



HIGH TWELVE INTERNATIONAL MONTHLY UPDATE
January 2012 Issue

Update Published monthly by High Twelve International, Inc. at 743 Palma Drive, Lady Lake, FL, 32159. Telephone numbers **(352)-350-7421 (home) or (352) 753-3505 (cell.)** This publication is devoted to the interests of the Wolcott Foundation, Inc., High Twelve International, Inc., and its member clubs for the benefit of Freemasonry and affiliated orders. Contributions of interesting, appropriate editorial matters are welcome. High Twelvians are invited to submit such material for publication. **Submit all articles by e-mail. Articles should be received by the deadline date of the 20th day of each month.** Updates will be sent out the last of the month. Depending on the volume of articles, they may be carried over to a later date by the Editor. Articles must be sent to the Editor and not called in.

Editor: Mervyn J. Harris, Past International President, **352-350-7421(H)** or **352-753-3505©**, E-mail address: mjhhil2@centurylink.net

Congratulations to our members and ladies, celebrating their birthday, anniversary or other Special Event in January. Don't forget to make a contribution to the Wolcott Foundation, celebrating your happy event!

If you would like to have your name and e-mail address added to the mailing list and receive the Monthly Update on your computer, please send your e-mail address, name, city and State, to the e-mail address above. If the State Association or someone else sends in your address and you receive more than one copy, please let the Editor know and we will eliminate the duplicate addresses.

WE WISH YOU A HAPPY, HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR! WE HOPE 2012 IS YOUR BEST YEAR YET!

Prayers are provided by R.W. Reverend Mark Megee, PDDGM & Past President of the Union County High Twelve Club (N.J.). Reverend Megee has provided the prayers for your needs and use at club meetings as the opening and closing prayers.

Invocation: Beneficent Author of Life, remind us of the importance of keeping the promises we have made to each other and to You. Teach us that the obligations we have taken upon ourselves cannot be forgotten or overlooked. Show us that the only way to honor our obligations is to live in harmony with them on a daily basis. Keep us faithful in living with, living in awareness of, and living up to or Masonic Obligations. Guide us in the responsibilities which are ours as we assemble here to conduct our business today. In Your Spirit we pray, Amen.

Benediction: Gracious and great maker and ruler of the universe, keep us ever conscious during the coming twelve months of the preciousness of time, how it flows rapidly like the sands in an hour glass. Enable us to use the upcoming year to do fruitful Masonic research which will benefit our fraternity and its wholesome impact upon the world. Go with us and guide us as we depart. For Your Name's sake, we pray, Amen.

Flag Presentation:

Flag of the Free

**Look at the flag as it floats on high,
Streaming aloft in the clear, blue sky,
Rippling, leaping, tugging away,
Gay as the sunshine, bright as the day,
Throbbing with life, where the world may see-
Flag of our country, flag of the free!
What do we see in the flag on high,
That we bare our heads as it passes by,
That we thrill with pride, our hearts beat fast,
And we cheer and cheer as the flag goes past-
The flag that waves for you and me-
Flag of our country, flag of the free?**

**We see in the flag a nation's might.
The pledge of a safeguard day and night,
Of a watchful eye and a powerful arm
That guard the nation's homes from harm.
Of a strong defense on land and sea-
Flag of our country, flag of the free!
We see in the flag a union grand,
A brotherhood of heart and hand,
A pledge of love and a stirring call
To live our lives for the good of us all-
Helpful and just and true to thee,
Flag of our country, flag of the free!**

**Flutter, dear flag, o'er the lands and seas!
Fling out your stars and your stripes to the breeze,
Righting all wrongs, dispelling all fear,
Guarding the land that we cherish so dear,
And the God of our fathers, abiding with thee,
Will bless you and trust you, O flag of the free!**

...Walter Taylor Field

Reminder: the Mid-Year Meeting will be held once again in Las Vegas - January 29 - February 2, 2012, at Harrah's Casino. Check either the International Website at www.high12.org for additional information or use the attached Registration Form. You may phone Perry Albert at -1- 800 -392-9002, Extension 4850 to make reservations for your room. Make it after 9:00 am and before 3:00 pm Las Vegas time. Have your CC ready. These rates will not last long.

