Grand Monarch’s Message

Greetings Prophets and Ladies:

It is hard to believe that the first half on my year is almost over! Jenny and I want to thank all the Prophets and ladies who have made us feel welcome and who have taken so very good care of us, particularly ME (following my injury), and providing us with all the comforts of home, while we are traveling.

After the Supreme Council meeting last July, we almost immediately traveled to Plymouth, IN to institute a new Grotto–Zanzibar Grotto. With the able aid of PGM Mitch Weinsting and DGM Mark McCombs and GCJ Mike Dempsey, in a closed ceremony, 19 of the 25 Brothers were initiated and obligated and the Officers for the ensuing year installed. What a treat it was for me to get to participate in presenting a Charter to a new Grotto.

A week later, we were off to Portland, OR, for the Northwest Meeting, then to OGA in Mansfield, OH. As there was a conflict with Michigan-Western Ontario, PGM Shuards Sutherland represented me ably.

It was at this point that I had my unfortunate injury, but in between the injury and the scheduled surgery to repair my face, Jenny and I were able to attend the Southwest in Tulsa, at which yours truly was presented with a hand-made and custom made Indian headdress, which I will wear proudly at future SWGA functions. Our special thanks to Shawn and David Whitehead for seeing to my dietary needs – you know what I mean by that.

My surgery interfered with my attendance at the Daughters of Mokanna in San Antonio, TX, but PGM Sam Lattin did a far better job for me than if I had been there myself. Thanks, Sam, you pulled me out of a fire.

My facial swelling was down enough for us to attend the Florida State Grotto Association meeting in St. Augustine, FL, which turned out to be a lot more fun than I thought I could handle, especially the trip to and from the Pirate Ship with everyone in costume and trying to scare the pedestrians on the street. What a HOOT!

After a quick two day turnaround, we were off to Peoria, IL for the Midwest Grotto Association convention. Jim and Linda Bainter, along with most of the Grand Line and several Past Grand Monarchs presided over what, I think, a Grotto Association convention should be like…competitions, both vocal and clown, funny cars, pass in review…like things used to be all over. And they were generous, too, as $5,000 was donated to our charity through the Humanitarian Foundation.

Again, there was a conflict between Empire State and Western Grotto Associations and Grand Chief Justice Mike Dempsey represented me at Empire State while Jenny and I went to Williams, AZ for Western. I was stationed in southern Arizona with the USAF but never got far enough north to see the Grand Canyon. I scratched that off my bucket list with this trip.

Next is the Board of Governors meeting in New Orleans, then all the Grotto Officers installations and a few Association meetings and the Conference of Grand Masters.

That’s what we’ve been doing….now for what YOU are going to be doing next July.

The 126th Supreme Council Session will be in New Orleans from July 17th – 24th, 2016. The convention hotel is the Marriott French Quarter at 555 Canal St. Rooms are $109 (plus tax) per night and covered, in and out, valet parking is $10 per day. The National World War II museum is easy to get to from the hotel and we have arranged discounts for those attending. Details and registration forms should be on the Supreme Council website (www.scgrotto.org) and in this edition of The Grotto Magazine.

The hotel itself is awarding a two night stay to one of the first 200 Prophets to book a room. You can see ANY Grand Line Officer to “donate” $20 in exchange for an opportunity to be awarded all 7 nights at the hotel (parking not included), plus all the tickets an attendee usually purchases, except the golf outing, i.e., men’s & ladies luncheon, Monday and Tuesday evening functions, Grand Monarch’s Dinner and Red Tassel party.

This convention is for everyone, and it is a chance for all Prophets to come and be a part of the Grottoes of North America, not just the Grotto in your community. Grotto is about meeting new friends, and sharing Masonic fellowship with Masons from all over North America. It is about expanding your horizons and changing perspectives. See how Brothers from other parts of the Realm do things, and take some ideas back to your own Grotto and see if they might work for you. If you have never been to a Supreme Council convention, now is the time! Book your room, send in your registration, and come to New Orleans. It will be an experience you won’t regret.

In closing, Jenny and I want to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. As we close out 2015 and move in to 2016, take time to reflect on the blessings we have been granted and the many wonderful adventures that lie ahead for each of us. Grotto is alive and well, and we will continue to be a joy in the lives of others. Remember, Grotto is the Fun of Life, Laissez les bon temps roulez.

Yours in Sympathy and Goodfellowship,
—Dave & Jenny Blythe
The theme of the 2016 Convention in New Orleans July 17-24 will be Mardi Gras with the motto “Laissez Les Bon Temps Roulez!” (Let the good times roll!) I hope you will be joining us.

My pin this year follows that theme—a Mardi Gras mask. The cost is $10 and you can purchase one from me or any of the Grand Line ladies. The proceeds will go to the Humanitarian Foundation to support our charity—providing quality dental care for special needs children.

—Jenny Blythe
VIP PROGRAM
Any Prophet who sponsors a new member or reinstated member who has been out of the Grotto for at least 13 months between May 1st and April 30th will be entitled to attend the Grand Monarch’s VIP lunch or breakfast at the Supreme Council Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana.

