

The Bullitschek Bulletin

A newsletter for the Bolejack, Bolerjack families, and all descendants of Joseph Ferdinand Bullitschek, a Moravian immigrant, born in 1729 in Bohemia, who came to America in 1754 and lived in Pennsylvania and North Carolina.

Volume 26 No.1

September 2008

2009 Bullitschek *Family* Reunion Evansville, Indiana June 26-28,2009

TENTATIVE PROPOSED AGENDA FOR 2009 REUNION

Location: Evansville, Indiana

Coordinator: Ginny Bryant

Thursday – Arrival and greetings www.IN.gov/VisitIndiana/index.aspx

Afternoon:

Option #1 Evansville Museum of Arts and Science

Option #2 Tour the LST – an old war ship one of many constructed in Evansville

Dinner: Tin Fish restaurant on the top floor of an old Evansville hotel.

The Tin Fish is about 3 blocks down from the museum and overlooks the Ohio River - pleasant dining and a great view of the river.

Evening meeting: Location TBD

Friday – Drive 30 minutes to Historic New Harmony: www.newharmony.org

AM: Visit Roofless Church, Labyrinth, and Atheneum/Visitors Center

Lunch at the White House

PM: Everyone on their own in New Harmony to visit antique shops, gift shops and/or guided tours of historic homes and sites

Dinner: Back in Evansville – location to be determined

Evening Meeting and Auction

Saturday: AM: Business Meeting or

Drive to Newburgh, Indiana: www.newburgh.org

Tour Jennings Station and other historic downtown sites

Lunch at Edgewater Grille

Dismiss: Everyone free to visit other area attractions or begin trip home

As far as family connections, it would be about a one-hour drive to my native town of Norris City, Illinois to visit Bolerjack graves in the area cemeteries.

For anyone wanting to plan a vacation around the reunion, there are plenty of area sights and attractions to incorporate such as Angel Mounds, Marengo Cave, Spring Mill Park, Brown County – home of the infamous covered bridges. Springfield, Illinois boasts of its new Lincoln Museum and other historical sites. Louisville, Kentucky is just over a two hour from Evansville, while Indianapolis and St. Louis, Missouri and about a three hour.

Hotel information and cost will be in the January or February issue, (depends when I can get it out.)

MORE CHOICES

<http://www.evansvillecvb.org/visitor-information/attractions.tpl>

HOOSIER DELIGHT

Published by Cincinnati Enquirer

Old and new both have their place in Evansville, Ind.; it's just that sometimes it's the very same place. The downtown area of this small but chipper city on the Ohio River offers a variety of museums for visitors of different tastes.

For instance there's LST 325, a World War II warship of the same type built in Evansville during the war that for the last couple of years has been moored along the mighty Ohio River just above the city's downtown riverfront.

To visit, you'll clamber over bulkheads, go up and down "ladders" (landlubbers call them steps), and your footsteps will sound against steel that once echoed with the gunfire of attacking Nazi fighter planes.

The museum/ship, (LST stands for Landing Ship, Tank, but vets prefer the more colorful Large Slow Target) saw action in Europe, taking part in troop landings in Italy before making more than 40 trips between England and the beaches of Normandy in the D-Day invasion.

Tours last about 45 minutes, often guided by vets such as Frank Copeland, who served aboard ships just like LST 325 during the war? These were landing ships, but don't think they were small runabouts like you see in the movies.

"If you put this ship on a football field, it would reach almost goal post to goal post," said Copeland. The tour passes through the long, narrow crew quarters down into the vast, nearly empty belly of the ship, space used to carry Sherman tanks, jeeps and weaponry to shore and wounded men to safety.

You'll also visit the bridge, the captain's Spartan quarters, and the galley, where a sign jokingly brags of an improving food poisoning count. The museum ship is not tax-supported, relying on donations, volunteer labor, and tour tickets for support. Admission runs \$10 for adults and \$5 for ages 5-18.

Kids can cut loose

More landlocked but almost as wet in spots is the year-old Koch Family Children's Museum of Evansville. Three huge floors of learning and fun for kids occupy the imposing art deco building that for decades was the main branch of the Evansville Public Library. Kids can don rain suits and explore water fun in the Quack Factory, occupying two levels connected by cascading water, plastic balls that shoot and ricochet unpredictably, and a hot-air balloon that they can raise and lower at their whim.

Drier activities include a build-it section downstairs, and a dramatic arts area where kids can put on makeup and costumes, and stage their own performance complete with sound and light effects, then step out and watch their show on a tape delay system.

