



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



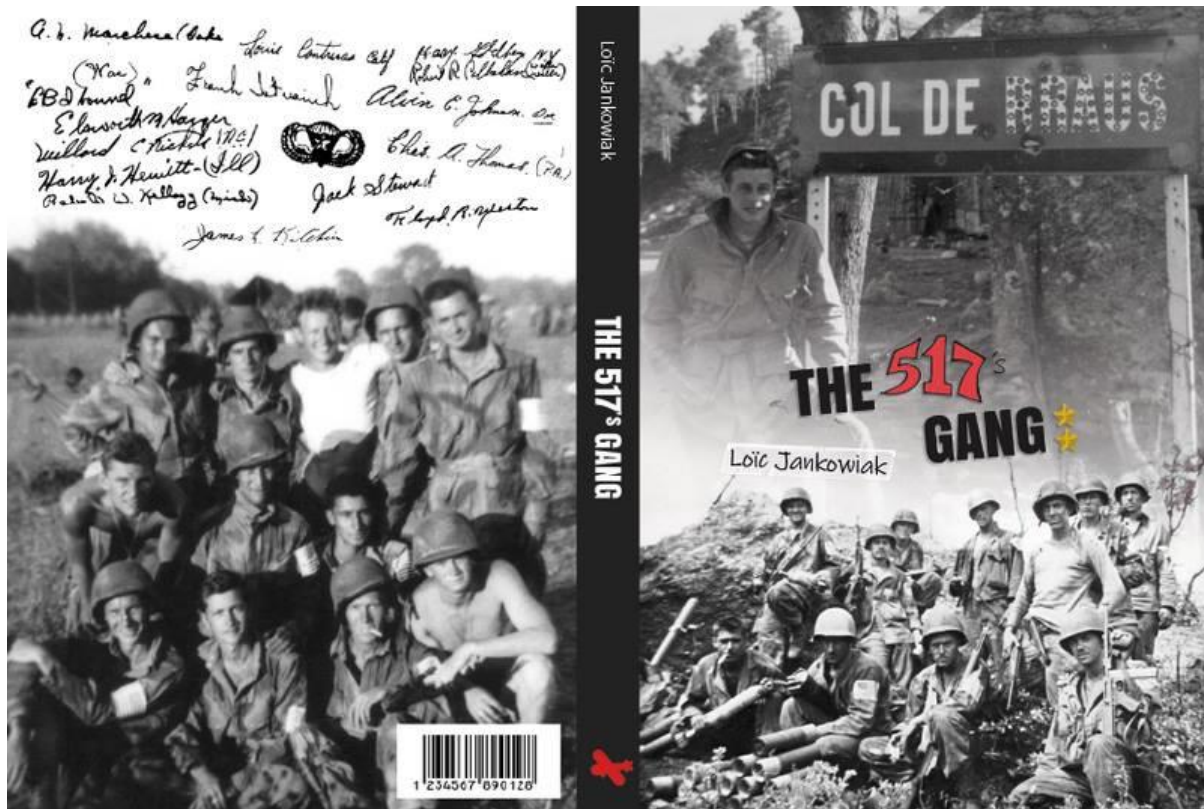
PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

MailCall No. 2404

January 13, 2019

*517th Parachute Infantry Regiment
460th Parachute Field Artillery Battalion
596th Parachute Combat Engineer Company*

MailCall News



From [Loic Jankowiak's facebook page](#):

I wish a happy new year to everyone!

On this occasion, here are the 1 AND 4th cover of the first book of a long series that will be devoted to airborne units (and many others...) fighting in the Mediterranean (and elsewhere...).

As his title indicates, he will speak of the 517th parachute regimental combat team during world War II. This book will be in two parts; first volume: Italy & Provence; 2TH VOLUME: Belgium, Germany and end of the war in Europe.



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Many new photos and testimonies will be discovered in chronological form with the vast majority of the identification of places and people present in the photos. This book is also a way to correct some historical errors and other whimsical Legends (whether on photo or in history...)

I thank the people who helped me and argued that they are in Europe or overseas and above all, the families of veterans and themselves who have wanted to testify and give me access to their photos.

