



# High Twelve International Update

June 14, 2022

June 14, 2022 Flag Day Up-Date High 12 Int'l



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Hello and Welcome to Spring!

With the warmer weather brings more High Twelve activity. Many Clubs reopened, attendance is flourishing, and fellowship is peaking. We are happy to report new Clubs are being opened here and abroad as well!

Have you visited our website lately? <a href="www.high12.org">www.high12.org</a>

It shows you all the Clubs listed in or around your state. Look and reach out to the Club nearest you and enjoy the fellowship! While you are there, catch up on all the important news and events. And don't forget to look under our Merchandise tab. Since last month's email, we have included ties, scarves, and a new line of High Twelve Rings to choose from!

Our Facebook site at High Twelve International also has been buzzing with activity from Officers and Members. We have encouraged our members to post events, successes, news, or anything of value to High Twelve (I have posted a few jokes myself from time to time).

All these social media accesses are yours to use as a President Club's Member and we encourage you to take advantage of them all.

Don't forget our Annual Convention is in Kansas from June 24-26th. If you plan on attending, please let me know in advance so I can plan to introduce you to our Officers and Members.

Please feel free to reach out to me at any time either by email or phone and let me know what High Twelve International can do for you.

Hoping you and your loved ones are safe and healthy! God Bless!

Rick Santella 2nd Vice-President High Twelve International Rick@high12.org 267-249-8152

Brethren of The High Twelve International President's Club,

Just a short month until our Annual Convention in Kansas and the excitement is buzzing.

Our President has tours and events planned and I hear the Barbecue he has ready to go is outstanding and worth the trip!

The Convention also presents the opportunity to catch up on what's happening in our High Twelve World...new Clubs, Events, Opportunities and of course...our Executive Officer's Elections. Will we see you there? Rumor has it there may be access to the Convention via Zoom.... stay tuned as more information will be forthcoming!!

I noticed since my last email that some of you have become members of our High Twelve International Face Book site.... thank you! It's a great way to share ideas, successes and generally say hello to other members. Check us out if you haven't already!

We are excited to meet and hear from Wolcott Recipients at the upcoming Convention, another reason why you may want to attend, to see our future leaders in action! Wolcott and our Youth Groups are the passions of High Twelve International and what a heartfelt experience it is to see all our hard work and efforts come to fruition which help shape our future!

Lastly, new merchandise is flowing, and more are gobbling it up. I have heard from many they are very happy with the quality. Check them out at <a href="https://www.high12.org">www.high12.org</a> before they are sold out!

Stay safe and God Bless, Rick Santella 2nd Vice-President High Twelve International rick@high12.org

## June 7, 2022

Greetings High Twelve International President's Club member Brother

I am looking forward to seeing my fellow High Twelve Brethren at our Annual Conference in Kansas later this month. Not only we will share fellowship and thoughts on the future and direction of High Twelve International, but more importantly to see the results of our dedication and funding efforts towards our Youth Groups and the Wolcott Foundation.

At the Conference, we will have the ability to attend a luncheon with our Wolcott Fellow Recipients and listen to their vision for themselves and for the leadership of our Country. This to me is one of the highlights of the Convention because it brings to light our dedication and funding efforts and in short, makes me feel as if all our efforts are truly appreciated, validated, and gives me hope for our future knowing our Country will be in good hands!

I have mentioned this several times....it is in your best interest to visit <a href="https://www.high12.org">www.high12.org</a> and watch some of the Wolcott videos posted there. It will give you a sense of pride to know you are helping secure our future thru your efforts. As always, I stress you can get more bang for your buck by attending any High Twelve Club meeting and get to know your fellow Club members, and, let them get to know you! Only by fellowship and advancement of common goals can we secure our future in High Twelve International.

I will of course share some feedback of June's Convention in my July email and will at that time also talk about our Youth Groups we support... stay tuned!

Looking forward to hopefully meeting and greeting some of you in Kansas...so travel safe and God Bless!

Rick Santella 2nd Vice-President High Twelve International

#### A Note from Dr. Tom Gruis:

5-30-2022

I have been severely under the weather almost all this month. I picked up a wretched virus and breathing has been very difficult and at this time my voice is now but a squeak.. It is NOT covid; tested three times.

