

SPRING is finally here! 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 April 2017**

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



This is a beautiful photo of a giant American flag in Arizona. The photo is authentic, untouched, and was taken on regular Kodak 35mm film. The person who took the picture couldn't believe the image created by the sun's rays. Nice of him to share it with the world! For those who prefer to think that God is not watching over us. Go ahead and delete this. For the rest of us please... Pass this on! Photo submitted by Bob Morton, Wolcott Trustee and Treasurer, Zone 7. Thanks Bob for the photo!

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

Brethren, after returning from Omaha and the Grand Masters Convention, a great deal of my time has been concerned with the upcoming Annual High Twelve Convention.

Marilyn and I have been kept busy with this; and yes Marilyn has made a remarkable recovery from her heart attack. We caught it early and the doctors did a great job.

Full information in your upcoming High Twelvian will be seen concerning the Annual Convention. We are in the process of putting together a great Convention Advertisement Publication and the Indiana State Association and High Twelve Clubs have been great in supporting the event. I am looking forward to hearing from other State Associations and the related Masonic organizations that our Vice Presidents belong to as members.

I have now been able to visit six of the Indiana seven High Twelve Clubs and have scheduled the seventh one. I missed one due to bad weather in Northern Indiana. Also I have scheduled a visit to the Michigan State Association and the Kentucky High Twelve Club in Louisville, both in April.

Brethren, June most likely will be my last publication in the International Monthly Update Newsletter. From then on I will spend my time working to increase the number of new High Twelve Clubs in Indiana and Kentucky.

It is my desire that all State High Twelve Associations work to increase their number of Clubs by three new clubs in 2017. I will watch their success over this year.

GOD bless each of you and I look forward to RAISING MY GRANDSON sometime this summer.

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

Greetings fellow High Twelvians. Well, it looks like spring has finally sprung. I must say that the winter in my neck of the woods was not as bad this year as it has been in previous ones...must be due to 'climate warming'. I'm not complaining though because I was able to get out and about instead of hibernating as most of us usually do here during the winter.

I had a chance to attend the presentation of the Bavarian Illuminati Degree at one of our local Lodges. The information was very interesting and the young speaker, Bro. Josef (Joe) Wages, knew his stuff. His book, *The Secret School of Wisdom*, is worth reading. I was wearing my High Twelve name badge and he happened to ask me about it. I told him all about us and he said he would check it out when he got back home (Texas). Maybe a new recruit!

As usual, I keep visiting the Clubs in my area on a regular basis. I've also been receiving correspondence from clubs in Pennsylvania, Missouri, and Ohio, which I really appreciate. They provide me with a nice perspective on how other clubs in other states are doing. I can also share some of the things going on in other areas with our clubs. Please keep those emails and brochures coming...I do read them all!

One of my duties at our American Legion Post is to handle the Law Enforcement Officer and Firefighter of the Year Awards. I only mention this

because I had the opportunity of meeting Brothers that I might not have met otherwise. We've talked about our Lodges and the other organizations we belong to, including High Twelve. We might get a new recruit or two. It also doesn't hurt to know the Police and Fire Chiefs.

In my last article, I shared some "*words of wisdom*" with you. This time I found something that really hits home. It describes me well and I think it applies to some of my fellow Seenagers.

I am a Seenager (senior teenager)

- I have everything I wanted as a teenager, only 50 years later.
- I don't have to go to school or work.
- I get an allowance every month.
- I have my own pad.
- I don't have a curfew.
- I have a driver's license and my own car.
- The people I hang around with are not scared of getting pregnant and do not use drugs.
- And I don't have acne!

Remember to keep looking for potential new members and don't forget to carry an application with you. As always, stay safe, have fun, and take care of each other. Fraternally and Respectfully, Joe Santisteban, 2nd Vice President!

International 3rd Vice President: Jonathan Dilley, PSP (CA)

My update for April is focused on a question that has come up in my visits during the Month of March: How do we communicate and connect with Millennials or even just with new Masons as they join our Lodges and bring them into our High Twelve Clubs as new members?

As we raise new Master Masons, we have an opportunity and a responsibility to provide these new Brethren with a true fraternal experience. This is accomplished by showing genuine interest and taking the time to get to know them on a personal level. Handing someone a brochure or an application with an invitation to an upcoming meeting can generate new membership and help a club to grow however; showing a Brother who is new to the Fraternity that you care about them as a person and that you are interested in who they are and what they do is far more effective.

