

ISLAMITE

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March / April 2016

The Islamite - The official publication of Islam Grotto of Pittsburgh, Pa. is published Bi-Monthly.

Office located at 3579 Masonic Way, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15237

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Islam Grotto Website www.pittsburghgrotto.com

Officers

Robert Lorenz III ----- Monarch
Jeremy Wieloch ----- Chief Justice
Conrad Wieloch Jr.----- Master of Ceremonies
Robert Lingenfelter-----Treasurer
Michael Tomascini, PM-----Secretary
Edward Hanke -----Venerable Prophet
Michael Karkalla ----- Orator

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Appointed Officers 2016

Richard Hopkins -----Marshal
George W. Dering -----Captain of the Guard
John R. Clark, PM.-----Chaplain

Nick Holt ----- Sentinel
All Past Monarchs----- Advisors

Trustees

Purple Tassels

Raymond J. Rietzel, P.M. Chairman 2017
Leonard J. Kolodziek, Sr., P.M. 2016
Robert J. Lorenz, Jr. P.M. 2018

Red Tassels

Jim LaSalle 2016
Tom Nowicki. 2017

Trustee Emeritus: Theodore Colcombe PM and John R. Clark PM

Committees 2016:

Membership ----- Jeramey Wieloch
Suspension -----David G. Rasch PM
Dr. of Smiles ----- Robert Lorenz Jr., PM
Director Ceremonial Crew - John R. Clark, PM
Toothbrush Program ----- Conrad Wieloch Jr.

Enchanted Lantern ----- Robert Lorenz III
Youth Coordinator -----George Gittins PM
Special Olympics ----- Robert Lorenz Jr., PM
Rep to MFS ----- George Gittins PM
Alt, Rep to MFS-----Ronald Davidson PM

Membership as of February 10, 2016 is 402.

39 - 50 Year Members – 50 Year Members do not pay dues

4 - Dual Members – pay dues

6 - Life Members - No dues paid and this option is no longer offered.

7 - Members dues were remitted because of age and health reasons.

67 members so far have purchased Enchanted Lanterns which reduced their dues by \$1.00 a year. If you are interested in purchasing an Enchanted Lantern please contact the Secretary or Robert Lorenz III our Monarch and Enchanted Lantern Chairman.

Monarch Message – Robert Lorenz III

Winter is almost over. The Fish Dinners are well under way. I would like to take this time to say Thank you to everyone who has been helping from kitchen staff, servers, to the ones that set up and the ones who cleaned up. If not for all of you, we could not do the Fish Dinners. Thank you for the giving of your time and services.

The children's Easter party will be on Saturday, March 19th from 1:00 to 3:00pm. The cost is \$3.00 per adult and children under 10 years old are free. The party food is hot dogs and tater tots.

Also, the first of two family fun nights is on April 9th, we are planning a movie night. The cost will be \$5.00 per family to help cover cost of the main meat dish. We would like the families to bring with them a side dish or dessert, so we can have a family style table set-up. Please come out and let's be a grotto family together and have some fun and fellowship.

May 21st is the Night at the Race. See Bob Lorenz, Jr. PM for a horse.

Let's get the petition in for our spring ceremonial which is coming up also on April 30th. Lets get a nice size first class for 2016.

I hope everyone has a blessed Easter and spends time with family. Remember lets GROTTO THROUGH THE SEASONS together as one big family.

Yours in good fellowship,

Bobby

Monarch

Secretary's Message:

Tammy and I are continuing to travel and enjoying the fellowship of the various Grottoes and Associations throughout the Realm. We are looking forward to New Orleans from July 17 – 24, 2016.

Like a broken record around this time of year the dues are coming in slowly. We have about 100 members that have not paid their dues. The Supreme Council Office requests payment of the per capita by the middle of February. At 402 members the amount is around \$7,700.00. As of February 8, 2016, we have not collected enough to cover the per capita so we will send what is due to Supreme Council and the remaining money will come from our Grotto Funds which will be reimbursed when the dues come in. If you have not paid your dues please do so as quickly as possible. We will talk at the meeting in February when we will be suspending Prophets for non-payment of dues.

The Spring Ceremonial will be April 30, 2016 and we need petitions. I have put together the statistics of our Grotto and we are losing members faster than taking them in. When I took the job as Secretary over our membership was 519. With deaths and suspensions we lost 117 members so our total membership is 402. We only took in four new members in 2015 and one new member so far this year. Get those petitions in to the Secretary, If you need a petition let me know.

Will see you around the realm and keep those petitions coming in!

Michael J. Tomascin PM – Secretary

*****March Stated Meeting Notice*****

A Stated Meeting of Islam Grotto will be held in the Islam Grotto Room at the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center, 3579 Masonic Way, Pittsburgh Pa. 15237 on Thursday, March 17, 2016 at 7:30 PM. Dinner will be served before the stated meeting at 6:15pm.

***** April Stated Meeting Notice*****

A Stated Meeting of Islam Grotto will be held in the Islam Grotto Room at the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center, 3579 Masonic Way, Pittsburgh Pa. 15237 on Thursday, April 21, 2016 at 7:30 PM. Dinner will be served before the stated meetings at 6:15pm.

