

To be a Bukovinian

Issue 2: **BUKOLINK** October 2016

Hello Friends,

BukoLink 1 was sent out via the waves of the Internet and we were filled with nervous expectation to see how it would be received by you. According to the responses so far, it seems that we have aimed correctly at our community of friends. We have received a lot of congratulations, comments of "keep up the good work", satisfaction with its contents and overall appreciation for the very concept of publishing a newsletter dedicated to Bukovina

The present issue of BukoLink will integrate magazine articles written by organization members with the permanent sections which will be seen in each issue

As has been mentioned previously in the first issue; our organization's annual Commemoration Ceremony will be held this year on Sunday November 6th, 2016, right after the holidays, in the Tel Aviv Museum's Recanati auditorium. This year's Ceremony will mark the 75th anniversary of the forced deportations from Romania and Ukraine to Transnistria

We will endeavor to issue invitations to the Ceremony during this month. In view of the fact that October is a month full of holidays with very few work days, you are asked to confirm your participation as soon as possible to avoid any unpleasant situations or lack of available seats

Best regards, New Year's greetings and happiness, Yochanan

Bukovina Jewish Heritage Sites Project

Written by Baruch Eylon (Alper)

August 2016

?So how did it all begin

On the eve of Holocaust Day (Yom HaShoah) in 2013 I had been watching a television program on the occasion of Holocaust Memorial Day. For some reason the program awakened in me something that had not happened before. When my late parents, Lina and Shalom Alper had tried to tell me about their experiences during the Holocaust, I hadn't wanted to hear... and suddenly - I found myself thinking that I had probably missed something - I do not know almost anything about where my parents grew up and lived - how it looks, how the people are, what exactly they did there, how they lived there, and of course - it apparently had not really been okay that "I hadn't let them express themselves and relieve their hearts" about whatever they had wanted to tell. I decided that the time had come to try to get to the places they had lived in before World War II, (**Bukovina, and Banila on the Siret River**) the forced expulsion . 'route from Bukovina to Transnistria, and the camp in Transnistria - in 'Mogilev

This is the time to point out that I was born after the Holocaust in 1949 in the town of **Satumarea**. To my shame, until then, I barely knew where it was, and certainly did not know what Bukovina was or where **Banila** was either.

I slept on this for several days and decided I wanted to at least go there and learn what is still possible, this after my parents and those of their generation I had known, had died a long time ago. I decided to suggest to my two sons, Gal and Ziv to accompany me and I was happy they agreed to go without hesitation. Thus was born the idea of a taking a "roots trip".

OK, we're off - but to where? What to look for? How do we search?

I tried to remember names, places I had heard in my childhood. I wrote down every place without really knowing where it was; what it was; what the distance was between the places, which place was more important and which less, and so on. So I recalled several places; **Satumarea**, my birthplace; **Banila**, on the River Siret, the village of my parents' birth and where they had lived up until World War II began; and **Transnistria / Mogilev**, the concentration camp where my parents were deported to and had walked to from Banila and other places (including **Bukovina and Suceava**). I searched both my mind and the files my mother had left from her compensation claims from Germany after the Holocaust. I looked for these places on Google.

The first, simple surprise was to "discover" that some of the places were in **Romania** and some others in **Ukraine**. The second, not-so-simple surprise came when I found out that **Satumarea** was located in the north-west of **Romania**, (in **Transylvania**), while all the other places were in the north-east, or **Bukovina**. The distance between them, a 'mere' 600 kilometers, with a 'small' obstacle in the middle - the **Carpathian**

Mountains! Something did not sit right with me - how come everything was in the east and I was born in the far west?? I kept looking more at Google and I discovered to my surprise, not far from **Rădăuți**, another village named **Satumarea** ... it seemed I had found the place, "which made more sense to have been born in", and this (so we thought) allowed us to plan our route for our allotted time-frame; one week.

How was the project born?

I'll skip the other events and jump straight to **Banila**. During our time there, I did not know anything about where my parents had lived. One very elderly woman remembered that Jews once lived there and that there even was a **Jewish cemetery** there ... It took us **two hours** to find where this "there" was ... and it looks like this ...in the middle of the forest... along a muddy path ... in the raspberry bushes you will find gravestones... in relatively good shape... with Hebrew letters on them....

This sight probably lit the spark that something needed to be done; before it was too late.... This trip was a catalyst; the vision of the graves in the forest, which very few even know of their existence or condition, began a process of investigation and searching. On the way back from Romania in the airport my sons had already raised the question: OK, now that we've seen it, what do you do with it? Ignore it or do something?

I contacted "**The World Organization of Bukovina Jews and Descendants**". I learned (a little) about what Bukovina is. I contacted Mr. **Dov Shay**, (co-editor of the book on "**The Holocaust of the North Bukovina Jews**") and during our conversation I found out that we were even relatives, and he remembers my parents very well, as well as their return from **Transnistria** to **Storozhynetz** and from there back to Romania to **Transylvania**, and to **Satumarea** ... In short, along with **Yochanan Ron Singer**, we agreed to organize a project team to **locate, document, restore and preserve Jewish heritage sites in Bukovina, Transnistria and the deportation route of the Jews from Bukovina to Transnistria - now in Moldova.**

The Project:

The project team was appointed in February 2014. The team members are: Avraham Iwanir, Arthur Rindner, Daniel Katz and Baruch Eylon (Chairman). After the trip to Bukovina and Transnistria that took place in July 2015, Ms. Sarah Sweiry joined the team, as Pilot Project Manager.

