

**TO: Researchers -**

**Krasna, Bessarabia, Russia/Romania  
Emmental, Bender, Bessarabia, Russia  
Karamurat, Dobrudscha, Romania  
Colelia, Dobrudscha, Romania  
and others related**

**FROM: Ted J. Becker**

**DATE: Winter 2009/2010**

**After more than two years, my cousin, Rick Taylor, and I have completed the project of scanning the Krasna Photo Collection. I am now ready to offer you a DVD which contains the results of our labors. Should you want a copy of this DVD, please send me \$75.00 U.S. funds only (cash, check or money order). My postal address can be found at the end of this newsletter.**

**The DVD contains 1) an introduction/instructions section, 2) copies of the nearly 7,000 photos in the Collection, 3) an index (by name of person and of place) (one in Microsoft Excel and one in PDF format), and 4) identifications of nearly all of the people in them, and of all the places.**

**The photos in the Collection were shared with me by descendants of Krasnaers, Emmentalers, Karamuraters, Coleliars, Balmaers, Largaers, and others from many countries. They live/lived in Germany, USA, Switzerland, Norway, England, Canada, Turkey, Australia, Brazil, South Africa, Argentina, and Romania. The names of the descendants who shared photos with me are placed at the end of the identification(s) of the people and places in the photos.**

**In addition to the photos shared by descendants, I copied over 1,200 photos taken during the Resettlement in Germany, from captured EWZ records. During that tumultuous time, resettlers age 14 and older had their photos taken during the interview process done in the respective resettlement camps. I found these photos in the microfilmed records captured in Germany near the end of World War II by the U.S. Army and held by the U.S. government.**

**Eduard Volk's book, *Krasna, Die Geschichte eines deutschen Dorfes in Bessarabien* (*Krasna, The History of a German Village in Bessarabia*) stands as the most important research tool about Krasna available to researchers. (Should you wish a copy of the German version, it can be purchased at <http://www.cardamina.de>. Should you wish an English translation of the book, contact me! (I have placed the translation onto a CD.) The Krasna Photo Collection without doubt stands next to his book in importance. Nowhere has so much of the visual history of Krasna been preserved in one place. This Collection represents over 30 years of my asking, "Do you have any photos you might share with me?" Thank you to each of you who shared photos with me!**

In 1995, I received from the Roman Catholic diocesan office in Jasi, Romania, copies of over 400 pages of letters written by the priests of Emmental and of Krasna between 1921 and 1940 to the diocese. Both parishes were transferred to this diocese when Bessarabia was transferred to the civil jurisdiction of Romania by Russia at the end of World War I. Prior to that, the parishes had been under the jurisdiction of the Roman Catholic diocese of Tiraspol, Russia/Ukraine. Recently, I discovered these copies in the Krasna Library and sent them to Paul Wingenbach in Germany. He, with Eduard Volk's help as well as others, transcribed them. The originals were handwritten, some in German, some in Latin and some in Romanian. Paul and Ed had those written in Latin and Romanian translated into German. Someday I hope to have their German transcribed versions translated into English. They no doubt will add much color to the historical tapestry of Krasna and Emmental.

As many of you know, for the past 30+ years, Rosemary (Ternes) Mack (now deceased) and I placed into a database the data and information we found as well as that shared by others with us into a database of the people born in Krasna, Emmental, Karamurat, Colelia, Larga, Balmas, and their other daughter colonies. As we did so, we also cited the sources for this data and information. (Without Rosemary's help, this extremely valuable research tool would not exist!) Some of you have already received from me family group and ancestry charts of your relatives and ancestors born in these villages from this database. When you get a copy of the DVD with the Krasna Photo Collection on it, I would be happy to include for you a family group chart or ancestral chart from this database for one of your relatives and ancestors. Include the name, birth date and parents' names of that person when requesting the chart. There will be no charge for the chart! I will send it along with the DVD. Of course, if you do not want a copy of the DVD, but still would like such charts, I would be most happy to print them, if you want hard copies. I will mail them to you....again, no charge! If you want digital copies, let me know via e-mail and I will send them as attachments to e-messages to you....no charge!

For those of you who have Internet access and e-mail, I would be happy to send you, as an attachment to an e-message, the inventory of the Krasna Library. This inventory is done in the Microsoft Word program. As you may know, I have this library in my home. Who knows? There may be something in it that may be of interest to you. If there is, we can talk about how to get the item(s) to you. Not all materials in the library have been scanned; I have only hard copies of some of them.

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