

GROTTO

*The Master Masons'
Playground*



THE GROTTTO

The Mystic Order of Veiled Prophets of the Enchanted Realm, whose subordinate bodies are the Grottoes, is an organization by and for Master Masons.

While in no way connected with Masonry proper, its membership is restricted absolutely and exclusively to Master Masons in good standing.

Although it is an organization for good wholesome fun and frolic, it also has its serious side. Its slogan is good fellowship, and in contact with our fellow man, this principle is exemplified to a marked degree.



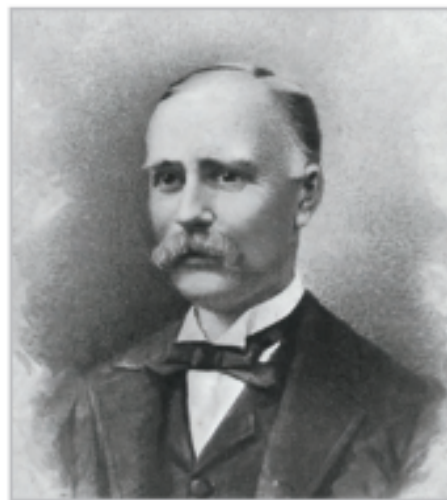
THE FOUNDER

The chief moving spirit in the founding of the M.O.V.P.E.R. was LeRoy Fairchild. In the summer of 1889, a group of Master Masons, members of Hamilton

Lodge No. 120 at Hamilton, New York, met to organize and hold informal meetings. What this group was seeking was fun and good fellowship. The idea of the Order proved to be attractive, and many distinguished Masons joined. The Order could no longer be confined to any one locality, and in response to the imperative requests, other groups were formed.

On June 13, 1890 the Fairchild Committee duly established and formed The Supreme Council of the Mystic Order of Veiled Prophets of the Enchanted Realm.

Bro. Fairchild believed with all his heart that the beneficial influence of Masonry would be far greater through the cultivation of the spirit of cheerfulness and good fellowship amongst the members, that was not possible in the Blue Lodge setting.



WHAT GROTTO MEMBERSHIP MEANS

The Grotto is provided to the Master Mason as a place where he might join with his brothers in letting the human instincts for fun, pleasure and amusement prevail. The Grotto was not, and is not, a place for

Masons to exercise practices that would not be tolerated in the Masonic bodies, nor which are taboo among gentlemen. The Grotto stands for all of Masonry and wholesomeness in life. It stands for letting in the sunshine on discouragement, grief, and woe, and it stands for substituting hope for despair at all times. Membership in the Grotto gives a man the right to wear its emblem and to participate in its good work, as well as enjoy all its pleasures.



WHAT THE GROTTO TEACHES

While it is as Prophets that we open the portals of the Enchanted Realm to Master Masons, we are nonetheless loyal to Masonry. We carry with us the solemn lessons we have learned within the Lodge, and we are guided by precepts of Masonry while we revel in the good cheer of the Prophets. The Order of Veiled Prophets, while proclaiming the loyalty of its members to Masonry makes no pretense of being a Masonic Order, nor does it claim to confer a Masonic Degree. Its membership is exclusively Masonic and its purpose is to supply the element of play in such a way that work and play will be blended without marring the solid beauty of Masonry. The Grotto is said to be essentially Masonic in character.

THE FEZ

For a few years the Mystic Order of Veiled Prophets of the Enchanted Realm had no official emblem to wear. A Black Fez with an image of Mokanna the center, and the name of the wearer's Grotto was selected as an emblem that would set them apart from others.



THE WORLD'S GREATEST PHILANTHROPY

At the Order's Supreme Council Annual Session in June 1949 held in Long Beach, California, the Supreme Council adopted as its national objective the cause of Cerebral Palsy. To this day, the Grotto has supported the research for this dreaded disease. The Supreme Council has contributed over a half million dollars to the United Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation since the day this program was adopted.



