

## Sandie's Story

### Finding My Great Grandfather

Presented by Sam Colon

Great Grandfather: Michael George Lang Sr.  
(1866-1939)

- Family believed he came from Lapsam Germany.
- Could not find any record of such a place, searched through countless maps and atlas of Germany.

Where did he come From? Who was his father?

- While doing court records research, found his will, It revealed he came from Alsace Lorraine.
- The village is named Lobsann



## The Challenge

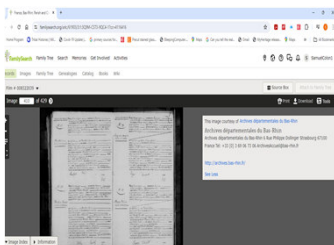
Records from Alsace Lorraine did not exist until recently.

The territory kept changing hands between Germany and France over the centuries.

Many wars were fought between the two countries for control of the region.

France finally regained control after WWII.

## The solution to the puzzle



Records finally became available in 2023 on FamilySearch and included the mailing address of the original archive in France.

## Google Translate To The Rescue

- Sandie composed a letter to the French Archive and used Google Translate to translate it to French. The French translation was mailed to the address given on the Family search webpage

Dear Grandfather,  
I am researching my great grandfather who was born on January 7, 1866 in the Blue Rhine, France. I found an old letter to the Archives of the Blue Rhine.  
Blue Rhine, parish natural name, 1525-1912.  
I would like to obtain a copy of this document and I will gladly pay the cost of printing this document.  
I live in the United States of America.  
My name and address are:  
Sam Colon  
2020 Street 76  
West Allis, Wisconsin 53219 USA  
My email address is sandiecolon@gmail.com

Chers Messieurs,  
Je suis en recherche de mon grand-père grand-père qui est né le 7 janvier 1866 dans le Bas-Rhin, au France. J'ai trouvé une lettre de sa naissance dans les Archives du Bas-Rhin.  
Bas-Rhin, paroisse naturel nom, 1525-1912.  
J'aimerais obtenir une copie de ce document et je paierais volontiers les frais d'impression de ce document.  
Je vis aux États-Unis d'Amérique.  
Mon nom et mon adresse sont:  
Sam Colon  
2020 Street 76  
West Allis, Wisconsin 53219 États-Unis  
Mon adresse e-mail est sandiecolon@gmail.com

The Response was phenomenal The Archives responded with a link to the official webpage in France where Sandie was able to conduct research by looking at original records.

Ref. : FF/2894/2023

Madame,

Ref. : FF/2894/2023

Madam

J'ai bien reçu votre demande, par laquelle vous souhaitez obtenir une copie de l'acte de naissance de votre arrière-grand-père, né le 2 janvier 1866.

Les Archives d'Alsace ont suspendu l'envoi de photocopies d'actes d'état civil depuis la mise en ligne de celui-ci. Vous avez trouvé l'acte de naissance votre arrière-arrière-grand-père sur le site internet des Archives d'Alsace. Vous pouvez télécharger et imprimer cet acte gratuitement. Un lien vers la vidéo est à votre disposition pour vous guider : <https://archives.bas-rhin.fr/ajr/>.

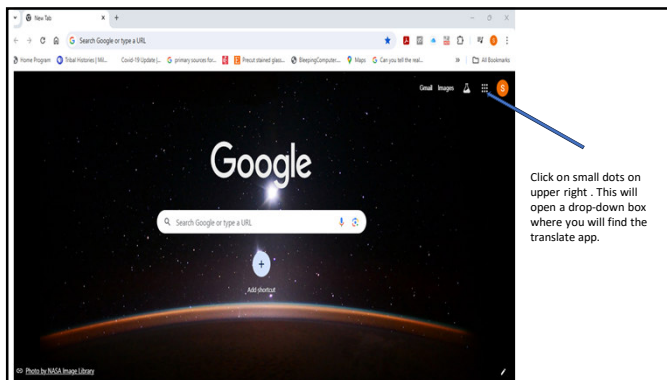
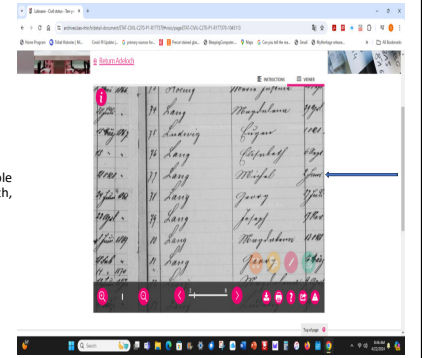
I have received your request for a copy of the birth certificate of your great-grandfather, born on January 2, 1866.

