

ISLAMITE

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Appointed Officers 2019:

David Eichelberger ----- Marshal	Jeramey Wieloch PM----- Sentinel
George W. Dering ----- Captain of the Guard	Richard Phillips-----Steward
John R. Clark, PM.-----Chaplain	All Past Monarchs----- Advisors

Trustees

Purple Tassels

William Woods PM 2019
Ron Davidson PM 2020
Robert Lorenz Jr. PM 2022

Red Tassels

Richard Phillips 2019
Jim LaSalle 2020

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

Committees 2019:

Membership ----- B. Scott Allen	Enchanted Lantern ---- Conrad Wieloch Jr. PM
Suspension ----- David G. Rasch PM	Dr. of Smiles ----- Robert Lorenz Jr., PM
Special Olympics ----- Robert Lorenz Jr., PM	Director Ceremonial Crew John R. Clark, PM
Rep to MFS ----- George Gittins PM	Alt Rep to MFS----- Jeramey Wieloch PM

Monarch – Michael Karkalla

Dear Prophets,

First let me say a big thank you to all who braved the potential disastrous weather forecast to attend the installation of officers and Dinner. I'm hoping all had a great time. I know myself and Lady Mary did. A Big thank you to the installing team, the newly installed officers and everyone who helped put on the evenings event a big success. To the "Silent Ones" for all the wonderful baskets that were raffled and Past Monarch Conrad for volunteering at the bar. From all the help and generosity, I know where all going to have a great year.

We have some big events coming up in the next few months. Help is always appreciated!! National Grotto Day is approaching fast. March 16th is our Ceremonial day and we need petitions and candidates for this event. We've teamed up with Aut Mori Grotto and Ali Baba Grotto to put on the ceremonial at the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center and to have a good showing of new prophets. Please make arrangements to attend and or participate while we all welcome our new Grotto Prophets.

If you haven't been to Grotto for some time? We miss you and very much would like to have you back!!!

In Sympathy & Good-fellowship,

Michael Karkalla – Monarch Islam Grotto

Secretary's Message:

Our National Grotto Day Ceremonial is coming up on March 16, 2019. I have enclosed a petition for the "Big Day". Talk up the Grotto to your Masonic Friends. The cost is reduced to \$65.00 which includes the first year's dues, fez, Sympathy and Good Fellowship. The reduced cost is because Supreme Council has waived the \$15.00 initiation fee. Each new candidate and top line signer will also receive a special pin and certificate. Get your completed petitions to the secretary or you can bring them the day of the ceremonial. Let's make this one of our biggest classes ever.

Tammy and I continue our travels throughout the Realm. We traveled to Amrou Grotto in Zanesville Ohio for the installation of officers on 1/5/2019, Aut Mori in Youngstown Ohio for the installation of officers Installation 1/12/2019, headed to Alvin Texas and College Station Texas for the installation of officers for Wahoo and Hurrah Grottoes on 1/24-1/27, Training / Membership Columbus Ohio 2/1 - 2/3 and will be heading to Alexandria Virginia for the George Washington Birthday gala at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial on January 23, 2019. We are having fun in our travels. It is always good to see old friends and meet new ones. We never forget about our own Grotto and will be at the several events on the calendar for Islam Grotto.

The 2019 dues statements have been sent out. As of writing this article there are 50 Prophets who have not paid dues. Please pay in a timely manner. If you have already paid Thank You.

Still Missing Prophets: If you know of a new address for the following Prophets please let me know: Edward Switalski Jr. Alan C. Templin and Clark A. Smith.

Safe travels and will see you around the realm,

Michael J. Tomascin PM – Secretary – Grand Venerable Prophet

Bob Lorenz Jr. PM Grand Captain of the Guard Message:

Greetings Prophets,

I would like to take this time to say "Thank You" for your support. It is a honor to be serving you as the Grand Captain of the Guard.

Lady Theresa and I have been busy traveling. We have been to the following associations MWOGA, OGA, ESGA and PGA meetings. We have been warmly welcomed at Saraha, Singara, Erepa and Aut Mori Grottoes for their installations. We would welcome any Prophet that would like to travel to visit other grottoes to join us in our travels.

Thank you again for the wonderful opportunity to serve you.

Yours in Fellowship,

Bob Lorenz, Jr PM - Grand Captain of the Guard

***** Stated Meeting Notice for March and April 2019 *****

Stated Meetings 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 21, 2019 at 7:30 PM

Thursday, April 18, 2019 at 7:30 PM

Dinner will be served before the stated meeting at 6:15pm.