VIP(UNDER 40)
In addition to the VIP program, anyone sponsoring a new or qualified reinstated Prophet that is under 40 years old will receive a special (under 40) pin.

KEY PROPHETS
Any Prophet sponsoring 3 new or qualified reinstated members between May 1st and April 30th will be awarded a distinctive GOLD Key emblem. Any Prophet sponsoring 5 new members will receive a RUBY Key and for 7 or more new members a DIAMOND Key. A Prophet will receive one (1) key of the highest level he has earned. If in attendance at the Supreme Council Session, the key will be presented by the Grand Monarch.

SLEEP ON US
The first (10) ten Prophets sponsoring 10 new or qualified reinstated Prophets between May 1st and April 30th will receive one (1) FREE night stay in the convention host hotel during the Supreme Council Session. The first Prophet to sponsor twenty-five (25) new Prophets will receive four (4) free nights at host hotel.

RECRUITER OF THE MONTH
The Prophet sponsoring the greatest number of new members initiated in the entire Realm in any month, with a minimum of two (2), will receive a $100.00 cash award. The initiation report must be turned in to Supreme Council office by the close of the following month. Awards will be split if a tie occurs.

KEY MASTER MASON NIGHTS
The Supreme Council will reimburse a Grotto 50% of the cost, up to $300.00 for a Master Mason Night once a year. Contact the Supreme Council Office for details and a PRE-EVENT REQUEST FORM or find online at www.scgrotto.org under Secretary Forms. **Please note that a Pre-approval request form and a budget for the event must be sent to the Supreme Council Office attention Membership for approval prior to the event in order for any reimbursement to be paid! Keep in mind that this is not to be used in conjunction with any other event.

MASONIC HOSPITALITY
The Supreme Council will reimburse a Grotto 50% of the cost up to $300.00, for sponsoring a hospitality event at a Master Mason Event. This must be pre-approved, including a budget and is limited to one (1) per year. You must present your program for pre-approval with budget and can obtain forms from the Supreme Council Office or online at www.scgrotto.org under Secretary Forms. This cannot be used with other events.

LODGE VISITATIONS & REFRESHMENTS
We will reimburse a Grotto up to $75.00 for attending and providing refreshments at a Blue Lodge Meeting. You must obtain pre-approval from the Supreme Council Office. These forms may also be found under the Secretary Forms online at www.scgrotto.org.

“ITS GREAT TO BE A GROTTOMEMBER”
Booklets are available at no charge from the Supreme Council office. A Grotto may have up to 100 per year. Sufficient quantities will be given to every candidate of a one-day class if allowed by the Grand Lodge of that Jurisdiction.

POCKET PETITIONS are also available at no charge from the Supreme Council office.

TRADE SHOW STYLE DISPLAY
A six (6) foot display (which can also be used as one or two 3 foot table displays) is available for MASONIC HOSPITALITY and other similar events where a large number of Masons are present. (Shipping by M.O.V.P.E.R.)

GRAND MASTERS RECRUITMENT
The Supreme Council Membership Committee will pay the $50.00 “Prophet at Sight” cost for any Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master joining the Grotto.

Please consider using these suggestions to your advantage, get paid for signing up new members and become a major contributor to growing the Realm!

In Sympathy and Goodfellowship,
— Bernie Mitchell, PGM
Membership Chairman
The Grotto Magazine

**GRAND MONARCH’S AWARD OF EXCELLENCE 2015-16**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grotto</th>
<th>Monarch</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AAHMED GROTTO</td>
<td>Russell Grant</td>
<td>2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>ABBAS GROTTO</td>
<td>Richard Gibson</td>
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<td>Joe L. Tomberlin</td>
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<td>EL REY GROTTO</td>
<td>Robert Hennes</td>
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<td>GALAE GROTTO</td>
<td>Richard T. Nelson</td>
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<td>GAO GROTTO</td>
<td>Timothy Heinrichs</td>
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<td>KISMET GROTTO</td>
<td>David H. Ingalls</td>
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<td>ORMUS GROTTO</td>
<td>Keith Newton</td>
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<td>SAHARA GROTTO</td>
<td>Robert A. Dungan</td>
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<td>SELAMA GROTTO</td>
<td>David S. Vincent</td>
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<td>SEM I NO GROTTO</td>
<td>Shawn Ray Lopez</td>
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<td>TACOBAT GROTTO</td>
<td>Carl Brady</td>
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<td>ZELICA GROTTO</td>
<td>Lawrence M. Buck</td>
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<tr>
<td>ZENDAH GROTTO</td>
<td>Jerry A. Haywood</td>
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<tr>
<td>ZIBA GROTTO</td>
<td>Jeremy Horton</td>
<td>2015</td>
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**ATTENTION ALL GROTTO MEMBERS**

The Supreme Council is starting a new initiative to recognize the date that you joined your local Grotto as your Anniversary Date with the Grottoes of North America. Please send your email address to robin.garrett@scgrotto.org so that we can include you in our database. Then be on the lookout for an email congratulating you each year for being a member!

