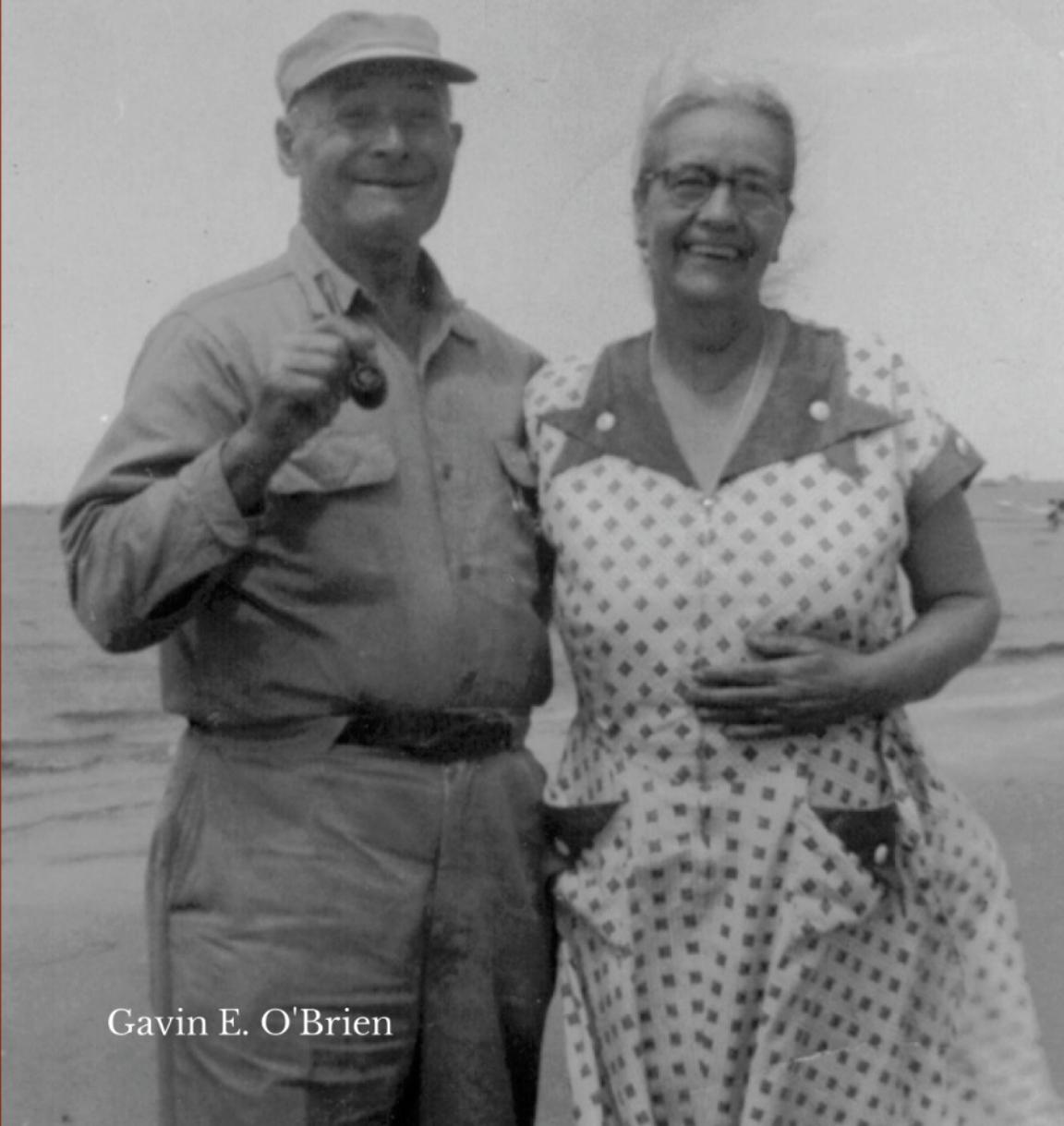


# Remembering Frank & Virginia Belcastro



Gavin E. O'Brien

# Remembering Frank & Virginia Belcastro

Created for the Belcastro Family Reunion  
April 1, 2023  
Rockland Country Club  
Rockland, Massachusetts

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Front cover, back cover, and last page photos provided by Gail O'Brien. Photo opposite Table of Contents taken by Michael O'Brien.

# Family History

## Life in Italy

Francesco Antonio Belcastro was born on 15 June 1882 in Mammola, Reggio Calabria, Calabria, Italy, to Pasquale Belcastro and Maria Bruzzese (she went by Maria, but her birth name was Nunziata<sup>1</sup>). Pasquale was a 37-year-old farmhand and his wife Maria was a 27-year-old farmer. Francesco was born at home, in the house located at #18 Contrada Scali in Mammola.<sup>2</sup> Two witnesses attested to Francesco's birth before the town official: Giuseppe Bruzzese, a 60-year-old barkeep, and Nicodemo Bernardo, a 40-year-old undertaker. None of them could read or write.

Francesco had five siblings. Salvatore was born in 1875 in Grotteria.<sup>3</sup> Caterina Carmela was born in 1878, also in Grotteria.<sup>4</sup> Sometime after this and before Francesco's birth, the family moved from Grotteria to Mammola. This was followed by the births of Rosa Carmela in 1886,<sup>5</sup> Vincenzo in 1891,<sup>6</sup> and Bruno in 1894.<sup>7</sup> Bruno died in Mammola at age 15.<sup>8</sup>

Four of Francesco's siblings married four siblings from the same Pazzano family (the children of Giuseppe Pazzano and Giovanna Iannizzi). Salvatore Belcastro married Maria Filomena Pazzano,<sup>9</sup> Caterina Belcastro married Nicodemo Pazzano,<sup>10</sup> Rosa Belcastro married Filippo Pazzano,<sup>11</sup> and Vincenzo Belcastro married Vittoria Pazzano.<sup>12</sup>

Salvatore and Vincenzo joined Francesco in the U.S. Caterina likely moved with her family to France in the 1950s or 60s, according to family members and DNA matches. Rosa's story is unknown, although she had two daughters<sup>13</sup> and possibly other children.

Virginia Aden was born on or about 4 August 1896 in Grotteria, Reggio Calabria, Calabria, Italy, to unknown parents. She was left at the spot designated for abandoned babies on San Giorgio Street and brought to city hall by the woman responsible for foundlings. It was there in city hall that Antonio Lupis, Registrar for the Vital Statistics Office, gave her the name Virginia Aden.<sup>14</sup>

Why the surname Aden? She was likely named after the city of Aden in Yemen. Looking through the other foundling records that year, Mr. Lupis assigned them surnames of African cities in Eritrea, Ethiopia, and Sudan.<sup>15</sup>

Italy was colonizing these areas of Africa beginning in the 1880s when Virginia was born.<sup>16</sup>

Rosa Papandrea, age 37, requested to be Virginia's wetnurse and Mr. Lupis, representing city hall, approved her request. Virginia was turned over to Rosa's care. Rosa had given birth to a stillborn baby exactly one year prior, on 4 August 1895.<sup>17</sup> She and her husband Vincenzo Galluzzo did not have any other children. It could be that Rosa and Vincenzo realized they could not have children of their own and chose to care for Virginia due to her birthdate coinciding with that of their own deceased child. In any case, Rosa and Vincenzo raised Virginia as their own daughter and will be referred to as her parents in this book.

### **Arrival in the U.S.**

Francesco Belcastro, at age 22, left Italy for America in 1905 along with his cousin, Pasquale Albanese, and his brother-in-law's cousin, Vincenzo Pazzano.<sup>18</sup> The three made the journey to Naples, where they boarded the steamship *Il Piemonte* on 9 March 1905. The ship made a stop in Palermo, Sicily, before departing for America with 1,295 passengers in steerage. It arrived in New York City on 27 March, a voyage of 18 days total. Francesco arrived in New York carrying \$11.<sup>19</sup> Although Francesco and his companions appear to have paid their fares, their ship had 19 stowaways who boarded in Palermo. The "half-famished band" was made to work in the boiler room and were sent back to Italy rather than being allowed to stay in New York City.<sup>20</sup>

Francesco, Pasquale, and Vincenzo traveled on to Albany, New York, where they boarded at the same address and worked as laborers. Francesco began going by the name Frank after he arrived in the U.S.<sup>21</sup>

Frank's location between 1905 and 1912 is not known for sure. Family members say he was working at the granite quarries in Barre, Vermont.

