



# HIGH TWELVE MONTHLY UPDATE June 2013 Issue

Update Published monthly by High Twelve International, Inc. at 743 Palma Drive, Lady Lake, FL, 32159. Telephone numbers (352)-817-0707 or (352) 753-3505. 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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.

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Congratulations to our members and ladies, celebrating their Birthday, Anniversary or other Special Event in June. Don't forget to make a contribution to the Wolcott Foundation, celebrating your happy event or occasion!

<u>Prayers are provided by R.W. Reverend Mark Megee, PDDGM & Past President of the Union County High</u>
<u>Twelve Club (NJ).</u> He has provided them for our needs and possible use at your club meeting as the opening and closings prayers.

<u>Invocation:</u> Great Architect of the Universe, we thank you for the fellowship of Freemasonry. How grateful we are for the fraternal union we experience when we gather together as Masons. Guide us this day as we seek to conduct our affairs in ways which will benefit the spread of Masonic knowledge and light. For we pray for Your Name's sake, Amen.

**Benediction:** Gracious God, teach us the benefits of living so as to cause our lives to be as pure and spotless as was the first Masonic apron presented to us. Make us careful about our reputation as individual Masons and as a fraternity. Remind us of the blessings which flow from purity of heart and blamelessness of conduct in a world where scandal seems to be the rule rather than the exception. Guide us on our way as we journey from this place and strengthen us to make purity of life and rectitude of conduct our aim. Amen.

<u>Flag Presentation</u>: The Flag Presentation is provided by Robert A. Barnhart, K.Y.C.H.; Past Chairman of the Patriotic Committee, International High Twelve; and Past Ohio High Twelve Association President. Its use is encouraged prior to presenting the Flag of Our Country at your Club Meeting.

#### **MY AMERICAN FLAG**

You're the thing that represents what we believe in. You tell us we're all next of kin. That's only because we're Americans and we're the best. If anyone doesn't believe what you-say put it to the test! You're the thing that reminds us each and every day who we are, we might be on the home-front or maybe afar. But the one thing we know is that we're free. We won the war because we knew it had to be. We gained our freedom and our symbol was you. Our nation was very new. Other countries didn't think we would last but you stood tall. You proved that we're the best to all. You mean the world to me for all that you stand for. You will never fall on my watch. That's because I'm proud to say that you're my American Flag!

<u>International President Donald Whistler's Message (PA)</u> As I write my last message to you, as President of High Twelve international, Inc., it is difficult to believe that the Annual Convention is less than a month from now. The past eleven, plus, months have been one of the fastest periods of time in my life. The Officers of the Executive Committee, collectively, accomplished much this year. For that, I thank them! There were frustrations at times but I prefer to talk about our accomplishments!

First, appointing Kevin Hokerk (AZ) to serve as our International Secretary got us off on the right path for all of High Twelve. He immediately setup a High Twelve International high tech office in his home with all of the equipment necessary to run a business. Kevin addressed the situation of how many Clubs we actually have and the number of members for each of them. Obviously, this is an ongoing process. He also worked on the delinquent per capita dues and got the best handle on it as possible. The target date for mailing the 2013-2014 per capita dues notices was March 31, 2013 and that is when they went into the mail. Kevin continues to mail the printed materials, such as Certificates, Dues Statements, etc. on a very timely basis. There are other tasks and projects which he has worked on as you will see as I continue this article.

One of the major items on our agenda for this year was the Membership Data Base. Kevin, Don Galway (MI), International Treasurer and Art Walton (CA), Second Vice President was appointed as our Technology Committee to review the Data Base. They reviewed it and made a report of their findings at the Mid-Year meeting. As a result of their report, the Governing Board asked them to do further study, compile a list of information which the Clubs, State Associations and International need in a Data Base. They were then to convey this information to Matt Seddens, who has been working on the development of the Data Base, ask him if he can incorporate these features in it and, after receiving his response, make a report of their recommendations to the Governing Board at the Annual Convention in June.

