

# History of clan Zvanovec\*

Frantisek Zvanovec  
retired highschool headmaster

written in year 1959, Lomnice nad Luznici

At the beginning of the Thirty Year's War, there was a battle between czech estates army<sup>1</sup> under the command of count Thurn and Emperor's army<sup>2</sup> under the command of general Dampier and count Buquoy<sup>3</sup>. Buquoy's army burned the town of Lomnice and the village of Luznice suffered the same fate. In this time, our ancestors came to Luznice as sutlers<sup>4</sup> of the army<sup>5</sup>, providing the soldiers food and drinks as well as other needed things. They bought a farm in Luznice and settled there. Because they origin from the village Zvanovice<sup>6</sup> in the region of the town Cesky Brod, they chose to be known under the name Zvánovcové<sup>7</sup>. It's not possible to find out neither the number of the families that came, nor the number of their members.

In the oldest records in the parish register in Trebon I found these members of clan Zvanovec mentioned:

- in the year 1631 Jan Zvanovec
- in the year 1633 Ondrej Zvanovec
- in the year 1637 Pavel Podruh (or Pavel Zvanovec)

Next marriage books are missing in the parish register. Only after 120 years, the same names are mentioned once more and some other are mentioned for the first time. In the second half of the eighteen century under the rule of Empress Maria Theresa of Austria numbering of houses was established.<sup>8</sup>

---

\*hasty translated by Jan Jeronym Zvanovec, 2007, czech words and names mostly without diacritical marks, footnotes added by the translator

<sup>1</sup>i.e. protestant

<sup>2</sup>i.e. catholic

<sup>3</sup>French: Charles Bonaventure de Longueval comte de Bucquoy

<sup>4</sup>Hard to translate, as I do not really understand the meaning of the original czech word "markytan". I am not a historian and before seeing this document, I had known only the feminine form "markytanka", which is usually translated as "the bride of the regiment". Obviously, such translation is of no use in this case.

<sup>5</sup>It's not fully clear from the text, with which army they came. Because Buquoy's army is given one more sentence and because as far as I know, members of Zvanovec clan were loyal catholics, it seems to me that they came with the army of count Buquoy

<sup>6</sup>web: <http://www.sweb.cz/obecZvanovice/>

<sup>7</sup>masculine singular: Zvánovec, feminine singular: Zvánovcová

<sup>8</sup>The original paragraph is somewhat confusing, so is my translation ;-)

- in the year 1772 Matous Zvanovec is mentioned in the house number 19
- in the year 1775 Vaclav Zvanovec is mentioned in the house number 16
- in the year 1775 Frantisek Zvanovec is mentioned in the house number 10

It is certain, that the farm numbered 16 (facing old school) was owned by the clan Zvanovec for many years. The members of clan Zvanovec from number 16 used to be reeves<sup>9</sup>, appointed to the position by aristocracy in those times, in our case the Schwarzenbergs<sup>10</sup> in Trebon. House number 16 had been built in baroque style as the majority of houses on the village square had been built. The front face of this house is specific.<sup>11</sup>

The number of families of clan Zvanovec was changing during centuries. In the year 1900, there were 12 families with this surname in Luznice. In order to distinguish them, some of the these families were called Bastu, Binu<sup>12</sup>, Madlenu, Martinu, Vasku, Froliku, Safranku.

During First World War, half i.e. six of the members of the village council (consisting of twelve members) were of the clan Zvanovec.

...<sup>13</sup>

---

<sup>9</sup>Because of social systems being different in English speaking countries, this word does not precisely describe the position. It's just the closest English word I was able to find.

<sup>10</sup>One of the most prominent aristocratic families of the former Austro-Hungarian monarchy.

<sup>11</sup>The house is still standing in the village and its pictures are often published as pictures of a typical example of south-bohemian baroque village style

<sup>12</sup>modern masculine singular: Bina

<sup>13</sup>Following paragraphs mention various members of the clan Zvanovec living at the beginning of the century, who were found notable by Frantisek Zvanovec (for example because of being a high positioned clerk)