

"PAST & PRESENT"

JOE AMICI, 2132 CLEARFIELD ST.
 "IT WAS SO NICE TO RECEIVE THE JJ. I WILL BE SENDING A CHECK, FOR THE REUNION IN OCT. IT IS GOOD TO SEE SOME OF THE OLD NAMES FROM THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD, WHO HAVE WRITTEN TO THE JJ. I WAS SURPRISED TO SEE ANTHONY "SQUID" GUIDOTTI'S NAME. MY BROTHER AND HIM WERE VERY GOOD FRIENDS. I WOULD LIKE TO GET BACK TO COMMUNICATING WITH SOME OF MY OLD FRIENDS. I HOPE TO SEE A LOT OF THEM AT THE REUNION IN OCT."

E-mail j.amici@erols.com

PAT CIAMMETTI, 2042 CLEARFIELD ST. & GUS LUDOVICI, 2917 TAYLOR ST. "DID YOU EVER STOP TO THINK OF WHAT HAPPENED TO THE MARBLE PLAQUE THAT CONTAINED ALL THE NAMES OF THE YOUNG MEN KILLED IN WWII? THIS MEMORABLE PIECE HUNG IN THE VESTABULE OF ST. MARY OF THE ETERNAL MONTHS AFTER IT WAS SOLD. IT BOTHERED ME THAT THIS PIECE WOULD BE LEFT TO PEOPLE WHO KNOW NOTHING ABOUT THESE MEN KILLED IN THE WAR. SO GUS LUDOVICI AND I DECIDED TO HAVE IT REMOVED. I STORED IT IN MY GARAGE FOR ABOUT A YEAR. AFTER TALKING WITH MSGR. CONWAY FORM IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY (IHM) PARRISH IN ROXBOROUGH GUS AND I DECIDED TO HANG IT IN IHM CHURCH, SINCE A LOT OF FORMER ST. MARY'S PARISHONERS NOW BELONG TO IHM. THIS BEAUTIFUL PLAQUE IS STILL IN THE VESTIBULE OF IHM. DID YOU KNOW THAT THE ROXBOROUGH SONS OF ITALY

SPONSORS A MEMORIAL MASS EVERY NOVEMBER FOR ALL THESE MEN? NOT MANY FROM ST. MARY'S ATTEND THIS MASS. AFTER MASS WE SERVE DANISH & COFFEE JUST TO GET TOGETHER IN THEIR MEMORY. HOW ABOUT ALL YOU PEOPLE OUT THERE! THE MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED NOV. 12, 2000. PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THE FULL PAGE ANNOUNCEMENT CONTAINED IN THIS ISSUE.

LIST OF THE WHO MEN DIED:
 BALLESTRUCCI, FRANK
 BENINCASA, ALFRED
 CERVONE, ALBERT
 CIOCIOLA, JAMES
 CLIMALDI, WILLIAM
 DAMBRA, JOHN
 DIBENEDETTO, JOHN
 DIPERZIO, SANTINO
 DIPROBERT, NORMAN
 FAINELLI, LAWRENCE
 FERRIZZI, SABATO
 FUSCO, JOHN
 GIANNETTI, ROCCO
 GREGORIO, JOHN
 GOOD, ALBERT
 MAZZA, ERNEST
 MONTI, MICHAEL
 PACIFICO, VINCENT
 PICARIELLO, JAMES
 PAONI, JOHN
 RICHARDS, WILLIAM
 ROMANO, DOMINIC
 ROSSETTI, JOSEPH
 SALVIA, ALBERT
 SALVIA, LAWRENCE
 SANTO, ALFRED
 SCRITTORE, JERRY
 SERPICO, JOHN
 SCOGGIO, ALBERT
 VESPA, JOHN
 GOD BLESS ALL! ENCLOSED IS A DONATION FOR EXPENSES."