Other stuff compounded the condition including an eye infection making it difficult to see paperwork. And I let my stress get away from me. All is improving.

I hope to be up and running in June. This will include the bulletin with some revisions. It will be distributed to all NCA members as well as #4.

Thanks to the VPs for rotating!

There is no speaker for this Wednesday yet and you'll know |as soon as there is one. This could be your chance to share!!

#### Please let me know asap.

BTW - Tuesday the 31st is our 42nd anniversary.

Dr. Tom "Doc" Gruis 4

Des Moines High Twelve Club # 4

Assistant Secretary dsm.hi.12.4@gmail.com

Personal E-mail: docgruis@gmail.com

## Des Moines High Twelve Club No. 4



Meets Wednesdays at 11:15 A. M.

Downtown Holiday Inn located at 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and I-235

Chartered Saturday; April 18<sup>th</sup>, 1925

n4desmoineshightwelve@gmail.com



## June of 2022

 $\rightarrow$  A special Bulletin or update will be published whenever needed to update information.

THE PERSON NAMED IN



## From your president -

Here is my club report to NCA at its recent convention where time did not allow it to be presented:

## Report from High Twelve Club #4, Des Moines, Iowa to North Central Association of High Twelve Clubs, Gerald Edgar, President 05 May 2022

After about two years of covid-19 it is wonderful to meeting again in person!

Our membership is now thirty-two and our attendance averages about twelve. Too few – but a good percentage. 37.5%. I have a hunch many organizations would like to have that level of active members.

We are doing some things a bit different this year.

Weekly reminders about our meeting are e-mailed to our members and beyond.

There are more ladies' Luncheons. They have always been invited to a meeting a month. This month there are actually two ladies' luncheons.

Complimentary/advertising pens are on the way to distribute.

Our number of new members has matched our number of losses and some are younger!

The board has set-up a memorial for the late Brother Ron Hicks, well known in about every group of Masonry. When the money comes available it is divided between DeMolay and Rainbow clubs in the Des Moines area.

Speakers are given the choice of sitting at the "head table" or among the brothers

Speakers are asked if they want questions during or after their presentation.

Members present are asked to volunteer to give the opening prayer and veterans are asked to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Our monthly bulletin is sent by mail to those without e-mail and e-mailed to members, central lowa lodges, N. C. A. officers and now with the new High Twelve International e-mail list, to N. C. A. Members.

Always great meetings! Excellent speakers on many, many subjects. Before Covid hit we had one meeting a month for just fellowship. It worked well and post-covid this practice was dropped.

Our meetings continue to be held at Holiday Inn, Mercy Campus, 6th and I-235 in Des Moines on all Wednesdays at 11:15, except the last two of the year and unless the Des Moines Public Schools close due to weather. The location within the hotel is the top of the tower. We are the longest-term group that meets there and we have a wonderful relationship with management. Not a poor lunch yet in my twenty-three years of membership!

We are a welcoming bunch! I wish more places were. Just as a side note, many times people choose a church based on their reception. And, the fourth lodge meeting of a new member may well be the most important.

I have been in the "east" more than forty times. This year's governing board for #4 has been outstanding! One of the very best! They are a great example of people that take their jobs to heart and perform!

## My motto for the is **COMMUNICATE!**

Respectfully and sincerely presented. Tom E. H. Gruis, Ed. D., President for 2022
05 May 2022 - †

Dues cards are available, if requested. Secretary Richard Anderson has them.

Present membership is 32 Tom "Doc" Gruis, Ed. D.

## **<u>Up Coming Speaker:</u>** 06/08: Immunization by Eric Brinks

A HUGE WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER
John W. Iles, a member of Acanthus Lodge # 632
He is self-employed at Iles, McKinney, Inc.
Sponsored by Tom Gruis

And sorrow to report the deaths of Richard Carey, April 3rd and Arnold Johansen, May 8th at 93.

