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# SELAMAGRAM

## SELAMA GROTTO, M.O.V.P.E.R.

CHARTERED JUNE 28, 1922  
3000 16<sup>TH</sup> ST. NORTH,  
ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33704

**OCTOBER 2014**

**E-mail: [SELAMAGRAM@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SELAMAGRAM@GMAIL.COM)**

**SESSIONS: 2<sup>ND</sup> WEDNESDAY EVERY MONTH 7:30 PM**

**All Phone Numbers are in the 727 area code**

**GROTTO PHONE 727- 822-3519**

**webpage: [WWW.SELAMA.ORG](http://WWW.SELAMA.ORG)**

**EDITOR – BRUCE WARD 327-7383**

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**MONARCH - THOMAS W. MCVEIGH**  
6920 GREENBRIER DR.  
SEMINOLE, FL. 33777 323-9192 / 492-1122

**CHIEF JUSTICE - DAVID VINCENT**  
7824 STARKEY RD.  
LARGO, FL. 33771 289-3716

**TREASURER - P. M. HARDY BRYAN, 3<sup>RD</sup>**  
766 - 35<sup>TH</sup> AVE N. ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33704  
727-522-0732

**SECRETARY - BRUCE WARD**  
PO BOX 530302 ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33747  
727-327-7383

**MASTER OF CEREMONIES - JOSEPH L. GRIFFITH**  
1680 OWENS DR.  
CLEARWATER, FL. 33759 743-0817

**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**

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

**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, 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 7 p.m.** 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](mailto:selamagram@gmail.com)  
Deadline is Third Tuesday each month.

**Immediate Past Monarch - John T. Devore 667-3641 / 381-3641**

**Appointed Committee Chairmen:**

**Membership-Monarch Tom McVeigh 323-9192 / 492-1122**

**Enchanted Lantern-Chief Justice David Vincent 289-3716**

**Sickness, Distress –Frank Westberry 412-0478**

**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**

**Audit Committee:**

**P.M. Richard D. Green**

**P.M. Frederick Kinney**

**P.M. Bruce Ward**

**Board of Directors:**

**Chairman - Thomas McVeigh**

**1st Vice Chairman, David Vincent**

**2nd Vice Chairman, Joseph L. Griffith**

**3rd Vice Chairman, Open**

**Treasurer, P. M. Hardy Bryan**

**Secretary, P.M. Bruce L. Ward**

**2014 - P.M. Frederick P. Kinney**

**2014 - Frank Westberry**

**2015 - P.M. Barry Dupré**

**2015 - William West**

**2016 - P.M. Bruce Ward**

**2016 - P.M. Chris Webb**

**Board of Trustees:**

**2014 - P.M. Roger Webb**

**2014 - Fred Kalkbrenner**

**2015 - P.M. Richard Renshaw**

**2015 - Phillip Barret**

**2016 - P.M. Richard Green**

**2016 - Ed Flowers**

**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:**

The Chief Justice David Vincent called me today and read his input into the Selamagram. You can read his notes and I would like to concur with his thoughts and move our Grotto towards his stated goals. We have a number of distress and illnesses. Kelly Dougherty is recovering from knee replacement surgery. He is getting intense rehab on that knee. Frank Westbury is still home bound because of dialysis. Fred Kinney is recuperating from his long journey with Jeanni. Richard Green is receiving IV therapy for his problem. Please keep these prophets and brothers in our prayers.

On 26 September, I am flying to New York to meet my sister and drive back to Florida. In my absence, please contact David Vincent, 289-3716.

I want to thank all of you for the help that you provide to the Grotto. I would like to thank all the prophets and brothers who attended Gordon Hill's funeral. Gordon was a good prophet and a good man and will be missed by all.

God Bless all of you and God Bless our country and all those who protect and serve us. Your Monarch, Tom McVeigh

**From the Chief Justice:**

From the desk of the Chief Justice David Vincent to all SELAMA GROTTTO members and to every brother MASON in Florida. We have seemed to forget what we are about in the GROTTOS OF NORTH AMERICA. Yes we are Masons, brothers, fathers, spouses, sons, daughters. Yes we are Masons first and foremost. But what is this thing we call the GROTTTO? Let me explain.....

We are not just another meeting to have to go to. We are not the poor man's Shrine. We are not a formal location where there is all pomp and circumstance and no fun.

What we are about is fun. We are clowns. We are parades. We are family with the emphasis on FAMILY. And we are about children that need us, the children that have cerebral palsy, children that need special dental treatments that normally are not available to them, children in our neighborhoods that need mentors or sponsors for a sports team. But most of all we are all about having FUN.

Fun is something that Selama Grotto used to be known for, though a lot of us have passed on, grown older or just given up, that does not mean that the fun is gone forever. Your Monarch has dedicated his year in 2014 to having more fun things in the Grotto and when it is my turn there will be even more things to do as a family.

But what are some of the things that are in the works for the spouses and the family. Other Grottos have changed their official meeting night from one long guys meeting to 2 short meetings. First one with the spouses for their ideas and input and the second short meeting in lodge to review those suggestions and either adopt them or reject them. But think about it wouldn't it be great if your better half was not shocked that you forgot to discuss with them your plans for a weekend only

to find out they already have plans...darn in the dog house again!

How about 1 day road trips as a group? A day at spring training as a group? A Bucks game? A Thrashers game? A Rays game? Or how about just a day at the beach or park as a group having fun? A afternoon of bowling or of night bowling under the black lights? Anyone up for Lazer Tag? Ever wondered what it is like to drive a clown car in a parade or to just ride on the float in front of your friends? These and many more things are in the works for 2015.

BUT none of these things can happen without YOU, your FAMILY and even FRIENDS joining in with us again. We need you our prophets current, past, and future to support us or before you know it we will go the way of the dodo bird. That does not have to happen. Come out and see for yourselves the new Grotto and the new things we are doing.

Oh you don't have the money and are embarrassed your dues have fallen behind. Well there is good news there ALL BACK DUES WILL BE WAIVED if you just pay for the current year. So dust off your fez, get up off your behind and come out to have the time of your life again.

See you there soon!

David Vincent, CJ

**From the Master Of Ceremonies:**

Fellow Prophets; When I am in the Grotto meetings and I hear all the talk about membership declining, and what we can do about it, I wonder how many of our members actually attend their blue lodge. The blue lodge is the only source of candidates for the Grotto!! If you are not going into your lodge, and bringing up the Grotto at every opportunity than this is something you should start doing. Go to your lodge meetings and bring up Grotto membership and what our humanitarian foundation does for at risk children. Always have an application on you and make sure to ask all newly raised masons to join the Grotto as soon as they are eligible. If you don't ask them they are not going to ask you! We lose too many brothers to the other

appendant bodies because they know nothing about the Grotto. The only way to change this is to attend lodge, and promote the Grotto. Thank you. Joseph L Griffith M.O.C.

**Earn an Enchanted Lantern:**

Need volunteers for TOOTHBRUSH drives. With just a couple of volunteers we collected over \$600 for the Humanitarian Foundation. Think what we could do with a few more volunteers. Contact Bill West **804-4463** [stpete002@yahoo.com](mailto:stpete002@yahoo.com)

**Note:**

Daylight Lodge #385 meets at Selama Grotto on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays each month.

**Special Upcoming Dates (IMPORTANT)** for stated meetings:

11/12/14 Nominations  
12/10/14 Elections