

FREE
ABBAS GROTTTO

Monthly Newsletter

ABBAS GROTTTO M.O.V.P.E.R.
The Fraternity that Friendship Built

Meeting the 4th Wednesday at 7:00 P.M.

AULT'S PARK

Home of

ABBAS GROTTTO

1839 1/2 Highview Road
East Peoria IL 61611



Visit us at:
www.abbasgrotto.com

FEBRUARY 2021

ABBAS GROTTTO
PO BOX 2386
EAST PEORIA IL 61611

VOL. 26 ISSUE 2

VISIT THE SICK

ATTEND YOUR BLUE LODGE

WEAR YOUR FEZ





MESSAGE FROM THE MONARCH

Dear Prophets, Ladies, and Friends of Abbas Grotto,

Greetings all!

Well 2021 has not started the way we had hoped. On January 8th, I tested positive for Covid-19 and then on January 18th, Becky did. While my case was pretty mild, nothing more than a head cold, Becky's was more severe and turned into Covid Pneumonia. As I write this, she is starting to feel better, so hopefully this will soon be a thing of the past. It is our prayer that you and all of your families are staying healthy, and are able to avoid this nasty virus.

The installation of officers has been postponed to Saturday, February 6th at 6pm. This will consist of the ceremony only with dinner following, all taking place at the Grotto. Please mark your calendars for Saturday, March 13, when my celebration party will take place. The all 80's band, Decade of Decadence, will be playing. If you haven't heard them, you are going to find out what you have been missing! I would love to see you all dressed in your favorite styles from the 80's. Let's take a step back in time and try to forget all that's going on right now for a few hours! We will start the party at 6pm. Corned beef and cabbage will be served. The band will play from 7-11pm. We hope to see you all there, and please invite your friends and family. Let's make this a great evening full of food, fun, and fellowship!

I'm hoping the fish fry will start back in March! I'm sure Robert Hunsicker and his crew are more than ready to get this great event started! Shannon and Joan are working hard on getting this year's Spring Meeting put together for April 9 & 10. It's always fun to see what these two come up with, so please try to support them in this. Becky and I are looking forward to it! I am working on the calendar, trying to get some fun events planned for us this year. One thing that will be returning is the garage sale. This date is yet to be determined, but I wanted to get the word out early so that any spring cleaners can prepare and save those items for donations. There may also be a retirement party being planned for a certain soon to be installed Monarch! Please check the online calendar, as I will schedule the events there as soon as I have them decided.

I'm looking forward to continuing life as normal (as normal as we can) and especially look forward to getting the Grotto up and running again!

**In Sympathy and Good Fellowship,
Jim Cloninger
Monarch Elect
Abbas Grotto**



**MONARCH ELECT
JIM CLONINGER**

**SECRETARY
BOB WHEELER JR, PM
241 Cracklewood Lane
E Peoria, IL 61611
Phone: (309) 369-7357**

**TREASURER
JIM BAINTER, PM
7704 W. Mohawk Trail
Peoria IL 61604
Phone: 697-4636**



Hi Grotto Family,

I hope everyone is safe and healthy. Things are starting to get better, and businesses are opening again. Hopefully it will continue to improve. Spring will be here before we know it.

The next meeting is Wednesday February 24. We will need to start preparing for our official visit. Please try to make it to the next couple meetings so we can get prepared.

Take care and stay healthy and safe.

**Sincerely,
Martha, MCO**



Abbas News from the Secretary

February 2021

2021 Dues Notice:

The Abbas Grotto 2021 dues notices have been sent out. When returning your dues check, please include the bottom of the dues notice with your phone number and email address so we can update records. Your email address is very important since this is how the Abbas newsletter is sent out. The newsletter is also posted on the Abbas Grotto Website at www.abbasgrotto.com

2020 was not a good year for Abbas Grotto due to the Covid 19. We were only able to have 5 Fish Fry's and all our other summer fundraisers were canceled. We certainly do appreciate your continued support and are hopefully 2021 will be a much better year for all of us.

February Fish Fry Canceled: To Resume in March

Unfortunately, we are going to have to cancel the January Fish Fry due to Covid 19 restrictions. **Our plan is to resume the Fish Fry next month on March 19.**

New Prophet Initiation Fee:

Just for information since I seem to get this question often, a new prophet's initiation fee is **\$105.00**. When a petition is read at the stated meeting it must have **\$25.00** with it in order to be read at the meeting. The petition is then held over until the next month's Stated Meeting where it will be voted on. The remaining **\$80.00** must be paid before the new prophet is taken into the Grotto.

Petitions are available at the Grotto or can be printed off the Abbas Grotto website at www.abbasgrotto.com.

