

PAST & PRESENT

DONALD CARDELLI 3054 N. JUDSON ST. "A SAD NOTE TO INFORM YOU OF THE DEATH OF MY YOUNGER BROTHER, JOHN "JACKIE" CARDELLI ON JULY 28, 2007 WHO ATTENDED ST. MARY'S FROM KINDERGARTEN UNTIL THE MID-50'S WHEN HE TRANSFERRED TO INCARNATION IN OLNEY. HE AND I WERE TWO YEARS APART IN AGE, WERE SEPERATED IN AGE BY OUR YOUNGER SIBINGS EIGHT YEARS AND HAVE MANY A FINE AND FOND MEMORY OF OUR EARLY DAYS IN THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD. EVEN AFTER OUR VACATING OF THE 'HOMELAND' JACK AND I STILL KEPT OUR ASSOCIATIONS WITH OUR OLD FRIENDS THROUGH OUR YEARS AT CARDINAL DOUGHERTY. JACK WILL ALWAYS BE REMEMBERED AS A GOOD CLEAN, LIVING MAN WHO LOVED HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS AND WHO WAS AT HIS HAPPIEST WHEN HE WAS HELPING OTHERS. PLEASE KEEP UP THE GREAT PUBLICATION OF THE JJ. ENCLOSED IS A CHECK!"

PAT CIAMMETTI, "I AM ENCLOSING THE NOTICE TO BE PLACED IN THR JJ FOR THE OCTOBER EDITION. ENCLOSED IS A CHECK TO COVER THE MAILING EXPENSE. THANK YOU FOR ALL THE HARD WORK YOU DO!"

CONNIE D'ANDREA, 2851 N. CAMBRIA ST. "I THROUGHLY

ENJOY READING ABOUT THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD, EVEN THOUGH I REALIZE THAT I'M MUCH OLDER THAN MOST OF YOU! AT ANY RATE, I'M ENCLOSING A CHECK TO PAY FOR PRINTING, POSTAGE ETC."

AL DIDONATO, 2010 W. INDIANA AVE. "ENCLOSED IS A CHECK FOR A CALENDAR AND THE REMAINDER IS A DONATION. I AM THE MARBLE CONTRACTOR RELATED TO THE EOBBI FAMILY. WISHING YOU LUCK WITH THE JJ!"

DONNA DIGIACOMO, "IT CONFOUNDS ME READING ALL THESE THINGS IN THE JJ HOW PEOPLE CONTINUALLY RAVE ABOUT THE 22ND AND CLEARFIELD ITALAIN SETTLEMENT IN NORTH PHILLY, YET WHEN I ASKED FOR OLD PICTURES OF THIS NOW-GONE ITALIAN NEIGHBORHOOD FOR MY FOURTHCOMING BOOK "ITALIANS OF PHILADELPHIA", (PUBLISHED BY ARCADIA PUBLISHING), ONLY ONE PERSON CAME FORWARD AND SUBMITTED PICTURES. I AM PUTTING TOGETHER A FOLLOW-UP BOOK WHICH WILL HIGHLIGHT THE ITALIAN NEIGHBORHOODS THAT DIDN'T GET THAT MUCH SPACE IN THE FIRST VOLUME, BUT WILL ANYONE FROM "22ND STREET HELP ME TO GIVE CREDIT WHERE IT'S DUE?

Donnad1976@yahoo.com

PAULA DIGIACOMO FAN, "MARIA STAFFIERI SCARDUZIO, CECILIA'S

COUSIN, ASKED ME TO MAKE SURE THAT THIS NOTICE GETS PRINTED IN THE JJ."

LAURENZI, CECILIA
AUG, 5TH, 2007 OF NE PHILA. FORMERLY OF ROXBOROUGH, AGE 53. MOTHER OF ROCCO SANTASIERA. SISTER OF EDWARD, FRANCIS, GARY AND MICHAEL LAURENZI. RELATIVES AND FRIENDS WERE INVITED TO GREET THE FAMILY ON 8/10/07. AND A FUNERAL MASS FOLLOWED AT IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH IN ROXBOROUGH."