In 1908, at age 12, Virginia left Italy for America. She was accompanied by her mother, Rosa Papandrea. The pair left Naples on 9 July on board the steamship *Nord America*,<sup>22</sup> arriving in New York City on 24 July, a voyage of 14 days. On the ship with them were 54 cabin passengers and 235 third class passengers.<sup>23</sup>

Virginia and Rosa were joining Virginia's father, Vincenzo "James" Galluzzo, who was already in the United States. James likely arrived in the Port of New York City on 30 March 1905, just two days after Frank Belcastro's arrival there. Could the two have crossed paths at Ellis Island, perhaps? While Frank was bound for Albany, the ship manifest shows that James was headed to Boston, Massachusetts, but was not meeting anyone there.<sup>24</sup>

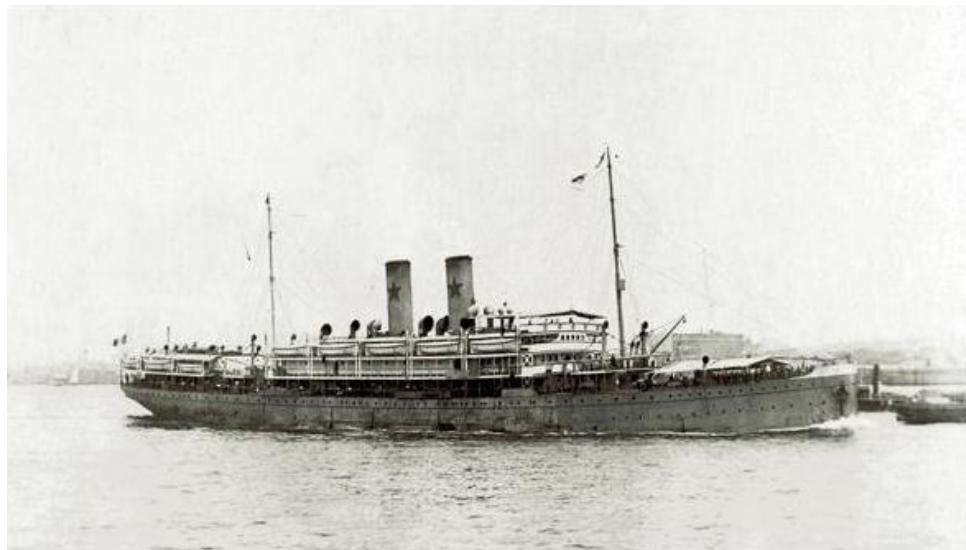
It's unknown where James Galluzzo was between 1905 and 1910, but by 1910, the family was reunited. James, Rosa, and Virginia were living in a rental at 210 North St. in Hingham, Mass. James's job is listed as "Farm Helper." Virginia, then 13 years old and attending school, was the only one in the family who could read and write.<sup>25</sup>

## **Marriage and Family**

While Virginia was living in Hingham, Frank Belcastro may have been boarding on Nantasket Ave. in nearby Hull, doing odd jobs for work.<sup>26</sup> It's unknown for certain how he met Virginia. Family stories have it that their marriage was arranged by a family that knew them both. This was probably a different Galluzzo family in Hingham that made the arrangement, Frank and Nunziata Galluzzo of Kilby St.

Frank Belcastro and Virginia Aden were married on 12 September 1912. They had a separate civil marriage and a religious ceremony the same day. The civil marriage was performed by a clerk of the Norfolk County Superior Court in Dedham, Mass. The bride and groom are both listed as residents of Weymouth.<sup>27</sup> The religious ceremony was held at St. Leonard's Church in Boston's North End neighborhood. Here, they are listed as Boston residents. Witnesses to the marriage were Giuseppe Rossi and Antonio Di Primio. The priest who married them was Father Giovanni Vitali.<sup>28</sup>

Frank and Virginia moved to Weymouth, Massachusetts, and were living for a time at 11 Off Lake St.<sup>29</sup> Their first three children children were born there.<sup>30</sup> Frank's brothers, Vincenzo (also known as James) and Salvatore, were also living at the same address.<sup>31</sup> James and Salvatore had arrived in the U.S. from Italy in 1913.<sup>32</sup> All three Belcastro brothers worked as laborers<sup>33</sup> for Antonio Daniele of Broad St. Place in East Weymouth, a mason.<sup>34</sup> Antonio may be who taught Frank his masonry skills.



S.S. *Nord America*, ship that took Virginia Aden and Rosa Papandrea to New York. Postcard collection at Mystic Seaport Museum, 1999.175.572.

—THE—  
**Albany Italian Exchange.**

**G. P. BACCELLI (Italian Consul),**

**119 Madison Ave., Albany, N. Y.**

**DRAFTS and MONEY ORDERS' on all Parts' of the World**

**AGENCY FOR ALL THE TRANSATLANTIC LINES.**

**SPECIAL REFERENCES FOR ITALY.**

Ad for the Albany Italian Exchange. This was likely the service that Frank Belcastro used to book passage to the U.S., and he listed its address as his destination in Albany. *Albany City Directory*, 1906, p. 903.



St. Leonard's Church in Boston's North End, where Frank and Virginia were married. Photos by Gavin O'Brien.

In 1918, Frank and Virginia bought the house at 15 Broad St. Place in Weymouth from Frank's employer, Antonio Daniele, and his wife Angelina.<sup>35</sup> This is the house the Belcastros would live in for many years after. The couple also purchased property in 1919 from the J. W. Wilbur company. This land was located off of Middle St. in Weymouth in a housing development known as Nash Corner Gardens.<sup>36</sup>

Virginia's father, James Galluzzo, died of influenza and broncho pneumonia during the 1918 flu pandemic. He was 48 years old. He and his wife Rosa were still living in Hingham at the time.<sup>37</sup> After Vincenzo's death, Rosa moved in with Frank and Virginia in Weymouth.<sup>38</sup> Rosa passed away in 1924 of chronic myocarditis at age 65.<sup>39</sup>

Frank worked as a stonemason.<sup>40</sup> The family recalls that he built stone walls in Weymouth and Cohasset. He was employed for a time by the federal Works Progress Administration (WPA) at Great Pond in South Braintree.<sup>41</sup> He was likely involved in the construction of a new dike at Great Pond to create a backup water reservoir.<sup>42</sup>

Virginia was a member of the Daughters of Italy in East Weymouth (Stella D'Oriente lodge no. 1425).<sup>43</sup> She was also active in the church, serving as a communicant and a member of the sodality at Immaculate Conception Church in Weymouth.<sup>44</sup>

Frank submitted his declaration of intention to seek U.S. citizenship in 1934.<sup>45</sup> Three years later, in 1937, he signed the Oath of Allegiance and became a naturalized citizen.<sup>46</sup> Virginia became a citizen much later, in 1963.<sup>47</sup>

Frank passed away in Weymouth on 28 March 1969 at age 86.<sup>48</sup> Virginia passed away in Weymouth on 16 January 1991 at age 94.<sup>49</sup> The couple leaves behind a legacy of 13 children<sup>50</sup> (two of them died in infancy)<sup>51</sup> and 43 grandchildren.<sup>52</sup> A few fond memories and family recipes are collected in the sections later in this book.

## **Belcastro Lineage**

Although Francesco Antonio "Frank" Belcastro was born in Mammola, his family was originally from Grotteria. The family moved to Mammola sometime between 1878 and 1882.<sup>53</sup> Using Italian civil records (birth/marriage/death registries), Francesco's Belcastro line in Grotteria can be traced back

to his third-great-grandfather, also named Francesco Belcastro, who was born in Grotteria around 1700 (see pedigree chart).<sup>54</sup> Tracing the Belcastro line further back will likely require church records or DNA evidence.

The surname Belcastro comes from the town of the same name in the province of Catanzaro, Calabria. Translated, it means “beautiful castle.”<sup>55</sup>

Italian families would also have a *soprannome*, a name in addition to the surname. This extra name helps distinguish between multiple families with the same surname who live in the same area.<sup>56</sup> Francesco’s family *soprannome* is Grosso<sup>57</sup> (which in Italian means “large” or “heavy,”<sup>58</sup> probably a physical description). For example, Francesco’s name might appear as “Francesco Antonio Belcastro Grosso” to distinguish him from other Belcastro families.

A member of the Belcastro family took a Y-DNA test through the Family Tree DNA website. DNA from the Y chromosome is passed down from father to son and can be used to trace the deep ancestry of a surname lineage. Unlike other chromosomes, the Y chromosome is passed from father to son without significant recombination. This means that a living man’s Y-DNA is nearly identical to that of his direct male line ancestor from many generations in the past. While rare, mutations on the Y chromosome do occur. It is possible to map groups of people onto branches of a tree based on the mutations they have in common. These branches are known as haplogroups, and they’re named after the location on the Y chromosome where the mutation occurred.<sup>59</sup>

The Belcastro Y-DNA test places the family on haplogroup R-FT237455. This is a relatively old haplogroup that branched off of the parent group around 200 BCE.<sup>60</sup> There are not yet any close Y-DNA matches to the Belcastro test in the Family Tree DNA database. Distant Belcastro cousins who test in the future could improve the quality of matching and may even add a new branch to the Y-DNA global tree.

