



## HIGH TWELVE MONTHLY UPDATE August 2013 Issue

Update Published monthly by High Twelve International, Inc. at 743 Palma Drive, Lady Lake, FL, 32159. Telephone numbers **(352)-817-0707 or (352) 753-3505**. 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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.

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

**Prayers are provided by R.W. Reverend Mark Megee, PDDGM & Past President of the Union County High Twelve Club (NJ).** He has provided them for our needs and possible use at your club meeting as the opening and closings prayers.

**Invocation:** Father of Light, keep us diligent in the quest for Masonic knowledge and faithful in the spreading and sharing of the same. We thank You, O God, as we gather for food and fellowship, for the heritage we share in Masonry, of meeting at this festive occasion. As brethren of old all throughout the world have found their spirits refreshed and their strength renewed during occasions such as this, so may we be sustained in health and strength from this fare. May our lives overflow in gratitude to you? Amen.

**Benediction:** Supreme Grand Artificer of the Universe, how thankful we are for life and all its blessings! We remember with grateful awareness that Freemasonry is a way of life. Enable us, as we journey homeward, and in the days following until we meet again, to readily seek to live by Masonic principles on a daily basis. For we pray in Your Spirit, Amen.

**Flag Presentation:** Permission to use the Patriotic Poems has been granted by Roger W. Hancock, whose Website can be found at <http://poetpatriot.com/poemsflag/htm>. His Website is copyrighted and permission is required to publish anything from the Website. I have found that his Website is the most complete for many types of poems and other material. He has several Websites, which can be used to find a large assortment of poems. They are [www.FlagPoems.PoetPatriot.com](http://www.FlagPoems.PoetPatriot.com); [www.FlagRules.PoetPatriot.com](http://www.FlagRules.PoetPatriot.com); [www.Flag.PoetPatriot.com](http://www.Flag.PoetPatriot.com); [www.PatriotPoems.PoetPatriot.co](http://www.PatriotPoems.PoetPatriot.co), or [www.Veterans.PoetPatriot.com](http://www.Veterans.PoetPatriot.com). We want to thank him for the use of the poems in the Monthly Update on a continuing basis.

### Liberty Hue

Red, white and blue;  
serving freedom true.  
Military personnel serve,  
bravely in lieu of you.

Protect from coups  
Constitution not new.  
Flying free, look, observe,  
as first light winds blew new.

Loyalty enthuse,  
liberty not ensue.  
Responsibility serves,  
sunrise birth new debut.

Loyalties not swerve  
each morning to review.  
Fly our national nerve,  
colors imbue each hue.

© September 20, 2011 Roger W Hancock, [Patriotic.PoetPatriot.com](http://Patriotic.PoetPatriot.com)

**International 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Winton Hewitt (PA)**: Brethren we have good news out of Arizona, we will be getting two new Clubs there. I spoke with some members from the Masonic Village at Dallas, PA about getting a club started there. I hope that they will carry it through. I also spoke to a couple of brethren in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, about getting a club started there. We need to keep branching out and getting more new clubs as well as new members for the clubs that we have now. We have some clubs where Officers are getting fewer and fewer. They are just wearing out as Club Officers in the Clubs.

As I said before we have some good tools to work with from the International Office for recruiting and membership. I hope that the Clubs realize that all the International aids are just an e-mail away to Kevin Hokerk ([klhokerk@cox.net](mailto:klhokerk@cox.net)). Get your President or Secretary, better yet, you can go on line yourself and see what items such as dues cards, get well cards, thank you cards, certificates of appreciation and many more such aids that can help your club in its membership and recruiting.

Some Questions that each club should be asking:

- Has your President been in his spot for more than 1 year?
- Do you have new Officers moving through the chairs?
- Have you brought in new members in the recent months?
- Do you have only one person that makes sure that you have good programs each month?
- How is the Meeting facility? Is the Club getting what is expected from the management?
- Does the club invite brothers to visit the club to see what we are all about?
- Some clubs have the Women at all the meetings, some only on Special occasions; this depends on the preference of the membership.

If some of the answers to the first few questions are **yes** the club is headed for trouble waters because the same members doing most of the work will run out of steam after a while.

