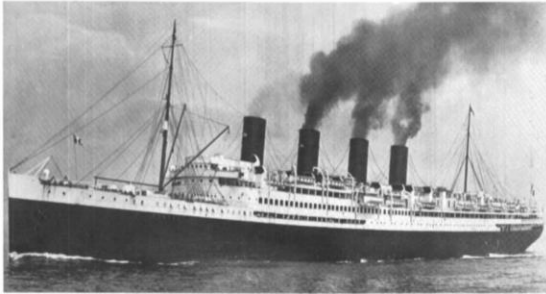
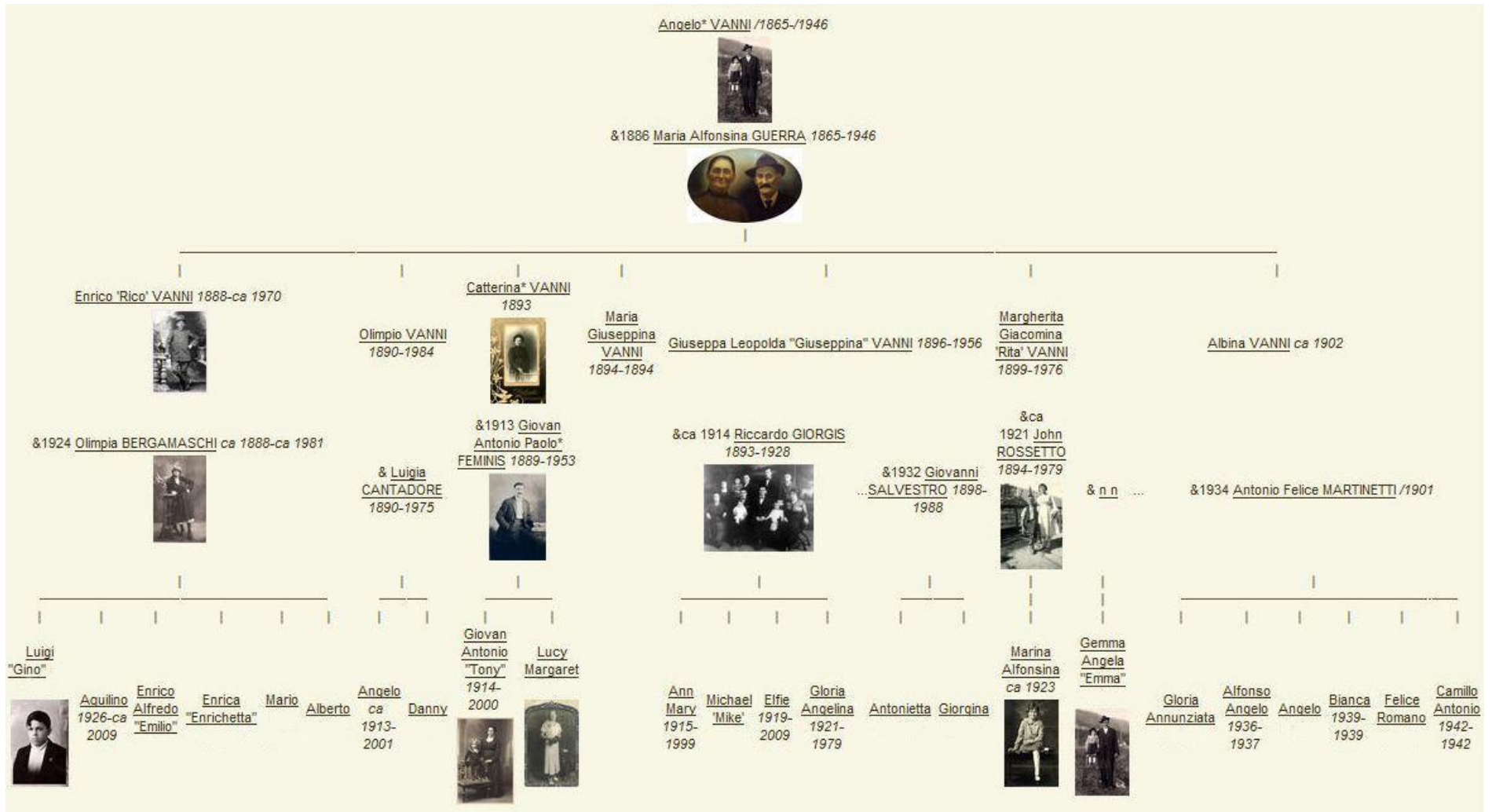


