

# BRISCOLA NEWS

for

## JANUARY 2010

### THE 2009 CHAMPIONS

In the *tressette Classifica*, we have a "REPEAT" champion, **Salvatore Di Pilla**, who was so far ahead during the last third of 2009 that he could not be reached.

And, in the *briscola Classifica*, we have a "FOUR-PEATER" sake champion, **Roberto Severino**, as he surged into first place late in the year and rapidly built up an insurmountable lead in the last two months. This is his fourth championship in 6 years, a formidable achievement unequalled since our *Circolo* was first organized in 1991.

We have never had a *scopone Classifica* merely because there have been no serious *scopone* players, despite the fact that a few *scopone* games had been played during 2009. Maybe "next year."

### SECOND PLACE

As for second place honors, there was a two-way tie in the *tressette Classifica*: **Joe Cavallo and Nicholas J. Ferrante, Sr.** There had been opportunities for make-up games, even so-called "off campus" make-up games, but no one seemed to have taken advantage of those opportunities.

(N.B.: In this regard, I think a good idea for the future, especially for those players who must travel a long distance to reach Casa Italiana to play in the monthly partite, would be to strongly encourage those players who "miss" a regularly scheduled partita to play the games in their home, "off campus".)

In the *briscola Classifica*, one *socio* stands alone in second place . . . AGAIN! **Ronaldo Roy** has done this for his second year in a row. I know many of us would encourage him to have not only a little *pazienza*, but also a little *coraggio*, and to keep playing as well as he has, and to try to heed the reassuring proverb, "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again."

### Continuing News from Florida:

Ricuzzo's second eye surgery went well, and is now seeing with both eyes. At the end of the month, he shall try to obtain his Florida driver's license.

Regarding the small number of people interested in playing *briscola* "down here," I'm

tentatively planning for a *partita* on the same night as you will have it at *Casa Italiana*, January 13th. It will be a group of 5 or 6 people, and, if possible, I'll keep scores.

I had a thought: If interest truly persists, and we begin to play regularly here on Amelia Island, I might incorporate our results in the Washington, DC *Circolo Classifica*. We'll see how that works out.

My wife and I will be coming North again, probably for 10 to 14 days at the beginning of February, so that I hope to be not only at the Awards Luncheon on the 7th, but also for the partita of February 10th. It will be good to see the group once again. I just hope it doesn't snow at that time.

### ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2010.

1:30 P.M.

@ RISTORANTE POSITANO

Yes, it is to take place on Superbowl Sunday, but that game does not start until after 6:00 P.M. So we should all have plenty of time to enjoy ourselves at our annual luncheon, when all the trophies and Certificates for 2009 will be distributed to the various *soci* who earned them.

The informational flyer is enclosed, giving you each all the details. **Luigi and Angela Traettino** have graciously offered to prepare their usual delectable repast for the same price as in past years, \$45.00.

This year, we shall *not* collect any checks beforehand; rather, each *socio* who attends shall pay at the door upon his/her arrival. However—and of paramount importance—I am asking those of you who plan to attend to please *R.S.V.P. directly to me*, so as to establish a head count for the Traettinos. You can do so by e-mail ([ricuzzo@mac.com](mailto:ricuzzo@mac.com)), or by calling me on my cell phone: 703-795-5187. Please be timely with your RSVPs.

### PLAYER'S FEE NOW DUE

And so, the Washington DC *Circolo della Briscola* chapter of **briscolaUSA** will begin its 19th year of existence. 2009 proved to be a great year for all the participating *soci*, and it is hoped that 2010 will be even greater.

A full financial accounting will be prepared; **Roberto Baldassari, Dennis Santoli** and **Ricuzzo Davoli** will conduct a proper and complete accounting, which will be distributed to all the *soci* within the next month or so.

Enclosed is a self-addressed envelope to use to remit the 2010 Player's Fee, which has been set at \$40.00, less expensive than in

2009. And, most importantly, make the check out to **ENRICO DAVOLI (NOT to the Circolo)**.

THE NEXT GAME.  
LA PROSSIMA PARTITA.  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2010.

### SCHEDULE:

6:30 p.m.: *Antipasti, cameratismo.*

7:00 p.m.: *Cena Magnifica, a cura dello Chef Rocco Caniglia.\**

8:00 p.m.: *Le battaglie di briscola and tressette (anche scopone).*

### PLEASE, R.S.V.P.

Call Dennis Santoli's office:

703-242-9224

& speak with **ANNIKA**, his private secretary.

\* A brief, but important, word:  
Un pensiero breve ma importante:

Lest we forget!  
Affinche non dimentichiamo!

Many of our esteemed *soci* will recall the days we would meet at the Tivoli restaurant in Rosslyn and pay—ugh!!—\$30.00 for a pre-*partita* meal, and then our more than welcome arrival at *Casa Italiana*, courtesy of the then Pastor of Holy Rosary Church, **Father Charles Zanoni**. We also will recall how relatively unhappy we had become at the Tivoli, whether it had been for the "costly" meal or for the somewhat noisy ambiance.

Flash forward to the present time at cozy *Casa Italiana*, where we enjoy not only a hearty, healthful and fulfilling meal (*antipasti, primo, secondo*) for *half* the price (\$15.00), a meal provided both by the Holy Rosary staff (the pasta, broccoli & salad) and by monthly *volunteer* chefs from the ranks of our own *Circolo soci*.

It seems that now our gustatory Paradise may need to be abandoned. You dare to ask Why? *I'll tell ya plain and simple!*

Except for **John Nardella** and **Rocco Caniglia**, there have been no other respondents for volunteer Chefs for 2010. Thank God Rocco kindly agreed—at almost the last moment—to prepare the *secondo* for the January 13<sup>th</sup> *partita*. John, on the other hand, is not able to be the Chef until March or thereafter, as he will be in sunny (but presently freezing) Florida.

*Please!* Can a few more of you highly esteemed *briscolani, tressettini* or *scoponese* volunteer? *Pretty please?*

*Ricuzzeddu.*