

Highlights

- **2011 Reunion in Alton, Illinois**
- **Area activities and reunion schedule**
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The 27th National Bland Family Reunion

Focus is on the Bland Families of Illinois, Missouri & Indiana
Make Illinois your 2011 Family Vacation Destination.

**September 16-18, 2011 in
Alton, Illinois at the Holiday
Inn**

REGISTER BY AUGUST 15,

**DRESS IS CASUAL, BLAND
SHIRTS & JEANS ARE PERFECT**

Reunion Chair: Linda Ludecke,
Shenandoah, TX of 2-5A-6B. Phone
281-367-2850 / LLUDECKE@aol.com

Site Host: Ed and Linda BLAND

2011 BHF Board President:
Patricia Bland Marsh
502-744-8877

Historian: Charles L. Bland, Buffalo,
NY of 2-5A-6B. Phone 716-907-3127

DNA Specialist: Terese Bueker,
teresebueker@comcast.net

REUNION SCHEDULE

**THURSDAY, September 15,
2011** Meet and Socialize – 6 p.m.
Early arrivals meet in the lobby of The
Holiday Inn for dinner.

FRIDAY, September 16, 2011
6–9 a.m.: Breakfast at The Holiday
Inn (complimentary)
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.: BHF Board of
Directors Meeting – Holiday Inn
1–3 p.m. Lunch on your own.
3–5:30 p.m.: Registration at the
Holiday Inn. Set up family line display.
Meet Cousins.
6 p.m.: DINNER on your own but
meet in The Holiday Inn lobby to
choose dining partners.
8–10 p.m.: **REGISTRATION CONT.
and Fun Time:** Find your close
cousins, Local Bland History and
Bland Talent, **The Holiday Inn**

SATURDAY, September 17, 2011

6-8 a.m.: Breakfast at Four Points
(complimentary)
8-9:15 a.m.: SEMINAR #1 – How to
research your family. Beginners
welcome.
9:30-10:45 a.m. SEMINAR #2 - DNA
Project – Terese Bueker
11 noon -- 4 p.m. Tour of Alton on the
trolley with lunch included. Or just join
us for lunch and spend the day as you
wish. **(space limited)**
5:30 p.m.: GROUP PHOTO
6:00- 6:30 p.m.: Recognition of Past
Reunion Hosts & Recognition of
Special Bland Achievements.
6:30–7 p.m.- Bland Historian's
Presentation
7-10 p.m.: BANQUET & MEETING –
Business, The Silent Auction,
Reunion Cake, Traditional Close of
Reunion.

SUNDAY, September 18, 2011

6–10 a.m.: Farewell Breakfast –Hotel
Breakfast Room -(complimentary),
Informal Goodbyes – The Holiday Inn.
Local families invite you to attend their
churches

**The Bland Heritage Reunions
Welcomes ALL Blands (Blan,
Blann, etc.) and their allied
families.**

Bland Heritage Foundation
www.blandheritage.org

**Our four committees are:
REUNION; HISTORIC SITE;
WEBSITE; DNA. See Linda
Ludecke for more information
about committees. Become an
active BHF member.**

From the President:

**Bland's traveling West - We are
visiting a third stop with the family
of the host family in Alton, Illinois.**
This year's host family is the Bland
family from Jersey County, IL. Their
oldest known ancestor is William
Bland born in KY about 1815. Where
in Kentucky? They do not know. We
find their Great Grandfather William
Bland in Randolph Co., MO. Then he
and his wife moved east to Charles
County, MO on the Mississippi.
Eventually they travel directly across
the river to Elsa in Jersey County, IL
where he settled. Most of the family
still lives in the area.
Ed and Linda Bland, the site hosts,
took their quest to the next level. Ed
had the DNA test. They found that he
matches James (1687-1756), the
second son of James (1661-1709) the
founder of the Northern Neck Bland's.
We simply can't find where this
William (born 1815 KY) connects with
the other lines of that specific family.
Does this sound like a familiar story?
The Bland descendants often get lost
from their roots in the period from the
end of the Revolutionary War when
they move West until the 1850
census. Another line of this family,
descendants of Thomas Pope Bland,
initially settled in Bowling Green, MO
in 1830. Descendants are presently
living in Vandalia, St. Lewis, and in
the general area of MO and IL. So far
we have not found a William in that
family that matches with Ed's great
grandfather. Perhaps you have
information that can help Ed and
Linda Bland. Many from other family
lines from IL and MO live nearby. The
family in an adjoining county to Jersey
County is the Calhoun County
Bland's. This family also came from
Kentucky from the Oswald Bland

