

CHEVEREȘU MARE

Local Council Office: Chevereșu Mare no. 277, telephone/fax 0256/415008;

Coordinates:

45°40'01" N lat.;
21°29'27" E long.;

Historical landmarks:

-the XVIIth century - the current commune of Chevereș (**Keverish**) was founded;

-1717 - a record of the village of **Cheveriș**, on the site of the current forest towards the Timiș river;

-1721 - the post office was built;

-the middle of the XVIIth century - people say that three hamlets united: **Corneanț**

(nucleus of the future settlement of Chevereș), **Bocea** (the largest one) and **Drila**;

-1840 - **Pavel Rotariu** was born in Dragășina; journalist and lawyer (d. 9 June 1919);

-1843 - there were 1,770 Orthodox Romanians in the village of Chevereș, the number of Catholic people barely reaching a hundred;

-1878 - the primary school was built;

-1896 - **Pavel Blițdaru** was born in Chevereșu Mare; peasant writer, deputy, journalist (d. 1953);

1930 - a gypsy porch is established in Chevereș (10 persons), that becomes sedentary over time;

1907-1914 - more than one hundred inhabitants of Chevereș and Dragășina emigrate to the United States of America; **Ioan Crăciun** registers this fact into the Monograph of Chevereș (electronic edition);

-1936 - the commune had a men's choir, a military band, a community centre, a monument dedicated to the heroes, a mill, a fiscal administration office and a gendarmerie office;

-31 August 1945 - **Horia Vermeșan** was born in Chevereșu Mare; Ph.D. university professor, surgeon - primary doctor;

-4 July 1955 - **Dorel Cerna** was born in Vucova; economist, former manager of Banca Comercială Română from Timișoara;

-2002 - the commune of Chevereșu Mare had 1,942 inhabitants;

-2008 - the "**Chevereșanul**" newspaper was published; it was managed by the poet **Petru Vasile Tomoiagă**;

Total population on 1 January 2010:

2,033 persons, of which:

- male = 1,045 persons

- female = 988 persons

Number of households on 1 January 2010: 763

Member villages: Chevereșu Mare, Dragășina (1442, "kenesius de **Draxfalva**"), Vucova (1717, Vukovo);

Educational institutions: Elementary Schools (I-VIII): Chevereșu Mare; Primary Schools (I-IV): Dragășina and Vucova; Kindergartens with normal hours: Chevereșu Mare, Dragășina and Vucova;

Health facilities: Medical practices: Chevereșu Mare (two) and Vucova; Sanitary-veterinary practices: Chevereșu Mare;

Cultural institutions: Community centres: Chevereșu Mare, Dragășina and Vucova; Town Library: Chevereșu Mare (1960);

Fitness and sports facilities: Gymnasium: Chevereșu Mare;

Churches: Romanian Orthodox Churches: Chevereșu Mare (1839), Dragășina (1860) and Vucova;

Greek-Catholic Churches: Chevereșu Mare (1777), Dragășina (1906) and Vucova;

Evangelical Churches: Vucova; Baptist Churches: Chevereșu Mare (1999);

Pentecostal Churches: Vucova;

Annual Church Festivals: Annual orthodox church festivals in the following localities:

Chevereșu Mare (on Pentecost), Dragășina (29 June - Saints Apostles Peter and Paul) and Vucova (8 September - the Nativity of Virgin Mary);

Annual catholic church festival in Dragășina (5 October); Annual Slovak festival in Vucova (26 October).



THE CITY HALL AND THE LOCAL COUNCIL OF CHEVEREȘU MARE

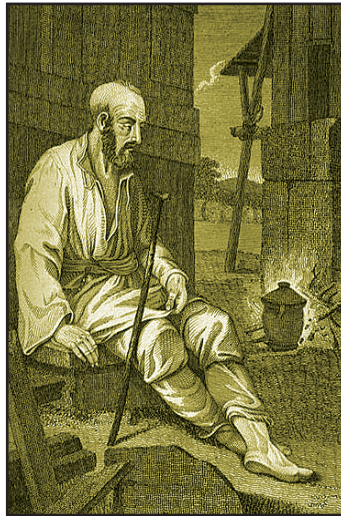
Muia Marcel	Mayor	Husariu Teodor, LC member	SDP
Husariu Gheorghe	Vice Mayor	Rohanka L. Alexandru, LC member	DUHR
Bobcsok Carla, LC member	SDP	Feher Francisc, LC member	SDP
Bobic Narcis-Sabin, LC member	SDP	Titel Nicolae, LC member	DLP
Caragea Pavel, LC member	DLP	Tripon Ana, LC member	SDP
Ciobanu Alina-Dorica, LC member	NGP	Zifciac Francisc, LC member	SDP

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PETRU ȚĂRTAN, MATUSALEM OF CHEVEREȘ

In the third decade of the XVIIIth century, the most notorious inhabitant of the Chevereșu Mare settlement was considered the old man **Petru Țărtan** (Țăran, maybe) named by the Austrian newspaper, "Merkwürdigen Wien" (preserved in the Central Library of Vienna), on his death on 5 January 1724, the "**Matusalem of Banat**", because he was 185 when he died! The "Merkwürdigen Wien" stated: "Until a few days before he died, he could be seen, up and about, in front of the post office, leaning against his stick, waiting for the charity of the people getting off the chaise. He was born in 1539, and when the fortress of Timișoara fell under Tatar ruling, he was shepherding his father's cattle. He sought refuge in the mountains."

