

The Bukovina Society of the Americas Newsletter

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Vol. 22, No. 3 September 2012

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Membership Dues: Lifetime \$150.00 Annual \$15.00

PEOPLE AND EVENTS

- The annual meeting of the Bukovina Society of the Americas, Inc. was held on Saturday, July 14, 2012 at the headquarters building in Ellis, Kansas. After approval of minutes and financial reports, members elected new board members for expiring terms. Elected were: Darrell Seibel, Shirley Kuppetz, Becky Hageman and Guy Windholz. Following the meeting the board re-elected the officers for the ensuing year.
- Welcome to the new life member number 204, Jocelyn Boots, British Columbia, Canada
- Pamela St. Clair generously donated two plates commemorating the 80th anniversary of the First Congregational Church. She recognized that the former church building was home of the Bukovina Society. The plates were in the family of Harry P. Beverly, born in Ellis March 27th, 1890. The Society is grateful for these gifts and put them on display at the museum.
- Bukovina Society member Johann Heuchert has notified us of the release of *The Ancestors*. The book was translated into English by Gitta Rausch from the original German version *Die Ahnen: Eine freie Erzählung aus der Geschichte der pfälzischen Sippe Rindt* written by Poldi Rindt and published by the *Hilfskomitee der Galiziendeutschen A. u. H.B. im Diakonischen Werk der EKD e.V.* in Stuttgart in 2002. *The Ancestors* is a freelytold account of the 1780s emigration of Germans from the Rhineland Palatinate (the *Pfalz*) to Galicia, which had been acquired by Austria in 1772. Bukovina was a military district within Galicia until 1849, when it became a separate crown land. The book is available for purchase from Amazon Digital Services at

http://www,amazon.com.

The film series "Millions Cried ... No One Listened ..." has recently been released by producer and director Ann Morrison. World War II ended in May 1945 for Germany, but not for 15 million or more Germans who lived in Hungary, Romania, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Slovakia, East Prussia and the surrounding areas. Under the terms of the Potsdam Conference, the Germans who had lived in these countries for 300 years or more were to be expelled from their homes. Entire villages were turned into camps overnight. Ethnic Germans were driven across the nearest borders, put into the same camps that had once used for the Jewish people, and tortured, starved, and executed. The survivors told their stories to Ann Morrison, which she made into her first documentary, "The Forgotten Genocide." There was so much more to tell that she has put together a sixfilm series giving the facts of what happened and how it continues to affect us today. For more information, visit www.annsfilms.com.

MT. ANGEL TREFFEN - SEPTEMBER 2012

Bukovina descendants and friends, make plans to attend the 2012 Mt. Angel *Treffen* and Conference in Keizer, Oregon, just north of Salem, on Thursday, September 13, through Saturday, September 15, 2012! Go to www.danubeswabians.org/treffen/ for more information and/or to register. When registering, please be sure that the "More Info" field in your registration indicates the right number of people attending each event.

Note that conference attendance is free! The event organizers kindly request that attendees contribute whatever they see fit to offset the costs of the buffet lunch, the meeting hall, and various administrative costs.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Keizer Renaissance Inn and Conference Center (http://www.keizerrenaissanceinn.com/) at a special rate of \$75 USD single and \$85 USD double occupancy per night. To get the special rate, please book your room by mid-August, and be sure to mention that you are part of the **Banat Group**.

The *Treffen* will be held at the same time as the annual *Oktoberfest* and Danube Swabian Heritage Celebration in nearby Mt. Angel. More about these events is posted at www.mtangel.org and www.oktoberfest.org.

NEWS FROM ABROAD: DER SÜDOSTDEUTSCHE

By: Irmgard Hein Ellingson

Der Südostdeutsche, or SOD, is the newspaper published by our sister organization, the Bukowina-Institut in Augsburg, Germany. It is edited by our colleague Luzian Geier. The Bukovina Society of the Americas is pleased to share highlights from recent issues with our English-speaking readers. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

April 2012

The cover story, Von Ulm der Donau entlag (Along the Danube from Ulm), begins with the observation that the



history of German settlement in former and present parts of southeastern Europe is tied to the city of Ulm and other Swabian cities along the Danube River. This relates to the Bukovina Germans, since their origins are connected to those of the Banat Germans.

The graphic credit: Stadt Ulm - Hauptabteilung Kultur, Frauenstraße 19, 89073 Ulm, Germany.

Ulm was an important part of the great migration to southeastern Europe. It began in 1712 with the organized journeys on the so-called *Ulmer Schachtel* down the Danube and deep into the *Ungarland*, or Hungary.



