

# The Bukovina Society of the Americas NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 81, Ellis, KS 67637-0081 USA

Vol. 34, No. 1 March 2024

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Membership Dues:  
Lifetime \$150.00  
Annual \$25.00

## SOCIETY NEWS & EVENTS

- Welcome to our newest life members: #311 Marlene Anderson, # 312 Cornelia Wirth and # 313 Ingrid Mohammad. Thanks for your support.
- We welcomed the Wagoner family from Colby, Kansas on their visit to the Society headquarters and museum. Lois Jean (Aschenbrenner) Wagoner, an early life member of the Society, came with her son Jeff and daughter Julie Sanford.

Lois said the name Wagoner was from their trade, wagon makers. Her ancestry is from from Johann Aschenbrenner who married Barbara Augustine. Their ancestral village was Pojana Miculi along with the Flax branch.

Lois posed in front of the wedding dress of her Great-Aunt Catherine Honas. She brought her laptop with research beginning in 1989, when Bukovina Society was chartered.

- Jim Joseph wrote an article in The German-Bohemian Heritage Society Newsletter on Bohemian German Dialects. It cited the work of Prof. Alfred Wildfeuer and Dr. Nicole Eller-Wildfeuer who did research in New Ulm, MN, the states of Kansas and Washington and Puhoi, New Zealand. The Kansas research was based out of the Ellis Headquarters of the Society.

## POJANA MIKULI DESCENDANTS REUNION

By Doug Reckmann

Both Oren Windholz and myself received an email from BSA Lifetime members, Irmtraut and Adolf Shaper, that a reunion of Pojana Mikuli and other Bukovina descendants will be happening in Kirchdorf am Inn. (On the German/Austrian border 20 miles north of Salzburg.) I intend to attend because I haven't seen the Shapers in years! For more information, please

contact me via [info@bukovinasociety.org](mailto:info@bukovinasociety.org).

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Bukovina-German Descendants!

Our small community has not seen much activity lately, but we have decided to organize another family reunion in Kirchdorf am Inn. We invite you to help shape the next meeting, be it through souvenir photos with the associated stories or other text contributions that we can attach to the exhibition walls. We warmly invite you to spend some entertaining and interesting time together. We also ask you to inform other interested friends and relatives. We look forward to seeing you again or getting to know you for the first time on Pentecost weekend 2024.

Warm greetings from Irmtraut and Adolf Schaper

**Program:**

**Friday, 17 May 2024**

Welcome for visiting guests in the evening for a cozy get-together with conversation and information about family research.

**Saturday, 18 May 2024 - 10:30am**

- Service at the Maria Forest Chapel (Marie-Wald-Kapelle) in Julbach. (In case of bad weather, to be relocated to the St. Bartholomew parish church.)

Following:

- Lunch
- Welcome
- Exhibition about the historical milestones of our ancestors
- Coffee
- A Delightful Evening The evening is open for dinner and continued conversation

Hotel und Restaurant Inntalhof

Hauptstr. 43  
84375 Kirchdorf am Inn  
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## ARGENTINE STUDENTS VISIT

By: Guy Windholz

Michele Springer, who represents a company that works with international Catholic students, visited the Society museum with Buenos Aires students who spent time at TMP-Marian Prep School in Hays, Kansas. This is the second year where the students 16 to 17 years of age stay for five short and fast-moving weeks out of the nine they will be traveling the States.

Including chaperone Franco Sanchez Lopez, the group of 10 are matched with 10 local host families during their stay. They attend a Catholic high school in Las Nieves.

Having a cousin that lives in Buenos Aires, it was exciting to greet them. Their school has a campus of 900 high school students. With levels from kindergarten, middle school, and the high school there are some 2,000 students. While at TMP-M, they split their days between morning and afternoon sessions to experience a variety of subjects of study.

Students viewed historic locations around Hays, meeting at Bukovina Society headquarters and Museum. Franco was one of the first to spot, in a glass display case, an Argentina Yerba Mate Tea Gourd which is a cup used to sip or slowly drink a beverage or tea of sorts. He pulled one of the same out of his back pack and we had a good laugh about that. I could tell his was well seasoned from regular use. The Society's gourd was a gift from Ayrton Goncalves Celestino.

I had attended St. Joseph Military Academy in Hays when it was a Junior R.O.T.C. school. They viewed a Cadet uniform worn by my uncle Anselm in 1933 and military uniforms and memorabilia to this date. Michele is an Army Veteran, having served in Iraq.

