

93rd International Convention
Springfield, Ohio
June 28, 2014



GREETINGS!

June 2014 Issue

High Twelve International 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. 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.

Editor: Mervyn J. Harris, PIP, 352-753-3505 or 352-817-0707
E--mail address: update-editor@high12.org

Webmaster: **The June 2014 Monthly Update is being distributed for the first time using the combined membership email information and the email function of our website.** If you are forwarding this email to a distribution list for you club that information needs to be provided to the International Office so the email address can be associated with a High Twelvian's membership record.

If this email is being forwarded to non-members that is okay, and can be accomplished at the international level. Do this you will need to forward the contact name and email. Nothing else is needed.

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!

Invocation: Great Architect of the Universe, The lapse of fine, the ruthless hand of ignorance and the devastation's of war have laid waste and destroyed many of the things we have treasured, on a global

scale and on a personal level. We ask you to help us understand the true treasure is in the hearts of man and Masons, which is friendship, morality, and brotherly love. Amen.

Invocation Prayer submitted by Gordon Berry, Secretary, Morningside Lodge #615, A.F.&A.M., P.O. Box 2718, Sioux City, IA 51106-0718, (home) 3115 Seger Ave, S.C. IA 51106-3239, (home, preferred) 712-276-6834 (cell) 712-251-3891.

Benediction: God and Lord over all fine, past, present, and future -- teach us the importance of rationing our fine through the use of the 24-inch gauge, so that we may do the really important things in life. Remind us about the reality of fine represented by the level so that we will spend our fine wisely since we live in the shadow of eternity. Show us from the hour glass that fine is relentless so that each moment is precious and never to be squandered. Enable us to learn from the scythe the restraints of fine and not procrastinate thus to do our duty before the cutting and destructive effects of fine make us a part of its harvest of men's lives. Grant us the wisdom to use our fine with care and skill as we gather here today. For we ask in Your Holy Name, O God. Amen.

Benediction Prayer provided by R.W. Reverend Mark Megee, PDDGM & Past President of the Union County High Twelve Club (NJ).

Flag Presentation: Permission to use the Patriotic Poems has been granted by Roger W. Hancock, who's Website can be found at <http://poetpatriot.com/poemsflag/htm>. His Website is copyrighted and permission is required to publish anything from the Website. I have found that his Website is the most complete for many types of poems and other material. He has several Websites, which can be used to find a large assortment of poems. They are www.FlagPoems.PoetPatriot.com; www.FlagRules.PoetPatriot.com; or www.Veterans.PoetPatriot.com. We want to thank him for the use of the poems in the Monthly Update on a continuing basis.

Our Flag

Our country's flag, a banner heralds,
equality learned, equality seeks.
Represents created rights,
out of oppression came foresight.

Our nation's flag may not be liked,
but has respect throughout the world.
Power exists when premise just,
victory came when right entrust.

The colors evoke the pride in us.
Patriotism; red, white and blue.
Right prevails when self, denied,
then rights for all are fortified.

© 6-16-2001 Roger W Hancock www.PoetPatriot.com

International 1st Vice President Winton Hewitt (PA): Brethren, this month I hope you will be with us at the International Convention in Springfield, Ohio on the 27th - 29th. We have lots of things to go over and plans and goals that we will be setting for next year. As I have said over the year, I will be counting on the help and support of all the members to restore the membership that we once had. We have some Clubs that need help to get their lost members to return. It will take a lot of work but I feel that it can be done with every one pulling together. We have updated our brochures and have the

poster board layouts which can be displayed to tell the High Twelve International story. We have to promote the Wolcott Foundation, and the fact that they offer a graduate study program at George Washington University to assist in promoting good government. This year there were 5 grants offered at \$60,000 per student.

Your International Officers will be working to make sure that we are supporting the needs of the State Associations and Clubs to the fullest extent. We have been updating the Website to provide everything we can for the membership. All they have to do is log on and see what is available.

