
SELAMAGRAM

SELAMA #147 M.O.V.P.E.R.

NEWSLETTER OF SELAMA GROTTO --- CHARTERED JUNE 28, 1922
3000 16TH ST. NORTH, ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33704

JUNE/JULY 2017

GROTTO PHONE 822-3519

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SESSIONS: 2ND WEDNESDAY EVERY MONTH 7:30 PM

EDITOR – BRUCE WARD 327-7383

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7824 STARKEY RD. LARGO. FL. 33777
289-3716

CHIEF JUSTICE - DAVID DOUGLAS
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580-6270

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289-2016

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308-7501

Board of Trustees: (Y)

2017 - Roger Webb PM 393-0284
2017 - (Chairman) Fred Kalkbrenner 345-4737
2018 - Richard Renshaw PM 384-6077
2018 - Phillip Barret
2019 - Tom McVeigh 323-9192
2019 - Ed Flowers 321-7464

Board of Directors: (N)

Chairman - David Vincent PM 289-3716
1st Vice Chairman - David Douglas 580-6270
2nd Vice Chairman - Chris Webb PM 393-6007
3rd Vice Chairman – Russ Wurr 804-7645
Treasurer - Hardy Bryan PM 522-0732
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2017 - Pete Bengston 392-1487
2017 – John Mitton 289-2016
2018 - Barry Dupré PM 815-9675
2018 – Tom McVeigh PM 323-9192
2019 - Fred Kalkbrenner 345-4737
2019 - James Hughey 822-3499

Appointed Committee Chairmen:

Membership - Monarch David Vincent PM 289-3716
Suspension Chairman – Bruce Ward PM Secretary
Doctor of Smiles - Chris Webb PM 393-6007
Public Relations – CJ David Douglas 580-6270
Toothbrush Chairman – John Mitton 289-2016
Enchanted Lantern – CJ David Douglas 580-6270
Youth Coordinator - Ryan Saxer 266-9133

Audit Committee:

(Chairman) Tom McVeigh PM 323-9192
Barry Dupré PM 815-9675
David Douglas 580-6270

H. Lee Griffith Foundation, Inc.

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

From the Desk of the Monarch

OK everyone guess what time it is??? It is summer time and with that comes vacations, family Bar-B-Ques, swimming and suntans (and yes sun burns). *But there is more to it than that, there are also parades.* We as prophets have an obligation to our neighbors to support the annual 4th of July parades. There is so much more than just a parade and throwing beads to onlookers. The parades are a symbol that our country is a free country, one that shows that the many have given so much and others have given their all. It is a celebration of where we have come from, under the rule of another country to a country that is free and rules itself.

Please include in your calendars the *1st of July as well as the 4th of July.* On the 1st of July we will be having our participation in the Kenneth City holiday parade and on the 4th of July there will be the Gulfport night parade. We NEED ALL THE PROPHETS to show up and to join in.

A question that is often brought to my attention is **WHY** and **WHAT IS IN IT FOR ME?** To answer these questions is simple...exposure.... no not that kind. But rather the kind that shows the community who we are and what we are about. That we are a group for Masons, their families and friends. More importantly is that we support children with medical issues, such as the dental program and C.P. Local community-based charities as well as just plain fun.

I do not believe that we are a dying breed; I think we have become complacent. Thinking we will always be here and will always have the fun, funds and membership we have enjoyed for almost 100 years at SELAMA. I am sorry to tell you that times are changing AND we need to change also. I, as Monarch, am reaching out to ALL OF YOU, Prophets and friends alike to talk to other Prophets you know and ask them why they are missing. They are often paying their dues, have their fez, paid for their membership but never came back. Ask them why, ask them what we can do to bring them back, and ask them for ideas for us to grow. AND don't forget to TELL them you will see them at the next stated meeting. Why tell? This is an old salesmen trick. You don't give them a chance to say no. You always ask a

question that can only be answered with a positive yes; this will put a bug in their memory and most of the time they will show up. *Reach out to members of other Grottos ask them if they are looking for a closer home.* Has their Grotto closed or moved to far away from them and that if they would be interested in something closer and still open.