ANDREW & JOAN DOLAN
 COMMENTUCCI, 3020
 HEMBERGER ST. 1950. "THE JJ HAS BROUGHT BACK MANY HAPPY MEMORIES OF THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD. THE BLOCK PARTIES, PLAYING BOX BALL, HANDBALL, HALFBALL, ETC. WE

HAD NO TV IN THOSE DAYS. THE BIKE RENTAL AT CAR-MEN-NUCHES WAS ONLY 30 CENTS/HR. REMEMBER VERDE'S SHOEMAKERS AT FOX & HEMBERGER. I USED TO HELP MY DAD, QUIRINO, MAKE THE WINE AND TAKE THE WINE PRESS FOR HIM TO MY UNCLES ON JUDSON ST. MY MOTHER SYLVIA WAS ALWAYS IN THE KITCHEN MAKING HOME MADES OR JARRING TOMATOES. IN THOSE DAYS I SOLD PALM TO MY AUNTS AND UNCLES, AND BUYING MY EASTER SUIT AT DICK CRANES AND MY SHOES AT LOUIS, "CARDBORD SHOES", ON 22ND ST. ON EASTER SUNDAY WE DROVE TO ATLANTIC CITY FOR A WALK ON THE BOARDS. ARE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD WAS FAMILY. WHEN I MOVED TO THE NE IT WAS LIKE MOVING TO ANOTHER COUNTRY. CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT IT WAS LIKE FOR OUR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS TO MOVE FROM THEIR HOMELAND TO ANOTHER COUNTRY? JOAN AND I WHO HAVE BENN MARRIED FOR 42 YRS. WOULD FIND IT HARD TO MOVE AWAY FROM OUR 4 CHILDREN AND 4 GRANDCHILDREN. THE JJ HAS BECOME THE HISTORY OF ITALIAN AMERICANS WHO LIVED IN A TIME WHEN ETHIC NEIGHBORHOODS WERE ALIVE IN PHILLY. EACH ISSUE OF THE JJ BRINGS US BACK TO THAT SPECIAL TIME IN OUR LIVES. ALL THE LETTERS WITH SOMEONE'S PAST MEMORIES KEEP THAT TIME IN OUR LIVES ALIVE, LIKE IT WAS JUST YESTERDAY"

PAULA DIGIACOMO FAN, 3033
 2RD ST. "I JUST WANTED TO TELL YOU HOW MUCH I ENJOYED THE APRIL ISSUE OF THE JJ. I CAN'T WAIT TO TAKE THIS HOME AND SHARE IT WITH MY 81 YR. OLD MOTHER. LUCY

DESIDERIO DIGIACONO. GOD HAS TRULLY BLESSED HER WITH GOOD HEALTH AND AN INCREDIBLE STAMINA! YOU CAN ALWAYS FIND HER IN THE KITCHEN, EVERY DAY, COOKING UP A STORM, AND NOTHING BEATS THE SMELL OF HER GRAVY ON ANY GIVEN DAY. IT'S STILL THE BEST EVER AND IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE A SUNDAY LIKE WHEN WE WERE KIDS ON 23RD ST. SEE YOU AT THE REUNION IN OCT."

ANGELO FASANO, JUDSON & CLEARFIELD. "I WAS VISITING MY FAMILY IN PHILA. THIS PAST MONTH AND SPENT AN EVENING WITH MY FORMER NEIGHBOR MADELINE MELI. I HAD NOT SEEN HER IN 60 YRS. SHE SENT ME A COPY OF THE JJ VIA MY NEPHEW. PLEASE PUT ME ON THE MAILING LIST."

GEORGE & GLORIA DIGIACOMO FELICI. "GEORGE'S MOM OPERATED FELICI'S GROCERY STORE AT 21ST & CLEARFIELD STS. MY DAD WAS YOUR MOM'S INSURANCE MAN. WE WERE MARRIED BY FR. BUSCO AT ST. MARY'S 50 YRS AGO. WE ENJOY THE JJ AND HOPE IT CONTINUES TO COME. THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES! ENCLOSED IS A CHECK FOR EXPENSES."

