

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**  
**See you in Las Vegas 1/12/15**



GREETINGS!

## *High Twelve Monthly Update*

**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**, email [update-editor@high12.org](mailto:update-editor@high12.org). 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 Twelve members 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, Editor.

**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 to that Special Person!

***Wishing you a Happy and Prosperous New Year  
from High Twelve International!***

**International High Twelve President Winton Hewitt, PSP (PA):** Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all. I bring you greetings from High Twelve International Officers. May all your hopes and prayers be answered!

I took a trip to Florida before the holidays and had a great time at their annual steak fry the night before the Annual Meeting. The members were great and I had nice conversations about how things were going in Florida and their efforts to build the membership back to what it has been in the past. My host for my time in Florida was State President Gordon Yahr. Gordon and Mary Lou were very gracious to me on my quick visit. Gordon also gave me a guided tour of the Villages and other points of interest as we were on the go.

There was a good turnout of High Twelve members for their Annual meeting and the meeting was held at the Shrine Temple which they had decorated nicely for the meeting.

I had the pleasure of helping Gordon present awards to those who were honored for their work during his year as President as well as the Florida State High Twelve Association. I had the privilege of installing the Officers for 2015, who I am sure will do great job for Florida.

I would like to thank Gordon Yahr for all the hard work that he has done to promote High Twelve in Florida

during his year. He had a lot of tasks to do and he worked hard to see that they were done. I told him that I was proud of his efforts during his year and looked forward to our continued work for High Twelve.

I have plans to visit other State Associations as time permits. I have several PA Clubs on my schedule to visit this year.

Hope to see you at the Mid-Year-Meeting in Las Vegas in January. Get your reservations in as it will be here before you know it. The Plaza Hotel & Casino January 11-13, 2015.

Fraternally, Winton

**International 1st Vice President Jerry Saville, PSP (CA):** In just a few days the International High Twelve Mid-Year-Meeting will take place at the Plaza Casino in Las Vegas on 12 January 2015. One of the many topics on the Agenda will be a discussion of High Twelve Membership Eligibility.

The current Bylaws only allow Master Mason to join High Twelve Clubs. I'm suggesting the possibility of changing the membership eligibility to All Masons in good standing. The basis for my suggestion is that on 25 September 2012, California Grand Lodge implemented Resolution 11-06 and 07 requiring all Entered Apprentices and Fellowcraft to pay Lodge dues effective 1 October 2012. This change, of course, requires all California Lodges to open their stated meeting on the First Degree of Masonry.

We need to have a discussion on the pros and cons of this proposal so please plan on joining us in Las Vegas on 12 January 2015. If you cannot attend, please mail us your comments and we will share same with the members in attendance. We need to continue thinking of positive initiatives and strategies for the future of High Twelve. Unfortunately High Twelve Clubs and members are still declining. Let's find ways to reverse this trend!

As you know Bylaw Changes must be voted on at the Annual High Twelve Convention and this is only possible if passed at the Mid-Year-Meeting.

The International High Twelve Executive Board is here for you. Our Secretary is working miracles with Computer Programs for ease of club use to make their Reports. Check out the professional International High Twelve Website at [www.high12.org](http://www.high12.org)!

My space is up Brethren. Let us hear from you "better yet - let us see you in Las Vegas. Fraternally, Jerry

**International High Twelve Secretary Kevin Hokerk, PSP (AZ):** I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Year! You can still make hotel reservations for the 2015 Mid-Year-Meeting being held January 12, 2015 in Las Vegas, Nevada at the Plaza Hotel in old downtown. You do not have to be an officer to attend! But all State Association Presidents are members of the Governing Board and are expected to attend. See the Website for details. On the agenda for discussion will be the proposed Uniform Association Constitution & Bylaws; a proposed changes to the International Bylaws to change qualifications for membership from Master Mason to a Mason in good standing, 94<sup>th</sup> & 95<sup>th</sup> Convention Updates and any other items that may be presented. This is YOUR organization, make your voice heard!

Does your club have any of the Round Member Badges that are not being used? If so the International Office will be happy to take them off of your hands and put them to use. Just contact the office and your mailing cost will be reimbursed.

Many clubs have recently changed officers please make sure an Online Form F-200b, from the Website, is filled out so the Website and other Records can be updated to reflect your new officer line up.