#### #4 Officers for 2022 are:

President: Tom Gruis \* \*\*-2 (633 & 205)

Vice Presidents: Duane Wachter (577); Kade McMillen; David Ashby, PP (296)

Treasurer: Doug Stephenson \* (654) Secretary, Richard Anderson \* \*\* (577)

Publisher and Roster: Phil Enabnit \*\* International & Masonic Rep: Richard Anderson \* \*\*

State Representative: Jerry Carlson \*

Trustees: Robert West (407), David Ashby (636), and Jerry Carlson (592)

Appointed:

Assistant Secretary: Dr. Tom Gruis \* \*\*-2 (633, 205)
Parliamentarian: Ken Brickman \* \*\* IL (632 & IL
Legal Counsel: William Clark, Jr. (110 & 632)

Hospital Visitor: Richard Anderson Special Events: George Becker

Auditing: Ken Brickman\*

Installation of new members: Ken Brickman\* Membership: Jim Mason and Phil Enabnit

Publicity: Phil Enabnit

House co-chairs: Richard Anderson\* and Phil Enabnit

## The keyword for 2022 is **COMMUNICATE!**

<sup>\* -</sup> Past President of our club \*\* Past State President

## Greetings Brother High Twelvians of NCA;

I bring you greetings from this year's President, Stephen Libby. Our session was held on May 7th at Prudence Lodge in Algona, Ia.

I would like to thank Prudence Lodge for hosting this event, and the Eastern Star Chapter for fixing such a wonderful lunch.

I would also like to thank our two International Officers, President Mike Haxton and 1st Vice President, Mark Nokes for attending our session. They also acted as installing Officer and Installing Marshal for me.

After I get back from Hi-12 International in Overland Park, KS. I will start my visitations of all the clubs in NCA. See you soon.

Stephen Libby, Pres. of NCA Hi-12

## North Central Association of High Twelve Clubs – 2022-2023

masmedia@dwx.com - northcentralhightwelve@gmail.com

President, Steve Libby, Cedar Rapids (7)
First V. P., Russell Royce, Cedar Rapids (7)
Second V. P., Duane Wachter (4)
Third V.P., Tom Gruis – not advancing or traveling
Treasurer, Steve Smith \*, Marshalltown (617)
Secretary, Phil Enabnit \* Des Moines (4)
Legal Counsel, William Clark, Jr., Des Moines (4)
SGT at Arms, B. O. Bryngelson \*, Marshalltown (617)
Masonic Rep., Roger Hansen, P.I.P. \* Sioux Falls (91)
Int'l Rep., David Patton, Dubuque \*, (119)
Youth Director, Richard Anderson \*, Des Moines (4)
Magazine Editor, Phil Enabnit \*, Des Moines (4)

\* = Past State President (Club Number)

#### From Tom:

Thank you for bearing with me this last month. I will try to get back "on the beam" very soon.

This bulletin will be changing some to include N. C. A. announcements and information. It will also be sent to all N. C. A. members. The format will probably be pretty much the same, but we shall see.

Our Club # 4 has really good presenters. In my nearly twenty-three years of membership, I can think of no more than five or six that were not good presenters. And with a minimum or forty-five a year (covid excluded), that is about 1/200th of the total list. (IMHO)

## Is not that a great selling point for our club?

My list of the "7 Cs for fraternal orders"

Civility, Collaboration, collegiality,\_comradery,\_congeniality, cooperation,

and cordiality,

And I firmly believe that Des Moines High Twelve Club Number 4 is doing quite well In these areas!

Thanks again to all.

Travel safe!

Tom Gruis, Ed. D., President for 2022 PLEASE COMMUNICATE!

## From Michael Hemphill

Brothers All,

It looks like we had a great turnout for Grand Lodge this year, first one I have missed in 20 years, due to Ceal coming down with Covid.

I want to personally thank Brian Zeppa, State President, RW Bob Cunningham, W Tom Clark, W Jim Davis, State Treasure, W Randy White, and anyone I missed for helping man the Table. Picture attached.

The regular Zoom Meetings are as follows:

3rd Tuesday of the month @ 12:00 noon, everyone invited 4th Tuesday of the month @ 12:00 noon, Exec Board Members ONLY

The meeting ID: 326 185 8251PassCode: - statehi12

Please put this notice out to all your members, as I don't feel it is necessary to put this out every month as Masons we ought to be able to remember this item.