ANNA MARIE TOOTSIE PACIFICO PLEASE SEND A COPY OF THE JJ TO PAT HORTENSE DAHIS HILT. PAT LIVED OVER SHONES LUNCHEONETTE, 22ND & LEHIGH AVE. MY COUSIN DONNA, (DAUGHTER OF JIMMY & JUNE PACIFICO FROM 21ST & INDIANA AVE.), AND PAT JUST HAPPENED TO GET INTO CONVERSATION ABOUT THEIR "OLD NEIGHBORHOOD" AND HOW GREAT IT WAS, ONE THING LED TO ANOTHER AND PAT GAVE DONNA HER ADDRESS AND ASKED IF SHE WOULD PASS IT

ON, SO THAT SHE TOO COULD RECEIVE THE JJ AND REMINISE ABOUT ALL THE GOOD TIMES. WELL IT MADE ITS WAY TO ME AT MY UNCLE TONY'S, (BASILE), VIEWING LAST NIGHT, SO I SAID, "NO PROBLEM I HAVE THE ADDRESS FROM MY DAD. I'M SURE IT WOULD MAKE HER DAY TO FIND A COPY OF THE JJ IN HER MAIL, JUST AS IT DID FOR MY DAD NELSON/TONY PACIFICO FROM 20TH & INDIANA."

AL MANDIA, 3000 BLOCK OF HEMBERGER " HERE'S A CHECK TOWARDS THE COST OF ISSUING THE JJ. THANKS FOR TAKING THE TIME TO BRING BACK WONDERFUL MEMORIES!!"

RALPH MOSCOLINI, 2758 24TH ST. "I WOULD LIKE TO START OUT BY TELLING YOU ALL HOW I BECAME A MOVIE PRODUCER. I USED TO TAKE THE REEL OF FILM FROM THE LEHIGH MOVIE TO THE ALLEGHENY MOVIE. NOW, DOESN'T THAT MAKE ME A MOVIE PRODUCER? WELL I TRIED! THE BEST PART ABOUT THE JOB WAS THAT I COULD GO INTO THE THEATER ANYTIME I WANTED. I WENT TO ST. MARY'S AND PIERCE SCHOOLS. THEY WERE BOTH GOOD SCHOOLS. I AM ITALIAN AND IRISH DECENT AND THE NUNS WERE EITHER ITALIAN OR IRISH, SO I FELT AT HOME THERE. MY MOMS MAIDEN NAME WAS OHARA. I USED TO GO TO MELE'S BAKERY AT MIDNIGHT AND BUY AN ITALIAN LOAF OF BREAD FOR 5 CENTS. AT PIERCE SCHOOL I HAD MISS STERN AS MY TEACHER. SHE WOULD ASK ME TO GO HOME AND GET MY GUITAR. SHE ORGANIZED A CHRISTMAS PLAY AND I WAS ONE OF THE 3 WISE MEN. THE OTHER 2 WISE MEN WERE ANTHONY MELFI AND ANGELO

BERRETTA. WE ALL SANG BORN A KING ONE AT A TIME. AS THE YEARS WENT BY I WAS IN SEVERAL MUSIC GROUPS, THE BUDDY RICH BAND, THE DAVID TWENTEN" BAND WHO LIVED ON 2800 BLOCK OF JUDSON ST. I ALSO PLAYED FOR THE FRANK MORE 4 AND THE LAST GROUP I PLAYED IN WAS HOWIE & CO. IN THE 80'S. HOWIE PLAYED THE HORMONICA AND WAS WITH THE HOMONICA RASCALS. REMEMBER THEY RECORDED THE SONG PEG OF MY HEART. WE PLAYED IN THIS ONE CLUB AND LOW AND BEHOLD IN COMES SCATS AND HIS WIFE KEWPIE, ANTHONY AND MARIE MASCARA. WHILE I PLAYED THE GUITAR THEY DANCED AND ARE ALL VERY GOOD DANCERS. SO I'LL SAY, TI'LL THEN I'LL DREAM OF THOSE MEMORES TI'LL THEN. HERES A TIP FOR THE JJ."

ANGELO "AO" PACIFICO, I RAN INTO AL DIFILIPPO THE OTHER DAY, (HE'S PORK'Y BROTHER), AND TOLD HIM ABOUT THE JJ. PLEASE ADD HIM TO THE LIST. THE JJ IS TERRIFIC. HERES A CONTRIBUTION."