But more importantly reach out to your home lodge as share the information about who we are and that we stand for **FUN!**

As far as the parades we have coming up do remember to mark your calendars with the time and dates. Currently I do not have all the needed information about line up locations and step off times since that has not been determined yet by the cities, as soon as I get it you will receive it within an hour so that you can prepare. By the way there will be food and beverages available on the 4th at the Gulfport parade (last year the operations staff for the parade dropped by and we fed them. I was asked by them if there will be food again this year "in case they don't get a break." I said yes mostly because this is what we are all about reaching out to OUR community, their resources, needs and building bonds with our friends and neighbors).

I am sorry that it sounds like I have rattled on here, but we all need a pep talk from time to time to show each other we care. I hope all of you that can attend the Grand Lodge of Florida Convention and the Supreme Council Convention this year will have a great time as well as share with everyone you meet about us and who we are.

I expect that everyone old, new and missing will show up for our next parades and unless you are in the hospital, getting married on those days or in the morgue there will be no excuses for not participating.

Fraternally,
Monarch Dave

Card Night

Second Tuesday, 7:00 pm is "FUN NIGHT" we meet with ladies from Gulf Beach Eastern Star for a social night of snacks, cards, board games. Masons, Star, family, friends, and neighbors are invited to join.

Upcoming events- Stated Session, second Wednesday each month at 7:30 pm except June. Remember, your Ladies are also invited to join us at 6:30 pm for dinner before the session starts. They have their social and discussion time when we go in the Lodge room for our meeting.

UNIT MEETINGS:

- ➡ Past Monarchs 1st Tuesday 7 pm
- ➡ Jokers 3rd Wednesday 7 pm
- ➡ Cast 4th Wednesday 7 pm

GROTTO MEETINGS:

- ➡ Stated Meeting 2nd Wed 7:30 pm
- ➡ Board of Directors, 4th Tuesday at 7 pm

Grand Lodge of Florida

On Tue. May 30, 2017, about 2:30 pm we will have a state wide Grotto Initiation for any Master Mason attending Grand Lodge who wishes to join.

Also, on Wed. May 31, 2017, at 10:30 am we will present **Prophet Richard Hoover** with a special Fez for the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

The Grand Master's Home Coming will be Sept. 30, 2017 at Innisbrook. Reserve that date. We are working hard to make this a free (wives invited also) and fabulous event. Watch here for a link to sign up and flyer for the event.

The Grand Master's Official Visit will be in December 2017 at the Masonic Home. Reserve this date also.

Grotto Supreme Council [Click here](#)

The Annual Supreme Council Session will be in Perrysburg, Ohio, during the week of June 18-25, 2017.

Headquartered at the beautiful Holiday Inn French Quarter.

Reservations can be made by calling 419-874-3111.

Be sure to tell them you are with the Grottoes of North America!

On-line reservations can be made [here](#)

For more info and Registration form see

<http://www.scgrotto.org/supreme-council-session>

Amazon and Amazon Smile for the Humanitarian Foundation

Amazon is offering AmazonSmile. Just go to <http://smile.amazon.com/> (click on this link) and choose "Grotto Humanitarian Foundation". From then on, any eligible purchases will result in .5% going to the Humanitarian Foundation Supreme Council MOVPER. AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support the Grottoes of North America official charity, the Humanitarian Foundation, every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com instead of amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase of a price to the Humanitarian Foundation.

As of May 4, 2017 my purchases have generated \$5.10 and I do not shop that much on Amazon. Total for the Foundation so far is only \$198.47 so I know not many people are using this. Once you sign up when you go to Amazon.com it asks if you want to switch over to AmazonSmile and you just click yes. It is that easy. Free money.