It does not take as much efforts to keep a **Strong Club** going if everyone takes his turn as Programs Manager, Club Officers, and Recruitment. It's not hard to see those clubs that have a strong team because you can feel and see it when there is a well-oiled team working in a club. You don't always have to take the lead position if you are not comfortable with that job just be a support member. It takes the **WE MEMEMBERS** to have a **STRONG CLUB**. If you offer your assistance I am sure that it will not be turned down.

Are you getting the support that you think you should be getting from the State Officers? Every Quarterly Meeting is held for the benefit of State Clubs. Each of the Individual Club Presidents is expected to attend the Quarterly meetings. By virtue of their Office they are the members that make up the **Governing Board** of the State Association. If the President is unable to attend the meeting he should make sure to have a representative from his club in attendance. Some clubs fail to make any of the Quarterly meetings during the year even though the Quarterly meetings are moved around so that they are near most of the State Clubs at one time or another.

Let's continue to move in a more positive direction, by remembering that **WE are the Members of HIGH TWELVE**.  
Fraternally, Winton.

**International 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Jerry Saville (CA)**: First I want to congratulate the High Twelve Brothers in Illinois and Arizona for opening new clubs – the lifeline of our future – Well Done!

I found a record of Mayflower Gardens High Twelve Club #465 in Lancaster, California chartered on 7-21-71 and closed in June 1987. Lancaster is only 45 miles from home, so our Lodge Master, also our State High Twelve 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, called the Lodge Master in Lancaster to discuss High Twelve. We received an invitation to their August stated meeting & dinner to tell them about High Twelve. I will continue my search for locations that used to have High Twelve clubs in hopes that they will open one again. The results of our efforts will be published in my next article – wish us luck! Big thanks to our outstanding International Secretary for sending the High Twelve start-up kits.

Also, on behalf of our State President, we thank International President Jim for accepting our invitation to attend the California State High Twelve Convention in October. Everyone is invited to our convention in Ontario. Please let me know if you need any Convention information that's not on the High Twelve Website. Fraternaly, Jerry Saville.

**International 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Richard Kessler (AZ)**: I was asked by Merv Harris, Editor of the Monthly Update, to provide back ground on my fraternal and personal life as I start my way through the International High Twelve line.

I was born and raised in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. Graduated from the Williamsport School System and the Technical Institute. I served aboard a Submarine during the Korean War and was honorably discharged in 1954. I am a member of Am vets; American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. We have one Daughter and 8 Grandchildren, 6 of which are adopted.

Joined LaBelle Vallee Lodge 232 in Jersey Shore, Pennsylvania. Served in the Chairs up to and including Jr. Warden. I joined Zafar Grotto in Williamsport. Also, in 1974 served 5 years as Editor of Zafar Grotto Expressions. When we moved to Arizona, I became a dual member of Altan Kol Grotto. Served through the Chairs and was elected as Monarch in 2000/2001. In 2002 I became Secretary for the next 11 years. I will become State President of the Western Grotto Association in [October 2013](#), (AZ.-CA.-NV). I am a 32 degree member of the Williamsport Consistory A.A.S.R.

Joined High Twelve Club 523 in 2000. Also joined Green Valley High Twelve Club and was elected as President in [December 2012](#). I was elevated to the position of State President in September of 2012.

Member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles for 62 + years. I am a 55 year member of the Loyal Order of Moose and the Legion of the Moose. Past State Presidents of Pennsylvania Moose; and Moose Legion in Arizona.

Former Mayor of Jersey Shore and served as vice-President of the Pennsylvania Borough's Association. Past President of the Jersey Shore Area Chamber of Commerce; and of the J.S. Hospital Board of Directors.

In 1988, I retired as a Rural Letter Carrier for the U.S. Postal Service after 20 years and was the 1st President of the R.L.C.A.- U.S.P.S - Right to Work Committee.

We are working hard to build and/or re-build High Twelve in Arizona. Thank you for the opportunity to be of service in High Twelve International. I sincerely believe in what High Twelve stands for and will work my tail off to make it better. Kindest personal regards to each of you and your families. Yours in Good fellowship, Richard.

**International Secretary Kevin Hokerk, Arizona PSP (AZ):** The 92<sup>nd</sup> Convention is now history, vacation is over and now back to work as things will be gearing up for last part of the year.

