



**57TH BOMB WING ASSOCIATION
2023 NATIONAL REUNION
FOR CURRENT 57TH MEMBERS & THEIR FAMILY OR GUESTS**



**KANSAS CITY
MISSOURI**

SEPT. 28—OCT. 2, 2023

Crowne Plaza Kansas City Downtown Hotel



**57th Bomb Wing:
*Back to Beginnings***



**Kansas City — Home of
the Fairfax North American Aviation Plant
where B-25s were built from 1942 to 1945.**

**Join us as we celebrate the
57th Bomb Wing Association and
the History of the B-25!**

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**The 57th Bomb Wing Association is
transitioning from an IRS designated
“Nonprofit War Veterans Group”
to a new nonprofit being created to keep the
history of the 57th Bomb Wing alive
for future generations.**

Join us for this historic reunion!



Special appearance by:
“Miss Mitchell” a flying B-25 with the
Commemorative Air Force Minnesota Wing.
Special up-close-and-personal time for our group,
including rides, ground tours, photos,
and crew interaction.

WWII Veterans and Spouses are FREE for ALL Wing Events !

Flight and Hotel costs for a WWII Veteran and a ‘guardian’ can be paid for in full
by a special program through the Gary Sinise Foundation. (See page 3)
All transportation & accommodations can be arranged for WWII Vets by the 57th Reunion team.

ALL EVENTS ARE HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE.

2023 REUNION SCHEDULE



Hospitality room available Thurs, Friday, Saturday, & Sunday. Soft drinks & snacks provided.

THURSDAY, SEPT 28, 2023

Arrival Day Hospitality Room Open for Registration and meet & greet. Lunch & dinner on your own with friends.

FRIDAY, SEPT 29, 2023

7–9 am Complimentary Private Buffet Breakfast

9 am–noon **Hospitality Room Open** for gathering. The 57th has pre-purchased one flight (6 seats) on the B-25 “Miss Mitchell” for Saturday. Free seats will be offered to WWII Vets first. Raffle drawing at 11:30 for a free seat on this special 57th designated flight. You must be present to win. (Remaining seats on this 57th flight **may** be available for \$495. each.)

12–1:30 pm **Lunch on your own**

1:30–4 pm **Visit and tour the *Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum***

Just 20 minutes away from the hotel. View photographs and artifacts illustrating Truman’s life and legacy. Pay respects at his final resting place in the courtyard. Bus provided.

Evening **Dinner with friends at the hotel or area restaurants. Gather in the Hospitality Room.**

SATURDAY, SEPT 30, 2023

7–9 am Complimentary Private Buffet Breakfast

10 am–4 pm **B-25 DAY AT WHEELER DOWNTOWN AIRPORT!**

The 57th has arranged a special fly-in of the B-25 “Miss Mitchell” (Commemorative Air Force, Minnesota Wing) at Wheeler Downtown Airport, 4.5 miles from the hotel. Enjoy up-close-and-personal time with the B-25, including ground tours, photos, and crew interaction. The 57th has pre-purchased a flight for 6 people. A raffle for free seats takes place on Friday morning. Additional rides may be purchased for \$495 each throughout the day. (For more info on the B-25 “Miss Mitchell” flights, visit: www.cafmn.org)
[Watch for possible appearance of a group of Rosie the Riveters!]

Box lunch provided at the TWA Museum at Wheeler Airport, just steps away from where the B-25 will be parked. Following lunch, enjoy an engaging presentation about the History of the B-25 “Mitchell” Bomber and the men and women who built, flew, and maintained them, with a special focus on the Kansas City factory where the B-25s were built. Presented by Dan Desko, Founder of the *B-25 History Project*. www.b-25history.org

Evening **Dinner with friends at the hotel or area restaurants. Gather in the Hospitality Room.**

SUNDAY, OCT 1, 2023

7–9 am Complimentary Private Buffet Breakfast

10 am **57th Bomb Wing Association Annual Meeting**

The 2nd and final vote will take place to transition from a ‘WWII Veterans nonprofit,’ to a new nonprofit created to keep the history of the 57th Bomb Wing alive for future generations. (See page 4) **Group photo** immediately following the meeting.

Noon **Lunch on your own at the hotel or area restaurants. Afternoon free for exploring or R&R.**

5:00 pm **Attitude Adjustment**

6–9:30 pm **Wing Banquet—Celebrating the 57th Bomb Wing Association and Looking to the Future**

The evening includes a fascinating presentation by 57th Bomb Wing Historian Dan Setzer on the *History of the 57th Bomb Wing*.