Michael Hemphill, Florida State Secretary

The High Twelve Table at the FL Grand Lodge Communication



#### **From Mark Nokes**



## Fraternal Greetings:

Hope this brief note find you and your family well! We have been busy traveling to several State Associations and Club Visitations.

We want to thank Iowa, Michigan, and Texas State Associations for their hospitality along with President Mike Haxton we attended their conventions and installed their State Officers. President Haxton and I also traveled to Mattoon High Twelve Club to help them celebrate their 75th Anniversary.

Many thanks to Hamilton High Twelve for their invitation to attend one of their weekly meetings. I was very humbled when they presented a certificate from the state of Kentucky being Commissioned a Kentucky Colonel.

Lisa and I look forward to returning to Overland Park. We lived in the Kansas City area for several years before we moved to Illinois. This will bring back some wonderful memories: especially the great barbeque and Boulevard Beer. Members and guests will enjoy the events planned by President Haxton.

We will be making our last few visits before the convention; Tampa Bay High Twelve and the Quarterly Meeting for the Ohio State Association.

Most importantly, thanks to all the members of High Twelve and we thank you for everything you do to promote Freemasonry and especially High Twelve and the Wolcott Foundation.

We are excited to see you all in Overland Park. Stay safe and healthy till me meet.

Fraternally & Sincerely, Mark D. Nokes, 1st VP High Twelve International mark@high12.org



## Hamilton High Twelve Club #414 Hamilton, Ohio

Greetings Brothers,

The Hamilton High Club #414 continues to be an active club, meeting every Thursday at the Heaven Sent

Restaurant in Lindenwold, Ohio. Our membership currently stands at 45 members. The attendance at the meetings is low as so many of our members are still fighting Covid 19.

On May 26, 2022, we celebrated Memorial Day. We had a special guest from International, Brother Mark D. Nokes, PSP of Illinois and currently serving as the First Vice-President of High Twelve International. Our members were enthusiastic to hear of his exploits traveling around the country and attending the various High Twelve Clubs.

President Robert Sears had arranged a special surprise for our guest, being the presentation of a certificate from the Governor of Kentucky making Brother Mark a Kentucky Coronel. A southern type of meal was prepared with a beautiful cake with the appropriate emblem honoring a Kentucky Cornel.

The club celebrated Mother's Day, Armed Forces Week, and of course Memorial Day. Special pins to those in attendance honoring God and Country were handed out. In respect for our fallen soldiers two club members read appropriate poems, "A Veteran Died Today," and "In Flanders Fields."

Remember, any brother is welcome to attend our meetings and enjoy the comradery and tasty food in abundance each week.

Fraternally, Larry W. Morey, Chaplain & Secretary #414

## **Memorial Day Remembrance Tribute Meeting**

Chartered May 20, 1967
Active Membership 45
Robert N. Sears President
Dr. Larry W. Morey Secretary
William J. Davis Treasurer

## May 26, 2022

# Prior to the serving of the noon meal the Chaplain offered the following blessing.

Let us bow our heads and open our hearts to receive the blessing of our Heavenly Father on this day as we remember the sacrifices for freedom throughout the past centuries. We ask that you bless the bounty that is set before us. We are thankful for those who have prepared it for the nourishment or our bodies and souls. Guide us down the path of remembrance to never forget the brave souls that are known to us by name. In the name of Jesus, we pray.

#### **OPENING:**

Rrother Pohert Sears introduced our special quest Brother Mark D. Nokes

PSP of Illinois and currently First Vice-President of High Twelve International.

Following the introduction of Brother Noke's, all members in attendance introduced themselves.

The club came to order at 11:51 a.m.

Prior to the opening prayer, the Chaplain gave a brief history of Memorial Day. The practice of placing flowers on the graves of departed soldiers began in 1866. It was not until 1968 that congress declared the last Monday as a federal holiday and the name Memorial Day replaced the Decoration Day title.