Photo Credit: Johannes Hans (1765-1826): Ulm von Süden. Teilansicht der Donaufront (Ulm from the South: Partial View of the Danube Frontage) in about 1810, kolorierter Kupferstich. Courtesy of the Stadtarchiv Ulm, F 3/1 Ans. 102.

This year the 300th anniversary of the migration is being celebrated by the City of Ulm with a number of partners including the Haus der Stadtgeschichte (House of City History) the Donau-Schwäbischen Zentralmuseum (the Central Danube Swabian Museum), the Institut für donauschwäbische Geschichte und Landeskunde Tübingen (the Institute for Danube Swabian History and the Tübingen Region), the Donaubüro der Stadt Ulm (the Danube Bureau of the City of Ulm), the Stadtjugendring (the City Youth Circle), and the Landmannschaften der Banater Schwaben, der Donauschwaben, and der Sathmarschwaben (the Associations of the Banat Swabians, the Danube Swabians, and the Sathmar Swabians). An opening ecumenical worship service on May 6 was followed by the formal openings of exhibits and displays, a conference, and a concert. The city's annual Donaufest on July 6-15, 2012 will also focus upon this 300th anniversary.

For more about this history, visit www.danube-swabians.org, maintained by our friends who host the annual Mt. Angel *Treffen* in Oregon. More information about this September's Treffen appears elsewhere in this issue and at the "Fun" tab on their website.

Familienbücher, or family books, were compiled in most of the Roman Catholic as well as the Evangelical Lutheran parishes of Bukovina between the two world wars. An excerpt for the Catholic family of Johann Baar and his wife Christine, married 3 March 1938 and residing in Frassin, is reproduced as an illustration. These family books are important resources for researchers because the church registers are frequently missing or are difficult to access [note: another example of a family book is my translation of Illischestie: A Rural Parish in Bukovina: Primary Source Material for Family, which had been compiled by longtime Illischestie schoolmaster Johann Christian Dressler. — IE].

In Part I of Jeder Mensch ist in die Geschichte seiner Vorfahren eingebunden, or "Every Person is Woven into the History of His Ancestors," Josef Manasterski introduces his ancestors who lived in Komaresti [Comarestie), Bukovina, in the 19th century. Josef Manasteriski also submitted a letter to the editor titled Erinnerungen an Straja, or Memories of Straja, in which he describes childhood visits to that community. During the Habsburg years, the wilderness around Straja was still untouched and unspoiled and for many years, an English lord held the hunting rights there.

May 2012

This month's issue featured the program for this year's Bundestreffen, the 62nd meeting of the Landsmannschaft der Buchenlanddeutschen e.V., held in conjunction with the 5th annual Schwabentag. The events, which had the theme Zusammenwachsen - Zusammenleben: Vertreibung, Migration, Integration" (Growing and Living Together: Flight, Migration, Integration), were held in Kaufbeuren-Neugablonz on June 16-17, 2012. Kaufbeuren is an independent city located in the foothills of the Alps, located in the Ostallgäu, part of the Schwaben district in southern Bavaria.

Page 4 includes excerpts from World War II-era Ahnenpaß for a Baumgartner, Beer, and Haidt descendant whose ancestors migrated along the Danube River and eventually settled in Molodia, Bukovina. An Ahnenpaß might be translated as an "ancestral passport". It was an official Nazi German document intended to demonstrate the 4-generation Aryan lineage of the German citizen who carried it. This was not public record; the bearer would

have had it prepared and carried it to present when necessary.

In Part II of Jeder Mensch ist in die Geschichte seiner Vorfahren eingebunden, or "Every Person is Woven into the History of His Ancestors," Josef Manasterski describes his childhood in Komaresti [Comarestie), Bukovina, between the two world wars.

Besuch auf dem friedhof in Unterstanesti reports that the restored cemetery in Unter-Stanestie in northern Bukovina, now part of the Chernivicy oblast in Ukraine, is being tended by the teacher Galina Kosak. The cemetery has become a meeting place for the descendants of the Germans who once lived in the area and who are now coming from various countries to place crosses, wreaths, and flowers on the graves of their ancestors. Ms. Kosak took it upon herself to clear undergrowth from the cemetery and to weed the graves. Donations are being received to thank her for her kind, generous efforts.

June 2012

Our longtime friend Dr. Ortfried Kotzian, director of the *Haus des Deutschen Ostens* [HDO, or "House of the German East'] in Munich, was honored at a May 12 reception in the *Bayerischem Landtag*, or Bavarian Parliament. He is a member of the International Board of the Bukovina Society of the Americas and former director of the *Bukowina-Institut* in Augsburg

The translation of his award:

"Very honored ladies and gentlemen, with today's words of appreciation we want to recognize the valuable work of the HDO for peace and international understanding, and above all your personal service, very honored Dr. Kotzian, for cultural work across the borders, for comprehensive education with exhibitions, lectures, seminars and more, and for "an atmosphere of deep, profound humanity that flows from the director and fills the HDO."

