

# MARCH 2026 NEWSLETTER

## Norwood Italian Lodge #1235

Steven J. Eosco, President 14 Endicott St. Norwood MA

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Dear Lodge Members,

- ◆ It's been a very cold, windy, snowy winter, nevertheless, our Council had an opportunity to meet on Sunday, Feb. 15th in the Simoni Room at Norwood Library to share ideas for fundraising. After a two-hour discussion, the council voted to bring several motions to the floor for members' consideration.
- ◆ Our thanks to Gregg Giambanco and his committee for chairing a very successful Trivia Night! Gregg will supply a summary report on that fun event.
- ◆ We will also have a guest in attendance from Members Plus Credit Union who will attend our meeting. We will acknowledge their generous \$500 donation to our scholarship fund. Our thanks to Tony Scavotto for making the initial contact.
- ◆ Your input at the March meeting will be very appreciated. Please do your best to attend. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate.
- ◆ Norwood Day is earlier this year scheduled for Saturday, August 29th. This was a most successful event last year because of the efforts of many member volunteers. We will make our plans earlier this year and update our solicitation letter for members to use when seeking gift cards for raffle prizes for our booth. More info at the meeting.
- ◆ At the March meeting, we will also discuss/vote on possibly changing the scholarship award recognition format which has customarily been a dinner. The past few years, students have had conflict with attending a dinner due to numerous other senior commitments. Possible meeting changes may be discussed with this topic.
- ◆ Donations to Food Pantry always accepted at meetings.
- ◆ We thank **Chris & Maryellen Bartucca** for their generosity in bringing their decaf coffee and treats from HONEY DEW to our meetings. It is very much appreciated!!
- ◆ If you know of any member who is in need of cheer please inform Sunshine Lady, Fran Ailinger, at 781-769-3692.
- ◆ We extend our sympathy to the family of longtime member Palma Ciolfi who passed away February 17th.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

Steve Eosco, President



### OFFICERS 2025—2027

President: Steven J. Eosco

Vice-pres.: Nick Campagna, Jr.

Past president: George Franco

Orator: Toni Eosco

Secretary: Juli Giambanco

Fin. Secretary: Andy Ciarletta

Financial Treasurer: Karen Cavanaugh

Trustee: Chris Bartucca

Trustee: Barbara Connolly

Trustee: Marie DiFraia

Trustee: Pat Russo

Trustee: Tony Scavotto

Master of Ceremonies: Gregg Giambanco

Mistresses of Ceremonies: Bettie Lasden

Sentinel: James Lore

Chaplain: Toni Ciarletta

**Wed., March 4th.**

**Meeting @ 7:00 PM**

**VFW POST 193 Dean St.**

**Norwood, MA 02062**



**Order Sons and Daughters of Italy | Norwood Lodge #1235**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
January 7, 2026

**Roll Call:** (Juli Giambanco, Recording Secretary) All officers present apart from Past President George Franco; Trustees Barbara Connolly and Marie DiFraia; and Mistress of Ceremonies Betty Lasden.

**Meeting called to order:** 7:19pm by President Steve Eosco following the principles of the Order, opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Member Initiation:** Three new applicants sworn in: Peter Giambanco, JoAnn Moretti and Ann Marie Caruso Mezzotta.

**COMMITTEE / EVENT REPORTS**

**Lodge Communication:** A note of gratitude from Fran Alinger and sons was sent to the Lodge to acknowledge the passing of her husband and past member Joe Alinger and appreciation of the Lodge.

**Sunshine Lady** responsibilities will remain with Fran Alinger. Linda Renzi has offered to assist with duties. Linda will connect with Fran to discuss co-chairing this role.

**Food Pantry:** (Nick Campagna) Pantry low on soup, cereal, canned fruit, canned meat, white rice, tea, boxed rice, spaghetti sauce. Donation and needs list at [norwoodpantry.org](http://norwoodpantry.org).

