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!*

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**High Twelve International, Inc.**

*Monthly Update December 2016*

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**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

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**Congratulations** to our members and ladies, celebrating their Birthday, Anniversary or other Special Event in December. 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):**

This past month I have sent letters to Masters of the five lodges across from Cincinnati, Ohio. These Kentucky Lodges are very close and it is my hope to hear from them concerning making a visit in January 2017 concerning developing a Hi we Club in that area.

On December 7th thru 10th Marilyn and I visited the Annual meeting of the Florida State High Twelve Association. We had many discussions of interest ranging from the loss of over 10 clubs in Florida in 3 years to the Wolcott election process. All discussions were held in a brotherly Masonic manner; Marilyn's visit with the Ladies in Florida was very enjoyable.

I also gave to the new President of Florida a binder that included A State Association Manuel, Bylaws and information on working to develop new Clubs.

I advised their president to work to develop no less than 3 new clubs in Florida by the end of 2017. It takes work and frequent visits to accomplish this. However, once they discover that it can be done they will be able to continue developing new clubs each following year.

I also, last week, installed new officers at Indiana High Twelve Club #337 Columbus, Indiana.

I wish each of you and your families celebrate the Birth of Christ this coming Sunday. Marilyn and I will do so with our various families and the members of our church.

Best Wishes and God Bless,
Brother Woods

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

Holiday Spirit...Most of us are looking forward to the Holidays, which we celebrate in December. The festive occasions, parties, family gatherings, words and cards from long distance friends, etc. All these usually bring euphoria to us and our families. It is a great time and our moods reflect the warmth and joyous feelings that are shared.

It would be very nice if these feelings were extended throughout the year and, in particular, upon occasions such as High Twelve meetings. Do we all have a positive and joyous attitude when we go to our club meetings? Do we share these feelings of warmth and delight of life with our brethren? Do we make the meetings something special which makes everyone want to return to them and bring friends to share in the good times?
It is up to us act if the glass is half full or half empty, in other words, optimistic or pessimistic. Fortunately the glass is refillable and we can always alter the situation to be a positive. Do your part and make the club meetings a splendid event to attend. Fraternally, Bill Haynes.

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

Greetings fellow High Twelvians, I hope everyone had an enjoyable and peaceful Thanksgiving. By the time you read this newsletter, I will be with my family in Tucson. I know, it's a tough thing to do over the holidays but I'm willing to make the sacrifice. Seriously, I always look forward to spending time with my family, as well as some of our Brothers who live in the adjacent communities.

Since our last newsletter, I did get the opportunity of attending the North Central Association Mid-Year Conference in Des Moines, IA. It was my first time visiting with them, but it certainly won't be the last. The comradery, food and general aspects of the meeting were well worth the trip. This is one of the things I enjoy about my job.

I represented High Twelve at the Fall Reunion at the Valley of Chicago Scottish Rite and got to hear an excellent presentation. It was given by one of the contract employees, who were at Benghazi when they made the news. It was interesting, informative and very revealing. If you have not watched the movie **13 hours in Benghazi** I would recommend that you do. According to Tanto, it's pretty accurate. P.S., the book is better.

After one of our recent meetings, some of us went off to the side and conducted a ceremony for another Masonic appendant body. We had enough representatives present that we did two for the price of one. I thought that was pretty innovative, saving us time, money, and the need for having a separate meeting.

I look forward to seeing many of you during my travels. I'm going to try and visit with our High Twelve members in Arizona this time. As always, stay safe, have fun, and take care of each other! I wish you, your family and friends a Merry Christmas, a Happy Hanukkah, and a Happy New Years! Fraternally and Respectfully, Joe Santisteban.

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

First I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
Second, for those going "somewhere" safe travels.

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](#)

Although the guaranteed room rate has passed you can still make reservations for the 2017 Mid-Year Conference. The conference is open to all members but especially to the Association Presidents as they comprise the governing board by virtue of the office they hold. The event link can be found here: [2017 MID-YEAR](#) and on page 31 of *The High Twelvian*.

**Club Secretaries:** if you club had elections please be file an online [F-200b](#) report. Also dues cards are available, all you have to do is ask!