It's easy to get caught up in membership drives and forget that while we have goals to bring in new numbers, these numbers are people who want to feel special and want to know that they have made the right decision to take upon themselves the obligations of a Master Mason and join a fraternity of men who will be their friends as well as their Brothers.

Communicating and connecting with Millennials is no different. They can see right through our attempts to bring them into our clubs as a quick fix to our need to recruit and if we are not genuine, they will drop their membership or go inactive as quickly as they were brought in.

Invite them to a BBQ, sit and spend a solid hour getting to know them and listen carefully to what they have to say and do your best to provide them with helpful guidance and council as a mentor. Think of it as a date and understand that if he joins your club, you will be spending a good amount of time with them so it's a good idea to build a quality family relationship.

If we change the way we perceive what it is that we seek to accomplish and show genuine interest in all we approach while putting action to our words as we demonstrate Brotherhood, the rest will follow and our clubs will grow. Fraternally, Jonathan Dilley, 3rd Vice President.

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

The Spring edition of *The High Twelvian* went into the mail on 3/29/17 and takes about 2 weeks for it to be delivered nationwide. PLEASE check your address label and report any changes to the international office.

Club Secretaries: 2017-2018 per-capita statements go into the mail on **4/29/17** – your statement is based on the March Online Monthly Report (or last received). **Now** is the time to get your membership information updated/corrected etc.

Registration for the **96th Convention** is now available via the High Twelve International Website AND there will be information in the Spring edition of *The High Twelvian*. Proxy Forms will be added shortly to the online event page. Thanks for all you do! Kevin.

Association and Independent Secretaries: by now you have received the annual validation of the club meeting location & time; President; Secretary and EIN contact information. Also there is a reminder to file your 990-N ePostcard tax filing and a list of all filings made since 2007. If an association or club has had their non-profit status revoked a 990-N EZ paper form is still required to be filed (all income is taxable) and you need to file the IRS Form 1024 to to reinstate the non-profit status. You can not afford to be an ostrich and stick your head in a hole in the ground on this one. You took an obligation and with that obligation comes duties and responsibilities - look well to them!

A bit of History...The international office recently received a box from Bruce Pelham, KAT PSP and club secretary for #105 Louisville Downtown containing 2 scrapbooks and other items from the St. Matthews High Twelve Club # 270 3/2/57 ~ 12/31/96. It has been said that a picture of our Founder,

E.C. "Wally" Wolcott *smiling* did not exist! Well, I beg to differ...there is one. L-R Wally, Theodore Heim, President and Mrs. Heim.



St. Matthews—The St. Matthews Hi-12 Club was presented its Charter March 2, 1957, by E. G. "Wally" Wolcott, founder and executive director of International Hi-12 Clubs. His speech was the highlight of the meeting.

The Club has 84 Charter members from 43 lodges, coast to coast. It was organized December 22, 1956.—Henry M. Pulliam, Reporter.

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**A Message From The Wolcott Foundation Chairman Michael Clark**

I have honored by the Board of Trustees of The Wolcott Foundation to have been elected Chairman following the retirement of long time Chairman, Brother Malcolm White in March.

As High Twelvians/Wolcott Foundation members, we all want to see both organizations prosper and grow. It is incumbent on all members, but especially those charged with the administration of both organizations, to

provide accurate information to our members.

The relationship between the two organizations has been strained of recent, and I have promised my board as chairman I will do everything I can to find common ground upon which we can strengthen our fraternal bonds.

A recent article on page 3 of the *High Twelvian*, published in March has given me much concern. The information presented as fact, is not correct and is misleading as to the financial stability and financial practices of the trustees of the Wolcott Foundation.

1. The Wolcott Foundation does not invest only in bonds. The Foundation currently has approximately 65% of its long term investments in bonds. All bonds are kept to maturity, helping to reduce the affect of market values. Market valuation can vary from time to time, while the maturity value of the bond stays steady.
2. The Wolcott Foundation maintains a highly respected financial advisor who is charged with not only providing money each year to pay for current Fellowships at George Washington University, but also managing our portfolio in such a manner to promote annual growth to meet future increasing tuition costs.
3. The investment portfolio returned in excess of 6% this past year and showed a growth of 10-12%.
4. Annual Wolcott contributions from individuals and clubs amount to less than 1% of the Wolcott portfolio.
5. Wolcott administrative expenses amount to less than 1% of the Wolcott portfolio. A very impressive number for any charitable organization.
6. We pay only a 1% management fee on the stock portion of our portfolio.
7. I have appointed an investment committee consisting of members from inside and outside the Board of Trustees.
8. A four page detailed financial report of The Wolcott Foundation is provided in the current (Volume 91, No. 2, Spring 2017) edition of the *High Twelvian*. I encourage each member to read these reports concerning The Wolcott Foundation financial practices and position.