ENCHANTED LANTERN

The Humanitarian Foundation, founded in 1949, has two important projects. First, they expend thousands of dollars annually through the United Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation. Second, they support the Dental Care for Children with Special Needs Program. This program provides the best dental care possible for children with special needs. Any person who donates \$50 to the Humanitarian Foundation receives an Enchanted Lantern lapel pin and certificate. That the Grotto occupies a legitimate place and is doing wonderful work cannot be denied. It extends the hand of Good Fellowship to all Master Masons, having a smile for all and a frown for none.



DENTAL CARE FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The Dental Care for Children with Special Needs program was adopted in 1970 by the Grottoes as its second humanitarian project. Helping special needs children in need of dental care is the great challenge that Grottoes International has accepted. Our membership has diligently labored to provide the necessary funds to improve the oral health of these special children. For reasons beyond their control, they are too often excluded from the mainstream of dental care. Grottoes International offers this service to those children afflicted with:

Cerebral Palsy
Muscular Dystrophy
Developmental Challenges
Organ Transplant Children

This service is rendered to any child under the age of 21 regardless of race, creed, or color. The only prerequisite is that the child must be sponsored by a local Grotto. We do not cover children covered by Medicaid/Medical card, and we do not cover implants, orthodontics, or reconstructive jaw surgery.



JOIN THE GROTTO

When you join the Grotto, you become a member of "The Fraternity That Friendship Built." You automatically become a living part of a great philanthropy ... putting smiles on the faces of the physically and mentally challenged.

The Grotto is a social organization for Master Masons in good standing in their Blue Lodge. Masonry deals with manhood, square and upright. Its lessons are beautiful, dignified, and earnest. Within the Grotto is a playground for Master Masons. The organization has nothing to do with symbolic craft masonry. Yet the Grotto ritual is the most spectacular, colorful, and elaborate ritual seen anywhere. There is a solemn, serious motif The lesson it teaches invokes sympathy and good fellowship. A spiritual uplift results ... a keener love for life and laughter ... and a will to do and to help the less fortunate through the Grotto's humanitarian projects.

Join the happy group of Prophets dedicated to the pleasure of helping those less fortunate! We need you and want you to help us help others!

Why not walk through the Enchanted Realm today? You are most welcome to join your many Masonic Brothers in Good Fellowship in the Grotto.





PETITION FOR INITIATION AND MEMBERSHIP

Grotto _____

Mystic Order of Veiled Prophets of the Enchanted Realm

To the Monarchs and Prophets of _____ Grotto:

This subscriber respectfully represents that he is a Master Mason in good standing and wishes to offer himself as a candidate for the mysteries of the Veiled Prophets of the Enchanted Realm, and if found eligible, promises to cheerfully conform to all the established usages, customs, and regulations of the Order and to the By-Laws of _____ Grotto.

PRINT YOUR NAME IN FULL (NO INITIALS)

What is your age? _____

What is your date of birth? _____

Where were you born? City and State. _____

What is your mailing address? _____

How long have you resided in this State? _____

How many years at your current residence? _____

Best phone number to reach you is: _____

Email Address: _____

What is your occupation? _____

Name and address of your Employer: _____

Name and Number of your Lodge _____

Located in what City and State? _____

What is your hat size? _____

Have you ever, to your knowledge or belief, presented a petition to, or been rejected in any Grotto of Veiled Prophets? Yes No If so, what Grotto? _____

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes No

Petitioner

Please sign name in full - no initials

Proposed, Recommended and Vouched for by Prophet _____

Please Print

Date

Fee for the Order must accompany Petition.

For Office Use Only

Petition for The Order of _____

Residence _____

Recommended by: _____ Received _____, 20

Referred _____, 20 To: _____

Paid Fee _____, 20 \$ Balance Fee _____, 20 \$

Elected _____, 20 Rejected _____, 20 Petitioner Notified _____, 20

Initiated _____, 20 Reported _____, 20

Approved by _____ Committee.

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Grottoes International*

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Humanitarian Foundation

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