

I was perusing "Sacramento's K Street", by The History Press, and I noticed a picture showing a young man wearing a sweater with a big CB athletic "block" on the front. It was taken around 1930 at the "La Rosa" restaurant located at 813 L. Street. The restaurant was opened in 1930 by a "Sam" (Settimo) D'Lallesandro, who it turns out was the man 2nd from the right in the picture and also the uncle of Americo D'Lallesandro, the boy with the sweater.



La Rosa, an Italian Restaurant at 813 L Street, was opened in 1927 by Settino "Sam" D'Allesandro. This photograph, taken in approximately 1930, shows the restaurant's dining room. *Center for Sacramento History.*

After some investigation, I was lucky to have found Americo's daughter, Antoinette, who was very helpful in solving the mystery of the boy in the sweater and provided a little of the family history.

She said that her dad's (Americo) parents, Lodovico and wife Rosalia, came from Camaiole, located in the province of Luca, Italy. They were both in the United States by 1910. After finding jobs wherever there was an opening, Lodovico came to Sacramento where he worked in the iron foundry of the Southern Pacific. It was hard work, especially during the hot summers with no air conditioning. Besides having three children, Americo, Amilda and Primo, he opened a saloon, the Baldwin on 7th Street between I and J Streets, and later opened the Toscano Grocery store on 17th and V Streets. Lodovico finally purchased the Star Café and bar from his brother Settomo, who sold it to open the La Rosa. Thus bringing us back to the mystery picture.

Americo only attended CB for his freshman year. Probably the restaurant business was slow during the depression and the family needed him to work. As a freshman he did start on the varsity football team as the running back for the undefeated 1931 CB football team, thus the sweater. The family mentioned that if he graduated from high school he was told there was a very good chance of his receiving a scholarship to St. Mary's College.



Christian Brothers Undefeated Football Team 1931

Row 1: 1 W. Hughes 2 J. Mangin 3 H. Leonard 4 Russell 5 J. Doherty 6 Joe Valine 7 N. Allen 8 J. Galkins 9 J. Walker 10 A. Scott 11 E. Hurley, Asst. Coach 12 S. Porcella, Coach.
 Row 2: 13 J. Gwinn 14 F. Nugent 15 W. Keating 16 G. Sullivan 17 E. Stetson 18 J. Covell 19 R. Gwinn 20 F. D'Alessandro 21 W. Reichart 22 J. Mulligan 23 R. Bishop 24 W. Gough
 Row 3: 25 B. Scelian 26 J. Messner 27 A. Flynn 28 J. Cleary 29 J. Casey Capt.

L to R Top Row: Br. Odran, W. Hughes, J. Mangin, H. Leonard, Russell, J. Doherty, Joe Valine, N. Allen, J. Galkins, H. Walker, A. Scott, E. Hurley, Asst. Coach, S. Porcella Coach.

Middle Row: J. Gwinn, F. Nugent, W. Keating, G. Sullivan, E. Stetson, J. Covell, R. Gwinn, A. D'Alessandro, W. Reichart, J. Mulligan,

Bottom Row: R. Bishop, W. Gough, B. Scelian, J. Messner, A. Flynn, J. Cleary, J. Casey, Captain.

When Americo was 20 years of age he was introduced to Lorraine Perry who would become a major player in the 2nd half of this story.

Lorraine's grandparents were also early arrivals to Sacramento. Her grandfather, Antonio Pereira Rodrigues was born in the Azores and eventually arrived in Sacramento in 1854, the same year Sacramento became the State Capitol. Her grandmother, Maria Gloria Silva also born in the Azores, arrived in Sacramento in 1859. She arrived by wagon train with her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Manual Da Rosa.

Her grandparents were married in 1867. They purchased 45 acres of land in the pocket area with her aunt and uncle, the De Rosas. They had 10 children, one of which was Joseph, Lorraine's father. He was educated at the original Lisbon school (a converted barn) near his home and followed in his father's footsteps as a farmer. He changed his name to Antone Perry which was adopted by his whole family.

Joseph married Lorraine's mother, Josie Marshall (or Marcelino as it is in the original Portuguese) of Newcastle in 1908. They had two children, Lorraine and Evelyn.

Lorraine and Americo were married November, 1937. Americo was a photographer for the Bureau of Reclamation before he entered the service in 1944. He returned to the Bureau after the war and worked there until he retired in 1973.

Lorraine was always busy She took over all of the food operation at the Elks Club at 11th and J streets. She ran the business until 1969 when she opened Lorraine's Ice Cream Parlor at 2815 J St.

Americo and Lorraine had four children, Antoinette (Tony), Susan, Paul and Joseph.

In 1977 their son Paul and a high school friend, Jackson Leong, opened an Italian restaurant called Americo's at 2000 Capitol Ave. Paul's parents were again in the restaurant business. Most of the recipes that were used were developed by Americo. Lorraine organized the management end of the business. It followed the great family tradition and was a very successful restaurant.

Their daughter Antoinette graduated from CB in 1957. She married John Lane, another outstanding football player for CB like her father Americo. In 1955 John played three years on the varsity and made the Bee and Union all city football teams. One of their children, Patrick Lane, graduated from CB in 1980.

Little did I know that making inquiry of the picture of the boy with the CB sweater would take me on such a wonderful journey A family that were early settlers to Sacramento, connections to CB, providers of great restaurants in our area and great athletes for CB.