As discussed at the convention the new International Website is up and running. Please take a few minutes to look at it, particularly the information that relates to your State Association and Club. Should you see any needed corrections please send an email to the International Office. One useful change to the site is it will use a lot less ink to print a page, there is also a small print icon on the right margin to make it easier to print a page. If your Association or Club has a function that you would like posted please send the information to the International Office and it will be included in the Events tab that also shows on the Home page. The Reference tab has a lot of useful information for Secretaries. Included in the Reference tab are also the Membership Program documents that can be printed/downloaded for promoting High Twelve (the “Glow” video is only available thru the International Office). *The login portion of the website is not active at this point but will be down the line for Association Secretaries.* We look forward to your comments on this site.

A big thank you to all the clubs on payment of 2013-14 Per Capita – 83% of the clubs have paid in full. Looking forward to it being % 100 in the near future. On the flip side there are still 8 clubs that in arrears for 2012/2013.

A new club will be chartered in Illinois on [September 18, 2013](#) – Cornerstone High Twelve #772 located in Gurnee, IL; and an organizational meeting was held on [July 27<sup>th</sup>](#) in Tucson AZ for a club on the east side of town. Congratulations and good luck to these new clubs being formed. [Fraternally, Kevin L. Hokerk, Secretary, Phone: 623.239.6170 - www.high12.org](#)

**George Washington University Wolcott Foundation Fellow Matt Ginsburg:**



Dear Wolcott Foundation Members:

First allow me to apologize that it has taken me six months to respond to your request for a brief memo describing what the Wolcott Fellowship has meant to me. I am busy, but not that busy.

I will always remember meeting the Wolcott representative when I applied to attend GW. I must admit that I don't remember his name – it was nearly 30 years ago. Nonetheless, that night change my life in many ways. I was accepted to graduate school at Columbia, Georgetown and GW. Neither Columbia nor Georgetown offered me any financial aid. When GW offered me the Wolcott Fellowship, based on the recommendation of the local representative, my decision was made easy.

I enjoyed GW and took advantage of the flexibility offered by the master's degree program. I migrated toward business and economics and did very well in my studies. I particularly enjoyed a course in International Banking taught by Dr. Park. When a friend of mine who was attending Johns Hopkins' School of Advanced International Studies said that he was interviewing with the banks in New York, I thought, “why can't I do that too?” I felt the GW degree was equal to the John Hopkins' degree, but GW didn't have the established connections with the New York banks that Johns Hopkins did.

I reached out to the GW contacts listed in the career center. One day while working at a temporary job after graduation, I called a GW alumnus in New York from a pay phone on the street during my lunch break. Charles Kiley, (I remember his name), worked for Bankers Trust, at that time the fifth or sixth largest bank in the country. He was very friendly and invited me in for an informal interview. I met with him and then he took me to the trading floor where I met lots of young

men in starched white shirts with Ivy League degrees. I remember subsequently asking my girlfriend from GW, “How come these guys wear shirts that seem to get all wrinkled?” “They must be all cotton,” she said.

My interviews went well and I worked for 12 years at Bankers Trust in New York and London. Bankers Trust was eventually bought by Deutsche Bank in 1999, but in the late 1980s and 1990s, it was one of the most innovative financial institutions in the world. It may sound politically incorrect, but I’m proud that in my early work at Bankers Trust, I was one of the pioneers of the use of derivatives in the financial services industry. Derivatives are not inherently bad, but they are widely misunderstood and easily castigated. When understood, they can be quite beneficial. When misunderstood or abused, they can be disastrous. Warren Buffett famously called derivatives “weapons of financial mass destruction”. However, he must have meant this only when they are used by other people. If you read the Berkshire Hathaway annual letter, he has been a big user of them. I’ve spent much of my career demonstrating that one doesn’t need to be Warren Buffett to use derivatives constructively.

Derivatives are part of the fabric of our financial system. Much of my work involves introducing the general public to investment products that, through the use of derivatives, provide access to diverse financial markets while protecting capital. For the past 11 years, I have worked at Wells Fargo managing a business that offers investors very conservative investment products that enable them to diversify across markets to safely save for a new home, a wedding, a vacation, and most importantly, retirement.