The team has been working together since 2014. We began studying the issue in order to better understand what information exists today in the world; what is already being done and how especially, and especially - not to reinvent the wheel.

We have prepared a detailed work plan which features the following main stages including:

1. **Study the topic:** locate similar/related organizations throughout the world; network and collaborate with them. Done
2. **Define the project scope:** in terms of the territory to be dealt with, types of sites and the languages in which we will document the materials. Done
3. **Find and build a list of heritage sites:** decide which information we want to collect, keep and make accessible to the public; including prioritizing of sites. Done and continues to be updated regularly.
4. **Define how to document a heritage site. Done.** It was agreed to set up a website in English which will be added to the database. It was also agreed to prepare a Smartphone APP to do site surveys and update data on the Internet site. All of these have been completed. The site and the information are at: <http://www.eylonconsulting.com/bukovina> . The Smartphone APP was used during the Pilot Project we conducted in July 2016 in 12 sites in the Storozhynetz area in the Ukraine.
5. **It was decided to carry out the project in phases:** beginning with the pilot project mentioned above.
6. **Define what needs to be done in the Heritage site.** We better understand now what is required and the subject is under discussion of the organization's management about what must be done, taken care of and funding sources.
7. **Carry out these operations** and institutionalize them.

The project deals with and in the above website you can find the following types of Heritage Sites:

1. Jewish cemeteries and Holocaust-era mass graves including memorials sites
2. Concentration camps and memorial sites
3. Ghettos
4. Synagogues

Materials and additional articles about Jewish heritage sites can be found at:

<http://www.eylonconsulting.com/bukovina/blog/>

And what can you do?

The project is entirely voluntary! Anyone can volunteer and help. The most important thing, and the easiest, is to continue to carry out the site surveys at the Heritage sites. If you are planning a trip or a "roots trip" to Bukovina / Transnistria / Moldova that takes you near the Bukovina expulsion route, contact me

(Baruch@eylonconsulting.com) or through our organization, 'The World Organization of Bukovina Jews and Descendants'.

We will give you the information we have about the places you plan to visit and the Smartphone APP to assist you in carrying out site surveys and collecting information (details, images, GPS data, etc.) which we will be happy to add to the project website, including articles about the places you have visited - if you're interested. Baruch Eylon.

Personal Commitment

Written By: Arthur Rindner

I was born in Czernowitz [...cut by author's request, for more information please contact Arthur Rindner directly: vonczernowitz@yahoo.com].

'Bukovinian Pride - 'One of Our Own

:State Award by the Knesset Chairman

We, the members of the Committee of Ministers and Members of the Knesset” recommend to award to **Dr. Eliezer Glaubach** the aforementioned prize for the following reasons

For his extraordinary activities for the good of the community with an emphasis on * improving the quality of life of the needy in Jerusalem at all levels, in various areas including East Jerusalem, and especially Holocaust survivors

* For his extraordinary initiative in the field of preserving the values of quality of life and the environment, done consistently since the early seventies of the last century when he was appointed senior advisor to the legendary late mayor of Jerusalem Teddy Kollek, then afterwards as a member of the city.

* For his many years of active service done tirelessly and with deep commitment, we reiterate and state that it is appropriate for Dr. Glaubach to receive the Award of the Chairman of the Knesset."

Today Mr. Eliezer Glaubach is a Professor

Prof. Glaubach was born in a small village in northern Bukovina named Cherfkauch, on the banks of the Siret River, today in Ukraine. During the period of World War II as a child, he passed very difficult conditions with his family as they tried to survive, yet

were deported to Transnistria, under the reign of violent terror of the Nazi-Romanian regime. The camp was very harsh, with extremely difficult living conditions and enormous anti-Semitism when the four family members arrived and by the end of the .war, only two remained - the child Eliezer and his mother Klara

After the war, Eliezer the child was brought to a home for orphans and children of Holocaust survivors, with the stamp of approval of "Youth Aliyah Netherlands. He immigrated to Israel with the rise of the youth movement following the opening of borders of Israel in 1948 aboard the ship the Negba, and went directly to the youth village "Aloni-Itzak". With the arrival of his mother to Israel in 1950 Eliezer helped to support the household working at the port of Haifa while completing his studies in the evening ... He served as an officer in the infantry and later even passed the naval .officers course

Prof. Glaubach has written five books, which mainly deal with the topic of securing the future of Jerusalem.

Stories from the "Bukovinian" Bookshelf:

"Good kids"

Translation of the German story written by Joseph Rudel

They met every day, in a small garden surrounded by high-rise buildings in Tel Aviv. At exactly ten minutes past one in the afternoon; every day at the same place. Sitting on the same bench, each one on opposite ends. They kept their distance, status symbolically.