Another very important item was the tax filings for International, the State Associations and Clubs with the Internal Revenue Service. We learned that the "Master Group Exemption Listing" which lists the relative information for the State Associations and Clubs had not been filed for several years. Kevin and Don Galway worked together to resolve this problem and on January 28, 2013, Kevin filed the Master Group Exemption Listing with the IRS. There were only 18 Clubs for which Kevin did not have the information and he is working to obtain this information from them for the next tax filing. There was also a problem of a number of State Associations and Clubs not being able to file the required Form 990-N E-postcard, either because they had not been listed on the Group Exemption Listing or because they lost their tax exempt status for not filing the Form for three consecutive years. Kevin has been working with them to resolve this problem.

The International Bylaws were updated by Jim Parker (OH), First Vice President, and Matt Dupee (PA), General Counsel, and reviewed at the Mid-Year meeting. Some amendments were made there by the Members of the Governing Board and approved for passing on to the Annual Convention for a vote on them. The final version was printed the last issue of the High Twelvian magazine and put on the International web site for review by our members. Matt Dupee drafted Uniform Club Bylaws in order to have uniformity among all Clubs and to make it easier for future review of them. There is a provision for Clubs to add language unique to their Clubs and geographical locations, subject to the approval of the International Secretary. These Bylaws were also printed in the High Twelvian magazine and put on the web site. They will also be voted upon at the Annual Convention.

The Executive Committee believed it was necessary to provide the Clubs and State Associations with some tools to help them in their recruitment of new Members and the establishment of new Clubs. As a result, we developed eight (8) tools to assist you in these efforts. I will not list them here because they have been listed in previous articles and can be seen on the web site. Most of them can be downloaded from the web site and all of them can be obtained by calling Kevin Hokerk at 623-239-6170 or emailing him at klhokerk@cox.net. We are hopeful that you will use these tools. If we not put an effort into attracting new Members and developing new Clubs, our Membership will continue to decline!

The more that I talk with Wolcott Foundation Fellows, current students and graduates the more impressed I am with them and the program. Malcolm White, Chairman of the Wolcott Trustees, said at the Mid-Year meeting that less than one-half of the Clubs contribute to the Foundation and that the total contributions amount to less than one-half of the cost of a Fellowship at George Washington University. For shame!!! We should be able to do much better! The Trustees have taken action and Merv Harris has been publishing articles in the Monthly Update and High Twelvian magazine from current students and graduates publicizing their backgrounds, accomplishments and appreciation for receiving their Fellowship from the Foundation. If your Club has not been making contributions, please consider passing the little red school house at your meetings and send the contributions, at least annually, to your Wolcott Zone Trustee.

Finally, we had two fund raising programs this year. The one was the mailing of the pocket planners to our Members. The results were about the same as last year with a net of a little over \$1,500.00. The second program was the mailing of "return address labels." The good news is that as of my last conversation with Kevin, who has been receiving the contribution checks, we have passed \$6,000.00 in net profits from this program. I wish to thank all of you who made contributions to these programs. The funds will greatly help our efforts to improve High Twelve.

In closing, I want to thank Winton Hewitt (PA), Third Vice President, for his hard work as Convention Chairman on the 92nd Annual Convention. I could not have done it without him and some other members of the Pennsylvania Association of High Twelve Clubs Executive Committee. It has been a pleasure to serve as your President! I hope that I am able to stay involved at the International level for many years to come.

Sincerely and Fraternally, Don Whistler, President

<u>International 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President James Parker's Message (OH:)</u> This has been a very fast paced year with many accomplishments. High Twelve International has moved forward with the great leadership of Brother Don Whistler. We have accomplished, or at least moved many of our collective goals forward. Even with all the accomplishments there is still a lot of work to be done. I am looking forward to being with all those High Twelvians who sojourn to Philadelphia this month. Many good things are planned and I know Don will show us a good time.

International  $3^{rd}$  Vice President Winton Hewitt's Message (PA:) Hope to see you all at the  $92^{nd}$  Annual International High Twelve Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, June 13 - 15, 2013. A copy of the Agenda is included in this Update. You will find it as the final article. Thank you for your support and assistance. We know you will have a great time in Philadelphia.