Si vous souhaitez une copie conforme dans le cadre de démarches administratives, les Archives d'Alsace peuvent vous fournir une copie conforme de cet acte. Dans ce cas, il vous faudra à passer la copie à la commune concernée, soit les Archives d'Alsace, soit l'Agence Française Consulaire à cette adresse : <https://archives.bas-rhin.fr/ajr/>. Les Archives d'Alsace ne peuvent pas vous fournir une copie conforme de cet acte. Vous pouvez télécharger et imprimer cet acte gratuitement. Un lien vers la vidéo est à votre disposition pour vous guider : <https://archives.bas-rhin.fr/ajr/>.

The Archives of Alsace have suspended the sending of photocopies of civil status records since it was put online. You found your great-grandfather's birth certificate on the Archives [website](https://archives.bas-rhin.fr/registres-paroissiaux-et-documents-etat-civil/) (<https://archives.bas-rhin.fr/registres-paroissiaux-et-documents-etat-civil/>), so you can download and print this act for free. A video tutorial is available to guide you: <https://archives.bas-rhin.fr/ajr/>.

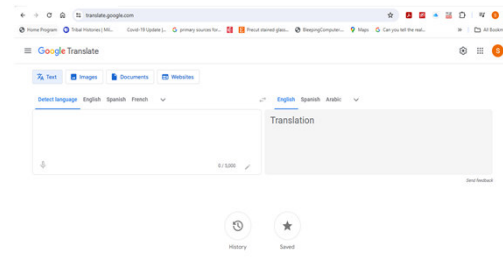
## Success

- Google Translate made it possible to translate the entire webpage so navigation was easy.
- The images were sharp and clear and easy to print out.
- The end results was that Sandie was able to go back 5 generations by finding Birth, Marriage, and Death records of her German/French ancestors.
- All the "Lang" records shown here are Sandie's family.



Click on small dots on upper right. This will open a drop-down box where you will find the translate app.

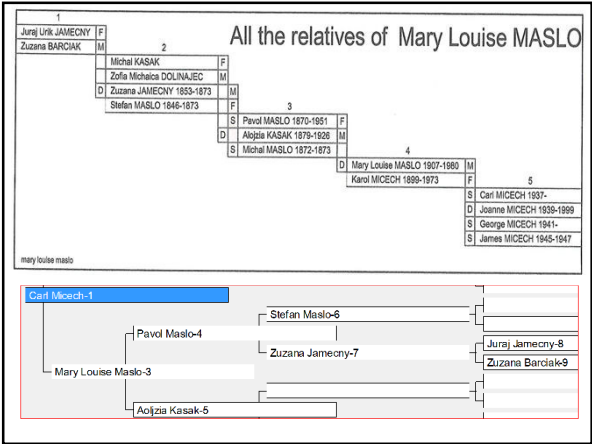
Choose document to be translated or type in text.  
Choose language and Google does the rest automatically





Meet Grandma and Grandpa

Carl Micech  
November 2024  
MPAFUG



Strana 1

Štefan Maslo, n. 1846, bydlisko 1870 v Lietavská Svinná 48, bydlisko 1872 v Lietavská Svinná 47, bydlisko 1873 v Lietavská Svinná 48.

Svadba s Zuzana Jamečný, svadba 09.02.1870 v Lietava (Ad 1), n. 01.01.1853 v Lietavská Svinná 49 (Ad 2) (dcéra rodičov Juraj Urik Jamečný a Zuzana Barčiak), krst 01.01.1853 v Lietava, z. 27.08.1873 v Lietavská Svinná 48 (Ad 3), pohreb do hrobu 28.08.1873 v Lietavská Svinná, bydlisko 1853 v Lietavská Svinná 49, bydlisko 1870 v Lietavská Svinná 58, bydlisko 1872 v Lietavská Svinná 47, bydlisko 1873 v Lietavská Svinná 48.

I. Pavol Maslo, n. 11.08.1870 v Lietavská Svinná 58 (Ad 4), krst 11.08.1870, bydlisko 1870 v Lietavská Svinná 58.

Svadba s Alojzia Kasák, svadba 11.02.1903 v Lietava (Ad 5), n. 18.06.1879 v Lietavská Svinná 9 (Ad 6) (dcéra rodičov Michal Kasák a Zofia Michalica Dolinajec), krst 18.06.1879 v Lietava, bydlisko 1879 v Lietavská Svinná 9, bydlisko v Lietavská Svinná 34.

