

WINTER is in the air and on the ground! Now is the time to bring a friend to the High Twelve meeting, so they can see why you belong! **Think membership!**



High Twelve International, Inc. Monthly Update December 2016

Monthly Update is published monthly by High Twelve International, Inc. at 743 Palma Drive, Lady Lake, FL, 32159. Telephone numbers **(352) 753-3505 or (352) 817-0707**. 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. Mervyn J. Harris, PIP, 352-753-3505 or 352-817-0707, Email address: update-editor@high12.org

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 or occasion! Some members donate \$1.00 or more for every year they have been married. Seems like a very nice gesture on their part and a great tribute to a Happy Marriage with that Special Person!

International President, Dr. Ronald W. Woods, PSP (IN):

Brother High Twelvians. 2016 is now over and 2017 begins. I have asked for all State Associations to search their State and locate three cities where there is no High Twelve Club and work to form one in each of these areas, such a job takes time and patience. However the personal rewards are great. I ask that you begin this by the end of January and work to have the three new clubs chartered and installed by the end of December 2017. Then guess what I want you to do it again in 2018. If each of the bothers in your State Association works together, we could have 39 new clubs in 2017 and another 39 in 2018. Good Lord...would that not be great? International is is there to help you with publications and multiple articles on how to do this.

This year has been a rough one for me personally. In August one of my very good friends died. George grew up in Romania and was born there in 1935. During WW II he was forced to be a Hitler Youth. Near the end of the war his father had died and his mother was able to travel west and to get past the American lines. From there they moved to Cincinnati. George served in the US Army, and worked at Proctor and Gamble. I shall miss my friend, a good friend that loved the USA.

Then at 2 PM Christmas Eve day, I received a call from the Washington DC area and learned that a friend had died the evening before. Her husband told me that she asked him to call and tell me that she had died. I have known Coralee and Ron for some 20 years and last visited them in April of 2016. At the time I could do nothing but cry. This had nothing to do with High Twelve but we also loose brothers in the Order and our sorrow with their families.

It is the good work we as Masons do while we live as those good works live on in the life of others. Tonight I take a petition for my grandson to Greensburg Lodge #36. His history is 4 generations in his father's family and 3 in the Woods Family. It would be 4 if I count my GGG Grand Uncle born in 1816 and died in 1890 as a brother in Ohio County Indiana.

God bless you for all you do. Fraternaly, Dr. Ron Woods

International 1st Vice President William Haynes, PSP (PA):

A Unique Card...I recently installed the officers of New Castle (PA) High Twelve Club, where I met their Secretary/Treasurer, the Rev. David Williamson. He has conceived a unique approach to recruiting members. As the club members signed in for their dinner, he gave them each two tickets, which were good for a free lunch for a brother Master Mason (No wives - nor friends) who might be enticed to join the club. The dates of the year's meetings were also on the card which was the size of a business card. What a wonderful way to promote recruiting. No cost to the club member and the prospective candidate was free of any obligation. This is the type of **out of the box thinking** that makes clubs grow. Of course, your club has to be able to

afford this gesture but it will pay dividends many times over and is a superb idea for clubs to implement.

Unique ideas/methods should be shared with other clubs and this column is a great way of doing that. Please share with your International officers any ideas like this that will help High Twelve, so they can get published like this one. Fraternally, Bill Haynes.

International 2nd Vice President Joseph Santisteban, PSP (IL):

Greetings fellow High Twelvians, Welcome to a new year! I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas, a Happy Hanukkah, and a safe, peaceful New Year. I had the pleasure of spending the holidays with my family in Tucson. I had a very nice time, did nothing and ate well. The only down side was that my granddaughters and I did not get a chance to build a snowman. But we did have the opportunity to hear some gunfire on New Year's Eve.

It's always nice to take it easy and spend quality time with your family. Besides being able to kick back, relax, and catch up on my reading, it also gives me a chance to reflect on the things that are going on in the world. The events surrounding us points out to me in clear terms how Freemasonry can help and be a vital part of any society. This would also apply to High Twelve. Unfortunately, Freemasonry has been shrinking.