<u>International Secretary Kevin Hokerk's Message (AZ):</u> Per capita statements were mailed to the Association Secretaries for distribution. If you have not received your statement for 2013-14 please contact your Association Secretary or me. Statements are due and payable on receipt. If a correction needs to made to your membership numbers that can be is easily accomplished by providing your March Monthly Report AND a club roster.

Club credential/proxy forms were sent (emailed) to the Association Secretaries for distribution. You can also print them from the International website – Annual Convention tab. Be represented at the 92<sup>nd</sup> Convention! If no one from you club is attending, your vote can be assigned to *anyone* attending, remember to have your Association Secretary sign the form as indicated.

I would like to thank everyone for their help and assistance these past 11 months. Much progress has been accomplished to make your International Office a useful resource for *ALL* High Twelvians.

See *YOU* at the 92<sup>nd</sup> Convention! Kevin Hokerk, International Secretary.

<u>Wolcott Foundation Chairman Malcolm White's Message (CA:)</u> The cost of education is said, and it is indeed true, to be very high, and climbing almost daily; but, consider what the REAL cost of ignorance might be!

With that said, what then to do? The cost of an education, any education, is indeed high, and in reality it always has been – it may be that we just have not seen that real cost. Maybe, too, we have not experienced that real cost. We have an opportunity by way of the Wolcott Program to contribute to the production of efficient and competent civil servants; not as if we need them in government today!?

As this article is being prepared, Carol and I are embarking to be present at some momentous milestones in life; the graduations of grandchildren – one from High School and one from College. One of the advantages of being grandparents is seeing the young ones in their best and brightest of occasions without the mess and travail of having to clean up after them, so some comments to follow may seem to be out of sync – sorry.

The Wolcott Senior Fellow who is to speak (as you read this, he has already spoken) at the Wolcott Luncheon (an Annual event at the High Twelve International Convention) is a one-time U. S. Ambassador. His curriculum vitae are most impressive. His remarks will include the importance that the Wolcott Program provided him in preparing for his career in public service. I would be remiss if I did not state that his case is not unique; of the near 500 Fellows produced over these last many years, almost all read of the most impressive of accomplishment and attainments. What a great group of productive citizens – oh, would it be possible and so wonderful to clone them!

Our former Wolcott Treasurer, Warren Bolton, always closed his communications with, "Send money." Nothing has changed in the need for money; money – the life blood of every worthwhile project. To say to the contrary is to bury ones head in the sand! Money, indeed, is what makes the world go around. We, by way of our/your Wolcott Program have the enviable opportunity to make that money mean and do something that will greatly benefit our Nation.

I request/ask/plea to each High Twelvian to support, with the greatest of their resources, our/your Wolcott Program. All the while remembering that each Member of High Twelve is also a member of the Wolcott Foundation, and that your support of your/our Wolcott Foundation is reflected in the accomplishments of each of the Wolcott Fellows. Accomplishments of which all Wolcott supporters may be duly proud, as they too, have made major contributions to those accomplishments.

How about foregoing a cup of Latte Mocha per day and instead send that 'coffee money' to the Wolcott Trustee in your area and don't forget to FEED THE LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE – you know that it will be put to good use and will certainly last much longer that the momentary pleasure of a sip of coffee from a paper cup. And, who knows, it might even be better for you! God Bless you and yours and God Bless the United States of America! Malcolm S. White, Chairman, The Wolcott Foundation, Inc.



Wolcott Fellow Kathryn Vesev White 2011-2012. I am writing to express my sincere gratitude to the members of the Wolcott Foundation for their generous support of the Wolcott Fellowship program. As a Fellow, I was able to pursue and complete a master's degree in public policy from the Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration at The George Washington University. With the Wolcott Foundation's support, I had the opportunity during my graduate program to study important policy issues, develop valuable analytical tools and skills, and learn outside the classroom through a research internship. My coursework at GW was both challenging and stimulating, and when I graduated in May 2012, I felt more than prepared as a public policy professional. Just as important, my graduate program experience and the Wolcott Fellowship inspired me to give back to society through a career in public service following graduation.