International 1st Vice President Donald Whistler (PA): Brethren, I do not have much to write for this issue of the Monthly Update. The most important thing is to let you know that just before Christmas Bob Holliday informed me of two deposits, which he made for the pocket planners. These deposits bring our profit for this program to \$1,239.37. We are much happier with this figure than the loss of approximately \$300.00, which we realized last year. Thank you all for your contributions!

The Mid-Year Meeting will be taking place at the end of January. I am sure that after it, the International Officers will have news to share with you. As we begin the New Year of 2012, I wish all of our Members much happiness and success with their respective clubs.

International 3rd Vice President Art Walton: Christmas and the Holidays through which we have just passed is a wonderful time of year. There is celebration in the air, joyfulness and giving all around us. It is a time that is celebrated and observed in countries all over the world; and encompasses people of a wide variety of ethnic and religious backgrounds. The Masonic family is similar in that it embraces men of a wide variety of beliefs and views.

One of the things that I like about High Twelve is that it is a giving organization. We see High Twelve Clubs all over the country embracing projects that support the Wolcott Foundation and supports education at a variety of levels in a broad way. We come together, consider needs that fall within the board aims of High Twelve International and pursue these aims with gusto and creativity.

And so, as we pause at Christmas to consider the many blessing that have come to each and every one of us during this past year, may we look with that same warm feelings of thanks of a new year and consider what needs exist in education, government and our Masonic Youth Groups. May we have the courage and zeal to continue to support good government through the Wolcott Foundation, education through local Club activities with public schools and our Masonic Youth Group with our time and presence at their meetings and events and with our contributions as they seek help to meet their financial needs. Merry Christmas to all and a most Happy and Prosperous Active New Year.

International Secretary Robert "Doc" Holliday: Doc has changed his email address to the following: R.DOC.HOLLIDAY@gmail.com. Please change your records for his new address and pass it on to your members.

California High Twelve Association: Oakland High12, Installation of Officers & Holiday Celebration. Oakland High Twelve Club No. 2, Oakland, California, celebrated its 90th Installation of Officers on Monday, December 12, 2011. Past State President Art Walton, 3rd International Vice President, was Installing Officer; with State President and Past International Secretary Jerry Saville as Installing Chaplain and Charge; and Club Past President Jerry Miller, as Installing Marshall.

Installed were: Club Retiring President Cleveland Valrey, as State Executive 2nd VP and Club Chaplain. Club Officers Installed was: Bruce Weissenberger as President, Gilbert Klingman as 1st VP, Alan Filiau as 2nd VP, Past State President Spencer Sargent, as Secretary, Club Past President Robert Baird, as Treasurer, Club Past President Loren Piper, Ensign Mayo Representative and William Sereni, as the Wolcott Representative.

High Twelve International Certificates in Recognition Of Outstanding Service to the Fraternity of Freemasonry in General, and High Twelve in Particular, for Exceptional Accomplishments during This International Year by being "In Service To Freemasonry," were presented to Club Past President's Loren Piper and Cleveland Valrey.

Oakland High Twelve Certificates of Appreciation for past Guest Speaker Presentations were presented to Illustrious John Kirkpatrick, Venerable Master of Oakland Valley Scottish Rite and Worshipful Past Master, Sandy Kahn.

A delectable meal of Prime Rib with all the trimmings, prepared with love and care by the Valley of Oakland Scottish Rite Chefs under the supervision of the Facilities Manager, Worshipful Past Master, Alex Kirpatrick, was truly outstanding in taste, proportion and presentation. There were forty six (46), members and guests in attendance and at the close of ceremonies there were potted Poinsettia's for the ladies. The 90th Installation of Officers and Christmas Celebration was, indeed, a most enjoyable and memorable occasion. Cleveland Valrey, PP, 2nd Exc. State VP & Spencer Sargent, PSP, Oakland #2 – Secretary

Illinois High Twelve Association: Moline Area Masonic High Twelve Club #88.

For our Christmas party the Moline High Twelve Club #88 hosted the Davenport High Twelve Club #47 on Friday [December 9th](#) at the Windmill restaurant in East Moline, IL. This has been an annual event for years with the clubs alternating. Our State President Roger Carson, State Secretary Ed Rund, 1st State President Dean Lillis, International Secretary Bob Holliday was there. The total number of members and guests numbered about 70 people. The Jazz band from Black Hawk College provided musical entertainment for the group.

