

Highlights	Inside
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2017 Reunion in GALVESTON, TX. CRUISE • Area activities and reunion schedule • Reserve room before MARCH 1st to get Bland rate 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Register FOR CRUISE by MARCH 1, 2017 2 Register for Reunion by September 1, 2017 3 Order 2017 Bland Reunion Shirts by SEPTEMBER 1

The 33rd National Bland Family Reunion

**Focus is on the Bland Families of ALL LINES
TEXAS your 2017 Family Vacation Destination.**

**OCTOBER 16-21, 2017 in
GALVESTON, TEXAS CRUISE**

REGISTER BY MARCH 1, 2017

DRESS IS CASUAL, BLAND SHIRTS & JEANS/SHORTS ARE PERFECT. WITH DRESS (church attire) AT DINNER, PLUS TWO FORMAL EVENINGS ON SHIP (Suit and Tie for men, cocktail dress/formal for women)

Reunion Co-Chair & Site Host:
Linda Verbeck Ludecke, **G02.117212 (2-5A-6B)** Cleveland, TX of 2-5A-6B.
Phone 281-384-4363-cell email: LLUDECKE@aol.com

2017 BHF Board President:
CHARLES L. BLAND
G02.117212 (2-5A-6B) Niagara Falls, NY 716-907-3127 cell
Email: cbland@buffalo.edu

Past President: LANNY BLAND
G02.117212 (2-5A-6B)

DNA Specialist: Terese Bueker,
G02.117212 (2-5A-6B) email: teresebueker@comcast.net

CARNIVAL WEBSITE FOR BOOKING:
<https://secure.vacationstogo.com/vtg/group/home.cfm?uuid=950E42F040A8F023F66CBA4057F81A4F>

REUNION SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2017
CHECK IN TO HOTEL in Galveston
2 p.m. – Optional Tour
6 p.m. Meet for dinner at MARIO'S RESTAURANTE and Socialize.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2017
6–9 a.m.: Breakfast at Galveston
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.: Board CARNIVAL CRUISE LINE “VALOR”
1-3 p.m. Lunch on ship AND find your cabin, explore ship.

3-4 p.m. – LIFE BOAT DRILL
2-4 p.m.: Depart Galveston
4 p.m. – 8 p.m. FREE TIME or
4-6 p.m. BOARD MEETING – LOCATION TBA
7:30 p.m. – GROUP PHOTO
8 p.m.: Dinner AT DESIGNATED TABLES IN DINING ROOM
10 p.m.: ENTERTAINMENT IN THEATRE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2017 – AT SEA

6-9 a.m.: Breakfast
9 a.m.-NOON.: ALL SEMINARS
SEMINAR #1 -- DNA Project – 9 a.m.—10:20 a.m. Terese Bueker - MEETING ROOM
SEMINAR #2 – CHARLES L. BLAND – 10:30 a.m. – 11:50 a.m. - BLAND FAMILIES IN AMERICA
LUNCH AT LOCATION OF YOUR CHOICE ON SHIP
FREE AFTERNOON – TRY THE SPA for a message or facial
7:30 p.m.: GROUP PHOTO
8:00 p.m. - Dinner AT DESIGNATED TABLES IN DINING ROOM
10 p.m.: ENTERTAINMENT AT THEATER

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2017

9 A.M. – 6 P.M. - SHORE DAY AT COZAMEL, MEXICO
8 P.M. – Dinner AT DESIGNATED TABLES IN DINING ROOM
10 P.M. – ENTERTAINMENT AT THEATER

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2017 – SHORE DAY AT MERIDA (PROGRESO) MEXICO

10 A.M. – 6 P.M. - SHORE DAY AT MERIDA, MEXICO
8 P.M. – Dinner AT DESIGNATED TABLES IN DINING ROOM
10 P.M. – ENTERTAINMENT AT THEATER
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2017 – AT SEA – 7 A.M. – 9 A.M. –Breakfast in Dining Room or Location of your choice on ship.