Schwartzman had lived in the area of the villas of Czernowitz; Rosenberg had lived in - Malplatz (a middle class residential area). Schwartzman had been a signatory in Marmorosh Bank; Rosenberg had been a simple clerk in Trikotinia. Both had been retired for a long time; living on tiny allowances and in small, crowded apartments. Although these days their status has become the same; the class distinction has been maintained throughout the years. But the tables are turned! Once Rosenberg had envied Schwartzman and today it is the opposite. Schwartzman is widowed and childless; Rosenberg is also a widower but he has a son, daughter and grandchildren.

What are they talking about? About what... not? About low incomes, the high cost of living, about politics and the past.

"Don't drive me crazy," Rosenberg said, "What do you have to complain about? Do I live better than you? Do I eat two lunches per day, or wear two pairs of shoes at the same time"?

Schwartzman did not answer; just looked at Rosenberg.

Finally he said, "So this is your opinion, that there is no difference between us"?

"and if I hadn't noticed a difference, thank God I have a healthy head and you a blockhead. I cannot bear people who whine endlessly and never stop complaining. Have I troubled you, ever, with my worries"?

"Mainly because you, Mr. Rosenberg have NO worries. I live in the middle of four empty walls, while the good Lord has given you children and grandchildren; you won big from the lottery jackpot!

Ah, here is where the sleeping dog lies! You are jealous of me! True, I have good and dear children; let them be healthy and long lived.

And they should have a lot of luck, added Schwartzman. By the way, what has your daughter written you from Florida?

Written? When would she write? When does she have the time to write? There in America they are so busy that it occurs to no one to carry on correspondences. Also a big apartment like hers requires a lot of work and the children and such a distance!

The contact is by telephone from time to time?

What are you talking about, Mr. Schwartzman? Don't you know that when it is day there, here it is dark? Do you want her to wake me up from my sleep? Last year, in honor of Passover, she sent me a wonderful greeting card written in golden letters.

What about your son? Schwartzman questioned, doesn't he live in Petah Tikva?

I cannot complain; he is young, talented and caring, we are very close to each other. Every time he is in overdraft at the bank he calls and pours his heart out. He, God forbid, does not ask for a penny, I always help him when I get my pension. It makes me happy, so what if that same week I don't buy any fruit.

What about your daughter-in-law?

Sweet girl, Rosenberg praises her. Very busy, but she treats me as if I was her father! Last year, in honor of Purim, she sent me a plate of cookies. Always when they go with friends to the cinema or theater, they bring me the little grandson. He is seven months old and he has, knock on wood, the loudest voice ... and when he begins to open his mouth the upstairs neighbor immediately starts with a help of a broomstick to knock on the floor. You know that I learned to change diapers. It makes him so happy when he activates his fountain and gets me all wet! The kid is very intelligent, this Danny.

Schwartzman shook his head, "Yes, yes, children are a great thing, do you visit your son often?

For that I do not have the strength. To get there I have to travel by two buses and then walk another long ways".

But doesn't he have car; can't he at least come to you?

How can I demand it of him? After all, I live on the fourth floor without an elevator. Can I ask him to climb up the steep stairs to me?

You are correct Mr. Rosenberg, how can one demand this from a good son?

Just as you said, Mr. Schwartzman, such a good boy, always when he passes by my house he honks his horn.

Schwartzman was silent for a while, after some deep thought, he said:

People need luck. At our age good kids are a gift of fate.

Then he slid over toward his friend Rosenberg and with full understanding put his hand on his shoulder.

Recipe corner from the Bukovinian kitchen

Old time "Totch":

When they still worked six days a week, before the era of the "food processor", preparations for Shabbat at my family, the Nachman family, began on Thursday afternoons.

To understand this unique story, I have to explain and even emphasize that my father, Ennio, thought that my mother's hands, Selma (nee Gutman) were the most beautiful hands; to be protected and of course to be nurtured.

So every Thursday evening, Mother is in the kitchen preparing and cooking and Father is on the stool peeling 1.5 kilograms of potatoes so we would be able, very early Friday morning before we left for work (at about 4:45), to grate and grate the potatoes. Then Mother would be able to come in and begin the process which is all full of smells and celebration.

At 7:30, there is already Totch, fragrant and ready for tastings on Friday, and for Saturday breakfast.

In our house, Totch, usually, was a side dish to "Goulash", or "Bratan" but, was eaten as well, with salted butter on Saturday mornings.

Oh, the taste of 'then'... what longing....

What and how:

1.5 kg. Finely grated potatoes

½ kg. Flour

1 Package of yeast

2 Eggs

2 Tablespoons oil

1 Teaspoon salt and pinch of black pepper - **add only at the end!**

Thoroughly mix the yeast with the flour; add eggs and oil, add the potatoes with spices. Knead well; allow to expand, (like Mother), under a blanket until dough doubles in size.

Bake: in well oiled, uncovered baking dish with hole in the middle.

Preheat oven to medium heat, 180 degrees, bake for an hour and a quarter.