The large numbers of the 40s, 50s and 60s are gone; a statistical aberration that will probably never happen again. Moreover, a lot of men who send in money to carry dues cards for the York Rite, Scottish Rite, Shrine, OES, etc. aren't going to those places any more than they are attending their Blue Lodge. The appendant bodies cannot save Masonry, nor can their many charities. The tail cannot wag the dog -- Freemasonry must save itself. The same is true for High Twelve.

And on that note, I plan to pay a visit to our International Secretary while I'm here to see how things work from the 'corporate level' and what I can do to make things better. I've also been invited by the Past State President, Dave Miller, to attend a meeting of the club in Sun City. I will be hanging around with the family until I head to Las Vegas for our Mid-Year-Meeting. Hope to see many of you there.

As one of my Brothers told me (more than) once:

*May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
The rains fall soft upon your fields and,
Until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.*

Until next time, stay safe, have fun and watch out for each other. Fraternally,
Joe Santisteban.

International Secretary Kevin Hokerk-Robinson, PSP (AZ):

Happy New Year everyone!

The Mid-Year Conference will be held in Las Vegas 1/23 and I look forward to seeing the attendees there. It is not too late to make reservations at the hotel even though the guaranteed room rate cut off has passed. All members are welcomed to attend.

SECRETARIES: some of you are using the obsolete online monthly report form (shows obsolete in the email subject line) that you saved as a favorite page. **This form will no longer work come 2/1/17.** Please visit the HTI home page to update/save the link. The only difference is the addition of the PayPal link to pay new/reinstated member fees. When using PayPal it is *not necessary* to create a PayPal account, just enter the debit or credit card information. If your club had elections recently please be file an online **F-200b** report. Also dues cards are available, all you have to do is ask!

Jerry L. Saville, IPIP will be in Hawaii during the time of the Mid-Year Conference to Charter a new club on the big island: #781 West Hawaii – Kailua Kona, HI.

I hope you enjoyed the Fall edition of *The High Twelvian*. On page 30 there is a survey question about making online donations for our fundraisers, if you have not taken it please do so. Also there is a survey concerning this edition. Both surveys can be found on the home page here: **ONLINE SURVEYS**



Here I am sitting at my desk working on the weekly bank deposit, with my foot up, under the desk on chair, sort of elevated. I had foot surgery 11/30 – they did 6 things including making 2 fractures, 2 screws some straightening, shorting, neuroma removal and *bunch* of stitches. Recovery has been slow as swelling continues to be a problem, hard to get things accomplished with your foot elevated all the time! As a result I have not been able to sit at my desk to get things done in a timely fashion, so please bear with me as I catch up.

2nd Vice-President Joseph Santisteban drove up from Tucson, AZ while on vacation to 'visit' the international office and join me for the monthly

executive board conference call. I got to show Joe a bit of what goes on in the office. We went for lunch at TJ's in old Avondale and I just had to do a selfie of us! We also did a visit to Keepsake Trophy to pick up a club banner for the new Liberty Club in Philadelphia, PA.



True to many a Masonic meal Joe could just not resist the meatloaf, mashed potatoes (*both smothered* in gravy) and green beans! LOL Me, I had a tuna melt and tots.



If any High Twelvian is in the Phoenix area while traveling you **ARE** welcomed to visit the international office!

California High Twelve Association, Fresno High Twelve Club #10:

Article provided by Jack Farson Secretary/Editor of the Fresno Club. What Is A Masonic Trestle Board; Masonic Tracing Board; Why Freemasons Square The Lodge Room? A Masonic trestle board is a design board for the Master Workman (Architect) to draw his plans and designs upon to give the workmen

