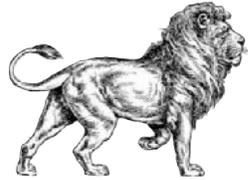


THE LION'S ROAR



AMERICA LODGE #2245

"AMERICA LODGE, WHERE FRIENDS BECOME FAMILY"



VFW Hall
68 Lincoln Road
Franklin Square, NY 11010

LIBERTY EQUALITY **FRATERNITY**

Volume 55
Issue 2
February 2026

HAPPY
St.
Valentine's
DAY



AMERICA LODGE # 2245

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*deceased



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THE LION'S ROAR NEWSLETTER

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America Lodge's mission is to celebrate our Italian culture and heritage by honoring our ancestors' visions of promoting, educating, supporting our members, and giving back to our communities. Joining together we create excitement, strengthen our bonds and advance the image of Italians everywhere.

President's Message

Welcome to winter 2026. As I write this, it's snowing heavily, and the temperature is 24 degrees, but it feels more like 5 degrees. I usually love winter but this year I can't wait for spring to start. It's a good thing we booked our annual fishing trip a few days ago. Now, we have something to look forward to. Save the date, it will be **July 25th**. We are also booking the date for our annual picnic in September. More to follow on that.

February is a short month, but it has so many special days. Groundhog Day is February 2nd. Next, there is Valentine's Day, President's Day (or George Washington's birthday-read your newsletter to find out more) and then Ash Wednesday, on February 18th, the night of our General Meeting.

At America Lodge we will start February with our Carnevale party on February 1st. Mary Sperrazza and the book club will host another incredible, and romantic, movie night featuring the movie "Solo Mio". Tony Melody from Rotten Tomatoes says, "this is a well-acted tale with a twist. The cinematography and locations are gorgeous. You don't see many movies rated PG these days, and this is a good one." Join us on **February 12th** for an evening of fun and heart-warming laughter. Our **night at the opera on March 23rd** will probably be sold out by the time you read this. Madama Butterfly is one of Puccini's greatest works with its hauntingly beautiful, emotionally powerful score, making it a quintessential tragic love story. Then on **April 18th** we will board a deluxe coach for our **trip to Little Italy** for an exciting look into our wonderful culture and heritage. The **casino trip on April 25th** is sold out and is certainly a favorite. Look for the event flyers in this newsletter for more details on these events! America Lodge has a lot of fun events planned with more to come! It's no wonder that America Lodge is the place where **friends become family**.

This year is our country's 250th anniversary and because we are **America** Lodge, we are working on some extra special festivities in July to commemorate our country's birthday, as well as celebrating America Lodge. Come to our General Meetings to find out more.

At our last meeting we were busy reviewing and approving our **2026 budget**. I am happy to say it was accepted and we are full steam ahead. These last few months, our **Nominating Committee** has been busy at work and at our January meeting they presented a full slate of officers. The slate, as presented, was approved by the members so next month we will have a formal vote to receive the slate. Thank you to our committee members for the great job that they did.

Lastly, in February we will start a **share the wealth** board to support our annual **scholarship program**. Hopefully everyone will participate by buying a box, and we can draw the numbers in March. To get the latest and the greatest information, read your newsletter cover-to-cover!. It was, after all, voted the best newsletter in New York! And don't forget to visit our **website** for details and photos on upcoming and past events, America Lodge and OSDIA history just to name a few.

Stay warm, stay safe and I will see you at Carnevale if not before.

Fraternally,

Joe



HAPPY

St. Valentine's Day



Welcome to your February newsletter!

As we do every February, we are celebrating love... Italian style! ❤️ Have you ever wondered **how fast angels fly**? Well, we've figured it out! Be sure to check out our fascinating article on page 8 for the answer, along with a bonus piece exploring whether angels can read our thoughts.

Of course, it wouldn't be February without mentioning **St. Valentine**. Our heartfelt article on page 9 reminds us all to love often and love well.

Hear ye, hear ye, hear ye! We are proud to announce our official **slate of Officers**, approved at our January General Membership Meeting. On page 10, you'll meet this diverse and energetic group of volunteers who have chosen to dedicate their time, talent, and treasure (does that sound familiar?) to America Lodge for the next two years.

February isn't all about love, though — we're also celebrating **President's Day**! Don't miss the excellent article Mark put together on page 11. We're willing to bet you'll learn something new.