Although it is a little late, I am looking for collectors of "Paratroopers Provence" who would open the doors of their collections, as has been previously, to see some of their parts in these future works (and This one above all).

I am constantly looking for stories or images to supplement it or supplement its future revisions.

It may well be that at the beginning of this year, if things arise and the book correction is completed, I am active in a crowdfunding campaign (participatory financing). All those who participate could be a winner...

The idea is to release the first books in French, so that those with difficulties with English can have access to information. The second step will be to write the English version.

I hope 2019 will be a year full of twist and opportunity. I hope it's the same for you. Take all the chances of success and put it in your hands.

See you soon!

Loïc.



I see that our friend Loïc has now started a GoFundMe page to raise funds in support of getting this book published. So far, he has raised €1,180 of his goal of €6,500 Euros (about \$7500 \$US). I encourage anyone to contribute to his project by visiting

the GoFundMe page at:

<https://www.gofundme.com/the-517th039s-gang-the-book>

There is an English translation halfway down the page. Here is a small part of that description:

This book will be in two parts; 1st volume: Italy & Provence; 2nd volume: Belgium, Germany and Europe war's end. The first series of books (500 of them) will be in French and the second in English. Many photos and unpublished testimonies will be discovered in chronological form with the vast majority of the identification of places and people present in the photos. This book is also a way of correcting some historical mistakes and other crazy legends (whether on photo or in history ...).

With the book now almost complete, I am now collecting funds for printing, which is why I need you today. Each contributor can expect a discount on the book according to the amount of the donation. (Keep good your donation emails!) This one will make about 300 pages. I am leaving myself until the month of May or June to publish it. These months correspond to the 75th anniversary of the arrival of the unit in Italy and their first fight.

Thanks to your contribution, you will participate in the preservation of the stories of these men whom I had the great honor to meet. I will always be grateful for their contribution.

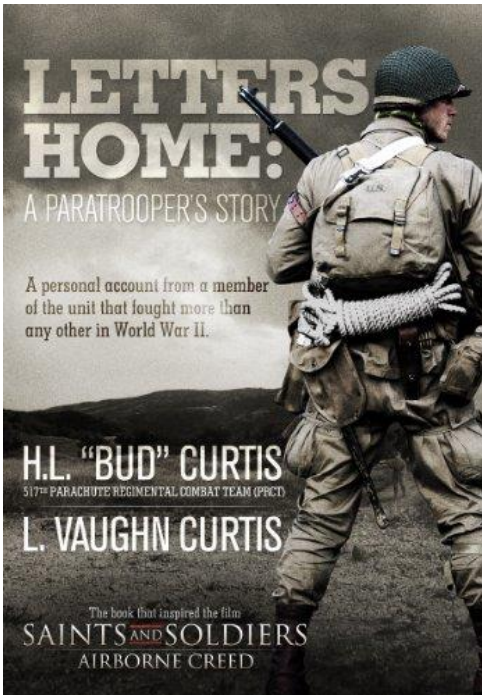


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A photo of my Dad, **Elam J. Cronquist** (on the left). Noted on the back, "This picture was taken the day before we left Toccoa. I have a carbine, Sergeant the machine gun, **Kowalczyk** has the M1 rifle".

Also from [517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team - Families & Friends](#) on Facebook



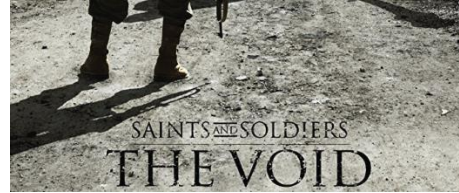
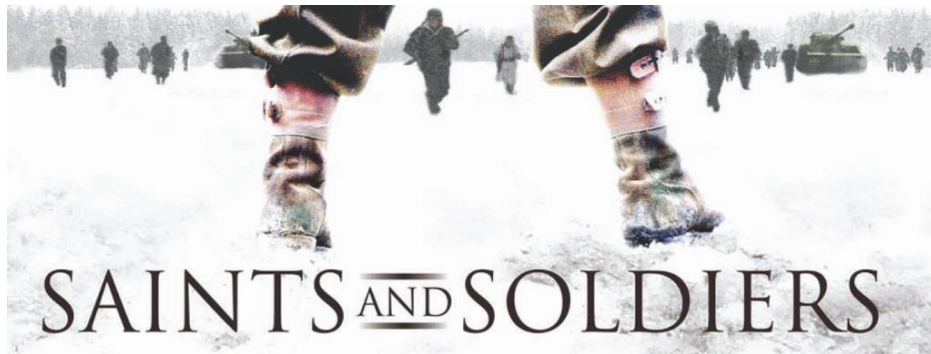
I just ran across this note (next page). I had no idea that the *Saints And Soldiers: Airborne Creed* had played at the Smithsonian on last Veterans Day.