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**(Ed. note, the following article and the content of all Newsletters are in color. Please consider converting from paper copies to a PDF email to save on postage costs to the Society.) email to: [info@bukovinasociety.org](mailto:info@bukovinasociety.org)**

## USING MAPY.CZ TO FIND THE BOHEMIAN HOUSES OF MY BUKOVINA ANCESTORS

by Arthur Leite Binder, Curitiba, Brazil  
edited by Doug Reckmann

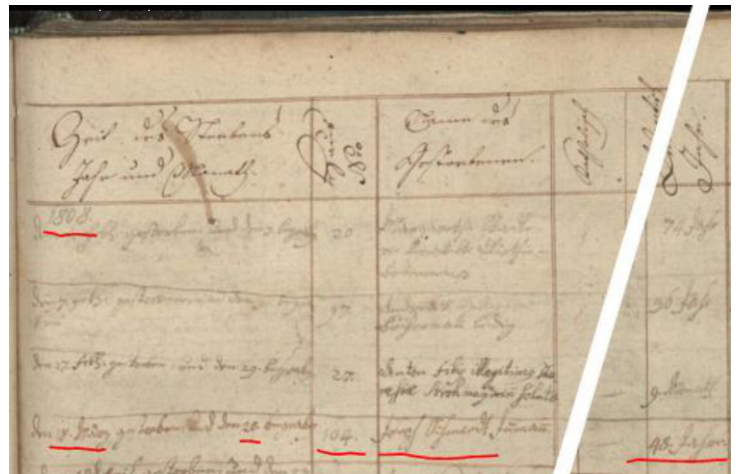
I started my Genealogical research more than 12 years ago. First through the help of my Brazilian friends, Professor Ayrton Gonçalves Celestino and João Nelson Hoffmann, and eventually Douglas Reckmann via the Bukovina Society

of the Americas. These people have helped me in many ways, providing me with much diverse data and information.

I collected information, records, photos, and oral testimonies about my ancestry and also of the relatives. I discovered what and where Bucovina was: the birthplace of great grandparents on my father's side. From researching the baptismal, burial, and marriage records of these ancestors, I learned that the birthplace of the grandparents of these ancestors was the Bohemian Forest (Böhmerwald). And I discovered that the birthplace of my oldest Binder ancestor was in Bavaria.

One of the most interesting and personal discoveries that many people who are Böhmerwald descendants have made, is discovering that the over 200 year old houses that our ancestors lived in, can still be standing. This is what happened to me in my research.

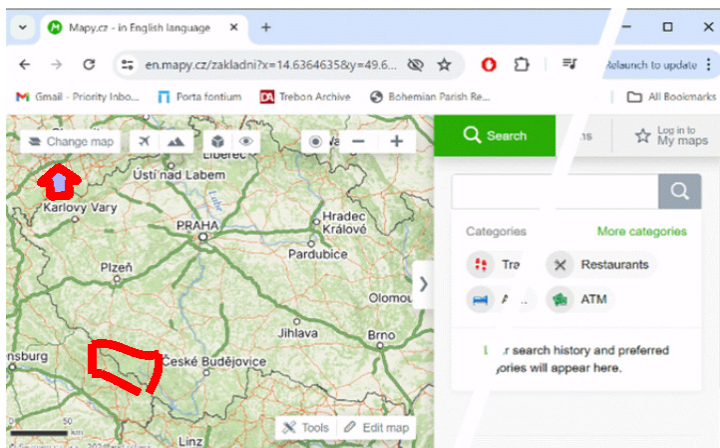
Before the "house hunting" that will be done below with the map application, the researcher will need to have discovered and documented the house number of the ancestor from the historical records of births, deaths, or marriages, in this example, from the State Regional Archives in Plzeň (Státní oblastní archiv v Plzni: <https://www.portafontium.eu/>)



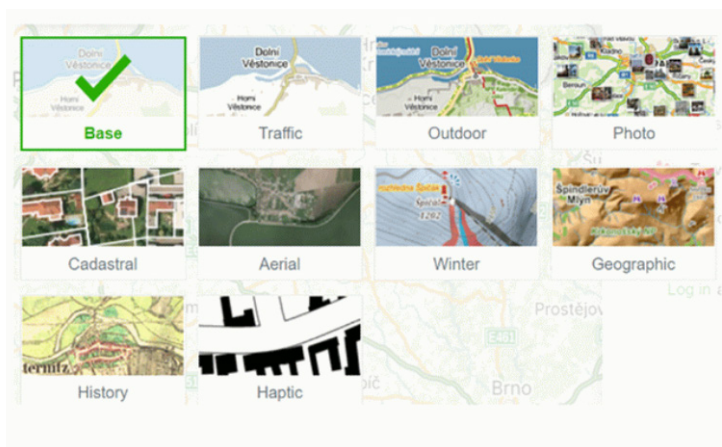
From the above record from the Pilsen Archive, I saw Josef Schmid died 18.03.1808, at the age of 48 in House #104 in Eisenstein (Železná Ruda). This was the first house that I was able to find, that of my fifth great grandfather, son of Thomas Schmid & Katharina Wudi, who married Walburga Kasberger.

We now know the town and the house number. Most of the village houses in the Böhmerwald still have the original house numbers. New houses were numbered sequentially. House #1 was the first house, #2 was the second, etc. Now we need to find out if the house still exists? To do this, we will use the program Mapy.CZ.