AL PASTRE, 3055 BONSALL ST. "EVERYTIME I READ THE JJ, I START THINKING BACK TO THE OLD DAYS IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD THE DANCES AT ST. MARY'S AND THE DIFFERENT CLUBS WE USED TO GO TO. ONE OF THE FELLOWS IN THE APRIL JJ WHOTE ABOUT WHITTIER POOL AND THE OLD SKOOTER MADE FROM 2X4 ORANGE CRATES. I ALSO REMEMBER THE OTHER GAMES WE USED TO PLAY, THEY WERE GREAT. SOMETIMES I WISH I COULD GO BACK IN TIME, JUST FOR A COUPLE DAYS, AND SEE ALL THE GUYS & GIRLS, ETC. GOOD OLD SWAMP POODLE, WE HAD A GREAT TIME THEN. WE

HAD GREAT NEIGHBORS, WHO CARED FOR EACH OTHER. WE WOULD HELP EACH OTHER WHEN IN NEED AND FELT GOOD ABOUT IT. WE WERE CLOSE KNIT, AND NO OTHER PLACE LIKE IT. I AM IN TOUCH WITH A FEW OF THE OLD NEIGHBORS. WE TALK OF THE OLD TIMES, AND HOW GREAT THEY WERE AND IF WE ARE IN TOUCH WITH ANY ONE ELSE, ETC. THEY ALL PLAN TO BE AT THE REUNION IN OCT. I WILL BE THERE WITH MY BROTHER AND SISTER, GOD WILLING. I WAS THINKING, AND TALKED TO OTHERS, THAT IT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA, IF IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE JJ YOU WOULD PUT THE DIRECTIONS TO THE REUNION. ENCLOSED IS A CHECK FOR THE JJ AND THE REUNION. GOD BLESS YOU ALL."

ERNEST PISACANO, 2011 INDIANA AVE. "AFTER READING THE SPRING EDITION OF THE JJ, WHICH, FRED CHIARLANZA HAD SENT ME, IT NOT ONLY INTRODUCED ME TO YOUR PROGRAM AND ACTIVITIES BUT ALSO BROUGHT BACK FOND MEMORIES OF THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD AND ST. MARY'S CHURCH. ESPECIALLY THE SUNDAY NIGHT DANCES. GOOD NOSTALGIA IS LIKE GOOD MEDICINE, WHICH CAN ONLY MAKE THE JJ READERS FEEL BETTER AFTER THEY HAVE READ IT. I WISH TO BE PLACED ON THE MAILING LIST, AS A SUBSCRIBER TO FUTURE EDITIONS OF THE JJ. I AM ENCLOSING A CHECK TO HELP YOU WITH YOUR EXPENSES."

RONALD ROCCO, 2018 TORONTO ST. "I WISH TO ECHO WHAT HAS BEEN SAID BY MANY OTHERS, THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES AND THANKS FOR ALL YOUR EFFORTS IN KEEPING THE MEMORIES OF THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD ALIVE! KEEP

IT UP AND I HOPE YOU DO IT FOR MANY YEARS TO COME."

ANNE MARCELLINO SGRILLO, JUDSON & CAMBRIA STS. "I WAS MARRIED AT ST. MARY'S IN 1950 BY FR. MAGUIRE. MY DAUGHTER WAS CHRISTENED AT ST. MARY'S AND ATTENDED ALL THROUGH 8TH GRADE. I HAVE ENCLOSED A CHECK FOR EXPENSES AND 2 ST. MARY'S PLAQUES. THANK YOU!"

AL "LONDON" STAFFIERI, 2217 INDIANA AVE. "MY BROTHER NINO DIED IN 1977 AND MY MOTHER ROSE DIED IN 1996. I HAVE A SISTER RITA WHO IS MARRIED TO FRANK LAURENZI FROM THE LAURENZI STORE ON 23RD AND INDIANA. THEY RESIDE IN MARGATE. MY WIFE JOSEPHINE AND I LIVE IN WILLIAMSTOWN, NJ AND HAVE 5 GROWN CHILDREN. WE ALSO HAVE A HOME IN BRIGANTINE AND A HOME IN FLORIDA NEAR DISNEY WORLD. I STILL MISS THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD AND WOULD LOVE TO BE AT THE NEXT REUNION, IF I CAN MAKE IT. ENCLOSED IS A CHECK."