MONDAY, OCT 2, 2023

Morning **Check out—Safe travels!**

Or enjoy a few extra days in the area on your own. (Hotel rate is valid for 3 days before / after the event.)



REUNION HOTEL:

**Crowne Plaza Kansas City
Downtown**

**1301 Wyandotte St Kansas City, MO
Hotel Deadline Aug 28—Register ASAP!**

Conveniently located in the heart of Kansas City.

Group rate is only open to 57th Bomb Wing Reunion Attendees.

57th Bomb Wing Association Reunion Rate: \$169 / night plus tax. (Parking \$20/night)
King Rooms or 2 Queens. Handicap rooms available.

If you are staying Sept. 28, 29, 30, and /or Oct 1:

**Call for Reservations:
(816) 474-6664, ext. 7500**

If you are staying up to 3 days before or after these dates,

Please call Linda directly at the hotel sales office: **816-460-6623** to complete your reservation. She is very helpful!

Guests MUST identify themselves as members of the group for the group rate.

GROUP RESERVATION NAME: "57th Bomb Wing Association"

TRAVEL LOGISTICS



AIRPORT: Kansas City International Airport— 25 minutes

No airport hotel shuttle available.

Yellow Cab or "Z-Trip Taxi"—estimate \$40-45

Lyft / Uber estimate—\$35



******* ATTN: WWII VETERANS *******

NEWS! Complete flight and hotel costs for a WWII Veteran and one "Guardian" ONLY can be covered by a special program through the *Gary Sinise Foundation*. The "Guardian" must be a travelling companion, preferably (but not a firm requirement) under the age of 70, but in any case, someone who is capable of assisting and taking care of the veteran while traveling.

1. DEADLINE for WWII Vets to register for the Sinise Foundation benefit is August 31.

2. For Airline Booking and Travel Arrangements, contact Tom Gibbs with the Gary Sinise Foundation at tgibbs@garysinisefoundation.org before August 31.

3. For Hotel Booking, please call the hotel directly to make reservations using our Group rate and group code: "57th Bomb Wing Association," as noted above. The Sinise Foundation will work with the hotel to reimburse WWII Veteran eligible guests' hotel accommodations IN FULL.

- Other questions about WWII Veteran benefits?

Contact Tim Jackson, 57th Reunion Team, tjack153@cox.net, or (504) 231-3062.

QUESTIONS About Reunion Activities or Accommodations?

Contact: Greg Wichtowski Jr Email: greggles327@gmail.com or 917/828-6828 cell

GENERAL TRANSPORTATION QUESTIONS:

Contact: Linda and Steve Buechling, (540) 459-8503 [Home], or (540) 335-5061 [Linda's cell.]

PLEASE JOIN THE EMAIL LIST for future 57th Bomb Wing updates:

Email your info to: Membership Chair, Linda Buechling - gapoova@yahoo.com

The 57th Bomb Wing—Keep ‘Em Flying!!

Honoring the Men and Women of the 57th—and Preserving their Legacy for Future Generations

NEWS: The 57th Bomb Wing is transitioning from a designated “Nonprofit War Veterans Group – 501(c)(19)” to a new 501(c)(3) nonprofit created by the families of our WWII Veterans to preserve the history of the 57th Bomb Wing. (The new organization’s official name to be determined.)

The current tax status as a “Nonprofit War Veterans Group” contains a number of legal requirements, including a minimum number of Veterans to serve on the Board and Executive Committee. As our WWII Veteran numbers dwindle, we all feel that it is very important to continue to preserve the stories of our 57th Bomb Wing Men and Women and their contributions to the freedoms that we enjoy today.

Our veterans, in their wisdom, foresaw this eventuality and included detailed rules and procedures for dissolution of the organization in their bylaws. (What they didn’t foresee, was that we children would be so dedicated to honoring our Dads and Granddads that we would carry their history on into the future!)

