

BRISCOLA NEWS[©]

February ❖ 2012 ❖ febbraio

briscolaUSA[©]

Circolo della Briscola[©],
Washington, DC Chapter



THE PARTITA OF JANUARY 11, 2012.

It was nice to see the return of *Ennio DiTullio*, who immediately took matters into his own hands by scoring three points at the *tressette* table. Apparently he has convalesced well. He must have been practicing diligently at home in order to have vanquished his tablemates! Keep it up, Ennio; we're all rooting for you. Glad to have you back!

Separately, you will also be able to see and study the *Standings* in all three categories:

◆ In the *briscola* competition, *Joe Novello* is still leading the pack, but there is one of the "dark horses" I mentioned last month, *Rocco Caniglia*, who zoomed into second place with one game to make up. Idle *Pino Cicala* is in third place, and similarly idle *Ray Bernero*—the other "dark horse"—is in a tie for fourth place; If Ray would make up three games, who knows . . . he, too, could become a serious contender.

♥ Of interest, the *briscola socio* with the highest PPG Average is *Thomas Garofalo*: 2.33. An astounding number; just think, Tom, where you would be if you could makeup all those games you missed.

♠ In the *tressette* race, it looks bleak for all the *soci*, inasmuch as *Eus Tortorelli* has such a commanding lead. Anyone wishing to make up some games to attempt to improve his position in the *Standings* better do so ASAP, as there is very little time left in the fiscal year which ends with the March *partita*.

♣ Similarly in the *scopone* competition, with *Roberto Severino* leading by a hefty margin over second place *Dennis Santoli*. Notice also that their PPG Averages are quite high, and I wouldn't be too surprised to see Dennis give some competition to Roberto.

Tune in next month for more interesting details of the players and their accomplishments.

THE NEXT PARTITA.

WEDNESDAY EVENING
FEBRUARY 8, 2012
CASA ITALIANA
ARRIVE BY 6:30 P.M.
GAMES BEGIN @ 7:00 P.M.

PLEASE CALL ANNIKA IN DENNIS
SANTOLI'S OFFICE TO RSVP:
HER NEW DIRECTPHONE NUMBER IS:

703-880-3803.

IMPORTANT REMINDER FOR THOSE SOCI NEEDING MAKE-UP GAMES:

To wit: A more convenient suggestion for those needing make-up games: Since many of our *soci* also participate in the bi-monthly *briscola* games in Fairfax (*Briscola di Fairfax*), those of you who are in need of make-up games could formulate foursomes in each of the three games of *briscola*, *tressette* and *scopone*, if this would be permitted by the leadership of the Fairfax Briscola Group. If so, these foursomes should first alert Ricuzzo at least 24 hours before any scheduled games in Fairfax. I imagine that those scores would also be counted for the Fairfax Group *Standings*.

RICUZZO'S NEW CELL PHONE:

904-557-1589

NEW FEATURE FOR OUR BRISCOLA NEWS

This month we inaugurate a new monthly column entitled "*Nancy's Niche*." Most of us already know *Ms. Nancy DeSanti*, who writes for the *Abruzzo Molise Heritage Society* (AMHS) monthly bulletin. She has kindly consented to research the current (and past) literature pertaining to the Italian card games we play, and then make a monthly report on her findings.

Note: Comments about this new feature are most welcome. ricuzzo@mac.com

NANCY'S NICHE



1. ZUCCHERO* and BRISCOLA

Did you know that one of Italy's most famous pop singers is a fan of *briscola*? Yes, internationally known rock star *Zuccherò Fornaciari*, when he is at home in Reggio Emilia in between world tours, says he enjoys relaxing on a typical Sunday by playing *briscola* with his childhood friend. The aroma of *ragu*' wafting through the house, some *panettone* if it's Christmas time, and a good card game with friends, are the things that make life so enjoyable, according to the Grammy Award-nominated singer.

2. ON-LINE BRISCOLA, ANYONE?

Traditional Italian cards have become so popular that you can now play them online. It's all available on the Lottomatica.it and Sisal.it websites, and the sites offer *scopa*, *briscola* and *burraco* (anybody know what that is?). Of course, if you play online, you would miss out on all the camaraderie we enjoy, and where else are you going to find such a fun-loving group (not to mention the good food and wine!!)?

* Learn more about *Zuccherò* on the Internet:

• In English:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zuccherò>

• In Italian:

http://www.ansa.it/web/notizie/collection/rubriche/spettacolo/12/19/visualizza_new.html_16407641.html

QUICK QUIZ.

Which card is this, & in which Italian Regional deck is it found?

The first correct answer shall allow the *socio* to forego the usual \$10.00 playing fee at his/her next *partita*.

Call: 904-557-1589,
or e-mail me:
ricuzzo@mac.com