#### Let us pray.

Lord, we have gathered here not to acknowledge a holiday or a great sale at Wal Mart, but as a day of remembrance. A day to remember those people who have given their last full measure to preserve liberty and freedom in our nation and in the world. May we, the living, continue that sacred trust of life that these people obtained for us at such a cost to themselves. As Jesus stated in Psalm 116:15 *Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.* We all pray for the day when all wars shall cease, swords will become plowshares and spears, pruning hooks. We pray for those who have fallen and for ourselves that one day we might all be reunited in your glorious celestial lodge above. We pray for the day your will is done on earth as it is heaven. In your strong and eternal name, we pray, AMEN.

Our Sgt. at Arms Brother Steve Ingram attended the Altar. In honor of this Memorial Day tribute meeting a small, folded flag has been placed on the Altar.

Brother Dan Wurst led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Brothers Carl Smith and Larry Morey read in tribute to this special day, two appropriate poems.

Brother Morey recited "A VETERAN DIED TODAY" written by an unknown author.

Brother Smith read a World War 1 tribute entitled "IN FLANDERS FIELDS" by John McCrae which he authored in May 1915.

The Sgt. at Arms escorted Brother Nokes to the front of the room where President Bob Sears met him. President Sears surprised our brother with credentials designating Mark D. Nokes as a Kentucky Colonel signed by the Governor of Kentucky.

President Sear's turned the floor over to Brother Nokes for any remarks he had for the club. He mentioned that he has been remarkably busy with the establishment of new High Twelve Clubs.

There is something new concerning contributions to Wolcott. Mark went on to explain that a few clubs currently do not have funds available for donations. It is acceptable for any club to contribute to Walcott and receive a patch, no matter the amount of their contribution.

At the International Convention Brother Nokes will be running for the office

of President for the 2022-2023 year. He hopes to run into Ohio members at the convention. President Sear's reminded the members that though Mark lives in Illinois he is a member of the Hamilton High Twelve club.

Questions from members included if the state could purchase Hi 12 emblems for the new chain collars recently purchased, and at a reasonable cost. The Treasurer raised the question of way it takes International so long to process checks submitted by the clubs. Mark stated that he would check into finding answers to both of those questions. He also stated that he would be attendance at our state convention in September.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**DISBURSEMENTS:** The Treasurer reported that \$6.00 was collected for Wolcott.

**SICKNESS & DISTRESS:** No additional members have been reported as sick or in distress. Continue to offer your prayers for all those who have previously been on this list.

**CLOSING:** There being no further business to come before the membership the Sgt. at Arms attended the altar, closing the Bible and extinguishing the lights. The Associate Chaplain, Brother Tom Durr offered the closing prayer.

The club closed at 12:53 p.m. Members 12 and visitors 3 present

Respectfully submitted:

<u>Larry W. Morey</u> Larry W. Morey, Secretary

## MEMORIAL DAY QUOTES FROM US PRESIDENTS



## President Ronald Reagan

"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on to them to do the same."

"Some people live a lifetime and wonder if they have ever made a difference in the world. A veteran does not have that problem.

#### James A. Garfield

"For love of country they accepted death, and thus resolved all doubts."

and made immortal their patriotism and value."

#### Franklin D. Roosevelt

"Those who have long enjoyed such privileges as we enjoy forget in time that men have died to win them."

#### **Herbert Hoover**

"Here men endured that a nation might live."

## John F. Kennedy

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter the words, but to live by them."

## George S. Patton

"It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died. Rather we should thank GOD such men lived."

From Eric Klienbach

My Brothers,

What an exciting time of year; our annual convention is in just 2 weeks, Florida just had Grand Lodge and there is a buzz in the air as it relates to High 12 in Florida.

At Florida Grand Lodge no dignitary was safe from Brother Isidro Pentzke (President of Lake Worth No. 316High 12) and Eduardo. They had their Club Banner in the main hallway and took pictures with everyone and anyone they could talk with. Lake Worth is truly on the move and growing.

Just last week I attend Tampa Bay High 12 No. 792 as they had their traveling meeting at 5 Branches Brewing in Tarpon Springs Florida. What a great time was had, Greek food, spirits, fellowship and new friendships. A Brother who was sitting across the aisle from me at Grand Lodge had called and text me a dozen times about starting a new club in Miami. He was so excited that he flew Miami to Tampa to attend the Tampa Bay High 12 Club to see firsthand what we are about; he has 7+ Brothers ready to start a new Club ASAP. Additionally, our `1st VP Mark Nokes flew in from the North to join in on the festivities with Tampa Bay High 12. Congratulations to Jeff Snyder for organizing and creating suck a fun High 12 Club.