Lastly the International Office is here to help and assist your club and State Association. All you have do is to call or email us and you will get a timely response.

**Website Hints:**

Did you know you can:

- View all the merchandise items that are available on the Website  
<http://www.high12.org/page-1856490>
- Order High Twelve logo merchandise from the Website  
<http://www.high12.org/page-1856484>
- Secretaries can view and order HIGH TWELVE INTERNATIONAL Forms from the Website.  
<http://www.high12.org/page-1626756>
- View the online Membership Directory when logged in
- The Website can be viewed on a desktop computer, laptop, tablet or smart phone
- **Anyone** can see all information and submit online Forms on the Website **minus** the Membership Directory

Membership Directory

- Information is secure
- Must be a member and have a valid login for the Website
- Can see names, addresses, phone numbers, Email and primary club affiliation
- Can send a message or Email to the person if they have an Email listed

To see the Membership Directory you must create a login ID

- Go to any HIGH TWELVE INTERNATIONAL webpage
- Upper right corner
- Key in any valid Email address you want associated with HIGH TWELVE INTERNATIONAL
- Check the 'remember me' box if you want the browser to remember what you keyed
- Click on 'forgot password' link
- An Email will be sent to the Email address you entered with a link to click on to set your password
- Remember the Email and password for future use!

Once logged into the HIGH TWELVE INTERNATIONAL Website

- A new 'tab' will now be visible on the far right side of dark gray bar called MEMBERS ONLY
- Click on the DIRECTORY sub tab
- It may take a minute or so for the Membership Records to be loaded depending on your Internet connection
- Information is displayed in ascending order by Association then club number
- Searching can be done by FIRST, LAST, FIRST & LAST, LAST & FIRST names
- All results will be displayed
- Find the member you are looking for and click on that Record
- The details for that person is displayed
- Click on SEND MESSAGE to send a quick message to their Email address -- if provided
- Click on EMAIL to use send an Email using your default Email process

Coming back to the Website to use the directory

- In the upper right start keying your Email address
- If you checked the REMEMBER ME box your Email address will appear, select it and the Email address and password will be filled in
- Click on the LOGIN button and the Membership Online tab will be displayed
- If the password cannot be remembered click on forgot password link, click on the link in the new Email sent to you and reset the password

Any questions please contact the international office at 623-239-6170 or [secretary@high12.org](mailto:secretary@high12.org)

**Arizona High Twelve Association, Sun City West #567** - Rice Donation: Pictured left to right are Jesse Ramirez, Founder and Director of the Food Bank, John Geyer, Secretary and David Miller President of the Sun City High Twelve Club.



The Valley View Community Food Bank in Sun City was the scene of the recent presentation of 2,800 pounds of long grain rice by the Sun City West High Twelve Club #567, which was gratefully accepted by Jesse Ramirez, the Executive Director of the Food Bank. The residents of the Sun Cities are well aware of

the fantastic service that is provided to the thousands of people in the area on a regular basis.

The Sun City West High Twelve Club is one of many regular donors that assist the Food Bank in this highly successful community service. The High Twelve Club has donated more than 110 tons (220,000) pounds of rice in the past years and is extremely proud to be of service to the wider community and assist those in need.

Sun City West High Twelve Club #567 is a Masonic affiliated social group of men who meet for breakfast on the second Friday at 8 AM at Tivoli Gardens in Surprise as well as on the Third Thursdays in the summer months with the ladies at the Briarwood Country Club. Interesting and informative speakers and programs have made these meetings during October through May a rewarding experience for all attendees, and the support of the wider community instills pride in all members.

**California High Twelve Association:** Oakland High Twelve Club #2 held their Installation of new officers and Holiday Celebration on Monday, December 8, 2014, at the Oakland Scottish Rite Center. Officers for the 2015 term are: Club President, Howard Roberts; 1st Vice President, Robert Baird; 2nd Vice President, Art Walton, PSP; Secretary/Treasurer, Spencer Sargent; PSP; Masonic Rep. Loren Piper. PP; Club Chaplain, Cleveland Valrey, PSP.



Pictured (L to R) - Three Past State Presidents, All from the Oakland Club, Art Walton 2010-11; Cleveland Valrey 2013-14 and Spencer Sargent 2009-10



Bro. Howard Roberts, receiving his Club Presidents Pin



Bro. Alan Fillua receiving his Past President's Pin

**Florida High Twelve Association, Cortez High Twelve Club # 538, Robert Rodd, PSP:** HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL AND MAY 2015 BRING YOU MUCH HAPPINESS!