family. They, too, are from the immigrant James, who founded the Northern Neck group, but are from his first son William (1686-1744). A few other MO families from William through Samuel Bland settled during the 1830s in the Adrian, Montgomery, and later Mason and Putnam Counties. An Isaac Bland of that family was early in St. Charles County. Another MO family whose second stop was in KY is represented by our Bland Heritage Foundation Board Member, Richard Parks Bland. His famous MO ancestor was Senator "Silver Dick" Richard Parks Bland who ran for President of the United States. That family had descendants who live in the St. Louis area.

Last year in Manassas we had a James River Bland descendant in attendance, our first in a long time. There are many Bland lines. At my first reunion in 1991 I decided to sit with the person who looked most like my father. That person happened to be the only person in the room from my family line. Come join us in a search for your family line in Alton. We gather from all over the country. In the process you will find likeable, entertaining, charming Bland men and beautiful, charming, intelligent Bland women. Family experts from different lines are at each reunion to help you find your ancestors. If all else fails, DNA testing may at least narrow the field of searchable sources in the discovery of your family. Some of us who attend the reunion annually, simply like to be in the company of our Bland cousins, be they close or distant cousins. Come join us this year. Our reunion is for any Bland. Hope to see you in September this year, Pat Marsh (Patricia Bland Marsh - President)

DISPLAYS: Each family is invited to set up a display to honor their family. We have ample space to display portraits, memorabilia and family charts after 3 p.m. on Friday.

NOTE: Attendees are encouraged to take pictures and share them with the Foundation so everyone might benefit.
AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED!

It can be anything—craft items, wood, stitchery, jewelry, or homemade items from the kitchen. You can bring anything you want to auction—books, **Bland memorabilia**, etc. (just remember, most will be flying and will need to pack the item in a suitcase).

The auction profits are used to fund Bland Heritage Foundation Projects, such as DNA funding, cemetery cleaning, and the reunion. The reunion does not generate a profit.

Hotel Information

**Holiday Inn – Alton
3800 Homer Adams Parkway
Alton, IL. 62002
618-462-1220**

Complimentary breakfast for 2 per room.

Indicate you are with **Bland Heritage** to receive the special room rate of **\$104.95** (plus tax) per double or king room. Rate includes use of all facilities, including the pool and fitness center. This rate is guaranteed until **AUGUST 15, 2011 ONLY.**

Rooms at the discounted rate are limited, so please make reservations **EARLY. Reduced rates are available for before and after the reunion dates.**

Reunion Arrangement Details

The main hotel for the reunion is the **Holiday Inn - Alton**
Business Center
Fitness Center
Indoor pool
Laundromat

At registration, you will receive a Goodie Bag containing maps, brochures for local tourist activities, and many other items.

DNA Testing Update

The Bland Family DNA Project has lost some momentum this year. Just prior to the 26th Annual Bland Reunion last year, we had results back for 78 volunteers; now we have 83. Hopefully, as happened last year, this Reunion Letter will spur interest in the DNA Project and new participants will be in contact. To participate in the

Bland DNA Project contact me at teresebueker@comcast.net, and I will order your kit. The results take about 6 weeks, so, if you want your results back before the reunion, please get that kit ordered! The 37-marker test (**recommended**) is \$149 + \$4 shipping. More and more participants are opting for the 67-marker test at \$239+\$4 shipping. The latest and greatest now is the 111-marker test. It's pricey at \$339 + \$4 shipping (upgrade from 67 to 111 for \$129), and is not recommended at this time. Ladies, although you can't participate, your father, brother, uncle, or cousin (surname Bland) can be tested for you (with you footing the bill, of course). See you at the Reunion!
Terese Bland Bueker

Things to do in and around Alton, Illinois

Don't just see the sites, hit the open road of the Meeting of the Great Rivers Scenic Byway all around Alton and experience it all firsthand. Escape in time to be a part of history as you embark on the journey westward with Lewis & Clark. Shop Alton's "Antique Row" and the surrounding communities for one-of-a-kind finds. Let the river lure you into an outdoor adventure of canoeing, kayaking, boating or fishing. Live music, performing arts, cultural centers, casino gaming and legendary nightlife are calling you.