## The Vanni Family Coming to America



An illustration of how Caterina, Giuseppina, Margherita,  
Olimpio and their spouses came to America

# Angelo Vanni Family Tree



Family Tree – Arnaldo Ceccomori  
 Photos – Lucy Feminis Roelofs and Ken Roelofs, Giorgis Photo – Dick Gilberg

# **Introduction – Vanni Family – Coming to America**

## **The Great Italian Migration**

Beginning in the late 1800's there was a great Italian migration to the United States. The Vanni family was part of that migration. Section one of this booklet is a brief illustration of how and when the parents of the second generation of the Vanni family arrived in America. Most of the information was taken from the ships' manifests on the first trip from Italy to the United States. In the case of Giovanni Rossetto, it was taken from a 1928 manifest because the 1912 manifest cannot be located. The images of the ships, where available, are from Ancestry.com. Section two of the booklet shows the migration of the cousins and some of their relationships to the Vanni family.

Several cousins began the migration. Lorenzo Mellerio and his brother, Giovanni, are the first known arrivals. They came to Ellis Island, New York on the French ship, the *La Gascogne* on May 8, 1893. Within a few years, Lorenzo returned to Italy and married Anna Maria Mattei in 1895. Lorenzo returned to America with Giovanni Giorgis in 1896. They were followed by several waves of arrivals in the early 1900's.

Most of the first generation of the Vanni family came through Ellis Island. In 1912, Giovanni Rossetto, who married Margherita Vanni, was the first of the direct parents of the second generation to arrive in America. The last wave ended when Caterina Vanni Feminis, Tony Feminis, Margherita Vanni, Luigia Cantadore Vanni, and Angelo Vanni arrived in Quebec, Canada on August 8, 1920.

This is dedicated to the second generation of the Vanni family in America:

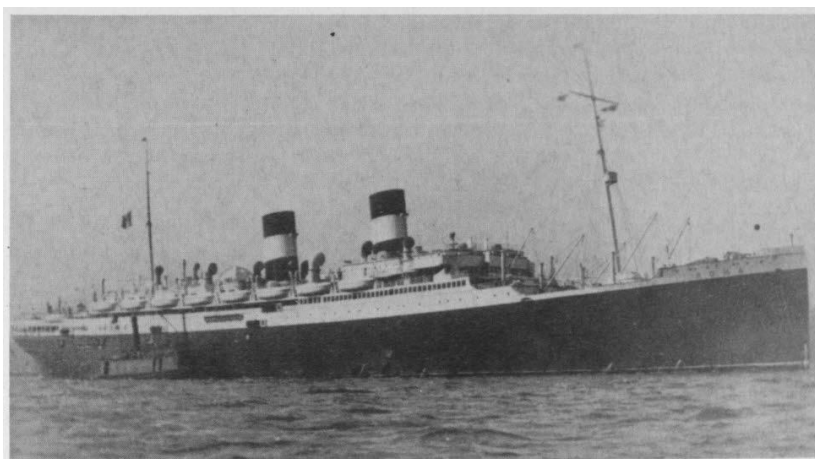
Rena Rossetto Irby, Tony Feminis, Lucy Feminis Roelofs, Ann Giorgis Gilberg, Mike Giorgis, Elfie Giorgis Ceccato, Gloria Giorgis Cosentino, Toni Salvestro Cottini, Georgie Salvestro Acord, Angelo Vanni, and Dan Vanni.

Ken Roelofs  
July 4, 2010

## Section One – Vanni Family – Coming to America

### Margherita Giacomina Vanni and Giovanni Rossetto

Arrival Date	Name	Age	Occupation	Sailing From	Last Residence	Nearest Relative in Italy	Nearest Relative in America	Final Destination
1912	Rossetto, Giovanni (Father of Rena Rossetto Irby)	16		Genoa	Cavaso	Father Giacomo		Hilts (in the early days, Hilt was known as Hilts)
8/20/1920	Vanni, Margherita (Mother of Rena Rossetto Irby)	21	Domestic	London	Santa Maria	Father Angelo	Brother-in-law	Hilts