The Bukovina Society extends its congratulations to Dr. Kotzian, his wife Marie-Luise, and his family. We appreciate their many contributions to the work of our organization.

In Part III of Jeder Mensch ist in die Geschichte seiner Vorfahren eingebunden, or "Every Person is Woven into the History of His Ancestors", Josef Manasterski relates the story of World War II as it was experienced by the Bukovina people who lived in and around Komaresti. The Soviet Union occupied

northern Bukovina, then under Romanian administration, in the summer of 1940. Later that year, under terms of a secret protocol in the 1939 Hitler-Stalin Pact, Manasterski and other Bukovina Germans were resettled out of the area to Silesia.

"The Causes of Death in the Eisenau [Bukovina] Church Books" is the topic of an article by our friend Renate Gschwentner of Dingolfing in Bavaria. She surveyed the causes of death as recorded in the Eisenau church records from 1808-1923, and discusses and describes historic diagnoses that have been superseded by modern medical terminology. A lengthy summary tally and list of these diagnoses is included. By far the two most common diagnoses were angeborene Lebenschwäche (congenital weakness, weakness from birth) and Lungenschwindsucht (consumption or tuberculosis).

PARADISE GALICIA? – 19TH CENTURY CAUSES OF DEATH

By: Irmgard Hein Ellingson

The article Paradise Galicia? From the German Past of Galicia was published in our sister publication, Galizien German Descendants #70 and #71 (April and June 2012). This two-part work is my translation of Aus Galiziens deutscher Vergangenheit – Galizien – das Paradies? by Helmut Kurz.

In 2003, Kurz reviewed the *Ortsfamilienbücher* [OFB], or village family books, for 152 Galician localities and in the process, collected about 1400 various causes of death and illnesses contributing to death as they had been recorded in the late 18th and 19th century. The OFB are presently in the charge of Manfred Daum at the *Genealogischen Forschungsstelle des Hilfkomitees der Galiziendeutschen*.

The OFB were prepared at different points in time. Therefore some include medical term and concepts from the early colonization years beginning in the late 1780s. A number of them stop in the mid-19th century; others extend to the end of the century while a few have entries to the end of World War I. The more specific, modern diagnoses from the second half of the 19th century demonstrate the rapid development of scientific and medical knowledge at that time.

Records used as sources for the OFB include *Taufbuch* [baptismal book], *Kirchbuch* [church book], *Trauungsbuch* [marriage book], and *Totenbuch* [literally "register of the dead"], which today is called the *Sterbebuch* [death register].

The article is helpful in identifying the German-language diagnoses for the disorders, sicknesses, illnesses and epidemics that affected our ancestors in Galicia and Bukovina. Illnesses are sorted into two basic categories: [1] non-infectious and [2] infectious. Within each they are grouped by body system, i.e. circulatory, digestive, endocrine, muscular, nervous, reproductive, respiratory, skeletal, urinary etc.

For more information, go to www.galiziengermandescendants.com or contact GGD editor Betty Wray.

Tracing Your Saskatchewan Ancestors: A Guide to the Records and How to Use Them ${\bf 4}^{\rm TH}$ Edition

Tracing Your Saskatchewan Ancestors, 4th Edition, contains detailed explanations about each record group showing when and why it was created, where you will find the records today and how and why you would want to access them, is addition to these Saskatchewan records, there are chapters or sections devoted to federal records such as immigration, military, naturalization and National Registration. You will learn what the records are, the time frame they cover, where they are found and what areas of research they cover. Particular emphasis is placed on learning why the records are important and how you use them to find more information. While emphasis is placed on how to use these records in Saskatchewan the book also explains how to access them from other parts of the world.

Edited by Laura Hanowski; Published by Saskatchewan Genealogical Society

The 4th edition is now available and will be printed on demand. If you or someone you know would like a copy of the book, an order form is below Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for delivery.

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AN ALPHABETICAL LISTING OF ALL COMMUNITIES IN GALICIA AND BUKOVINA IN 1818

By: Irmgard Hein Ellingson

Recently our colleague Luzian Geier, editor of our German sister publication *Der Südostdeutsche*, was asked about a volume titled "Alphabetische Verzeichnis aller Ortschaften Galiziens und der Bukowina, aufgenommen im Jahre 1818" (An Alphabetical Listing of all Communities in Galicia and Bukovina in 1818 which appeared in an online listing of

Literatur zur Bukowina, or "literature about Bukovina."