Have you made any New Year's resolutions? It would be a good idea if you would make one for our High Twelve Club. Make a resolution to get at least one new Master Mason to join our club this year. We all know Masons that do not belong, so do not be afraid to ask them to be in fellowship with us. It would be wonderful if we could get our membership back to 50 members. Think about how you can help us achieve this goal.

All meetings this month will be at Denny's Restaurant, 2601 52nd Avenue, Moline. Plan to come about 11 a.m. to enjoy your lunch and fellowship before the program at noon (High Twelve). This could be a perfect time to ask a friend to come along with you. Ladies and guests are welcome.

[Friday](#), January – 6th - Wayne Guinee, owner and general manager of three Waterpark Car Washes, will talk about the process employed at three full service locations, including scientific approaches to amounts of water used, and much more.

[Friday](#), January – 13th – Terrill Webb, invests in, raises and shows Alpacas, a domesticated mammal. Should be a very interesting subject!

[Friday](#), January – 20th – Kevin Imas with Lender Recovery will speak about some experiences he has encountered and difficulty he has had in collecting cars, trucks, boats and other items for his clients.

[Friday](#), January – 27th – Dr. Thom Baynum, new President of Black Hawk College will talk about his experiences both prior to and currently at Black Hawk College and coming to Illinois from Beeville, Texas.

A little girl asked her mother, "Can I go outside and play with the boys?" Her mother replied, "No, you can't play with the boys; they're too rough." The little girl thought about it for a few moments then asked, "If I can find a smooth one, can I play with him?"

Bud Workman, Bulletin Editor. Moline High Twelve club.

Ohio State High Twelve Association: It is great sadness that we report the death of Earl Dawson, Jr., Ohio State High Twelve President. He passed away on December 18, 2011, after a long illness. He had been awaiting a Kidney Transplant for over two years. He was a kind gentle man and gave much to High Twelve and Masonry. His Masonic Service was held December 22, 2011, and the funeral was held **Friday**, December 23, 2011. Both were held at the Adams Funeral on Fair Rd in Sidney, Ohio. .

Brother Earl was awarded the High Twelve President's Medal at the High Twelve Convention last June in Jacksonville, Florida. He will truly be missed by his friends and brothers.

New Christmas Poem submitted by Winnie Hill, Widow of James Hill Ohio Past State President:

TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS, HE LIVED ALL ALONE, IN A ONE BEDROOM HOUSE MADE OF PLASTER AND STONE.

I HAD COME DOWN THE CHIMNEY WITH PRESENTS TO GIVE, AND TO SEE JUST WHO IN THIS HOME DID LIVE.

I LOOKED ALL ABOUT, A STRANGE SIGHT I DID SEE, NO TINSEL, NO PRESENTS, NOT EVEN A TREE.

NO STOCKING BY MANTLE, JUST BOOTS FILLED WITH SAND, ON THE WALL HUNG PICTURES OF FAR DISTANT LANDS.

WITH MEDALS AND BADGES, AWARDS OF ALL KINDS, A SOBER THOUGHT CAME THROUGH MY MIND.

FOR THIS HOUSE WAS DIFFERENT, IT WAS DARK AND DREARY, I FOUND THE HOME OF A SOLDIER, ONCE I COULD SEE CLEARLY.

THE SOLDIER LAY SLEEPING, SILENT, ALONE, CURLED UP ON THE FLOOR IN THIS ONE BEDROOM HOME.

THE FACE WAS SO GENTLE, THE ROOM IN SUCH DISORDER, NOT HOW I PICTURED A UNITED STATES SOLDIER. WAS THIS THE HERO OF WHOM I'D JUST READ? CURLED UP ON A PONCHO, THE FLOOR FOR A BED?

I REALIZED THE FAMILIES THAT I SAW THIS NIGHT, OWED THEIR LIVES TO THESE SOLDIERS WHO WERE WILLING TO FIGHT.

SOON ROUND THE WORLD, THE CHILDREN WOULD PLAY, AND GROWNUPS WOULD CELEBRATE A BRIGHT CHRISTMAS DAY.