The Belcastro family also has a mitochondrial DNA (also known as mtDNA) test available on the Family Tree DNA website. Both men and women have mtDNA, but each person only inherits it from their mother. In this way, mtDNA traces the direct female line similar to how Y-DNA traces the direct male line.<sup>61</sup>

The Belcastro mtDNA test indicates that Virginia Aden's mtDNA type is H7. Family Tree DNA says that "H7 is an uncommon branch of haplogroup H and is found at low frequencies in both Europe and the Near East. Its age is estimated to be around 15,000 years. Further research will better resolve the distribution and historical characteristics of this haplogroup."<sup>62</sup> Given the rarity of the H7 type, it could be useful at confirming potential DNA relatives of Virginia who fall within her direct female line.

## Endnotes

- <sup>1</sup> State Archives of Reggio Calabria, Grotteria, 1873 marriages, entry #19.
- <sup>2</sup> State Archives of Reggio Calabria, Mammola, 1882 births, entry #158. ([https://www.antenati.san.beniculturali.it/ark:/12657/an\\_ua16434586/58zv4Bp](https://www.antenati.san.beniculturali.it/ark:/12657/an_ua16434586/58zv4Bp))
- <sup>3</sup> State Archives of Reggio Calabria, Grotteria, 1875 births, entry #107
- <sup>4</sup> State Archives of Reggio Calabria, Grotteria, 1878 births, entry #73
- <sup>5</sup> State Archives of Reggio Calabria, Mammola, 1886 births, entry #212
- <sup>6</sup> State Archives of Reggio Calabria, Mammola, 1891 births, entry #78
- <sup>7</sup> State Archives of Reggio Calabria, Mammola, 1886 births, entry #212
- <sup>8</sup> State Archives of Reggio Calabria, Mammola, 1908 deaths, entry #33
- <sup>9</sup> State Archives of Reggio Calabria, Mammola, 1900 marriages, entry #30
- <sup>10</sup> State Archives of Reggio Calabria, Mammola, 1900 marriages, entry #29
- <sup>11</sup> State Archives of Reggio Calabria, Mammola, 1909 marriages, entry #39
- <sup>12</sup> State Archives of Reggio Calabria, Mammola, 1909 marriages, entry #40
- <sup>13</sup> Maria Carmela Pazzano born 15 April 1910: Mammola, 1910 births, entry #92; Carmela Pazzano born in 1911 or 1912 and died 11 October 1922: Gallico, 1922 deaths, entry #74.
- <sup>14</sup> State Archives of Reggio Calabria, Grotteria, 1896 births, part II, entry #7
- <sup>15</sup> State Archives of Reggio Calabria, Grotteria, 1896 births, part II. Surnames include “Coatit” (Coatit, Ethiopia), “Macalle” (Mekele, Ethiopia), “Adigrat” (Adigrat, Ethiopia), “Cassala” (Kassala, Sudan), and “Dongola” (Dongola, Sudan).
- <sup>16</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Italian\\_Empire](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Italian_Empire)
- <sup>17</sup> State Archives of Reggio Calabria, 1895 births, entry #151
- <sup>18</sup> U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, “Passenger and Crew Lists of Vessels Arriving at New York, New York, 1897-1957,” 28 Mar 1905, Piemonte, passenger #129
- <sup>19</sup> “Il Piemonte arrival,” New-York Tribune, 28 Mar 1905, p. 14
- <sup>20</sup> “Steamer Had Nineteen Stowaways,” The Kansas City Star, 2 Apr 1905, p. 17
- <sup>21</sup> New York State Census, 1905, Albany County, City of Albany, Ward 4, Election District 2, p. 29, 11 Blicker, Pasquale Verona household.
- <sup>22</sup> New York Passenger Manifests, 24 Jul 1908, *Nord America*, rows 16-17.
- <sup>23</sup> “Movimenti di vapori,” L’Italia, 17 Jul 1908, p. 4
- <sup>24</sup> U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, “Passenger and Crew Lists of Vessels Arriving at New York, New York, 1897-1957,” 30 Mar 1905, *Citta di Reggio*, passenger #20
- <sup>25</sup> 1910 U.S. Federal Census, Massachusetts, Plymouth County, Hingham Town, ED 1216, sheet 4B, dwelling 83, family 84, family of “James Galluits.”
- <sup>26</sup> 1910 U.S. Federal Census, Massachusetts, Plymouth County, Hull, ED 1219, p. 22A, dwelling no. 36, “Fransieo Beleveo.” Age, arrival year, country of origin, and marital status match those of Francesco Belcastro.
- <sup>27</sup> Town of Dedham marriage register, 1912, entry #113, Francesco Belcastro and Virginia Aden.
- <sup>28</sup> St. Leonard of Port Maurice (Boston) Marriages, 1908-1912, p. 91, entry #784, Francesco Belcastro and Virginia Aden.
- <sup>29</sup> 1916 Weymouth Directory, p. 26, Frank Belcastro
- <sup>30</sup> Town of Weymouth birth register, 1913, p. 5, entry no. 185, Maria Rosa Belgastro; Town of Weymouth birth register, 1915, p. 2, no. 66, Nonziata Balcastro; Town of Weymouth birth register, 1916, p. 5, no. 215, Elizabeth Belcastro.

<sup>31</sup> WWI registration cards for Francesco Belcastro (serial no. 661, order no. 2293), Vincenzo Belcastro (order no. 825, no. 80) and Salvatore Belcastro (serial no. 2907, order no. 1123).

<sup>32</sup> Salvatore Belcastro arrival date: Naturalization Declaration of Intention, no. 268397, U.S. District Court, District of Massachusetts. Vincenzo Belcastro arrival date: Petition for Naturalization, no. 3560 m, Vencenzo Belcastro, 2 June 1919.

<sup>33</sup> WWI registrations cards.

<sup>34</sup> 1917 Weymouth City Directory, p. 55, Antone Daniels.

<sup>35</sup> Norfolk County (Massachusetts) Register of Deeds, book 1410, p. 202, Daniele to Belcastro & al.

<sup>36</sup> Norfolk County (Massachusetts) Register of Deeds, book 1437, pp. 217-218, J.W. Wilbur Co. Inc. to Belcastro & ux. For location see map in Norfolk County Deeds, Book of Plans 89, Plan no. 4310.

<sup>37</sup> Massachusetts standard certificate of death, 1918, vol. 99, p. 282, no. 803, James Galuzzo.

<sup>38</sup> 1920 U.S. Census, Massachusetts, Norfolk County, Weymouth, E.D. 278, sheet 3B, dwelling no. 53, family no. 60, Rose Gallucco in Frank Belcastro household.

<sup>39</sup> Massachusetts standard certificate of death, vol. 80, p. 449, no. 136, Rosia Gallucco.

<sup>40</sup> First reference to Francesco being a stonemason: 1916 Weymouth directory, p. 26, "Belcastro Frank, stone mason, h off 11 Lake." It also appears as his occupation in 1920 census, 1930 census, 1940 census. It appeared he was retired as of the 1950 census as no occupation or recent work history listed. Francesco's death notice in the Boston Globe (31 Mar 1969, p. 25) calls him "Retired stone mason."

<sup>41</sup> U.S. Selective Service System, World War II Draft Cards, Fourth Registration, serial number U2121, Frank Anthony Belcastro.

<sup>42</sup> Quincy Patriot Ledger, 1 Oct 1941, p. 1 & p. 18.

<sup>43</sup> Massachusetts, Order Sons of Italy in America, Membership Applications, 1925-1955, Virginia Belcastro.

<sup>44</sup> Virginia Belcastro death notice, The Patriot Ledger, 19 Jan 1991, p. 23; 50th wedding anniversary notice, The Patriot Ledger, 15 Sep 1962, p. 8.

<sup>45</sup> U.S. District Court, District of Massachusetts, Declaration of Intention, no. 247550, Francisco Belcastro.

<sup>46</sup> U.S. District Court, District of Massachusetts, Petition for Naturalization, no. 179110, Francesco Belcastro.

<sup>47</sup> U.S. District Court, District of Massachusetts, Petition for Naturalization, no. 355152, Virginia Belcastro.

