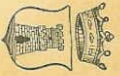




Gus Scena memories



COMUNE DI TOLLO
PROVINCIA DI CHIETI

UFFICIO DELLO STATO CIVILE

ESTRATTO PER RIASSUNTO DELL'ATTO DI NASCITA

di SCENA Gustave

(Anno 1908 - N. 71 - Parte I - Serie -)

L'anno mille novecentootto, addi ventuno

del mese di giugno

l'ufficiale dello Stato Civile del Comune di Tollo ha ricevuto denuncia che alle ore quattro e minuti trenta del

giorno diciassette del mese di giugno dell'anno mille novecentootto è nato in Tollo

da Adame

e da Piccerossi Elisa

di sesso maschile

di Gustave

A margine ed in calce dell'atto di nascita risulta

Per uso pensione all'Estero

Tollo, li 3.12.1970

Rilasciato completo di generalità a norma dell'art. 3 del D. P. R. 2-5-1957, n. 432

L'Ufficiale dello Stato Civile



[Signature]

COMUNE DI Tollo
PROVINCIA DI CHIETI

PARROCCHIA DI S. Maria Assunta
DIOCESI DI ORTONA

CERTIFICATO
DI
Battesimo
P. DI
CRESIMA

di *Renzo*
Partoris

Annottazioni marginali

1) Contrasse matrimonio con

nella Parr. ~~.....~~

2) ~~.....~~

Dritti parrocchiali L. 3000

di Curia

Posta

TOTALE L.

ART. 646 DELLA LEGGE 1963



Il Cancelliere *Yescovita*
francesco p...

Dal registro degli atti di Battesimo di questa Parrocchia, al n. 67 dell'anno 1908, risulta che

nato il giorno 21-6-1908 dal legittimi genitori *Dolores*

e *Piccerossi Elisa*

è stato battezzato in data 29-6-1908 essendo *Madrina Verena Quirici*

Dal registro degli atti di Cresima, al n. dell'anno risulta che lo stesso è stato

cresimato in data *Penelope*

in fede ecc. *Tollo*, li 3-12-1970



IL PARROCO
Stefano...

Visto: per l'autenticità della firma del M. Rev. Sac.

Stefano... Parroco di *Tollo*
Ortona, li 5-12-1970



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ORIGINATOR

Application No. 1-A-7523

DERIVATIVE

ORIGINATOR

No. A-68584



Personal description of holder as of date of issuance of this certificate: Sex Male age 35 years color White
complexion Medium eyes Hazel color of hair Brown height 5 feet 11 1/2 inches
weight 155 pounds visible distinctive marks None
Married

I certify that the description above given is true and that the photograph of said holder is a likeness of me.

ORIGINATOR (Complete and true signature of holder)

The United States of America

County of Kentucket

-----GUSTAV MICHAEL SOENA-----



now residing at Plymouth Lane, Darien, Connecticut
having applied to the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization for an affidavit of intention
admitted pursuant to Section 319 of the Nationality Act of 1940, having heretofore the satisfaction
of the Commissioner that (1) he is now in the United States of America and a citizen thereof
through the naturalization of his father, Adam Soena, on October 31,
1927, by the United States District Court, at Boston, Massachusetts,
applicant being then a minor and having resided permanently in the
United States since February 1, 1911.

Sent

That (1) he is the son of the person last named above, and the applicant having
indorsed the prescribed oath of allegiance and completed with all of the other applicant's requirements of
the Naturalization Laws and Regulations;
That therefore, in pursuance of the said authority conferred on Section 319 of the Nationality Act of 1940,
this certificate of citizenship is issued this 10th day of July and of our
independence the one hundred and sixty-eighth and the word of the Department
of Justice approved pursuant to statute.

Assistant Commissioner
FOR IMMIGRATION

It is a violation of the U.S. Code (and punishable as such) to copy, print, photograph, or otherwise illegally use this certificate.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Gus Scena's naturalization certificate



Carmen Scena (the oldest daughter) with family

FAMILY HISTORY OF CARMEN MADELINE CERUTTO SCENA

Carmen's father Giorgio Cerutto was the second of 5 living children. Margherita was the eldest and didn't marry. The third was Dominica known as Cinota who also didn't marry, then Angelo who had two children (one lives in Cuorgne and the other in Torino), then Maria, then Antonio who died at 21 of meningitis. Maria's daughter Rosina married Arturo Fornengo and lives at: via Sant Annetta, 5, 10082 Cuorgne, Torino, Italy. They have a son Giovanni, who is now about age 28 and makes custom furniture and cabinets, and a daughter, Valeria, who still writes to Mom. Giorgio's father died at 40 and I don't have his name. The story has it that he was kicked in the stomach by a horse and got gangrene and died a year later. He kept horses and lost them all to disease because when they died he'd buy a new one and use the same harnesses, etc. He married Maddalena but we have no last name.

