boyle	John McHale	Wilbur Pursell
Felicisimo S. Basuil	Louis Brickman	Gerald E. Schlosser
Jess R. Cook	John Schwall	Ret: Col. Leon Stann

CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE AND SEND TO YOUR LOCAL PAPER

(LET US KNOW IF YOU DO THIS; FOR OUR INFO)

THE 457th BOMB GROUP IS MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO LOCATE ANYONE, AND EVERYONE, WHO SERVED WITH THE 457th BOMB GROUP THAT WAS STATIONED IN GLATTON, ENGLAND IN WWII