<sup>48</sup> Frank A. Belcastro death notice, The Boston Globe, 30 Mar 1969, p. 103.

<sup>49</sup> Virginia (Adene) Belcastro death notice, The Boston Globe, 18 Jan 1991, p. 26.

<sup>50</sup> U.S. District Court, District of Massachusetts, Petition for Naturalization, no. 355152, Virginia Belcastro.

<sup>51</sup> Massachusetts death records, 1918, vol. 130, p. 28, no. 288, Pasquale Belcastro; Massachusetts death records, 1925, vol. 85, p. 83, no. 8, Rose Belcastro.

<sup>52</sup> Information collected from family members by the author.

<sup>53</sup> Caterina Carmela Belcastro was born in Grotteria in 1878 (Grotteria births, entry #73); Francesco Antonio Belcastro was born in Mammola in 1882.

<sup>54</sup> State Archives of Reggio Calabria, Grotteria, 1824 marriage processetti, entry #34, Nicodemo Palermi and Elisabetta Belcastro, certification of death for Bruno Belcastro. Bruno's parents named as Francesco and Eleanora Gatto.

<sup>55</sup> Dictionary of American Family Names 2nd edition, 2022

<sup>56</sup> Lynn Serafinn, "Not Just a Nickname: Understanding Your Family Soprannome," Trentino Genealogy, <https://trentinogenealogy.com/2019/10/nickname-soprannome-so-prannomi/>

<sup>57</sup> Death record of Nicodemo Belcastro, Grotteria deaths, 1838, entry #84; death record of Rosa Bruzzisi, Grotteria deaths, 1841, entry #60.

<sup>58</sup> "Grosso," Italian-to-English translation, WordReference.com (<https://www.wordreference.com/iten/grosso>)

<sup>59</sup> Blaine T. Bettinger and Debbie Parker Wayne, Genetic Genealogy in Practice (Arlington: National Genealogical Society, 2016), 23-25.

<sup>60</sup> FamilyTreeDNA.com kit no. 986697 and Discover Haplogroup Reports for R-FT237455 (<https://discover.familytreedna.com/y-dna/R-FT237455/story>)

<sup>61</sup> Bettinger

<sup>62</sup> FamilyTreeDNA.com mtDNA results page for H7

# Frank's Ancestors

## Francesco Antonio Belcastro

b: 15 Jun 1882 in Mammola, Italy  
m: 12 Sep 1912 in Boston, MA  
d: 28 Mar 1969 in Weymouth, MA

## Pasquale Belcastro

b: 12 Jun 1846 in Grotteria, Italy  
m: 29 May 1873 in Grotteria, Italy  
d: Aft. 1894

## Maria Bruzzese

b: 20 Dec 1853 in Grotteria, Italy

## Bruno Stefano Belcastro

b: Abt. 1796 in Italy  
m: 12 Jan 1824 in Grotteria, Italy  
d: Bef. 1878

## Maria Panaja Palermi

b: Abt. 1806 in Grotteria, Italy  
d: 13 Feb 1878 in Mammola, Italy

## Domenico Antonio Bruzzese

b: 08 Mar 1817 in Grotteria, Italy  
m: 08 May 1843 in Grotteria, Italy  
d: 03 Dec 1854 in Grotteria, Italy

## Carmela Papandrea

b: 15 Nov 1819 in Grotteria, Italy

|   |                                  |                            |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Pietro Belcastro</b>   | <b>Bruno Belcastro</b>           | <b>Francesco Belcastro</b> |
| b: Abt. 1762 in Italy<br>d: 11 Sep 1816 in Grotteria,<br>Italy            | b: Abt. 1729 in Grotteria, Italy |                            |
|   | <b>Caterina Fuda</b>             | <b>Eleonora Gatto</b>      |
|   | b: Abt. 1729 in Grotteria, Italy |                            |
| <b>Rosa Bruzzisi</b>  | <b>Nicodemo Bruzzisi</b>         |                            |
| b: Abt. 1766 in Grotteria, Italy<br>d: 28 Jul 1841 in Grotteria,<br>Italy |                                  |                            |
|   | <b>Caterina Agostino</b>         |                            |
| <b>Pietro Palermi</b>   |                                  |                            |
|   |                                  |                            |
| <b>Rosa Barillaro</b>   |                                  |                            |
|   |                                  |                            |
| <b>Francesco Bruzzese</b>   | <b>Domenico Bruzzese</b>         |                            |
| b: Abt. 1761 in Grotteria, Italy<br>d: 19 Sep 1845 in Grotteria,<br>Italy | b: Abt. 1727                     |                            |
|   | <b>Angiola Agostino</b>          |                            |
|   | b: Bef. 1725                     |                            |
| <b>Elisabetta Longo</b>   |                                  |                            |
| b: Abt. 1782<br>d: 03 Sep 1819 in Grotteria,<br>Italy                     |                                  |                            |
| <b>Pasquale Papandrea</b>   | <b>Francesco Papandrea</b>       | <b>Antonio Papandrea</b>   |
| b: Abt. 1798<br>d: 19 Dec 1850 in Grotteria,<br>Italy                     | b: Abt. 1764 in Grotteria, Italy | <b>Caterina Papandrea</b>  |
|   | <b>Elisabetta lentile</b>        |                            |
| <b>Caterina Tavernese</b>   |                                  |                            |
| b: Abt. 1801  |                                  |                            |

## **Frank's Birth Record**

In the year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty-two, on the sixteenth day of the month of June, at 11:00 AM, here in the City Hall Building. Before me Nicola Gatto the deputy town secretary appointed by the Mayor with an Act dated June 7, 1866 and Registrar for the vital Statistic's Office of the town of Mammola, did appear Pasquale Belcastro a thirty-seven year-old farm hand by profession who resides in Mammola and who reports that at 12:00 PM on the fifteenth of the aforementioned month and year, was born at the house located at number eighteen Contrada Scali to Maria Bruzzese age twenty-seven, farmer, his legitimate wife, who resides with him a child of the male sex who presented the baby to me and declared to bestow on him the name of Francesco Antonio

The foregoing record was drafted in the presence of the witnesses, Giuseppe Bruzzese Pinto, a sixty-six year-old Bar Keeper, and Nicodemo Camarda, a forty year-old Undertaker both residents of this town.

After the foregoing record was read out loud to all those present it was signed by me alone as the others assented to not being able to write.

Registrar for the Vital Statistic's Office

(Signature Nicola Gatto)

NUMERO 158

Belaстро Francesco Antonio  
di Pasquale,

L'anno milleottocentottanta Due, addi Dieci di Gennaio,  
a ore Dieci meridiane Mezzogiorno e minuti Dieci, nella Casa comunale.

Avanti di me Uffiziale dello Stato Civile del Comune di Camnata,  
Giuseppe milleottocentottanta Due, dichiaro sotto la mia  
Papale approvazione.

Uffiziale dello Stato Civile del Comune di Camnata,

è comparso Belastro Pasquale, di anni Trentatré, domiciliato  
in Camnata, il quale mi ha dichiarato che alle ore Dieci e  
minuti Dieci, del Dieci del corrente mese, nella casa posta in  
Centrale Savio, al numero Diciotto, da Giuseppe Mazzola,  
per legittima nascita d'anni ventisette, constatata con  
tutti i convenienti.

È nato un bambino di sesso Maschile che gli mi presenta e a cui dà i nomi di  
Francesco Antonio.

A quanto sopra e a quest'atto sono stati presenti quali testimoni Giuseppe Giuseppe

\* S'indichi la professione o la condizione.

## ATTI DI NASCITA

Pinto, di anni quarantuno, Bassitano e Giovanna Mazzola, di anni  
quaranta, Celio, entrambi residenti in questo Comune.

Sulle iperscritte parti gli inscrivevoli nel corso in solenne  
giunto gli altri appartenenti.

L'uffiziale dello Stato Civile

M. Gatta

L'anno milleottocentottanta due, addi Dieci di Gennaio,  
a ore Dieci meridiane Mezzogiorno e minuti Dieci, nella Casa comunale.

