

## “PAST & PRESENT”

MSGR. J. JOHN BUSCO, “IT’S ALWAYS A PLEASURE TO READ THE JUDSON JOURNAL. IT KEEPS ME POSTED OF MY FORMER PARISHIONERS. ST. MARY OF THE ETERNAL WAS MY FIRST PASTORATE AND I ENJOYED THE TWENTY HUNDRED FAMILIES. WE WERE LIKE ONE BIG HAPPY FAMILY. ENCLOSED IS A GIFT TO KEEP THE JUDSON JOURNAL COMING ALWAYS. SORRY I CANNOT ATTEND THE REUNION, GOD BLESS ALL OF YOU.”

MARIE MASSARA BALESTRUCCI, 2931 N. 22<sup>ND</sup> ST. “I NEVER THOUGHT THAT I WOULD LIVE TO SEE AND HEAR THE VIOLENCE THAT OCCURRED AT MY BELOVED ALMA MATER THOMAS MAY PIERCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. HOW SAD TO WATCH TELEVISION AND HEAR WHAT AN INNOCENT CHILD HAD TO EXPERIENCE, MY MEMORIES OF T. M. PIERCE ARE AS VIVID AS IF I ATTENDED SCHOLL YESTERDAY. I CAN REMEMBER MY FIRST DAY IN KINDERGARDEN- MISS LEWIS, MY TEACHER, KIND AND SWEET ALWAYS. DR. EDWARD T. MEYERS, PRINCIPAL, WARM AND DEDICATED. THE MORNING ASSEMBLIES AND THE BIBLE READING BY OUR PRINCIPAL. OUR PARENTS INVITED TO THE MAY DAY CELEBRATION TO WATCH US DANCE AND PLAY GAMES IN THE SCHOOL YARD. THE HAPPY DAYS OF ELECTIONS, PLAYS AND UNIQUE CLASSMATES; WHO MUTUALLY AGREED A GIRL SHOULD BE PRESIDENT OF THE SCHOOL AND GRADUATING CLASS. THIS WAS DEMOCRACY FUNCTIONING IN THE YEAR OF 1943. I COULD NAME THEM, BUT THIS LETTER WOULD NEVER BE COMPLETED, HOPEFULLY, THE AUTHORITIES WILL APPREHEND THE CULPRITS REPOSIBLE FOR

THIS HORRENDOUS CRIME; AND POLICE COMMISSIONER SYLVESTER WILL ROUTINELY PATROL THE STREETS AROUND THE SCHOOL WHEN IT IS OPENED. FOR MYSELF- I AM BLESSED TO HAVE MY UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES! ENCLOSED IS A DONATION FOR YOUR DEDICATION.”

HARRY BOCK, “I WILL ALWAYS MISS THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD. THE YEARS GO BY SO FAST AND WHEN YOU LOOK AT LIFE YOU SAY WOW. I WAS IN THE ANIMAL BUSINESS MOST OF MY LIFE AND IT WAS GOOD TO ME. I REMEMBER BEING IN GEOGRAPHY CLASS IN 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE AT ST. MARY AND SAYING TO MYSELF ONE DAY I WILL VISIT MOST OF OUR PLANET. I MANAGED TO DO THAT! I HAVE BEEN IN 53 COUNTRIES AND NOW LIVE IN ELPASO. ROSEMARY AND I HAVE 7 CHILDREN AND WE REALLY ENJOY THEM. MY SISTER LUCILLE HAS BEEN GONE FOR 7 YEARS. ALSO MY COUSIN ROCCO LUNGARELLA FROM INDIANA AVE. DIED LAST YEAR FROM CANCER CAUSED BY AGENT ORANGE. mantilla@hotmail.com

LILLIAN TORZONE BROWN, 2910 N. 20<sup>TH</sup> ST. “ENCLOSED IS SOMETHING FOR THE JJ. THE MEMORIES WILL ALWAYS BE WITH ME. I ALWAYS TELL MY CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN WHAT WONDERFUL TIMES WE HAD. I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER THE WATER FIGHTS, BLOCK PARTIES, DANCES, WATER ICE AND BASEBALL GAMES. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK. I ENJOY THE JOURNAL AND LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING IT.”

CONNIE D’ANDREA, 2851 N. 24<sup>TH</sup> ST. “FIRST I WANT TO TELL YOU HOW MUCH I ENJOY THE JOURNAL. ALSO, THANKS FOR USING MY NOTE IN THE LAST

EDITION. HOWEVER, YOU MISPELLED MY NAME! YOU USED D’AMBA. BUT MY NAME IS D’ANDREA.”