**Florida High Twelve Association:**

Florida State Masonic High Twelve 2017 Officers who were installed at the State Convention on December 10th. The Installing Officer was PSP Michael Hemphill, assisted by Raymond Trudeau, PSP. Installed as President: Dewayne Wiesenmiller (Jean); 1st VP: Don Robinson (Barbara); 2nd VP: (Vacant); 3rd VP: John Kraniou; Secretary: Michael Hemphill, PSP (Cecilia); Treasurer: Stewart Davis (Audrey); Chaplain: Robert Rodd PSP (Kathy); Parliamentarian: Dan Hodson, Emeritus (Mary); Co-Parliamentarian: Frank Peregrine, PSP (Pat); Advisor: Fred Neilson, PSP (Rita); and Publicity/Ambassador: Raymond Trudeau PSP (Janet).

A program presented by the Mt Dora Rainbow girls led by Mom Debbie was enjoyed by all - presenting the *Discourse of the Rose* followed by a descriptive understanding of Rainbow Girls.

During the Governing Board Meeting the increase in Florida State Per Capita dues announced at the 2015 Annual Convention of $2.00 for 2017 was motioned and approved - the dues in 2018 will also increase $2.00.

Our International Masonic High Twelve President Dr. Ronald Woods and Lady Marilyn arrived from Indiana to be part of our Convention - President Woods was well received and his message that included the concern of the Wolcott Foundation captured all in attendance - he acknowledged the awareness of all that International High Twelve is in discussion to hopefully resolve the issues.

Other items Dr. Woods presented - The future of High Twelve and the plan for growth - in addition he shared the many clubs he visited and his observations with ideas that we also could consider for our future - another High Twelve club in Hawaii will be opened the first of the year.
President Woods presented to the Florida State President a Manual he has created for the leadership, plan and growth of High Twelve.

Another Highlight - a servant for many years in Florida High Twelve, Stewart Davis, accommodated by his Lady Audrey, was presented the High Twelvian of the Year Award for 2016. Truly a deserving recipient!

Newly Installed President Dewayne gave a Report on his Fund Raiser last month at Mid Florida Lakes Great Hall - 111 attended and a profit of $411.00 was realized for the Florida State High Twelve treasury - he thanked all the volunteers, who worked so hard to make it happen, especially kitchen cooks Herman and Lady Doris Straus.

Hawthorne High Twelve Club #547:

Hawthorne Club meeting was held December 12, 2016 at Arlington Ridge Chesapeake restaurant - PSP Michael Hemphill installed the 2017 officers assisted by State President Dewayne Wiesenmiller and PSP Raymond Trudeau. Officers for 2017 are President Robert (Bob) Fickies (Elaine); 1st VP Gerry Usher (Della); 2nd VP William (Bill) Carlucci (Gerry); Treasurer: Gene Carpenter (Gladys); Secretary: Harvey Peirce (Peach); Sgt. at Arms: Cliff Frazier; Chaplain: Raymond Trudeau (Janet).

President Bob Fickies announced plans for Lady's night to be held in February instead of the meeting on the 4th Monday - details to follow

A new member was received and inducted

Good of The Order: Next Meeting – 11:00 am at Arlington Ridge, Leesburg, and $10.00 buffet includes – tax, tip and drink.

Monday, January, 9:00 at 11:00 am and Monday, January 23rd at 11:00 am. Notify Lady Elaine Fickies 352-314-1810 to RSVP.

Treadway School Hawthorne’s Primary Charity: President Robert Fickies announced he had purchased four bicycles for students at the Treadway School for Christmas a tradition originally started by Mid Florida Lakes club - donations of more than $400.00 since September has been given to Treadway School for their STEM program.

The Haven House, Hawthorne’s Secondary Charity - a letter of thanks was received from the Haven house for the items and donations and their appreciation in Hawthorne club making them the secondary charity.

For your thoughts and consideration…Have you recognized a member and or his lady this month for something they have done for High Twelve? Remember DeMolay, Rainbow, Jobs Daughters, Youth and Community it is our purpose.

Fraternally, Raymond D. Trudeau PSP, Publicity, 352-801-6308 or E-mail: rayjan64@outlook.com
Villages High Twelve Club #674:  
President Frank Charlton:  

I want to thank the membership for electing me as President of the Villages Masonic High Twelve Club. I will do my best to continue the leadership of the club and look forward to making the meetings interesting and the entertainment the best. I am happy to have my Lady Joan at my side while I preside over the club. She makes some great treats and I know you will enjoy them.

I have requested that the officers and members prepare an outline of their life, so all the members will get to know one another better. I will call for volunteers to present their history at the meetings. I participated at my church in this type of program and it really went over great and I hope it will here too.

We hope you enjoyed the entertainment at the December Meeting. They are members of the Chrysler Convertible Club, which we also belong too and they agreed to play for our club. They are a very popular group and we hope to have them again in the future.