Directions

St. Louis Lambert International(STL)

- Distance: 30.0 MI/48.28 KM SOUTH WEST to Hotel SHUTTLE AVAILABLE THRU CHAMPAGNE LIMOUSINES APPROX \$50. CALL 800-500-2526 TO RESERVE.

Train

- Station Name: Amtrak , Distance: 0.25 MI/0.4 KM EAST to Hotel , Complimentary Shuttle Available. Turn left onto Route 140 (East). Make a right at first stop light and hotel is on the right.

Reunion Registration - WRITE ONLY ONE CHECK FOR REGISTRATION, SHIRTS, AND NAME TAGS

Please mail completed form by **AUGUST 15** to Linda Ludecke, 703 Shenandoah Dr., Shenandoah, TX 77381-1043

Make checks payable to the BLAND HERITAGE FOUNDATION.

Name of EACH person attending (use SEPARATE page, if needed, for additional names)

Address

City, State ZIP

EMAIL _____

Phone _____

NAME TAG INFO: Please indicate Bland Family Line for reunion planning. **SEE WEB SITE FOR YOUR LINES OR CALL PAT AT 812-246-9122. EXAMPLE: 2-5A-6B**

Family Line #:

No.	Description	Price Each	Subtotal
___	Registration fee (EVERYONE over 18)	\$30.00	\$ ____
BANQUET SATURDAY:			
___	Adult (8 & over)	\$ 22.00	\$ ____
___	Child (2 to 7)	\$ 12.00	\$ ____
___	Trolley Tour w/lunch	\$ 28.50	\$ ____
___	Lunch only (Sat)	\$13.50	\$ ____
TOTAL		\$ ____	_____

Please check below, as applicable:

___ Reserve display space for my family information.

BLAND HERITAGE FOUNDATION
c/o Linda V. Ludecke
703 Shenandoah Dr.
Shenandoah, TX 77381-1043

**PLACE
STAMP
HERE**

REGISTRATION: 27th Bland National Family Reunion
Register by August 15, 2010,
Make Illinois your 2011 Family Vacation Destination.

SHIRT ORDERS ONLY

INCLUDE FORM AND CHECK WITH YOUR REGISTRATION

This year's shirt colors are GRAY or BLUE.

Indicate quantity of each size needed.

Qty	CIRCLE COLOR	Price	Su	btotal
_____	SMALL—	\$16	_____	_____
_____	MEDIUM—	\$16	_____	_____
_____	LARGE—	\$16	_____	_____
_____	X-LARGE—	\$16	_____	_____
_____	2X-LARGE—	\$17	_____	_____
_____	3X-LARGE—	\$18	_____	_____
	TOTAL		_____	_____

Increase the price of each shirt by \$1 to add a pocket. Please note this on the order form.

ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY

AUGUST 15, 2011

Name _____

EMAIL: _____

PLEASE INCLUDE FORMS AND CHECK WITH YOUR REGISTRATION.

WRITE ONLY ONE CHECK FOR REGISTRATION, SHIRTS, AND NAME TAGS

BOTH PERMANENT NAME TAGS AND ADD-ON YEAR/LOCATION TAGS ARE AVAILABLE.

Year Tags from 1985 to 2011 are \$3.75 each.

Name tags are \$11 each. Print name clearly for EACH tag ordered.

ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY August 15, 2011

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

ZIP Code _____

NAME TAG #ord. _____ x \$11.00 = \$ _____

ordered _____ YEAR TAG @ \$3.75 EACH
2011 = \$ _____

Past years needed if any

_____ = \$ _____

_____ = \$ _____

TAG TOTAL \$ _____

Register by AUGUST 15, 2010