

ISLAMITE

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Officers

Ed Hanke----- Monarch
Kyle Golik -----Chief Justise
Mike Kasyan-----Master of Ceremonies
Mike Karkalla, PM-----Treasurer
Michael Tomascin, PGM-----Secretary
Scott Sims -----Venerable Prophet
Jerry Ellis----- Orator

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Appointed Officers 2024:

Jeramey Wieloch PM-----Marshal Conrad Wieloch III PM----- Sentinel
George W. Dering -----Captain of the Guard William Woods PM-----Steward
David G. Rasch PM-----Chaplain All Past Monarchs----- Advisors

Trustees

Purple Tassels

William Woods PM 2025
David Rasch PM 2026
Robert Lorenz Jr. PM 2024

Red Tassels

Ed Grimes 2025
Bob Binnie 2024

Committees 2024:

Membership -----Kyle Golik
Suspension ----- Conrad Wieloch III PM
Special Olympics -----Robert Lorenz Jr., PM
Rep to MFS -----Jeramey Wieloch PM
Islam Grotto Historian ---- David G. Rasch PM

Enchanted Lantern ---- David Eichelberger
Dr. of Smiles ----- Sean Tomasic
Director Ceremonial Crew – Kyle Golik
Alt Rep to MFS-----Dennis Fleckenstein

Monarch Message – Ed Hanke

It's now 50 plus years that I have been a member of this ancient fraternity. Being recognized for this achievement by my home Lodge has given me time to pause and reflect on the journey. The many turns and twists of the road, the pauses and detours, not to mention the many other Masons I have had the fortune to meet along the burgs and byways. Any number have passed on to the land from which there is no return and I am the richer for having been able to walk with them and learn from them. We are so fortunate to have this fraternal fellowship to expand our experiences and horizons. Our time in the sun is short and I encourage each of you to reach out and not only enjoy the present company but actively seek out others who would grow and benefit from this fellowship. If it has been a while since you have been to dinner with us, maybe now is the time to catch up and renew old acquaintances. Any member needing assistance to get to the meeting should call any of the officers for help.

We have been working hard to pump new life into the Ceremonial and encourage everyone to come out and see what we've worked so hard to prepare. We may be tattered and torn but we work shoulder to shoulder to get the job done and the proof is in the pudding. Mark your calendar now for our presentation as it's been a while since we've been able to put on a show. We're always looking for anyone who would commit to a part in the production, so don't be shy, just let any officer know of your desire whether it's a speaking part or just one of the crowd.

As is usually the case, the Ladies luncheon falls on the same date as the Special Olympics in Baldwin. All the ladies of the Grotto are encouraged to RSVP for this special luncheon which will be catered by the formally attired officers of the Grotto. Please make sure your lady is aware of this special event in her honor. For those who want to assist with the Special Olympics parking responsibilities at Baldwin High School; we will meet in the southeast parking lot 8 am rain or shine. Bring your fez and dress according to the weather conditions.

Ed Hanke
Monarch

Secretary Message – Michael Tomascin PGM

I am currently working on the dues cards. If you have already paid, Thank You! I have currently sent out all dues cards for those paying dues. Please pay in a timely manner. There will be a second dues notice going out for those who have not paid. Ooking Venerable Prophet

Our ceremonial is scheduled for May 25, 2024, so get your petitions to me. There are plenty of events for everyone so check the schedule.

We never forget about our own Grotto and will be at the several events on the calendar for Islam Grotto.

Got mail returned from our last Islamite / Dues Cards mailed out. If anyone knows the new addresses for William M. Jackson, James M Franklin, Robert F. Fulton, Jeff S. Berkowitz or Robert F/ Miller, please let me know.

Safe travels and see you around the Realm,

Michael J. Tomascin PGM – Secretary

Grand Chief Justice Message – Robert Lorenz, Jr., PM

Greetings Prophets,

First off a great big THANK YOU must go out to both Jeramey Wieloch and Conrad Wieloch,III, for all the work they did on the fish fries this year,job well done.To those who come out to help Thank you for your support.

Special Olympics at Baldwin High School will be held on May 11th,2024. We are planning on volunteering again this year in the morning (Mother's Day luncheon in the afternoon at the Grotto). I am waiting for some information to be returned to me on time and what we will be doing.

The Pennsylvania Grotto Association spring meeting was held on April 5th and 6th, in Williamsport, Pa., we had a nice time. The fall meeting is being held in Erie,Pa, on October 25th to the 27th. Plan on attending this meeting as the association installs their new officers and also celebrates their 50th association birthday. More information will be coming.

Lady Theresa and I will be attending the Ohio Grotto Association meeting in May and the next stop will be the Supreme Session in NOLA. I hope to see you there. Travel plans after the session are not fully completed as of yet but will keep you updated.