America is faced with a tremendous problem. Most people have not adequately saved for retirement. This problem is growing and is likely to be a major public policy issue in the next decade. The recent financial crisis demonstrated how risky the financial markets can be. Ironically, derivatives, viewed by many as the cause of the financial crisis, can be a valuable tool in helping people save and invest without taking all the risk otherwise present in the financial markets. I intend to continue to use my expertise to help alleviate this situation.

I called Charles Kiley almost 27 years ago. I married the girl with the sartorial wisdom 26 years ago. We have three wonderful children. I have traveled in 50 countries and done business in most of them. Wolcott established the path that led me here. I am very grateful. Thank you. Sincerely, Matt Ginsburg

**Wolcott Foundation Trustee Zone 3 Stanley Gardner (CO):** As I begin this article I am taking information from Wolcott Chairman Malcolm White. Malcolm gave the number of High Twelve members as 5000 in his address at the International Convention of 2013.

More support is needed from each member of High Twelve to sustain the awarding of Fellowships to George Washington University, so with that in mind please study the following scenarios: IF every member gave \$1 per month to Wolcott that would be  $5000 \times \$12 = \$60,000$ ; the cost of one Fellowship. *NOW*, consider this: IF every member contributed \$10 per month:  $5000 \times \$120 = \$600,000$ , (*a bit mind boggling*) that would fund 10 Fellowships and the Trustees would not have to “dip into” reserves.

There are ways to “find” that \$10 per month, do you have a latte each week or even each day? How about Exchanging a latte or two for a good cause? Do you visit your barber every other week? How about going for three Weeks and make a donation at the end of the month of the price of one haircut? Do you eat out several times in a Month? How about “eating in” at least once during the month and put the cost of a meal in the Little Red School House? These are little “sacrifices” each of us can make to support a greater cause.

OOPS! I heard someone say “*But, I pay my dues.*” Thank you, your dues go to support your local Chapter, your State Association and High Twelve International, none of the dues amount goes to Wolcott, unless your Chapter Stipulates that in your dues structure. Your dedication, as a member of High Twelve, is greatly appreciated by The Board of Trustees of Wolcott, but there must be more support for the young people that will be the leaders of America in the very near future.

Our dear departed Brother Warren Bolton had a saying that he ended every letter or communication with: "Send Money".  
Fraternally, Stan Gardner, PIP, Wolcott Trustee Zone 3.

**Arizona High Twelve Association:** The 38th Arizona Annual Convention will be held on [September 21](#), 2013. We hope and pray that all High Twelvians will attend this very important Convention. We have planned a great Convention for you. A NEW CLUB has been formed on the East Side of Tucson. This Club will be instituted by International President James B. Parker, IV. Other International and State Officers will also be here. It is not every day that an undertaking of this magnitude occurs at a Convention. Please plan now to attend and help welcome these NEW HIGH TWELVIANS into our fold.

This Convention will be held at the Green Valley Blue Lodge # 71. The Lodge is located at La Canada Drive in Sahuarita, Arizona, the same as the 2012 Convention. As this is a one day Convention, no hotel accommodations are included, however, there are several hotels within a short drive from the Lodge. If you desire accommodations, please advise Convention Chairman Bill Lofquist at [1-520-297-5392](tel:1-520-297-5392) or myself at [1-520-573-1132](tel:1-520-573-1132). If your Lady will be traveling with you, please advise, so we may plan something to occupy them while we are in session.

**California High Twelve Association Article by Jack Farson, Editor, Fresno High Twelve Club:** It has been a long hot summer. So far we have had 31 days of triple digit temperatures and summer is not over yet. We had a very good turnout for our July 2nd meeting at Denny's. There were 17 members and 8 guests in attendance. We hope we can continue to have this many present at our future meetings.

Brother Gordon Lowe has arranged for a speaker from Caltrans at our meeting on August 6th. We hope you can attend this meeting. Our meetings will be held at Denny's at 1110 E. Shaw Avenue until further notice.