NUN

## **Virginia's Birth Record**

In the year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-six on the fifth day of the month of August at 9:00 AM in City Hall = Before me Antonio Lupis, Town Secretary appointed with a Mayoral decree dated January 5, 1896 and duly approved, Registrar for the Vital Statistic's Office of this Town of Grotteria, did appear Maria Teresa Mesiti, the daughter of the late Tommasso, the woman responsible for the reception of foundlings in this town, who brought before me a child of the female sex who appears to be around 1 day old and was found absent of all belongings, and who reports to me this morning on the same fifth day of the month of August the child was left at the spot designated for abandoned babies on San Giorgio Street. The baby was found lying on its back with both its hands tucked in = To the child I bestowed the name of Virginia and the last name of Aden = Rosa Papandrea the daughter of Rocco requested to be the child's wet-nurse and she has promised to take care of the child's health and wellbeing and she also agreed to allow the authorities to check up on her as they will. Since there was no objection to her taking care of the child I approved her request and handed the baby over to her custody. To the creation of the foregoing record were present as witnesses, Vincenzo Galluzzo the child of Rocco, a thirty-nine- year-old farm hand and Nicola Falcone the child of Vincenzo, a twenty-six- year-old farm hand, both residents of this town = After the foregoing record was read out loud to all those present it was signed by me alone as the others assented to being illiterate.

Registrar for the Vital Statistics Office  
(Signature *Antonio Lupis*)

L'anno scorso l'Accademia culturale dei Cattolici di questo Ateneo ha  
organizzato una mostra con varie opere di artisti cattolici e la stessa  
mostra ha ottenuto un ottimo apprezzamento. Oggi il Consiglio di que-  
sto Comune ha approvato il progetto del Consorzio che si è fatto carico  
del finanziamento del progetto ed ha deciso di dare alle opere  
una collocazione permanente nell'apposita sala del quin-  
to piano, presso cui non si riceveranno visitatori.

Numeros 7.  
Ciden Virginia  
(Provatella)

stesso, pur non dichiarato che sarebbe un antenominante nella legge, stesso ed  
poi agendo nelle pubbliche riunioni del popolo, posta nella sua casa e' obbligato  
lungo la strada da San Giorgio, da Serravalle questa bandiera giacevuta superiore,  
e con questo le masserizie raccolte ed affliggente = Ma della bandiera ho sentito  
post il nome di Virgilia, ed il Caporione ed Alde = Ma assolutamente  
Poco Papadreto di Forno, tuttavia ed questo Comune e' qui presenti  
severamente fatto lo istruire ed conseguendo a S. P. la bandiera quale  
permetterebbe di assumere le alterazioni = La custode, eccome  
di farne conto a ogni richiesta dell'autorita', e quella trovando  
in contrario alla sua curia incolorezza ed ho scritto ed ho con-  
segnato a P. R. richiedente la bandiera preceduta

Agurato sopra da questo atto sono stati presenti qualched  
stranieri, Maresciallo Galluzzo di Rocca e suoi trentamila,  
presso la quale c'è il Maresciallo Galluzzo d'anni ventisei  
bracciali, entrambi residenti da questo comune - Bello e  
presente allo stesso giorno gli interverranno nel concio i conscritti  
essendo gli altri assorbiti.

L'Ufficio dello Stato Civile

Jókai László

*Si' uno u' molti ci sono riusciti, add' un po' di cose d'ogni*

## Frank's Family Group Sheet

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>Husband:</b>  | Pasquale Belcastro   |
| b:               | 12 Jun 1846 in Grotteria, Italy  |
| m:               | 29 May 1873 in Grotteria, Italy  |
| d:               | Aft. 1894 in   |
| Father:          | Bruno Stefano Belcastro  |
| Mother:          | Maria Panaja Palermi   |
| <b>Wife:</b>     | Maria Bruzzese   |
| b:               | 20 Dec 1853 in Grotteria, Italy  |
| Father:          | Domenico Antonio Bruzzese  |
| Mother:          | Carmela Papandrea  |
| <b>Children:</b> |  |
| 1<br>M           | Name: Salvatore Belcastro<br>b: 30 Jul 1875 in Grotteria, Italy<br>m: 22 Mar 1900 in Mammola, Italy<br>Arrival: 14 May 1913 in New York City, NY<br>d: 25 May 1951 in Weymouth, MA<br>Spouse: Maria Filomena Pazzano |
| 2<br>F           | Name: Caterina Carmela Belcastro<br>b: 10 May 1878 in Grotteria, Italy<br>m: 22 Mar 1900 in Mammola, Italy<br>Spouse: Nicodemo Lampo Pazzano   |
| 3<br>M           | Name: Francesco Antonio Belcastro<br>b: 15 Jun 1882 in Mammola, Italy<br>Arrival: 28 Mar 1905 in New York City, NY<br>m: 12 Sep 1912 in Boston, MA<br>d: 28 Mar 1969 in Weymouth, MA<br>Spouse: Virginia Aden        |
| 4<br>F           | Name: Rosa Carmela Belcastro<br>b: 26 Sep 1886 in Mammola, Italy<br>m: 15 May 1909 in Mammola, Italy<br>Spouse: Filippo Pazzano  |
| 5<br>M           | Name: Vincenzo Belcastro<br>b: 03 Apr 1891 in Mammola, Italy<br>m: 15 May 1909 in Mammola, Italy<br>Arrival: 24 May 1913 in Sumas, WA<br>d: 23 Dec 1967 in Weymouth, MA<br>Spouse: Vittoria Pazzano                  |
| 6<br>M           | Name: Bruno Belcastro<br>b: 21 Jul 1894 in Mammola, Italy<br>d: 01 Apr 1908 in Mammola, Italy  |

**Notes:**

## Virginia's Family Group Sheet

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>Husband:</b>  | Vincenzo Antonio Galluzzo                 |
| b:               | 19 Dec 1869 in Grotteria, Italy           |
| m:               | 29 Sep 1894 in Grotteria, Italy           |
| Arrival:         | 30 Mar 1905 in New York City, NY          |
| d:               | 14 Oct 1918 in Quincy, MA                 |
| Father:          | Domenico Galluzzo                         |
| Mother:          | Nunziata Maria Iannizzi                   |
| <b>Wife:</b>     | Rosa Papandrea                            |
| b:               | 14 Jan 1859 in Grotteria, Italy           |
| Arrival:         | 24 Jul 1908 in New York City, NY          |
| d:               | 15 Apr 1924 in Tewksbury, MA              |
| Father:          | Rocco Papandrea                           |
| Mother:          | Elisabetta Luca                           |
| <b>Children:</b> |   |
| 1                | Name: Salvatore Galluzzo                  |
| M                | b: 04 Aug 1895 in Grotteria, Italy        |
|                  | d: 04 Aug 1895 in Grotteria, Italy        |
| 2                | Name: Virginia Aden                       |
| F                | b: 04 Aug 1896 in Grotteria, Italy        |
|                  | Arrival: 24 Jul 1908 in New York City, NY |
|                  | m: 12 Sep 1912 in Boston, MA              |
|                  | d: 16 Jan 1991 in Weymouth, MA            |
|                  | Spouse: Francesco Antonio Belcastro       |

**Notes:**

# Passenger Manifest for Frank

Not on board

5 - 6 -

## MANIFEST OF ALIEN PASSENGERS FOR THE

On the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, under Act of Congress, 1918  
Officer of any vessel having such passengers on board.