Thank you,

—Michael Dempsey
Grand Chief Justice

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**Prophet Retention**

*by Matthew Wissell, PM, Grand Master of Ceremonies*

I have a question for you. What does a Prophet get for paying his dues at your Grotto? I know it is a provocative question. Yet, it is the question that gets to the heart of our trouble with demits and suspensions for non-payment of dues. It is in one aspect an economic issue. Do your members feel that they are getting what they paid for? Is their dues payment a valuable and worthwhile expenditure of their financial resources? It is a question each and every Grotto must answer for itself.

Many have said that you cannot put a monetary value on Freemasonry. I would challenge that thought. I believe there are many brothers who do, in fact, put a monetary value on the Craft. They add an economic factor into their thought process around whether or not to participate in a certain group or activity. “How much does it cost?” and “Is it worth it?” are what they ask themselves. There is no denying it.

Our challenge is to respond to those questions by making the Grotto experience worth the expense of their money and their time. As we plan our years and our events we need to keep those thoughts in mind. “What are they getting for their time and money?” “If I were not a member, would this event make me consider joining?” “Can I describe a tangible value for the money spent to be involved?” Tough questions but each Grotto must answer them.

If we are going to retain our members we need to offer them something more than a boring or contentious business meeting. Neither is worth their time and money. We need to provide them with a meaningful, valuable experience. They are consumers of our product. *What kind of product do we have?*

I ask you to think about these questions as you plan for your 2016 schedule. You will not be able to change everything all at once. One thing at a time is an acceptable pace. What is not acceptable is doing exactly what you have always done. We all need to grow and improve. *Make their Grotto experience worth their time and money and they will keep their membership.*
Laissez Les Bon Temps Roulez!

Top Line Signers of the Month

August – John Combel, Ka Jon Grotto with 5 new Prophets!
September – Brian Truex, Hapac Grotto with 7 new Prophets!
October – Richard Taman, El Jaala Grotto with 4 new Prophets!

Top Line Signers
8/1/2015 – 10/31/2015

AAHMED
Ronald Schmacher
Virgil E. Allen
James C Carter
Wayne M. Weaver
Kerry M. Slaughter
Adiann P. Kroon
Robert A. Jones, Jr.
Joseph S. Cooley
Alex G. Carter
Henry T. Mills, Jr.

ABBAS
Lonnie E. Casey
John Leroy Lee
Curtis Lee Gruber

AL AZAR
David K Bankston, Jr., PM
Paul G. Sumrall, Jr.
John Combel
Carl Ledet
Corey M. LeBlanc
Obray LeBlanc
Chris LeBlanc
Ronald Lauland
Ronnie Deeters
David Carroll, Jr.
Steven A. Kemp
Ridal J. Broussard, Jr.

AL HASSAN
Joe L Tomberlin
Floyd C. Yeager
Robert J. Gerhardt

ALHAMBRA
George M Merkle
Ernest R. Loebner
Walter S Sawicki, II
Michael J. Barcus
Charles M. Huey
John P. Singer
Michae P. Singer, Jr.
Michael P. Singer, III

ALIABAD
James C. Byrnes
James D. Arcudi

AMROU
Steven L. Dailey
Todd E. Mitchell

AUT MORI
Tad C Fithian
Thomas A. Kidd

AZIM
William Thomas
Virgil Blackstone
Victor L Mann, PM
Yves-Laurent Muls
Garret Kane
Sagar Vachhani

BEN BEY
Richard L. Looney
Andrew Daniel
Mark A Wigal, PM
Joseph Vincent

CASHAN
Andrew D. Arnold
Tommy C. Chapman
James L. Beard

CHINAR
William B. Blaize
Hector Flores

DELCO
Thomas Wible
Joseph W. Calabrese
Richard R. Sonier
Richard A. Decky, Sr.
Richard Alan Heath
Donald S. Harwick

DINAR
Kenneth B Baker, PM
Bruce E. Niemeyer
Ronald G. Andress, PM
Alan E. Nelson
Benjamin S. Keaten
Zachary A. Brannon

EL JAALA (contined)
Donald S Dayton
Jim Tome
Tommy Hendrix, Jr.
Brian Tripp
Joseph Maas
Edilberto Vazquez

EL JAALA
Howard Schermerhorn, PM
Christopher P. Garlington
John M. Hammond, PM
Irwin Jerome Z. Angeles
Bradley L. Baker, PM
Richard Taman, PM
Vito Glazers
Robert T. Deacon
Nestor Policarpio
Guy Carbona, PM
David Pashia
Derek Reichart
Sam Wilson

EL JAALA
(continued)

FARHAD
Larry J Gaff, PM
Rollin P. Rieffel, Jr.

FERAMO
Michael Taussig
Rodolfo Gabor

GAO
Larry Eaglen
Richard E. Durnell
Donald D Robertson
Gary Reaktenwalt
James D. Hettmansenberger
George Osborn
Justin Michael McDaniel
Brandon Michael Woodley
Sean McBride
John McBride
Matthew Birge
Wade Aaron Anderson
Rick Strebing, PM
Roger Dean Boen
Darren Lane
William B. Spencer

HAPAC
Brian Truex
Jared L. Kellar
Joseph J. Bartusek
Scott J. Shipman
Douglas E. King
Rashad Penton
Donald Katterhenny
Ronald L. Bartusek

HASSAN
Brian D Lundquist
Jonathan R. Schrader

HEJAZ
Arnold H. Freedman
Stephen M. Thal
David H. Berger
Martin E. Cober
William L Greene, PM
Marc Darren

ISLAM
Robert C. Schwanbeck, V
Edward W. Dietz, Jr.