Since graduating from GW, I have been working as a Fiscal Policy Analyst for the National Association of State Budget Officers (NASBO), the professional membership organization for the budget and finance officers of all states and territories. NASBO's mission since its founding in 1945 has been to advance state budget practices through research, policy analysis, education and knowledge sharing among its members. As the chief financial advisors to our nation's governors, NASBO members are influential decision makers in state government, and guide their states in analysis of budget options and formation of sound public policy. NASBO exists to help its members perform their critical job functions by providing information and training on state fiscal issues and budget processes, performing research on topics affecting states, and organizing national meetings where members can share best practices.

Every day, I have the chance in my job to draw on the skills and knowledge I acquired during my graduate program at GW. In my role at NASBO, I track and provide information to our members on a daily basis regarding federal funding and policy developments that affect state budgets, including the recent federal sequestration. I also conduct research and analysis on state policies concerning elementary, secondary and postsecondary education, performance-based budgeting, and state budget processes. I have helped draft Congressional testimony to inform lawmakers about how federal issues affect state and local governments. I also recently had the opportunity to serve as staff lead for a project on higher education finance. Earlier this year, NASBO released the culminating report for that project entitled, *Improving Postsecondary Education Through the Budget Process: Challenges & Opportunities.* The report analyzes current challenges facing higher education and highlights opportunities for state and higher education officials to work together to improve postsecondary education to better serve public interests and ensure that college is affordable and accessible. I am now working on another project to identify best practices and ongoing challenges associated with the use of program performance information in state budgeting.

The opportunity to work at NASBO and serve the public by supporting state budget directors has been extremely meaningful and rewarding. I am incredibly grateful to the Wolcott Foundation for helping to make my dream of pursuing a public policy career a reality. Thank you so much for all your support and I look forward to continuing to serve. Kathryn Vesey White

**<u>Humor:</u>** Frank was madly in love with Susan, but couldn't get up enough courage to pop the question face to face. Finally he decided to ask her on the telephone. Darling! He blurted out, "Will you marry me?" Of course, I will, you silly boy, she replied, "Who's speaking?"



and finally agreement and on to the next topic.

### California High Twelve Association:

#### The California Mid-Year Conference

The California Association of High Twelve Clubs met for their Mid-Year Conference at the Masonic Home in Covina, CA. They say that the last vestige of a true Democracy is either a Vol. Fire Department meeting, or a Masonic Organization. These meetings start quietly but when a hot topic comes up then chaos rains and until everyone wishing to, has their say, sometimes at the same time, then come consensus,

President Acreman opened the meeting at 12:00 Noon (High Twelve), advised all present of the untimely passing of our State Secretary Bro. Rick Emmons and introduced Spencer Sargent, PSP, who has been appointed as our acting State Secretary. He then went on to give a brief report on the International Mid-Year Conference held in Las Vegas.

Our 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Vice President, Bro. Dr. Cleveland Valrey, PhD, advised all in attendance that on October 25 and 26 the State Convention and Installation of the new State Officers will be held at the Ayers Hotel in Ontario, CA. This Hotel is quite near the Ontario International Airport, is at the same location as the 2012 Convention, which was considered an outstanding location and a very successful convention. His plans for the 2014 Mid-Year will be in Northern California at the Masonic Home in Union City located in and near the San Francisco Bay Area. He is also looking to have the 2014 Convention at the Scottish Rite Temple in Oakland, California. I personally believe this venue has some of the best food in the state.

Adam Buttons, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Executive Vice President, brought up the need to become more up to date by using Social Media such as having a Hi-12 Face Book Page to better keep the membership appraised on what is happening and for better communication between members and officers of California High Twelve and to share ideas. Also, he felt that The Ensign Mayo Student Loan Fund we could better promote and use of our Web-page as well.

Wolcott Foundation and the California Ensign Mayo Student Loan Fund were also topics of conversation and other matter of mutual interest were discussed. The Conference was closed at 3:45 PM.