**Roma** – Ship of Giovanni Rossetto in 1928

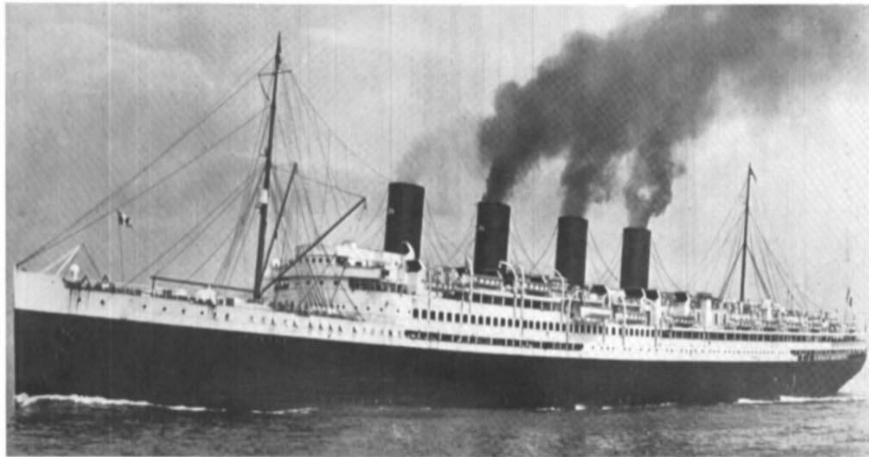
The 1912 ship's manifest cannot be located at this time, but he went back to Italy in 1926 and was inducted into the Italian Army. He returned to America on April 6, 1928.

**Scotian** – Ship of Caterina Vanni Feminis, Antonio Feminis, Margherita Vanni, Luigia Cantadore Vanni, and Angelo Vanni

Years in service 1898-1927. Shipping Line: Canadian Pacific. Built by Harland & Wolff. Tonnage: 10,322. Dimensions: 515.3' x 59.8'. Two masts and one funnel. Launched, May 7, 1898, as the **Statendam** of the Holland America Line. Maiden voyage: Rotterdam - New York, August 24, 1898. Renamed **Scotian** in 1917, and then again renamed **Marglen** in 1922. Scrapped at Genoa in 1927.

## Caterina Vanni, Antonio Feminis, and Antonio “Tony” Feminis

Arrival Date	Name	Age	Occupation	Sailing From	Last Residence	Nearest Relative in Italy	Nearest Relative in America	Final Destination
4/4/1914	Feminis, Giovanni Antonio (Father of Tony Feminis and Lucy Feminis Roelofs)	24	Mason	Le Havre	Santa Maria	Caterina Vanni	Cousin Giovanni Giorgis of Sisson	Sisson
8/20/1920	Feminis (Vanni), Caterina (Mother of Tony Feminis and Lucy Feminis Roelofs)	27	Wife	London	Santa Maria	Father Angelo	Husband Antonio	Hilts
8/20/1920	Feminis, Antonio (Father of Tony and John Feminis)	6	Child	London	Santa Maria	Grandfather Angelo	Father Antonio	Hilts



*S.S. France* – Ship of Giovanni Antonio Feminis

***Scotian*** – Ship of Caterina Vanni Feminis, Antonio Feminis, Margherita Vanni, Luigia Cantadore Vanni, and Angelo Vanni

Years in service 1898-1927. Shipping Line: Canadian Pacific. Built by Harland & Wolff. Tonnage: 10,322. Dimensions: 515.3' x 59.8'. Two masts and one funnel. Launched, May 7, 1898, as the ***Statendam*** of the Holland America Line. Maiden voyage: Rotterdam - New York, August 24, 1898. Renamed ***Scotian*** in 1917, and then again renamed ***Marglen*** in 1922. Scrapped at Genoa in 1927.

## Giuseppina Vanni, Riccardo Giorgis, and Giovanni Salvestro

Arrival Date	Name	Age	Occupation	Sailing From	Last Residence	Nearest Relative in Italy	Nearest Relative in America	Final Destination
10/11/1914	Giorgis, Riccardo <i>(Father of Ann Gilberg, Mike, Elfie Ceccato, and Gloria Cosentino)</i>	21	Laborer	Genoa	Crana	Father Palo	Brother Giovanni Giorgis <i>(Probably a cousin instead of brother)</i>	Sisson
10/11/1914	Giorgis (Vanni), Giuseppina <i>(Mother of Ann Gilberg, Mike, Elfie Ceccato, and Gloria Cosentino)</i>	18	Housewife	Genoa	Crana	Father-in-law Palo	Brother-in-law Giovanni <i>(Probably a cousin instead of brother-in-law)</i>	Sisson
6/15/1915	Salvestro, Giovanni <i>(Father of Georgie Salvestro Acord and Toni Salvestro Cottini)</i>	16	Laborer	Genoa	Cavaso	Father	Friend Giovanni Illegible	Hilts