KA JON
Ambrose Thibodaux, PM
Chadwick D. Powell
Raymond J Dupre, Jr.
Craig C. Brown

KHARRAM
John H. Siggins, II, PM
Daniel E. Siggins

MOHASSAN
Charles L Roenfeldt, PM
Bradley R Peek, PM

MONKER
Mark Walker

MOSLEM
George S Fontana, PM
Kevin A. Pellerin
Stephen J. Accello
Leo J. Switzer

NABA
Bryan E. Simmons
Mitchell D. Shair
Adam M. Perreault

NO RUZ
Thomas V. Land, Jr., PM
Ben Poormokhtar
Paul G. Buttrum

NORUH
Terry G Baker, PM
Hubert Lingerfelt
Anthony M. Chamberlin
Kenneth J. Simons, Jr.
Edward P. James
Robert E. Cooper

SABA
Ernest L Ankeny, PM
Jeffrey Williamson
Matthew Q. Llewellyn
Christopher Richardson

SINGARA
Mark L McCombs, PM
Carl J. Beatty
Robert W Reardon
Jules R. Bahnsen
A Message from The Supreme Mighty Chosen One

My, how time flies! I was installed as Supreme Mighty Chosen One in San Antonio, Texas, in September, 2015. It seems like my journey has just begun. The past four years went very fast but I am humbled and excited about my office.

I am excited to be able to promote the Grottoes’ good works in the coming year. I plan on carrying forms with me, during my travels, for the purchase of Enchanted Lanterns, as well as the Fairchild Society. I pledge the continued support of the Supreme and Subordinate Caldrons during my year. Let’s “KEEP THE CHILDREN SMILING.”

On behalf of the Supreme Caldron we would like to thank Grand Monarch, David Blythe, for allowing Samuel Lattin, PGM, to bring words of greeting from the Supreme Council, in his absence. We would like for him to know that he was missed but understand about the accident and healthcare. We hope that he is recovering nicely. Our regards to Lady Jenny.

We would also like to extend our appreciation to Jim Payton, Chairman of the Humanitarian Foundation, for his time and effort in promoting the Grottoes’ philanthropic work and thank him for his attendance.

The 97th Supreme Session of the Daughters of Mokanna will be at the Crowne Plaza Hotel on September 14-17th, 2016, in Little Rock, Arkansas. We would love to have as many Daughters as possible along with their Prophets. We have a TagAlong group for the men in attendance. Any Lady of a Prophet who is interested in becoming a Daughter may contact me for information. Since we have a Supreme Caldron they may join it if there is not a caldron in their vicinity. The aim of the Daughters of Mokanna is to assist and cooperate with the members of the Grotto and help them in their endeavors.

Fraternally,
—Susan Benson,
Supreme Mighty Chosen One
# 2016 Grotto Association Meeting Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Association</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>President's Email</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
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<th>Annual Meeting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I.G.A.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Michael Tomascin, PM</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mjttjti@comcast.net">mjttjti@comcast.net</a></td>
<td>Ron Dworkin, PM</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rondworkin@comcast.net">rondworkin@comcast.net</a></td>
<td>Ankara Grotto</td>
<td>July 21, 2016, New Orleans, LA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.S.G.A.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jimmie Grassi, Sr., PM</td>
<td><a href="mailto:grassiji@earthlink.net">grassiji@earthlink.net</a></td>
<td>Philip Gicalone, Sr., PGM</td>
<td><a href="mailto:philipgicalone@sbcglobal.net">philipgicalone@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
<td>Yubba Grotto</td>
<td>April 22–24, 2016, Kansas City, MO</td>
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<tr>
<td>C.G.A.</td>
<td></td>
<td>David Hinton, PM</td>
<td><a href="mailto:freedom1@aol.com">freedom1@aol.com</a></td>
<td>Seth Anthony, PM</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sethant@gmail.com">sethant@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Kishmee Grotto</td>
<td>Date TBA, Colonial Williamsburg &amp; Philadelphia, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.S.G.A.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. David Birdsell, PM</td>
<td><a href="mailto:davidbirdsell@sbcglobal.net">davidbirdsell@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
<td>Howard Schermerhorn, PM</td>
<td><a href="mailto:howard@cktransport.com">howard@cktransport.com</a></td>
<td>Aliahad Grotto</td>
<td>September 15-18, 2016, Warren, PA</td>
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<tr>
<td>F.S.G.A.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sammy Tanner, PM</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dracshouse@aol.com">dracshouse@aol.com</a></td>
<td>Barry Dupre', PM</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sadbed@juno.com">sadbed@juno.com</a></td>
<td>Feramo Grotto</td>
<td>September 22–25, 2016, Ft. Lauderdale, FL</td>
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<tr>
<td>I.S.G.A.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. David Whitehead, PM</td>
<td><a href="mailto:david_patchworkpup@live.com">david_patchworkpup@live.com</a></td>
<td>Robert L. Jackson, PM, 33°</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rjackson6@sbcglobal.net">rjackson6@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
<td>Cashan Grotto</td>
<td>September 2-5, 2016, Beaumont, TX</td>
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<tr>
<td>W.G.A.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bobby Thompson, PM</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hiwaysailor48@yahoo.com">hiwaysailor48@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Paul Nix, PM</td>
<td><a href="mailto:paulnx@cox.net">paulnx@cox.net</a></td>
<td>Zula Grotto</td>
<td>October 13-17, 2016, Henderson, NV 89105</td>
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<tr>
<td>D.O.M.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Susan Benson, SMCO</td>
<td><a href="mailto:susan.benson@att.net">susan.benson@att.net</a></td>
<td>Barbara Turner</td>
<td><a href="mailto:supremerodeval@gmail.com">supremerodeval@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Bendemeer Grotto</td>
<td>September 14-27, 2016, Little Rock, AR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Flower Order** — Laissez Les Bon Temps Roulez!
**DO NOT SEND TOUR or GOLF MONEY TO SUPREME COUNCIL OFFICE**
Please make check payable to 126th Supreme Council Session.