Now... back to love — because *it is* February! As part of our celebration of Italian culture and heritage, we explore the **Language of Music** on page 12. This wonderful article traces the beginnings of musical notation and instruction — and yes, you can probably guess where it originated from!

This year, **Ash Wednesday** falls on February 18th, the same day as our General Membership Meeting. We thought it fitting to include a touching article from The Catholic Company on page 13, offering meaningful guidance on preparing for Lent.

Have you ever wondered why a **famous play** written by an English poet was set in Verona, Italy? The intriguing answer awaits you on page 14 — and once again, it may not come as much of a surprise!

There's so much happening as we celebrate our Italian heritage, culture, and American history. Be sure to check out all the flyers in this newsletter, and don't forget to visit our **website** for news, events, and photos.

Lastly, many of us have heard about the recent tragic weather events in Sicily. Please take a moment to **pray for the families** affected by the devastating cyclone and landslides. Whether Sicilian, Calabrese, Venetian, or Roman, we are all Italian brothers and sisters. ❤️🤍❤️

Thank you for being part of our America Lodge family — and enjoy the newsletter!

Ciao!
Donna

NEWSLETTER REMINDER-Deadline for the March Newsletter is February 20th, 2026. For planning purposes, all articles for publication should be received by the Friday after the General Meeting. We welcome photos with your article! Please email [Donna Johnson](mailto:Donna.Johnson) or text (518) 681-7915. The Newsletter team reserves the right to edit articles, letters, advertisements, and other material submitted for publication, for its length, clarity, accuracy, grammar, and spelling and for conformity to the ideals of the Order.



Membership Corner

We're excited to share that at our January 21st meeting, we welcomed two prospective members who will be officially installed at our February 18th meeting. It's always wonderful to see our Lodge continuing to grow!

A friendly reminder that America Lodge **membership dues** were due on December 31st, and notices have already been sent. To remain a "*member in good standing*," please be sure to submit your dues as soon as possible to avoid any lapse in membership. Payments can be made payable to **America Lodge #2245** and mailed to: **Maria Passalacqua, 265 Cleveland St., Franklin Square, NY 11010.**

As 2026 moves forward, let's keep the momentum going by spreading the word about America Lodge! Talk to your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers about joining our Lodge family—new members are the heartbeat of a vibrant and thriving Lodge. If you know someone who may be interested, please contact **Jo Ann Maggio** at **(516) 850-5288** or madsav1128@yahoo.com for an application. You can also visit our website at www.americ lodge2245.com/Membership.

And if you're feeling especially neighborly, we'd love for you to bring a friend to our February General meeting—we can't wait to welcome them!

Check out our Website and Facebook page! We post photos of our meetings and events, provide informative posts on our Italian Culture and Heritage and keep our members informed about Lodge and local events! Come log on and see what we're up to!



WWW.americ lodge2245.COM



www.americ lodge2245.com

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Facebook
America Lodge #2245

UPCOMING EVENTS

- February 1st, America Lodge Annual Carnevale party! 1-5 pm, American Legion, West Hempstead.
- February 3rd & 24th, America Lodge Mah Jongg 3:30-6:00 pm, Franklin Square Library.
- February 3rd, America Lodge Council Meeting. Franklin Square Library. 7:00 pm.
- February 18th, America Lodge General Membership Meeting. Franklin Square VFW. 7:30 pm.
- February 27, 2026 National OSDIA Scholarship due date! Visit: <https://www.osdia.org/initiatives/scholarships/>
- March 3rd, 24th, & 31st America Lodge Mah Jongg 3:30-6:00 pm, Franklin Square Library.
- March 23rd, America Lodge Night at the Opera to see "Madama Butterfly."
- March 31, 2026 NYS Grand Lodge Scholarship due date! Visit: <https://nysosdia.org/scholarships/>

visit www.americ lodge2245.com for Lodge events and details!