Thus, if the story told by the Austrian newspaper were true, then the life of Matusalem from Chevereș would have extended on three centuries, the XVIth century from 1539, the entire XVIIth century and the XVIIIth century until 1724, during the time of Maria Theresa! The son of Petru Țărtan, Ștefan, was 100 years old at the moment of his father's death. Among the secrets of his longevity was the fact that Țărtan father "strictly followed all the lents of the orthodox religion, and the rest of the time he would eat only milk and warm rolls made of corn flower,



and he drank a sip of home made plum brandy daily." It seems that the Baron Marshall **Franz Wenzel von Wallis** (1696-1774) commissioned a in full size painting of Țărtan to a German painter brought from Timișoara. One hour after the painting was finished, the old man passed away, surrounded by loved ones. The portrait was engraved in copper and reproduced in the "Merkwürdigen Wien" newspaper, (according to Wettel Helmuth - "Der Buziaser Bezirk. Landschaften mit historischen Streislichtern", Temesvar, Südungarische Buchdruckerei, 1919).

Another famous person from Banat, nicknamed by the writer Petru Vintilă "**the Matusalem of Bocșa Vasiova**", was **Petru E. Oancea(a)**, that is "Father Oancea", considered by the critics an "anthology of legends, jokes, stories, the creator of a literature about the peasants and the village from Banat." Born in 1881, Father Oancea departed this life at the age of 92, in 1973. The Town Library of Bocșa is named after him. Among other personalities from the old Chevereș we find: **Pătruț Vancea**, imperial clerk in Chevereș, the son of a notorious captain of a gang of footpads, **Petru Vancea**, and, closer to our times, **Pavel Blidaru** (named "**a lu' loca**") deputy (18 April 1931 - 5 June 1932), peasant writer and journalist.

THE DICTATOR'S COTTAGE

The former hunting cottage of Nicolae Ceaușescu was built in 1978 (modernised in 1991, 2000 and 2003), at the edge of the forest, at 3 km from the commune of Chevereșu Mare, in an area suitable for leisure activities at 27 km east of Timișoara, on the county road Timișoara – Buziaș – Lugoj. Three billion ROL were invested in the renovation of the cottage from Chevereș (The Forest Range of Lunca Timișului), which, just like the other hunting cottages from Timiș county, entered in the tourist circuit: the hunting cottage from Pișchia, the one from Cheia (The Forest Range from Coșava), the cottage from Fârdea (The Forest Range of Făget) and the head office of the Forest Directorate of Lugoj.



CHEVEREȘU MARE

ONE VILLAGE OF
CHEVEREȘ

What could be the origin of the name of Chevereșu Mare? The toponymy of the name of Chevereș, according to the experts, would be of Slavic origin, coming from **Kovary**, that meant “a village of smiths” and it became: **Kovary - Kovariš** and **Keveris – Kóvéres**, the latter meaning “fatty”, “chubby” in Hungarian. In 1717, in Banat, there was a Serbian village with 24 houses, named **Keveris**, located not far from Vârșeț and later on known as Chevereșu Mic (Klein/Small Keveris). In 1771, the village near Vârșeț appeared under the name of



Köveresch. It was burnt during the Austrian war against the Turkish in 1788 and it was never rebuilt (according to Helmut Wettel, in “**Der Buziaser Bezirk. Landschaften mit historischen Streislichtern**”). The existence of the village of Chevereșu Mic (Small Chevereșu) has ceased for over 200 years, so the name Chevereșu Mare (Big Chevereșu) is no longer justified.

“YOUTH HOSTEL” CAMP

Over the last decades, thousands of children spent their holidays in the Chevereșu Mare Camp, located in a lovely broadleaf forest, on the left bank of the Timiș river. The camp was endowed with a computer room, with Internet connection and a completely modernised infrastructure. Besides the regular schedule, the children can visit the Buziaș resort, the Dendrologic Park from Bazoș, Timișoara, tourist objectives located at a small distance from the camp. The children are accommodated in small houses, with a total capacity of 150 places, having a canteen with a dinning room, sport grounds, a gymnasium with locker rooms and hot water showers, an open air amphitheatre. The camp from the commune of Chevereșu Mare was included in the “**Youth Hostel**” international circuit and, thus it can accommodate young people from all over the world.

