
SELAMAGRAM

SELAMA GROTTTO, M.O.V.P.E.R.

CHARTERED JUNE 28, 1922
3000 16TH ST. NORTH,
ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33704

JANUARY 2015

Email: SELAMAGRAM@GMAIL.COM

SESSIONS: 2ND WEDNESDAY EVERY MONTH 7:30 PM

All Phone Numbers are in the 727 area code

GROTTO PHONE 727-822-3519

webpage: WWW.SELAMA.ORG

EDITOR – BRUCE WARD 327-7383

MONARCH - DAVID VINCENT
7824 STARKEY RD.
LARGO. FL. 33771 289-3716

CHIEF JUSTICE - JOSEPH L. GRIFFITH
1680 OWENS DR.
CLEARWATER, FL. 33759 743-0817

TREASURER - P. M. HARDY BRYAN, 3RD
766 - 35TH AVE N. ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33704
522-0732

SECRETARY - P.M. BRUCE WARD
PO BOX 530302 ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33747
327-7383

MASTER OF CEREMONIES - OPEN

VENERABLE PROPHET - OPEN

MARSHALL - WILLIAM WEST - 804-4463
CAPTAIN OF GUARD - P.M. CHRIS WEBB -
393-6007
CHAPLAIN - JOSEPH S. GLASER 545-1475
SENTINEL - ROBERT KLINE 825-3783

Junior Past Monarch - THOMAS W. MCVEIGH
6920 GREENBRIER DR.
SEMINOLE, FL. 33777 323-9192 / 492-112

C. P. Recreation Program 2nd and
4th Thursday (DARK June, July, August)
Mornings starting at 9 am and ending after
lunch. Jeannie and David will welcome anyone
interested in volunteering, to feed, talk or help
in any way. Volunteers are urgently needed;
any questions call Jeannie 366-5089 or David
Vincent 289-3716

Friday Night Pot Luck Covered Dish Buffet
every Friday at 6:30 p.m. Open to everyone,
friends, Neighbors. A SOCIAL TIME. The
main dish will be provided; it is up to you to
bring the sides.

Executive Board meeting, 4th Tuesday, 7 p.m.
(except December). All Selama Prophets are
welcome and encouraged to attend and contribute.
Find out ahead of time where YOUR Grotto is
headed and what is going on.

Send articles and information to the editor of this
Newsletter: selamagram@gmail.com
Deadline is Third Tuesday each month.
Secretary, P.M. Bruce L. Ward

Appointed Committee Chairmen:

Membership - Monarch David Vincent 289-3716

Enchanted Lantern - Chief Justice Joseph Griffith
743-0817

Sickness, Distress – Joseph S. Glaser 545-1475

Public Relations and Web Manager - P.M. Bruce
Ward - 327-7383

Toothbrush Chairman - William West 804-4463

Doctor of Smiles - P.M. Chris Webb, 393-6007

Cerebral Palsy Recreational Program - Jeanni
Kinney, 366-5089 / 858-3078 or David Vincent 289-
3716

Audit Committee:
P.M. Richard D. Green
P.M. Tom McVeigh
P.M. Bruce Ward

Board of Directors:
Chairman - David Vincent
1st Vice Chairman, Joseph L. Griffith
2nd Vice Chairman, Open
3rd Vice Chairman, Open
Treasurer, P. M. Hardy Bryan
Secretary, P.M. Bruce L. Ward
2015 - P.M. Barry Dupré
2015 - William West
2016 - P.M. Bruce Ward
2016 - P.M. Chris Webb
2017 - Pete Bengston
2017 - Robert Kline

Board of Trustees:
2015 - P.M. Richard Renshaw
2015 - Phillip Barret
2016 - P.M. Richard Green
2016 - Ed Flowers
2017 - P.M. Roger Webb
2017 - Fred Kalkbrenner

CHURCH PAGE

Shirley Baird Mem Bill, Ellen Griffith Mem PM H.
Lee Griffith, Gordon & Barbara Hill, PM Richard D.
Green Mem Beryl, PM Alfred Rodgers Mem. Anna,
PGM David Morgan Mem George and Leila Nicholson