Make sure to plan on attending the events at the Grotto and help support the officers. This is your Grotto ,so with your help and support we can keep the Grotto growing.

Thank you Prophets, again for your support as I continue up the Supreme Council line.

Yours in Grotto Fellowship,
Robert (Bob) Lorenz,Jr.,PM
Grand Chief Justice

Enchanted Lantern Chairman – David Eichelberger

Greetings fellow Prophets:

As many of us may know, there are many ways for each of us to support the benevolent work of Grotto International. One of the more familiar ways is by purchasing Enchanted Lanterns. If you look in any issue of our Grotto magazine you will see that you can receive pins, cuff links, tie tacks or charms when you make your donation to help our benevolence. This is an excellent way to give a gift to “someone who has everything” or to show appreciation to a fellow Prophet for their dedication to our Grotto. Any Prophet who purchases an Enchanted Lantern also qualifies for an annual discount of \$1 on their dues for the rest of their time in the Grotto. Our gifts also lift up Islam Grotto among the other Grottoes in the Enchanted Realm.

Next Newsletter I will share other ideas of how we can help support Grotto International and its work of benefiting children.

Prophet David Eichelberger

Islam Grotto Historian Message – Dave Rasch PM

The Twelve Commandments of the Grotto

- 1) To draw the Master Mason of different Lodges into closer and more friendly relations.
- 2) To create and maintain a spirit of fraternity among us.
- 3) To discountenance jealousy, enmity and ill-feeling.
- 4) To teach us that we are not only members of one Blue Lodge but belong to the fraternity at large.
- 5) That there are good Masons outside of our own Blue Lodge and they are worthy friends and companions.
- 6) To build up and strengthen the character and individuality of the Mason, and teach, recognize and develop the principles of Masonry outside the Lodge room.
- 7) To teach that a Mason is not judged by his actual appearance or worldly wealth.

Islam Grotto Historian Message – Dave Rasch PM (continued):

The Twelve Commandments of the Grotto (continued):

- 8) The Grotto meets all Masons on the level, not figuratively but actually and teaches that
Masons are Brothers on the street as well as in the Lodge room.
- 9) That Masonry must not be used as a means of advancing the material interest of any man.
- 10) To get out of the rut into which we too often fall.
- 11) To forget our cares, for there is good in all.
- 12) The Grotto is a social for Master Masons.

Author unknown

Living Past Monarchs of Islam Grotto

1977 Richard Hoff	2009 William Woods
1985 Tommy Lee **	2010 Ron Davidson
1991 Jim Deller	2013/2014 David Rasch
1995 Ray Rietzel	2015 George Gittins
1999 Eugene Martucci	2016 Robert Lorenz III
2001 James Metsger *	2017 Jeramey Wieloch
2003 Edward Foster	2019 Michael Karkalla
2004 Max Pokorski	2020 Scott Allen
2005 Robert Lorenz Jr.	2021 Conrad Wieloch III
2006 Lenny Kolodziek	2022 Thomas Newland
2007 Michael Tomascin	2023 Richard Hopkins

Suspended * Demitted **

Schedule of Events for 2024

April

26 - Prophets Night -
Venerable Prophet cooking
27 - Ceremony Rehearsal 12 PM
in Yorke Rite Room

May

17-19 - OGA Conference -Baku
11 - Mother's Day Lunch (see flyer)
16 - Stated Meeting - cooking Monarch
17 - Grotto Ceremonial Rehearsal
24 - Grotto Ceremonial Rehearsal
25 - Grotto Ceremonial
31 - Prophet's Night - cooking Purple Tassels

June

2-9 - 134th Supreme Council (New Orleans)
20 - Stated Meeting - cooking Red Tassels
28 - Prophet's Night -
cooking Venerable Prophet
30 - July 4th Picnic and Fireworks (see flyer)

July

26 - Prophet's Night - Pizza Night

August

30 - Prophet's Night =
cooking Master of Ceremonies

September

19 - Stated Meeting - cooking Chief Justice
27 - Prophet's Night - cooking Nomarch

October

12 - Grotto Ceremonial Rehearsal
17 - Stated Meeting - cooking Orator
19 - Grotto Fall Ceremonial
25 - Prophet's Night - cooking Purple Tassels
25-27 PGA Convention 50 Years - Erie, PA.

November

02 - Monarchs Ball
21 - Stated Meeting =
cooking Venerable Prophet
29 - Prophet's Night - Chili Cookoff

December

19 - Stated Meeting -
cooking Venerable Prophet
20 - Grotto Christmas Wrapping
21 - Grotto Christmas Children's party