

## Angelo (Custodio) and Gesa (Teresa Italiano) Bruscato



My name is Frank Perrecone, a great-grandson of Angelo (Custodio) and Gesa (Teresa Italiano) Bruscato. I did not know my great-grandparents. They died before I was born. I knew all of my great-aunts and most of my great-uncles. I am honored to write their family history.

Angelo was born in Vicari, Sicily. He arrived in America through the Port of New Orleans. He worked in sugar cane fields in Saint Charles Parish, Louisiana. The family moved to Rockford, Illinois prior to 1914. In Sicily, Angelo's last name was Abruscato.

Teresa was born in Corleone, Sicily on June 28, 1877. She was the daughter of Cosimo Italiano and Nucia Cutreda. She arrived in America through the Port of New Orleans with her father and two brothers.

Angelo and Teresa married in Taft, Louisiana in 1894. They had eleven children: Anna (Annie); Sam, born in 1896; Luchina (Lucy), born in 1897; Gust, born in 1899; Tony, born in 1902; Rosario (Sadi), born in 1903; Joseph (Joe), born in 1905; Maria Concetta (Katie), born in 1907; Carl, born in 1910; Angelo (Queenie), born in 1910; and Mary, born in 1914.

Angelo and Carl were twins. Sam, Rosario and Angelo went by the last name of Briscoe. All of the children were born in Taft, Louisiana, except Mary who was born in Rockford, Illinois. All of their children married except for Rosario and Angelo.

Angelo died on January 20, 1926. Teresea died on December 15, 1952. Rosario Briscoe died on March 16, 1977. Angelo Briscoe died on June 26, 1981.

Anna married Nunzio D'Antonio in Taft, Louisiana on December 22, 1912. Nunzio was born in Corleone in 1882. They had three children: Frank, Gary (Oats) and Joseph (Bags). Her children did not marry. Nunzio died May 12, 1966. Anna died in the 1980s. Frank died on November 21, 1968. Gary died on August 1, 1996. Joseph died on November 3, 2002.

Sam Briscoe married Josephine (Josie) LaFata on October 21, 1921 in Rockford. They had two children: Theresa born on August 1, 1922, and Angelo, born on March 31, 1929. Sam served in WWI as part of the Army's 128<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. He died on March 22, 1950. Josephine died on October 13, 1998. Their daughter, Theresa, died on June 20, 2011. Their son, Angelo, died on February 15, 2012.

Luchina (Lucy) married Leoluca (Louis) Saporito in Rockford on April 19, 1917. They had four children: Joseph, born April 16, 1918; Angelo (Babe), born September 26, 1919; John, born August 17, 1923; and Maria (Marie), born March 21, 1931. Joseph married Mary Rose Oliveri in 1946. Angelo married Josephine Bocanelli in 1947, and John married Margaret (Marge) Villani in 1942. Marie married Samuel (Sam) Perrecone in 1954. Louis died on June 28, 1981. Lucy died on December 12, 1995. Angelo died at age 90 in 2010. His wife Josephine died in 2016 at age 92. Joseph died at age 96 in 2014, with his wife Mary predeceasing him at age 87 in 2009. John's wife Margaret, died in 2014 at age 89. As of this writing, only John Saporito and my parents, Sam and Marie Perrecone, are alive.

Gust Bruscatto married Lena DalSanto on September 12, 1931 in Rockford. They had three children: Rosemarie, who married Michael Morriaty; Theresa, who married William Griffith; and Lucille Ann, who married Frank Rice. Gust died on January 4, 1980. Lena died on October 16, 1964. Frank died in the 1990s. Theresa died in 2015.

Joseph Bruscatto married Maria Teresa (Mary) Alongi on September 20, 1936 in Rockford. They had four children: Jessica, Angelo, Mary Sylvia and John. Angelo married Carol Nadolny. Mary Sylvia married Robert Koberg. After Robert's death, she married William Gaffney, who has now passed. Jessica married Michael Ruvolo. Michael died on September 25, 2001. John remained a bachelor until his death on June 16, 2007. Joseph died on September 26, 1972, and his wife, Maria Teresa, died on October 16, 1992.

Maria Concetta Bruscatto married Vincent Trapani on April 29, 1928 in Rockford. They had two children, Joanne and Joseph (Joe). Maria Concetta died on July 24, 1983. Vincent died on January 30, 1971. Their son, Joseph, died on March 30, 2009.

Carl Bruscatto married Irene LaRosa on October 27, 1940. They had three children Joseph, Angelo and Carol. Carl died in 1984. Irene died on April 10, 2015.

Mary Bruscatto married John Mulligan in 1960. They did not have children. Mary died on December 28, 2007. John died on December 5, 2004.

The above family photograph was taken about 1915. Pictured from left to right are (top row) Sam, Rosario, Teresa, Angelo, Anna and Luchina, (bottom row) Gust, Joseph, Angelo, Mary, Carl, Tony and Maria Concetta.

Submitted on October 31, 2016 by Frank Perrecone for the Genealogy Project for Culture and Education Committee of GRIAA "Immigration Histories of Rockford Italian Families."