

BOGDA

Local council Office: Bogda no. 9, telephone 0256/231230, fax 0256/234325;

Coordinates:

45°58'27" N lat.;

21°35'31" E long.;

Historical landmarks:

-1415 - a mention of the nobleman Benedict de Buzad;

-1436 - Bogda de Sus and Bogda de Jos are mentioned in historical documents (**Felse Baagd and Also Baagd**);

-1476 - the two settlements merge under the name of **Baagd**;

-1723-1725 - Bogda was mentioned on Mercy's map as **Bogdan** ;

-Romanians from Arad and Hunedoara counties settle in Sintar village, originally inhabited by Slavic population;

-1771 - massive German colonisations;

-end of XVIIIth century - Bogda is renamed **Neuhoff**;

-1770-1771 - the village of Sintar is given the name **Buchberg**, in the honour of chancellor Eduard Buchberg;

-1771 - 42 German families settled in Comeat, and the village was named **Lichtenwald**;

-1890 - Bogda was part of Lipova district and it had 424 inhabitants;

-upon the intervention of the owner of the village, **Anton Negele**, the authorities change the name of the village from Neuhoff to **Bogda-Rigós** ("rigó" in Hungarian means blackbird);

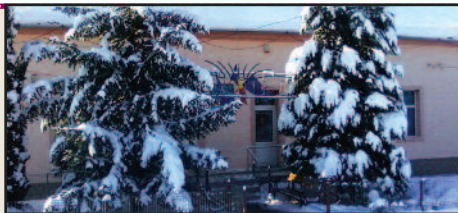
-1915 - the Bogda school was built;

-1924 - Bogda commune was mentioned under the name of **Bogdan**; -10 September 1939 - **Dionisie Iovi**, singer of Banat folk music, was born in Bogda;

-21 September 1940 - **Vasile Bucur (Uica)**, poet in the Banat idiom, was born in Comeat;

-1949 - The Bogda Common Baths, dating back to 1771, are nationalized;

- 1993 - the first vested interests from Timiș County after the Revolution are being hand-



ed out in Altringen;

-2002 - Bogda commune had 414 inhabitants;

- 2008 - due to massive population decline, the number of households was higher than the number of inhabitants;

Total population on 1 January 2010:

423 persons, of which:

- male = 207 persons

- female = 216 persons

Number of households on 1 January 2010: 463

Member villages: Bogda, Altringen (1436, Rékás; after 1775, Waldsiedlungen "the forest village", 1828, Altringen), Buzad (1415, Buzad), Charlottenburg (1770-1771), Comeat (1547, Komját; re-established in 1770, Lichtenwald), Sintar (1455-1495, Zebthi);

Educational institutions: Primary School (I-IV): Charlottenburg; Kindergarten with normal hours: Charlottenburg;

Health facilities: Local clinic: Bogda; Medical practice: Buzad; Sanitary-veterinary clinic: Charlottenburg;

Cultural institutions:

Community centre: Bogda, Buzad and Charlottenburg; Library: Bogda;

Fitness and sports facilities:

Sports ground (Charlottenburg school); Football pitch (Altringen);

Churches: Romanian Orthodox Churches: Comeat (1924) and Buzad (the first church was mentioned in 1877; 1962); Roman-Catholic Churches: Bogda and Charlottenburg (1893);

Annual Church Festival:

Comeat (8 September, Saint Mary); Buzad (25 October).

CITY HALL AND LOCAL COUNCIL OF BOGDA COMMUNE

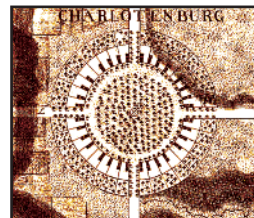
Luca Dorel	Mayor	Lupu Relu, LC Member	NLP
Boicei Petru	Vice Mayor	Prisecaru Gigel, LC Member	NLP
Balint Ilie, LC Member	SDP	Recheșan Lazăr, LC Member	SDP
Cotoc Vandana, LC Member	NLP	Sârbu Mihai, LC Member	SDP
Ciubotaru Constantin, LC Member	SDP	Terbancea Ioan, LC Member	NLP

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CHARLOTTENBURG - ROUND VILLAGE