Airborne Creed is the film based on the wartime journals of **Harlan "Bud" Curtis**, **Lory Curtis'** father - *Letters Home, A Paratrooper's Story* (left),



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SAINTS & SOLDIERS @ THE SMITHSONIAN



Dear **SAINTS AND SOLDIERS** fan,

Please forgive our neglect of this email list. We have been busy over the last few years on a variety of projects and getting our **SAINTS AND SOLDIERS** films placed worldwide.

We are turning a new leaf in 2019 and are hopeful for some news related to a new **SAINTS AND SOLDIERS** endeavor and other **GO FILMS** projects. Still working on the details on both fronts but hope to have something to announce soon...

In the meantime here is some news from 2018:

SAINTS AND SOLDIERS: AIRBORNE CREED screened at **THE SMITHSONIAN** for Veterans Day 2018! We were thrilled to be invited to screen as part of the Veteran Day celebration. It is always fun seeing **SAINTS AND SOLDIERS** films on the big screen again but is it even more fun seeing it with veterans.

To keep posted on the latest news from us, the creators of **SAINTS AND SOLDIERS**, follow us on social media:

INSTAGRAM - @gofilmsgo **FACEBOOK** - @gofilmspresents

Until next time,

Ryan Little and Adam Abel
GO FILMS/SAINTS AND SOLDIERS



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Dear friends of AMERICA,

Here some pictures taken on 2019 Jan.5 during our annual ceremonies of Souvenir - the Holy Mass, St Jacques monument, Logbiermé monument - During the Holy Mass in St Jacques' church we had a special prayer and thoughts for our friend **Merle Mc Morrow**. We remember this wonderful man. In August 2014, he attended the trip with **M. BOYLE, Nancy FRASER, J. BARRETT**, (the last time we had the honour to welcome him.) Please accept our sincere condolences. We also had prayers for **Bruce CHESTNUT** who left us one year ago (Judie Edwards-Chestnut informed us about this sad new at Christmas). With gratitude, Father Michel CAPE paid homage to those valorous men who gave their Live for our Liberty and to the young soldiers who fought and suffered during this terrible battle. After the Mass, flowers, national anthems, speeches and flowers at US monuments. We think of all of you and families.



Love from Belgium.