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Check out the **NEW NY Grand Lodge website** at
www.nysosdia.org ----->>>>



Upcoming NYS Grand Lodge Events:

- February 28, 2026 **Casino Night** in support of the NY Grand Lodge Foundation and the Marty Lyons Foundation.
- March 31, 2026 **NYS Grand Lodge Foundation Scholarship Application Due Date.**
- April 7, 2026 **Cooley's Anemia Dine Around.**
- April 24, 2026 **NY Grand Lodge Golden Lion Awards Dinner.** For more details visit: <https://nysosdia.org/events/>

Garibaldi Meucci Museum Events:

February 27, 2026 **An Evening with Ray Monte: Honoring the Legacy of Lou Monte at Lorenzo's, Staten Island.** For details and more events, visit: <https://www.garibaldimeuccimuseum.com/upcoming-events>

Commission for Social Justice Luncheon:

June 14, 2026 **CSJ Luncheon honoring NYS IPP Biagio Isgro at Russo's on the Bay.**



Buon Compleanno
to our
FEBBRAIO
celebrants!



Joseph Camolli, Vincenzo Davi, Ann Marie Drosman,
Lauren Kobler, Cindy Lampasi, Gloria Maffettone, Marie
Maltese, Concetta Moryl, Phyllis Ann O'Connell,
Christopher Ventura, Rossana Weitekamp, Brian Lynch,
Giuseppina Tripoli, Vincenzo Tripoli, Joseph Cavaliere,
Louisa Pironi, Loreto Mancini, Harriet Verde.

February 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						<p>1 America Lodge Annual Carnevale!</p> <p>See flyer pg. 17.</p>
<p>2 Groundhog Day</p>	<p>3 America Lodge Mah Jongg! 3:30-6:00 pm. Fr. Sq. Library.</p> <hr/> <p>America Lodge Council Meeting 7:00 pm Franklin Square Library</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 NFL Super Bowl</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 Il Dolce Libro presents "Solo Mio" at the Regal Lynbrook theatre. 7:50 pm. See flyer pg. 18.</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 St. Valentine's Day!</p> 	<p>15</p>
<p>16 President's Day</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 Ash Wednesday</p> <hr/> <p>America Lodge General Membership Meeting 7:30 pm Fr. Sq. VFW</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23</p>	<p>24 America Lodge Mah Jongg! 3:30-6:00 pm. Fr. Sq. Library.</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	

How fast can angels fly?

As fast as lightning? Maybe even warp-speed fast?

This is a trick question. After all, we are talking about pure spirits who are without bodies and therefore do not have the limitations we have.

Angels do not move like we do. They aren't bogged down by a sandy beach or bullied by strong winds or blocked by a wall. Instead of physically running from place to place, as we must, they are present wherever they choose to be, or in other words, wherever their will is acting.

Their presence, then, can be instantaneous.

St. Thomas Aquinas says, "An angel can be in one place in one instant and in another place in the next instant, without any time intervening."

So, according to our understanding of "fast" - that is, moving from one place to another as quickly as possible- the angels are indeed *fast*.

Can angels read our thoughts?

Do our heavenly friends know what we're thinking?

"God alone," says St. Thomas Aquinas, "can know the thoughts of hearts and affections of wills."

So no, angels can't read our minds.

But the angels - our guardian angels especially - can often tell what we're thinking based on physical cues such as facial expressions.

It makes sense, if you think about it. A family member or a good friend can often tell what we're thinking or feeling just by the slump of our shoulders or the very slight smile on our faces.

Our guardian angels saw us grow up. They've seen our faces and mannerisms since we were babies. They've been at our side 24/7 for all our existence, so they certainly can tell a lot through our subtle external signals (especially considering that their intellects are far superior to ours).

So does the fact that angels can't actually mind-read mean that we always have to pray out loud to communicate with them? No. We can, without the aid of articulated words, communicate any thoughts or prayers we desire to share with them. God allows such things through His power.

"Angels can know specific thoughts that we willfully desire to communicate with them...Therefore, as soon as we make the decision to speak with or to pray to the angels, they will become aware of what we want to communicate to them." -Fr. Matthew Hincks, ORC, *Opus Sanctorum Angelorum*.

If you think about it, this is rather fun, since it's so different from how we communicate with other humans. Words are, at best, only estimations of our thoughts. They are always a translation of sorts, never quite reaching the accuracy of the original language. It can even be a source of sorrow and frustration when we can only imperfectly convey our ideas through human language.

But with angels, we can convey our thoughts and prayers just as they are. Instantaneously. Presto. How cool!

And how comforting is it to have a friend with whom we can communicate so easily, who often already knows how we're feeling.

Who was the real St. Valentine?

Remember, it's not Valentine's Day—it's **Saint Valentine's Day**.