A. Mária Maslo, n. 09.02.1907, z. 29.07.1980.

Svadba s Karol Mičech, n. 20.09.1899 (syn rodičov Ján Mičech a Zofia Prieložný), z. 23.03.1973 v Oak creek, Wisconsin, USA.

1. Karol Mičech, n. 12.06.1937 v USA, bydlisko v USA.

II. Michal Maslo, n. 27.09.1872 v Lietavská Svinná 47 (Ad 7), krst 28.09.1872 v Lietava, z. 08.10.1873 v Lietavská Svinná 48 (Ad 8), pohreb do hrobu 10.10.1873 v Lietavská Svinná, bydlisko 1872 v Lietavská Svinná 47, bydlisko 1873 v Lietavská Svinná 48.

Page 1

Štefan Maslo, b. 1846, residence 1870 at Lietavská Svinná 48, residence 1872 at Lietavská Svinná 47, residence 1873 at Lietavská Svinná 48.

Wedding with Zuzana Jamečný, wedding 09.02.1870 in Lietava (Ad 1), n. 01.01.1853 in Lietavská Svinná 49 (Ad 2) (daughter of parents Juraj Urik Jamečný and Zuzana Barčiak), baptism 01.01.1853 in Lietava, born 27.08.1873 in Lietavská Svinná 48 (Ad 3), burial in the grave 28.08.1873 in Lietavská Svinná, residence 1853 Lietavská Svinná 49, residence 1870 in Lietavská Svinná 58, residence 1872 in Lietavská Svinná 47, residence 1873 in Lietavská Svinná 48.

I. Pavol Maslo, n. 11.08.1870 at Lietavská Svinná 58 (Ad 4), baptism 11.08.1870, residence 1870 v Lietavská Svinná 58.

Wedding of Alojzia Kasák, wedding 11.02.1903 in Lietava (Ad 5), n. 18.06.1879 in Lietavská Svinná 9 (Ad 6) (daughter of parents Michal Kasák and Zofia Michalica Dolinajec), baptism 18.06.1879 in Lietava, residence 1879 in Lietavská Svinná 9, residence in Lietavská Svinná 34.

A. Mária Maslo, born 09.02.1907, from 29.07.1980.

Wedding with Karol Mičech, n. 20.09.1899 (son of parents Ján Mičech and Zofia Prieložný), b. 23.03.1973 v Oak creek, Wisconsin, USA.

1. Karol Mičech, born 12.06.1937 USA, residence in the USA.

II. Michal Maslo, b. 27.09.1872 in Lietavská Svinná 47 (Ad 7), baptism 28.09.1872 in Lietava, from 08.10.1873 in Lietavská Svinná 48 (Ad 8), burial in a grave 10.10.1873 in Lietavská Svinná, residence 1872 in Lietavská Svinná 47, residence 1873 in Lietavská Svinná 48.

#004945159 - Item 1  
Ljethava. Baptism Registers

Image | 104 | of 106

Krisztus Urunk' születése után 1870

Hó. Nap.	A' Kereszteltnek Neme, és Törvényszerűsége.	Az anyja' és anyja' Vezeték - és Keresztneve, Hitvallása.	Polgári állása és Lakhelye.	A' Keresztelői' Vezeték- és Keresztneve.	Keresztelő.
25	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
26	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
27	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
28	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
29	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
30	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
31	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
32	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
33	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
34	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
35	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
36	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
37	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
38	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
39	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
40	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
41	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
42	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
43	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
44	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
45	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
46	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
47	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
48	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
49	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
50	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
51	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
52	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
53	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
54	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
55	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
56	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
57	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
58	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
59	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
60	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
61	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
62	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
63	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
64	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
65	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
66	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
67	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
68	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
69	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna
70	Anna	Papanna Kócska	Leány	Papanna	Papanna

#004945159 - Item 1  
Ljethava. Religious Marriage Registers

Image | 52 | of 129

Handwritten religious marriage registers from Ljethava, showing names and dates in a structured table format.

#004945159 - Item 2  
Ljethava. Baptism Registers

Image | 17 | of 107

Handwritten baptism registers from Ljethava, showing names and dates in a structured table format.

## SHADOWS ON MY HEART

### The Civil War Diary of Lucy Rebecca Buck of Virginia

Edited by Elizabeth R Baer  
Presented by Randy Ray



Lucy kept a daily diary of her life from the start to the end of the Civil War. She was well educated and somewhat of a poet.