9 A.M. – NOON – Business Meeting and Election of New Officers and Bland Cake
NOON – 7 P.M. FREE TIME ON SHIP
8 P.M. - Dinner AT DESIGNATED TABLES IN DINING ROOM
10 P.M. – ENTERTAINMENT IN THEATER
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2017 – 8 A.M- 11 A.M. – DEPART SHIP, Retrieve your car from parking and make your way to the airport you will be flying out of.

The Bland Heritage Reunion Welcomes ALL Blands (Bland, 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:

Dear Cousins, Greetings to you and please accept my welcome to attend the 33rd National Bland Reunion, sponsored by the Bland Heritage Foundation. This year will depart from our normal pattern of shifting between the East Coast and Midwest broadly, to a cruise, in the Gulf of Mexico, departing from Galveston, TX, though the major components of the reunions will be in place. Throughout the years since 1985 when Joanne Wheeler Bland and I organized the first Reunion in Elizabethtown, Kentucky, I have been gratified by and deeply indebted to the many cousins from all across our country who have invested their money, time and enthusiasm for the history of the Bland family, to make the reunion a success. The same is

true of the members of the governing board of Bland Heritage Foundation. This year, I propose to depart a bit from standard practice. Instead of a speech that focuses on a particular branch of the family, I will discuss highlights of my book, Vision of Unity (1982/1990) and how the information in the book has been supplemented over the past 35 years by contributions of many genealogists which were edited and compiled into 28 volumes of Newsletter called “Among Cousins.”

If you think that a Cruise like this would be too expensive, I have been assured by members of the board who are developing the Reunion, that you would simply be paying differently, and that the cost on balance would be approximate to what you would ordinarily pay for food and lodging at a regular land based reunion. So I’m hoping that many of you will be receptive to this format and join us for a truly great Reunion experience. I look forward to seeing you in October.

Charles L. Bland
Historian and current President

From Past President

Hi Cousins,
I hope you are well and had an enjoyable holiday season. I want to thank all of you who attended last years reunion and especially Barbara Bland and all the Board Members for their hard work on the reunion.

This year the reunion will be unique and exciting. Linda and Charles have been busy putting together a cruise which I'm sure everyone will enjoy. I hope all of you and your extended families will make your reservations early to be included. I hope to see each of you soon.

LANNY BLAND
President 2016.

DISPLAYS: WE WILL NOT HAVE DISPLAYS THIS YEAR.

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

Hotel Information

GALVESTON TEXAS. OCTOBER 15, 2017 to gather fellow cousins before the cruise and say HEY.

Hotel name and details will be available soon.

See website for information AFTER MARCH 25, 2017 or contact LINDA VERBECK LUDECKE at LLUDECKE@AOL.COM

CARNIVAL CRUISE

CARNIVAL CRUISE LINE “VALOR” – GALVESTON, TEXAS
BOOK BY **MARCH 1, 2017**
A deposit of \$150 per person is required by MARCH 1, 2017 to get the rates below.

All Cruise Pricing listed on this quote is **per person.**

Double Occupancy Rate	
INSIDE (4B)	\$407.79 PP
+ \$64 Tips	
OCEAN VIEW (6B)	\$447.79 PP
+ \$64 Tips	
BALCONY (8B)	\$572.79 PP
+ \$64 Tips	

All prices include Port Fees and Government Taxes.

If you want to add MORE TIPS for good service by wait-staff you are welcome to do so.

At registration, you will receive a Goodie Bag.

DNA Testing Update

The Bland Family DNA Project – 2017
Just prior to the 32nd Annual Bland Reunion last year, we had 125 volunteers in the Bland Y-DNA Project; now we have 134. Not all of the participants took the Y-DNA test. The Family Finder test (which gives individual ethnic make-up) is becoming very popular. These results will not help in the Bland Project, as such, but will give satisfaction on an individual basis. Hopefully, as happened last year, this Reunion

Letter will spur interest in the Y-DNA Project and new participants will be in contact. To participate, 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 + \$12.95 shipping. 67-marker and 111-marker tests are also available, but would depend on your budget. If the price of the 37-marker kit is a deterrent, we have limited funding available. Please email me with your request.

