

INTRODUCTION OF GUENTER BOLL AND ROLF SCHUHBAUER

I am very proud to introduce to you, our experts and friends

Mr. Günter Boll and Mr. Rolf Schuhbauer

Both gentlemen work together since 1987. At that time the city of Müllheim was planning to invite former Jewish citizens of Müllheim to visit Müllheim. This reunion took place and a memorial for this occasion was inaugurated in the Jewish cemetery of Müllheim in 1987, which we will visit later on this day.

What motivated **Günter Boll** to deal with the history of Jews in Baden-Württemberg and Alsace?

He used to be a teacher and was very interested in history. In 1974 he joined the association of "Persecutes of the Nazi-Regime". That is how he was confronted with many dreadful destinies as well as of Jewish people and of other victims of persecution.

He also received special attention in the regional media and in interested Jewish and historical circles, when he found, during his trips through Alsace, Jewish cult objects, which were ready to be destroyed or to be burned. Once, he drove through Mackenheim, a village in Alsace. There he saw that employees of the Mackenheimer Community were emptying and clearing out the ancient Synagogue. In the dung-hill he found "Mappots, Prayerbooks, Tefillim, Schofar" etc. There were no Jews living anymore in Mackenheim. But he had then the vision, that he had to rescue these objects.

That is how Günter got in touch with Jewish cultural articles and with Jewish history in this region. He learned Hebrew in order to read and decode the Jewish gravestones in the different cemeteries. For all his efforts and engagement in the Jewish cause, he received in Berlin the "German Jewish History Award 2002".

Thanks to his capabilities, we the Zivi descendants, can learn, who our ancestors were, where they were born and lived and also where they died. Günter will give you the insights of the Zivis during the afternoon.

And now some words about Rolf Schuhbauer

Actually my first contact was with Rolf Schuhbauer before we met Günter Boll. Some years ago, returning from a Jom Haatzmauth festivity – Israels Independence Day in the Israeli Embassy in Bern, in the train from Berne to Zurich, we were sitting together with an acquaintance, a born Heim, also with ancestors from Müllheim. This lady pretended that we were relatives, but she did not know how. She gave me the name of Rolf Schuhbauer and told me to get in touch with him. He could supply some information on the ZIVI Family. In his answer Rolf mentioned Günter Boll and recommended me to get in touch with him, what – as you see, we did!

Rolf Schuhbauer wrote the beautiful illustrated book "Nehmt dieses kleine Heimatstück". He describes the trails and stations of Jewish families from Müllheim

and Badenweiler in the years between 1933 and 1945. For this assignment he had to work very hard and now, we can also profit from his knowledge.

Rolf Schuhbauer also belonged to the group who helped to organize in 1987 the reunion of the Jewish citizens of Müllheim. This group arranged different events and exhibitions, so that the actual Müllheim population could get an insight of the passed Jewish life in Müllheim.

It is my privilege to thank you, Günter and Rolf, also in the name of Nicole Cousinou-Zivy, and also in the name of all the participants, not only for helping us to organize this Zivi-Meeting but also for all the inputs and insights which we will share together during these 2 days.

Last but not least we thank Christiane Walesch-Schneller, the CEO of the Blue House in Breisach; she also helped us to organize this meeting and specially our visit in Breisach on Friday.

And now, dear Günter, we are all very anxious to hear what you are going to tell us now.

Please Günter

Thanks Günter.

And now let us hear what Rolf will tell us.

Ariane Mil
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