MARIE ROMAN LECKI, 3155 N. 24<sup>TH</sup> ST. “I JUST RECEIVED MY COPY OF THE JJ. I MAY NOT REMEMBER EVERYONE YOU MENTION, BUT THE STORIES BRING BACK A LOT OF WARM MEMORIES OF THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD. I LIVED WITH MY GRANPARENTS, JOHN AND MARY PATULLO, MY PARENTS VINCENT AND LIVIA AND MY LITTLE BROTHER VINCE ROMANO. WE MOVED TO HATBORO IN AUGUST OF 1970. I WENT TO ST. MARY’S AND GRADUATED IN 1967. THERE ISN’T ANY PALCE LIKE THAT NEIGHBORHOOD ANY WHERE, BUT THE JJ KEEPS THE MEMORIES ALIVE, PLEASE ACCEPT MY DONATION AND SEND A COPY TO MY PARENTS. I APPRECIATE ALL THAT YOU WRITE; I REMEMBER THE LEMONADE STAND ON FOX STREET. THE ELDERLY MAN WAS JIMMY CITRO; HE WAS A DEAR FRIEND OF MY GRANDFATHER’S. I HAVEN’T TASTED WATER ICE AS GOOD AS JIMMY’S; TO GO BACK FOR ONE SUMMER DAY WOULD BE A PLEASURE TO ME. I AND MY HUSBAND LOOK FORWARD TO THE REUNION. HE HAS HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT THE AREA. HE IS ALSO FAMILIAR WITH SOME OF THE BOYS I GREW UP WITH, BECAUSE HE WENT TO ROMAN CATHOLIC AND GRADUATED IN 1971.”

EMILY LAURENZI LUCIANO, 2937-39 W. INDIANA AVE. “ENCLOSED IS A CHECK FOR TWO TICKETS TO THE ST. MARY’S REUNION, ALONG WITH A CONTRIBUTION FOR YOUR EXPENSES. THE REUNIONS ARE ALWAYS SUCH SPECIAL OCCASSIONS FOR ALL OF US FROM THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD, THAT I CAN HARDLY WAIT FOR

# The Judson Journal

April 15, 2004

APRIL 30, TO SEE MY LIFE-LONG FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS. RECENTLY, WHILE ATTENDING MASS AT MY DAUGHTER ROMA'S PARISH, ST. ALBERT THE GREAT, THERE WAS A HANDSOME MAN SINGING MASS WHO POSSESSES A BEAUTIFUL VOICE. AT FIRST I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE HIM, BUT AS MASS WENT ON I REALIZED HE IS LOUIS DECEASARE, THE SON OF VICTOR AND IDA, WHO OWEND THE BUTCHER SHOP AT 23<sup>RD</sup> AND INDIANA. AFTER MASS I SOUGHT LOUIS OUT AND ASKED HIM IF HE KNEW WHO I AM, "CERTAINLY" HE SAID, "YOU'RE EMILY FROM THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD!" I COULD HARDLY BELIEVE THAT LOUIS REMEMBERED ME AFTER MORE THAN 30 YEARS. WE HAD A PLEASANT CONVERSATION AND CAUGHT UP ON FAMILY, FRIENDS, ETC. IT WAS A SPECIAL THRILL FOR ME TO SEE LOUIS AND HEAR HIM SING AGAIN.

ALSO AT THE LAST REUNION, A YOUNG MAN CAME UP TO ME WHO'S NAME, UNFORTUNATELY, I DON'T REMEMBER. HE GAVE ME A KISS AND SAID THAT ONCE HE CAME INTO MY PIZZA SHOP AND I ASKED HIM, CAN I HELP YOU KID?" THE YOUNG BOY REPLIED, "I DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY." HE THEN TOLD ME THAT I HAD HIM SIT DOWN AT THE COUNTER AND GAVE HIM A COUPLE SLICES OF HOT PIZZA. I HAVE HEARD IT SAID THAT KIDS NEVER FORGET THE GOOD THAT SOMEONE DOES FOR THEM. I WAS TOUCHED THAT HE REMEMBERED ME AND THIS INCIDENT AFTER SO MANY YEARS.

PRESENTLY, I AM A MEMBER OF OUR LADY OF RANSOM CHURCH IN THE NORTHEAST. DOMINIC GARRITANO, FORMERLY OF 23<sup>RD</sup> STREET, IS A DEACON AT RANSOM. HE OCCASIONALLY GIVES THE HOMILY AT MASS AND DECORATES THE CHURCH BEAUTIFULLY THROUGHOUT THE LITURGICAL SEASON. I ALWAYS

FEEL HAPPY TO SEE DONNY AT CHURCH- TO SEE SOMEONE FROM OUR BELOVED ST. MARY'S AND DONNY ALWAYS SEEMS HAPPY TO SEE ME AS WELL. OUR NEIGHBORHOOD WAS SO SPECIAL THAT IT STILL HOLDS A JOYOUS PLACE IN OUR HEARTS AND MEMORIES EVEN TO THIS DAY. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ALL YOU DO TO KEEP THE SPIRIT, FRIENDSHIPS AND LOVE OF ST. MARY OF THE ETERNAL ALIVE AND TRIVING."