Since being elected Chairman of the Wolcott Foundation, I have spoken several times with the International President Dr. Ron Woods, in an effort to build a better working relationship to strengthen both organizations.

As is the custom of The Wolcott Foundation, current 1stVice President of High Twelve International William Haynes was invited to our spring meeting in Washington, DC. Brother Haynes not only took part in our discussions concerning the Foundation, but was able to meet many former Wolcott Senior Fellows as well as current Fellows studying for their Master's Degree.

We look forward to working with Brother Haynes and the entire High Twelve International Board during the coming year.

The Wolcott Foundation continues to provide graduate level Fellowships to highly qualified students at George Washington University.

Michael E. Clark-Chairman  
The Wolcott Foundation Inc.



**Roma High Twelve Club #779 - Italy: Carmelo Cutuli, Charter President**



**HAVE YOU VIEWED THE INTERNATIONAL WEBSITE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE 96th ANNUAL CONVENTION IN INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA. WE NEED YOU THERE TO MAKE SOME MAJOR DECISIONS! YOU ARE WHAT MAKES HIGH TWELVE THE BEST MASONIC**

## **ORGANIZATION GOING.**

### **CA High Twelve Association, Albany-Berkley High Twelve Club #8:**



Only four members were present at our 1st meeting in April that is 4 out of 7 members. The Albany-Berkeley High Twelve Club, No. 8 meets at a Denny's Restaurant in El Cerrito, California on San Pablo Ave. at High Noon every Monday. Club President Clark Johnson gave us an update on his grandson who is attending the University of California, with the help of an Ensign Mayo Student Loan. Also, discussed were matters of interest to Masons and what is happening locally.

All High Twelvians and Master Masons are invited to join us whenever in the area. Clark Johnson, President and Bill Hastings, Club Secretary contributed this article. Members not identified.

### **Oakland High Twelve #2:**



For our regular luncheon on March 27th, the guest speaker was Brother Fred Lezak, whose program was titled What the World Needs Now is Civility. (*Boy, do we ever.*)

He went on to highlight the 7 Rules associated with Civility. A very interesting presentation and in this writer's opinion echoing that **if you want respect you have to give respect** and the age old but still very appropriate, **Do Unto Others, etc...**

Bro. Lezak is originally from New York and is currently Secretary of Acalones Lodge #480, F&AM. The program for April will be presented by Ms. Linda J. Weihofen, Reverse Mortgage Specialist, whose program is entitled Myth vs. Reality, the New Reverse Mortgage.

Oakland High Twelve Club #2 meets at High Twelve (noon) on the 4th Monday of each month at the beautiful Oakland Scottish Rite Center, in Oakland, California. The food is the best as well as the fellowship. All Master Masons and their accompanied guests are invited to attend. Fraternally, Club President, Bro. Fred Kao, SR Personal Representative and Club Secretary, Bro. Spencer Sargent, PSP. Members not identified.

#### **Fresno High Twelve Club #10:**

Brethren: The attendance in our club continues to decline. We have not had a Board meeting for the last couple of meetings due to lack of a quorum. We need to increase our attendance or take a vote on continuing as a High Twelve Club. We are one of the oldest clubs in High Twelve International as we are Club No. 10. We need our Board Members to make the tough decision on continuing as a High Twelve Club. Please give the above some thoughts as to what we should do. Bring your ideas to our next meeting on April 4th. I have been the Editor of the Chime since April 2003 and Secretary since November 2007. Jim Clark has been the Treasurer since November 2007. We would enjoy a relief from these duties but we don't think any relief is forthcoming. Jack Farson Secretary/Editor.