Entertainment for January will be Life Story; February will be Singer Larry Menew; and March will be Billie Thatcher.

The Executive Board Meeting will be held at my home on Wednesday, December 15, 2016 at 2:00 pm, as Joan and I will be traveling to Pennsylvania for the Holidays. Joan and I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The officers wore their White Dinner Jackets for the installation but will be wearing sports jackets and appropriate attire for the winter months. Hopefully, the members and Ladies will dress accordingly. We don’t want to overkill on the dress code but as Masons, we normally dress-up for any Masonic function in the Lodge or meeting room. We thank you for supporting our meeting wear.

Secretary Merv Harris, PIP:

I received a telephone call from Brother Will Backstrom in Kansas and he wanted me to give his and Marian's regards to all our members; and wish them a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. He is feeling well and hopes we are all doing the same.

He wishes that he and Marian could be with us and has asked the Executive Board to support a plan he has about encouraging our members to attend the
club meetings. He sent us a check with their best wishes and asked us to have a drawing at each meeting for two dinner tickets, which are for free meals at a following meeting. Tickets will be passed out when paying for the meal and the drawing will be held after the Jackpot Drawing.

The tickets will be valid for a period of three meetings and will have the expiration date annotated on the ticket. Will hopes that the free tickets will entice the members to continue attending the meeting, so we have the minimum of thirty plus people attend and we are not charged for meals not served.

Will's idea is greatly appreciated and he mentioned that he has no problem with the offer if the winner decides to bring in a potential member(s) and uses them for a meal for that person. The Board truly thanks Will for his generosity and his support of our club. Will has shown his support to the club over the years by his willingness to do whatever was asked of him; to include being the Assistant Treasurer, providing donuts for the members at the picnic and his generous support to the Wolcott Foundation. We thank Will and Marian for all they have done for Masonry, High Twelve and the Club.

In January we will be inducting a new member and his lady. The new member was recommended by Special Lady Gerri Parker and their names are Reverend Ted & his Lady Nancy Nace. Please make it a point to attend the January Meeting and welcome our new member and his Lady into the club. It is up to you now!

Pat and I, along with our President Frank and his Lady Joan, attended the Masonic Breakfast at the Hacienda Country Club and I was asked to tell the group about High Twelve. I presented a short overview of the club and one of the Masons attending asked me for an Application and said he wanted to join our club.

I just want to point out how easy it is to talk about High Twelve and there are only two answers they will give you. It is YES they will attend the meeting to see what High Twelve is about or NO, they are not interested. It is just like fishing. You put the bait on the hook and drop it in the water and either the fish takes the bait or he just swims on by. If he doesn’t take the bait, you just do it again until you catch one.

Seriously, we must bring up our membership or face the possibility of closing the doors on another club in Florida. New members can be found at Lodge or other Masonic Bodies, Church, restaurant, while visiting friends or anywhere you travel. A few years back we had a member, who brought in over 30 members by talking to men while playing golf. It can be done but YOU must start the conversation.

At a meeting recently, our newest member to be Ted Nace stated, I like coming to your meetings because you do something different each time. We
hope you will take his lead and talk to your friends, neighbors and acquaintances about joining our High Twelve Club.

**Illinois Cornerstone No. 772 High Twelve 2016 Winter Article:**

We are busy at work with planning on having some of our officers attending the High Twelve International Mid-Year meeting in Las Vegas, NV and also planning on having a Valentine Day party on Saturday February 18th at Reflections restaurant in Deep Lake for all our spouses and members. In addition, we have changed our banks to properly be aligned with our club’s name Cornerstone Bank, where the owner is also a Masonic Brother.

President Mark Nokes sadly, reported that our Illinois Masonic Children’s Home will also be closing and leaving only 4 homes open in the United States. All the remaining proceeds will be turned into scholarships. Plans are underway to make sure that all the current children in the home will be placed in good caring hands. He also noted that this decision has been highly criticized but it was not taken lightly by the Children’s Home Board.

Please hold the following brothers in your prayers today:

2. Bro. Reed - Undergoing treatment for being under-weight.

In closing please be safe out there in the snow and enjoy the holidays and being with your love ones. Drive slowly and do not tailgate the driver in front of you, there have been too many road rages over this. Gurnee, Illinois Cornerstone #772. Fraternally, Roman Segal, 3rd Vice President.