Living Past Monarchs of Islam Grotto

1977 Richard Hoff	2004 Max Pokorski
1979 Arthur Smaltz	2005 Robert Lorenz Jr.
1983 John Clark	2006 Lenny Kolodziek
1985 Tommy Lee **	2007 Michael Tomascin
1991 Jim Deller	2009 William Woods
1995 Ray Rietzel	2010 Ron Davidson
1996 Ted Colcombe	2012 Ron Troy
1999 Eugene Martucci	2013/2014 David Rasch
2000 Robert Metsger *	2015 George Gittins
2001 James Metsger *	2016 Robert Lorenz III
2002 Richard Roell	2017 Jeramey Wieloch
2003 Edward Foster	2018 Conrad Wieloch Jr.

Suspended *

Demitted **

Mark Your Calendars:

See the schedule for the several Islam Grotto events.

March 16, 2019 National Grotto Days at Islam Grotto:

We will be holding a ceremonial to coincide with all Grottoes around the Realm in the month of March 2019. The month of March along with the other Grottoes plan on bringing in a total of over 100 members. New members and first line signers will receive a commemorative lapel pin and membership certificate. Get those petitions to the secretary.

Schedule of Events for 2019

February

- 21 - Association Meeting 7:00pm
- 21 - Stated Meeting -
cooking Monarch Michael Karkalla
- 22 - Prophets Night -
Cooking Conrad Wieloch Jr. PM
- 23 - Polar Plunge
- 27 - Grotto Ladies Meeting 7pm - 9pm

March

- 08 - Fish Dinner - Banquet Room
5:00pm - 7:00pm
- 15 - Fish Dinner - Banquet Room
5:00pm - 7:00pm
- 16 - Spring Ceremonial Grotto Room and
Auditorium Noon to 4:00pm
- 21 - Association Meeting 7:00pm
- 21 - Stated Meeting -
cooking Monarch Michael Karkalla
- 22 - Fish Dinner - Banquet Room
5:00pm - 7:00pm
- 27 - Grotto Ladies Meeting 7pm - 9pm
- 29 - Fish Dinner - Banquet Room
5:00pm - 7:00pm- no Prophets night

April

- 05 - Fish Dinner - Banquet Room
5:00pm - 7:00pm
- 12-14 - PGA - Harrisburg
- 12 - Fish Dinner - Banquet Room
5:00pm - 7:00pm
- 18 - Association Meeting 7:00pm
- 18 - Stated Meeting -
cooking B. Scott Allen
- 19 - Fish Dinner - Banquet Room
5:00pm - 7:00pm
- 20 - Children's Easter Party -
Banquet Room 1:00pm - 3:00pm
Chief Justice in charge
- 24 - Grotto Ladies Meeting 7pm - 9pm
- 26 - Prophets Night - Chili Cookoff

May

- 11 - Mother's Day Lunch - Grotto Room
11:00am - 1:00pm
- 16 - Association Meeting 7:00pm
- 16 - Stated Meeting -
cooking Tom Newland
- 18 - Grotto Bingo
- 29 - Grotto Ladies Meeting 7pm - 9pm
- 31 - Prophets Night -
Cooking - Red Tassels

June

- 16-23 - Supreme Council Convention
Branson Missouri
- 20 - Association Meeting 7:00pm
- 20 - Stated Meeting -
cooking Monarch Michael Karkalla
- 26 - Grotto Ladies Meeting 7pm - 9pm
- 28 - Prophets Night -
Cooking - Conrad Wieloch III
- 30 - Family Picnic and Fireworks
Grotto Room and Parking Lot -
5:00pm - ???? - Conrad Wieloch III

July

- 26 - Prophets Night -
Cooking - B. Scott Allen

August

- 30 - Prophets Night -
Cooking - Richard Hopkins

September

- 19 - Association Meeting 7:00pm
- 19 - Stated Meeting -
cooking Monarch Michael Karkalla
- 25 - Grotto Ladies Meeting 7pm - 9pm
- 27 - Prophets Night -
Cooking Soup Cookoff

October

- 17-20 - PGA - Erie
- 17 - Association Meeting 7:00pm
- 17 - Stated Meeting -
cooking Conrad Wieloch III
- 25 - Prophets Night -
Cooking Bob Lorenz Jr. PM -
Octoberfest
- 30 - Grotto Ladies Meeting 7pm - 9pm

November

- 09 - Monarchs Ball
- 16 - Grotto Bingo
- 21 - Association Meeting 7:00pm
- 21 - Stated Meeting - Nomination of Officers
cooking Purple Tassels
- 27 - Grotto Ladies Meeting 7pm - 9pm
- 29 - Prophets Night -
Cooking Tom Newland

December

- 19 - Association Meeting 7:00pm
- 19 - Stated Meeting - Election of Officers
cooking Monarch Michael Karkalla
- 20 - Wrap Christmas Presents - 6:00pm
- 21 - Children's Christmas Party - 1pm - 3pm
Chief Justice in charge
- 27 - No Prophets Night -
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Ohio Valley Rainbow Girls and Pittsburgh Demolay Fellowship Breakfast at the GPMC. Last Saturday of the month (Except December) 9:00am to 10:30am. Cost is \$6.00 for a buffet breakfast.