Between 1770-1771, the village of **Recășița** (mentioned in historical documents from 1463 under the name of Rékás, inhabited by Romanians and, in the opinion of some Hungarian historians, by Hungarians and Serbians) is methodically colonised by Germans. The decision to colonise the town was taken by the governor of Banat, Johann von Altringen, thus the new name of the settlement: Altringen. Not far from the village bearing his name, the governor establishes another settlement, called **Charlottenburg** after his wife, Charlotta. The Romanian natives were moved in the surrounding villages and their lands given to the Swabian colonists. Charlottenburg was declared historical monument by the Ministry of Culture, because it is the only round-shaped village in Banat. The village was built under the super-

vision of Carl Samuel Neumann Edler of Bucholt. The village was initially colonised by 32 German families: 67 persons came from Eastern Trient, 12 from Lothringen, 10 from Baden-Württemberg, 8 from Hungary, 7 from Rheinland and Rheinpfalz, 6 from Austria, 3 from Bavaria. The current church was built between 1875-1876 by the Sina de Hodos et Kizdia family. Before World War I, 90% of the population of the two villages was German. Their number decreases dramatically after 1945. On 14 January 1945, 43 women and men were deported to Russia (USSR) for forced labour. The German emigration is completed at the end of the XXth century. The last Swabian leaves Altringen for Germany on 16 October 1992. His name was **Richard Schreiber**. Now the two villages are inhabited by Romanians, most of them from Ardeal and Moldova.



THE FIRST MOTOR CAR

After World War I, motor cars conquer Banat. In 1926, those in the market for motor cars could find them at the shops on 6, Eminescu Street (Chevrolet, Chrysler, Renault, Cadillac) or on 4, Queen Mary Blvd., at "Leonida & Co. Unite" (Ford). Another motor car and accessories shop was found in 1, Union Square. The motor car in the image, which at the beginning of the 1920's amazed those present at the Bogda Annual Church festival, was bought from a similar shop.



wooden icon of Virgin Mary. They decided to bury it on the side of the hill (Lipova Hills). A short time after, a healing mineral water spring appeared on the site where the icon of Virgin Mary had been buried.

THE ICON FROM THE HILL

Another official name given by the Hungarian authorities to Bogda village was Rigósfürdő (probably The Blackbird Baths). There is a story about the origin of the Baths – since, in the interwar period, the town was a renowned bathing resort, due to its carbonated-ferruginous-iodized waters. Some say that, while digging the foundation of a house, the Swabians who colonised Altringen found a

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SIEGFRIED VON WIMPFEN'S PARK

From 1838, Charlottenburg was owned by **Georg Simon Sina, baron of Hodosch et Kizdia**. His daughter, Anastasia, baroness Sina, marries count Siegfried von Wimpffen, who was fond of cynegetics. In 1890 he builds the hunting house and between 1902-1903 he develops the hunting park. A total area of 1,260 ha is enclosed by wire fences, and between 1904-1915 Carpathian deer and fallow deer from Serbia



and Bohemia are brought here. The total number of animals was about 600-700 in 1935 and doubled by 1970. Nowadays there are about 700 fallow deer and 120 mouflons, the latter being introduced for the first time in Banat in 2003. During the interwar period, the park created by count **Siegfried von Wimpffen** becomes the property of the Royal House. After 1947, the park is taken over by the government, and it is currently the 14th Forest District of the Timișoara Forest Range.

“I AM PROUD TO BE FROM BANAT!”

Dionisie Iovi was born on 10 September 1939 in the village of Bogda, in a family which cherished music. Dionisie's grandfather, Vasile Luca, was an excellent flute and clarinet player, one of his uncles was a drummer, and the voice of one of his aunts was very appreciated in the commune. As a member of this family, Dionisie had the opportunity to learn the flute and the clarinet, as well as how to sing.

In 1962 he came third in a national contest organised by the Central Creation House of Bucharest. This motivated the young singer to enrol at the Folk Arts School in Arad, Classical Singing Department, where he was taught by tenor Nicolae Stan. He makes his first TV appearance in 1967, during a folk music show broadcasted by the Romanian Television. Dionisie Iovi's career takes off: he makes recordings with the Radio Broadcasting Folk Music Orchestra (conductor George Vancu), between 1970-1990 he records several disks with the Electrecord Record House, he records at **Radio Timișoara several famous songs (1978), such as: “Come on, beautiful, let's dance”, “Girls from Banat”, or the “doina” “My village”**). He tours in the former Yugoslavia with the bad lead by Achim Penda, sings with folk bands known all over the country: Crișana from Oradea and Cindrelul from Sibiu. Over the years, he played on the same stage with Luca Novac, Remus Bistrița and Efta Botoca, the famous violin player from Jebel. One of his most appraised disks, called **“I am proud to be from Banat”** includes some of his most beautiful songs, such as the title play or the songs **“So many beautiful stars”, “What's wrong with my heart”, “Ileana is so beautiful”, “I love summer in the forest”, “For my beloved one”, “I love dancing in the village”, “My loved one is so beautiful”,** and many others, loved by the public.



PHOTOGRAPHIC DOCUMENT

Old man in front of his house in the village of Bogda. (Photo: Radu Trifan)