SEND THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK TO:
126th SUPREME COUNCIL SESSION GROTTOES OF NORTH AMERICA
430 Beecher Road, Gahanna, Ohio 43230

PAYMENT AND FORM MUST BE RECEIVED BY JULY 1, 2016

Prophet _______________________________________________ Grotto ________________________________________________
Lady’s Name ___________________________________________ Guest Name __________________________________________
Address ____________________________________________________________________________________________________
Street         City          State        Zip Code
Phone: ______________________________________ Email: _________________________________________________________

PLEASE CHECK THE APPROPRIATE SPACE:
Prophet is a VIP:__________ Past Monarch:__________ Monarch:__________ Chief Justice:______________
Master of Ceremonies_________Secretary:____________Alternate_________________

***Supreme Council Number_________________________(Located on your 2016 Dues Card)

**DON’T FORGET TO BRING YOUR 2016 DUES CARD TO THE SUPREME COUNCIL SESSION**
NO REFUNDS AFTER JULY 7, 2016

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TOTAL ENCLOSED

Credit Card Payment  Circle one:  AX  MC  VS  DC
Name on Card____________________________________ Number______________________________ Exp. Date________________________

The GROTTO Magazine
GROTTOES OF NORTH AMERICA
126th SUPREME COUNCIL SESSION

OFFICIAL HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

July 17 – July 24, 2016
HEADQUARTERS HOTEL: New Orleans Marriott (French Quarter)
555 Canal St, New Orleans, LA 70130
(504) 581-1000 www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/msyla-new-orleans-marriott

Name: ___________________________________________ Grotto: ___________________________

Address: _________________________________________________________________________________________

City: ___________________________________________ State:________________ Zip Code: _________________

Telephone Number: (______)________________ Email Address: ________________________________

Arrival Date: _____/_____/______ Departure Date: _____/_____/______

Check or money order for one night’s lodging must be enclosed or secured by credit card.

Circle one: AX MC VS DC Last 4 Digits of Credit Card # only: ___________________________

All rooms are $110 per night plus tax Single/Double occupancy

_____ $110 + Tax 1-King Size Bed _____ $110 + Tax 2-Double Size Beds

Reservations may be made through email to lisa.pickett@marriott.com, by phone or U.S. Mail to:
New Orleans Marriott (French Quarter)
555 Canal St.
New Orleans, LA 70130

Direct: (504) 581-1000 Toll free reservations: 1-800-654-3990
(Please be sure to indicate that you are with the Grottoes of North America.)

Reservation Deadline: June 16, 2016

Covered, in-and-out, valet parking in Hotel is only $10 per night (usually $38 per night).
Check out this website for tours handled by the Concierge desk! http://liverytours.com

Laissez Les Bon Temps Roulez!
126TH SUPREME COUNCIL SESSION TOURS AND EVENTS

Monday July 18, 2016 – Mulate’s
Please join the Grand Monarch David and Lady Jenny at the world famous Mulate’s for an evening of FUN, GOOD FOOD AND ENTERTAINMENT! Cajun Music and Dancing (with instructors) a Creole Buffet (and other food for the less adventuresome.) Transportation included!

Tuesday July 19, 2016 – BB’s Stage Door Canteen
– WWII The National WWII Museum
The Victory Belles presents Songs that Won the War. The Victory Belles bring to life the songs that inspired the Allies to victory during World War II. This new Belles show features musical gems of the era such as White Cliffs of Dover, Harbor Lights, The Last Time I Saw Paris, La Vie En Rose, and I’ll Be Seeing You, all sung in rich, three-part harmony. You may even find yourself dancing with one of the beautiful Belles! Dinner 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. includes three-course meal. Transportation included!