I have started a series of "Learning the Meaning of Masonic Symbols," on page two of the Monthly Chime Bulletin. The first one was in the July issue. I hope they are interesting to many of you who read this bulletin. I hope you enjoy these messages. If any of you have articles that you would like for me to include in the High Twelve Chime Bulletin, just email them to me and I will include them in future copies of the bulletin

**PAPER DRIVE:** Bring your old newspapers, magazines, telephone books, etc. and give them to Don Heffernan. Don will take them to the recycle center and the funds we receive will be deposited in our bank account. This is one of the activities we do to keep our dues down. Fraternaly, Jack Farson, Editor

**Indiana Masonic High Twelve Association:** Traveling Five Visitation, 6-26-13

On June 26<sup>th</sup> the (Traveling Five) plus one, consisting of the following Brothers of Club 99. Walter Watts, Pres. Of Club 99, Jacob Wiebers, P.P. of club 99, & P.S.P. Ralph Acghill, 3<sup>rd</sup> V.P. Club 99, Bob Waldron, P.P. of 99 and 3<sup>rd</sup> S.V.P. Rudell Wilburn P.P. of 99 and 1<sup>st</sup> S.V.P., embarked on a journey to Franklin, In. the location of Indiana Masonic Home, and the home of High twelve Chapter No. 545, Indiana High Twelve association. The plus is Bro. Thomas S. Bevington, P.I.P. and St. Secretary. Tom has joined us in all of our visitations and we are proud to claim him as one of us.

It was an enjoyable trip there and back. The weather was great and the conversations between the Brethren were very upbeat and encouraging for the future of our Club. I mentioned that I thought the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag, should be at the first of the opening of a Chapter, Rather than after the opening Ritual. I brought this before the Members present at our Chapter, and they all agreed unanimously that we proceed in that manner. I hope this will become the rule and guide in all our High Twelve Clubs: We are the Masonic High Twelve, therefore we should follow the lead of the Masonic Lodges.

Our visit with High Twelve Club No.545, was great, there were Thirty Five members present. The five of us (The Traveling Five), Five Visiting Brothers from Columbus Chapter, No. 337 and one from Indianapolis Chapter o.722 , adding the 24 of their members in attendance gave a good turn out by any one's count.

Indiana State High Twelve Club was well represented by the following: David Dickerson, S.P. Rudell (Sarge) Wilburn, 1<sup>st</sup>.S.V.P., Dr. Ronald W. Woods,2<sup>nd</sup> S.V.P., Robert Waldron, 3<sup>rd</sup> S.V.P., Thomas S. Bevington, P.I.P. and St Secretary, and Donald D. Abernathy, State Sgt. At Arms. These Brothers are truly working to increase our numbers in attendance at

our State and Local meetings.

The Brothers of Club 99, are very supportive of the Traveling Five, and enjoy hearing our reports when we return from a visit. More wish they could join us but time and circumstance keep that from happening. So, we will keep on as we are. We are looking forward to the next visit at Columbus, Indiana High Twelve Club No.337 date to be announced.

Submitted By Rudell (Sarge) Wilburn, Indiana State 1<sup>st</sup> V.P.

**Missouri High Twelve Association Announcement: Re-Opening and Rededication of Harry S Truman Masonic Lodge #679 - Kansas City, Missouri—July 24, 2013—**The Grand Lodge of Missouri, Grand Master, MWB David Ramsey and Ararat Shriners are pleased to announce the reopening of the Harry S Truman Masonic Lodge after more than 11 years of latency. The celebration will be held on Sunday, July 28 at 1:30pm, with the official consecration beginning at 2:30pm, 5100 Ararat Drive Kansas City, MO 64129.

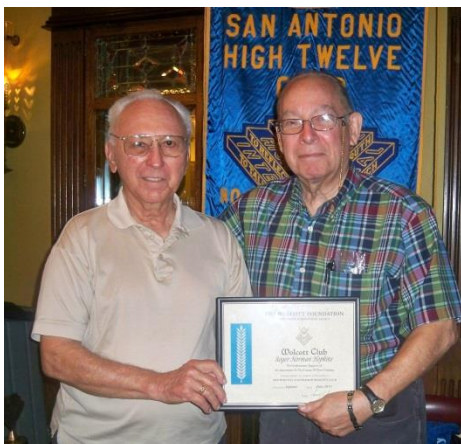
It is with great pride and commitment that the Grand Lodge of Missouri and Grand Master, MWB David Ramsey, with the assistance of Ararat Shrine and Shriners International, have worked diligently to resurrect the dormant Harry S Truman Masonic Lodge. The new Lodge will be located in an annex of the Ararat Shrine. The ultimate goal is to keep Freemasonry alive and growing and the Shrine community is aiding in this effort to strengthen the unity and ultimate vitality of the two organizations. The Shriner's of Ararat realize that it should always be "Blue Lodge" Masons first and hope to help grow both fraternities and maintain the principles of "Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth," the foundation upon which Freemasonry is based. (It should be noted that one must be a Mason first before becoming a Shriner).