After the Mid-year Conference was closed The Executive Committee took this opportunity to meet and discuss matters requiring Executive Committee action. It was suggested that Conference Calls could be used when face to face meetings were not feasible and in that the Association has this procedure already in place.

## California High Twelve Association Past Presidents Jerry Saville and Spencer Sargent (CA:) Greetings,

We are sending an early edition of the Hour to a select few for a couple of reasons. As you know Rick Emmons, our State Secretary - and former Marine Vietnam Vet, passed away last month. He's really missed in the Masonic Family and in other walks of life.

**<u>Humor:</u>** Dolphins are so intelligent that within a few weeks of captivity they can train a man to stand on the edge of their pool and throw them fish three times a day.

Rick started work on the "The Hour" and the "Directory" but it was not to be - -- proof that there are no guarantees for tomorrow! Thankfully, Spencer Sargent, a former State President, picked up the slack and has us moving forward. Spencer will also be at the International Convention next month.

The other reason for sending you the Hour is to introduce our incoming President and 1st VP - starting with Adam Button (our incoming First VP). Some of you probably already know Adam as the son of the late Red Buttons - thus the California Red Buttons H12 Club #755 chartered 05-17-07. I know you will enjoy his article.

Now on to our incoming President, Cleveland Valrey (PhD) and Past President of Oakland High Twelve Club #2. You will not learn a lot about this man by reading his High Twelve article but if you Google his name; here's a few things you will read about our incoming President: CW4, retired Army Pilot, inducted into the Army Rangers Hall of Fame, special forces operative, a Bronze star and Purple Heart recipient for his service in Korea and another Bronze Star for his service in Vietnam, and on and on......He will not tell you this but we have ways of finding out......and this my friends is a true "Hero" working in Hi-12. We wish he would attend the Convention next month but he's too busy. I'm sure he will attend next year as the California H12 State president.

Just wanted you folks to know about these California State Officers. See y'all in June.

<u>Executive Vice President, Cleveland Valrey:</u> For the Month of April, the Oakland High Twelve Club was privileged to have as our speaker Bro. Ed Blanchard, U.S. Navy (Submariner), WWII Veteran, who spoke on: "*Diesel Boats Forever, A Tour of USS Pampanito, SS-383.*" This boat made six WWII battle cruses and sank thousands of Tons of enemy shipping and was awarded six Battle Stars. She is currently docked and on display in San Francisco, at Fisherman's Warf, pier #45.

The speaker for May was Mr. Alexander Zwissler, Executive Director and CEO of the Chabot Space and Science Center in Oakland. The mission of Chabot Space & Science Center is to be a place for students of all ages to learn and be inspired about the Universe and our Planet Earth. Originally built as a Planetarium in 1883, it has become the place of learning for students of all ages. Oakland High Twelve Club meets at 12:00 noon on the fourth Monday of the month at the Majestic Scottish Rite Temple in Oakland, CA.

# <u>California High Twelve Association, Montebello (CA) High Twelve Club #422, by Donald E. Travis, PP, News Editor.</u>

In the school year of eight months, the Club presents a Junior Citizen of the Month Award selected by the schools involved. In the Montebello UHSD those are Montebello (4 per year), Schurr (4 per year) and Vail High (2 per year). The student, their immediate family, and a school representative are guests of the Club at a local restaurant.

The award package includes lunch, a hand size plaque for home, and their name on a plate attached to the permanent plaque at each of the schools. They also are given a \$50 gift certificate for school supplies.

If the selected student is a senior, then they are eligible to apply for the annual \$1,000 scholarship administered to a total of six high schools by the Montebello-Whittier Masonic Lodge who reimburses the Club for some of their JCofM expenses. Those Whittier schools are California, La Serna, and Whittier High. They also are eligible for \$1,000 Robert J. Paquette Trade School Scholarships.

All the students who are selected for these scholarships come together over dinner and share with the Masonic family what their high school years were like and their plans for the future. All really impressive.

The Club takes the runner ups from the scholarship applications and awards \$250 each to two students each from Montebello, Scyhurr, and Vail High Schools.