an outline of the work to be performed. In today's terms, we might call it a blueprint. It is one of the 3 Movable jewels. A trestle board is a framework consisting of (usually 3) vertical, slanted supports (or legs) with one or more horizontal crosspieces on which to hang or display an item. Today, it is better known as an easel. Some jurisdictions around the world call it a tracing board. It would be somewhat of a circular logic task to argue the difference, as, while neither can be fully proven (in historical writings) the Tracing board may very well have preceded (come before) the use of the word Trestleboard because lodges in Europe (which pre-date American lodges), use the word Tracing Board. Hiram's Tracing Board: Hiram Abif's tracing board is believed to have been made of wood, covered with a coating of wax. Each day he would draw his Master architect's measurements and symbols into the wax in order to instruct his Master Masons of the work that was to be accomplished. At the end of the day, he would simply scrape off the wax and pour a new layer of hot wax onto the board to ready it for the next day's work. Masonic Tracing Board: Much later, in the days where lodge was held in secret areas and on hills and vales, (valleys) once lodge was in session, the Tiler (or Tyler) would draw an oblong (rectangular) or oblong square depiction (image) into the dirt that represented the form of the lodge. Again, onto that tracing board was drawn the architect's plan...the working tools in the degree that was to be worked. Masonic Trestle Board: Through the years, the Masonic Tracing Board progressed to charcoal or chalk on the floor of taverns where lodges were held back in the 1700s. After the lecture, the Stewards or the Entered Apprentice, as a lesson in secrecy, would get a mop and bucket and remove all trace of these drawings.

Florida High Twelve Association, Village High Twelve Club #674:



At the first meeting of the year, we added a new member to the rolls. Past President John Merryman inducted Rev. Bro. Ted Nace into the club, who was joined at the Altar with his Lady Kathy. We want to welcome them both as members of the Village Masonic High Twelve Club.

Rev. Bro. Nace is a member of the Oblong Masonic Lodge in Dover Plains in New York. They now reside in The Villages and they have been married for 46 years. Kathy is a former Rainbow Girl, who was

very active in the organization and held many offices while growing up.

Gerry Parker, wife of the late Robert Parker and former President of the club

recommended Bro. Ted for membership.

Thank you Gerry for recommending our newest member and to Fortunato Santos for encouraging Bro. Nace to becoming a member of the club!



Photo on left: Thank You to Brother Will Backstrom, a club member for over twenty years, for his generous donation to our club. Brother Will made a donation of \$400 to have a drawing for two tickets each month to a member attending the meeting. The member can use the tickets for himself and/or for a new prospective member. This month's lucky winner was Jim Alster. Congratulations, Jim.

Note from Michael Hemphill, PSP & Florida State Association Secretary:

It is with a sad heart that we announce the passing of Past State President Ray Turner in December 2016. Brother Ray started the awarding of a Trophy for the club bringing in the most new members each year. He will be missed by family and friends.

Illinois High Twelve Association, State President's Message:

Greetings High Twelve Brothers: Since our last newsletter I have completed my Official visits to all Illinois Clubs, attended Grand Lodge to represent Illinois High 12, and attended the Mid-Year meeting of the North Central High 12 Association in Des Moines, Iowa. My next High 12 adventure will be the Mid -Year High 12 International meeting in Las Vegas in January. I continue to attend Mattoon #89 High 12 every Tuesday and when weather permits, Illini in Urbana and Jerseyville. I did also drop in on Quincy in November. I enjoy visiting all of the clubs and find comfort in the fact that we all share the same ideals and tenants of Masonry but at the same time each club displays its own individual interest and sense of purpose. When spring returns I will again be visiting all Illinois Clubs and look forward to seeing old friends and making new ones. I also look forward to seeing you at the Mid-Year-Meeting in Springfield on April 8, 2017. Keep, not only recruiting new members, but keep the current members involved and never let them think they have been forgotten. Have a Happy New Year and stay safe and warm.

In closing remember to Reflect upon Truth and to Talk Little to Hear Much and have safe travels. If I can do anything for you or your Club please let me

know. Charles R. Coffey, President, Illinois Association of High 12 Clubs
Home: 217-235-1388 Cell: 217-273-7010 Email: coffey46@consolidated.net

Quincy High Twelve Club #40:

Greetings from Quincy Masonic High Twelve Club #40. Quincy #40 celebrated its 72nd anniversary of receipt of its Charter, November 4, 1944. We remain a very active Club, meeting at Sprouts Restaurant every Wednesday, at 12 Noon, On occasion where there are 5 Wednesdays in a month; we meet at 6 PM, with special attention given to our ladies. We have been very successful in having a great line up of Guest Speakers, and have had the privilege of having as our guest speaker, the Mayor of Quincy, on two occasions. Our attendance has dropped somewhat in recent months. But that is due to the flight of our Winter Birds, heading south to Florida, Texas and Arizona. We expect them back in town in late March to Mid-April. Bro Ray Short ridge, most recently elected High Twelvian of the Year 2016, has agreed to for the 2nd time, hold Office of Club President. He will not be in attendance until early March 2017, but is believed with several Past Club Presidents in attendance through the winter, we will an active Club. We were pleased to note that our 1st Club VP Gary Farha, was elected to hold the office of Adams County States Attorney as of December 1, 2017. He has been an active member of our club for 5 years. Interesting to note, his Uncle Fred H Farha was one of the founding members of the Club & was Club President 1950 & 1951. Of added interest of longevity of one of our oldest members, Bro Eugene Holford, who has been a member of our Club since June 3, 1953. His father R.F Holford and his father in law Charles E Sparks were founding members of Quincy #40. Bro Eugene can no longer attend our meetings on a regular basis, due to ill health, he remains on our active roster and through the efforts of his daughter, receives monthly communication with the Club. Thomas Moore was also a founding member of the Club, and is the Grandfather of our present Mayor Kyle Moore, who is yet not a member of the Club, but is a frequent visitor. At present our Past Club President David Liesel, who is 1st State VP, is working hard with the convention committee, putting together the details for our State Convention in August 2017. He and the committee are busy firming up the hotel arrangements, meals, and calendar of Convention events. We hope that it will be well attended. In recent years, Quincy #40 has hosted the convention in 1996 with Bro Robert Bedell as President, in 2002 and 2004 with Bro Nick Weisinger as President and in 2012 with Dean Lillis as President. Quincy #40 wishes to extend an open invitation to visit Quincy #40 on any Wednesday at 12:00 Noon as our guest, to enjoy a great meal and equally great Masonic Fellowship.

Pennsylvania High Twelve Association, First Capital High Twelve Club:

As 2016 has ended and we look forward to 2017 I feel we should take some time to look back and then look forward as Hi-12 members. First, I would like to Thank all the members that attended our meetings each month it is always

a good time for food and fellowship. A Thank you to members that contributed \$100.00 to the Wolcott Foundation. They are as follows: William Gleason, John Krout, John Schmitt, Earl Sheaffer Jr., Roger Stabley, Donald Whistler, James Wilson, James Woof, and James Young.

Thank you to the Sponsors of the Holiday Luncheon. They are as follows: Austin Corwell, John Schmitt, Luther Sowers, and Roger Stabley.

For 2017 one thing, we should focus on is membership. As most of you know several of our long-time members have been taken out of this world. Several others have moved out of the area. With that our membership has been on the decline. If you know of a brother Mason that would make a good Hi-12 member invite him as a guest to attend a meeting and hopefully he will enjoy his time at the meeting and will join.

As your Secretary, I wish all a healthy and prosperous New Year. Hope to see you at a future High Twelve meeting.

Brethren: Now that the Holidays are over and we can get down to some serious High Twelvian business, please send in your articles and photos on what is happening in your clubs. It may be your club Installation; someone receiving an award; an article about your guest speaker or entertainment or anything else of interest. Photos accompanying the article make it even better.

What you do in your club may provide another club with an idea and do something similar. You will be helping someone out and they can then report what they have done and it can be included in the Monthly Update. Anyone can submit an article and photos, so help us out by making the Update a better means of communication. Editor.



Wolcott Treasurer and Trustee Zone 6 Robert Morton:

The following report covers the 2nd quarter contributions for the Wolcott Foundation, Inc.