#### **A little California Humor:**

WHY, WHY, WHY??? Why do we press harder on a remote control when we know the batteries are almost dead? Why do banks charge a fee on 'insufficient funds' when they already know there is not enough money? Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars; but have to check when you say the paint is still wet? Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard? Why does Superman stop bullets with his chest, but ducks when you throw a revolver at him? Why do Kamikaze pilots wear helmets? Whose idea was it to put an 'S' in the word 'lisp'? If people evolved from apes, why are there still apes? Why is it that no matter what color bubble bath you use the bubbles are always white? Is there ever a day that sofas are not in a Sale? Why do people constantly return to the refrigerator with hopes that something new to eat will have materialized? Why do people keep running over a string a dozen times with their vacuum cleaner, then reach down, pick it up, examine it, then put it down to give the vacuum one more chance? Why is it that no

plastic bag will open from the end on your first try? Why is it that whenever you attempt to catch something that's falling off the table you always manage to knock something else over? In winter why do we try to keep the house as warm as it was in summer when we complained about the heat? How come you never hear father-in-law jokes? And my FAVORITE...the statistics on sanity is that one out of every four persons is suffering from some sort of mental illness. Think of your three best friends -- if they're okay, then it's you!

#### **Florida High Twelve Association:**

Past State President Robert Rodd's funeral was held on Saturday, March 25, 2017 at 11:00 am. A Masonic Funeral Service was held first at the Manatee Masonic Lodge in Bradenton, Florida. An Eastern Star Service was also held in the packed Lodge. Brother Bob was Florida State President in 2010 and was currently the State Chaplain. He was extremely involved in Masonic organizations and especially in the Shrine and was their Official photographer for several years. He was a Kentucky Colonel and the Commander of the unit in the Sarasota area. Brother Bob and his wife Kathy loved to travel and took a long vacation each year and traveled around the country. On occasions, they visited their daughter and family in New Zealand. They always had plenty of photos to show when they returned from their trips. Brother Bob was President of the Cortez High Twelve Club in Bradenton several times and also the Master of Ceremony when not the President. He was also the Wolcott Representative for his club, which won the Best in Zone Award for contributions in Zone 8 four years in a row. We will all miss Brother Bob and his dedication to Masonry, Shrinedom and High Twelve. Rest in Peace my Brother!

#### **Orlando High Twelve Club #435:**

I am happy to report that the three principle officers of Orange Blossom Lodge No. 80 in Kissimmee, Florida are members of Orlando High Twelve Club No. 435. Please join me in welcoming are newest members. WM Jason Cintron, SW Bro. Robert Vasquez, and JW Bro. Raymond Sanchez. **\*\*\*There are High Twelvians out there, they just don't know it.\*\*\*** Sincerely and Fraternaly, Robert (Bob) T. Cunningham Sr., President, Orlando High Twelve Club No. 435. P.S. Have a great day!

#### **Masonic High Twelve Club of Lake Worth #316, Bernhard Kainer, Secretary**

The Second Annual Government Bee - Lake Worth, Florida: The Second Annual Government Bee originated by The Masonic High Twelve Club of Lake Worth #316 was conducted by the School District of Palm Beach County on Thursday, April 6, 2017, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., at the Santaluces High School of Lantana.

The academic style competition among the seven participating high schools (Boynton Beach High School, Lake Worth Community High School, Royal Palm Beach High School, Santaluces Community High school, Seminole Ridge Community High School, Spanish River High School, and Suncoast High School) was double the number of teams that competed in the first annual competition held last year. This competition encourages teams of students to become engaged in the United States Government curriculum by going head-to-head with questions of varying complexity and lock-out buzzer systems.

The audience was at the edge of their seats watching as Seminole Ridge Community High School and Suncoast High School were in contention. Ultimately, Seminole Ridge Community High School won the overall competition, earning the prestigious Government Bee Champion Trophy. The winning team from Seminole Ridge Community High School consisted of Rebecca Moccia, Kylie Shivers, John Etienne, and Nathan Frank, whose Coach was Rose Carbone.

Second Place was won by Suncoast High School and Third Place was won by the team from Royal Palm Beach High School.

Awards were provided to the three winning teams by The Masonic High Twelve Club of Lake Worth No. 316, the Florida Government Finance Officers Association, the League of Women Voters, and the National Council of Jewish Women.

The event was a great success and we look forward to a successful third year in 2018. Congratulations to All!

#### **The Villages High Twelve Club #674:**

Greetings High Twelvians. I was glad to see a nice turnout at the April meeting. The food was delicious and we all enjoyed a very informative presentation by the Metro Crime Prevention. Jim explained how to protect ourselves and our assets from criminals.

Our upcoming Picnic at Hickory Point Pavilion scheduled for April 22nd from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Remember to invite any prospective members to join us at this fun event. Hope to see you there.