MIKE GALLAGHER, CORPUS CHRISTI, 1951. "I READ WITH INTEREST, YOUR LATEST JJ AND WISH WE, OF CORPUS CHRISTI, HAD SUCH A WONDERFUL REMEMBRANCE NEWSLETTER. WHEN I WAS SCOUTMASTER OF CORPUS CHRISTI TROOP 130 IN THE LATE 50'S AND EARLY 60' I ADMIRERD THE MOST ACTIVE TROOP IN OUR DISTRICT, ST. MARY'S TROOP 245. THEY WERE AN EAGER BUNCH NOT ONLY THE SCOUTS, BUT ALSO THE LEADERS. I RECALL HOW JOE ALONGI AND MAX NATALE, MEMBERS OF THE TROOP COMMITTEE, CREATED MERIT BADGE PROGRAMS SO THAT EVERY SCOUT WOULD LEARN SKILLS THEY WOULD NOT HAVE OTHERWISE EXPERIENCED. IT WAS TO ST. MARYS TROOP LEADERS THAT THE CREDIT GOES FOR AN AMAZING AMOUNT OF MERIT BADGES THAT WERE EARNED BY THEIR SCOUTS. IN FACT, THEY HAD MORE EAGLE SCOUTS THAN ANY OTHER

TROOP IN THE DISTRICT AT THAT TIME PLUS THE HIGHEST ENROLLMENT IN THE BOY SCOUTS. AND TO TOP IT OFF, THE OLDER BOYS AND THEIR LEADERS ACTUALLY HIKE FROM 22ND & CLEARFIELD STS. UP TO RESICA FALLS IN THE POCONOS! THEY DID THIS YEAR IN A YEAR OUT. WHAT A TROOP THAT WAS AND WHAT AN EXAMPLE THEY SET FOR THE REST OF US."

THERESA RUGGIERI GERHART, SME 1959, 2915 N. JUDSON ST. "ENCLOSED IS A CHECK FOR 2 CALENDARS. PLEASE KEEP THE REMAINDER FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE JJ! I ALWAYS LOOK FORWARD TO READING THE JJ AND THEN SHARE IT WITH MY PARENTS ATTILIO (TIM) AND MARIA RUGGIERI, IT BRING BACK SO MANY MEMORIES FOR ALL OF US! THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO!"

ANTHONY PASSAMANTE, SME 1957, "THANKS FOR THE LATEST JJ, ENJOYABLE AS ALWAYS. I HAVE A CRAZY IDEA THAT SOMEDAY A MOVIE WILL BE MADE ABOUT OUR EARLY LIFE STORIES. SOME TIME AGO I SAW A MOVIE ENTITLED "CAPTAIN CORELLI'S MANDOLIN." IT WAS CONCERNED WITH THE ITALIAN OCCUPATION OF A GREEK ISLAND DURING WWII AND CONTAINED SOME TRAGIC EVENTS THAT SHOCKED ME. IT WAS DIRECTED BY JOHN MADDEN AND SHOT ON LOCATION; A GOOD STORY, SCENERY AND MUSIC. I THOUGHT MADDEN

CAPTURED THE GIST OF THE TIMES; NATIVE LIFE SUPERIMPOSED WITH THE HORORS OF WAR. I WAS PARTICULARLY CAPTIVATED BY HIS PORTRAYAL OF THE INTENSE FEELINGS EXPERIENCED BY THE CHARACTERS. IF EVER A MOVIE IS MADE ABOUT OUR NEIGHBORHOOD STORY I BELIEVE MADDEN IS THE GUY TO DIRECT IT DOMENICO AND MADDEN A WINNING COMBINATION. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!"

RON ROCCO, "ENCLOSED IS A CHECK FOR EXPENSES! I LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING THE JJ AND READ IT FRONT TO BACK AS SOON AS IT ARRIVES. THANKS AGAIN FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK AND EFFORT!"

JERI ADRIENNE GAJ ROMA-SANTINE, SME 1958, "TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONARE FROM FR. MIKE CALLAGHAN: I WAS IN A DRUGSTORE IN ABBINGTON WHILE ATTENDING PENN STATE'S ABBINGTON CAMPUS WHEN I HEARD ABOUT JFK. YES, SEVERAL OF THE CLASS OF 1958 WENT TO DOBBINS WITH ME, RONALD ALTENBERGER AND CLEM MARTINO!"

BILL SAULINO- PER JOE CIASULLO'S REQUEST, SME54, RCHS, 1958, UNISYS 2000, "HOPE EVERYTHING IS WELL WITH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY! KEEP THE MEMORIES FLOWING! ENCLOSED IS A CHECK TO HELP WITH EXPENSES!"