Arnold and Irma TARGNION and members of CADUSA - Trois-Ponts Belgium

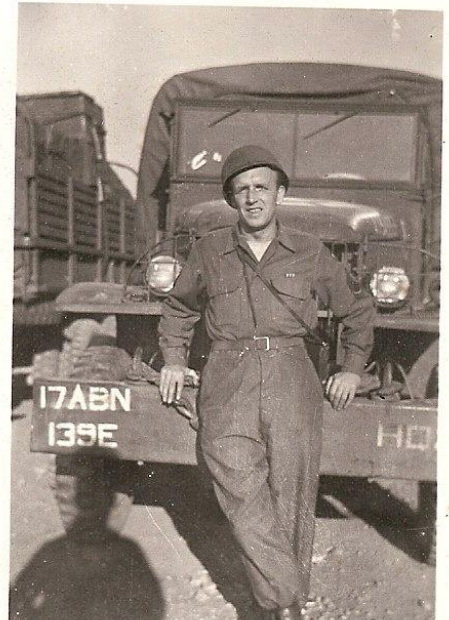




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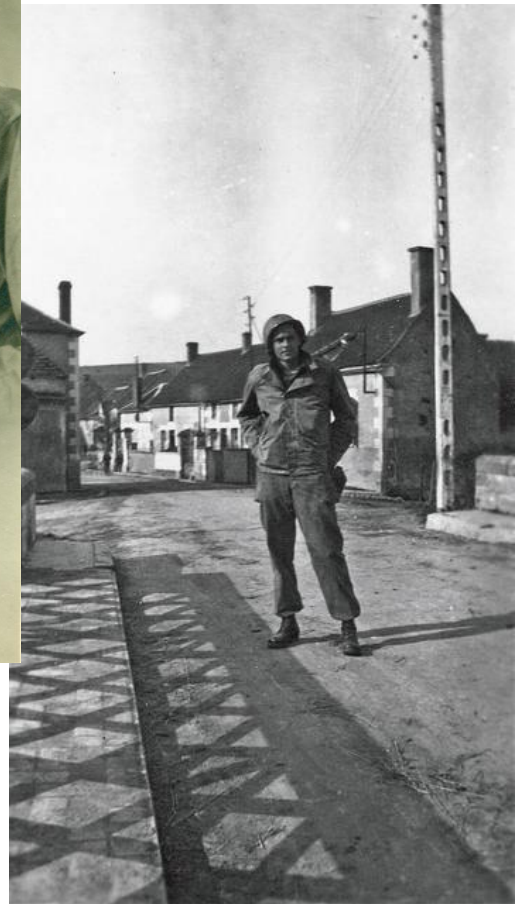
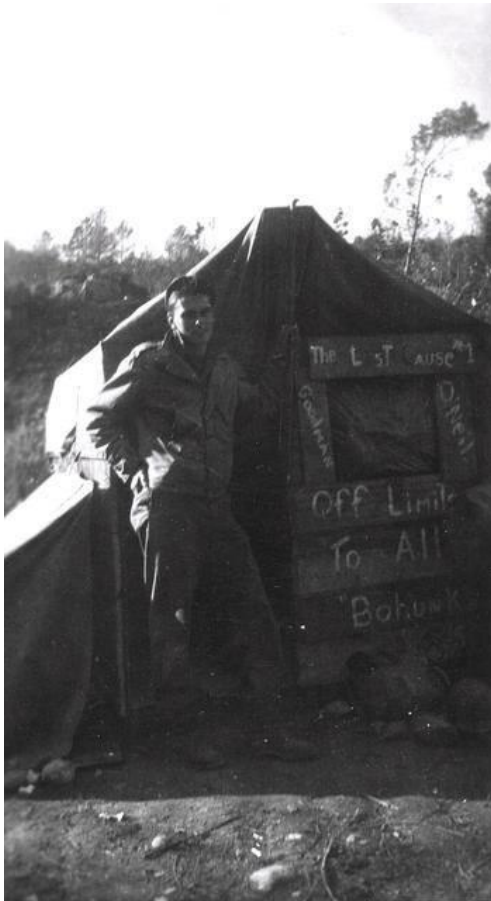
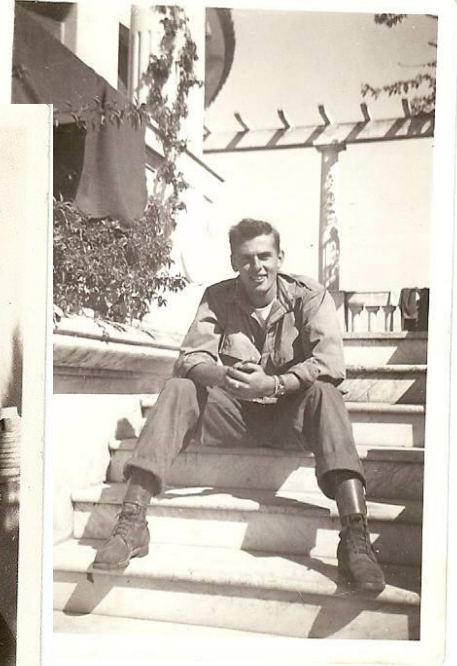
From Charlie O'Neill via the [517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team - Families & Friends](#) on Facebook

My Father, **Dan O'Neil**, was a member of the 596th Combat Engineers Company. He jumped into France and fought at the Bulge. I found some of his pictures recently and thought I would share.





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Attached are newspaper articles about Pvt John G. Oblick of F Company, who was killed on 3 January 1945.