As I have the opportunity to progress as a VP for High 12 Int'l and hope to be honored in a few years to possibly to become President; I will continue to encourage Clubs to expand and retain their membership and help start a sister Club with in 50 miles of their club. We have members that live over 30 minutes from the meeting location and are not always willing to make the trip; if we add clubs closer to them, they may be able to get others in their area to come back to High 12 or join us as we grow back to our numbers of clubs from years gone by.

Hope to see many of you in person at the convention in K.C.

Eric Klienbach 3rd VP High 12 Int'l

## High Twelvians:

As many of you know May is a very full month due to Grand Lodge. Your Hi 12 club officers, members, myself, R.W. Allan Mason, Eduardo Mondragon, Al Flores, and Brian Price went to Grand Lodge to represent High 12. This was a great experience while we were up at the grand lodge, we open the chapter to vote on new members of the club. The new brothers were very excited to become members of our chapter.

I want you all to help me welcome The Grand Monarch of North America James K Drake, the Junior Past Grand Master of Florida Jeffrey S Foster, The Grand Secretary of Florida Richard E Lynn, and the Past Grand Master Jorge L. Aladro. We also had a visit from the new Junior Grand Warden Tali Atala, which is a member of High 12 in South Florida.



L: Richard E. Lynn, Grand Secretary of Florida Isidro Pentzke, President of Lake Worth No. 316



## Isidro Pentzke, President of Lake Worth No. 316 Jeffrey S. Foster, Junior Past Grand Master of Florida



Isidro Pentzke, President of Lake Worth No. 316 James K. Drake, Grand Monarch of North America

During our time at grand Lodge, we also had the honor of meeting with many other High 12 members from around Florida. This was a great experience not only for our officers but for the members that were able to make it. As an added bonus we have the privilege of having the R:W:Alan Mason the new District Deputy Grand Master as a member of our club. Below you will find a few photos from the weekend.

We will be having our Next Meeting on **June 20,2022** at 12 Noon at Blueprint Bar & Grill 502 Lucerne Ave Lake Worth, FL 33460. I hope to see everyone there. We have a few things to bring up to the club and want to have as many of you there as possible.

#### From Ron Hicks

## The Villages HI 12 Club No. 674 The Villages, Florida

The second quarter of 2022 continued with great fellowship and continued social events. Each month after a brief informative meeting our two Vice Presidents (Brother Larry Lace and ∴W Mike Freach) have provided a wide variety of games, presentations and events for the membership and our Ladies. This 2nd quarter is no exception.

April's entertainment was a trivia game together with card Bingo. Card Bingo is rapidly becoming a Club favorite. Winners received gift cards to Publix grocery store. Also, for each and every meeting there is Passing of the School House, 50/50 raffle and a door prize drawing.

...W James Hawkins, a member of our club, gave a presentation on Community Emergency Response Teams. Jim holds many positions within CERT programs allowing us, the Club, to hear multiple facets of the

organization, their duties and training requirements.



June was a very special month for the Club. The 1st annual Mini Golf Tournament was held in lieu of our regular meeting. The event was open Club members and their special Ladies. Our 2nd Vice President organized the event for the day. There was finger food, non-alcoholic beverages, Trophies for the Champions, runner-up Trophies, Medalist award, a "crazy putter" hole, gift cards for the Champions, 50/50 and a door prize. It truly was a fun day, and everyone enjoyed the event.



Medalist - Janice Freeman





"Crazy Putter"



Food & Fellowship after the Round



Champions
David Windmiller, Gayle & Emmitt Mills



Runner-Ups

## Ron Hicks, Diane Cadd, Janice Freeman, Larry Lace

In the upcoming months our Club will continue to provide entertaining and informative luncheon programs. In addition, to our 2nd annual Picnic scheduled for September.

Our goal for the upcoming year remains:

"Continue to increase membership by providing great companionship through laughter and entertainment."

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