

ISLAMITE

Vol. MMXIX-VI

November / December 2019

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

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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

Monarchs Message:

Hello Prophets all,

Now that the grotto is back in full swing we have a full fall and winter schedule. With this being my final Monarchs Message it's hard to believe the past year has gone by so fast. You're only as good as the men whom you've succeeded and the ones I've currently been supported by. The Grotto is in good hands moving forward. Please support my successors as you've done to me!!!. Now let's talk FUN. The Night at the races was a great success. Thank You Bob Lorenz Jr. PM and Lady Theresa. Our September prophets night was "The Souper Bowl Cookoff" and we weren't disappointed. Congrats to the winners!!!

With the holiday season soon upon us all I would like to wish everyone and their families a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas & Hanukkah.

I know most have busy travel plans and other Masonic events so please fit grotto into your schedule. With that being said our next BIG event is the Monarchs Ball. November 9th. Please RSVP. Modestly priced for a full night of fun and "Vegas" Theme. Look for further info in the Islamite.

Also, the "Silent Ones" Bingo November 19th. Flyer is attached. What a fun evening with food refreshments and chances to win a Turkey or Ham Prizes. Not to mention one or more of the Sweet raffle baskets they work so hard on making!!! Last but not least is my personal favorite "The Kids Christmas Party" December 21st. Please RSVP so every child gets a meal and Present from Santa.

Please note; our Grotto events are open to families and friends of the grotto. "Special events" are for Grotto Members and direct relatives. I'm sorry we had to cancel our fall ceremonial but we did get some late Petitions for membership right before. Please plan on another "National Grotto Day" so let's get those worthy Blue Lodge Brothers and make them PROPHETS in good standing!!

We will have a report of the PGA & ESGA Convention Hosted at Erepa Grotto in Erie, Pa. watch for this in January. Hope to see yah all soon at a Stated Meeting or Prophets nights. Remember to attend Church, Lodge and Grotto

Sympathy & Good-fellowship,

Michael Karkalla – Monarch Islam Grotto

Secretary's Message:

The weather is getting colder and I hope this does not stop you from coming to your Grotto events.

Tammy and I continue to travel the realm. Here is where we went so far after becoming Grand Master of Ceremonies: Amrou Grotto Golf Outing 07/28/19, OGA Convention Warren Ohio 08/8-10/ 19, Aut Mori Meeting 9/4/19 and Mid West Grotto Association in Indianapolis Ind 09/26-29/19. We will be traveling to Erie for the PGA on 10/17-20/19 and the Supreme Board of Governors meeting in Louisville Ky on 10/31/19 – 11/3/19. Remember we have our own events at our Grotto. See the schedule of events and flyer and try to make each one. Sorry we missed the Night at the Races because I heard it was a Great Time.

We will have nomination of officers at our November Stated Meeting. We will be looking for a Orator, Three Year Purple Trustee and a Three Year Red Tassel Trustee.

Secretary's Message (continued):

Reminder the dues statement for 2020 will be coming out shortly. Please pay in a timely manner.

Still Missing Prophets: If you know of a new address for the following Prophets please let me know:
Edward Switalski Jr., Robert Balent and Clarke A. Smith.

Safe travels and will see you around the realm,

Michael J. Tomascin PM – Secretary and Grand Master of Ceremonies

Bob Lorenz Jr. PM Grand Marshall Message:

Greetings Prophets,

Welcome to Fall, time to get back to Grotto business.

At the end of August, Lady Theresa and I attended a dinner at Zuleika Grotto to honor Past Monarch Ed Gilbert for 50 years as a Past Monarch. What a turnout for this event. Good fellowship and a good time was had by everyone.

Our night at the races was held on Saturday, September 28th. What a great time of fun, fellowship and food. Everyone had a great time.

As of this writing, we are getting ready for the PGA/ESGA meeting in Erie hosted by Erepa Grotto. If voted in Past Monarch Bobby Lorenz, 3rd, will become the new President of the PGA.

At the end of the month it is off to Louisville, Ky., for the fall Board of Governrs meeting. Home grotto events come first, we have the Monarchs Ball coming in November, along with the Ladies Bingo. Come out and have fun and enjoy some good fellowship.

Get those petitions in for our Grotto class.

If you would like to travel with us please feel free to contact us.

Yours in Fellowship,

Bob Lorenz, Jr PM - Grand Marshal

***** Stated Meeting for November and December 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, November 21, 2019 at 7:30 PM

Thursday, December 19, 2019 at 7:30 PM

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

Mark Your Calendars:

November 9 – Monarchs Ball (Flyer Attached)

November 16 – Grotto Bingo (Flyer Attached)

Schedule of Events for 2019 / 2020

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

November

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

December 2019

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

January 2020

16 - Association Meeting 7:00pm
 16 - Stated Meeting
 cooking ???????????
 17 - Rehearsal for Installation of Officers
 7:00pm
 18 - Installation of Officers 3pm
 24 - Prophets Night -
 Cooking ???????????

February 2020

20 - Association Meeting 7:00pm
 20 - Stated Meeting -
 Cooking ?????????????????
 28 - Fish Dinner - Banquet Room
 5:00pm - 7:00pm

March 2020

06 - Fish Dinner - Banquet Room
 5:00pm - 7:00pm
 13 - Fish Dinner - Banquet Room
 5:00pm - 7:00pm
 19 - Association Meeting 7:00pm
 19 - Stated Meeting -
 Cooking ?????????????????
 20 - Fish Dinner - Banquet Room
 5:00pm - 7:00pm
 21 - Spring Ceremonial "National Grotto Day"
 11:00am - 3:00pm
 (Auditorium and Grotto Room)
 27 - Fish Dinner - Banquet Room
 5:00pm - 7:00pm

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.

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 **