**Michigan High Twelve Association, Furniture City High Twelve Club No 236 uses Facebook to promote Club Membership:**

Furniture City High Twelve Club of Grand Rapids, Michigan is experimenting with new ways to inform Masons about High Twelve and encourage them to join our club.

The month of November was High Twelve Membership Month and presentations were made by High Twelve members in all local Masonic Lodges.

The most innovative effort was the live broadcast of the November Furniture City Club meeting on the clubs Facebook site.

Past Furniture City President Girbe Eefsting, a videographer by trade conducted interviews with club members as to why they joined High Twelve and what High Twelve activities they enjoyed the most.
Wolcott Trustee Michael Clark provided information on the philanthropy of High Twelve through the Wolcott Foundation at George Washington University in Washington, DC.

The videos remain on the general Furniture City High Twelve Facebook page which is accessible by anyone. We encourage you to look at this page for ideas on how to promote your club as well.

The Facebook page has received 75 likes since the broadcast and we are following up with these persons to see if they would qualify for membership.

If you would like more information, leave a message on the Furniture City High Twelve Club Facebook page and a member will respond to you.

Pennsylvania High Twelve Association, First Capital High Twelve Club, No. 668:

Sarah Lord, a recipient of a Wolcott Fellowship and a graduate of George Washington University, was the speaker at First Capital High Twelve Cub, No. 668’s November meeting. She is a former resident of York, PA.

Sarah told the members about her educational background and how it led to her interest in International Affairs and Business. This interest eventually found her pursuing a graduate degree at George Washington University, which she said she could not have done without the Wolcott Foundation Fellowship. She is now working for an international company doing research and writing reports which are read internationally.

The members of the club could not express enough how impressed they were with Sarah! They wish her well in her future endeavors.
The program for the December Meeting was a vocal group called the Gentle-Men!

Entertainment for our Holiday Luncheon was the Gentle-Men from the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown. They are a group of about 20 men, dressed in
Charles Dickens costumes and have a Christmas program, which they perform in December. This year their program is the birth of Christ in scripture and song. The GENTLE-MEN preform many performances during December, mostly in the Lancaster area. Performing at retirement communities, nursing facilities, and the Health Care Center and the Christmas Eve-Service in the Sell Chapel at the Masonic Village.

**Illinois High Twelve Association: Northwest Masonic High Twelve Club #769:**

Our next meeting will convene on Tuesday December 27th, Noon, at the Red Apple Restaurant, 2121 S. Plum Grove Road, Palatine. Illinois.

Today’s meeting hosted eleven High Twelve members and four special guests, namely, Cathy Curielli, Rosemary Pegoraro, Sandra Chapman, Cheryl Aronson plus our speaker, Aaron Buehler, Tyler at Barrington Lodge. Brother Buehler is a Financial Advisor with Edward Jones, 409 E. Euclid Road, Mount Prospect, Illinois. Some excellent data, effective November 1st, was given on Stock Table and a history of cycle movement of bonds but emphasis was placed on the Bond market and the inaction with current interest rates. Several importance considerations were given for the Municipal Bond Market. Individual Stocks versus the Bonds is one of fall in love with an individual Stock versus no love affairs with Bond purchases. Steady returns but both are subject to loss of principal. Pictures were circulated on the 35 Masonic brothers attending a Palatine photo session Sunday, November 20th that celebrated Village of Palatine 150th year. Excellent article in Grand Lodge’s final issue of Freemasonry Magazine that highlighted the “banana” men that serves the veterans at VA Hospital in North Chicago. The “front” page of Freemasonry magazine highlighted brother Lou Aronson grandson carry our proud Flag. Our current bank statement is $405.05 with $22 reserve for Wolcott foundation and $44 for other charity. Don Van Cleave, Secretary Treasurer.

**Wolcott Treasurer and Trustee Zone 6 Robert Morton:**

The following reports cover the 2nd quarter transactions for the Wolcott Foundation, Inc.