PIEMONTE

sailing from NAPOLI

MAR 1905

| No.<br>on<br>List. | NAME IN FULL.      | Age.<br>Yrs. Mo.     | Sex.<br>Married<br>or<br>Single. | Calling<br>or<br>Occupation. | Able to—<br>Read. Write. | Nationality<br>(Country of which<br>citizen or subject.) | *Race or People. | Last Residence,<br>Last permanent resi-<br>dence, Country and<br>City or Town.) | Final Destina-<br>(State,<br>City, or Town) |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|--|------------------|---|---|
| 118 N              | Sancer Paolo       | 11 ✓ Sp. S. Sabaudia | No                               | Italian                      | Italian                  | Italian  | Italian          | Italy   | Italy                                       |
| 119 N              | Giovanni Sabadell  | 17 M                 | "                                | Op.                          | "                        | "  | "                | "   | Italy                                       |
| 120 N              | Nicola Sante       | 19 ✓ M               | "                                | No                           | "                        | "  | "                | "   | Rovasina                                    |
| 121 N              | Urbino Orazio      | 24 ✓ M               | "                                | No                           | "                        | "  | "                | "   | Italy                                       |
| 122 N              | Ferruccio Asturio  | 34 ✓ M               | "                                | No                           | "                        | "  | "                | "   | Italy                                       |
| 123 N              | Felice Lanza       | 27 ✓ M               | "                                | No                           | "                        | "  | "                | "   | Reggio Calabria                             |
| 124 N              | Francesco Giacomo  | 13 ✓ M               | S                                | Stonemason                   | Op.                      | Italian  | Italian          | Italy   | Italy                                       |
| 125 N              | Francesco Sante    | 23 ✓ M               | McNamee                          | No                           | "                        | "  | "                | "   | Italy                                       |
| X                  | Daughter Strangata | 2 ✓ F                | J                                | 22X-18848                    | No                       | 20. (C.O. 205-241138)                                    | "                | "   | Reggio Calabria                             |
| 126 N              | Giuseppe Tuccino   | 37 ✓ Sp. M. Sabaudia | No                               | "                            | "                        | "  | "                | "   | Reggio Calabria                             |
| 127 N              | Ubaldo Langella    | 31 ✓ M               | M                                | "                            | No                       | "  | "                | "   | Albany                                      |
| 128 N              | Pietro Tuccino     | 22 ✓ M               | "                                | No                           | "                        | "  | "                | "   | "   |
| 129 N              | Galatius Giacomo   | 22 ✓ M               | "                                | No                           | "                        | "  | "                | "   | "   |
| 130 N              | Ubaldo Sabatini    | 21 ✓ M               | M                                | "                            | No                       | "  | "                | "   | Castiglione                                 |
| 131 N              | Fernando Angel     | 17 ✓ M               | S                                | No                           | "                        | "  | "                | "   | Italy                                       |
| 132 N              | Pietro Giuseppe    | 29 ✓ M               | S                                | No                           | "                        | "  | "                | "   | Reggio Calabria                             |
| 133 N              | Felice Barbara     | 24 ✓ Sp. S. Giacomo  | No                               | "                            | "                        | "  | "                | "   | "   |
| 134 N              | Carlo Torrisi      | 32 ✓ Sp. M. Sabaudia | No                               | "                            | "                        | "  | "                | "   | "   |
| 135 N              | Bonito Antonino    | 25 ✓ M               | S                                | 22X-18770354940              | No                       | "  | "                | "   | "   |
| 136 N              | Antonio Giovanni   | 19 ✓ M               | S                                | "                            | No                       | "  | "                | "   | Reggio Calabria                             |
| 137 N              | Tania Consalati    | 47 ✓ M               | "                                | Op.                          | "                        | "  | "                | "   | Reggio Calabria                             |
| 138 N              | Francesco Giovanni | 28 ✓ M               | M                                | "                            | No                       | "  | "                | "   | Reggio Calabria                             |
| 139 N              | Pedro Giovanni     | 37 ✓ Sp. M. Langella | No                               | "                            | "                        | "  | "                | "   | "   |
| 140 N              | Nicola Antonino    | 26 ✓ M               | M                                | Sabaudia                     | No                       | "  | "                | "   | Reggio Calabria                             |
| 141 N              | Franco Ottore      | 26 ✓ M               | S                                | "                            | No                       | "  | "                | "   | Reggio Calabria                             |
| 142 N              | Spinelli Giovanni  | 34 ✓ Sp. M. Giacomo  | No                               | "                            | "                        | "  | "                | "   | Reggio Calabria                             |
| 143 N              | Caraco Matteo      | 28 ✓ M               | M                                | Sabaudia                     | No                       | "  | "                | "   | Reggio Calabria                             |
| 144 N              | Francesco Paolo    | 17 ✓ Sp. M. Sabaudia | No                               | "                            | "                        | "  | "                | "   | Reggio Calabria                             |

**Frank is on line 13 (Francesco).**

**THE U. S. IMMIGRATION OFFICER AT PORT OF ARRIVAL.**

E2

ongress approved March 3, 1903, to be delivered to the U. S. Immigration Officer by the Commanding Officer upon arrival at a port in the United States.

, 190 Arriving at Port of NEW-YORK March 28, 1905

# Passenger Manifest for Virginia

# LIST OR MANIFEST OF

Required by the regulations of the Secretary of Commerce and Labor of the United States.

S. S. *Nord America* sailing from

| No.<br>on<br>List. | NAME IN FULL. |             | Age. | Sex.   | Calling<br>or<br>Occupation. | Able to—<br>Read. Write. | Nationality.<br>(Country of which<br>citizen or subject.) | Race or<br>Ethnic Group. |
|--------------------|---------------|-------------|------|--------|------------------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
|                    | Family Name.  | Given Name. |      |        |                              |                          |   |                          |
| 1                  | Caniglielesta | Giovanni    | 50   | Male   | Labourer                     | no                       | Italian   | Italian                  |
| 2                  | D'Amato       | Giovanni    | 25   | Male   | Labourer                     | yes                      | Italian   | Italian                  |
| 3                  | Labozetta     | Giuseppe    | 22   | Male   | Labourer                     | no                       | Italian   | Italian                  |
| 4                  | Calabrese     | Rosa        | 29   | Female | Labourer                     | no                       | Italian   | Italian                  |
| 5                  | Zigoni        | Emiliano    | 16   | Male   | Labourer                     | yes                      | Italian   | Italian                  |
| 6                  | Punzicato     | Cesimo      | 35   | Male   | Labourer                     | no                       | Italian   | Italian                  |
| 7                  | Natali        | Angela      | 31   | Female | Labourer                     | yes                      | Italian   | Italian                  |
| 8                  | Pruolo        | Carolina    | 21   | Female | Labourer                     | yes                      | Italian   | Italian                  |
| 9                  |               | Amparo      | 10   | Male   |                              |                          | Italian   | Italian                  |
| 10                 | Natali        | Diego       | 30   | Male   | Labourer                     | yes                      | Italian   | Italian                  |
| 11                 | Lorenzo       | Conte       | 22   | Male   | Labourer                     | yes                      | Italian   | Italian                  |
| 12                 | Scari         | Giuseppe    | 23   | Male   | Labourer                     | yes                      | Italian   | Italian                  |
| 13                 | Natali        | Giuseppe    | 34   | Male   | Labourer                     | no                       | Italian   | Italian                  |
| 14                 | Salvo         | Stefano     | 23   | Male   | Labourer                     | yes                      | Italian   | Italian                  |
| 15                 | Vento         | Angela      | 19   | Female | Labourer                     | no                       | Italian   | Italian                  |
| 16                 | Paparese      | Rosa        | 19   | Female | Labourer                     | no                       | Italian   | Italian                  |
| 17                 | Ottavi        | Ferruccio   | 12   | Male   |                              |                          | Italian   | Italian                  |
| 18                 | Calamo        | Giuseppe    | 21   | Male   | Labourer                     | no                       | Italian   | Italian                  |
| 19                 | Bisaccia      | Rosaria     | 20   | Female | Labourer                     | no                       | Italian   | Italian                  |
| 20                 | Caiazzo       | Antonio     | 22   | Male   | Labourer                     | no                       | Italian   | Italian                  |

Virginia appears on line 17 and her mother, Rosa Papandrea, on line 16.

## ALIEN PASSENGERS FOR THE UNITED

United States, under Act of Congress approved February 20, 1907, to be delivered

staples

, 9<sup>th</sup> July

, 1908

# Marriage Record

91

| No. | MATRIMONIUM<br>CONTRAHENTIUM NOMINA       | RESIDENTIA   | NOMEN PARENTUM  |
|-----|---|--|---|
| 778 | Vincenzo Fasciana<br>Providence Cali      | 1 Trinity St. Boston<br>18 Hanover St. Boston      | fr Filippo<br>Padre Vento<br>Antonio<br>fr Angelina Corrente              |
| 779 | Salvatore Niceli<br>Teresina Burgio       | 1 Pleasant Pl. Boston<br>1 Pleasant Pl. Boston     | fr Luigi<br>fr Felicia Giordano<br>Salvatore<br>Pietrolio Burgesi         |
| 780 | Angelo Rossetti<br>Marguerite M. McCarthy | 31 Parkert St. Charleston<br>32 Parkert St. Boston | Nicola<br>Angela Maria de Angelis<br>not.<br>Patrick Catherine Collins    |
| 781 | Vincenzo Liporino<br>Wenzia Puccia        | Manchester N.H.<br>1 W. Bennett St. Boston         | fr Ernesto<br>Seratina Interbartolo<br>fr Angelo<br>Giuseppe Interbartolo |
| 782 | Francesco Federico<br>Cecilia Centofanti  | 5 Charter St. Boston                               | Rosa Ricci<br>Giuseppe  |
| 783 | Francesco Lo Sordo<br>Pasqualina Polcaro  | Boston<br>Boston                                   | Filomena Crispoli<br>Domenico Antonio<br>Giovanni<br>Giuseppe Loffredo    |
| 784 | Francesco Belcastro<br>Virginia Aden      | Boston   | for Bartoli<br>Maria Abuzzese<br>Ignati                                   |
| 785 | Donato Ricci                              | Bonneville N.J.                                    | Francesco<br>Francesca Jacoboni<br>Castano                                |

Frank and Virginia's marriage is recorded in entry 784 toward the bottom of the page.