VINCENT MANNINO, 3141 HEMBERGER ST. "ENCLOSED ARE TWO CHECKS ONE FOR THE REUNION AND A SECOND CHECK FOR A DONATION IN MEMORY OF MY MOTHER MARY MANNINO WHO DIED ON NOV. 23, 2003. I AM ENCLOSING A COPY OF "**I AM AN ITALIAN-AMERICAN**, WHICH WAS GIVEN TO ME SEVERAL YEARS AGO AND HAVE PASSED IT ON TO MANY ITALIAN AMERICANS. I READ IT OFTEN AS A REMINDER OF OUR GREAT HERITAGE --- SOMETHING WE SHOULD ALWAYS BE PROUD OF. LOOKING FORWARD TO THE REUNION! THANKS FOR THE WONDERFUL MEMORIES YOU BRING BACK FOR US."

MARIA BELLA NAPLES, 2403 W. ELKART ST. "ENCLOSED IS A COMPLETED FORM AND A CHECK FOR THE REUNION. I WILL BE BRINGING A DOOR PRIZE THAT EVENING. I WANTED TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE TO YOU FOR ALL THE FOND MEMORIES YOU BRING BACK OF A WONDERFUL NEIGHBORHOOD. THERE WAS NO PLACE LIKE IT--THE CAMARADERIE, THE FRIENDSHIP. WE ALL LOVE TALKING ABOUT THAT SPECIAL PLACE. I ALSO WANTED YOU TO KNOW THAT MY DEAR SISTER, ANNETTE BELLA MALIZIA, CLASS OF 1942, PASSED AWAY ON FEBRUARY 7,

2004. SHE WILL BE GREATLY MISSED. I AM ALSO ENCLOSING A SEPARATE CHECK TO DEFRAY YOUR EXPENSES. SEE YOU ON THE 30<sup>TH</sup>."

FRANCIS NOVIA, 2956 N. 22<sup>ND</sup> ST. "I WOULD LIKE TO REPEAT A SUGGESTION I MADE AWHILE BACK. WHEN MEMBERS FROM THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD PASS ON, THE OBITUARY SHOULD CONTAIN THE STATEMENT, 'FORMERLY OF ST. MARY OF THE ETERNAL PARISH.' THIS WAY OLD FRIENDS CAN BE ALERTED SO THEY MAY COME AND PAY THEIR RESPECTS."

PHILOMENA FIORAVANTI PATRICK, 3053 N. 23<sup>RD</sup> ST. "I ENJOY READING THE JUDSON JOURNAL. ENCLOSED IS A CHECK TO HELP WITH EXPENSES. SORRY I CAN'T MAKE THE REUNION!"

DINA PIROLI WIDHSON, 2951 N. BAMBERY ST. "ENCLOSED IS A MONEY ORDER TO APPLY AS FOLLOWS: 2 REUNION TICKETS, 2 REUNION DOOR PRIZES FROM CAROL CRESCENZO AND I AND A DONATION TOWARDS YOUR EXPENSES. I WANT TO CONGRATULATE YOU ON A FANTASTIC JOB WITH THE JJ. WHEN I'M FINISHED READING THE JJ I PASS IT ON TO MY AUNT GLORIA NOVIA MENNA WHO ALSO ENJOYS READING THE STORIES OF THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD."

RONALD ROCCO, 2018 W. TORONTO ST. "KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK. THANKS FOR ALL THE MEMORIES. ENCLOSED IS SOMETHING TO HELP WITH THE EXPENSES."

HANK SALVATORE, "YOU MUST KNOW MY SCHEDULE BEFORE I DO, AS I WILL AGAIN MISS THE REUNION SCHEDULED FOR APRIL

30<sup>TH</sup>. I AM LEAVING FOR ITALY ON APRIL 28<sup>TH</sup>. AS ALWAYS, I ENJOY RECEIVING THE JUDSON JOURNAL. ENCLOSED IS A CONTRIBUTION TOWARD EXPENSES."