From daily struggles to heart break to moments of joy. You can follow along with her this book.

"I cannot but feel a little sad this morning for my thoughts continually revert to those dear absent brothers who were wont to share our Christmas cheer and gladden the hours of the festive season for us. Poor boys! I wonder if they think of the blazing hearthstone at old "Bel Air" and wish for a place in the home – circle."

Chapter one, December 25<sup>th</sup>, 1861, to May 13<sup>th</sup>, 1862.

While following my 5<sup>th</sup> great grandparents. I came across the Buck surname that marries into my line. William Richardson (1712-1768) has a daughter who marries into another old English line named Buck. All of Virginia. I now have 147 Buck family members in my tree.

When I got to Lucy Rebecca Buck, I discovered through Google that a book had been published about her days in the Civil War, in Confederate Virginia.

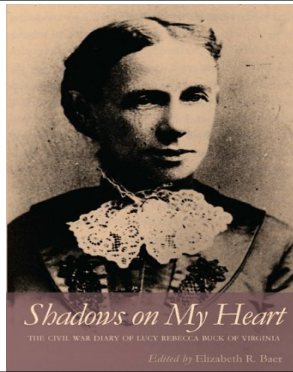
Her family being in Front Royal, Shenandoah Valley, Virginia.

This started my journey with her. I researched her whole family. Taking them back to Colonial Virginia in 1649. Many of the family fighting in the Revolutionary War as Patriots.

I found a copy of her book at the Wisconsin Historical Society and had it sent to the Mequon Library. You will not put it down and you will need a very large box of Kleenex.

I have a signed First edition by the author. I do not want to loan it out but if you are interested, you can get it from the WHS in Madison. There are also copies on the internet.





In early Feb of 2022. I got up and had coffee then booked a hotel and a rental car in Front Royal and hopped on Amtrak before noon.

I was in Harpers Ferry, WV. The next morning. Took an Uber to Charles City to get my rental car and then drove to Front Royal.

AMTRAK.

Sleeper  
car.



This is what I came to see in Front Royal.





Bel Air in a post  
Civil War photo.



Bel Air as it looked during the war.

That evening, I ate at the Old mill that Lucy talks about and went down by the stream.

I toured around the area and went to several different cemeteries.

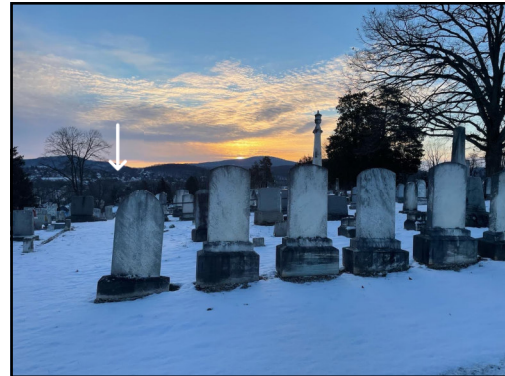
I knew where she was buried but waited until a light layer of snow melted. Then I went up to Prospect Hill Cemetery. It is VERY OLD.

The Buck Family and all of the friends and cousins are buried at the very top. They look easy to the sunrise over the Washington Mountains and can see Old Bel Air at the edge of the Village.



As I was leaving this little girl came over and said HI.

I named her LUCY.

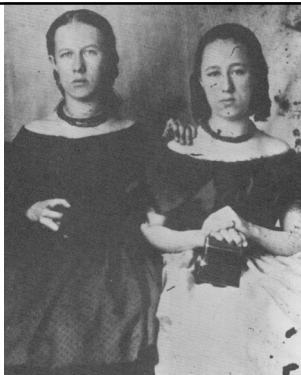


I got up early to get this shot and then drove to Strasburg that she talks about and had breakfast.

Lucy on the left and her sister Nelli on the right.

Shortly after the War ended.

The family lost Bel Air and Lucy and Nelli moved to the Village after their parents died.



*"the memories of which come back to us 'as sad as earth, as sweet as heaven'."*

*Christmas Morning 1861* <sup>(1)</sup>



*Lucy Rebecca Buck*  
1842-1918

Lucy's brother, Captain, Irving Ashby Buck.

He survived the War and retired after the surrender.

He was CSA.



Lucy and Nellie never married. Her diary was lost after her death until found by this editor wrapped in cloth at a library.

She had 8 brothers and three sisters.

Lucy and Nelli lived a quite life after the war. Visiting with family and friends. Lucy died in 1918 and Nelli died in 1902.