You have to wonder whether St. Valentine and St. Patrick commiserate in Heaven about their feast days being somewhat *obscured* by their popular celebrations.

Treating your sweetheart to a nice dinner or a box of chocolates on Valentine's day is certainly a nice thing to do. However, as part of your celebrations, be sure to call to mind **Saint Valentine**, whose real story is usually forgotten on his feast day.



We actually don't know a lot for sure about this saint. He was either a Roman priest or a bishop in central Italy who was martyred in the 3rd century. His remains are buried along the Via Flaminia in Rome.

The connection between him and romantic love is also a bit uncertain. One legend says that he secretly married Christian couples, a grave offense according to the persecuting government. Some versions say that this favor was done particularly for Roman soldiers, who were not allowed to marry since—the government thought—this would make them unwilling to risk their lives in war.

The customs we associate with St. Valentine's Day are traceable to the Middle Ages. Based on the tradition that birds began to pair on St. Valentine's Day, lovers exchanged letters and tokens of affection on this day. We see references to these customs in literature from 14th- and 15th-century France and England.

Whatever the veracity of the legends surrounding the life of St. Valentine, we know that this holy priest existed, and that he died for his faith during a time of bitter persecution. His very status as a martyr makes him an apt patron for love: he and his fellow-martyrs illustrate to us, through their sufferings, the depth of their love for Christ, Who is Love Himself.

As you enjoy your day with your sweetheart, remember the love of **St. Valentine**, which gave him the courage to suffer everything for the sake of his Beloved—and made him a saint.

Not all of us are called to prove our love by physical martyrdom, but we can live out the vocation to love by sacrificing ourselves in smaller, though still powerful, ways—that is what love is about! Remind yourself to love often and well ...

"The greatest of these is Love." 1 Corinthians 13:13

America Lodge # 2245

2026-2028 SLATE OF OFFICERS

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<i>First Vice President:</i>	Maria Passalacqua
<i>2nd Vice President:</i>	Karen Mollish
<i>Immediate Past President:</i>	Andrew Monteleone
<i>Orator:</i>	Michael Avallone
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<i>Financial Secretary:</i>	Lisa Spano
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<i>Treasurer:</i>	Debra Goldmann

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Pierina Liberatoscioli
Robert Tinelli
Josephine Raia
Ellen Andrasick
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Jean Fichtl
Vincenzo Davi

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Mary Versaci
Dennis Lyons
Linda Camolli
Nicole Armocida

Arbitration Alternates:

Cindy Lampasi
Mary Rose O'Hara
Mary Sperrazza

America Lodge Delegates:

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Karen Mollish
Donna Giorandino Johnson
Maria Passalacqua
Angela Pinto
Lillian Armocida
Mark Johnson

Alternate Delegates:

Antonio Liberatoscioli
Pierina Liberatoscioli
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Masters of Ceremonies:

Alfred Pittella
Bill Teitz

Sentinels:

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PRESIDENT'S DAY



This year we celebrate President's Day February 16th. Your Lion's Roar newsletter has already discussed how President's Day officially remains George Washington's birthday (February 2023 issue), although it was unofficially changed to President's Day, back in the 1980's, due in part to advertising campaigns creating those wonderful "President's Day" sales.

And we've also written about Luigi Del Bianco (September 2025 issue). If you recall, the Italian born Luigi was hired to be the chief stone carver on the Mount Rushmore National Memorial. Luigi's job was to carve the "refinement of expression" or detail in the faces.

So, for President's Day- we mean George Washington's birthday- we thought it would be interesting to review how the President's were selected to grace the granite face of Mt. Rushmore. Interesting fact: Mount Rushmore—was named after New York

lawyer Charles E. Rushmore who donated \$5,000 toward sculpting the mountain that bore his name. You knew there had to be a New York connection in there somewhere...

President Calvin Coolidge dedicated the project- with thousands in attendance- on August 10, 1927, and encouraged the inclusion of two Republican and one Democrat president. According to the National Park Service website four presidents were selected because they represented the most important events in the history of the United States. They represent the first 150 years of U.S. history: birth, growth, preservation, and development. Each president was chosen to signify a distinct period or achievement in American history, making the mountain a narrative of the nation's story.