Giorgio married Albina Spriano Sept. 8, 1908 in Cuorgne and they left for the States on Sept. 9 and arrived into Boston on Sept. 23. Albina's family came from the Po Valley near Alessandria. Her father was Felice Spriano who was 6 feet tall and blond with blue eyes. He married Rosa Davite. Their children were: Pietro (called Pedrin) whose wife was Secondina. Their only child, a daughter Mariucia, never married. Then Albina, then Alex who had two children, Henry and Elena. Then Giuseppe (called Pinote and Joe) who had no children, then Victoria who had no children, then Rita Margherita who had a daughter who is a nurse, then Albert who is still alive at 85 and had two children. One is a girl and then Richard who is a dentist. Then Silvio, who stayed with his mother and nursed her before her death, and had no children.

Giorgio worked first as a waiter when he came to the States and later opened an Italian Pastry Shop with a couple of Albina's brothers, at least Alex and Albert and possibly Joe. Giorgio died in 1924 after an illness of several months. His death certificate states the cause of death: rheumatism of the bones. They had four daughters: Carmen Madeline born June 3, 1910, Rose, Honorina Augustina, and Marguerite who died in July, 1946 at age 29 of sarcoma of the femur.

Albina died in 1976 at age 89. She had "hardening of the arteries in the brain" for many years and was in a nursing home for a number of years. She also developed mild diabetes and leukemia and probable osteoporosis because she broke her hip in the nursing home.

FAMILY OF GUSTAV MICHAEL SCENA

The farthest back I can go is to his grandfather Tomasso Scena. He was the majordomo to the King or Prince of Naples and also was a politician at the time Italy was undergoing the "Resorgimento" around 1870 when Italy was united into one country. Tomasso became quite wealthy taking bribes from the rich who did not want their sons to go to war. He split the profits with the powers that were. Later he squandered his wealth so the Scenas had no inheritance. My Dad said Tomasso was a womanizer and even brought one of his women, a ballerina, into his home to entertain him when his wife (probably the first) was there. Dad spoke of him as a tyrant who was very strict.

My Uncle Arthur told me that before the 1870 war Abruzzi belonged to the Kingdom of Naples. Tomasso used to outwit the "Brigandi" and the Lombards. After the War he had a bushel of money under the bed. He had accumulated a lot of wealth through graft. He was married twice.

I don't know the first wife's name. They had three daughters who all emigrated to Brazil and got involved in coffee plantations. One married a Chinese man but we don't have any married names. One daughter was named Aquilina and she was remembered by her half-brother Adamo(my grandfather) to be very kindly and nice to him. There was also a son from this marriage named Fiavirando. He had a daughter who married a DiJulio. This lady was the mother of: Sr. M. Alphonsine DiJulio, SSND, 345 Belden Hill Rd., Wilton, CT 06897. She is in her mid-80s and very active. Also she was the mother of: Mary DiJulio Pento who lives in Bridgeport, CT., and Adeline DiScipio who is dead but her sons Joseph DiScipio(lives in Denver) and Rocco DiScipio(lives in CT) are alive and we knew them growing up. This lady also had some sons one of whom is Henry and another daughter Florence. There may have been more. Our family visited these relatives alot when I was growing up.

Tomasso remarried after his first wife died. He was about 60 and married Philomena Ciccotelli. She was very young and was convent trained. There were three daughters(one was Josephina) and one son, my grandfather Adamo, from this marriage. Adamo was born on Oct. 19,1880 and died in Feb. 4,1975 at age 94. Death certificate states: "Cause of death - Cardiac arrest due to congestive heart failure, arterioscleratic heart disease. Other condition - prostatic carcinoma" Adamo showed his son Arthur a scar he had on his finger caused by his father. Evidently in those days an Italian father had absolute control in his household and one day Tomasso threw a knife at Adamo to punish him. He was going to kill his son, but Adamo raised his hand over his face and the knife hit his hand. Tomasso died after Adamo's first child, Arthur, was born. Arthur talks about and Uncle Alfonso on his father's side and an Uncle Alfredo who was a schoolteacher and a playboy in Tollo and died during World War I. Alfredo was the son of Philomena's sister. My Dad says that when he was a child the family used to visit the family of Benedetto Ciccotelli (wife Ethel) in Malden. This man was a nephew of Philomena Ciccotelli Scena. He used to come to Adamo's house for dinner every week because his wife was a nag. Benedetto was very meek but had a sense of humor and played the piccolo which he used to carry in his front pocket. He only knew one tune! They had a son Raymond.