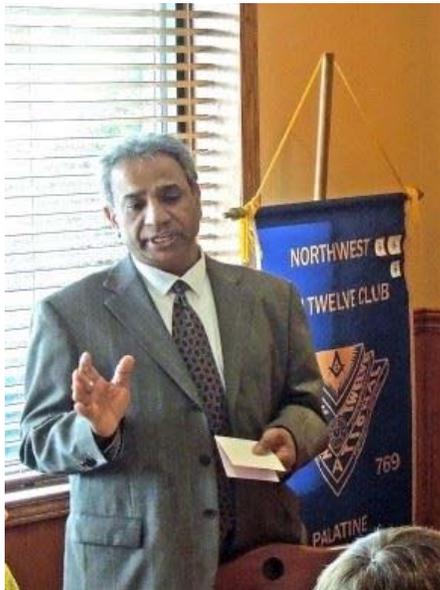
This month we lost Brother Arthur Ollila. We were glad to see Art's wife and daughter at our meeting; and offer them our sincere sympathy.

For our May meal we will have Tossed Salad, New England Baked Cod, Oven Roasted Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls & Muffins, Coffee and Iced Tea.

Our presenter for the May meeting will be Karl Loeper, Meteorologist for the Villages radio station. He tells me he brings gifts for those who know the

answers to his questions. Wishing everyone a Happy Easter, Fraternally, Frank

**Illinois High Twelve Association, Northwest High Twelve Club No. 769:**



Our speaker was Khalid Sabri, owner of Audio Services, Villa Park, Illinois, who discussed his career of 32 years in the hearing aid business to his present ownership of Audio Services. In 1984, hearing aids were adjusted with a screw driver but after years of customizing over 1,000 hearing aids with present day technology, Brother Sabri gave practical advice about getting professional assistance. He also discussed how an individual must learn to use hearing aids (volume-clarity) versus using new reading glasses.

finest attire.

Brother O'Doc, the Shriner's Clown was also in attendance. He is pictured below in his



Our attendance consisted of thirteen High Twelve members and seven special guests, namely Mrs. Joan Rogers, Mrs. Rosemarie Pegoraro, Mrs. Cheryl Aronson, Mrs. Cathy Curielli, Mrs. Ronnie Rund, Mrs. Jan Van Cleave and Mrs. Sandra Chapman. Our special dignitaries were High Twelve International Second Vice President, Joe Santisteban, who was joined by Brother Edward Rund PSP, and now Illinois State Secretary.

Our collections today yielded twenty-six dollars for the Wolcott Fund and thirteen dollars for our other charity. Once deposited, our checking account will be \$552.05 with \$130 designated for Wolcott Fund and \$105 designated for other

charity.

Brother Mike Rothman is our expert on medical experiences this year and the latest update (3.28.17) meant a transfusion of blood with white cells at Northwest Community Hospital. Keep Brother Mike in your prayers (Mike's

mail is received at Rt. 1, Box 675, Mt. Prospect, Illinois 60056. Mrs. Jacqui Rothman could use a prayer also.

Brother Gene Pratt provided an interesting discussion of International High Twelve activities by visiting our new Club location in Hawaii. Gene Pratt visited the newly installed High Twelve Club in Hawaii last month. Brother Santisteban stated a new High Twelve Club also opened in Rome Italy.

Brother Peter Maris provided information on Hellenic Lodge No. 1084 Scholarship awards (John C. Psaltis Scholarships) that will be distributed on April 23rd at Ki's Steak & Seafood Restaurant. Attendance at the luncheon has a fee (\$40) but Scholarship applications for the four - one thousand dollar grants must be applied for by November 2017. Brother Maris explained how a grant of \$50,000 in 1999 has provided seventy-two \$1,000 Grants and how the Grants are being expanded to previous winners. Grant Application Forms are available by email or at our next meeting. As Past Master of Hellenic Lodge, Peter Maris will handle any questions and accept applications. Another of our members, George Korizisis presently Worshipful Master at Hellenic Lodge and he will take reservations at telephone 847-702-7887. Children under 12 years old are free and it is Easter Dinner, Past Master Night and Grant Award Night.

Brother Joe Pegoraro will discuss at the next meeting on April 25th, the May 20th Scottish Temple Help Children with Dyslexia Walk. Fraternally, Don Van Cleave, Secretary/Treasurer.

**Pennsylvania High Twelve Association, First Capital High Twelve Club #668:**

High Twelve members open your April newsletter [today](#). Take note our guest for the meeting will be Jerry J. Hamilton. Jerry is President of the Pennsylvania Association of High Twelve Clubs.