The Wolcott Foundation, Inc.
 Contributions By Zone / By Trustusee
 By Qtr / Year-To-Date
 01-May-2016 through 30-April-2017

Trustee:	Malcolm White	Ercil Eschbach	Stanley Gardner	Willie Mier	Michael Clark	Donald Garrido	Robert Morton	Mervyn Harris	TOTAL \$'s
	Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Zone 5	Zone 6	Zone 7	Zone 8	
1st Qtr	\$1,702.50	\$4,155.96	\$300.00	\$70.00	\$368.00	\$2,195.00	\$802.00	\$0.00	\$9,593.46
CUM 1st Qtr Y-T-D 31-Jul-16	\$1,702.50	\$4,155.96	\$300.00	\$70.00	\$368.00	\$2,195.00	\$802.00	\$0.00	\$9,593.46
2nd Qtr	\$1,237.00	\$1,056.00	\$500.00	\$758.25	\$1,263.44	\$1,016.20	\$780.50	\$192.00	\$6,803.39
CUM 2nd Qtr Y-T-D 31-Oct-16	\$2,939.50	\$5,211.96	\$800.00	\$828.25	\$1,631.44	\$3,211.20	\$1,582.50	\$192.00	\$16,396.85
3rd Qtr									
CUM 3rd Qtr Y-T-D 31-Jan-17									
4th Qtr									
CUM 4thQtr Y-T-D 30-Apr-17									

Wolcott Foundation Contributions TOTALS 2016-2017

Humor

Tony was a pianist and was practicing late one night. There was a tap on the door, when he opened it his landlord was standing outside the door. The landlord asked, Do you know there is a sick lady upstairs? Tony answered, No, I haven't heard that song. Can you please hum it a little?

A woman who ran to the mall for a quick errand lost her purse, but an honest teenage boy returned it to her. The woman looked inside her purse and remarked, That's strange. Earlier I had a \$20 bill inside, but now it's gone, and instead I see two fives and a ten. That's right, the boy explained. The last time I found a lady's purse, she did not have change for a reward.

I'm not saying that the customer service in my bank is bad. But when I went in the other day and asked the clerk to check my balance. She leaned over and pushed me!

Just look at that young person with the short hair and blue jeans. Is it a boy or a girl? It's a girl. She's my daughter. Oh, I'm sorry, sir. I didn't know that you were her father. I'm

not. I'm her MOTHER.

The lawyer was cross-examining a witness. Isn't it true, he began, that you were given \$5000.00 to throw this case? The witness did not answer. Instead, he just stared out the window as though he hadn't heard the question. The attorney repeated himself, again getting the same reaction, the same no response. Finally, the judge spoke to the witness, Please answer the question. Oh, said the startled witness, I'm sorry your honor. I thought he was talking to you.

A little boy returned from the grocery store with his mom. While his mom put away the groceries, the little boy opened his box of animal crackers and spread them all over the kitchen table. What are you doing? asked his mom. The box says you shouldn't eat them if the seal is broken, said the little boy. I'm looking for the seal.

A little girl was watching her parents dress for a party. As her dad donned his tuxedo she warned, Daddy, you shouldn't wear that suit. And why not, darling? he asked. You know that it always gives you a headache the next morning.

A young American tourist goes on a guided tour of a creepy old castle. At the end of the tour, the guide asks her how she enjoyed it. She admits to being a bit worried about seeing a ghost in some of the dark, cob-web filled, rooms and passages. Don't worry, says the guide. I've never seen a ghost all the time I've been here. How long is that? asks the girl. About three hundred years.

On their 25th wedding anniversary, a husband took his wife out to dinner. Their teenage daughters said they'd have dessert waiting for them when they returned. After the couple got home, they saw that the dining room table was beautifully set with china, crystal and candles, and there was a note that read: Your dessert is in the refrigerator. We are staying with friends, so go ahead and do something we wouldn't do! I suppose, The husband responded, we could vacuum.

The older police detective stopped by my house and asked where I was between 5 & 6? I respectfully replied, Kindergarten, sir.

I was hospitalized for a few days, and my wife reported that my dog really missed me. She spends the night at the front door, awaiting your return, she said. What an example of true love, I replied. I wonder if you'd be that concerned about me. Honey, my wife answered, if you were gone overnight, and I didn't know where you were, you can be sure I'd be waiting for you at the front door.

On the way to lunch, a teacher spotted two boys playfully fighting. She asked one of the boys to go to the back of the line and he came back right after. Why aren't you at the end of the line? asked the teacher. The boy replied, I couldn't, someone was already there.

The father of five children had won a toy at a raffle. He called his kids together to ask which one should have the present. Who is the most obedient? He asked. Who never talks back to mother? Who does everything she says? Five small voices answered in unison. Okay, dad, you get the toy.

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