The Annual Florida State Association of Masonic High Twelve Clubs, Inc. just completed their 52nd Convention at the Lake County Shrine Club in Tavares, Florida at which Past State Secretary Gene Black and Past State President Robert L. Rodd attended and enjoyed it as well as bringing back information received to share with our members.

Our 2015 Club President will be Jeff Davis who agreed to take it for a second year. Bob Rodd will continue as 1st VP with Lowell Holmes as 2nd VP, Gene Black will remain as Treasurer and Lewis Peter as Secretary. A rousing thank you to several of the ladies who have stepped up and assisted as needed.

For those of you that have not visited us remember, we meet each Monday, November through April and would enjoy having you check us out. Also your ladies are always welcome. Several things are in the works so please come and enjoy the fun, camaraderie, food, etc. and find out what is being planned.

We still meet at Duff's Original Buffet at 6010 - 14th St (Route 41) at the corner of Route 41 and 60th Ave W. in Bradenton. Plan to arrive between 10:30 and 11:00AM.

For more information please contact one of the people mentioned or any other Club member. Bob Rodd

**Tri County High Twelve Club #674:** Tri County High Twelve Club was at one time the largest club in Florida. We are now still in the top three clubs but being a club in a Senior Citizen Zone find the Grim Reaper is doing his best to beat us down. We have tried several ways to bring in new members but when our town has over 2,500 organized activities for our citizens, it is difficult to compete. We also live in the largest complex in the world, which has 56 golf courses with over 600 holes and it certainly is the top choice for its residents. We also have three town squares with free entertainment every night of the year.

The Board talked about ways to increase membership but could not think of a good way to do it. Then, we thought that Masons travel on their stomachs, then we came up with an idea that we find is making us visible to the Masonic organizations in our area.

We started a Program in October having a Dinner and inviting the members of the Shrine, Shrine Scooter Club, Lady Shriners, OES, and our High Twelve club. In October arrangements were made for a Lobster Dinner at a Sea Food Restaurant in a nearby town and 40 people signed up. In November, we went to the Shrine Club in another nearby town and had over 40 people sign-up for a Prime Rib Dinner. We did not have any Dinner in December because of the Holidays. We then set-up an Italian Dinner at a new restaurant in another nearby town and they only have seating for 44 people in the Party Room. We had 58 people make reservations and we have set-up a second dinner in February because of the 44 limit.

We are going to the Shrine Club again in March and expect a huge crowd because of the positive comments made by those, who have been going with us. We want you to know that we have picked up two new members for our High Twelve Club and one for the Shrine Club because of the dinners. We believe we have finally found something that is working for new members. Everyone know that Masons love to eat and it seems to be holding true.

Your club may want to start something like this because everyone likes to eat and what better way to get to your members and their friends?

**Wolcott Foundation Chairman Malcolm White:** The best of Holiday Greetings to all High Twelvians. May I be so bold as to suggest a New Year's Resolution for my Brother High Twelvians; you may rightly assume that this will have to do with our/the Wolcott Program - How about putting a (at least 'a'; more would also be acceptable) dollar into the Little Red School House at each Club Meeting that you attend! Not a difficult task, but an essential one if we are to maintain, promote and enlarge our/the Wolcott Program. Believe me, my Brothers, that the funds expended towards promoting the young people who are the Wolcott Fellows are money's well spent. It is indeed unfortunate that every High Twelvian does not

have the opportunity to meet these Wolcott Fellows, but you can certainly understand the logistics involved to be able to do that very thing.

The investment program yields enough income AT PRESENT to fund perhaps six fellowships this coming year. As has been said before, education is expensive, very expensive, but consider the much more costly condition of

Ignorance! Last year each of the five Fellowships at George Washington - those 40 graduate hours - cost \$66,000.00. Only the income from the investment program and designated contributions are used for this

Purpose - the principal is never touched. The yearly individual and Club donations last year met about 60% of the cost of one fellowship, the remaining funds were from the Investment Income!

We, as Masons, pride ourselves as promoters of the educational system of our great country and I merely propose that we demonstrate the seriousness of our intentions in performing the work with which we are engaged in promoting those schools.

