

FOENI

Local Council Office: Foeni no. 381, telephone 0256/413401, fax 0256/413606;

Coordinates:

45°29'50" N lat;
20°52'34" E long.;

Historical landmarks:

-1289 - the locality was mentioned in historical documents under the name of **Föen**;
-the XVIIIth century - the locality was the property of the Mocioni family;

-1772 - the locality of Cruceni (**Kreuzstätten**) was founded by the German settlers;

-1845 - archeological researches took place, based on the assumption that a Roman fort by the name of **Bacaucis** existed in Foeni;

- many bricks with roman seals were discovered in the area;

-1868 - 75 Hungarian families settled in Cruceni;

-1874 - the religious people of Foeni began the building of the Romanian orthodox church, helped by the substantial contribution of **Andrei Mocioni of Foeni**; the following year, the sacred place was consecrated by the Protopope of Ciacova **His Holiness Șeiman, Iustinian Cotta**, the local priest, and by the priest **Șerban from Butin**;

-1890 - the archeological researches continued in the garden of the Mocioni castle, where the foundation of the roman fort was found, as well as epigraphic monuments, pots and coins;

-1892 - the men's choir was founded in Foeni;

-28 May 1921 - **Mirko Jivcovici** was born in Foeni, prose writer, translator, lexicographer;

-24 October 1926 - the actual consecration of the Romanian orthodox church was performed by the High Priest **Filaret Musta** of Caransebeș;

-1946 - **Cornel Bogdan** was born in Foeni, poet who wrote in the Banat idiom, settled in the USA;

- 22 February 1951 - the priest **Mircea**



Lăutaș was born in Foeni, the vicepresident of WUFR;

-2008 - a sports ground with asphalt (at school) and a playground (Foeni) were built;

-2010 - The International Village Football Tour Serbia-Romania took place;

Total population on 1 January 2010: 1,789 persons, of which:

- male = 869 persons

- female = 920 persons

Number of households on 1 January 2010: 994

Member villages: Foeni and Cruceni (1323, terra **Keresztes**).

Educational institutions: Elementary Schools (I-VIII): Foeni; Kindergartens with normal hours: Foeni and Cruceni;

Health facilities: - Local clinics: Foeni and Cruceni; Dentist practices: Cruceni; Sanitary-veterinary practices: Cruceni;

Cultural institutions: - Community centres: Foeni and Cruceni; Library: Foeni (founded in 1960);

Sports facilities: - Football pitches: Foeni and Cruceni;

Churches: - Romanian Orthodox Churches: Foeni (1875); Serbian Orthodox Churches: Foeni (1877); Roman-Catholic Churches: Cruceni (1780, the old one, the new one - 1914);

Annual Church Festivals: - Foeni - 15 August (the Assumption of Mary, Romanian Orthodox); Cruceni - 20 August (catholic); The Patron Saint of the Serbian Orthodox Church of Foeni (28 August);

Citizens of Honour: Ispas Ștefan, Belovai Mihai, Bogdan Mihai, Jivanov Milivoi, Kubik Francisc, Secoșan Nicolae, Stan Petru (war veterans).

THE CITY HALL AND THE LOCAL COUNCIL OF FOENI

Cizmaș Miomir Dobrivoi	Mayor	Ogodescu Gabriela, LC member	NLP
Ghilezan Viorel	Vice Mayor	Petrovici Traian, LC member	DLP
Călugăr Gheorghe Emil, LC member	CP	Pop Viorel, LC member	DLP
Covaliu Morchil, LC member	GRP	Romanișan Nicolae, LC member	CDNPP
Jurchița Simion, LC member	SDP	Șimon Francisc, LC member	DUHR
Morar Iulian, LC member	CP	Țăran Slavco, LC member	DLP

FOENI



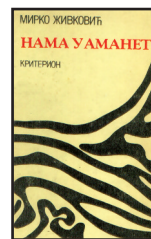
PRIEST LĂUȚAȘ

Priest **Mircea Lăuțaș** was born in the commune of Foeni, on 22 February 1951. As a child, he was deported together with his parents to Bărăgan between 1951 and 1955. He graduated the Theology Institute from Sibiu (1974). He was a choir singer at the Metropolitan Cathedral, a curator of the Church Art Collection of the Metropolitanate of Banat, designer at the Metropolitanate Publishing House. In 1991, he was ordained as a priest in the Parish of Viile, Fabric district of Timișoara. He is the vicepresident of the Global Union of Free Romanians (1992). At the moment, he is a priest in the parish of Freidorf district, serving at the "Descent of the Holy Spirit" Church (1975), the spiritual father of 1,608 families with 4,179 believers.