91

| DIES MATRIMONII      | TESTES                                 | SACERDOS                   | DIES ET LOCUS<br>BAPTISMI  | PUBLICATIONES<br>DISPENSATIONES<br>ADNOTATIONES |
|----------------------|--|----------------------------|--|---|
| 9 Settembre<br>1912  | Giuseppe Fosciano<br>Giuseppe Tuglest  | P. Giovanni<br>Vitali      | Anni 29<br>Caltanissetta (Chiesa S. Giuseppe)<br>Anni 29<br>Ricci - Rosi (Caltanissetta) |   |
| 8 Settembre<br>1912  | Antonio Tamburini<br>Eugenio Tamburini | P. Flario<br>Maruccia      | Anni 30<br>Leivane Gridi (Tolentino)<br>Anni 34<br>Vizzini (Catania)                     |   |
| 8 Settembre<br>1912  | Antonio Agneta<br>Rachel Cavaliere     | P. Giovanni<br>Vitali      | Anni 29<br>Pomerice (Potenza)<br>Anni 23<br>Bottino (Chiesa S. Maria)                    |   |
| 8 Settembre<br>1912  | Tommaso De Luca<br>Stefania Puccin     | P. Francesco<br>Blombergio | Anni 34<br>Cerda - (Palermo)<br>Anni 22<br>Cerda - (Palermo)                             |   |
| 8 Settembre<br>1912  | Domenico Federici<br>Gaetano Federico  | P. Giovanni<br>Vitali      | Anni 28<br>Pettorano - (Aquila)<br>Anni 27<br>Pettorano - (Aquila)                       |   |
| 9 Settembre<br>1912  | Giovanni Magliano<br>Enilda Loffredo   | P. Flario<br>Maruccia      | Anni 26<br>Monte di Bragio - (Caserta)<br>Anni 22<br>Civitanova S. Domenico (Avellino)   |   |
| 12 Settembre<br>1912 | Giuseppe Rossi<br>Antonio Di Primo     | P. Giovanni<br>Vitali      | Anni 27<br>Mammola - (Reggio Calabria)<br>Anni 16<br>Grotteria (Reggio Calabria)         |   |
| 12 Settembre<br>1912 | Giuseppe Rossi                         | P. Giovanni                | Anni 38<br>Lettoniappello (Chieti) sposato<br>Anni 26 alle                               |   |



# Family Recipes

## List of Recipes and Source

- Gram's Fish Stew (Nancy)
- Grandpa's Garden Greens and Dried Shell Beans (Nancy)
- Bread Salad (Nancy)
- Frittata (Nancy)
- Pasta & Fagioli (Nancy)
- Mom's Lemon Meringue Pie (Grace)
- Ricotta Pie (Mary)
- Mom's Zippolas (Grace)
- Italian Cookies (Mary?)
- Baked Ziti (Gloria)
- Meatballs (Mary?)

## Note on Nancy's Recipes

These recipes are transcribed copies of handwritten ones, created by Nancy Belcastro Moscardelli Burke and given to Alexa Moscardelli. They are the recipes of Nancy's mother, Virginia Adene Belcastro. Comments in italics are Nancy's remembrances and cooking suggestions. Nancy, herself, was a master cook and took great pride in serving nutritious meals to her family. She taught me a lot.

—Alexa Moscardelli

## **Gram's Fish Stew**

*Usually served as one of the many fish dishes on Christmas Eve*

### Ingredients:

Baccala (salt cod) soaked overnight until reconstituted

Amount of your choice and needs

OR

Any fresh, firm fish can be used

One Large onion (cut up coarsely)

One green pepper (cut up coarsely)

Potatoes (cut in large pieces)

3 Tomatoes (if fresh, cut coarsely; OR if canned, one large can sliced  
stewed Italian tomatoes)

*Gram always "put up" jars of tomatoes from Grampa's garden for winter use. Canning was a daughter/mother project. We helped peel and cut the tomatoes.*

Basil and parsley (fresh or dried, but if dried DO NOT use too much.

It will overpower.)

### Procedure:

Saute onion in 2 to 3 TBSP olive oil

Add tomatoes, salt, pepper, and basil and parsley

Simmer until well blended

Add 8 oz of water (or more depending on whether you want stew or  
soup)

Add potatoes and cook until they have about five minutes (or so) left to  
cook.

Add fish last, being careful not to overcook fish. Do not allow fish to fall  
apart or crumble.

*Serve with crusty bread and salad, and you have a nourishing meal.*

## **Grandpa's Garden Greens and Dried Shell Beans**

Ingredients:

Quantities to be used: your choice

Mustard Greens

Dried Beans that have been soaked overnight (any type)

Olive Oil

Garlic (sliced thin or chopped)

Salt and Pepper to taste

Procedure:

Saute garlic in small amount of olive oil.

Add COOKED mustard greens (with any tough stems removed)

*Greens should have been cooked with only the water remaining on the leaves after soaking. Do not allow greens to dry out while cooking. To prevent drying out, add a small amount of water if needed)*

Add fully COOKED beans to greens and greens juice. Let stand in pot together for at least 30 minutes.

Season to taste.

## **Bread Salad**

*Delicious!*

*Gram used her day old, homemade bread for this salad. NOTHING was ever wasted.*

Day old (hard crusty and “solid” bread broken in chunks

*Interior, sliced, or soft bread will NOT work.*

*Do NOT wet or soak bread*

Garlic, chopped fine

Vinegar and oil (just enough to coat bread cubes)

Salt and Pepper to taste

*You may need to soften with a little water, just enough to be able to break up the bread. Do NOT allow bread to become mushy.*

## **Frittata**

Grandma did not measure. It was a pinch of this, a fistful...

4 lg. green pepper

2 good size onions

1 big potato or more if desired

3 to 4 eggs

(modern version – egg beaters)

2 Tbsp. olive oil

Salt and pepper to taste

(Amt. of veg may be varied tones own needs & taste)

Oil must be hot.

1. In large frypan, sauté peppers onions and potatoes until tender in 2 or more Tbsp. of oil.
2. Mix veg. well when cooked.
3. Add beaten eggs to cooked veg. Season to taste.
4. Cook together. Enjoy!!

## **Pasta & Fagioli**

“Beans & Mac”

18oz crushed but chunky tom.

Med. onion

Dried beans – soaked overnite (or 1 18oz can kidney beans)

About 1/2 c of smallest shells or smallest elbow mac

Sm. amt oil (about 2T)

Salt – pepper

Few leaves basil – fresh or dried (use less of dried).

1. Sauté onion in sm. amt of oil.

2. Add crushed (but chunky) tom. Simmer until about 1/2 of orig amt.

Cook basil along with tom.

3. Add at least 1 qt of water

4. Cook sm. shells in above. Keep amt. of water (while cooking shells) to soup consistency.

5. When mac is fully cooked – add fully cooked beans. Add seasoning to taste. Let stand.

## **Mom's Lemon Meringue Pie**

1 cup sugar  
1/4 cup Argo corn starch  
1 1/2 cups cold water  
3 egg yolks slightly beaten  
Grated peel of 1 lemon  
1/4 cup lemon juice  
1 Tbsp margarine  
1 baked pie crust  
3 egg whites  
1/3 cup sugar

In medium saucepan combine 1 cup sugar and corn starch. Gradually stir in water until smooth. Stir in egg yolks stirring constantly. Bring boil over medium heat. Stir in next 3 ingredients. Spoon hot filling into crust. In small mixer bowl beat egg whites at high speed until foamy. Gradually beat in remaining 1/3 cup sugar until stiff peak forms. Spread meringue evenly over hot filling sealing crust. Bake at 350 degrees F oven 15-20 min until golden. Cool on rack. Refrigerate. Makes 8 servings.

## **Ricotta Pie**

“This is the ricotta pie Grandma used to make for Easter.”

Crust:

5 egg yolks  
3/4 cup sugar  
1/4 tsp salt  
2/3 cup shortening  
2 cups flour  
1/2 tsp baking powder  
2 tsp vanilla

Filling:

2 lbs ricotta  
1 1/2 cup confectioners sugar  
1/2 tsp salt  
2 tsp vanilla  
5 egg whites

For crust:

Beat egg yolks with sugar and salt. Add 2 tsp vanilla. Beat in shortening & add flour and baking powder. Form a stiff dough roll and line a large baking pan greased lightly. Set aside.

Make filling:

Put ricotta, confectioners sugar, salt, and vanilla in large bowl. Using a wooden spoon, blend until smooth. Beat egg whites until foamy but not stiff. Gently fold into ricotta mixture. Carefully pour the filling into pastry shell. Bake 400 oven for 20 mins then 375 for 45 mins. Remove from the oven and cool. Keep leftovers refrigerated if kept for longer than 24 hours.