From the Monarch:

First off let me say thank you to everyone for electing me your new Monarch. I will not let you down I have big plans for the upcoming year to rebuild and reinvigorate our Selama Grotto. We are going to go back to some of the old tricks that we have used before and that are known to work. We are also looking at some new ones that I think will help in making the Grotto more family friendly and bring back the fun that we were known for in the past. They will be presented at the board meeting in January for feedback from YOU the Prophets. My only request is if YOU have an idea that we should try please let us all know about it, that includes your ladies and family. We were known as a fun organization, but we have sadly gotten away from that feeling and we need to bring it back, no idea is to crazy or silly.

That being said this year was a good year and we have a good start on the next year upon which to build. I would like to thank all of you that attended the Installation of Officers, the Children's Christmas Party, and the Adult Christmas Party. The children's party was a great success! We had almost every chair in the hall filled. As always PM Chris and his lady found the right present for every child and with the help of PM Hardy even our sponsored family's children had a great time (much to their mothers surprise, she never gets to attend these types of events and the kids had a blast!) We had plenty of goodies, beverages, games and activities for everyone. Santa was the hit of the day with everyone there. I even think I saw a couple adults sitting on his lap. For those of you that could not attend we had set up 65 chairs and tables for them and we had 20 children receive gifts! That is the best turn out in years, we are on our way to growing again.

This year we will be doing more visiting of other Grotto's, Blue Lodges, and other events so that all can see who we are and what we do. I need everyone's support going to these locations 1 person walking into an event will not show who we are but when several of us show up it will get other people's attention. I know we did at the Zenda Installation when we showed up in force.

Finally from myself, Lady Debbie and our whole family we would like to wish you and your families a great New Year and may you all be blessed with great health during the following year.

Yours in Goodfellowship
David Vincent

From the Chief Justice:

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve you as your Chief Justice for the coming year. I will work with the other officers of Selama Grotto to make 2015 a successful year. The most important message that I can pass on, is that if we expect the Grotto to be successful, we have to all work together. What I am asking, is that you show

up at the meetings and bring your ideas for improving the Grotto. Don't sit home and complain about what is going on when you haven't been a part of the decisions that have been made by the members present. Come on out and enjoy your Grotto. Thank You Joseph L Griffith.

From the Treasurer:

Selama Grotto did itself proud at the Children's Christmas Party on the 14th. Thanks to the Grotto, one family will have the best Christmas ever in a few days. That family consists of a single Mom, not supported by the children's father, severely autistic 11 year old twins and a 10 year old daughter who has mental issues. She is unemployed because there is no one to leave her children with. One might even say that family has already had the best Christmas ever. For the first time, one twin and her sister sat in Santa's lap to tell Santa what they wanted while cameras clicked. The other twin came but became too disruptive to stay at the party. Now, that family has memories and pictures they never had before. The three children each received the gift they requested, thanks to Chris Webb and his wife, who shopped on behalf of the Grotto. And the family received a stationary bike so the children can exercise and gain control of their balance. That bike was the gift of a high school classmate of mine who also threw in \$50. Even Elizabeth, the mother, got to sit in Santa's lap for pictures. She was given an envelope that contained a total of \$450.00 to help her with expenses. The Grotto voted to give her \$300.00.

But it will not end there. Elizabeth was surprised to learn, upon return to her home, that every present the children requested had been placed in her vehicle. Those were given in that manner so she could wrap them and be Santa Claus for her own children. So, Thursday morning will be special.

I thank each and ever member who contributed to the success of this project. With this and other projects, our Grotto can grow and have an impact on our community and its less fortunate people who struggle daily to care for the needs of their family. Merry Christmas from Zenaida and I. Hardy Bryan

Special Upcoming Date

Samoor Grotto Installation of Officers for 2015
Saturday, January 17, 2015
To be held at Sahib Shrine
600 N. Beneva Rd.
Sarasota, FL. 34232
RSVP by January 9, 2015
Car pools leaving Selama at 2:00 p.m.
Social Hour 3:00 p.m. cash bar
Installation 4:00 p.m.
Dinner 5:00 p.m.