I traveled over to New Jersey for their Annual Election and Installation and met with the new Officers and hope to see some of them in Springfield, Ohio. I also installed the new Officers for the North Penn Club No 473 this month.

The Pennsylvania Association has an annual clean up and Flower planting at Freedoms Foundation in Valley Forge, PA where the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge has a Bronze Statue of General George Washington at Prayer. This year we didn't have to worry about being rained out. Then we had lunch, followed by a talk by Rev. William D. Hartman 33rd on how Washington ended up at Valley Forge for the defense of Philadelphia.

We must not forget the Masonic Youth Groups and I hope that all the clubs make every effort, to assist these groups. They are the future leaders of America.

Remember, when asked to help with your club's future needs - NO is not an acceptable answer! Winton

International 2nd Vice President Jerry Saville (CA): Greetings, It's (almost) Convention fine again! We look forward to visiting the great state of Ohio and it's always wonderful to visit our Brothers in the Masonic Homes. Let's have a great turn out for the 2014 Convention!

California lost 2 more clubs in the last couple of months - "OUCH!" The California State Officers are working hard to open new High Twelve Clubs - it's a challenge but we won't give up. One of our High Twelve Club President's reached out to the members of the closing clubs in an attempt to add them to their membership roster. While they may not be able to attend the meetings because of the distance at least they can remain active members. We have a lot of members working hard to keep High Twelve alive - thanks Don!

We owe Kevin, our International Secretary, a big "THANKS" for all he has accomplished in support to the High Twelve Clubs. Just his fine spent with IRS earns him a free dinner at the convention and this is just one of his many accomplishments this year. Thanks Kevin! See you in Ohio - Fraternaly, Jerry Saville 2nd Vice President.

International Secretary Kevin Hokerk (AZ): Greetings from the International Office! Count down to the 93rd International Convention to be held June 27-29, 2014 at the Springfield Masonic Home in Springfield, Ohio. There is still fine to get your registration in to the International office by 6/16. Additional information for hotel reservations, general agenda, and site-seeing opportunities can be found on the International website and your recent issue of the *High Twelvian*. We look forward to seeing you there!

Association Presidents are reminded to submit the activities of your association for the past International year to the International office by 6/20 to be included in the printed report hand out for the convention.

You will notice that the Monthly Update is being delivered a bit differently this month and has a slightly different feel to it. This is a result of utilizing our membership database for the distribution this fine.

The email distribution that Brother Merv has been using has been merged/matched to the International membership database. Those emails that could not be matched received a separate email requesting that they identify themselves and their club affiliation. If they are not a member or are a widow of a member they can still receive a courtesy copy. By doing this consolidation the distribution has increased from 400 to 1,100 recipients! Thank you Merv for all your efforts the past several years in getting the word out about our goings on AND we continue to look forward to you remaining the editor with a bit of a lighter load to carry.

By now all club secretaries should have received the annual per-capita billing for the 2014-15 International year from your association Secretary. If you have not received this mailing please contact your association Secretary or this office. Statements are due and payable upon receipt and are based on the 3/31/14 Monthly Report membership numbers and not a member roster.

There is now available a secure membership directory on the International website where you can key in a members name and obtain their basic contact information and if they have a valid email address you can send them a message directly! To see this information you must be registered with the website, doing this is easy. In the upper right corner of any web page there are two empty white boxes. In the top one enter your email address, do nothing with the second box then click on "forgot password" and follow the prompts. An email will be sent to your email account provided with a link to click on. The link will give you instructions on creating a password that only you will know. Once set, return to the website and enter your email, password, check the remember box and click on LOGIN. You will now see a new tab MEMBERS ONLY. Alternatively you can contact the International office and the set password email with link can be sent to you.

Any questions please contact the International office.
Kevin Hokerk, High Twelve International Secretary
Phone [623.239.6170](tel:623.239.6170) - www.high12.org.