The question about the book came from someone who was interested in the village of Bukschoja. He pointed out that under the rubric "Ortschaften" (communities), it was stated that Bukschoja belongs to Woronetz. Woronetz, in turn, appears under "Pfarreyen" (Pfarreien or parish). That seemed appropriate since Dr. Daniel Werenka determined that the Bukschoja had belonged to the Woronetz monastery in 1776. However, Woronetz was not included in the listing of communities.

The individual asked Herr Geier if he agreed that the book was compiled during the Habsburg military occupation/administration of Bukovina. The question was based upon the fact that members of the *Werbbezirks*-Regiment were entered in the first part of the book.

He continued, "Supposedly Bukschoja belonged to the Woronetz parish in 1818. Was that true only for the Romanian and Greek Orthodox part of the population? In any event the German Catholics in Bukschoja were served by the Gurahumora parish, where the church records were entered. I found the first record for my family, dated 1806, in the Gurahumora church books. How does one [come] to understand that, since Father Norbert Gaschler wrote in the *Kaindl-Archiv*, *Heft* [volume] 2, page 48, that Gurahumora became a parish in 1848?"

Herr Geier replied, "To the best of my knowledge, this Verzeichnis, or listing, is in our library and I have had it in my hands. It is indeed a listing of the military or travel outposts, cited with relevant distances in the stages of travel. It was a little book without a big informative title. In that regard, I will say that such listings must always be considered in regard to the original purposes for which they were prepared. Bukschoaia does not appear under Local Orte (communities) in the Tabula Geographica, which is the important old Verzeichnis ALLER ORTE (Locorum omnium in Latin, or listing of all communities) for Galicia-Bukovina published in Lemberg in 1794. This is one of the first such works to appear after the earlier Russian ones. Kimpolung is already identified as Oppidum/Marktort (market town), and Gura Humor only as a village, which is also the case for Solka, Radautz, Jakobeny, Wama and Woronetz. That addresses the context of your question.

"Kimpolung was important in every regard, whether military, strategic, or administrative, and therefore it was also important in terms of its former status as a Catholic parish. This kind of status – which was associated with various rights, privileges, and financial compensation for the priest – was difficult for communities to obtain. Gura Humor, which

was also supposed to be a military fortification, remained a *Filialort*, a parish branch or subsidiary. Depending upon the number of members, *Filialen* maintained their own registers of ministerial acts, and some had their own clergy. But I am certain that we may rely upon Father Gaschler. Naturally I could do some research myself but obviously he had recourse to other contacts and sources than what are now available to me. It would be very time consuming for me and I doubt that we would learn anything new.

"Woronetz, the specified parish, is certainly Orthodox and connected with the monastery and its possessions, which are not listed as villages. In that regard, various materials from the Middle Ages contain a lot about Balan."

A SHORT HISTORY OF IMMIGRATION FROM EUROPE TO ARGENTINA: 1860 TO 1930

By Zita Johana Watzlawik, April 2012

- 1824 Bernardino Rivadavia, the secretary of the Triumvirate in the Government of Argentina, created a commission of immigration to promote immigration to Argentina from Europe. It lasted for over 70 years. Argentina had vast fertile land and needed to increase its population. At this time, the "Creoles" (Spanish children born in South America) had no rights to public office, and it was not possible for them to graduate or otherwise move out of their caste, or social class. Legal certainty and clarity would be necessary in order to promote European immigration. This project was designed on the basis of equality and freedom for the prosperity of the whole nation.
- 1853 The Constitution of Argentina was drafted and approved. Its Article 25, welcomed and affirmed the immigration.
- 1860 At this time, Argentina needed workers. Large numbers of immigrants arrived in Argentina from Europe, mostly from Italy and Spain, but also from France, Poland, Russia, Germany, and Austria. Most of them lived in precarious conditions. Buenos Aires was the fastest-growing city in the world. Today the descendants of these immigration form the majority of the country's population of 40,616,000.
- 1873 Guillermo Wilcken formed the idea of building a

hotel for immigrants at Retiro in the Port of Madero in Buenos Aires.

- The Government of Argentina passed the law
 #817 regarding immigrants and colonization. The
 law resolved to take care of immigrants from the
 moment that they decided to travel to Argentina.
 The law provided the immigrants with such benefits
 as the promise of a job, temporary lodging, food, and
 free transportation to those who wanted to work.
- 1911 After 38 years, work on the Immigrants Hotel began. The German company Weyss & Freytag was in charge of construction. The hotel was huge: it housed up to 6000 people, speaking their respective languages, and allowed them to share food and shelter.