This program has been a mainstay of the Club for decades. Pictured with President Robert Risher are two recent recipients, Illene Alvarez (March) and Luis Apolaya (May) See below:





<u>Indiana High Twelve Association:</u> High Twelve Visitation by "The Traveling Five:" On Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013, five brothers from Greater Lafayette High Twelve Club 99, Jacob Wiebers, P.P. of Club 99 and P.S.P., Bob Waldron, P.P. of Club 99 and 3<sup>rd</sup> S.V.P., Walter Watts, President of Club 99, Ralph Achgill, 3<sup>rd</sup> V.P. Club 99 and Rudell (Sarge) Wilburn, P.P. Club 99 and 1<sup>st</sup> V.P. of the Indiana State High Twelve, headed for Muncie, Indiana.

We five, here after referred to as "the traveling five", set forth on this visitation program with the hope of the following: that it will catch on with other clubs, promote fellowship, increase the membership of local High Twelve Clubs and increase the attendance at the State High Twelve Club Meetings.

The traveling five made their first visit to Max L. Carpenter Club No. 699, Muncie, Indiana. We introduced ourselves and stated the purpose of our visit. After welcoming us, they wished us well in our endeavors. We expressed our thanks and reminded them that we look forward to seeing them soon at our meetings.

Max L. Carpenter Club, No. 699, seems to be doing well. According to their minutes, they are solvent and have a good turnout at their meeting; as we witnessed during our visit. They can boast of having two M.W.P.G.M.s as members of their Club. Tom Bevington, P.I.P. and State High Twelve Secretary, was present at the luncheon, traveling from his home in Ohio to be with us in Muncie and added his words of wisdom. Article by Rudell (Sarge) Wilburn, 1<sup>st</sup> V.P., Indiana State Association.

<u>Humor</u>: When a physician remarked on a new patient's ruddy complexion, he said, "High blood pressure, Doc. It comes from my family. "Your mother's side or your father's the doctor asked? "Neither, it's from my wife's family." "Oh, come now," the doctor said. "How could high blood pressure come from your wife's family?" The man sighed. "You oughta meet 'em sometime, Doc!" Furnished by Jim Satterthwaite, PIP, 2006-2007.

Kentucky Masonic High Twelve Club #105 Downtown High Twelve Club Officers: On May 3rd it was my pleasure to present a very special gavel to our club. It was donated by the daughter from the estate of Bro. B.B. Rhodes. I must begin by expressing my gratitude to Ms. Nancy Nelson, of Hemet California, who donated this gavel from the estate of her father B.B. Rhodes who passed away on October 9<sup>th</sup>, 1980.

Bro. Rhodes was a very active member of the Fraternity with accomplishments few of us could equal. He was a member of Shreveport #448, 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree Scottish Rite, Knight of York Cross of Honor, Royal Order of Scotland, Royal Order of Jesters, past head of LA York Rite, Past Potentate El Karubah Shrine in 1968 and became a Member of Overton Brooks High Twelve #310 in December of 1958. He was also active in the Louisiana Grand Lodge as well as a Life Member of the Shriner's Hospital.

Bro. Rhodes received this gavel as a Roving Fellowship Award at the International High Twelve Convention in 1965. The gavel is made of wood from Churchill Downs and was turned in 1965. So from Shreveport, Louisiana to Hemet, California to Louisville, Kentucky this gavel is now at the home of its origin. It is with a great deal of pride and pleasure I now present this gavel to you and Downtown High Twelve. Fraternally, Bruce Pelham PP & Secretary.

#### Florida State High Twelve Association, Tri County High Twelve Club # 674:

Standing from left to right: John Merryman, Immediate Club Past President; R.W. John Erb, High Twelvian of the Year 2012; and Merv Harris, PIP, Club President. R.W. John Erb was presented his High Twelvian of the Year Certificate; a Century Certificate in his Honor; and a shirt indicating his Award.



For those of you who attended the March 6, 2013 meeting, will remember that the Club presented R.W. John Erb, with the first ever "Tri County Masonic Club High Twelvian of the Year Award." When we decided to make the Award Annually, we asked for Nominations and three individuals all recommended the same member, who was our own John Erb.