In Summary:

- Our Administrative Expenses are very low, compared to Total Funds
- WE; are only Charged a “Management Fee” on the Stock / Equity Portion of the Portfolio
- The Stock/ Equity Portion of the Portfolio is less than 20% of the Total
• The Bond Portion of the portion is only charged a very small Acquisition/Transfer Fee
• The majority of the Funds are spent on High Twelve International Convention and Fellowship Selection Annual Trustee Meeting
• And; Obviously the largest portion is allocated to George Washington University for “TUITION Payments”.
The Wolcott Foundation, Inc.
Contributions By Zone / By Trustee
By Qtr / Year-To-Date
01-May-2016 through 30-April-2017

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1st Qtr
CUM 1st Qtr Y-T-D
31-Jul-16

2nd Qtr
CUM 2nd Qtr Y-T-D
31-Oct-16

3rd Qtr
CUM 3rd Qtr Y-T-D
31-Jan-17

4th Qtr
CUM 4th Qtr Y-T-D
31-Apr-17

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The Wolcott Foundation, Inc.
An Internal Revenue Code 501 (c) (3) Charitable Organization
Fiscal Year 01-May-2016 Through 30-April-2016

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Wolcott Foundation Contributions TOTALS 2016-2017

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Wolcott Foundation Financial Summary 2016-2017.xls
Humor provided this month by our International Secretary Kevin Hoker-Robinson:
Do you recognize the word murgatroyd? – Heavens to Murgatroyd! Lost Words from our distant rugrathood: Words gone as fast as the buggy whip! Sad really!

The other day, an elderly (85) lady said something to her son about driving a Jalopy and he looked at her like she had two heads and said what the heck is a Jalopy? - He had never heard of the word jalopy!! She knew she was old, but not that old. Well, I hope you are Hunky Dory after you lay an eyeball on this and chuckle - by Richard Lederer

About a month ago, I illuminated some old expressions that have become obsolete because of the inexorable march of technology. These phrases included: Don't touch that dial, Carbon copy, You sound like a broken record and Hung out to dry.

Back in the olden days we thought we had a lot of moxie. We'd put on our best bib and tucker to straighten up and fly right - Heavens to Betsy! Gee whillikers! Jumping Jehoshaphat! Holy moley! We were in like Flynn and living the life of Riley and even a regular guy couldn't accuse us of being a knucklehead, a nincompoop or a pill. Not for all the tea in China.

Back in the olden days, life used to be swell but when's the last time anything was swell? Swell has gone the way of beehives, pageboys and the D.A, or spats, knickers, fedoras, poodle skirts, saddle shoes and pedal pushers. Oh, my aching back. Kilroy was here but he isn't anymore.

We wake up from what surely has been just a short nap and before we can say, well, I'll be a monkey's uncle! This is a fine kettle of fish! - We discover that the words we grew up with, the words that seemed omnipresent as oxygen have vanished with scarcely a notice from our tongues and our pens and our keyboards. Poof, go the words of our youth, the words we've left behind. We blink and they're gone. Where have all those phrases gone?

Long gone: Pshaw/The milkman did it/Hey! It's your nickel. Don't forget to pull the chain/Knee high to a grasshopper.

Well, Fiddlesticks! Going like sixty. I'll see you in the funny papers. Don't take any wooden nickels. Heavens to Murgatroyd!

It turns out there are more of these lost words and expressions than Carter has liver pills. This can be disturbing stuff! We of a certain golden age have been blessed to live in changeful times. For a child each new word is like a shiny toy, a toy that is ageless. We at the other end of the fateful chronological arc have the advantage of remembering there are words that once did not exist and there were words that once strutted their hour upon the earthly stage and now are heard no more, except in our collective memory. It's one of the greatest advantages of aging. See ya later, alligator! After while crocodile!

The following are paraprosdokias -- a figure of speech in which the latter part of a sentence is unexpected and oft times humorous:
• If I had a dollar for every girl that found me unattractive, they’d eventually find me very attractive.
• I find it ironic that the colors red, white, and blue stand for freedom, until they’re flashing behind you.
• Today a man knocked on my door and asked for a small donation towards the local swimming pool, so I gave him a glass of water.
• Artificial intelligence is no match for natural stupidity.
• I’m great at multi-tasking, I can waste time, be unproductive, and procrastinate all at once.
• If you can smile when things go wrong, you have someone in mind to blame.
• Take my advice — I’m not using it.
• Hospitality is the art of making guests feel like they’re at home when you wish they were.
• Behind every great man is a woman rolling her eyes.
• Ever stop to think and forget to start again?
• Women spend more time wondering what men are thinking than men spend thinking.
• He who laughs last thinks slowest.
• Is it wrong that only one company makes the game Monopoly?
• Women sometimes make fools of men, but most guys are the do-it-yourself type.
• I was going to give him a nasty look, but he already had one.
• Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.
• I was going to wear my camouflage shirt today, but I couldn’t find it.
• If at first you don’t succeed, skydiving is not for you.
• Sometimes I wake up grumpy; other times I let her sleep.
• If tomatoes are technically a fruit, is ketchup a smoothie?
• Money is the root of all wealth.