MARY VIANELLO, 3002 N. STILLMAN ST. "ENCLOSED IS A CHECK FOR THE REUNION. I DO HOPE I CAN MAKE IT. SADLY MY NEPHEW DONALD ROSMONDO SR. PASSED AWAY IIN FEBRUARY AND HIS FUNERAL WAS AT BURNS. HE WAS A HAPPY MAN WHEN THEY REMOVED HIS LUNG AND INFORMED HIM THAT IT WAS NOT CANCEROUS. WHAT EVER HAPPENED WITH THE OPERATION WHO KNOWS, BUT HE NEVER FELT RIGHT."

## I AM AN ITALIAN – AMERICAN

**I am a Italian – American.** My roots are deep in an ancient sea drenched by the Mediterranean sun, and watered by pure streams from snow capped mountains. I am enriched by thousands of years of culture. Ours is the culture that led Europe out of the Dark Ages through the Rinascimento or Renaissance. My hands are those of the mason, the artist, the worker of the soil.

My thoughts have been recorded in the annals of Rome, the poetry of Virgil, the creations of Dante and the philosophy of Benedetto Croce.

**I am an Italian – American** and from the ancient world I first manned the seas to the New World. I am Christopher Colombo. I am Giovanni Cabot know in history as John Cabot, discoverer of the mainland of North America. I am Americo Vespucci, who gave my name to the new world, America.

First to sail the Great lakes in 1679, founder of the territory that became the State of Illinois, colonizer of Lousiana and Arkansas, I am Enrico Tonti. I am Felippo Mazzei, friend of Thomas Jefferson and my thesis on the equality of man was written into the Bill of

Rights. I am William Paca, Signer of the Declaration of Independence.

**I am an Italian – American.** I financed the Northwest Expedition of George Rogers Clark and accompanied him through the lands that would become Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan. I am Colonel Francesco Vigo. I mapped the Pacific from Mexico to Alaska and to the Phillipines, I am Alessandro Malaspina.

**I am an Italian – American.** Giacomo Beltrami who discovered the source of the Mississippi River in 1823. I created the Dome of the United States Capitol, they called me the Michaelangelo of America, I am Constantino Brumidi. In 1904, I founded in San Francisco, the Bank of Italy now known as the Bank of American, the largest financial institution in the world. I am a.p. Giannini. I am Enrico Fermi, the father of nuclear science in America. First enlisted man to win the Medal of Honor in World War II, I am John Bezilone of New Jersey.

**I am an Italian American.** I am the million strong who served in America's armies and the tens of thousands whose names are enshrined in the military cemeteries from Guadanal to the Rhine. I am the steel maker in Pittsburg, the grower in the Imperial Valley of California, the textile designer in Manhattan, the movie maker in Hollywood, the homemaker and the breadwinner in 10,000 communities.

**I am an Italian – American** without stint or reservation, loving this land as only one who understands history, its agonies and its triumphs and can love and serve it.

I will not be told that my contribution is any less nor my role as worthy as that of any other American.

I will stand in support of this nation's freedom and promise against all foes. My heritage has dedicated me to this nation. I am proud of my full heritage and I shall remain worthy of it.

**I am an Italian – American.**

## THANK YOU!

To our reunion committee for all their hard work. The following is the committee list:

Mario Amici  
Joe Amici  
Rae Santaniello Autuori  
Sheila Cutillo Brandow  
Sally Callahan  
Sal Davino  
Anthony Dello Russo  
Ernie DiBenedetto  
John DeBenedetto  
Donna DiGiacomo  
Janet DiLacqua Green  
John Galloway  
John Giargiari  
Peggy Jackson  
Roseanne Cannistraci Lucarini  
Joe Martosella  
Sal Mattochia  
Diana Roncella Mazurek  
Mary Rita Galloway Merlino  
Joanna Gianetti Meyer  
Frank Nicastro  
Carmella Marcelli Puracchio  
Renee Ragno  
Joe Ravena  
Carmen Riccardi  
Beatrice Roncella Schiavo  
Helen Giorgio Shaw  
John Stuffo  
Vi Crupi Stuffo  
Ron Tucci

## PRAYER TO SAINT RITA OF CASIA. MY CONSOLER.

*GLORIOUS ST. RITA, THOU WHO MIRACULOUSLY SHARED IN THE PAINFUL PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, OBTAIN THAT I MAY BEAR THE SORROWS OF THIS LIFE WITH RESIGNATION, AND PROTECT ME IN ALL MY NEEDS.*

**PUBLISHER:**

**AARON ROSSI DOMENICO**

**ASSOCIATE EDITOR:**

**RACHEL MANCINI**

**P.O. BOX 58**

**HADDON HEIGHTS, NJ 08035**

**PHONE/FAX: 856-427-7850**

**e-mail [jjed@hadd.com](mailto:jjed@hadd.com)**