THEY ALL ENJOYED FREEDOM EACH MONTH OF THE YEAR, BECAUSE OF THE SOLDIERS, LIKE THE ONE LYING HERE.

I COULDN'T HELP WONDER HOW MANY LAY ALONE, ON A COLD CHRISTMAS EVE IN A LAND FAR FROM HOME.

THE VERY THOUGHT BROUGHT A TEAR TO MY EYE, I DROPPED TO MY KNEES AND STARTED TO CRY.

THE SOLDIER AWAKENED AND I HEARD A ROUGH VOICE, SANTA DON'T CRY, THIS LIFE IS MY CHOICE;

I FIGHT FOR FREEDOM, I DON'T ASK FOR MORE, MY LIFE IS MY GOD, MY COUNTRY, MY CORPS.'

THE SOLDIER ROLLED OVER AND DRIFTED TO SLEEP, I COULDN'T CONTROL IT, I CONTINUED TO WEEP.

I KEPT WATCH FOR HOURS, SO SILENT AND STILL AND WE BOTH SHIVERED FROM THE COLD NIGHT'S CHILL.

I DIDN'T WANT TO LEAVE ON THAT COLD, DARK, NIGHT, THIS GUARDIAN OF HONOR SO WILLING TO FIGHT.

THEN THE SOLDIER ROLLED OVER, WITH A VOICE SOFT AND PURE, WHISPERED, 'CARRY ON SANTA, ITS CHRISTMAS DAY, ALL IS SECURE.'

ONE LOOK AT MY WATCH, AND I KNEW HE WAS RIGHT. 'MERRY CHRISTMAS MY FRIEND, AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT.'

This poem was written by a Marine. The following is his request. I think it is reasonable.....PLEASE. Would you do me the kind favor of sending this to as many people as you can? Christmas will be coming soon and some credit is due to our U.S. service men, women, and Canadian Forces for our being able to celebrate these festivities. Let's try in this small way to pay a tiny bit of what we owe. Make people stop and think of our heroes, living and dead, who sacrificed themselves for us. Please, do your small part to plant this small seed.

Pennsylvania High Twelve Association: Franklin County High 12 Club #726. Brother S. Eugene Herritt became the R.W. Junior Grand Warden, Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, in [December 2011](#). During the Shippensburg Scottish Rite Club meeting on December 8, 2011, Brother Herritt was awarded the Scottish Rite Medal for Masonic Service by the Valley of Harrisburg Consistory commander-in-chief, Jeff Hersey for his many years of Masonic service. Franklin County High 12 Club past president John D. Cook became the District Deputy Grand Master, District 3, Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in [December 2011](#). Submitted by Don Parrish, President

Florida High Twelve Association – Lake Placid High Twelve Club: Greetings Brothers and Sisters We are wishing all of you a very Happy and Healthy New Year. May you all be blessed with good health and happiness for you and your family.

The new officers had their meeting in Dec and all went well. We are hoping for a good year. Our President Charles was given the honor of the title of "High Twelvian of the Year for the State of Florida" at our annual convention held at the Villages in Dec. What a great surprise. He is very proud and humble to have received this great honor. The convention went real well and it was good to see old friends from last year again and talk about old times.

We are sorry to report that our Arcadia Club #600 had to give up its charter last month. They just did not have the officers to continue their club. We will miss them. We only have one club left in this area and that is Lake Placid. Again, we invite all Masons and their ladies to come and have lunch with us and share in good fellowship. We will meet on Jan 27th at the Elks Lodge in Lake Placid. Give us a call you might enjoy our Club and find the friendship you have been looking for in your Masonic family. Stay safe and God Bless until next month. Charles Krueger, President

Arizona High Twelve Association, Kevin L. Hokerk, PSP, High Twelvian Editor:

Spring 2012 High Twelvian Deadline! Input for the Spring 2012 edition must be in the hands of the Editor no later than **Friday, March 9, 2012**. Articles of interest including pictures from Members, Clubs, Associations and International Officers are welcomed! If you have any questions please send an email or call me at [623-239-6101](tel:623-239-6101) or email klhokerk@cox.net.