Bukovina Germans in Argentina

- In Augustendorf, Bukovina (then still part of Austria), my grandparents Johans (Juan) Watzlawik and Petronella (Petrona) Tolkan were struggling to retain their property. They had five children: Albina Lola, Maria, Anton, Julius, and Ludwig. When they heard about the benefits being offered by Argentina, they began to consider leaving Bukovina. They planned to move to Argentina for a few years, save money, and then return to Augustendorf.
- 1912 Johans (Juan) Watzlawik decided to leave Augustendorf and travel to Buenos Aires with his daughter Albina Lola. The arrived at the Immigrants Hotel in the Port of Madero.
- 1913 Petronella (Petrona) Tolkan and her daughter left Augustendorf and arrived in Buenos Aires. They traveled from the Port of Bremen on the ship Sierra Salvada. Left behind were the three boys: Anton (age 11), Julius (8), and Ludwig (5). The children were students at the German school in Augustendorf, and were in the care of some family members including uncles and aunts.
- 1914 World War I began. Augustendorf was located within the area of the Russian occupation, and chaos surrounded the population. The boys were caught between Russian and Austrian troops. Some soldiers helped them by offering them food. Ludwig and Anton were shot at but survived.

- 1915 In Buenos Aires, Argentina, the rest of the family worked hard to make it possible for the boys to immigrate and join them.
- 1916 In Argentina, Johans (Juan) Watzlawik died at work on a subterranean railroad called the "Anglo Argentine Trolleys Company" in the center of Buenos Aires.
- 1918 The war was over. Austria gave up Bukovina to Romania by terms of the Treaty of St. Germain in 1919.

Ludwig Watzlawik had been born in the Austrian Empire in 1908. From the ages of 10 to 16 years, he lived under romanization in Bukovina.

Family Data

Johans (Juan) Watzlawik was born in about 1869, presumably in Bukovina. He resided in Augustendorf from 1893 to 1912.

Petronella (Petrona) Tolkan was born in 1871 in Cobenelko, Bukovina, Austria. The word "Cobenelko" is illegible in her Argentinian documents.

The names and birthdates of their children, all born in Augustendorf:

Albina (Lola) 21 May 1894 Maria 1897

Anton 7 September 1902 Julius 23 December 1905 Ludwig 4 April 1908

Immigration from Augustendorf, Bukovina, Austria, to Buenos Aires, Argentina
Certification of Arrival in America, in Argentina

20 June 1913 Maria Waclawik (Watzlawik), age

16 years, came from Augustendorf to Argentina via the Port of Bremen on the ship Sierra Salvada. She traveled with her mother Petronella (Petrona) Tolkan.

20 February 1924 Julius Watzlawik, age 19 years, came

from Augustendorf to Argentina via the Port of Bremen on the ship Sierra

Cordoba.

20 February 1924 Ludwig Watzlawik, age 16 years, came from Augustendorf to Argentina via

the Port of Bremen on the ship Sierra Cordoba. He traveled with his brother Julius. Augusten to Argentina via the Port of Bremen on the ship Madrid. He traveled with his father Anton.

26 October 1930

Anton Watzlavik or Waclawik (Watzlawik), age 28 years, came from Augustendorf to Argentina via the Port of Bremen on the ship Madrid.

26 October 1930

Fridolin Watzlavik or Waclawik (Watzlawik), age 8 years, came form

All the family died in Argentina.

- Johans (Juan) Watzlawik died in 1916 in Buenos Aires, the capital of Argentina.
- Petronella (Petrona) Tolkan died in 1942 in Lanus
 Oeste in the Province of Buenos Aires, Argentina.



- Albina Lola Watzlawik died in 1987 in Villa Ballester in the Province of Buenos Aires. She was buried in General Belgrano, Cordoba, Argentina.
- Maria Waclawik (Watzlawik) died in 1959 in Lanus Oeste in the Province of Buenos Aires.
- Anton Waclawik (Watzlawik) died 4 October 1953 in General Belgano, Cordoba. The inscription upon his tombstone reads "Anton Waclawik." He is buried in General Belgano, Cordoba.
- Fridolin Waclawik (Watzlawik), deceased, son of Anton, is buried in General Belgrano, Plca. De Cordoba, Argentina.
- Julius Watzlawik, deceased, lived in Jose Leon Suarez in the Province of Buenos Aires. The place of his burial is unknown.
- Ludwig Watzlawik died 3 April 1984 in General Jose De San Martin, Plca. Del Chaco, Argentina. He is buried in the San Francisco de Asis cemetery.