Schedule of Events for 2016

February

12 - Fish Dinner - Banquet Room
15 - Association Meeting
Trustees and Officers
18 - Stated Meeting
19 - Fish Dinner - Banquet Room
26 - Fish Dinner - Banquet Room -
Replaces Prophets Night

March

04 - Fish Dinner - Banquet Room
05 - Tartan Ball at Erepa Grotto
11 - Fish Dinner - Banquet Room
14 - Association Meeting
Trustees and Officers
17 - Stated Meeting
18 - Fish Dinner - Banquet Room
19 - Childrens Easter Party
25 - Fish Dinner - Banquet Room -
Replaces Prophets Night

April

09 - Family Fun Night
18 - Association Meeting
Trustees and Officers
21 - Stated Meeting
29 - Prophets Night
30 - Spring Ceremonial

May

07 - Mothers Day Dinner
16 - Association Meeting
Trustees and Officers
19 - Stated Meeting
21 - Night at the Races
27 - Prophets Night

June

13 - Association Meeting
Trustees and Officers
16 - Stated Meeting
24 - Prophets Night

July

03 - Picnic with Fireworks
17 - 24 - Supreme Council Convention
New Orleans
29 - Prophets Night

Spring Ceremonial April 30, 2016:

Get those petitions to the Secretary. If you need one or more blank petitions please contact the Secretary.

Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon and the Spring Ceremonial will take place right after lunch. Dress is business suit or sport coat.

Let's make this the biggest class we ever had!!!

Past Monarchs of Islam Grotto

1911 James Seright PGM *	1946 Herbert Restell *	1981 Wallace McCall *
1912 John Dunn *	1947 Harry Montgomery *	1982 George Clark *
1913 George Schmidt *	1948 Edgar Knox *	1983 John Clark
1914 William Aeberli *	1949 George Youden *	1984 John Mulkrin *
1915 William Black *	1950 Lastiene Pierson *	1985 Tommy Lee
1916 Herman Seiferth *	1951 Charles Rupp *	1986 Robert Winter *
1917 George McLuckie Jr. *	1952 Harry Frederick *	1987 David Ractor *
1918 R.M.H. Jantzen *	1953 Alex Meanor *	1988 William Nolder *
1919 Dr. George Metsger *	1954 Fred Balzer *	1989 Ed Lange *
1920 Dr. Charles Green *	1955 William Morris *	1990 Henry Zalewski *
1921 Charles Wieland *	1956 Julius Strba *	1991 Jim Deller
1922 Irvin Stokely *	1957 Dr. Theodore Rohm *	1992 William Smith *
1923 George Confer *	1958 Walter Kampas *	1993 Richard Moran *
1924 Rudolph Volkwein *	1959 Clarence Miller *	1994 Merlin Webb *
1925 George Neubert *	1960 Howard Blind *	1995 Ray Rietzel
1926 Sydney Youden *	1961 Rhody Brenlove *	1996 Ted Colcombe
1927 Dr. Dick Ashcom *	1962 David Aitken *	1997 Larry Budd *
1928 Harry Little *	1963 Dr. Earl Baumann *	1998 Richard Moran Jr. *
1929 George Reatchlous *	1964 George Dulin *	1999 Eugene Martucci
1930 William Doench *	1965 Ralph Ecker *	2000 Robert Metsger
1931 Walter Weberg *	1966 William Mitchell *	2001 James Metsger
1932 Clifford Franz *	1967 Allen Smith *	2002 Richard Roell
1933 Ralph Axthelm PGM *	1968 Samuel Nikhazy *	2003 Edward Foster
1934 Fred Hopton *	1969 Samuel Nikhazy *	2004 Max Pokorski
1935 Otto Zange *	1970 George Zimmer *	2005 Robert Lorenz Jr.
1936 Elmer Maier *	1971 Robert Osborn *	2006 Lenny Kolodziek
1937 Jacob Volkwein *	1972 William Karr *	2007 Michael Tomascin
1938 Harry Yerx *	1973 Frank Hough Jr. *	2008 Michael Trojan *
1939 Williiam Ziegler *	1974 Donald Phillips *	2009 William Woods
1940 John B. Nicklas PGM *	1975 William Acker *	2010 Ron Davidson
1941 Dr. Lester Lacock *	1976 John Wilson *	2011 Joe Platts
1942 Edward Nied *	1977 Richard Hoff	2012 Ron Troy
1943 Arthur Boden *	1978 Donald Craft	2013/2014 David Rasch
1944 Ivor Lowrie *	1979 Arthur Smaltz	2015 George Gittins
1945 Calvin Bolster *	1980 Charles Stockum *	

* = Deceased



Islam Grotto's Annual Lenten Fish Dinner

February 12th, 19th & 26th 2016

March 4th, 11th, 18th & Good Friday the 25th

From 5:00 PM until 7:00 PM

Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center 3579 Masonic Way

Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Menu

Deep Fried or Broiled Icelandic Cod Sandwich

Macaroni & Cheese, Cole Slaw, Stewed Tomatoes, Pudding Dessert,

Coffee, Soft Drinks and Camel's Milk

PICK UP TICKETS AT THE DOOR

\$10.00 per Person