FOR THE USE OF BOTH THE ROMANIAN
AND THE SERBIAN PEOPLES

University professor **Mirko Jivcovi** was born in Foeni on 28 May 1921. He attended primary school in his native village, then he attended the Pedagogical High School in Timișoara (1934-1941). He graduated the Faculty of Foreign Languages, the Department of Slavic Languages of the University of Bucharest in 1946. He earned his Ph.D. in philology in 1971. He worked as a primary teacher in the village of Gad, the commune of Ghilad. In 1950 he became editor, then editor-in-chief at the Serbian Department of the State Publishing House for Literature and Art (ESPLA).

He was an academic at the University of Bucharest between 1952 and 1986. He published his first monograph of the history of Serbian literature from Romania, a brief but dense history: "**Dositej Obradović in the Context of the Serbian and Romanian Relationships**", Kriterion Publishing House, Bucharest, 1972. Then he published the volumes "**Evidences**", 1976, and "**Nine in pawnshop**", 1988. His activity was focused on the publishing of the school textbooks necessary for the Serbian children from Banat, on the translation in Serbian of valuable books of the classical and contemporary Romanian literature, as well as the printing of the best pages of the classical Serbian and Croatian literature. Thus, between 1970 and 1999, he published a series of dictionaries, like the Serbian-Croatian-Romanian one, the Romanian-Serbian-Croatian one, the Serbian-Romanian or the Romanian-Serbian ones. In 1999, the Serbian-Romanian or the Romanian-Serbian Dictionaries were published by Teora Publishing House, the latter containing "30,000 usual words, but also scientific, administrative, legal, journalism, folk, familiar terms etc., selected by the usage frequency criterion in the contemporary Serbian or Romanian language". Mirko Jivcovi translated in Romanian books like "**Lady Minister**" by B. Nusici, "**In the whirlpool**", by B. Ciosici, "**Chosen Works**" – M. Krezla, "**Comedies**" by B. Nusici, "**the Fern and the Fire**" by A. Isakovici. Mirko Jivcovi received the **Prize of the Writers' Union from Romania** for his literary activity and his activity as a translator in 1976.



"THE ISLAND OF GOD"

On Easter, in 2005, the waters of the Timiș river (over one metre deep) covered the road between Foeni and Giulvăz on a distance of 11 kilometres. The water left only an island of hope at the heart of the commune, surrounding the orthodox church, the city hall and the community centre. The Serbian Orthodox Church, partially flooded, became a shelter for those left without a home. The Vicar-

FOENI



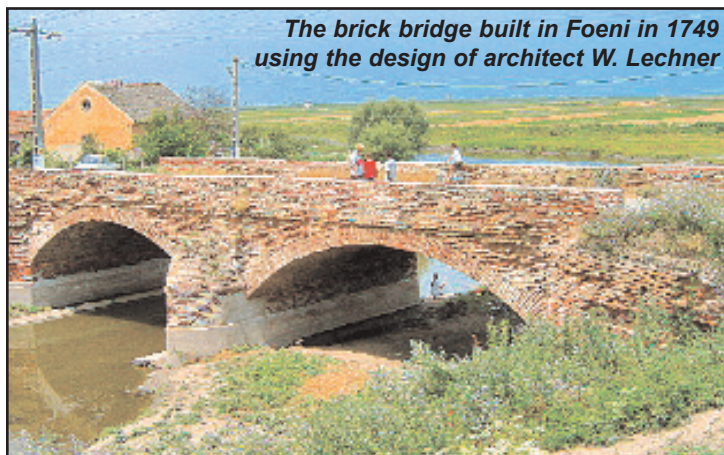
Bishop of Timișoara, His Holiness Lucian Lugojanul, who arrived at the church wearing rubber boots, and the Serbian Orthodox Bishop His Holiness Luchian, carried by the believers in order to reach the church, celebrated the Divine Liturgy together. After that, the believers and the two bishops sat at the table laid in the Community Centre yard. There, the Bishops Lucian and Luchian called out **“Christ is risen!”**, the believers properly answered with **“Truly He is risen!”**, then, altogether tasted from the food cooked by the women from the neighbouring village, Giulvăz, for the people in trouble.