Nearby, a body science room features a statue with an anatomically correct 25 feet of removable intestines (not as gross as it sounds), and activities that let kids test how long they can keep their balance, how well they can remember a pattern of lights, and how quickly they can remove their hand from a trigger when they hear a cow moo. Why? Well, why not?

Located in the heart of downtown at Southeast Fifth and Locust streets, the children's museum is in easy walking distance of sandwich shops and small retail stores. Rowe's Import Shop is packed with fascinating antiques, including a 17th century Scottish coffer, which is a form of storage chest, and a French armoire dating from the 1800s. Downtown since 1949, the shop has been in its present spot since 1968.

Also nearby are Evansville's beautiful old Victorian Gothic post office and German Baroque courthouse, architecturally interesting structures now converted to private office and retail space.

Downtown is also home to the long-established Evansville Museum of Arts, History & Science, with exhibits ranging from folksy historical Evansville tableaux to a Dali-esque contemporary art display by several artists built around separate works picturing the same piece of bone, string, and other ordinary objects.

Just next door is the associated Evansville Museum Transportation Center, offering dugout canoes, carriages, wagons, and a model-railroad rendition of historical Evansville. The kids will enjoy exploring the museum's authentic steam locomotive, passenger car and caboos.

Near downtown you'll also find the Evansville African-American Museum, which showcases art and artisanship from the area. Focusing on the traditions and culture of the black community, the museum is located at 579 Garvin St., in a building that was originally part of the Lincoln Gardens public housing development, a very early example of such projects initiated under Franklin D. Roosevelt.

IMPRESSIVE HOME

The most intimate of Evansville's downtown museums is the Reitz Home, built in 1871 by a

local lumber and banking baron and philanthropist for whom two local high schools are named, one public and one parochial.

Don't neglect the home's unusual watercolor on canvas ceiling paintings, the parquet floors that were hand-cut on site and vary in pattern from room to room, the combined gas and electric chandeliers, and the enormous white onyx Tiffany fireplace in the drawing room that went for a whopping \$15,000 in 1898.

For wealthy community leaders at the time, said tour leader Misti DeMarco, "It was not considered appropriate to live modestly. You were expected to flaunt your wealth."

Set along bricked Southeast First Street in the downtown historical preservation district, the Reitz Home is surrounded by other impressive homes, many now being restored as the area, just two blocks from the Ohio River, undergoes a renaissance.

For a substantial restorative feast in keeping with the Victorian era you've been exploring, try the Gerst Bavarian Haus, on West Franklin on Evansville's historically German west side.

The restaurant is housed in a former hardware building dating to 1890, and you'll walk hardwood floors stained mahogany by generations of work shoes, be seated at wooden booths or open tables bearing utilitarian plastic red-and-white checked tablecloths, and return the gaze of deer, ram and antelope heads looking down from the pressed-tin walls.

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MARRIAGES

Phillip Aaron Bolerjack (SNU '07) & Brittany Loral Henck (SNU '08)
June 21, 2008, First Church of the Nazarene in Oklahoma City
Parents:
Dr. & Mrs Phillip W. Bolerjack of Severn, MD
Mr. & Mrs. Rex P. Henck of Oklahoma City, OK
Honeymoon: Road Trip USA. We particularly dug Memphis, TN! :)

We're currently in Stillwater, where I'm working as a Teaching Assistant for OSU, as well as pursuing an MA in History.

Our address is: Aaron & Brittany Bolerjack, 717 W. University Ave., Stillwater, OK 74074

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Spencer Ray Bolejack & Melody Livingston
Married May 27, 2006

Since then we have become parents to Leonidas Ray Bolejack. He was born October 22, 2007. He's healthy and the delight of our hearts. He was born weighing 6 lbs. 12 oz. and

has been growing like a weed ever since. Our only regret is that Great Grandma Betty Bolejack & Great, Great Grandma Glossie never met him.

Grandma Betty was very excited and had bought him a present before she died.

Please forward our warm and loving regards to the family. We wish we could meet with you together in Iowa. (Letter was mailed in March 2008)

Spencer is a most wonderful husband to me and is happy pursuing his career as a teacher, (8th grade U. S. and North Carolina history), a martial arts instructor, a wrestling coach, and a member of two bands (he's a renowned drummer in these parts.)

During the summer he also directs Scout Camp - a wilderness/martial arts based camp for kids. Needless to say he keeps us busy and I am very proud of him.

Love to all, Spencer, Melody & Leo

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DEATHS

David Robinson II, (son of Kathy Robinson Morgan)

March 18, 2007

In the books I am listed as Kathy Louise Robertson which should be Robinson. My great grandmother was Magie Lou Bolerjack Morgan. My grandfather was Calvin Morgan.