You are as aware as I am of the growing assault upon the public schools that seems to be growing more and more serious each day. It is time for each one of us to take up the tools of our trade and perform our several tasks as

Fiercely proud Freemasons!

God Bless each one of you and all those whom you hold dear. Malcolm S. White, Chairman, Your Wolcott Foundation.

**Saguaro High Twelve Club, Tucson, Arizona:**

**So Mote It Be,**  
What it means to me.  
By Worshipful Brother Paul Weathers

So Mote It Be. So sweet is the sound. It has such a strong meaning to the true Mason.

The word 'mote' is an old Anglo-Saxon word meaning 'may'. But the meaning of the phrase should be much more personal to the Mason. Whether at the end of one's prayer, at the pronouncement of the sacred union of marriage, at the blessed birth of a child, or at the solemn bidding good bye to one who is loved and respected, we say those meaningful words, So Mote It Be.

When I say those words, So Mote It Be, I'm not speaking to those mortal beings around me, I'm speaking directly to The Supreme Deity of all existence. I'm asking God to look into my heart and know what is there that I may not know the words to express. I'm asking God to recognize my needs; even those I don't know exist and provide for them, to know my weaknesses and frailties of life, to know all that my humble existence cannot comprehend. I'm yielding to His will and imploring His mercy.

What do those words mean to you, my Fraternal Brother? So Mote It Be.

Oasis Masonic Lodge #52  
450 N. Pantano Road  
Tucson, AZ 85710

**Illinois High Twelve Association, QUINCY MASONIC HIGH TWELVE CLUB #40**, President: Jerry Riggins, Secretary Dean Lillis, meets at Sprouts Restaurant, 2814 N. 12th Street, Quincy Illinois, Wednesday Noon

Brethren, Quincy Masonic High Twelve Club #40 is celebrating its 70th anniversary as a club. We currently stand at 92 members. Attendance at our meetings has averaged 23. Ten of our present members are in Nursing Homes, Retirement Homes or are home bound and unable to visit on a regular basis. We have

continued to have an excellent selection of guest speakers. We had Jack Freiburg, share information about his large collection of Duck Decoy. (You have to see them to enjoy the subject). We had Barbara Wilkinson-Flecher, who presented the history of the Quincy Museum, which is housed in one of the elaborate mansion on Maine Street in Quincy. A story about that mansion would take up a whole day, just discussing its grand history. We also had a local TV personality Chad Douglas, the Morning News Anchor for KHQA. Was great to get a behind view of how the News programs are put together and deadlines met timely just before air time... Our club will have once again Jim Albert, of the Tin Dusters Club, to share with us, their activities and show pictures of the many wonderful restored old cars, turned into pieces of art on four wheels, (you better have deep pockets as it is not an inexpensive hobby).

We currently are working on Quincy #40 past history, researching and tracking dual family memberships. Present research has developed a major error in our old records, which the induction date of one of our present active members Bro Eugene Holford, was lost to time and circumstances. With the assistance of International Secretary Kevin Hokerk, we have been able to uncover lost files, photos, etc., which has helped us establish the induction date of June 1953. That makes Bro Holford a member with 61 years as a member of Quincy High Twelve. His father Roy J. Holford and Father-in-law Charles E. Sparks were charter members of Quincy High Twelve. And so the story goes. We are proud of the active service of Bro Holford these past 61 years. Who out there can beat that record...? Fraternaly, Jerry Riggins.

**The truth is now known!** I received this from a close friend, who really knows what is happening in the Real World! Please take the time to read it.

**The explanation:** Brains of older people are slow because they know so much!

People do not decline mentally with age. Scientists believe it just takes them longer to recall facts because they have more information in their brains, much like a computer struggles as the hard drive gets full. So do humans take longer to access information has been suggested. Researchers say this slowing down it is not the same as cognitive decline.

The human brain works slower in old age, said Dr. Michael Ramscar, but only because we have stored more information over time. The brains of older people do not get weak. On the contrary, they simply know more.

Also, older people often go to another room to get something and when they get there, they stand there wondering what they came for. It is NOT a memory problem! It is nature's way of making older people do more exercise.

**SO THERE!**

I have more friends I should send this too but right now I can't remember their names.

***If you come to a fork in the road.....take it. Yogi Berra***

Fraternaly, Mervyn J. Harris, PIP, Editor

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