**2025 Lodge Christmas Party:** (Toni Eosco) Overview: Attendance: 53 members; 23 guests. Cost: \$65 per member; \$75 per guest. Two complimentary meals provided for the State Deputy and First Vice President of the Grand Lodge. Profit from the event was \$6; raffle proceeds \$343; Odd Fellows Lodge donated \$133 (in recognition of their Order number). Caterer provided \$50.00 gift card. Feedback: (Rosa Rondinelli) Food rated excellent; music was lacking – this was due to a quirky speaker system that night.

**2026 Membership Dues Reminder:** (Andy Ciarletta) \$50 per person. Please remit cash or check payment to Andy or Venmo payment to '@Karen-Cavanaugh'. If paying by Venmo, please note Italian Lodge Membership Dues in memo section.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Minutes:** Minutes of November meeting were accepted and will be distributed via email for review.

**Financial Treasurer Report:** Karen Cavanaugh reported the combined checking and savings as of January 3rd is \$20,300.77.

**Financial Secretary Report:** Andy Ciarletta reported the following bills to pay: Hall rental: \$60.00 and capital gains tax fourth quarter 2025: \$717.60. Andy also reminded members that annual dues are owed. Motion to pay bill was made and approved.

*Cont'd on next page*

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Fundraising event:** (Gregg Giambanco) Trivia Night January 24. Format: Tables of 10; Bring your own food; Cash Bar. Ticket prices: \$25/ea or \$250/table. Cash prizes to be awarded for first and second place winners. 50/50 Raffle and Super Bowl squares (\$20) to be sold with half the proceeds going to the Lodge. Contact Gregg if interested in attending or volunteering for the event. Our goal is to hold monthly events.

**Scholarship news:** Grand Lodge Scholarship: Grand Lodge has not yet issued notification of their scholarship applications (usually due January 31). Steve will inquire within. Lodge scholarship applications: (Toni Eosco) The Scholarship Committee will meet to review/accept new application format. Revisions include wording so a single application covers both 4-year and accredited 2-year course of study or certified trade program. Revised hard-copy applications will be available at next meeting for distribution. Eligibility: Applicant must be a high school senior who is the son, daughter, or grandchild of a Lodge member in good standing (defined as a member for a minimum of five full calendar years). Accepting hard-copy applications only; Deadline for submission: April 5, 2026. 2025 Awardees should be submitting their first-semester transcripts so Treasurer can disburse funds. Additional funds: \$500 donation received in November from the Boch Fund toward the scholarship program. Tony Scavotto submitted another application to Members Plus Credit Union for 2026 scholarship funds (\$500).

## **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

**Historical item:** (Steve Eosco) Members of the Odd Fellows Lodge found and presented an original Waltham Lodge charter to President Steve Eosco. The document will be presented to the Grand Lodge at the convention to be included in their archives.

**General/Financial Update:** (Steve Eosco) Funds have recently exceeded \$20,000 — the first time in a while. Positive trend attributed to new members and increased event activity. Appreciation was expressed for members stepping up to support events and promote Italian heritage.

## **CLOSING**

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>. There will not be a meeting in February due to potential inclement weather.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 8:04pm by President Steve Eosco following the closing prayer. New member JoAnn Moretti won \$31 in the 50/50 raffle. After coffee and dessert, members participated in a Yankee Swop.

**Scholarship Application: \$1,000 for a 4-yr college, \$500 for a 2-year program of study**

**NORWOOD ITALIAN LODGE #1235 - ORDER SONS & DAUGHTERS OF ITALY IN AMERICA**

The Scholarship Committee adheres to the eligibility criteria that was recently updated due to the pandemic and approved by the Norwood Italian Lodge #1235 Council Members via Zoom meeting on Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021, and that was subsequently presented and voted on unanimously by the membership in attendance at the Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> meeting held prior to the Christmas Luncheon Buffet at Four Points Sheraton.

**A. Eligibility Criteria (Effective Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021)**

1. A high school senior who is planning to attend an accredited program of study at either a four-year (or longer) college/institution, or an accredited 2-year associate degree or certified trade program of study; and who is the son, daughter, or grandchild of a member of the Lodge in *good standing*.

