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# SELAMAGRAM

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

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

**APRIL/MAY 2017**

**GROTTO PHONE 822-3519**

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

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

**EDITOR – BRUCE WARD 327-7383**

All Phone Numbers are in the 727 area code

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**MONARCH - DAVID VINCENT PM**  
7824 STARKEY RD. LARGO. FL. 33777  
289-3716

**CHIEF JUSTICE - DAVID DOUGLAS**  
4192 - 96 AVE NO PINELLAS PARK, FL 33782  
580-6270

**MASTER OF CEREMONIES - Chris Webb PM**  
11462 Walsingham Rd Largo, FL 33778  
393-6007

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

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

**VENERABLE PROPHET - RUSS WURR**  
1951 GLEN LAKES CIR NO ST. PETERSBURG,  
FL 33702 -2145  
804-7645

**MARSHALL – JOSEPH L. GRIFFITH**  
1680 OWENS DR. CLEARWATER, FL. 33759  
743-0817

**CAPTAIN OF GUARD – JOHN MITTON**  
8320 112 St. No. #107 Seminole, FL 33772  
289-2016

**CHAPLAIN - JAMES HUGHEY**  
3201 1ST ST. NE. ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33704  
**SENTINEL – JOSEPH S. GLASER**  
5501 70 Ave No PINELLAS PARK, FL 33781  
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  
Secretary - Bruce L. Ward PM 327-7383  
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

**UNIT MEETINGS**

Past Monarchs - First Tuesday at 7:00 PM  
Jokers Unit - Third Wednesday at 7:00 PM  
Cast Unit - Fourth Wednesday at 7:00 PM

## From the Desk of the Monarch

First off I would like to thank all of you for your calls and cards during my recent illness. You all know I have had heart problems for the last 35 years, but, this one scared me really bad. It was cool though to get to be in the back of the ambulance with lights and siren going.

Now on to business. I am sorry that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday night supper had to be canceled but the doctors told me to stay in bed or next time it might be a body bag. I have plans to make it up to all of you though. On April 14<sup>th</sup> I will be cooking the beef stew that I promised in March. There will be fruit salad and corn bread to go with it.

We will also be celebrating January, February, and March birthdays that night. So here is the deal, the pricing structure will be the same as March with a small tweak. The requested donation is still \$5.00 OR if you choose to bring a covered dish or something there is no charge (but you can still make a donation if you feel the need but that would be above and beyond the call of duty). AND now the tweak IF YOUR BIRTHDAY FALLS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THE YEAR AS NOTED ABOVE YOUR COST IS ZERO, NOTHING, NADA. After all it is your birthday. AND there will be a surprise gift there for you also. Please bring your friends, family, the Hatfield's and the McCoy's everyone is invited.

There will be 2 Friday night suppers in April the second one will be on April 28<sup>th</sup> (just to change up the dates) and will be something I have not done in a long time. **Beer Battered Pub Style Fish and English Style Chips** and it will NOT be frozen fish only fresh for my friends and their families. In addition my signature **cole slaw**, and **real beer battered onion rings, and real mushy peas**.

\*\* If you don't know what an Old English chip is, it is NOT a french fry like here in America. \*\*

We could use 1 or 2 more volunteers with the CP program we are at 7 students now! We went through a short loll in November and December but we are back up and running full steam ahead

We had a very busy month of March - Grotto wise. On March 11<sup>th</sup> we had the **Seminole Pow Wow Parade** with a better turn out again this year. Had a car there, but I guess I scared the heck out of my Chief Justice. It seems that the new engine is a bit more powerful than expected. Going and running were NO problem, but

according to Dave Douglas if that tree had not been there he would have never been able to stop. (Not really, but, I will need better brakes) An eyeball guess at the speed was somewhere around 20 mph.

Next that same afternoon we had a **wedding reception held at the Grotto** and it turned out wonderful! Since we have not been renting or leasing out our hall we gave them a rock bottom price of \$100 hall rental, \$50 bar tender/Champaign service, \$25 for sodas because they forgot to get them (we did not use but about a dozen cans total) so in total we made \$175. This is a far cry from the last year's rental of ZERO. Talk to your brother and sisters and let them know that we are here if they need a space. We are currently looking at the insurance issue BUT we are all MASONS and need to treat the Grotto property with respect.

Hey I am not through yet, like I said we had a busy month. **Pilgrimage Day** was held at the Masonic home on March 18<sup>th</sup> and though the crowds were a bit smaller this year (most people think it is because of the finals of basketball and start of baseball) either way the displays were outstanding, the cars were unbelievable AND we had our float, cars, balloons, Tooth Brush Drive (which made a fair amount of money) all out there and in full force. We had displays everywhere of who we are and what we do. I actually had 4 people come up to me and talk about our clown cars and the clown unit after talking to each one of them for a few minutes each and every one said they were MEMBERS OF SELAMA GROTTTO (and current card holders) but did not know we had the cars or clowns still. They have been invited to return and all of them said they would try, especially since we are reaching out like we did.

MARK YOUR CALANDER On May 29<sup>th</sup> (may change 1 day either way) the Grand Lodge of Florida will be having their annual convention in Orlando. ALL SELAMA GROTTTO MEMBERS that are not working that day are expected to show up in white jackets (I have a bunch of extras in my office let me know if you need one) with your fez and all your proper regalia. Red ties required don't have one don't worry there are 6 brand new ones on my desk. We will work out a car pool of some kind and somehow. Right Worshipful Rick Hover will become Most Worshipful Grand Master that

day and we will be presenting his personal fez that day. I expect everyone there in force and spit and polished. It is OUR chance to show off and to support one of our own.

**Finally on March 29, 2017 we held one of the finest board meetings that I think we have had in years.**

Not to mention Right Worshipful Rick Hover, next Grand Master of FL, was there and gave us a lot of great assistance with questions. Thank you all for your input and voicing your thoughts, that is what keeps us going. As usual, in attendance were Peggy Mitten and Jeannie Kinney. OK here is how I feel about it. I WANT your better half to come to our board meetings. We need their input and ideas as much as any of you. Think about it how many times has someone scheduled an event for the Grotto and when you told your better half about it the told you that you can't go because they have other plans that day? Well by inviting them to our business meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month you won't be surprised nor will they. It should make for a happier family and better Grotto.

Until next month may I wish you health and happiness.

Fraternally yours,  
Dave Vincent, Monarch 2017

### **Card Night**

Second Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. 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 p.m.

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 leave for our meeting.

- ➡ UNIT MEETINGS-
- ➡ Past Monarchs 1st Tuesday 7 p. m,
- ➡ Jokers 3rd Wednesday 7 p.m.
- ➡ Cast 4th Wednesday 7 p.m.