Grotto Rental Prices:

Rental Cost: Per 6 hour block of time **Non-Member - \$500.00 (Grotto Member - \$250.00)** Hourly rate after 6 hour block of time is used \$100.00 per hour...unless previous arrangement* *Any special arrangements other than ones listed on the contract must be made through the rental chairman & brought before the board of Trustees of Ault Park Inc. for approval*. Special request: Cook outside on grill / Cash Bar / Outdoor Bartenders / Outdoor beer permit / etc. Set-up includes, DJs /caterers /decorating, etc., and will be done at a time previously agreed upon - 3 hr. max. (not part of 6 hour rental fee) Members for small groups of less than 50 people can use the Grotto at a discounted price.

Abbas Grotto Humanitarian Efforts:

In the history of the Grottoes of North America's "Dentistry for Children with Special Needs" program, Abbas Grotto is ranked at #2 with the number of dental cases and over 1 million dollars spent on the cases locally.

Gate and Door Combination Lock Change

The gate and door combination locks will be changed in March of 2021. The combination number is on the back of your 2021 dues card.

Post Office Box Change:

Please note the Abbas Grotto PO Box is: P.O. Box 2386, East Peoria, Il 61611

Drawing at Stated Meeting For Dues Paid Next Year:

At the end of the Stated Meeting each month, a drawing is held and if the Abbas prophet whose name is drawn is in attendance his dues for the next year will be paid.

October meeting name drawn – Mike Blank – Not Present

Bob Wheeler Jr., PM, Abbas Grotto Secretary

SPRING MEETING LADIES OUTING

Please join us Saturday April 10th for a fun filled afternoon of eating, drinking, sight-seeing, and singing.

***11 am meet in the hotel lobby**

*** 11:15 leave the hotel carpool style**

*** 11:30 Arrive at Thyme Kitchen and Craft Beer for a delightful, eclectic lunch/brunch**

Reasonable prices- see thymepeoria.com for info (736 s/w Washington St., Peoria IL 61502)

After lunch we will have a short drive to the Peoria riverfront where we will start boarding the Spirit of Peoria steamboat for a sight-seeing tour. Tickets can be purchased at the dock \$17 adults & \$15 seniors (spiritofpeoria.com for more info)

*** 1:30 pm board the Spirit of Peoria**

*** 2:00 pm departure**

Once boarded we can sit back, relax, enjoy the sights and sounds of Ted Lemay “piano player extraordinaire!!” Concessions available

***3:30 pm the boat will return to the dock and we will head back to the hotel to get ready for the evening dinner festivities starting with a social hour at 5:00 pm at Abbas Grotto.**





Midwest Grotto Association

Spring Meeting

April 9 & 10, 2021



Abbas Grotto
1839 1/2 Highview Road
East Peoria, IL 61611

Schedule

Friday, April 9

- Hospitality at Abbas Grotto 5:00pm
- Pizza will be served at Abbas Grotto
(donations will be accepted)

Saturday, April 10

- Ladies Activities with Lunch
- Lunch available at Abbas (\$10.00) 11:30am - 12:30pm
- Business Meeting - 1:00pm
- Social Hour at Abbas - 5:00pm
- 12oz. Ribeye Dinner at Abbas (\$20.00) - 6:00pm
- Good Fellowship - 7:00—???

Rooms are available at:

Stoney Creek Inn
101 Mariners Way
East Peoria, IL 61611
(800) 659-2220
(309) 694-1300

Group name is: **Midwest Grotto Association**
Nightly rate is \$120.00 + tax

Room Reservations must be made by: 3/31/21

The 74th Annual Midwest Grotto Association Convention will be held

Wednesday, September 29 through Saturday, October 2, 2021 and you can make your hotel reservations now. Convention packets will be available at the spring meeting and will also be mailed to each Grotto. The theme for this years convention will be **"Grotto, where everybody knows your name"**.

!!We look forward to seeing all of you in the spring!!

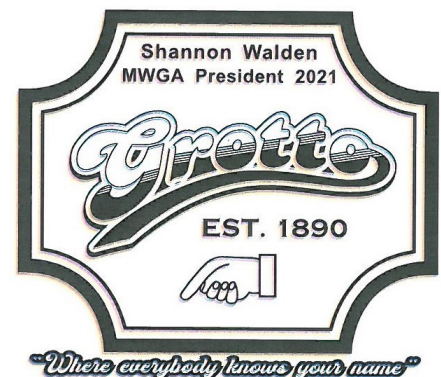
If you have any questions or need more information, please contact:

Jim Bainter: jbainter@heart.net - (309) 208-5246

Bob Wheeler: b.wheelerjr@comcast.net - (309) 369-7357

David Rebmann: david.rebmann@comcast.net - (309) 696-7974

Shannon Walden: shannonwalden994@gmail.com - (309) 657-1962



Abbas Grotto February 2021

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1	2 Trustee Meeting 7pm	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Stated Meeting 7pm	25	26	27
28	29	26	27	28		