But why South Dakota? The idea came from South Dakota's state historian, Doane Robinson, to attract tourism by carving heroes into the Black Hills. Discussion began in the 1920's as a way to help South Dakota's struggling economy. Mount Rushmore was chosen for its sturdy granite and good sun exposure. The proposed subjects however changed from Western heroes to four U.S. presidents to give it national significance. And on October 31, 1941, Mount Rushmore National Memorial was declared completed. Mount Rushmore is now visited by nearly 3 million people annually.

Can you remember the names of those four presidents?

George Washington (Birth): The first president, symbolizing the nation's founding and independence. George Washington's face was the first to be carved on Mount Rushmore and was officially dedicated on July 4, 1930.

Thomas Jefferson (Growth): The third president, representing territorial expansion, notably the Louisiana Purchase. The Jefferson carving was the second face to be sculpted on the mountain and was dedicated on August 30, 1936, with President Franklin D. Roosevelt in attendance.

Theodore Roosevelt (Development): The 26th president, symbolizing American development, conservation, and the Panama Canal. Theodore Roosevelt's face was the last to be carved on Mount Rushmore but he was placed third in order.

Abraham Lincoln (Preservation): The 16th president, embodying the preservation of the Union during the Civil War. Lincoln's sculpture, dedicated in 1937, was positioned on the far right of the cliff, presenting unique carving challenges due to the detail required for his beard.

Overall, the project cost \$989,992.32, and took 14 years to complete. Money well spent because after about 500,000 years, the faces will likely have lost some definition, but the basic shape of the presidents' heads may last up to 7 million years!

As our nation approaches its 250th anniversary and since we are "America" Lodge, the only lodge named after America, if we were to create our own Mt. Rushmore of America Lodge presidents, whom would we pick? I think we could safely say Joseph Montemarano would be our George Washington, but who would be our other three? Something to think about during your long "President's Day" weekend.

[Source: Mount Rushmore: Dynamite Facts and Surprising History | Travel South Dakota](#)

[Why These Four Presidents? - Mount Rushmore National Memorial \(U.S. National Park Service\)](#)



Italian - The Language of Music

Back in February of 2023 we wrote an article titled “The Language of Love,” reporting that when 320 translators were asked which language is the most romantic language, Italian was their top pick. But did you know, **Italian is also the language of music?**

The Renaissance, that period of history beginning in the 1400’s, saw the great city-states of Florence, Venice, and Milan host extravagant parties showcasing the region’s affection for the arts, paintings, sculptures, architecture, as well as science and music. With so much wealth and money in these city-states, artists and composers from around Italy and Europe flocked there to find work.

WQXR radio, the classical music station serving North Jersey and NYC, said even if you don’t know how to read music, there’s no doubt you’ve encountered loads of Italian during your musical experiences. Music is often said to be a universal language, but Italian just might be the language of music itself.

Composers began wanting to instruct ensembles not only on what notes to play, but how they should be played. Italian composers were the first to adopt music notation, and then the first to add annotations (language to indicate expression) to their scores. The popularity of the Italian language in music was also helped by the fact that Italians were skills at publishing, printing, and distributing sheet music, beginning in the 1600’s. And because the seat of the *Catholic* Church was in Rome, this also helped Italian musical annotation quickly grow.

Between the lines and spaces composers added instructions like “***staccato!***” The author of *The NPR Classical Music Companion* discussed how so many of these musical forms started in Italy and the original names for the forms were in Italian. The names for the dynamic markings, speed or expression, i.e. ***presto, lento, adagio, forte, aria, sonata, cantata, concerto***, all Italian words. The practice became accepted in Italy and was then adapted and formalized into one language throughout the rest of Europe.

Italian musicians were in positions of prestige, and the Italian language became the *lingua franca*. Meaning a language that is adopted as a common language between speakers whose native languages are different. Of course, Italian isn’t the only language that’s worked its way into the musical vocabulary, but you can count on Italian to largely take the lead when it comes to giving voice to those spots of ink on lined paper.

Bravo!

Source: [Italian: The Language That Sings : NPR](#)
[Why Do We Use Italian Words to Describe Music? |](#)
[How To Classical | WQXR](#)
[Why is Music Terminology in Italian?](#)



LENT

Lent rarely sneaks up on us by accident. The Church gives us signs well in advance. Readings shift, and there is a subtle invitation to slow down and take stock. Even in the season of Ordinary Time, we know that soon the penitential season will begin.

