

## BECICHERECU MIC

**Local council office:** Becicherecu Mic no. 649, telephone 0256/378501;

**Coordinates:**

45°49'59" N lat.;

21°02'59" E long.;

**Historical landmarks:**

- 1332 - the town is mentioned in papal tithes under the name of **Pecskereky**, but the first historical data on Becicherecu Mic commune date back to 1232 under the name of **Terra Potkerequ** (Pescărețu);
- 1552 -1716 - the settlement is supposed to have been called **Crucea** during the Ottoman ruling; most probably, the village was situated on **Cross Hill (Dealul Crucii)**;
- 1727 - arrival of the first German colonists;
- the town, known as **Peschered** (Pescăreț), is now mentioned as **"Becicherecu Mic"**;
- 1748 - settlement of 24 Romanian families from Transylvania;
- 1775 - the birth of **Dimitrie Țichindeal**, priest, teacher, fabulist (d. 20.01.1818);
- 1784 - 116 houses are built for new colonists from Austria and Germany;
- 1845 - the birth of composer and conductor **Iosif Iovanovici** (d. 28.09.1902);
- 1881 - the birth of **Josef Marx**, founder of **"Heimatbote"**, the most popular magazine of the Swabians from Banat living in USA (d. 1939);
- 1900 - there are 2,600 Germans in the village;
- 1920-1925 - the town was named **Țichindeal**, after scholar **Dimitrie Țichindeal**;
- the town train station was called **Pescărețul Mic**;
- 6 March 1929 - the birth of **dr. Ștefan Orbulescu**, poet and publicist (d. 13.06.2007);
- 1936 - the village had two mixed choirs, two bands, two Cultural centres, a bank and the "Terezia" mill;
- 1945 - there are numerous Serbians, due



to the colonists from Becicherecu Mare (Serbian Banat, now Jarko Zrenianin);

-14 October 1957 - the birth of the football player and coach **Aurel Șunda**;

-2002 -the commune had 2,340 inhabitants;  
-creation of the "Nova Mama Mia" football team;

**Total population on 1 January 2010:**

2,747 persons, out of which:

- male =1,376 persons

- female = 1,371 persons

**Number of households on 1 January 2010:** 833**Educational Institutions:**

- Elementary school (I-VIII); Kindergarten with extended hours;

**Health facilities:**

- Medical practices: two; Drugstore; Sanitary-veterinary practice; Sanitary-veterinary drugstore;

**Cultural institutions:**

- Community centre; The **"Dimitrie Țichindeal" Museum**; Library (founded 2005);

**Sports facilities:**

- Football pitch;

**Churches:** Romanian Orthodox Church (1811); Serbian Orthodox Church (1823); Catholic Church (1910);

**Annual Church Festival:**

- Romanian Orthodox Festival (15 August); Serbian Orthodox Festival (22 May); Festival of the Roman-Catholic Church - Kirchwei (second Sunday of November).

**Citizens of Honour:**

Chiquita Mischke

## CITY HALL AND LOCAL COUNCIL OF BECICHERECU MIC COMMUNE

**Buzatu Constantin**

**Radu Dănuț**

Bărbătuș Dan, LC member

Cristea Grigore Lucian, LC member

Glujdea Sorel, LC member

Iacob Gavril, LC member

**Mayor**

**Vice Mayor**

DLP

SDP

DLP

NGP

Iager Mihail, LC member

Lazarov Olivia, LC member

Mușat Gheorghe, LC member

Oglinda Margareta, LC member

Rus Georgeta, LC member

Rusu Raimond Ovidiu, LC member

DLP

DLP

SDP

DLP

DLP

SDP

## BECICHERECU MIC

“GOLDEN-MOUTHED”  
ȚICHINDEAL

**Dimitrie Țichindeal** was born in 1775 in Becicherecu Mic, in a family of priests. He studied theology at Timișoara. He returned to his native village, working as a teacher and a priest. He spent two years working in Arad. He is released from his teaching job due to his great determination to promote Romanian language and culture, in a time when in Banat, besides German, the imperial authorities only approved the

use of the Serbian language. Dimitrie Țichindeal sends a letter of complaint to the emperor, but receives no answer.

