

## Pietro Bernardino Colajanni – December 27, 1893 to April 26, 1951

The boy pulled his finger out of the crack in the dam...and the info is flooding in! (Thanks goombah!)

After more than a few years of diligently searching...internet searches, message boards, writing to all the surnames (few connections not sure of relation if any), writing to the archives (no info), statto civile (no records, destroyed in WWII), military records (no answer yet), church in the town (no answer), ordering microfilms (and finding his years of info missing)...searing fatigued eyes (I need triple trifocals now <grin>), I finally found some of my grandfathers info.

I had to go around about it through microfilm - before, after and everywhere else but the actual years I wanted. I felt my grandfather was trying to get me to find his family first (which most of us knew very little, if anything about) and through the microfilms, I found 3 more siblings and other info:

Peter's (Pietro) info:

- 1 brother, Sabatino Serafino 1899;
- 2 sisters, both named Serafina.... 1<sup>st</sup> Serafina died Jan 1893, at 10 days old, 2<sup>nd</sup> Serafina - Sep 27, 1897-Sep 17, 1898 (died just 10 days shy of her first birthday).
- Maiden name of his mother is Colaianni (Maria Domenica), which we never had before.
- His parents Colajanni, Domenicantonio and Colaianni, Maria Domenica marriage Jan 25, 1891
- Maria's parents (Pietro Colaianni and Ninfa DiGiacomo) and,
- Domenico's parents (Bernardino Colaianni and Elisa DiGiacomo – info is from Domenico's marriage info).
- I also found his grandfathers death certificate (Bernardino - 1884, Bernardino's father was Costanzo and his mother was Morelli, Madelana), persons reporting the death were Gennaro Colajanni and Pasquale Colaianni.

Whew, did he make me work for this.

I came back again today (9/24/02) to Ellis Island to try one more time.... WHOA!!! UP HE POPPED, grandpa was never there before...along with the names of cousins, uncle and 2 others, whom he traveled with; 4 going to GIUSEPPE COLAJANNI's in Livingston, MN. GENNARO COLAJANNI (60, father to Giuseppe - Pietro's uncle), NICOLANTONIO COLAVECCHIO (37, uncle to Giuseppe) and MICHELE COLAVECCHIO (14, son of Nicolantonio and nephew of Giuseppe), AMIEO (Amico) CARLINI (20, going to brother-in-laws) and MICHELE RICCI (18 going to cousin - Frazzini, Carmine). I have been corresponding with some of Gennaro's family (which I find may not be so distant after all), AFTER I was able to find the rest of grandpa's family and piece it together. Still have more to research....

Vessel BERLIN - Feb 9, 1911

PIETRO BERNARDINO COLAJANNI

San Pietro Avellini (San Pietro Avellana)

0020. Carlini, Amieo (Amico)	M 20y M Italian South S. Pietro
0021. Ricci, Michele	M 18y S Italian South S. Pietro
0022. Colavecchio, Nicolantonio	M 37y M Italian South S. Pietro
0023. Colavecchio, Michele	M 14y S Italian South S. Pietro
0024. Colajanni, Gennart (Gennaro)	M 60y M Italian South S. Pietro

0025. **Colajanni, Pietro Berardino** M 17y S Italian South S. Pietro

His middle name was Bernardino, not Benito as we thought. His name was spelled with the stylized "i" which looks like a "j". His port of entry papers say he arrived Feb 10, 1912, he actually arrived Feb 9, 1911 and it was recorded on Feb 10, 1911. He was 17, single, 4'11", brown hair and eyes and arrived with \$25. Now the only problem is verifying his birth date. If he arrived in 1911 at age of 17, it would put his birth correctly at 1893 (12/27/1893). His naturalization papers states he was born Jan 27, 1893, we always celebrated it on Dec 27, and his death cert and gravestone say Dec 27, 1893. Another nut to crack....I think this was a recording error.

I have lots of alleys now to venture into and get verifications, letters to re-write again with the new info (plus an old address from birth records in 1897 - via S. Paolo #8).

I want to encourage everyone who is still up against a wall trying to find a relative, DON'T GIVE UP. There could be typos, various spellings, etc. Well, I ran into just about every wall there was, typos, wrong dates, missing info, misinformed information...but I kept picking at the crack in the wall and finally it burst forth...I am so happy I can barely contain myself...again...

HEAVEN, I'M IN HEAVEN...ey, goombah, io nonno, io amici, mille grazie e che ti voglio bene - for giving me the piece I so desperately searched for. I found your family, now we have your legacy intact for the future to behold!

With elated joy,  
Shirley "**Colajanni**" Sinclair

Researching:

Nonna line in Sicily (Caltabellotta, Palermo, Ribera, Sambucca): TRUNCALI, SOLDANO, TRAFICANTE, MAGGIO, GUARINO, GRISAFI, STRAVALLI, TORNAMBE', TRAPANI, COLLETTI, AMATO, ROMAGNOLO, CASTROGIOVANNI, VETRANO, MULE', PIAZZA

Nonno line in San Pietro Avellana, Isernia (Campobasso/Molise) Italy: COLAIANNI / COLIANNI / COLAJANNI, RICCI, DiGIACOMO, MORIANI (MARIANI), MORELLI, GIANCOLA, CARLINO/I, COLAVECCHIO, FRAZZINO/I, diSOUZA, DONATELLI, GRAZIANO / GRAZZIANO, DELLA CROCE,

Not sure which line: MARCIANO, RUSCIANO, CRUSCIANO(SP)