Your club President and officers are looking forward to his visit and would greatly appreciate a LARGE turn-out of members for the April meeting to show support for your club. Meeting attendance has been down so if you have not attended in some time now is the time to attend a High Twelve Meeting for good fellowship and good food. Bring a Masonic Brother as a guest as we need to increase our membership. So what are you waiting for...call Richard Graybill at 717-225-1438 or e-mail me at [belcher3@comcast](mailto:belcher3@comcast). Fraternally, Carl Belcher Secretary.

We are pleased to have Pennsylvania High Twelve President Jerry Hamilton with us for our April meeting. Last May at the Pennsylvania Association of High Twelve Annual Meeting, Jerry stated that he plans to attend a meeting of each of the fifteen Clubs in 2017. We are honored to have him with us for our April meeting. Jerry was raised and educated in the Philadelphia area. Further, his education was in the field of Automotive Dealership Management

in Stockholm Sweden. He was employed in the automotive industry for forty years. Jerry has been married to Janet Mary Cantrill for fifty-three years and they are the parents of three children. They reside in Maple Glen, Pennsylvania. He has served for many years in his church and local community. Jerry is a member of thirty-nine Masonic Organizations where he serves as an officer, past officer, degree team member or secretary. It should be noted that he holds the Order of the Purple Cross of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America and is a member of the international conferring team for that honor. He is a Sovereign Grand Inspector General 33° of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite and has been proclaimed a Knight Grand Cross of the York Cross of Honor. In 2013, he was elected Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania. In High Twelve, Jerry has twice served as President of North Penn High Twelve Club #473 and serves as President of the Pennsylvania Association of High Twelve Clubs. He was appointed Nominations Chairman for the 96<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention and honored with the All-Star Award in 2015. If elected at the Convention, he will serve as Vice President of High Twelve International.

**North Central High Twelve Association, Dubuque High Twelve Club #119: Gerald Edgar**

The Navy just lost arguably one of the most prominent remaining USN WW II Vets, who was just a plain old Seaman First Class. Here's the tribute posted to the major Masonic research group as he was a Mason.

I doubt many knew this ninety-year-old man was a Brother and in all the media tributes, there was no mention of his service in WWII in the U.S. Navy. Rather it was his LONG career as a stand-up comedian, movie actor (dramas like Run Silent, Run Deep & Kelly's Heroes and comedies from 1958-2009) & TV star from 1955-2014, voice of Mr. Potato Head in the Toy Story movies, etc.) He was Johnny Carson's favorite guest (Carson nicknamed him Mr. Warmth.)

His WW II Navy service as a Seaman First Class on a Motor Torpedo Boat Tender inspired a TV comedy he created: CPO Sharkey. He had a star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame, an Emmy and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Friars Club. He truly was the last of a generation of funny men. (And unlike many in Hollywood & Vegas, he was married for fifty-two years.)

To those who know our prominent Masons by now know of whom I speak, a just & upright Brother Don Rickles. May he rest in peace! Brother Gerald Edgar, Mosaic #125 AF&AM, Dubuque, Iowa and Dubuque High Twelve Club #119.

**Wolcott Foundation Chairman and Trustee Zone 5, Brother Michael (Mike) Clark, PSP (MI):**

## **Wolcott Foundation Elects New Chairman**

The Board of Trustees of The Wolcott Foundation elected a new Chairman of The Board, during their Annual Fellowship Selection Meeting at George Washington University in Washington, DC.

The election was a result of the retirement of Zone 1 Trustee Malcolm White, as Chairman of the Foundation.

Brother White's many years of service to the Foundation was recognized by the board members during its meeting. Brother White will remain as a trustee representing Zone 1 for the remaining two years of his current term.

The Board of Trustees elected Brother Michael Clark, Zone 5 Trustee, to lead the Foundation as Chairman.

## **Wolcott Foundation Selects 2017Fellowship Recipients**

The Board of Trustees of The Wolcott Foundation met the weekend of March 9 - 11, at George Washington University in Washington, DC, to select the recipients of the 2017Wolcott Fellowships.

While in attendance, the Wolcott Trustees attended two receptions sponsored by George Washington University. In attendance were current Wolcott Fellows now attending GWU, and past graduated Senior Wolcott Fellows.

The Senior Fellows shared stories and experiences about their life journey as a result of receiving a Fellowship from the Wolcott Foundation. Each Senior Fellow expressed their appreciation to the members of High Twelve and The Wolcott Foundation for providing them the means of pursuing their dream of public service.