NOTE from Kevin Hokerk: I received an email from one of our senior members asking for some assistance on finding items on the International Website. If you are somewhat confused on how to move around on the Website, this may assist you.

Navigation of the International website is easy as 1, 2, 3! Go to www.high12.org and the HOME page will display. Anyone/everyone will see and have access to this information which is public. Under the logo there is a dark gray bar with the main sub-pages which are equal to file folder tabs. Place your cursor over top of a TAB and the pages within that page are displayed, move your cursor down/over to the information you are looking for and a left click will take you to the page. Alternatively you can click on the any of the TABS and the page will open up and another gray bar will appear if there are sub-pages with additional information.

Each page has a little printer icon to the right of the gray bar so that page can be printed or saved.

Any text that is underlined is an active link that will take you to another page, open a document or play a video file in the case of "view a video message from Brother Ernest Borgnine™". Most "documents™" will be in an Adobe PDF format and requires that you have Adobe Reader installed on your computer. A down load link for Adobe Reader is located on the Club Secretary TAB if you need to download it. In the UPCOMING EVENTS list the next 12 events are listed, click on the link and you will be taken to the detail information about that event including registration forms etc.

A recently added feature for *members only* is a *directory* of the International membership. To access this information you first must be an *approved member* of High Twelve International. At the top right of each page there is a log in where you enter your email address and password. The FIRST time you attempt to log in you will need to key your email address and then click on "forgot password.™" You will receive an email with a link to click on to set your password. Once logged in you will see a new TAB *Members Only* where the Directory is located.

Hope this helps you and if you need further assistance, please contact me by telephone or email and I will respond as soon as possible. Fraternaly, Kevin.

Editor's Note: When you go to the International Website, I recommend you highlight Secretary and drop down to High Twelve International/[Organizational Charts](#)/Working Relationships. Take a look at the several Charts and you will have the best and most current information about International. I think your members will be greatly appreciative for the information and they will be the most knowledgeable members we have and your best recruiters.

International PIP Donald M. Whistler and Acting Treasurer: I became the Acting Treasurer at the High Twelve International Mid-Year Meeting in January of this year. At that time, I told the Executive Committee that I would accept the position to help International until a Treasurer could be elected in June of this year at the Annual Convention. Time and relationships do change things!

Our International Secretary, Kevin Hokerk, and I have had a very good working relationship since I appointed him as International Secretary at the beginning of my year as International President. The position then became an elected one and Kevin became International's first elected International Secretary. We continue to work closely together and there are a number of things which we still want to accomplish for High Twelve.

I have known Winton Hewitt, who will become International President at the Annual Convention, since I became involved in the Pennsylvania State Association of High Twelve Clubs in 2005. We have worked closely together since that time and I cannot express enough, the respect which I have for this Brother! In addition, I have known Jerry Saville, who will become our International First Vice President, since he was the International Secretary a few years ago and have much respect for him.

We have seen the number of clubs and members decline over the years but some of the decline in both categories has been as a result of the cleanup work to the membership database which Kevin has done over the past two years. I believe that the Brothers who will become the leadership of High Twelve International in June will work with the State Associations and Clubs, and there is evidence of that now, to move High Twelve back in the right direction of growth in membership. You probably have already realized what I am about to say! For all of these reasons, I would like to continue working with them and will allow my name to be put into nomination for the position of International Treasurer in June at the Annual Convention. If elected, I will work with the team for the future of High Twelve!

Wolcott Foundation Trustee Zone 8 Merv Harris, PIP (FL): It gives me a great deal of pleasure to be able to provide an article about one of our Senior Wolcott Fellows, whom I met about ten years ago, when he was the guest speaker at the Florida State High Twelve Convention in Daytona Beach. He and his young son came down for our Convention and as a special treat he took his son to Disney World. His son was only seven at the time and was the best mannered young man I believe we ever met. Some of the Ladies mentioned that they wished their children or grandchildren were like him.

