

# ISLAMITE

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January / February 2019

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## Officers

## Phone Numbers / Email Address

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Conrad Wieloch III --- Master of Ceremonies Elect	412-580-5222 - <a href="mailto:conrad.w49@yahoo.com">conrad.w49@yahoo.com</a>
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Thomas Newland ----- Venerable Prophet Elect	412-979-6668 - <a href="mailto:twnewland@hotmail.com">twnewland@hotmail.com</a>
Richard Hopkins ----- Orator Elect	412-961-2510 - <a href="mailto:rh1.hopkins@verizon.net">rh1.hopkins@verizon.net</a>

## 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 - Elect

### 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

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**Monarch's Message – Conrad Wieloch Jr.**

**Prophets:**

The Christmas party was a big success! Lots of happy kids and families. Would like to thank all who helped make it go so well.

This is my last news letter that I will write as my year is coming to an end! Yes already!!! I would like to THANK all my officers and Prophets for all your help this year! Also, a THANK YOU to all the Grotto Ladies from the fish fries to the Monarch 's Ball. I could not have done it without all your help and support!

Good luck to the officers elected and or selected. Wishing Mike Karkalla a great and fun year! He will be a great Monarch and please support him as you supported me.

I would like to give a special thanks to my wife, Noreen for all the help and support throughout the year, Love Ya!

May you all have a great Happy New Year filled with love and joy!

There will no Prophets Night in December

Thank You and God Bless

Conrad J. Wieloch Jr. - Monarch. Islam Grotto

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**Monarch Elect – Michael Karkalla**

**Prophets:**

I hope you all had a Merry Christmas and will have a very Happy New Year. I want to thank you all for the votes of confidence as your Monarch elect 2019. I am looking forward to a great year serving my brother prophets and Islam Grotto throughout the realm. For those whom I've yet had the pleasure to meet I would like to introduce myself. I was born 50 years ago in Crafton Pa. To my parents Shirley and Gerald. We moved in my early teens to Robinson Township. Then After marrying my wife Lady Mary we settled in Sewickley Hills, Pa. We are celebrating our 25th wedding anniversary this September also. My Masonic journey started with being raised a Master Mason in Chartiers Valley Lodge 725 F&AM. Soon to join Syria Shrine and Islam Grotto. Served as Past Grand Tall Cedar of PGH Forest 160 and Elected Chaplin of the Pennsylvania Grotto Association. My Heart is Grotto and our mission. I want to congratulate PM Conrad Wieloch Jr. on a great year. It was an honor to serve him this past year as it was with all the elected and appointed officers past and present. I would like to welcome aboard our newly elected Venerable Prophet Tom Newland and Orator Rich Hopkins. As you all know the Installation of officers is on Saturday January 19, 2019. Please RSVP!!! We have a wonderful social hour, Dinner and dancing planned for that day. It would be great to see you all there. In closing you have my assurance I will do the job as Monarch of Islam Grotto to the best of my ability, I have a great group of men and "Silent Ones" helping as well.

In Sympathy & Good-fellowship,

Michael Karkalla – Monarch Elect Islam Grotto

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## Secretary's Message:

Congratulations go out to the newly elected officers for 2019. I want to thank everyone for letting me serve you as your secretary for another year. Congratulations to our outgoing Monarch Conrad J. Wieloch Jr. PM. It was a pleasure serving you and the officers during your year. I am looking forward to working with the new officers for 2019.

Tammy and I continue our travels throughout the Realm. It is that time for installations. In January we will be travelling to Aut Mori and our own Islam. I will be traveling to Texas to install officers for our two newest Grottoes Wahoo and Hurrah. 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. 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., Robert Balent and Clarke A. Smith.

Safe travels and a Healthy and Happy New Year to all  
Michael J. Tomascin PM - Secretary

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\*\*\*\*\* Stated Meeting Notice for January and February 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, January 17, 2019 at 7:30 PM

Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 7:30 PM

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

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### 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 1000 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 2018 / 2019

### December 2018

28 - No Prophets Night -  
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

### January 2019

17 - Association Meeting 7:00pm  
17 - Stated Meeting -  
cooking Richard Hopkins  
18 - Rehearsal for Installation  
Grotto Room and Auditorium  
19 - Installation of Officers  
Ball Room and Auditorium  
25 - Prophets Night -  
Cooking Michael Kasyan -  
soup and grilled cheese  
30 - Grotto Ladies Meeting 7pm - 9pm

### February

08-09 - OGA Zone Conference  
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

### May (continued)

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 - ??? -  
Master of Ceremonies in charge

### 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.