

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

JANUARY 2021

ABBAS GROTTTO
PO BOX 2386
EAST PEORIA IL 61611

VOL. 26 ISSUE 1

VISIT THE SICK

ATTEND YOUR BLUE LODGE

WEAR YOUR FEZ





MESSAGE FROM THE MONARCH

**Dear Prophets, Ladies, and Friends of Abbas Grotto,
Greetings All!**

Wow! What a year we have had! I cannot wait to say goodbye to 2020!

Before we do I would like to say "Thank you!" to Monarch Dustin Brecklin and his Lady Stephanie. They had a VERY challenging year, and did a very good job.

With the newly released Covid-19 vaccines, we at Abbas are looking forward to getting back to some sort of normalcy. I will be installed as Monarch of Abbas Grotto on January 16, 2021. Only the ceremony for those directly involved and their families will take place that night, with a dinner immediately following. Due to the Covid-19 virus, my party is postponed until March 13, 2021, but I promise it will be worth the wait! We want to allow for the vaccines to become effective and allow for people to feel comfortable gathering in larger numbers, My Lady Becky and myself have a lot of fun activities planned for 2021. I will have much more on that topic once I am installed.

I want to let the membership know that Becky and I are looking forward to a fun-filled year. We will commit to the true meaning of what Grotto membership means. "The man who comes to the Grotto had his Masonic origin in the Blue Lodge, where he was taught to reverence the name of God, and pray for guidance. He came on through the Degrees where his knowledge of the dignity of Masonry was expanded, and the Grotto was provided for him as a place where he might join with his Brothers in letting human instincts for fun, pleasure, and amusement have sway. The Grotto stands for all of Masonry and for wholesomeness in life. It stands for letting in the sunshine on discouragement, grief and woe". We sure need that now, more than ever. It goes on to say, "the Grotto has always been made up of men in every community, men whom you are glad to know, men who travel by preference on the sunny side of the street. They sow in kindness, to reap in FRIENDSHIP and GOOD FELLOWSHIP". So in that, I pray all of you help Becky and I restore your Grotto to greatness!

I'm looking forward to a fun-filled year!

**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**



Hello Grotto Family,

Can you believe 2020 is finally over! Even though we still have to social distance from each other, I'm optimistic that next year will be better and we'll be able to get back to normal living.

I wish you all a very Happy, Healthy, Blessed New Year!

The daughters had a very nice Christmas dinner and ornament exchange at our last meeting. It was so nice to see everyone there.

The Daughters are not having a January meeting so we can all stay healthy and safe. See you all in February.

I would like to congratulate Jim Cloninger, as he will be installed as the new Monarch. I know you will have a very fun successful year. Let the daughters know if we can be of help with anything. We're looking forward to some fun partying.

**Sincerely,
Martha, MCO**



Abbas News from the Secretary

January 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.

January Fish Fry Canceled:

Unfortunately, we are going to have to cancel the January Fish Fry due to Covid 19 restrictions. Hopefully, we will be back in business soon.

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

Unit Meetings

The Fire Patrol", "The Boys Toys" and "The Clowns" units have decided to go back to monthly Unit Meetings on the 2nd Sunday every month at 1:30 p.m.

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 – Brian Siems – Not Present

Bob Wheeler Jr., PM, PP, Abbas Grotto Secretary

Abbas Grotto January 2021

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					1	2
					HAPPY NEW YEAR!	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Trustee Meeting 7pm				
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
						Installation of Officers Officers only due to Covid Installation party postponed until March 13
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
			Stated Meeting 7pm			
31						