

# *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.2

February 2009

## **2009 Bullitschek *Family* Reunion Evansville, Indiana June 25-27, 2009**

The weekend of our reunion there is a Jehovah Witness Conference in Evansville and hotel reservations are at a premium. We need to make our reservations ASAP!

When making your reservation let them know you are part of the "Bolerjack Reunion". You can make a request for which type of room you want from those listed below, but will be on a first-come first-served basis. The rates are below.

Hilton Garden Inn, 220 Eagle Crest Dr, phone (812)476-4000.

We will have five king standard rooms and five king suites, both at the rate of \$99.00. Garden Inn rooms are all non-smoking.

Comfort Inn, 8331 E. Walnut St., (812) 476-3600.

1 Double Room Handicap Accessible - non-smoking

3 King Standard Rooms - smoking

5 Double Rooms - non-smoking (the doubles will be full size beds.)

1 King Suite - non-smoking (King Suite is not the same as the two bedroom suites.

The King Suite offers one King Bed, sitting area and a sleeper sofa)

The rate of \$67.00 will be available for all the room types except the King Suite. The rate for the King Suite is \$109.00.

These two places are just around the corner from each other and are off the main path of traffic, so it won't be a problem to get from one to the other.

The Comfort Inn has reserved their meeting room for our group on Thursday and Friday July 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> from 7:00p.m. - 9:00p.m. and Saturday July 27<sup>th</sup> in the morning (exact time TBD) at no cost.

Location: Evansville, Indiana  
Coordinator: Ginny Bryant

Thursday – Arrival and greetings [www.IN.gov/VisitIndiana/index.aspx](http://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 Meetings: The Thursday & Friday evening meetings will be in the Comfort Inn meeting room.

Friday – Continental breakfast at the Comfort Inn

Drive 30 minutes to Historic New Harmony: [www.newharmony.org](http://www.newharmony.org)

Visit Roofless Church, Labyrinth, and Athenaeum/Visitors Center

Lunch at the White House in New Harmony

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, A reservation at Western Rib-Eye. This place has a wonderful salad bar and fresh hot bread. Yumm!

(Each person can choose one of these four items)

Broiled Salmon \$17.99,

Rib- Eye Steak \$16.99,

Grilled 8 oz Pork Chop \$13.99,

Smothered Chicken Breast \$14.99

Evening Meeting and Auction

Saturday: I have arranged for a local caterer to provide breakfast for a nominal per person fee.

Comfort Inn has given us permission to have the breakfast brought in to their meeting room. Our business meeting will immediately follow breakfast.

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.

MORE CHOICES BELOW

## 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.

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## 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?

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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.

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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 caboose.

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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.

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### 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.

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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.

## BIRTHS

U.S. Army Capt. Kevin & Daniela Wiman had their first child, Gabriel Christopher Sousa Wiman, on Jan. 12, 2009, in Dothan, Alabama. Kevin is the youngest son of Alan & Nancy Bolejack Wiman, Tabernacle,

NJ. Kevin, a graduate of U.S. Military Academy at West Point, NY, is presently attending the Captain's Career course at Ft. Rucker, AL. He is a Black Hawk helicopter pilot. Alan & Nancy left NJ on Dec. 20 to celebrate "several Christmases" with each of their four children who live in Maryland, West Va., South Carolina, and they ended up in Alabama to await Gabriel's birth. On the way to AL, they also visited Bonnie and family in Tennessee. Alan has returned to NJ to begin his new semester at Rider University, and Nancy will remain in Alabama to help out with the new baby until the middle of February. She is very happy that she retired from 38 years of teaching last June and is now able to spend time with her grandchildren "down South." Hopefully, this will convince Alan that it is time to retire and join her!

## DEATHS

Dear Bullitschek Descendants, 09-18-2008

My husband, John T. Sullivan, one of your clan, died last July 13. He had suffered Parkinson's and Parkinson's related dementia for about seven years. Tracing the family genealogy was the delight of his retirement years until his illness interfered. He always enjoyed receiving the family bulletin and had me pay his dues. I do so again in his honor.

Sincerely, Lee Sullivan  
Phone: 1-203-355-9241

Returned Mail of members deceased:

Jeannine Cowen of Falls City NE,  
Norma Williams of Baytown, TX

Richard and Gerald, Recently I have sent files of the Mound Cemetery in Washington County, near Barnes Kansas to Kansas Genealogy Trails. The files contain photos that I've taken over the past years. Also have much Bolejack, Barker and Pickett info here. There's much more listed here.

<http://genealogytrails.com/kan/washington/moundcemetery.html>

On another note Omar Pickett, 114 6th Street, Greenleaf, Kansas 66943 will be 90 years old Feb. 22, 2009. He is listed on page 3335 of vol 2 Bullitschek book. Omar thought you might want to add to next newsletter also. (For your info my grandmother was Ethel Amy Bolejack Pickett.) Verlin Wichman

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On the last Sunday in October, Jack and I attended a Cemetery Lantern Tour at God's Acre sponsored by the Lititz Moravian Church. After a brief introduction to the tour, we went to the Corpse House, built in 1786 and still considered one of the architectural gems of Lancaster County. Leaving the Corpse House, the trombone choir was playing as we approached the arched entrance to God's Acre. The small tour groups, led by guides, circled God's Acre visiting eleven different gravesites where scripted characters briefly told about the life and death of the deceased. The only non-Moravians buried in the cemetery are General John Augustus Sutter and his wife. After leaving General Sutter's grave, we were led to the parking area, where we were greeted by the personage of Count Ludwig von Zinzendorf (18th-century leader of Moravians) who thanked us for coming. As most of you know, our relative that was buried in this cemetery in 1765 was Abraham Haller, brother-in-law of Joseph Ferdinand Bullitschek. I'm sure this will bring back some memories for the ones who attended the Lititz reunions.

Ginny Lykins, Lititz, PA

If you have changed your email address please let me know. Please send by email as I am unable read some people's writing. [geraldbjack@aol.com](mailto:geraldbjack@aol.com)

# BULLITSCHEK FAMILY OFFICERS 2008 – 2009

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

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TIME TO PAY YOUR 2009 DUES  
Do not duplicate your dues. If dues are duplicated  
They will be put in the cemetery fund where  
Joseph is buried in North Carolina.

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