### *Duca di Genova* – Ship of Riccardo and Giuseppina Giorgis

Years in service 1907-1918. Shipping Line: Navigazione Generale Italiana. Built by Cantieri Nav. Riuniti, Spezia, Italy. Tonnage: 7,811. Dimensions: 475' x 53'. Twin-screw, 16 1/2 knots. Quadruple expansion engines. Two masts and two funnels. Maiden voyage: Genoa-Naples-New York, October 7, 1908. Transferred to La Veloce Line in 1913. Made her final voyage to New York in 1916. Served in both the North Atlantic and the South American trades. Sunk near Cape Canet, February 6, 1918. Sister ship: Duca d' Aosta.

### *Duca degli Abruzzi* – Ship of Giovanni Salvestro

Years in service 1907-1929. Shipping Line: Navigazione Generale Italiana. Built by Cantieri Nav. Riuniti, Spezia, Italy. Tonnage: 7,838. Dimensions: 475' x 53'. Twin-screw, 16 1/2 knots. Quadruple expansion engines. Two masts and two funnels. Launched, May 5, 1907. Maiden voyage: Genoa-Naples-New York, February 3, 1908. Transferred later to South American service. Sold to Italian ship breakers in May 1928. Broken up in 1929. Sister ship: Principe Umberto.

## Olimpio Vanni, Luigia Cantadore Vanni, and Angelo Vanni

Arrival Date	Name	Age	Occupation	Sailing From	Last Residence	Nearest Relative in Italy	Nearest Relative in America	Final Destination
4/14/1915	Vanni, Olimpio <i>(Father of Angelo and Dan Vanni)</i>	25	Stone Mason	Genoa	Toceno	Father Angelo	Brother-in-law Riccardo Giorgis	Sisson
8/20/1920	Vanni (Cantadore), Luigia <i>(Mother of Angelo and Dan Vanni)</i>	29	Wife	London	Toceno	Brother Francesco Cantadore	Husband Olimpio Vanni	Hilts
8/20/1920	Vanni, Angelo <i>(Father of Marlene Vanni Pratt and Loretta Vanni Benkosky)</i>	6	Child	London	Toceno	Uncle above	Father Olimpio	Hilts



*Taormina* – Ship of Olimpio Vanni

*Scotian* – Ship of Caterina Vanni Feminis, Antonio Feminis, Margherita Vanni, Luigia Cantadore Vanni, and Angelo Vanni

Years in service 1898-1927. Shipping Line: Canadian Pacific. Built by Harland & Wolff. Tonnage: 10,322. Dimensions: 515.3' x 59.8'. Two masts and one funnel. Launched, May 7, 1898, as the *Statendam* of the Holland America Line. Maiden voyage: Rotterdam - New York, August 24, 1898. Renamed *Scotian* in 1917, and then again renamed *Marglen* in 1922. Scrapped at Genoa in 1927.

## Section Two - Italian Migration of the Giorgis, Feminis, and Vanni Cousins

Arrival Date	Name	Age	Occupation	Sailing From	Last Residence	Nearest Relative in Italy	Nearest Relative in America	Final Destination
5/8/1893	Mellerio, Lorenzo <i>(Brother-in-Law of Maria Lucia Mattei Giorgis)</i>	24	Farmer	Havre	Santa Maria			San Francisco
5/8/1893	Mellerio, Giovanni	22	Farmer	Havre	Santa Maria			San Francisco
6/29/1896	Giorgis, Giovanni <i>(Husband of Maria Lucia Mattei Giorgis)</i>	26	Laborer	Havre	Crana			Sacramento
6/29/1896	Mellerio, Lorenzo	27	Laborer	Havre	Crana			Sacramento
9/1896	Mellerio (Mattei), Anna Maria <i>(Wife of Lorenzo Mellerio)</i>	29		Havre	Crana		Husband Lorenzo	Sacramento
9/1896	Mellerio, Costante <i>“Charlie” (Father of Carol Ann Mellerio Withington)</i>	6mo		Havre	Crana		Father Lorenzo	Sacramento
3/4/1901	Femminis, Francesco <i>(Uncle of Lucy Feminis Roelofs)</i>	22	Laborer	Havre	Crana		Friend Giorgis	Redding
3/4/1901	Mattei, Pietro Angelo <i>(Brother of Maria Lucia Mattei Giorgis)</i>	35	Brick Layer	Havre	Crana		Friend Giorgis	Redding
3/4/1901	Giorgis (Mattei), Maria Lucia <i>(Marie Femminis’ Great Grandmother)</i>	28		Havre	Crana		Husband Giovanni	Redding
3/4/1901	Giorgis, Carlo <i>(Son of Maria Lucia Mattei Giorgis)</i>	4		Havre	Crana			Redding
3/4/1901	Giorgis, Michele <i>(Son of Maria Lucia Mattei Giorgis)</i>	3		Havre	Crana			Redding