Harry S Truman Masonic Lodge, named for President Harry S Truman who became a master Mason in 1909, became the Grand Master of Missouri in 1941. He was also an active member of the Ararat Shrine, serving as an officer until he had to step down for duties in Washington, DC as a United States Senator.

**About Shriners International:** Shriners International is a fraternity based on fun, fellowship and the Masonic principles of brotherly love, truth and relief. There are nearly 200 temples located throughout the world and hundreds of thousands of members. Men who wish to become Shriners must first join the fraternity of Freemasonry and achieve the status of Master Mason.

**Contact :** Rodney McGrath | 816-651-7636 | [rmcgrath@kc.rr.com](mailto:rmcgrath@kc.rr.com). For more information on Masonry please contact Grand Secretary, Ronald Miller 877-B-A-MASON (877-226-2766).

Regards, Public Relations Department, Shriners International Headquarters, [shrinepr@shrinenet.org](mailto:shrinepr@shrinenet.org), 813-281-8162, 813-281-8496 Fax



**Texas High Twelve Association Article by Donald Garrido Wolcott Trustee Zone 6:**

Photo on left: At the July meeting of the San Antonio Club #656, Brother Donald P. Garrido, Vice Chairman and Trustee of Zone 6, Wolcott Foundation Inc., presented the Wolcott Club Certificate and Pin to Brother Roger N. Hopkins, and congratulated him on his generous donation to Wolcott Foundation and his continued support.



Photo on left: Brother Donald P. Garrido, introduced the new Wolcott Banner and talked briefly on the Wolcott Logo.

**More California High Twelve Association Information by PSP Spencer Sargent:**

As you may be aware, I attended the International Convention in Philadelphia, PA , June 14 thru 16<sup>th</sup>, and was part of a California Delegation consisting of: PSP, Jerry Saville, Tehachapi, PSP Malcolm White, Bakersfield, PSP Ercil Eschbach our State Treasurer, and myself.



Also, attending from California, PSP Art Walton, 2<sup>nd</sup> International VP, and PSP Jon Silver Feather, International and State Chaplain, (see above talking with the new International Treasurer).

My first day in Philly was on June 13<sup>th</sup> where I joined a group for a trip into Philly and a tour of the beautiful and stately Grand Lodge of PA. I broke away from the tour to walk a few blocks to see the Liberty bell and Constitution Hall. These are sights I have always wanted to see and glad I did.



We returned to the hotel about 5 PM just in time to clean up and head for a No Host Cocktail Party.

The following day, the 14<sup>th</sup>, The meeting was officially opened by International President Don Whistler followed by a Necrology Service remembering our departed brethren, with Bro. PSP Jon Silver Feather presiding. Then back to the meeting for Committee Reports, announcements, updates and Round Table Meetings. After lunch more Committee Reports, updates and discussions, the meeting was adjourned for the day to be followed by the hosting of the Pennsylvania Grand Master’s Banquet. After the introduction of the Grand Master (they call him Rite Worshipful in Pennsylvania) and his informative and educational words to the body of High Twelvians present, by the way which was very well received,



the banquet came to an end. At this time we went into Candidates Caucuses, where we were afforded the opportunity to vet the prospective officers for the new term. Only the International Presidential candidate ran unopposed.

On the final day of the Convention, the meetings started in earnest at 9:00 AM. Under old business the Technology Committee made their report and estimated costs. This briefly has to do with a New Membership Data Base and to the hiring of a Tec Savvy individual or firm to put together a program to bring our International records into the modern age of technology. Such a program will allow better accountability of clubs, members, mailings, etc. The proposal was passed by vote of those present.