The list of accomplishments achieved by our Senior Fellows is impressive, and demonstrates their commitment to our country achieved through the generosity of contributors to The Wolcott Foundation.

The Wolcott Foundation is the oldest Fellowship granting organization at George Washington University, having awarded over 420 Fellowships to highly qualified students at George Washington University.

Thank you for your generosity in supporting The Wolcott Foundation and the present and future leaders of public service in America.



**Aloha! My name is Jarek Buss.** I am a 2018 Wolcott Fellow at the Elliott School of International Affairs, where I study national security policy. Within that M.A. I concentrate on East Asia and international crime, in preparation for

joining the Foreign Service in September 2018, following graduation. Getting to this point in my life is the culmination of many years of travels, goals, work, and incredible support. Thank you!

To introduce myself a little further, I grew up in Laramie, Wyoming until I left on a high school Rotary Youth Exchange to France in 2007. That experience convinced me to pursue an international lifestyle and I have been preparing to join the Foreign Service ever since. I started my undergraduate in political science at Brigham Young University-Hawaii in 2009, then left for two years of religious mission work in southern France in 2010, working primarily with Chinese students.

I returned to BYU-Hawaii in 2012 and met and married my wife, Kaylee Lindahl, a brilliant soprano studying voice. Together we studied in Xi'an, China from 2013-2014, with me on a NSEP Boren Scholarship and Kaylee on other scholarships. Finishing that experience, we spent two more semesters at BYU-Hawaii but could not help leaving yet again in 2015, this time for Thailand. Together we interned with the Raks Thai Foundation in Mae Chaem, then took classes through BYU-Hawaii in Bangkok. At the expiration of our Thai visas but before the start of classes in Hawaii, we spent a month backpacking through Cambodia and Vietnam.

We returned to BYU-Hawaii for the last time in November 2015, and I graduated in February and Kaylee in June. This summer started with a bang-right after graduation, we toured with the university choir to Japan for two weeks, as I was the tour manager and Kaylee was the soprano section leader. Best of all however, was August 8, when our son Aedan was born. He is the best adventure we've had yet! We already love taking him around D.C. to see the sights, and look forward to traveling the world with him and teaching him to serve. Thank you again for your incredible generosity that is blessing our family to get started on the right foot. We are excited to pay it forward! Thank you.

**NOTE:** Jarek Buss was born in Gallup, New Mexico and grew up in Laramie, Wyoming. He attended Brigham Young University (Hawaii) and graduated with a 4.0 Grade Point Average in 2016, with a Bachelor's of Arts Degree in Political Science. He is attending the Elliott School of International Affairs at George Washington University. He is married to the former Kaylee Lindahl and they have one son by the name of Aedan.

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### Humor

*I receive jokes from members each month and try to include those I believe are the best. This month, I have been over whelmed with jokes and stories and thought you would enjoy reading some of them. Please take a look at them and enjoy some good humor. Merv Harris, Editor.*

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An elderly couple had just learned how to send text messages on their mobile phones. The wife was a romantic type and the husband was more of a no-nonsense guy. One afternoon the wife went out to meet a friend for coffee. She decided to send her husband a romantic text message and she wrote: If you are sleeping, send me your dreams. If you are laughing, send me your smile. If you are eating, send me a bite. If you are drinking, send me a sip. If you are crying, send me your tears. I love you. The husband texted back to her: I'm on the toilet. **Please provide advice!**

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Emily Sue passed away and Bubba called 911. The 911 operator told Bubba that she would send someone out right away. Where do you live asked the operator. Bubba replied, at the end of Eucalyptus Drive. The operator asked, Can you spell that for me? There was a long pause and finally Bubba said, how about if I drag her over to Oak Street and you pick her up there?

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A cowboy, who just moved to Wyoming from Texas, walks into a bar and orders three mugs of Bud. He sits in the back of the room, drinking a sip out of each one in turn. When he finishes them, he comes back to the bar and orders three more. The bartender approaches and tells the cowboy, you know, a mug goes flat after I draw it. It would taste better if you bought one at a time. The cowboy replies, well, you see, I have two brothers. One is an Airborne Ranger, the other is a Navy Seal and both are serving over seas somewhere. When we all left our home in Texas, we promised that we'd drink this way to remember the days when we drank together. So I'm drinking one beer for each of my brothers and one for myself. The bartender admits that this is a nice custom, and leaves it there. The cowboy becomes a regular in the bar, and always drinks the same way. He orders three mugs and drinks them in turn. One day, he comes in and only orders two mugs. All the regulars take notice and fall silent. When he comes back to the bar for the second round, the bartender says, I don't want to intrude on your grief, but I wanted to offer my condolences on your loss. The cowboy looks quite puzzled for a moment, then a light shines in his eyes and he laughs. Oh, no, everybody's just fine, he explains, it's just that my wife and I joined the Baptist Church and I had to quit drinking but it hasn't affected my brothers though.