Militant for the rights of the Banat Romanians, in 1807 Țichindeal signs a memoir addressed to emperor Francisc I, requesting the appointment of a Romanian headmaster for the Romanian schools in Banat. Subsequently, he was appointed the first Romanian headmaster of the Preparandia school in Arad, which initially had 78 students. The classes were taught by Dimitrie Țichindeal, Iosif Iorgovici, Constantin Diaconovici Loga and Ioan Mihuț (until 1822, when the Theological Institute of Arad was set up, Preparandia prepared both teachers and priests).

In 1814, the representatives of the Romanians from Banat, including Țichindeal, addressed the emperor one more time, this time for a Romanian bishop in Arad. Once again Dimitrie loses his job, upon the request of the Serbian Orthodox Church.

To express his admiration, Mihai Eminescu said that Dimitrie Țichindeal was “**golden-mouthed**”. In his quest for educating the Romanian population, he translated from Serbian into Romanian. His favourite books were the works of Serb Dositej Obradovic (from Ciacova), supporter of the Enlightenment. After translating Dositej’s fables, Țichindeal modifies them, adapts them to the Romanian ways and customs and publishes them as his own. Their value is more symbolical rather than literary. The Romanian priest, scholar, fabulist, translator and militant dies at 43 in a hospital in Timișoara, on 20 January 1818. He was buried in the cemetery of his home commune. The Teacher Training High School in Arad is named after him. Several streets in Bucharest, Timișoara and Arad are also named after Dimitrie Țichindeal. In his native village, the authorities built a monument dedicated to the Banat scholar.



*The monument of  
Dimitrie Țichindeal  
from Becicherecu Mic*

## JOVAN AND DANUBE’S WAVES

Jovan Ivanović - **Iosif Ivanovici**, also known as Ion or Ivan Ivanovici, was born in Becicherecu Mic (some authors say that he was born in Timișoara, others in... Alba Iulia) in 1845. He was a very talented Romanian clarinet player, conductor and composer of military and dancing music. As a child, he received a flute and learned how to play all by himself. He joined the 6<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment band of Galați at a very young age, and took clarinet lessons from Alois Riedl. His talent was soon recognised and he was sent to Iași to study music with teacher Emil Lehr. He conducted several military music bands.



Ivanovici spent almost his entire life in Galați, as officer, and was appointed general inspector of Romanian military music (1900). Iosif Ivanovici composed over 350 musical works, such as mazurkas, polkas, quadrilles, serenades, romances, folk music. He became famous through his waltz “**Waves of the Danube**”, which had an enormous success and was sometimes attributed to

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other composers, such as Johann Strauss. The worldwide premiere of the waltz took place at the Paris Universal Exhibition in 1889, in an adaptation of the Jewish Alsatian composer **Emile Waldteufel**. The composer from Banat, Iosif (Iovan) Ivanovici dies in Bucharest, on 28 September 1902.

According to **Iosif Singer**, secretary of the Lugoj Jewish Community, Iosif Ivanovici composed the famous waltz "**Waves of the Danube**" for **Sara Fried** from Lugoj (married name **Dreichlinger**).

Some say the score with Iosif Iovanovici's signature is still preserved at the headquarters of the Lugoj Jewish Community.



The Danube  
in Galați

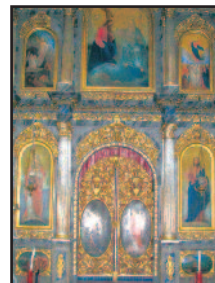


**House built in 1914, declared historical monument. The building was constructed by Swabians Johann and Maria Bucher.**

**In 2009, the great grandchild of Mariei Bucher, Johann Lauer (photo), still lived in the house built by his ancestors.**



**The Serbian Church "Moving of the relics of Saint Nicholas" (1823-1844). The iconostasis (photo, below) was painted by Nicola Alexici. The church is a historical monument.**



## THE "PIZZA" TEAM

When exiting Becicherecu Mic, on the road to Sănnicolau Mare, you can see on the left side of the road a small but neat football stadium. This is the sports ground of the **Nuova Mama Mia**, football team, created in 2002 by Viorel Harșan of Timișoara, owner of the "Mama Mia" pizza place. The regular colours of the club are red and white.