I believe you can understand why Brother Erb was selected as the first recipient for the Award and he well deserved it. As an example, when we were planning for the 2013 Annual Picnic, his response was "I will be happy to help out by getting everything together for the picnic." He continually helps out when and where needed.

We are very thankful to have R.W. John as a member, Past President and leader of our Club. Thanks John for all you do!

**Suncoast HI 12 Club #418** Held its Picnic at the Fred Howard Park on the Gulf of Mexico - a beautiful location. Watch for Wednesday June 19 as Suncoast will be celebrating their 46 years at the Spartan Manor in New Port Ritchey and this event will be open to all. Well done President Gene Ashcroft!

# **Up Coming Cruise**

Florida State Association Of Masonic High Twelve Clubs Royal Caribbean Cruise departing Port Canaveral - Traveling to Coco Cay and Nassau the Bahamas – November 4 thru 8, 2013 – includes bus transportation if desired - State Treasurer Stu Davis is the coordinator and contact for this fun time and more details are available on WWW.flhi12.org .

<u>Humor:</u> A blonde city girl marries an Idaho rancher. One morning, on his way out to check on the cows, the rancher says to his wife, "The insemination man is coming over to impregnate one of our cows today. I drove a nail into the 2 by 4 above the cow's stall. Please show him which cow it is when he gets here, OK?" The rancher then leaves for the fields. After a while, the artificial insemination man arrives and knocks on the front door. The blonde takes him down to the barn. They walk along the row of cows and when Jennifer sees the nail, she tells him, "This is the one right here." The man, assuming he's dealing with an air head asks, "Tell me lady, 'cause I'm dying to know; how would YOU know that this is the right cow?" "That's simple, by the nail over its stall," she explains very confidently. Laughing rudely at her, the man says, "And what, pray tell, is the nail for?" The blonde turns to walk away and says sweetly over her shoulder, "I guess it's to hang your pants on." (It's nice to see the blonde win once in a while)

<u>Friendship between women</u>: A woman doesn't come home one night. The next day she tells her husband that she had slept over at a girlfriend's house. The husband calls his wife's 10 best friends. None of them know anything about it.

<u>Friendship between men</u>: A man doesn't come home one night. The next day he tells his wife that he had slept over at a friend's house. The wife calls her husband's 10 best men friends. Eight of them confirm that he had slept over, and two claim that he was still there.

**A** young and foolish pilot wanted to sound cool on the aviation frequencies. So, this was his first time approaching a field during the nighttime. Instead of making any official requests to the tower, he said: "Guess who?"

The controller switched the field lights off and replied: "Guess where?"

A lawyer was cross-examining the doctor about whether or not he had checked the pulse of the deceased before he signed the death certificate. "No," the doctor said. "I did not check his pulse." "And did you listen for a heartbeat?" asked the lawyer. "No I did not," the doctor said. "So," said the lawyer, "when you signed the death certificate, you had not taken steps to make sure he was dead." The doctor said, "Well, let me put it this way. The man's brain was in a jar on my desk but, for all I know, he could be out practicing law somewhere."

**TEACHER**: What do you call a person who keeps on talking when people are no longer interested? **PUPILS**: A teacher.

<u>Past International President Merv Harris, Editor's Message</u>: Brethren, I want to thank you for submitting articles for the Monthly Update and encourage you to continue doing so in the future. I would like to ask you to follow some very basic rules, which are needed, so all articles can be published.

In the future, please do not convert your articles to photos as in many cases, I cannot convert them to documents and the articles cannot be published. Also, it would be appreciated that you limit your articles to one page or less. If you have more than one subject, please make two or more articles and not one long one.

Photos are appreciated but it would help if you include them as attachments and not part of the article. I sometimes cannot copy and print both when sent as one.

Once again, thank you for your support and assistance and I hope you appreciate the Monthly Update and that it helps your club and Association in finding new ideas to do things.

I am looking forward to seeing you at the 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual High Twelve Convention in Philadelphia beginning June 13<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions or ideas, please talk to me at the Convention.