The 57th Bomb Wing Association Bylaws Articles on Dissolution and Disposition are as follows:

(Entire Bylaws available for viewing at www.57thBombWing.com/about)

Article B-XII - Dissolution

- 1. Members shall be notified in writing of a recommendation to dissolve the Association*
- 2. Any such recommendation shall be by a two-thirds [2/3] vote of the Executive Board in formal session at a Reunion. The recommendation shall then be presented to the General Membership, for action at the next ensuing Reunion.*
- 3. A two-thirds [2/3] vote of the General Membership shall be needed to carry the motion.*

Article B-XIII - Disposition

1. Upon the formal Dissolution of the 57th Bomb Wing Association:

- i. All association records, written, pictorial, artifact and others of historical relevance shall be conveyed, by the Historian/Archivist, to the National WWII MUSEUM, New Orleans, Louisiana.*
- ii. Funds remaining after the disposition of all Association debts, shall be conveyed, by the Treasurer, without stipulation of use, to the Air Force Assistance Fund.*
- iii. Confirmation of the actions taken, pursuant to i, and ii, above shall be transmitted, in writing by the Secretary, to all Members in good standing, and to all appropriate Government Agencies, i.e. IRS, of the completion of the dissolution.*

At the 2022 Florida Reunion, the first of the required two votes took place, during the Executive Board Meeting as well as at the General Business Meeting. The vote at both meetings was unanimous, including votes in support of the motion by the WWII Veterans who were present, Dick Reed, Bob Stangier, and Martin Biener.

Action to be Taken at the 2023 Reunion in Kansas City:

The “57th Bomb Wing Association” will hold its final vote on Dissolution of the *Association*, and the creation of the new nonprofit organization to preserve the history of the 57th Bomb Wing.

This historic vote will take place during the General Business Meeting on Sunday, October 1, 2023 in Kansas City. The many historical digital resources on the website will remain active and the new nonprofit can continue to contribute to that history. A new Mission Statement and Bylaws will be developed and will define the purpose and functions of the new nonprofit organization.

Our #1 goal is to keep the history of the 57th Bomb Wing alive for future generations!



**The 57th Bomb Wing Association Reunion—Wing Member Registration Form
Kansas City, Missouri Sept 28-Oct 2, 2023**

Wing Registration Deadline: August 28 Space is Limited—Please Register ASAP!

PLEASE MAIL THIS ENTIRE PAGE WITH YOUR CHECK. (Retain a copy for yourself.)

NEWS! Attn WWII VETERANS!
WING REGISTRATION FEE and EVENT FEES ARE WAIVED FOR WWII VETS AND THEIR SPOUSES.
WWII Veterans: Please fill in this Wing Registration form for you and other paying members of your party, so we can have a count and contact info for attendees, and your event and meal choices.

Your Name: _____
 WWII Vet Member: ___ Associate or Family Member: ___
 Your WWII Veteran's Name: _____
 Group: _____ Squadron: _____
 Your Address: _____
 City/ State/Zip: _____
 Home Phone/Cell: _____
 * Email: _____
 Emergency Contact and phone: _____

GUESTS: The following guests will be with this group. If needed, please list additional guests on a separate page, including addresses and email. (We use this information for the name badges, reunion directory, and participant emergency contact.)

1.) _____
 GUEST NAME

 Address, City/State

 Home Phone / Cell Phone

 Email

 2.) _____
 GUEST NAME

 Address, City/State

 Home Phone / Cell Phone

 Email

Event (WWII Veterans FREE)	# People	X Price	= \$
Registration fee, per person. (Helps cover hospitality room, banquet space & private breakfast buffet.) * WWII Vets—waive Registration FEE *	# _____	X \$30	\$ _____
1. Friday, Sept 29, afternoon—Visit to the Harry Truman Presidential Library & Museum (Fee covers entry fee and transportation.)	# _____	X \$30	\$ _____
2. Saturday, Sept 30 B-25 Day at Wheeler Downtown Airport! - “Miss Mitchell” B-25, Up-Close-And-Personal for 57th attendees. - Box Lunch—TWA Museum (sandwich, chips, cookie) - History of the B-25 Talk (Fee covers B-25 Fly-In cost, bus transportation, and box lunch.)	# Tot People _____ Box Lunches: Roast Beef # _____ Turkey # _____ Vegetarian # _____	X \$45	\$ _____
3. Sunday, Oct 1 Reunion Banquet (Price covers meal and tip) Grilled Flank Steak \$58 Chicken Picata \$50 (Meals include salad, rolls/b, entrée, dessert, & coffee.) Let us know if special dietary needs.	# of meals # _____ # _____	X \$ Price X \$58 X \$50	Meal \$ \$ _____ \$ _____
Additional Donation To help with bus transportation costs, venue charges, and special services for WWII Vets and their spouses.			\$ _____
Total Amount Enclosed			\$ _____

Make check payable to: 57th Bomb Wing Association

Mail Registration form and check (sorry, no credit cards) to:

Julie Martin, 57th Bomb Wing Association
 PO Box 543
 Canton, ME 04221

Questions about registration to:

Julie Martin (Red Martin, 340/486th)

Email: jm.highlands@gmail.com, 978-994-1236, call or text