Another item discussed briefly was the IRS Tax Filings. Our very able International Secretary had found when he took office last term that *the Master Group Exemption* Listings had not been filed for some years. Secretary Kevin and the International Treasurer Don Galway worked together to resolve this problem. Apparently each club must file a 990 each year. The 990-N-E postcard is the way to go and each club should receive one automatically in the mail from the IRS.

Another important item of concern is the revised International By-Laws which was reviewed at the Mid-year Conference, some amendments were made by the Governing Board and approved for passing on to the Annual Convention for a vote. After some discussion and a few minor changes a vote was taken and the International By-Laws passed. Also, uniform By-Laws for all Hi-12 Clubs with a provision for clubs to add language unique to their clubs and geographical locations, subject to approval by the International Secretary. These Club By-Laws were also approved by vote of the members present, and now must be reviewed by each club, signed and dated. Note: The By-Laws are available to be seen on the International Web site: [high12.org](http://high12.org).

Also, the 2013/2014 Budget was displayed by Power Point Presentation, Income and Expenses for the year was also discussed and harbors a small surplus. The 2013/2014 Budget passed by voice vote of the members present.

The Election of Officers took place with our own PSP Jerry Saville, being elected 2<sup>nd</sup> International VP. Brother PSP Art Walton, let it be known that he would not be a candidate for election this time, we are sorry to say. The following were elected by Secret Ballot:

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|--|--|
| President James B. Parker, IV, PSP – Centerfield, OH   | 1 <sup>st</sup> VP Winston Hewitt, Havertown, PA |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> VP, Jerry Saville, PSP – Tehachapi, CA | 3 <sup>rd</sup> VP Richard Keesler, Tucson, AZ   |
| Treasurer, Rollin Furness – Brookville, OH             | Secretary, PSP, Kevin L. Hokerk – Avondale, AZ   |
| Chaplain, PSP, Jon Silver Feather, Bullhead City, AZ   |  |

At 12:00 Noon, we attended the Wolcott Luncheon with some 80 to 90 high Twelvians, wives and friends. Brother and Chairman of the Wolcott Foundation, Malcolm White, PSP, opened the meeting and introduced all the Trustees and dignitaries seated at the head table, including our Speaker Ambassador (Honduras 2005-2008) Charles A. Ford who was appointed Assistant Secretary/Director General, US and Foreign Commercial Service in the Commerce Department's trade Administration. He was accompanied to this event by the Ambassador of Mongolia.



His talk was informative, educational and most enlighten. Ambassador Ford has done it all. Of particular note is that he said that he would not have been able to receive his graduate degree from GWU without financial help from the Wolcott Foundation. He would not have been able to rise in the ranks of government service if his education was less than first

class. His praise is most welcome to these ears. He detailed his service throughout the world on behalf of this country and some of the obstacles he overcame. He is truly proud to be a Sr. Wolcott Fellow and we are truly proud that he is one of ours.

About 2PM, we returned to our meeting room where reports from the various States were made. Also, of note, an electronic connection was made with brothers in the United Kingdom who extended their report and offered their Good Wishes for a successful year. Also, in attendance was a representative of Honolulu, HI.

A notice was made that the Convention next year would be in Springfield, Ohio. A date yet to be picked. The meeting was closed in due form and Bro. Jon Silver Feather gave the Benediction. At 6pm, the President's Banquet and Installation of Officers took place. Fraternaly, Spencer Sargent, PSP, Acting California State Secretary.

**Humor:** (Series of jokes provided by a long-time friend.)

My wife and I were sitting at a table at her high school reunion, and she kept staring at a drunken man swigging his drink as he sat alone at a nearby table. I asked her, "Do you know him?" "Yes", she sighed, "He's my old boyfriend. I understand he took to drinking right after we split up those many years ago, and I hear he hasn't been sober since." "My God!" I said, "Who would think a person could go on celebrating that long?" And then the fight started...

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When our lawn mower broke and wouldn't run, my wife kept hinting to me that I should get it fixed. But, somehow I always had something else to take care of first, the shed, the boat, making beer.. Always something more important to me. Finally she thought of a clever way to make her point. When I arrived home one day, I found her seated in the tall grass, busily snipping away with a tiny pair of sewing scissors. I watched silently for a short time and then went into the house. I was gone only a minute, and when I came out again I handed her a toothbrush. I said, "When you finish cutting the grass, you might as well sweep the driveway." The doctors say I will walk again, but I will always have a limp.