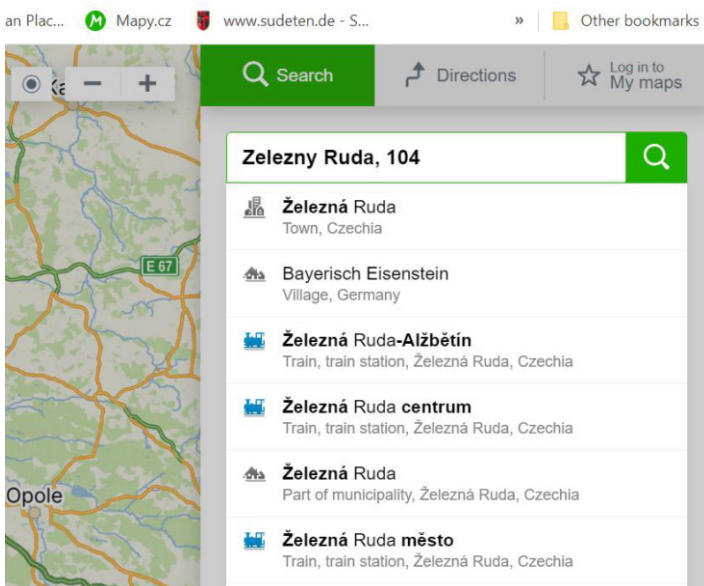
In a new browser window and type: „en.mapy.cz“. The user can close the personalization screen without any loss of program functionality.



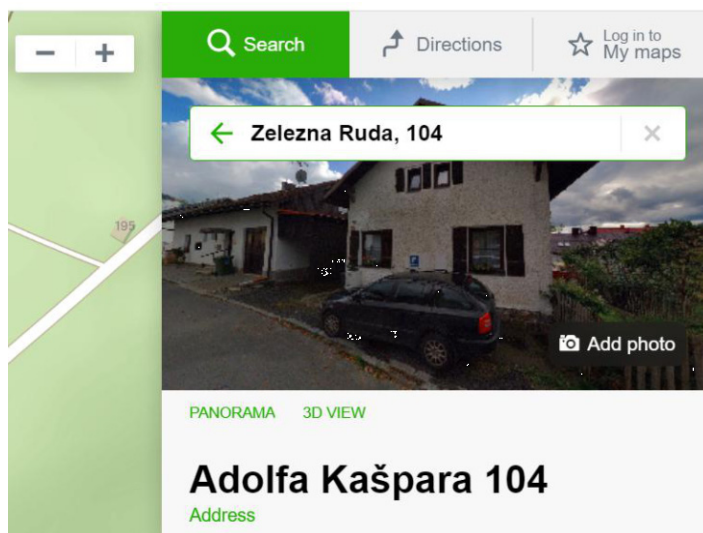
The Bohemian Forest (“Böhmerwald”) is the high-lighted area in the lower left. In the upper left, the user can change maps.



The default map is the “Base Map.” The user can continue panning and zooming in until eventually house numbers can be seen. Switching to the “Historical Map” will zoom out and allow the user to view a map from the 1800’s. The “Cadastral Map” shows current property lines, while the “Aerial Map” gives the user the latest overhead view. In the upper right hand corner, type „Zelezna Ruda, 104“ in the Search Box. You will see these results:



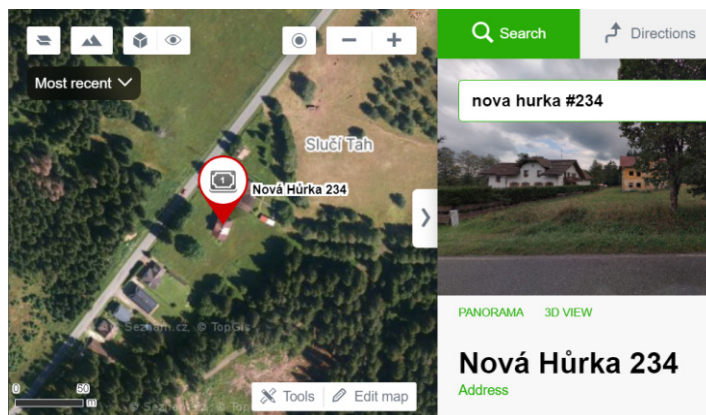
Click on the top result and you see this.



Clicking on the picture allows you to zoom and pan, viewing the house as it currently stands, possibly with some changes, but the basic structure is still there: the house of my seventh grandfather.

The next house that I thought that I had found was Rehberg #99. Rehberg is Srní in Czech. I typed in Srni #99 and there it was! Upon further investigation, I realized that the house I found was not in the Bohemian Forest, but instead in the north of Bohemia. There is more than one village with the name Srní, aka Rehberg. The user should first use the Base map and the Historical map, zooming in to verify if a house with the specific number is still in the village.

At the end of World War II, most ethnic Germans were expelled from Czechoslovakia. Many of the small ethnic German villages close to the German border were completely razed. This is true for the village of Neu Hurkenthal (Nová Hůrka). The original house of my ancestors in Neu Hurkenthal no longer exists. The granddaughter of my seventh grandparents, Jakob Nonmüller and his wife Anna Maria Kral was born in Neu Hurkenthal #234, just outside of the village. Typing “nova hurka #234” (the user does not need to use the actual Czech characters) I found the house! It is the yellow house on the right.



I hope that this article helps other Bukovina Descendants to find their ancestral houses in Böhmerwald.

Greetings from Curitiba!

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