THE FIRST
ROMANIAN
GAZETTE

Journalist and politician, fighter for the rights of the Romanians from Banat, **Pavel Rotariu** was born in the village of Dragșina in 1840, in the family of teacher George Rotariu and of Ecaterina Ioanovici. After graduating the primary school, he worked as an apprentice, but, in 1853, he began attending the courses of a high school in Timișoara, which he continued in Kecskemét and Beiuș, where he graduated receiving the Baccalaureate degree.

He studied law in Budapest (although he wanted to become a forestry engineer), then

in Vienna. In order to finish his studies, he worked at the “**Freie Neue Presse**” newspaper and contributed to the publishing of political articles about Romanians. He worked at the “**Albina**” newspaper, after its foundation in Vienna in 1866, as a censor, corrector and collaborator, together with Vinčențiu Babeș from Hodoni. In 1868, Pavel Rotariu returned to Timișoara. He married the daughter of Protopope Meletie Drăghici, and, in 1873, he opened his own practice as a lawyer.

His experience as a journalist acquired in Vienna was very useful when he decided to work as a journalist in Romania. On 12 April 1874, he published the satirical magazine “**Priculici**”, the first permanent Romanian gazette, and, on 17 March 1880, with the help of his father-in-law, he published the first Romanian political newspaper from Banat, “**The Luminary**”, with a supplement

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entitled "The Ombudsman". "The Luminary" was published in its initial format until January 1894, when it was reorganised and transformed into the daily newspaper "The Justice". Since 1898, Pavel Rotariu was the manager of the "Timișana" bank, founded by him, by his father in law, Meletie Drăghici, by Emanuil Ungureanu and other intellectuals from the county. The bank lent money to many Romanians from Banat. He was a member of the central management of the National Romanian Party. He was the author of some important works of his time, like "**Handbook of the usury laws**" (lending money at interest), consisting of the original text of the laws from 1877 art. VIII and from 1883 art. XXX translated in Romanian with explanations, Caransebeș, 1888; "the Law from 1886 art. XXIX, on the drawing up of land register excerpts, translated and explained in Romanian after the original official text", Caransebeș 1888; "The Common Law", Timișoara, 1886. Pavel Rotariu departed this life in June 1919, in his house located in the Fabric district of Timișoara.

DR. HORIA SABIN VERMEȘAN

He was born in Chevereșu Mare on 31 August 1945. He attended the courses of the University of Medicine of Timișoara between 1964 and 1970. He earned a Ph.D. in medicine (1985). He is a primary doctor of Orthopedics -Traumatology (1990). Since 1997, he has been the chief of the department of Orthopedics I. Since 1998, he has been a university professor. He was the manager of the Public Health District Authority Timiș (1992-1993). He is the Manager of the Public Health Directorate Timiș (2005-present). He is the member of the Balkan Medical Association. He is a member of the Romanian Society of Orthopedics and Traumatology (SOROT), a member of the Surgery Society Timișoara, of the Rheumatology Society, a member of the Society of German-speaking Arthroscopic Doctors (AGA). The founder member of the Academic Association for Intercurriculum Medical Studies. He is the founder member of the Romanian-Danish Society for Psycho-Medical Pedagogy. He is the member of the Association of the French-Speaking Orthopedic Doctors. He is a member of the European Federation for Orthopedics and Traumatology. He is the president of the Romanian-Italian-Spanish Society. He is a correspondent member of the Medical Sciences Academy. He obtained five invention patents and national and international prizes (The International Inventions Show, Geneva 1999, Brussels-Eureka, 2001, etc). He achieved numerous medical premiers: the first ostheo-syntheses with Ender elastic rods, the first arthroscopies executed in the west part of the country, the publishing of the first treaty of Polytraumatology from Romania, the monograph "The Pathology of the Femur and Knee Cap side", the first book ever published in Romanian medical literature on this subject etc. Quoted in "**Who's who in Romania medical 2006**", in "**Romanian Personalities and Their Deeds (1950-2000)**" and in "**Vip in Banat, the first Who's who from Banat - 2000**".



He published over 25 volumes of medical studies and numerous scientific articles in various medical journals, and he registered with the Romanian State Office for Inventions and Trademarks two of his original scientific contributions in the field of orthopedic surgery: "Universal Device for the extraction of femoral rods" and "The Calibrated Straining Method of the Surgical Knots".

The Ph.D. professor Vermeșan has exceptional scientific connections with university professors and surgeons from Italy, the USA and Germany, among which a successful collaboration with the University of Aschaffenburg from Bavaria, through **prof. PhD Wilherlm Fridel** (who comes from Timișoara). On another level, he is passionate about fine arts, thus he has put together an important collection of paintings and icons, having as basis the icons inherited from his grandfather, the Protopope **Virgil Muste**. He is also a fan of the "Politehnica" Timișoara football team from the times when it was called "Știința", and he has supported the team as a declared "drucker" (fan), as well as a doctor. The son of professor Vermeșan, **Dinu Vermeșan**, walked on his father's footsteps becoming an orthopedic surgeon, and his daughter, **Simona**, is also a doctor.