Complete this form and mail with Check made payable to Ka Jon Grotto to:
A J Marlborough, 3725 Lake Arrowhead Drive, Harvey, LA 70058
Deadline for tours is July 1, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tours</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Number of Tickets</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mulate’s - Monday July 18, 2016 Evening</td>
<td>$60</td>
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<tr>
<td>BB’s Stage Door Canteen Tuesday July 19,</td>
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126TH ANNUAL SUPREME COUNCIL CONVENTION
GOLF TOURNAMENT - FOUR PERSON SCRAMBLE

Wednesday, July 20, 2016
Bayou Barriere Golf Club, Belle Chasse, LA
Tee-off: 8:30 A.M. Cost: $75.00 per player Hole Sponsor: $100 $250 or $500
This includes 18-holes of golf, cart, continental breakfast, lunch, and transportation
* AWARDS WILL BE PRESENTED AT THE RED TASSEL PARTY *

1. Name: ___________________________Email:________________________Phone# __________________
2. Name: ___________________________Email:________________________Phone# __________________
3. Name: ___________________________Email:________________________Phone# __________________
4. Name: ___________________________Email:________________________Phone# __________________

HOLE SPONSOR SIGN SHOULD READ_____________________________________________________

1 PLAYER $75.00 EACH $_______  FOURSOME = $300.00  TOTAL $____________
HOLE SPONSORSHIP: $_______  $100 , $200 or $500  TOTAL $____________

Please mail entry form with check payable to Kyle Chisholm 1620 Lake Salvador Dr. Harvey, LA 70058
For more information: gulfcontainer@cox.net
2016 SUPREME COUNCIL SESSION PROGRAM ADVERTISING

Name

Grotto or Organization

Address

Phone

FAX

Email

[ ] Full Page $300.00
[ ] ¾ Page $225.00
[ ] ½ Page Vertical $170.00
[ ] ½ Page Horizontal $170.00
[ ] ¼ Page Vertical $85.00
[ ] ¼ Page Horizontal $85.00
[ ] Business Card $40.00

ALL ADS IN COLOR THIS YEAR AT A DISCOUNT

[ ] $10.00 per MEMORIAL LINE OR HONORARIUM LINE OR BOOSTER NAME

This program will include listings “In Honor of...” and “In Memory of...” If you would like to remember someone in this way, please attach a sheet with the information typed or written legibly and include $10 for each name remembered or honored.

EXAMPLE: John Smith - In Memory of Ann Smith

Accepted on a Date/Time Basis

Date

Time

Price of Ad - Camera Ready provided by advertiser (includes business cards)

$________

Non-Camera Ready Ad - Add an additional Charge of $60.00/ Hr

$________

TOTAL COST OF AD

$________

Advertisement Copy Attached

[ ] YES

[ ] NO

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: KA JON GROTTO

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ADS – July 1, 2016

Submit and Mail Payment to:
Nick Plaisance
228 Progressive Blvd. Suite 201
Houma, LA 70360

Laissez Les Bon Temps Roulez!
Contest Rules & Regulations

1. Penalty points will be assessed this year for late contest registration. All registration forms must be received in the Supreme Council Office by the close of business on July 1, 2016. Any individual contestant or unit whose registration form is received after the above date will have the penalty points deducted from their contest score at the convention.

2. The Web Page Contest will be the Best Web Page by a Grotto or Association. The rules for this contest are available from the Supreme Council Office and entries should be received by June 1, 2016 so as to give the Judges time to review and judge the web sites before they leave home for the Convention.

3. The Contest Committee will use the same procedure again this year in awarding the prize money and plaques that was used last year. An award certificate will be presented to the winning contestants and units at the Awards Ceremony on Saturday evening. After the Supreme Council Office personnel return home, they will prepare the checks, and send them to the winning contestants and units.

4. The Theme Hospitality Room Contest will be held this year on Wednesday night, July 20, 2016, following the Grand Opening. This year’s theme will be “Let the Good Times Roll!” The rules for this contest are available from the Supreme Council Office. It should be noted that the registration forms for this contest must be in the Supreme Council Office by July 1, 2016.

5. The Clown Contest will have an additional requirement at the 126th Session in New Orleans, Louisiana. During the clown judging on Saturday the clowns will be required to do a 3 minute act showing their clowning skills. This will be in addition to the judging of their makeup and dress.

6. There will be NO MOTORIZED UNITS competition this year.

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2016 CONTEST AND UNIT REVIEW ENTRY FORM

Grotto Name________________________________________ City_______________________________________

We wish to enter the following Units and/or Individuals, in competition in Columbia, Missouri, at the 126th Annual Supreme Council Session in July 2016.

INDIVIDUAL ENTRY

A. List Category Entering:______________________________________________________________

B. Contestant (Fill in #1 or #2)___________________________________________________________________________

   If Prophet 1. My Name is_______________________________________________________________________

   If Related 2. My Name is_______________________________________________________________________

   Check One: I am the Wife___ Widow___ Daughter___ Sister___ Mother___

   Of Prophet (his name)___________________________________________________________________________

UNIT ENTRY

A. List Category Entering___________________________________________________________________________

B. Approximate Numbers of Members in Unit Competing___________________________________________

INSTRUCTIONS:

Complete this 2016 Entry Form and forward to the Supreme Council Office at 430 Beecher Rd, Gahanna, OH 43230, prior to July 1, 2016. You will be sent Contest Rules covering the categories you have entered. Individual or Unit entries received at the office or at the Supreme Council Session after the above date will be assessed late points.