Arrival Date	Name	Age	Occupation	Sailing From	Last Residence	Nearest Relative in Italy	Nearest Relative in America	Final Destination
3/4/1901	Giorgis, Giovanni (Brother of Michele Angelo Giorgis)	18	Laborer	Havre	Crana		Nobody	Redding
5/2/1903	Giorgis, Carlo (Son of Carlo Giorgis)	23	Farmer	Havre	Buttogno		Father Carlo	Sisson
11/5/1906	Vietti (Femminis), Eugenia (Wife of Giovanni Battista Vietti, Colleen Isoardi Cena's Great Uncle)	24	Farmer	Havre			Husband Giovanni Battista Vietti	Sisson
11/5/1906	Vietti, Julia (Colleen Isoardi Cena's Cousin)	2		Havre			Father	Sisson
4/14/1907	Femminis, Giovanni (Marie Femminis' Great Grandfather)	38	Laborer	Havre	Santa Maria		Uncle Barbieri	Mill Valley
4/12/1908	Giorgis, Angelo Antonio Pietro Giorgis (Brother of Michele Angelo Giorgis)	23	Laborer	Havre	Santa Maria	Father Angelo	Brother Giovanni	Sisson
5/2/1908	Giorgis, Leonardo	36	Farm Labor	Havre	Crana	Brother Stefano		Sisson
5/2/1908	Giorgis, Maria (Riccardo Giorgis' Aunt)	41		Havre	Crana			Sisson
5/2/1908	Giorgis, Anna Maria	6		Havre	Crana			Sisson
5/2/1908	Vanina, Attilia "Tillie" (Half-Sister of Mario "Aldo" Femminis)	17	None	Havre	Crana	Mother Marta Vanna Martina (Barbieri) Femminis at Crana	3422 Mission Street, San Francisco	San Francisco

<b>Arrival Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Sailing From</b>	<b>Last Residence</b>	<b>Nearest Relative in Italy</b>	<b>Nearest Relative in America</b>	<b>Final Destination</b>
2/20/1909	Giorgis, Giovanni (Pete Giorgis' father)	25	Day Laborer	Havre	Santa Maria	Illegible	Illegible	Sisson
12/19/1910	Giorgis (Bona), Giuseppa (Felicity Gerding Kennedy's Great Grandmother)	24		Le Havre	Crana	Father Battista Bona, Santa Maria	Husband Giovanni Giorgis	McCloud
12/19/1910	Giorgis, Giovanina (Felicity's Great Aunt and Vickie Baldini's Grandmother)	2		Le Havre	Crana	Grandfather Bona	Father Giovanni Giorgis	McCloud
12/19/1910	Giorgis, Michele (Felicity's Great Uncle)	1		Le Havre	Crana	Grandfather Bona	Father Giovanni Giorgis	McCloud
1912	Giovanni Rossetto (Rena Rossetto Irby's Father)	16		Genoa	Cavaso	Father Giacomo		Hilts
12/31/1912	Giorgis, Appolonia (Aunt of Riccardo Giorgis)	23	Housewife	Havre	Santa Maria	Mother Tabina	Brother Angelo	Redding
3/4/1913	Femminis, Giovanni Antonio (Marie Femminis' Great Grandfather again)	44	Laborer	Le Havre	Santa Maria	Son Ottilio in Santa Maria	Cousin Carlo Giorgis in San Francisco	Santa Rosa
3/4/1913	Femminis, Mario (Aldo) (Married Giuseppina Giorgis, also, Marie Femminis' Grandfather)	9		Le Havre	Santa Maria	Brother Ottilio	Step sister Attilia "Tillie" Vanina in San Francisco	Santa Rosa