MARY VACCA, 2950 JUDSON ST. "MY NEICE IS JEANETTE DONOVAN, WHO IS THE DAUGHTER OF PERRY & TILLY DI GENNARO. SHE IS NOW THE PRESIDENT OF OUR SONS OF ITALY, AVANTI LOGE #2509, WHICH COVERS THE LAFAYETTE HILL AND SURROUNDING AREA. SHE IS DOING A REMARKABLE JOB IN THIS POSITION AND IS KEEPING UP OUR ITALIAN HERITAGE AND TRADITION. ENCLOSED PLEASE FIND A CHECK FOR A ST. MARY'S PLAQUE FOR MY NEICE AND KEEP THE BALANCE FOR EXPENSES."

ROSE GIUFFRIDA VISCONTO, CAMBRIA & VANPELT. "WE

WERE THE GIUFFRIDA GIRLS JOSEPHINE AND ROSE. OUR BOYFRIENDS HAD RETURNED FROM THE WAR AND WE WANTED TO GET MARRIED. WHEN WE TOLD POP OUR PLANS HE SAID, "YOU'RE CRAZY IF YOU THINK I'M GOING TO HAVE TWO WEDDINGS IN ONE YEAR." SO WE HAD A DOUBLE WEDDING WHICH WAS SUPERB! MY SISTER JO MARRIED PETER TARSI AND I MARRIED PHIL VISCONTO. THE CHURCH WAS PACKED AND EVERYONE WAS NERVOUS INCLUDING FR. BUSCO, WHO HAD NEVER OFFICIATED AT A DOUBLE WEDDING BEFORE OR SINCE. TO OUR SURPRISE HE BLESSED US AGAIN AT OUR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY. MSGR. BUSCO HE IS NOW RETIRED AND LOOKS WONDERFUL."

PAT WALKER, "JOE WALKER, ST. MARY'S CLASS OF 1955, WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO THE OCT. REUNION. UNFORTUNATELY GOD HAD OTHER PLANS FOR HIM. HE DIED SUDDENLY ON JAN. 28, 2000. HE WILL BE THERE IN SPIRIT."

CORRECTION

PLEASE MAKE NOTE: IN THE APRIL 15, 2000 EDITION AN ERROR WAS MADE IN THE ARTICLE ENTITLED "THE SECOND TIME AROUND. RICHEL D'AMBRA'S NAME WAS INCORECTLY SPELLED AS RACHEL. PLEASE EXCUSE THE TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR. THANK YOU!

**THANK YOU! A
VERY SPECIAL
THANKS TO THE
FOLLOWING
CONTRIBUTORS:**

AL & CAROLYN MATTEO
CASTELLANI
GEORGE CERVONE
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DIGIACOMO FELICI
ERNEST GALLO
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PEG JACKSON
LOIS KITREDGE
ERNIE & MAE LUCARINI
GENE & GILDA
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ANNA SGRILLO
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MARY STEWART
JOANNE AMICI THOMAS
RON TUCCI
MARY & PETER VACCA
PHYLLIS DEMORRA
WALL

**REUNION TICKETS!
SEE ATTACHED FORM.
PLEASE MAKE NOTE: IF
YOU HAVE AN ORDER
FORM FROM A
PREVIOUS MAILING,
THE ZIP CODE WAS
LISTED IN ERROR AS
08033. THE CORRECT ZIP
CODE FOR THE JJ IS
08035.**

***PLACE YOUR ORDER
FOR A ST. MARY'
PLAQUE NOW! SEND
YOUR CHECK FOR
\$17.00 ASAP! WE
HAVE PLAQUES IN
STOCK, BUT THEY
ARE MOVING VERY
QUICKLY. IF YOU
WANT TO PURCHASE
ONE, PLEASE SEND
YOUR CHECK TODAY!***

REUNION MEETING!

SEPTEMBER 21, 2000

**THE RAMADA INN
ESSINGTON!**

**THE FOLLOWING
COMMITTEES MUST BE
PRESENT FOR THIS
MEETING:**

**CLASS AND OLD STREET
REPRESENTATIVES!**

DOOR PRIZE!

**HALL DECORATION AND
THEME SELECTION!**

PUBLICITY!

GREETING TABLE!

**CALL AARON AT 610-362-
0610 EXT. 204 FOR TIME
AND MEETING ROOM
NAME BY SEPT. 18TH.**

**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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