His name is Todd Brighton and he is employed with the U.S. Department of Justice. Todd currently serves as an Enforcement Coordinator within the Justice Department. His agency, the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), supports law enforcement, courts, corrections, treatment, victim services, technology, and prevention initiatives that strengthen the nation's criminal justice system. During his 23-year career in Federal service, Todd has served on a number of national scope programs, including Tribal Strategies Against Violence, Community Policing, Project Safe Neighborhoods, first responder line-of-duty death investigations, and a national system designed to protect consumers from vehicle fraud.

Todd grew up in Wyandotte, Michigan and obtained his Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Western Michigan University in April 1988. He began his professional career with the Saturn Corporation at General Motors. In 1989, he was selected to receive a Wolcott Fellowship to pursue a

graduate degree at The George Washington University (GWU) in Washington, D.C. After graduating with a Master's Degree from the Elliott School of International Affairs, Todd was one of 200 recent graduates selected for the Presidential Management Fellows Program, a two-year development program established to attract young graduates to Federal service. Todd is a Master Mason and a member of Alexandria-Washington Lodge #22. He and his wonderful 17 year old son David currently reside in Alexandria, Virginia.

While talking to Todd at one of the GWU functions for the Wolcott Trustees, he mentioned that his son may accompany him again on this trip. We look forward to seeing both of them and I understand he is a straight "A" student at his high school and is very active in sports and organizations. I guess it must be "Like father, like son."

Todd did mention that his father, who is now 93 years old and living in Fenton, Michigan was the President of his Hi-12 Club back in the 1990s and is a life-member of Wyandotte Lodge #170, now known as Trenton Wyandotte Lodge #8. Todd said he knows his dad was very proud of the fact that his son became a Mason and also that he was so greatly helped by the members of High Twelve.

Thank You: We just received a letter from a recent Wolcott Fellow Graduate, which I think you will enjoy that was sent to each Trustee. It reads as follows:

Dear Wolcott Trustees,

It is with happiness and gratitude that I write to you to describe my post-graduation federal employment in line with Wolcott regulations. I just graduated George Washington University this May.

I have accepted a job offer at the [Institute for Defense Analyses](#) (IDA), a federally funded research and development center (FFRDC) that conducts research and analysis for the Department of Defense. Like other, perhaps better known FFRDCs such as Los Alamos National Laboratory, IDA was established by an act of Congress, is 100% federally funded, and is legally bound to only work with US government agencies. I will be working full-time as a Research Associate in the Strategy, Forces, and Resources Division, where I will consult senior DOD officials on national security policy. I am receiving a Top Secret clearance and begin work on Monday.

This opportunity is a dream comes true, and it could not have happened without the generous support from the Wolcott Foundation and High Twelve International. Words cannot express my gratitude, and my commitment to representing Wolcott's ideals throughout my career.

Thanks, and best wishes,

Tom Wallace
GW 2014

Thank you to all the members and friends, who support the Wolcott Foundation. Please keep up the great work!

Sad Note from California: Brother Ray Rosson passed away May 5, 2014, at the young age of 83. Brother Ray was extremely active until the last few months of his life. Ray's dedication and support to Masonry, High Twelve and the Ensign Mayo Loan Fund was outstanding. He was extremely proud of his Hiram Award in 1992 and the High Twelve Max King Award. Cards and letters may be sent to Marjorie at 34400 Mission Blvd, Union City, CA 94587-3604. No services were planned - Rest In Peace Brother.

California High Twelve Association, articles sent in by State Secretary Spencer Sargent: This is a series of articles making one huge story!