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A motivational speaker, while addressing his audience, talked about the various achievements man has made today. He said, today, man has built a ship to cross an ocean, fastest trains to travel across cities, and built planes to fly high in the skies like a bird... A gentleman from the audience interrupted, and yet, a man still cannot sit on a barbed wire fence like a bird does!

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During a visit to my doctor, I asked him, how do you determine whether or not an older person should be put in an old age home? Well, he said, we fill up a bathtub, and then we offer a teaspoon, a tea cup and a bucket to the person to empty the bathtub. Oh, I understand, I said. A normal person would use the bucket because it is bigger than the spoon or the teacup...No, he said. A normal person would pull the plug. Do you want a bed near the window? ARE YOU GOING TO PASS THIS ON OR DO YOU WANT THE BED NEXT TO MINE?

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Two engineers were standing at the base of a flagpole, looking at its top. A woman walked by and asked what they were doing. We're supposed to find the height of this flagpole, said one, but we don't have a ladder. The woman took a wrench from her purse, loosened a couple of bolts, and laid the pole down on the ground. Then she took a tape measure from her pocketbook, took a measurement, and announced, Twenty one feet, six inches, and walked away. One engineer shook his head and laughed; a lot of good that does us. We ask for the height and she gives us the length.

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Studying our wedding photos, my six-year-old asked, did you marry Dad because he was good-looking? Not really, I replied. Did you marry him for his money? Definitely not, I laughed. He didn't have any. So, he said, you just felt sorry for him?

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Kyle and Justin were about to eat with their babysitter when 6-year-old Kyle said, you can't sit in Daddy's seat! Daddy's not home, the babysitter replied. Since I'm responsible for you while he's gone, I can sit here. Today, I'm the boss. Justin, the 4 year old, quickly piped up, if you're the boss, you sit over there in Mommy's chair!

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A man in a hurry, taking his 8-year-old son to school, made a turn at a red light where it was prohibited. Uh-oh, I just made an illegal turn the man said. Aw, Dad, it's probably okay, the son said. The police car right behind us just did the same thing.

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My husband had just lost 50 pounds when, after eight years of me being a housewife, I had taken a job in a restaurant. When I returned home after my first day at work, I gave my husband a big hug. He seemed to cling to me longer than usual. Did you really miss me that much today, dear? I asked. No,

was the reply. But you smell so much like pancakes that I hate to let you go.

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A soldier in my National Guard platoon became concerned when the Army insisted that he sign up for direct deposit. It's not going to work for me, he said, panicked. Why not? I asked. Because I use my Guard Pay for spending money. So? For the past ten years, I've been telling my wife that I serve for free!

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After we had lunch with another couple, the girls went shopping, and the guys opted to go sailing. Bad decision as a storm blew in while us guys were out on the water. Making matters worse, the tide had gone out, grounding the boat. We had to climb overboard and shove it back into deep water. As my friend stood there, ankles deep in muck, muscles straining against the weight of the boat, and rain pelting his face, he grinned broadly and with unmistakable sincerity said, Sure beats shopping!

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Wanting to lose weight, a woman placed a picture of a shapely, pinup model on her refrigerator to remind her of her goal. The reminder worked like a charm as the woman discovered that she had lost ten pounds in the first month of using this method. The downside to this was that her husband ended up gaining fifteen pounds.

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Just before Easter, I remarked to my husband that with the children grown and away from home, this was the first year that we hadn't dyed eggs and had an Easter-egg hunt. That's all right, honey, he said. We can just hide each other's vitamin pills.

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A young lady stops at the gas station to fill up and realizes she has locked her keys inside the car. When going inside to pay, she asks for a hanger to unlock her car. After a few minutes the attendant comes to help. The not so bright lady is moving the hanger; while inside the car is her not so bright friend giving directions. RIGHT, NOW LEFT, JUST A LITTLE MORE RIGHT...