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My wife sat down next to me as I was flipping channels. She asked, "What's on TV?" I said, "Dust." And then the fight started...

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My wife was hinting about what she wanted for our upcoming anniversary. She said, "I want something shiny that goes from 0 to 150 in about 3 seconds." I bought her a bathroom scale. And then the fight started.....

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I rear-ended a car **this morning**...the start of a REALLY bad day! The driver got out of the other car, and he was a DWARF!! He looked up at me and said 'I am NOT Happy!' So I said, 'Well, which one ARE you then?' That's how the fight started.

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One year, I decided to buy my mother-in-law a cemetery plot as a Christmas gift...The next year, I didn't buy her a gift. When she asked me why, I replied, "Well, you still haven't used the gift I bought you last year!"

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**Reminder:** Our major philanthropy is the "**WOLCOTT FOUNDATION**," followed by the Youth Organizations!

**Comments by Merv Harris, PIP and Editor of the Monthly Update:** I thank everyone for contributing articles and photos to our High Twelve Monthly Newsletter. Everyone knows that to have an interesting newsletter, YOU our members, must submit happenings in your club, articles on Awards, Installations, or money maker projects your club has during the year.

What your club is doing may help another club to do something similar. It is one member or club providing an idea, which can assist another club in being interesting and successful. It is a win, win situation and makes interesting reading.

Some simple suggestions will assist in making my job easier. When submitting your article, please do not send it as a photo file. It makes it almost impossible to change it to a document.

When sending a photo, do not send it as a document as I can't move it around to fit the space available. Photos should be sent as a photo file. Photos can be in color or black and white.

If you send in a "flyer" as an article, I cannot use it in the newsletter. Please send as a word document or PDF file.

Many of you have requested a listing of International Officers and Committee Chairman. I will publish when provided to me by the International President.

The High Twelvian Magazine is published two times a year, normally in the Fall and Spring. If you have an article for the High Twelvian, send it directly to the International Secretary Kevin Hokerk, AZ PSP, [klhokerk@cox.net](mailto:klhokerk@cox.net). An announcement will be posted on the International Website at [www.high12.org](http://www.high12.org) and in the Monthly Update requesting articles.

Prayers for the Monthly Update have been provided by R.W. Reverend Mark Megee, PDDGM and Past President of the Union County High Twelve Club (NJ). He has been providing them for several years and if we have any Pastors, Ministers or members, who can assist us by providing the prayers used each month, it would be greatly appreciated. We need both the Invocation and Benediction prayers.

The prayers are provided to assist the Club Chaplains with their opening and closing prayers. I have talked to some of the clubs and they appreciate having the prayers provided for them as they have not had the experience that Ministers have and they want to do the best job possible.

A Website has been found with Poems for the Flag Presentations and they have given us approval to use their Poems on a monthly basis. If you are interested the Website information can be found right after the prayers on page 1 of each issue of the Update.

Please talk up High Twelve when you attend your Lodge Meeting or other Masonic Body Meetings. They may never know about High Twelve if you don't tell them. You seldom hear of a Mason asking you if he can join your club. WE need to ask to have our clubs grow. If you won't do it, who will!

Thank you again for your support and assistance in making the Monthly Update an interesting and viable newsletter.

High Twelve and the Wolcott Foundation make a perfect combination. Are you aware that all High Twelvians are members of the Wolcott Foundation? Do you also know that High Twelve members donations to Wolcott has made it possible to fund over three hundred Wolcott Fellows to attend George Washington University and receive a Master's Degree and pursue a Public Service Career? Do you also know it costs over \$54,000 to fund each Fellow?

Perhaps you can see why you are so important to this Program and why we need more members to support Wolcott. As a group we are probably doing more to educate bright young people to earn their degree and go to work for the Government and make use of their education to improve how the Government works and to make our country the leader among all nations.

**INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN: 2013-2014 Updated/Corrected 8//13.)**

Names, telephone #'s and e-mail addresses are provided for easy reference, if you need information or assistance.

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