SAL VITALE, 2700 BLOCK OF HEMBERGER, ST COLUMBA PARISH, "I ENJOY READING THE JJ! I WAS RAISED IN THE IRISH PART OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD. I SHARE MANY OF THE SAME MEMORIES OF YOUR READERS. YOU MAY REMEMBER MY UNCLE JOHN (HOBIE) VITALE HE HAD THE PARKING LOT ACROSS FROM CONNIE MACK. I HAVE FOND MEMORIES OF PLAYING BALL IN PIERCE SCHOOL YARD AND ON THE STREETS, FOOTBALL, DINKY (HOSE BALL), WIRE BALL, WALL BALL AND ANY OTHER KIND OF BALL YOU COULD THINK OF THAT DIDN'T COST MONEY. I MARRIED A GIRL FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD SHE IS THE OLDEST OF 13, BARBARA SCHAFFER AND WE HAVE 4 GROWN CHILDREN AND 6 GRANDCHILDREN. I HUNG AROUND WITH CHARLIE AND JOE LAFANTANO, ED FUTCHKO, JOE MILLER AND JOE SILVESTRY WE WENT TO ST. MARY'S AND ST JOE'S DANCES. I'M ENCLOSING A CHECK FOR THE 2007 CALENDAR, IF YOU HAVE ANY LEFT, IF NOT I'LL TRY NEXT YEAR. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!"

JERRY VITTORELLI, "THANKS FOR EVERYTHING YOU HAVE BEEN DOING OVER THE YEARS! I'M SAD TO SAY MY FATHER-IN-LAW FRANK SABATO PASSED AWAY LAST AUGUST. YOU CAN SEND MY JJ VIA E-MAIL IN THE FUTURE." Daz!100@msn.com

Who is this Aunt Martha?

By Julie Mignone Ciaudelli

It's July 4th, 2007. I'm at a wonderful get-together at our Parish Rectory (St. Charles Borromeo, Bensalem, PA). I arrived late and most of the invited friends and parishioners have gone except for six of us. We're gathered at the dining room table. I'm busy eating and trying to make up for lost time: everyone else is already on dessert. The lady across the table tells the lady next to me something about Tambourini's on 22nd Street. I quickly drop my fork and say to her, "Did you say Tambourini on 22nd Street; I came from that neighborhood?" The lady appeared to be astonished and not sure she heard what I said. I met this lady on a previous occasion, by the way, but had not engaged her in conversation at the time. We continued to talk about the old neighborhood. As soon as she told me she's from Judson Street around Indiana Avenue, I began to talk about this man named Aaron who publishes the Judson Journal. She tells me, "Yes, I know, He's my son. NUH! WHAT! She begins to tell me the Panico family history. Finally, I get to know who Aunt Martha is!! I was so excited; I couldn't eat anymore, (at least not until later). I think about this time, she's not really sure that I'm from the old neighborhood. She asks me "O.K, what's on the corner of 21st and Toronto? I tell her about Tordella's and DeLong's. And I think at this time, she's kind of convinced I'm o.k. Later she gets a close-up look at me and tells me she remembers me. I tell Aunt Martha as soon as I get home tonight, I'm going to write Aaron and tell him I met you.

In the meantime, the other people at the table were also caught up with all the stories about the old neighborhood. I told them of "Weasel and the 220" story and they all burst into laughter. For myself, I was so happy to get first-hand information about all the neighbors on Indiana Avenue; Aunt Martha refreshed my memory about all the names of those people and I appreciated it.

It turns out that Aunt Martha is a very good friend and neighbor of Clara Lea. Mrs. Lea is the mother of our Associate Pastor, Father Joseph Lea. Aunt Martha is often invited to functions at our Parish. I'm happy I had the opportunity to meet her and to find out a lot more about our neighborhood!

50 Year Reunion for 1958 Class of Saint. Mary of the Eternal School!

Preliminary plans have been discussed for the reunion. The four organizers Angela Grosso, Smith, Mario Amici, Steven Borgioni and Aaron Rossi Domenico have tentatively set the date for a weekend in May 2008. If anyone would like to voice their opinion, or join the committee you may

E-mail any of the above classmates at the following addresses:

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Start Spreading The News!

Mario Amici is preparing to publish another spectacular calendar. Get those pictures and send them to the JJ or directly to Mario for the next publication. You may contact Mario by e-mail mamici@roskadirect.com or mail them to The Judson Journal at the address listed below. If you were not able to get the last edition because you procrastinated and found that there were none available, you may want to order your calendar in advance. This edition will cost \$8.00. Please make your checks payable to "Judson Journal!" The sooner you send your pictures and check in the sooner the calendar will go to print.

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.

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