With one month until the start of Lent, the Church is already asking a quiet question: *Are you ready to begin the journey well?*

Lent is not meant to be improvised. After all, it happens every year. It is a season of intentional conversion, and like any meaningful pilgrimage, preparation matters. When we wait until Ash Wednesday to think about fasting, prayer, or sacrifice, we often start hurried and distracted. But when we prepare our hearts ahead of time, Lent becomes less about doing more and more about becoming different.

This preparatory month is an opportunity to notice what already weighs on the soul. What habits need refining? What relationships need healing? What distractions quietly pull us from God? Lent helps us to reveal matters that need spiritual attention.

The Church has always understood Lent as a journey, not a challenge. It is forty days of walking with Christ toward the Cross, trusting that resurrection follows. This is why many saints speak of **beginning Lent before Lent begins**, through prayerful intention rather than sudden austerity. A prepared heart enters Lent with clarity and peace instead of pressure.

Mary shows us how to do this. She pondered. She listened. She carried the mystery quietly until it unfolded in God's time. This is why Lent accompanied by Mary becomes less about self-mastery and more about surrender. Walking with Mary day by day offers a steady, maternal guide through Lent.

As this month unfolds, allow prayer to shape your expectations for Lent rather than waiting for discipline to do the work alone.

St. Louis de Montfort said: "When the Holy Spirit, her spouse, finds Mary in a soul, He flies there, He enters there in His fullness, He communicates Himself to that soul abundantly." — [True Devotion to Mary](#)

When Ash Wednesday arrives, may it find us not scrambling, but ready.

<https://www.catholiccompany.com/blogs/get-fed/lent-starts-in-one-month-will-you-be-ready>

A Shakespearean story set in Verona, Italy

Have you ever wondered why a play written by an **English** poet was set in **Verona, Italy**?

Shakespeare set **Romeo and Juliet** in Verona, but he didn't invent the story or the city choice. The tragic love story existed decades before Shakespeare, in Italian literature.

Luigi da Porto was born in 1485, in Vicenza, Italy (near Verona). He was a Venetian nobleman, soldier and writer. He wasn't a playwright like Shakespeare, he was more of a melancholic Renaissance gentleman who wrote one hugely influential love story.

Luigi returned to Vicenza in his late twenties, wounded while serving in the Venetian Republic. The injury left him partially paralyzed and ended any expectation of a military career. Like many men of his class, he withdrew to the family estate, where reading and writing replaced action.

Before the war, he had moved in noble circles that included the Savorgnan family. There he became attached to Lucina Savorgnan, a young woman whose marriage had already been arranged for political reasons. No record suggests the attachment was ever formalized. It did not need to be. Such matches were settled by families, not individuals.

Confined by illness and disappointment, da Porto began writing. Around 1524 he composed a novella he titled "*Historia novellamente ritrovata di due nobili amanti*." He placed the story in Verona, a city with a well-known history of factional conflict. The family names he used—Montecchi and Cappelletti—were drawn from real political groups mentioned in earlier Italian sources, including Dante.