ALL CONTESTANTS MUST BE REGISTERED TO ATTEND THE CONVENTION!

PLEASE MAIL THE RULES TO:

Name________________________________________________ Grotto_______________________________

Address______________________________________________________________________________________

City________________________________________ State_______ Zip_________________________

Monarch’s Signature____________________________________________________________________________
NOTICE TO PROPHETS

Each year at the Supreme Council National Convention four (4) management positions are available. Three (3) of these positions—the Grand Captain of the Guard, Grand Treasurer and a Grand Trustee are elected on the floor at the convention and are open to Past Monarchs and Monarchs only. The fourth position (Humanitarian Foundation Trustee) is appointed by the Board of Governors during the convention and is available to Past Monarchs and Monarchs.

1. **GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD**
   The entry level position in the Grand Line. Duties are to guard the Supreme Council while in session and comply with all wishes of the Grand Monarch. This office should be completely familiar with the Supreme Council Code and be prepared to accept more responsibilities as he progresses through the Supreme Council Line to his ultimate goal of Grand Monarch. He is a voting member of the Supreme Council Board of Governors. He is paid mileage/per diem for attending the National Convention and actual expenses for Board Meetings.

2. **GRAND TREASURER**
   Elected for one (1) year term. Duties and responsibilities are outlined in Chapter V, Section 5.6 of the Supreme Council Code. This officer is also a voting member of the Board of Governors as outlined in Chapter VI of the Supreme Council Code. He is paid mileage/per diem for attendance at the National Convention and actual expenses for attendance at other Board Meetings. Preferably, he should have a financial management background.

3. **GRAND TRUSTEE**
   There will be one for three (3) year term this year. Duties and responsibilities involve the management of property and investing of Supreme Council funds as outlined in Chapter V, Section 5.11, 5.12 and 5.14 of the Supreme Council Code. He should be experienced in financial investing. He is paid mileage/per diem for attending the National Convention and actual expenses if ever to attend Board of Governors meetings.

4. **HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION TRUSTEE**
   This is a position appointed by the Supreme Council Board of Governors for a five (5) year term. For details of the duties and responsibilities of this position refer to Chapter X of the Supreme Council Code. Prophets interested in this position should submit a brief resume of their qualifications to the Supreme Council Board of Governors through the Supreme Council Office. Remuneration is the same as a Grand Trustee.

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**GRAND MONARCH’S CLUB 2016-2017**

**A PROPOSAL AND INVITATION from Mark McCombs, Deputy Grand Monarch**

This is an invitation to the Monarch of 2016 and 2017, and appropriate Association Officers (Presidents of 2016 or 2017) to be part of a new concept in commradary, fellowship and communication.

I am proposing the initiation of “THE GRAND MONARCH’S CLUB.” The idea is to link together the men and ladies of 2016 and 2017 who will be sharing the unique experience of leading their Grottoes, Associations, and Supreme Council during my year as Grand Monarch. This association and bond can begin before and last long after our terms of office with The Grottoes of North America. As with anything, it will be what we make of it. We can all benefit as leaders with better communication and shared involvement of our hopes, dreams, and plans for our individual year(s) of service.

As Deputy Grand Monarch I have already began receiving invitations to installations, association conventions, and other events. If you have a desire to have Joan and me (as Deputy Grand Monarch or Grand Monarch) at your event, I hope not to disappoint, but the reality is there are only so many weekends and so many vacation days.

Some of my initial ideas for the GRAND MONARCH’S CLUB 2016-17 are as follows:

I need your commitment to communicate and opportunity to meet as a club during Supreme Sessions for 2017 and beyond.

* Possible use of Past Grand Monarch’s and Grand-line as a short form team for initiation of new Prophets at Association and Supreme conventions.

* Possible special certificate, pin, plaque of club members to be displayed at Sessions of Associations and Supreme Council.

* Possible special initiation fee for new Prophets.

* Idea to invite all candidates and sponsors to Association meeting for a first order of business initiation followed by participation in meeting and hospitality at Association convention or Supreme.

* Create a news release for local papers about Installation

THE FIRST STEP: E-mail or mail names of those who will be a Monarch or Association President 2016 or 2017 to: Mark McCombs
104 Sheffield St., Bellevue, Ohio 44811
or e-mail to: mlmcombs@frontier.com

Please include your full name, address, e-mail, phone number and office title for 2016 or 2017.

Laissez Les Bon Temps Roulez!
LeRoy here!

I was just sitting, looking down at what the Grotto has become today. To think that back in 1886, it all started because I asked a group of men to organize a function for the Royal Arch, and in so doing, they came up with a title for themselves—the FDC. (Fairchild’s Deviltry Committee)

These men were all Masons, of the same generation, who enjoyed playing pranks on each other, telling jokes and just looking for fun. In time they started to have meetings, which were held not in the Lodge, but in back rooms of stores or buildings wherever the red railroad lantern hung identifying the meeting’s location.