California High Twelve Association, Fresno High Twelve Club: Brethren: 2011 has come to an end. We had a very interesting year and look forward to 2012 and all that it will bring to Fresno High Twelve Club No. 10. Due to continued low attendance, the Board of Director's have decided to only meet one time per month. We will meet on the First Tuesday of each month. The Board of Directors and officers will meet at 10:30 with lunch to follow

at 12:00 noon. We will continue to invite our ladies to lunch with us each time we meet. We hope to see you all at each of our meetings in 2012.

Our First Vice President, George Page, has arranged a wonderful program for us on January 3rd. We will have one or two ladies from the **Cat House** on Kings Canyon Road. This should be a very interesting program and we hope all of you can attend this meeting. We will continue to meet at the Ramada Inn during 2012. Bill Neal, President and Jack Farson, Secretary/Editor

Past International President & Monthly Update Editor Merv Harris: Pat & I would like to Wish You a Very Happy New Year. We both enjoyed meeting so many of you when we visited your State Convention and at the International Convention; and the Mid-Year Meeting in Las Vegas last year. We have so many dedicated Members and ladies trying to improve and keep High Twelve active.

The number of clubs in High Twelve has dipped to 251. I hope this will ignite your Associations, Clubs and your members to take some aggressive actions to work toward starting new clubs and bringing in new members. I have talked to several club Presidents, who report they have brought in several new members. I believe if some clubs can bring in new members, then most of our clubs can do the same. We have 3 or 4 new clubs started or in the final works for doing so. Our International President has been working towards starting new clubs in Hawaii and in South America. Things are looking good, now we just have to strike while the iron is hot.

Many States now have web sites and the International web site is there for your use. We have the State Associations listed but lack information on individual clubs. If a Mason looks at our web site trying to locate a club, how can he find one if the clubs doesn't have their club listed with location, time and information on who to contact. Give this some thought and contact your State Secretary for assistance on putting the information on line.

My club in Florida is taking some aggressive actions and we have received "Outstanding" support from our Grand Lodge. When we sign up a Mason from another State, then we have the opportunity to invite him to our Lodges and become involved and perhaps even join the Lodge. At the least, they can enjoy the dinners and functions and it is a win, win situation for all.

I hope I can provide you with some other ideas beginning next month on locating and recruiting new members. If you contact the International 2nd Vice President Jim Parker in Ohio, he can give you some great suggestions in bringing in new members.

Please continue to send in articles for the Monthly Update by the 20th of each month. We need your input!

Humor:

After being married for 40 years, I took a careful look at my wife one day and said, "Forty years ago we had a cheap house, a junk car, slept on a sofa bed and watched a 10-inch black and white TV, but I got to sleep every night with a hot 23-year-old girl.

Now ... I have a \$500,000.00 home, a \$35,000.00 car, a nice big bed and a large screen TV, but I'm sleeping with a 63-year-old woman. It seems to me that you're not holding up your side of things."

My wife is a very reasonable woman. She told me to go out and find a hot 23-year-old girl and she would make sure that I would once again be living in a cheap house, driving a junk car, sleeping on a sofa bed and watching a 10-inch black and white TV.

Aren't older women great? They really know how to solve an old guy's problems.

OFFICIAL REGISTRATION FORM

HIGH TWELVE INTERNATIONAL
MID-YEAR EXECUTIVE AND GOVERNING BOARD MEETINGS

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
JANUARY 29 THROUGH FEBRUARY 2, 2012

Date: _____

My name is _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

I will be arriving January _____ and will have the following people with me:

I will be departing January/February _____

I belong to High Twelve Club: _____ Number: _____

My State, Club, International offices are: _____

I will represent one or more of the above at this meeting as: _____

**You must make your own Hotel Reservations at the Harrah's Casino & Hotel
located at: 3475 Las Vegas Blvd South, Las Vegas, NV 89109**

By phone please call Perry Albert (800) 392-9002 ext. 4850

My hotel confirmation number is _____

Enclosed is check number _____ in the amount of \$25.00 for my
Registration Fee made out to High Twelve International Mid-Year Conferences.

After filling out the form print three copies, one to be sent with your
check to:

Bob Holiday
c/o Bettendorf Masonic Center
2412 Grant St.
Bettendorf, IA 52722

Bring one completed form with you to the meeting and the other one is for your
records.

Please use a separate form and check for each member attending.

(Alternate Form for those without computer capabilities)