

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 2023

ABBAS GROTTTO
PO BOX 2386
EAST PEORIA IL 61611

VOL. 28 ISSUE 2

VISIT THE SICK

ATTEND YOUR BLUE LODGE

WEAR YOUR FEZ





MESSAGE FROM THE MONARCH

Dear Prophets, Ladies, and Friends of Abbas Grotto,

January 7th has come and went and our new officers were installed. The new offices were installed at Hilton Lodge on that date by the following installing officers: Receiving Monarch **BOBBY WHEELER P.M.**, Receiving Marshal **JIM BAINTER P.M.**, Installing Monarch **DAVID REBMANN P.M.**, Installing Marshal **RICH GIBSON P.M.**, Installing Chaplain **SHANNON WALDEN P.M.**, Flag Bearers **GREG NEAL, SAM SEDGHI, and GARY GRANT.**

ABBAS GROTTTO OFFICERS FOR 2023

MONARCH William (Bill) Mehrhoff **CHIEF JUSTICE** Evan Moore
MASTER OF CEREMONIES Mike Stephens
VENERABLE PROPHET Don Bell P.M.
SECRETARY Bobby Wheeler P.M. **TREASURER** Jim Bainter P.M.
CHAPLAIN Shannon Walden P.M.
CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD Chris Reed **SENTINEL** Dave Crew
JUNIOR PAST MONARCH Robert Hunsicker P.M.

The Special Appointment, Monarch's Aides, Board of Governors, and Trustees: Were all also installed, all of those offices the prophets who previously held them offices were reinstalled into them with the following exceptions. Dustin Brecklin P.M. term as trustee had expired and he was replaced with Prophet Mike Blank and Junior Past Monarch Robert Hunsicker was added as a Monarch's Aide.

After the Installation it was time to PARTY, so we adjourned to the Grotto Club House for Our Party. We had great tune provided for our entertainment by Prophet Chuck Goodnow and food was prepared by Prophet Chris Reed. Food was served by the Officer's Ladies. Prophet P.M. Don Bell and his helpers took charge of the bar and serving our libations for the evening. Everyone I had a chance to talk to said that they had a GREAT TIME and that the music and food was awesome.

TO ALL WHO HELP TO MAKE THE INSTALLATION AND PARTY A HUGH SUCCESS MY MOST HARDY THANKS AND SINCERE THANKS. WE COULD NOT HAVE PULLED IT ALL OFF WITH OUT YOUR HELP. There are just too many of you to name here in this message, but you all know who you are and **THANK AGAIN.** I will never be able to repay all of you for your nhard work but I will try.

I also have to mention and thank the Prophets who came from **ALEPPO GROTTTO IN Columbia MO** and from **GAO GROTTTO in Danville, IL** who came to help make our installation and party a success.

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MONARCH
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Phone: (309) 369-7357

TREASURER
JIM BAINTER, PM
7704 W. Mohawk Trail
Peoria IL 61604
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January was not all about our installation and party it started out on a sad heart felt grievance we received notice, of the passing of our friend and past monarch Harry Hodges on January the 3rd, 2023. Complying to his family and his request Prophets of Abbas Grotto and Master Masons of the Peoria Area assembled at the Mason White Funnel Home in Washington, IL and conferred the last rite and ceremonies of the craft for Brother and Prophet Hodges on Wednesday January the 11th 2023.

I am pleased to announce that all the repairs to the club house and out building have been completed and that the insurance money we got for the repairs covered the expenses. We have some ideas for some actives that we might pursue to raise money to keep our Grotto property and not have to sell it. We can not guarantee that any of these ideas will be a successful, but the way we are looking at it, it can't hurt to try something different. If it doesn't work we will be no worse off than we are now. If any of the prophets have any ideas please attend a stated meeting and present them. Get out attend meetings and get involved. The worse thing we can do is nothing.

Our stated meeting is February 22, with the Trustee's meeting starting at 6:00 and the stated meeting at 7:00. Hope to see you there. Also remember to attend your Blue Lodge a few times this year. That is all for this month. Everyone please stay safe and healthy.

**In Sympathy and Good Fellowship,
Bill Mehrhoff
Monarch Elect, Abbas Grotto**



Abbas News from the Secretary

February 2023

2023 Dues Notice:

The Abbas Grotto 2023 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

New Prophet Initiation Fee:

Just for information since I seem to get this question often, a new prophet's initiation fee is **\$110.00**. 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 **\$85.00** must be paid before the new prophet is taken into the Grotto. The annual Abbas dues is \$59.00 if you have purchased an Enchanted Lantern or \$60.00 if you have not.

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: March 2023

The gate and door combination locks will change in March 2023. Use the combination number is on the back of your 2022 dues card and in March start using the combination number on your 2023 dues card.

Post Office Box:

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.

November meeting name drawn – **Jay Katz** – **Not Present**

Bob Wheeler Jr., PM, Abbas Grotto Secretary

Abbas Grotto February 2023

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

