

HAPPY 100th ANNIVERSARY TO OUR INITIAL NORWOOD ITALIAN LODGE #1235!



From the town's Norwood Centennial Book by Bryant Tolles is the following excerpt: The Men's Lodge No. 1235 originated on **Sept. 23, 1923**, with initial charter member being **Isidoro Ferrara as its first Venerable**. Along with Ferrara, were founders **Domenico Triventi and Corradino DiBento**. Therefore, Happy 100th Anniversary on the occasion of our local Italian Lodge #1235 initial formation!

The following information is in historical records in the Sons and Daughters of Italy of Massachusetts website regarding our Italian Lodge # 1235.

On November 12, 1933, founded by Jesse Paul, Gorizia Howard and Mary Poce, the women became a separate group, taking the name of Eleanora Duse Lodge, which later changed to the Norwood Ladies Lodge # 1690. The sponsoring lodge for this occasion was the Anita Garibaldi Lodge of Brockton, Ma.

In 1991, the Norwood Italian Men's Lodge led by President Frank Bartucca, purchased their new home on Wilson Street, Norwood - naming it "Casa Bella." The building was subsequently sold in the year 2000. Two houses were built on the property.

The men and women members merged in the year 2000. The newly merged Lodge #1235 Charter is dated May 8, 2001. The current Norwood Italian Lodge meets at the VFW HALL, 193 Dean Street in Norwood, generally on the first Wednesday of each month.

We have a stable membership of about 70+ members. The Lodge contributes to many worthy causes such as for Alzheimer's, Cooley's Anemia, autism, and to the food pantry. Our lodge sponsors scholarships each year to two graduating seniors as well. In the past, the lodge funded Italian language classes at Norwood High School which unfortunately ceased several years later due to budget cuts. The lodge also published a successful cookbook to fundraise for our scholarship program. The Lodge continues to be guided by its principles of Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity, promotes Italian culture, and contributes to the civic, social, educational well-being of the community. We are under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America.