***Due to pandemic the following definition of a 'member in good standing' is as follows:***

*A member in good standing is defined as one who has belonged to the Lodge for a minimum of five full calendar years.*

**B. Application Submission**

1. Each applicant must complete the required application materials and submit them together with requested information to Scholarship Committee Chair Toni Eosco.

**(Please submit a hard copy of application materials. No email deliveries.)**

2. Applications must be submitted no later than **April 15<sup>th</sup>**: either be postmarked on or before April 15<sup>th</sup> or be hand-delivered on/before April 15<sup>th</sup> to Toni Eosco.

**Toni Eosco, Scholarship Committee Chair, 14 Endicott Street, Norwood, MA**

Any questions please call 617-974-4936 © or email: [tonieoscco53@gmail.com](mailto:tonieoscco53@gmail.com)

**C. Selection of Recipient**

1. Selection of the recipient is based on the following:
  - a. Review of the application and information submitted.
  - b. Academic record
  - c. Extracurricular activities, clubs, class officer, publications, artistic and/or athletic achievements, work experience, volunteer work, citizenship, scholastic achievements, and letters of recommendation (see checklist).
  - d. Applicant's letter stating reason(s) for applying – can include personal interests and/or experiences.
  - e. Future goals.

**Scholarship Committee Members: Toni Eosco - Chair, Barbara Campagna, Winnie Carfagno**

**NORWOOD ITALIAN LODGE #1235 APPLICATION FOR SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS**

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_
2. Street \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_
3. Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_
5. Father's Name \_\_\_\_\_
6. Grandparent's Name \_\_\_\_\_
7. Number of Siblings \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Siblings in College \_\_\_\_\_
8. Attending High School \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Date \_\_\_\_\_
9. College/Institution you plan to attend \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE. If applicable, if your course of study is a specific two-year program, please describe whether it is an accredited associate degree or other accredited/certified certificate program of study.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Field(s) of Interest \_\_\_\_\_  
(Major) (Minor)

**10. Please attach a separate sheet to describe the following pertinent information.**

- A. Achievements (Scholastics, Artistic, Athletics, etc.)
- B. Extracurricular Activities
- C. Volunteerism
- D. Work Experience
- E. Other

**I have read all the scholarship rules and instructions and indicate that the information provided is correct to the best of my knowledge.**

**Applicant's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

## NORWOOD ITALIAN LODGE #1235 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Scholarship materials must be submitted in **ONE ENVELOPE and be either hand-delivered or postmarked by April 15<sup>th</sup> (no emailed application deliveries)** to the following address:

Ms. Toni M. Eosco, Scholarship Committee Chair  
Norwood Italian Lodge #1235  
14 Endicott Street  
Norwood, MA 02062

Please use the check-off list below to ensure that all the required information is fully provided.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:** Incomplete applications disqualify the applicant from consideration.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Personal letter by applicant stating reasons for applying for this scholarship - please include personal interests, experiences or activities.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Recommendation letter from a Principal, Guidance Counselor, or a teacher
- \_\_\_\_\_ Recommendation letter from a person, *that is not a relative*, who has known the applicant for at least three (3) years.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Official hard copy of transcript of grades received during the four years of high school. The transcript must include your most current senior grades with at least the first two (2) semester grades of senior year.
- \_\_\_\_\_ College Boards/SAT scores, if applicable
- \_\_\_\_\_ Application form completed, properly signed and dated, and received by April 15th.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Include additional page detailing any other items as described on **page 2 Line #10, (Achievements, Extracurricular, Volunteerism, Work Experience, Other, etc.)**

**Note:** Please be advised that the scholarship check will be sent to the home address of the selected awardees after submission of official first semester college transcript to the Scholarship Committee Chairperson. The Lodge Treasurer will then promptly generate a check for the awardee. Any questions, please contact Toni Eosco at 617-974-4936 or at [tonieosco53@gmail.com](mailto:tonieosco53@gmail.com)