Who knew, these Masons of Hamilton New York, the Founders of the FDC would turn toward philanthropy—raising money for Cerebral Palsy and now onto Dentistry for Special Needs Children. We now do a million dollar’s worth of Dentistry a year, treating over 1,400 Special Needs Children. Without the commitment and support of the generous Prophets around the Realm, their families, the Daughters of the Mokanna and many other donors, where would we be?

It’s kind of like the poem In a Friendly Sort of Way, “When all the world seems gloomy, and the clouds hang dark and heavy, what you are doing will let the sun come out again, you feel a happy throbbing, in the region of your heart.” Let the Sun Shine through on our SPECIAL KIDS.

Keep up the Good Work!

P.S. Remember all I had was a DREAM!
**Humanitarian Foundation Circle Awards**

**COMPLETED PLEDGES**  
**AUGUST 15 TO NOVEMBER 24, 2015**

**Monarch Circle**  
Kenneth M Sholar .............................................Aries  
Charles Fred Fox ..............................................Khana Shahar  
Arthur Payne ......................................................Neruh  
Achbar Grotto Ladies Auxiliary ..................Achbar  
Jerry Ogletree .....................................................Dinar  
Stan Jones Trophy .................................................Midwest Association

**Grand Monarch Circle**  
Randall Kimbrough, PM .......................Cashan  
William Kimbrough, PM .......................Cashan  
Kismet Grottoettes ............................Kismet  
Todd Mayer .......................................................Selim  
Gotham Grotto ....................................................Gotham

**Fairchild Silver Circle**  
Amrita Grotto ................................................Amrita  
Zuleika Grotto ................................................Zuleika  
Nubia Grotto ....................................................Nubia  
Harold Strigfellow .............................Bendemeer  
Terry Wahl .........................................................Khana Shahar

**Fairchild Emerald Circle**  
Patrick Carr ..................................................Almaric

**NEW PLEDGES / UPGRADES**

**Monarch Circle**  
Omala Caldron .................................................Omala Caldron

**Grand Monarch Circle**  
Edward Ross, II .............................................Aut Mori

**Fairchild Emerald Circle**  
Fred Dawson ......................................................Abbas  
Marty Stover ...................................................Aleppo

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**Around the Realm**

**SIXTY-FIVE YEAR PRESENTATION**  
**Merrimac, Massachusetts**

Prophet PM Reverend John Murray Balcom was initiated in Mir-A-Mac Grotto in Merrimac Massachusetts October 20, 1949, affiliated with Mahded Grotto January 25, 1955, which has recently merged with Moslem Grotto.

SCDD PM Jack Bell and PM George Fontana and their ladies Carolyn Bell and Helena Fontana visited Rev John and his lady Jeanne Balcom at their home on Cape Cod, for the purpose of presenting him with his 65 year certificate as a Prophet.

They were entertained in true Cape Cod fashion with cookies and Cape Cod Cranberry Cider by Rev John’s lady Jeanne. This was a typical Grotto time of Fun, Food and Family.

Pictured below from left to right are SCDD Jack Bell Rev. John Balcom and George Fontana.

**ABBAS GROTTO**  
**Peoria, Illinois**

Abbas Grotto Past Monarch Shannon Walden, a Peoria, Illinois Police K-9 officer (fourth from the left) and his K-9 partner Anfo along with other Peoria and area department officers use the Abbas Grotto grounds for re-certification and training.

Thanks so much for what you do.

*Pictured below with their K-9 partners are left to right James (Ed) White, Tom (Shoe b do), and E. Dean Settles, with Tim (Teeball).*
MEROU GROTTO
West Lafayette, Indiana

Merou Grotto had a nice Halloween Haunted House. It was lots of fun for everyone who was involved in preparation and played the parts of ghouls during the fund-raising event. Prophets and their friends made up the cast who provided candy and toothbrushes to each child who came through the haunted house. Funds collected will be used for contributions to the Humanitarian Foundation and the Jack Davis Memorial Christmas Food and Toy Drive. A video of the Haunted House can be seen on our YouTube page for the Merou Grotto at: [https://youtu.be/SLUGhWdNcYw](https://youtu.be/SLUGhWdNcYw).

Pictured at right are Prophets and their assistants working on the haunted house project.

Laisséz Les Bon Temps Roulez!
Laissez Les Bon Temps Roulez!  “Let The Good Times Roll”

**GROTTO’S GOT TALENT... DO YOU?**

We had an amazing new contest, *GROTTO’S GOT TALENT*, at the 125th Supreme Council Session in Columbia, Missouri. The fun and fellowship at the Red Tassel Party Saturday night during the finals was awesome. Friday afternoon was the qualifying and Saturday night was the finals. We will use the same format this year in The Big Easy.

All talent is welcome, so if you tell stories, read poetry, play an instrument, sing or sing Karaoke, come out, compete and have fun. Don’t forget the thrill of winning the competition. We at the contest committee look forward to seeing you there.

*Your Contest Committee,*
- Jim Jarnagin, PM, Chairman
- Robert Lorenz, III
- Tom Curtis, PM

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*Best Wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year!*

The Supreme Council Officers, Trustees & Office Staff
The Humanitarian Foundation Trustees & Staff

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*The GROTTO Magazine is the Official Publication of the Grottoes of North America Mystic Order of Veiled Prophets of the Enchanted Realm*

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