Submitted by Kathy Robinson Tucker

Doyle Graham Bolerjack

February 23, 2008

Doyle died at Deaconess Hospital in Evansville, Ill. He was a tool pusher, World War II veteran and a member of the Emmanuel United Methodist Church. He is survived by his wife Dorothy; sons Roger and Jann; five grandchildren; and a great grandson. He is buried in Ditney Ridge Cemetery, with military rites.

Submitted by Robert C. Bolejack

Lillie Mae Bolerjack

Born Jan. 20, 1930, just outside of Yale, Lillie graduated from Yale High School in 1948. She lived most of her life in Yale, Cushing and Okmulgee. Later in life, she lived in Alpena and Fayetteville, Ark. Most recently, she lived in Coffee Springs, Ala., where she died at the age 78, Wednesday, Feb. 13, 2008. Burial is in the Lawson Cemetery in Yale, OL.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Earl and Dovie Mae Cobble and her husband, Kenneth Bolerjack. Surviving family includes two sons, two daughters, seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Children are Burl Bolerjack and wife, Leslie, in Sylmar, Calif., Angela Munson in Coffee Springs, Ala., Paul Bolerjack and wife, Nancy, in Shelton, Wash and Suzie McDonald and husband, Dave, in Chancellor, Ala; grandchildren, Colin Munson and wife, Kelly, in Catoosa, Nikki Gibson and husband, Jeremy, in Seligman, Mo., Travis Bolerjack in Tulsa, Sarah Minor and husband, Michael, in Shelton, Wash., Brian Holley and wife, Jenni, in Fort Lewis, Wash. and Mark and Emily McDonald in Enterprise, Ala.; great-grandchildren, Brandi and Cassie Weeks, Sean Joseph Munson, Connor Peters, Leah, Freddie and Dave Bolerjack and Jack Holley; two brothers, Kenneth Cobble and wife, Shirley and Dudley Cobble and wife, Sandy; three sisters, Beulah Thompson, Mary Foldberg and Virginia Bolerjack and husband, Cliff; one brother-in-law, Austin Bolerjack and wife, Marie and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

9/3/2008 1:43:54 P.M. Central Daylight Time

Gerald,

My mom (Wilma Shepherd) had a stroke Monday night and is stable in intensive care. I'm at the hospital most of the time – just ran out to the office to check email and put out a few fires. I looked at the bulletin and only proofed my portion – it looks fine. I was happy to see you have done some research and included some extra details for everyone. Go ahead and send it out.

If you can, please email everyone and ask them to be praying for total restoration for my mom. I'll keep you posted.

Ginny Bryant

BULLITSCHEK FAMILY OFFICERS 2008 – 2009

Since the 2008 reunion was cancelled the officers will remain in office until another reunion is held.

President:	Bonnie Bolejack 1519 Chapes LN Knoxville, TN 37931-2948 Email: bcboljack@aol.com (865) 693-6560	Coordinator:	Virginia (Ginny) Bryant 987 CO Rd 300 E Norris City, IL Email: GLBryant@usi.edu (618) 378-2024
Vice President:	Virginia (Ginny) Bryant 987 CO Rd 300 E Norris City, IL Email: GLBryant@usi.edu (618) 378-2024	Historian:	Marilyn Blackburn 310 Hawthorne Ave. Haddonfield, NJ 08033 Email: dodb@aol.com (856) 428-3854
Secretary:	Nancy Wiman 1 Washington Way Tabernacle, NJ 08088-9359 Email: wiman2@earthlink.net (609) 268-9698	Archivist:	Richard Soash 11614 Dora Ct. Wichita, KS 67209-4229 Email: rsoash@cox.net (316) 729-6591
Treasurer:	Gerald Bolerjack 108 South Chestnut Ave Broken Arrow, OK 74012-3313 Email: geraldbjack@aol.com (918) 258-1275	Editors:	Gerald & Susan Bolerjack 108 South Chestnut Ave Broken Arrow, OK 74012-3313 Email: geraldbjack@aol.com (918) 258-1275

If you have an email address please let me know. On the addresses I have, many have changed. If you did not get an email from me in July your email address has changed. Let me know by email as I cannot read some people's writing.

Gerald Bolerjack
Email: geraldbjack@aol.com

TIME TO PAY YOUR 2008 DUES

Please double check to see if you paid earlier this year and send this in with your dues.

NAME: _____

Use Bullitschek descendant's name

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Spouse: _____ Email: _____

Make Check to: BULLITSCHEK FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Mail to: Gerald Bolerjack, 108 South Chestnut Avenue, Broken Arrow, OK 74012-3313