Ladies, although you can't participate in the Y-DNA Project, your father, brother, uncle, or cousin (surname Bland) can be tested for you (with you footing the bill, of course). I can speak from experience about this, as my brother agreed to the painless test for our line. You can, however, order a Family Finder Test (\$79+) or a MtDNA Plus Test (\$79+), which would give you results for your direct female line. I have recently made a wonderful discovery using the Family Finder Test, so I'm a new fan of that one. Ask me about this at the Reunion.

Terese Bland Bueker

The 2017 Numbering System

The Bland Heritage Foundation Board voted in 2012 to adopt a “universally accepted” numbering system to replace the family lines numbering system originally used by Charles Bland in his book, *A Vision of Unity*, his later newsletters, and the Bland Heritage website. The Modern Henry System was chosen because it is an intuitive, descendant numbering system in which the progenitor, or oldest known ancestor, is assigned the number 1
SEE WEBSITE FOR COMPLETE LISTING OF NUMBERS BY FAMILY.

Directions
AIRPORTS- IAH - Houston Intercontinental (Bush) or HOU – Hobby Airport. Take shuttle bus from airport to RENTAL CAR LOCATION, then drive to Galveston.

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

Please mail completed form by SEPTEMBER 1 to: Linda Ludecke, 200 F.M. 163, Cleveland, TX 77327-9265

Make checks payable to the **BLAND HERITAGE FOUNDATION.**

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

Name _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State ZIP _____

EMAIL _____

Phone _____

NAME TAG INFO: Please indicate Bland Family Line for reunion planning.
SEE WEB SITE FOR YOUR LINE:
EXAMPLE: (Old) 2-5A-6B or
(New) G02-117212
If you can't figure it out, we will help you.

Family Line #: _____

Qty.	Description	Price Each	Subtotal
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_____ Registration fee (EVERYONE over 18)

Registration	\$25.00	\$ _____
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TOTAL		\$ _____
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EMBRODERIED SHIRTS ARE AVAILABLE AT A HIGHER PRICE of \$29, NO YEAR LISTED. HATS, MUGS, ETC. ARE ALSO AVAILABLE. CALL LINDA LUDECKE AT 281-384-4363 OR EMAIL AT LLUDECKE@AOL.COM

SHIRT ORDERS ONLY

INCLUDE FORM AND CHECK WITH YOUR REGISTRATION

This year's shirt color is DARK GREEN
Indicate quantity of each size needed.

Qty	SIZE	Price	Subtotal
___	SMALL	\$17	_____
___	MEDIUM	\$17	_____
___	LARGE	\$17	_____
___	X-LARGE	\$17	_____
___	2X-LARGE	\$17	_____
___	3X-LARGE	\$17	_____
___	4X-LARGE	\$17	_____
	TOTAL		_____

Increase the price of each shirt by \$3 to add a pocket. Please note this on the order form.

IF YOU WANT A PERMANENT EMBRODERIED BLAND CREST ON A SHIRT, IT WILL BE \$29.00.

ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY
SEPTEMBER 1, 2017

PLEASE INCLUDE FORMS
AND CHECK WITH YOUR
REGISTRATION.

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

Year Tags from 1985 to 2017 are \$3.75 each.
Name tags are \$11 each. Print name clearly for EACH tag ordered.

ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 9/1/2017

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

E-mail _____

NAME TAG- #ord. ____ x \$11.00 = _\$ _____

NAME _____

Qty. YEAR TAG @ \$3.75 EACH

_____ 2017 = \$ _____

Past years needed if any

_____ = \$ _____

_____ = \$ _____

TAG TOTAL \$ _____

BOOK CRUISE BY MARCH 1, 2017 Register by SEPTEMBER 1, 2017

BLAND HERITAGE FOUNDATION
c/o LINDA LUDECKE
200 F.M. 163 RD
CLEVELAND, TX 77327-9265

Make TEXAS your 2017 Family Vacation Destination.