Adamo Scena married Elizabeth(Flisa) Piccorosso and her family history is as follows: her parents were Salvatore Piccorosso and Marianna Sfredda. Salvatore was very sickly and died young of TB and Marianna later married a DiCostanzo possibly after Elisa came to the U.S. There were three sons and one daughter(Elisa) from her first marriage. The firstborn named Antonio died from a tragic accident. He fell over a cliff, got gangrene and was hospitalized and died. Adamo recounted that Antonio was very humane and kind to him. The other two sons emigrated to Argentina. One became wealthy and it is thought that they changed their name because my Dad tried to contact them many years ago by writing to an address he had but he never got an answer.

Adamo and Elisa were married in Chiesa Santo Rocco, Ortona a Mara, Abruzzi, Italy, probably around June 1902. Aunt Lindy went to that church in 1960 but couldn't find the marriage certificate. My Dad says that all the documents were destroyed by a fire probably in World War II. They moved to Cassina Vezzano where their first child, Arthur, was born on Feb. 10, 1903. They used to vacation near the beach of Franco Villa. Arthur says that Eliza married Adamo because she wanted to go to the U.S.A. Adamo was a tailor. He went to the U.S.A. a month after his son Arthur's birth and stayed for 3 years. Then he returned to Italy and the family moved to Tollo where their second son, Gustav Michael, was born on June 17, 1908. Gus was a beautiful child with

fair hair and some noblemen wanted to adopt him. After two years in Tollo Adamo went back to Boston and then sent for his family. Elisa came to Boston with her two sons on the ship Romanic which sailed from

Naples after Christmas 1910 and arrived in Charlestown Mass; in mid-January 1911. The trip took 18 days and she travelled 2nd class, not steerage. Gus knocked Arthur's hat into the ocean. Benedetto Ciccotelli also came on the boat 3rd class. Elisa was very good at needlepoint and also wove all her linens and nightgowns for her marriage. Aunt Lindy still has them. She visited the only known relatives she has there in 1960. They were her second cousins and lived either in Chieti or Cassina Vezzano. She found them by telling the local people what she knew of her ancestors and the people directed her to these cousins but she doesn't remember their name. They received her well.

I think Adamo came to the States before he was married then returned home to marry. The other children in order are: Ernest, Gallindia Idotea, Ettore Thomas, Delia and Mary Elizabeth. I don't have their dates of birth. All are alive except Mary who was born Feb. 17, 1922 and died Nov. 5, 1981 at the age of 59. They lived first on Sheaf Street near Hull Street for one year. Then they moved to Cottage Street, East Boston because of a bad fire.

I asked Uncle Arthur where the musical talent came from in the family. He hadn't heard about musical ability in his grandparents but his father Adamo played the accordion and mandolin. When Arthur came to the States on his 8th birthday his father bought him a small violin which he still has. He began taking lessons then. Adamo also taught the children a lot of songs in Italian. They didn't speak English until they went to school. Arthur doesn't remember his mother singing very much.

Adamo was a tailor and became a designer of clothes for wealthy women who wore Womens or Plus Sizes. He worked first for Matthews Co., Boston and then for Matthews and Kadesky in New York City. This latter firm regarded him so well that they used to pay for his vacation to Florida every year and give him spending money while there.

Elisa was born in March and died Sept. 2, 1950 in her early 60s. She had had an operation for TB of the sub-maxillary gland and fell out of bed and was unconscious for about 6 weeks before she died. Her death certificate states the cause of death: "pulmonary embolism, panhypopituitarism, and TB of the submaxillary gland". Her doctor told the family they should sue the hospital for negligence but they didn't.

Lindy's(Gallindia) birth certificate gives the address of 85 Maverick St., East Boston which is right near Logan Airport and she says the house was still standing several years ago.