<b>Arrival Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Sailing From</b>	<b>Last Residence</b>	<b>Nearest Relative in Italy</b>	<b>Nearest Relative in America</b>	<b>Final Destination</b>
4/4/1914	Feminis, Giovanni Antonio (Father of Tony Feminis and Lucy Feminis Roelofs)	24	Mason	Le Havre	Santa Maria	Caterina Vanni	Cousin Giovanni Giorgis of Sisson	Sisson
4/4/1914	Giorgis (Mattei), Maria Lucia (Marie Femminis' Great Grandmother again)	41		Le Havre	Sisson	Mother Maria Lucia Mattei in Santa Maria	Husband Giovanni Giorgis of Sisson	Sisson
4/4/1914	Giorgis, Chelso (Marie Femminis' Great Uncle)	10		Le Havre	Sisson	Grandmother above	Father above	Sisson
4/4/1914	Giorgis, Giuseppina (Marie Femminis' Grandmother)	4		Le Havre	Sisson	Grandmother above	Father above	Sisson
4/4/1914	Giorgis, Michele Angelo (Grandfather of Sandy Giorgis Moisan and Judy Perry Mulvany)	22	Laborer	Le Havre	Santa Maria	Father Angelo Giorgis of Santa Maria	Brother Giovanni Giorgis of Sisson	Sisson
4/4/1914	Mellerio (Mattei), Anna Maria (Sister of Maria Lucia Mattei Giorgis)	46	Housewife	Le Havre	Chico	Mother Maria Lucia Mattei in Santa Maria	Husband Lorenzo Mellerio	Chico
10/11/1914	Giorgis, Riccardo (Father of Ann Gilberg, Mike Giorgis, Elfie Ceccato, and Gloria Cosentino)	21	Laborer	Genoa	Crana	Father Palo	Brother Giovanni Giorgis	Sisson
10/11/1914	Giorgis (Vanni), Giuseppina (Mother of Ann Gilberg, Mike Giorgis, Elfie Ceccato, and Gloria Cosentino)	18	Housewife	Genoa	Crana	Father-in-law Palo	Brother-in-law Giovanni	Sisson

<b>Arrival Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Sailing From</b>	<b>Last Residence</b>	<b>Nearest Relative in Italy</b>	<b>Nearest Relative in America</b>	<b>Final Destination</b>
4/14/1915	Vanni, Olimpio (Father of Angelo and Dan Vanni)	25	Stone Mason	Genoa	Toceno	Father Angelo	Brother-in-law Riccardo Giorgis	Sisson
6/15/1915	Salvestro, Giovanni (Father of Georgie Salvestro Acord and Toni Salvestro Cottini)	16	Laborer	Genoa	Cavaso	Father	Friend Giovanni Illegible	Hilts
8/20/1920	Feminis (Vanni), Caterina (Mother of Tony Feminis and Lucy Feminis Roelofs)	27	Wife	London	Santa Maria	Father Angelo	Husband Antonio	Hilts
8/20/1920	Feminis, Antonio (Father of Tony and John Feminis)	6	Child	London	Santa Maria	Grandfather Angelo	Father Antonio	Hilts
8/20/1920	Vanni, Margherita (Mother of Rena Rossetto Irby)	21	Domestic	London	Santa Maria	Father Angelo	Brother-in-law	Hilts
8/20/1920	Vanni (Cantadore), Luigia (Mother of Angelo and Dan Vanni)	29	Wife	London	Toceno	Brother Francesco Cantadore	Husband Olimpio Vanni	Hilts
8/20/1920	Vanni, Angelo (Father of Marlene Vanni Pratt and Loretta Vanni Benkosky)	6	Child	London	Toceno	Uncle above	Father Olimpio	Hilts

Rocco Femminis  
(below)

Giuseppina and Riccardo  
Giorgis (below)

Angelo Vanni  
(below)

Michele Angelo  
Giorgis (below)



Olimpio and Louisa  
Vanni (above)

Albina Vanni  
(above)

Caterina and Antonio Femminis (above)  
**Femminis and Vanni Wedding**  
Crana, Italy – April 12, 1913

Lucia Bona  
(above)

## The Parents - Genitori



Alphoncina and Angelo Vanni, the parents of  
Caterina, Giuseppina, Margherita, and Olimpio