## **Mom's Zippolas**

Mom's bread dough or any bread dough. Make into twists. Fry in olive oil. Can be eaten plain, sprinkled with sugar syrup or before frying put anchovies in center. Cook until golden brown. Mom made them just perfect every time – they were delicious. We couldn't wait for mom to take them out of the pan.

## **Italian Cookies**

3 cups flour  
3 tsp. baking powder  
1 cup sugar  
1/2 tsp. salt  
3 eggs  
2 tsp. anise extract  
1 tsp. vanilla  
1/2 cup oil

Sift dry ingredients together in bowl. Make well in middle and add eggs, oil and flavorings. Mix. Shape into balls the size of a small walnut. Bake at 400 degrees for 10 to 12 minutes. Do Not Brown. Glaze with confectionary sugar and milk. Add a little anise and vanilla and tint with food coloring. (Place rack high so bottoms don't burn)



Gloria with baked ziti. Photo from Chyrel Burke-Angelini.

## **Baked Ziti**

(No real measurements .... You know , a handful of ....a pinch of ... add a little more , a little less )

### Ingredients

#### For the MEAT SAUCE

Extra virgin olive oil

1 1/2 Pounds of meat mixture of ground beef, pork and veal (meatloaf mix)

1 sweet onion diced

2 cloves garlic diced

2 small carrots diced small for sweetness

2 cans crushed tomatoes ( usually use Pastene "kitchen ready" ) or a San Marzano

6 - fresh basil leaves

Italian seasoning blend around 1 tablespoon

salt and pepper

Optional : a good splash of dry white or red wine Whatever is leftover in the house !

#### Ricotta layer

2 pounds whole milk ricotta ( usually biazzo or galbani )

2 large eggs

Fresh mozzarella ( shred for around 1 cup )

Grated Pecorino Romano or Parmegiano-Reggiano cheese ( around 1/2 cup ) or blend both

Italian seasoning blend

Minced fresh parsley around 1 tablespoon

Salt and pepper

#### Pasta

16 ounces of ziti usually De Cecco or Barilla

1/2 cup grated Romano or parmigiano cheese

1 cup shredded mozzarella ( divided )

Fresh basil

Olive oil

## To make the Meat sauce

In a medium size sauce pan, drizzle with olive oil, add onion and cook for two minutes, add carrot cook few more minutes, add meat mixture, Cook for about 10 minutes till no longer pink add canned tomatoes and Basil and cook until the sauce thickens.

This is where if you can add remaining ingredients and wine let simmer stirring occasionally for around 1 hour.

## Ricotta filling

Add the ricotta in a medium bowl, stirring the eggs, cheeses , parsley, salt, and pepper, Italian seasoning and blend in . Refrigerate until meat sauce ready

## Pasta

Cook pasta until just al dente Drain, lightly drizzle and toss with olive oil

Preheat oven to 375 grease a 9 x 13 baking dish bottom and sides

## Layers

Spread a layer of sauce,  
one portion of the ziti

Spoon Half of the ricotta filling ( Add fresh basil leaves on top of the ricotta Layer) To cover the ziti

Spoon another layer of sauce over the filling and sprinkle with 1/3 of the grated cheese

Repeat another layer of ziti, ricotta filling sauce, and cheese

Cover top layer with remaining ziti , spread a thin layer of sauce and sprinkle with remaining cheese

Place your ( covered with foil ) baking pan on top of a cookie sheet in middle rack oven for 25 to 30 minutes. The sauce will be bubbling under the foil and mozzarella melting on top . remove foil for the last 10 to 15 minutes of baking until crusty on top.

Take out from oven and let rest for about 10 minutes before serving. Serve with a tossed salad and fresh Italian bread . Enjoy

## **Meatballs**

1 1/4 lb. hamburg  
4 slices bread (or bulkie)  
1 egg  
3 tsp. parsley flakes  
Salt and pepper  
1 clove garlic (chopped fine)  
Grated cheese (romano or shaker type)

Crumble hamburg. Dampen bread with water and crumble into hamburg. Add egg and mix together. Add remaining ingredients. Mix and form into balls. Brown in Wesson oil. Keep lifting with spatula. Add to sauce when done simmering.





# Memories of Frank and Virginia

You were in big trouble if grandpa caught you climbing his pear tree !!

Of course we all were welcomed with the smell of fresh basil growing on the back porch . I grow it every year just to keep that childhood memory of visiting with gramma and grandpa alive. Along with a few tomato plants !!

I have a story. When i was about 8 or 9 i went with my mom to grampa and gramma's . My mom took gramma to the Joslin Clinic. She had a diabetic ulcer on her foot that needed attention. I stayed with gramps and helped him with the garden. It was a very hot day so i went into the garage with the door open to cool off. Every couple of minutes i would throw a crab apple at gramps he didn't know it was me. Finally he caught on and boy did i get an ear full. My punishment was to work the garden for 2 hours with no break. I learned my lesson the hard way!

Grandma:

1. Always had a big pot of homemade sauce on the stove which could include meatballs (most likely), Italian sausage, pork, chicken, and even squirrel!
2. The back porch always had huge buckets of beautiful basil that was in easy reach for cooking
3. Special treat was big stick of pepperoni and Italian bread
4. Fried dough plain or with anchovies, especially made during the holidays
5. There was a man with an older pickup truck, open in the back, and sell his goods from street to street. He would have fresh meats, all kinds of cheese, produce, and other goodies. I remember the meats hanging up in the back of the truck, and it was so exciting when he came (I believe he was Italian, but not sure)

6.Grandma always went to church. and if you stayed overnight she would hand you a set of rosary beads, and you would say the rosary together before you fell asleep.

7.Adoptive mother, very overprotective and would "escort Grandma and Grandpa on their dates

Grandpa:

1. The garden was so bountiful, filled with tomatoes, cucumbers, all kinds of squash, eggplant, onions , peppers and whatever else would grow

2.They had a big rain barrel that they would use to water all the plants and garden My mother also said that's the water they used to wash the kids' hair, too, and it made it so soft.

3. Grandpa would sit at the kitchen table, early in the morning, smoking his pipe with cherry tobacco, listening to the news on the radio. Always, donned his cap.

4. If he annoyed Grandma she would send him down in the basement where there was a little stove, and he would have some vino and a few smokes

I remember taking gramma every week to different First Nationals she liked certain things at each of them. We would then go back and have tea and Stella Doro cookies what fun!

She [Virginia] also liked the capitol market.

My favorite memories of mom were coming home from school at lunch time. She would have her delicious pan fried potatoes and onions, home made bread and hot cocoa ready for us. It was one of my favorite lunches mom served us. It was a treat and such a fond memory. And another was being at the door when we left or entered ready to kiss us. She was there for us every time. Mom was so warm and so kind.

Oh and I remember eating one of Grandpa s hot peppers from his garden “

running to Nana for water and her saying “don’t drink the water eat the bread.” her giving me bread. - those peppers to my surprise were “ hot hot hot” !!

Don’t forget Grandpa’s pipe !! And “ don’t waste the water” grandpa rain barrel of water for his garden. He planted the best tomatoes!!

Nana was the sweetest person with the most patient kind heart. She called me so many times when I was pregnant so excited — she loved children!! She told me so many sweet stories of her life bringing up our parents. Can always feel the warmth of nana !!

Haha. Eating tomatoes and cakes with a salt shaker and Grandpa saying eat but “ don’t step on my tomato plants. !!

Awwww, I do remember Grandma always having to wear slippers. My favorite memory is her most delicious fried dough; only one of us had it with the sardines inside, my Dad,.....possibly my sister Janice! And funny story about Grandpa’s black shaving strap on the back of the bathroom door— we all thought it was for us,.....if we misbehaved! I was old enough to see my Dad and Grandma always winked to each other about that,...and both smiled! And as we got older, Jeannette and I could go across the street to the school yard and playground.

I also remember her trying to get me to “eat” if I visited. She had those delicious stella doro cookies. I was always on a diet and would say no for a few times. She would seem hurt. So I always caved.

I was really young. And don’t remember Grampa too much. Grandma was my great grandmother so I didn’t see here as much as you all. I do remember her always being sweet and kind. My mother and her would have nice talks on the phone. She would call my mother and try to get “whats going on in the family” if everyone was keeping something from her! She would say I know something is going on but my kids wont tell me. I m not stupid I know. I can handle it.







Frank and Virginia celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary, September 16, 1962, at 43 Elmer Road, South Weymouth, Massachusetts