THE WHITEWATER OF THE TIMIȘ RIVER

The pupils of the seventh grade at the Elementary School (I-VIII) from the commune of Foeni had the Romanian term paper on 18 May 2005. The subject chosen was the sad story of the flood that stroke their settlement. The excerpts from the stories written by pupils Piticariu Claudia, Mark Jasmina, Coptil Gabriela, Rus Cosmina, Șchiopu Andreea, Haraguș Alexandru and Romaneț Adriana, thoughts emotionly laid down on the term paper notebook, left Foeni for Bucharest where they were published in the “National Journal” newspaper. Each of the pupils received the highest mark (ten) for his/her story. Here are some of the thoughts written by one of the pupils, the second day after the whitewaters of the Timiș river almost reached the door of the school from Foeni: “We prayed to God for our colleagues (from Grăniceri) and for the Timiș river not to break the dam in their village, but in ours, because it would not reach our village... We heard the fire fighters’

warning alarm and the church bells, which called the people to the river to secure the bank with bags of sand, to secure the dam.

Later that evening, the Chiș family from the station brought their animals at our place. (...) Thursday, around 4 in the morning, we heard the fire fighters’ warning alarm again, which announced that the water broke the dam. It seemed as if the sky fell on us; we quickly ran into the house, gathered our things and stepped outside.(...) It was a disaster: the water had already reached the people’s houses. It was on my street as well, where I thought it would never come... On Tuesday, I went with Claudia to Andreea’s place, to see her house, but we did not go in, and when we came back, I fell into a ditch



The brick bridge built in Foeni in 1749 using the design of architect W. Lechner

and the water reached my neck, but I couldn’t touch the bottom. I will never walk through water again”...

FOENI

THE MOCIONI FAMILY ESTATE

In 1812, **Ioan Mocioni of Foen** built in Foeni a very impressive residence for those times; the front is supported by six columns which close the terrace opening to the park (see image, left). The fence of the park is monumental and the massive gates are made of forged iron.

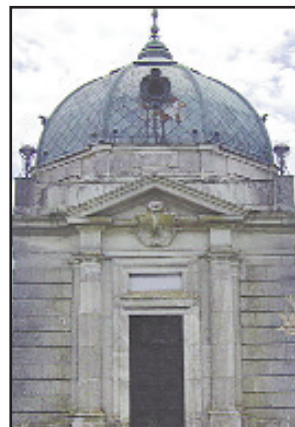


Antoniu Mocioni was the one who started the building of the family mausoleum in 1890, finished by his son, Zeno, in 1893 (see image, below). During the Revolution from 1848-1849, the Hungarian soldiers plundered the village of Foeni. On 4 May 1849, the estate was confiscated, the stables emptied, and the horses and the cattle transported to Uj-Pécs. In 1854, the estate was given back to Andrei Mocioni of Foen, the second son of Ioan Mocioni.

In 1869, Andrei retired from politics, spending his last years resting in Foeni, together with his wife, **Laura Cernovici**, and his father-in-law, Baron Cernovici.

The latter spent all his fortune on patronage deeds

and - now a poor man - retired at the residence of his son-in-law from Foeni. Influenced and dominated by his wife, Laura, and his father-in-law, without any children, Andrei Mocioni drew up his testament in 1880, leaving the Foeni estate to his wife, and not to his nephews from his brother's side, upsetting the entire Mocioni family. Laura Mocioni left the estate to one of her nephews, and the latter sold it to the company "Haas & Deutsch". Andrei's nephew, Antoniu Mocioni of Foen, the last direct descendent of the Foen family, bought back the estate and restored it and transformed it into a cultural centre. After 1949, the estate was nationalised, and the castle was turned into an asylum. Nowadays, the City Hall is in charge of it and it houses the Cultural Centre, a museum and the Library.



THE VAN WITH A MYSTERIOUS DESTINATION

On 22 December 1989, a van with 16 people arrested during the Revolution left Timișoara for a mysterious destination. **Marius Mioc** was among the people from the van, well-guarded by armed militia. The revolutioner wrote in his memoirs: "I was wondering where the van from which I jumped on 22 December was going. I received an answer through the "Express" magazine (13 April 1990) from Mr. Lt.col. **Petre Izdrescu**, the chief of the Timiș Military Prosecutor's Office: "On 22 December, the general Emil Macri gave through the customs officers brigade the order to inform the unit from Foeni, located at the border with Yugoslavia, about the arrival of a van with 16 persons that had to be allowed across the border. Who were

those 16 persons? On 20 December, under the pressure of the masses, all prisoners were freed, except for those 16 who had to be sent across the border, according to general Macri and the plan drawn up together with the dictator's wife. After that, the missing persons (let's remember the burnt bodies about which people did not know anything) would be added on the lists of people who escaped across the border. Contrary to the order received, the customs officers strengthened the guard, deciding not to allow anyone to cross the border during those troubled days. But that van did not reach Foeni; the under-officers claim that they released the prisoners on the way, and the prisoners claim that they jumped from the van."