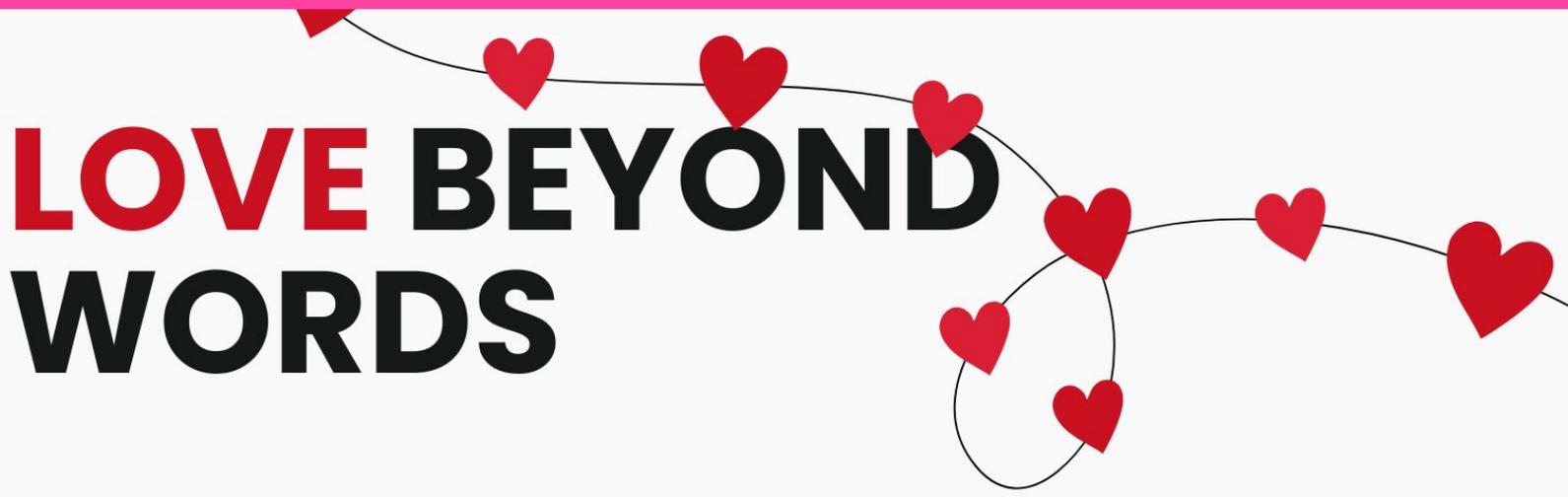
Da Porto's account introduced several elements that would define all later versions: two young lovers from opposing houses, a secret courtship, a friar who attempts to reconcile the families, and a tragic ending brought about by chance and miscommunication. Unlike later dramatizations, his narrative was measured in tone, shaped by Renaissance ideas of fate, honor, and social order.

The lovers' deaths functioned as a moral resolution. Their private passion could not survive within the rigid structures of noble society; only their loss was sufficient to end the feud. This conclusion reflected the values of da Porto's world, where individual desire was subordinate to family and state.

Da Porto did not publish widely, nor did he live to see the reach of his work. After his death in 1529, the story was adapted by Matteo Bandello, translated into French and English, and eventually reshaped by William Shakespeare into a stage tragedy.

What began as a restrained Italian novella, written by a wounded nobleman in retirement, became one of the most enduring narratives of Western literature—its origins largely forgotten, though its structure remained.

LOVE BEYOND WORDS



January Lion's Roar Newsletter-

"What a nice thought that even the animals had a Saint to watch over them and bless them. Too often animals were just taken for granted, especially way back in the old days. They were used for protection, working in the fields, some were even used for food or maybe just for being a loving companion. God Bless Sant' Antonio Abate for all that he did for the animals, the land and their beautiful Italian community. "

Anthony Spano

"Tonight, I sat at my desk, ate dinner and read the January Lion's Roar.

Every month you out do yourself. The information you supply about our heritage and traditions, when they started and the origins behind them gives me real pride in being Italian!

Reading about La Befana and Galileo and let's not forget the origins of the Tricolore!

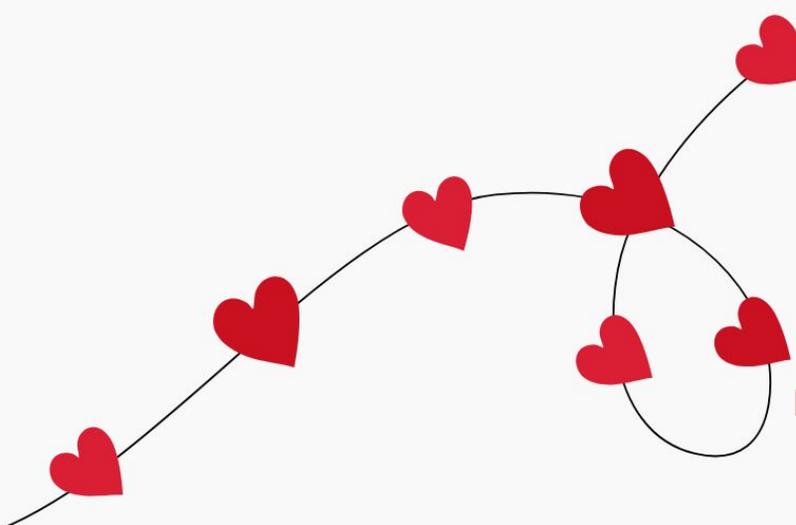
All I can say is Thank you!"

Maria Passalacqua



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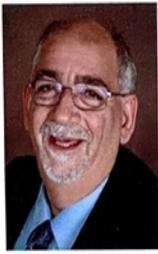


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