

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 2023

ABBAS GROTTTO
PO BOX 2386
EAST PEORIA IL 61611

VOL. 28 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!

My name is William (Bill) Mehrhoff, and I will be the newly installed Monarch of Abbas Grotto in January. I became as Mason in June of 1974, at Hilton Lodge #1143 in East Peoria, Illinois. In September of 1978, I was installed as Master of Hilton Lodge. In June of 1979, I became a commission officer of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, where I became a Grand Lecturer of the State of Illinois (A commission which I still hold). In November of 1974, I petitioned Abbas Grotto and became as member. I also joined the Cast Club Unit to help with ceremonials.

I would like to congratulate the two Monarchs that proceeded me, prophet Jim K. and prophet Robert Hunsicker. They both had very difficult years occurring during the COVID outbreak. They were under strict rule from the government (Federal, State and Local) on what they could do, and what events could be held. They did a great job keeping things going. I don't think I could have done any better in handling the affairs of the Grotto. To Jim and Robert, my personal **THANK YOU VERY MUCH! I might suggest that if see or talk to them, or any of their officers, just say **THANK YOU!****

**MONARCH ELECT
BILL MEHRHOFF
Phone: (608) 406-5619**

**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**

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About a week ago after the Kid's Christmas Party, someone asked me what the theme of my upcoming year was going to be. I have to admit that up to that point, I had not given that much thought. After thinking about it, and as we begin to recover from the COVID outbreak, my theme for this year will be A BRIGHT FUTURE!

We will have many issues to address this year. We may not get them all resolved, but will try to come up with some answers. Please let me know if any prophets has ideas for any issues of concern.

We are planning on have a Ceremonial in February, March or April, date to be announced later. Any prophets who have not went through the Ceremonial please plan on participating in this event. Also, we are planning the Kid's Easter Egg Hunt again this year. Additional information will be provided when determined. We also would like to plan some other events. If anyone has an event they would like to see us bring back, please let one of the officers know.

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





Dear Daughters. Prophets, and friends,

Hi everyone,

I hope everyone survived the winter storm, and was able to celebrate the holidays. The New Year is almost here. Let's hope 2023 will be a great year for everyone!

The daughters had a nice party at Lorena's restaurant. We did our annual ornament exchange. It was fun to see the many different unique ornaments.

Remember we will not have a January meeting. We will meet in February on our usual day, February 23.

I would like to congratulate the new Monarch and wish him well in his year. I will not be able to attend the installation, but I hope some daughters can go in my place.

I wish you all the best year ever!

**Yours In Friendship,
Martha Presley, MCO**



Abbas News from the Secretary

January 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 – **Chad Lockhart** – **Not Present**

Bob Wheeler Jr., PM, Abbas Grotto Secretary

Please join us for the

**Abbas Grotto 2023
Installation of Officers**

Party to be held at Abbas Grotto
at the conclusion of the
installation.

Looking forward to seeing you all.
It's going to be a great year!

**Bill Mehrhoff
Monarch Elect**

**Abbas Grotto
MOVPER
January 7, 2023
5:00 pm
East Peoria, Illinois**



**Hilton Lodge 1143
A.F. & A.M.
2030 Pekin Avenue
East Peoria, Illinois**

Abbas Grotto January 2023

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1 HAPPY NEW YEAR	2	3	4	5	6	7 Installation of Officers Hilton Lodge E. Peoria 5pm Party after installation at Ault's Park in E. Peoria
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Past Monarch Breakfast Galley, E Peoria
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Trustee Meeting 6pm Stated Meeting 7pm	26	27	28
29	30	31				