Matt Holmgren

WILKES-BARRE RECORD, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1947

Fifteen

4 War Heroes Laid to Rest

Funeral Services for 4 More Veterans Will Be Conducted Today

Military honors were accorded four veterans from this area whose funerals were held yesterday. The bodies of the war heroes, all of whom lost their lives in World War 2, were returned to this country from Europe for reburial.

PVT. JOHN OBLICK

The funeral of Pvt. John Oblick, of 262 Vine Street, Larksville, took place yesterday morning from the home of Larksville Post 655, American Legion. A requiem mass followed in St. Casimir's Church with Rev. John Kazlauskas as celebrant.

Military services at the parish cemetery at Muhlenburg were in charge of Post 655 with Stanley Niescher in charge and Joseph Kraynak as chaplain.

Others participating were: firing squad, Lawrence Beretsky, Sgt. Elmer Miko and Andrew Suppon; color guard, Michael Zavatski, Michael Zavatski, Jr., Edward Kostrella and John Duda; military escort, Corp. Anthony Gentry.

Bearers were James Feedock, John Bellas, John Fedrow, John Gimble, Albert Baluh, John Krzywicki and John Blaine.

WILKES-BARRE TIMES LEADER

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1945
THE EVENING NEWS

3 DIE FIGHTING FOR U. S., 2 'MISSING,' 6 WOUNDED

New War Casualties

Fatalities Occur In European Area, New List of War Victims Reveals



Sgt. Lester Clore Killed



Pvt. John G. Oblick Killed

Names of three men killed in action, two missing in battle and six wounded in combat were added today to the list of Wyoming Valley casualties in World War 2.

Killed:

Pvt. John G. Oblick, 19, son of John Oblick, 262 Vine street, Plymouth.

Sgt. Lester Clore, 25, husband of Mrs. Helen Wickham Clore, 100 Church street, Edwardsville.

Sgt. Edmund Castellani, 30, husband of Mrs. Josephine Castellani, 15 School street, Hudson.

Missing:

Corp. Reginald J. Clark, Jr., 20,



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

KILLED IN ACTION



Sgt. Chas. B. McDade Of Mebane Was Killed In Belgium January 3

Was Squad Leader Of 517th Para-
chute Infantry; Made First Jump
On 21st Birthday Over France

By VIRGINIA BAKER

Sergeant Charles Bernard McDade of Mebane was killed in Belgium on Jan. 3, 1945, according to a telegram from the Adjutant General in Washington, received by his wife and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph M. McDade, Saturday afternoon, January 20.

Sergeant McDade enlisted for service April 19, 1943. He took his basic training at Camp Toccoa, Georgia. He trained further at Camp Mackall, N. C., then went to Fort Benning, Ga. He made his test jump as a paratrooper and received his wings at Fort Benning in September, 1943. He went again to Camp McCall for special training for overseas duty.

Sergeant McDade was squad leader of the 517th Parachute Infantry combat unit. He went overseas in May 1944. He made his first jump in the invasion of Southern France on his 21st birthday, August 14, 1944. After he had made his 13th jump, he sent his jumping boots to his wife in November, 1944. He sent also part of the parachute in which he jumped, his first-aid kit, several hundred interesting pictures of people and places visited, maps, papers, and souvenirs. Sergeant McDade and every member of his unit were decorated for expert duty.

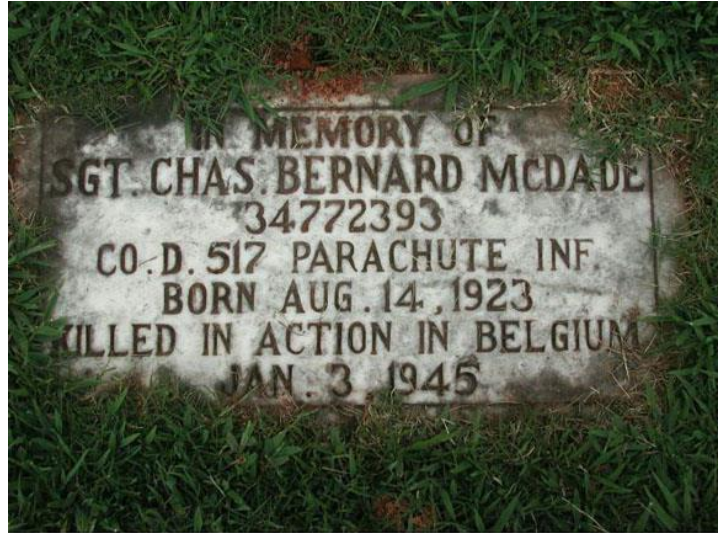
Sergeant McDade had lived all of his civilian life in Mebane. He was the only child of Mr. and Mrs. McDade.

He was a member of the Mebane Presbyterian church.

He went to Oak Ridge for his last two years of high school work, and graduated May 30, 1941. He stayed in Oak Ridge for one year of college work, then went to Duke University. He was studying in Duke at the time he enlisted for service.

He married Kathleen M. Lewis, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus G. Lewis of Mebane, Aug. 22, 1943.

Sergeant and Mrs. McDade made their home in Aberdeen, where he was stationed the last 10 months at Camp Mackall.



Charles Bernard McDade - Mebane (Oakwood) Cemetery, Alamance County, NC

Son of Ralph M & Grace May Moser McDade

(c) E Karley



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

24 Dec 44

SECURITY DIRECTIVE # 7

TO: ALL UNIT COMMANDERS

1. Important in the enemy's present tactics is his all out effort to gain military successes by deceit. His desperation has driven him to risk everything, and finds him guilty of contractions of the rules of warfare and common decency which four years ago even Nazis would not have been guilty of.
2. Since launching his recent attack the Boche has repeatedly sent in by parachute and other means his agents dressed as civilians and in American uniforms, a great many of these have been captured, fifteen in this community. Their primary mission has been to create confusion, find weak spots in our lines to direct their pander effort to snipe and harass our troops and our rear installations and to ambush troops. Their secondary mission is to sabotage supply dumps and blow up C. P's. It is now believed that those still at large will undertake the secondary mission, the first having generally failed.
3. These phony American troops will be completely outfitted in our uniforms, carrying our equipment and even supplied with our ammunition and rations. They will have A. G. O. cards and dog tags, but the latter do not always correspond with the names they carry on their individual documents. Some of them will speak American fluently, even the slang. They will be captured in American vehicles, teams of four to a jeep, or in American half-tracks, T. D's., tanks and German armored vehicles made to look like our own. At this stage of the game, those in vehicles will be needing gasoline, so especial caution must be exercised to apprehend anyone suspiciously inquiring for gasoline or gasoline supply centers. Take no chances. These Germans are mean and they've got their backs to the wall. If you're outnumbered pretend to be taken in by their deception until you've got a drop on them, or where you can get reinforcements. But get 'em.
4. The present area our troops now occupy is better viewed as enemy than friendly territory. Before the last world war it was a part of Germany. It was regained to Nazidom by special decree when the enemy occupied it in 1939. A great many of the population are German, not Belgians. Many of them have husbands, sons, brothers fighting for Hitler. Look out. Regulations forbid our fraternizing with civilians in Germany. During the present enemy offensive it will be wise to consider EVERYONE whom you do not know as belonging to your own unit as unfriendly, especially civilians. Don't say who you are, where you came from, or what you've done. The enemy wants desperately to know just that. It will shape his plans, his plans to kill you just as ruthlessly as he killed 56 of your buddies in Battery "B" 285th obsn Bn at MALMEDY last week-defenseless, in cold blood. If you hear any of your comrades talking too much, even bragging a little about what he did, warn him. The enemy has agents here. Idle chatter will bring artillery fire on your position.
5. All guards will be militantly alert in challenging, making arrests on the slightest suspicion, or shooting fast when they've got an enemy to shoot at. All personnel will be warned to know the proper passwords, carry the correct identification, and respond smartly to any challenge.

C O N F I D E N T I A L



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Administrivia

If you miss any MailCalls, they are all available online at <http://www.517prct.org/mailcall/>

- At any time, if you want to be added or removed from the MailCall list, just let me know, or just click on the unsubscribe link on the email.
- Send any news, stories, or feedback to: MailCall@517prct.org
- If you send me email that you do not want included in MailCall, just label it as FYEO.
- I now understand how Ben could get confused about what he already posted and what he didn't. If I miss something, please just send it again.

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