Spencer Sargent: When three of our clubs closed I sent a letter to each of their members, that we show on our rosters, suggesting that if they wanted to continue their membership in HI-12 that they should consider affiliating with another club in Southern California, including Montebello. Bro. Travis contacted me and I sent him my mailing lists for these clubs. He took it from there. See below for my correspondence from him, to him, and from him to those club members and his own club members. Fraternally, Spence

Brother Don Travis to his club members: My High Twelve Brothers: I took action, as Secretary and Chair of Junior Citizen of the Month Program (wonder why we have never thought to list that on the boiler plate inside our Lodge Trestle Board? It is the Lodge's program administered by us), and contacted the California State Hi-12 Secretary about rosters of those of whom they were aware from the Burbank, Downey, and Whittier High Twelve Clubs of whom we were told they had turned back their Charters.

He quickly obliged and sent me three rosters of about 50 names total. I created a labels page for these and printed them out. I then created a one page outreach letter and encouraged them to give our Club a try. You will see below the approach I took. I used the funds you turned over to me from the canceled JCofM gift cards and mailed, on Friday, 50 copies including those of our Club who do not have E-mail service.

Now, I am not too hopeful of results from these Brothers, who would have to travel a distance, but hey, what if a few of them do and we have more hands to applaud our JCofM Program recipients?! That is all we ask of them. Any questions or comments? Thanks, Don Travis.

Letter: Many of our High Twelve Clubs are hurting for membership. Ours is no different. It is tough to get new members. Members live so spread out. Jobs are not held by them in the Montebello area, a critical element for past success of High Twelve. This is a sign of the times in a mobile society.

What our Club does ten times a year (four times each for Montebello and Schurr High and twice for Vail High) is present a Junior Citizen Award of the Month to a student selected by their school. They are invited to lunch, as is their family if they can get away, and a school representative: a Counselor, an Activities Director, or a Principal brings them.

They give a brief history of their high school experience, their hopes for the future, and they are impressive! We present them a plaque they can take home and their name is added to a permanent plaque at their school. Their picture is taken. and with their bio, appear in the next edition of our Lodge newsletter. Copies are sent to them at school. They also become eligible as seniors for our larger selection of scholarships by applying for same.

This is a community service underwritten by Montebello-Whittier Lodge #323 and monthly administered by Montebello High Twelve Club #422. We are not asking you to become members. We are seeking men and women who would support this program and these young persons. You do not need to RSVP. You order from the menu and pay Hye.

Would you please attend, if only in the months, we salute these young people, have the lunch you are already going to have, and give more hands of recognition and applause?!

* * * *

Montebello High Twelve Club #422
Special Invitation *Newsletter*

We need you! Please attend and give us a try!

SHORT ON MEMBERS OURSELVES, WE NEED YOUR HELP IN ATTENDANCE TO GIVE THESE STUDENTS A BIGGER AUDIENCE, ASK QUESTIONS, HEAR THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AND A HEARTIER APPLAUSE. THAT SIMPLE TASK OF YOUR ATTENDANCE MAKES THEM FEEL SO MUCH BETTER AND MAKES A HUGE DIFFERENCE. THIS PROGRAM AND OUR CLUB NEEDS THE SUPPORT OF HIGH TWELVIANS!

Eight months of the high school year, we honor one student from Montebello, Schurr, and Vail High schools, a total of 10. Each student is asked to share about their high school years, hopes are for college, and future plans. The school selects the student and a school representative brings them to lunch. Their family is invited as well.

We ask them to submit a brief bio and picture to show the larger membership of our sponsoring Montebello-Whittier Lodge #323 what their plans are and what they look like. We then mail them a copy of that particular Trestle board.

* * * *

Important News: Club returns to old House of Kabob site, new owners, Hye Cuisine, 2110 W Whittier Blvd, at 21st street, east of Garfield, north of 5 frwy! Food is great and reasonable. Order from the menu. Check them out on their web site. Ladies invited as well

Humor from a friend in New York:

What do you call about ten rabbits in a line moving backwards??????????????

Answer: A receding hare line !!!!.....CRW (Â½ year Florida / Â½ year New York)

North Central Association of High Twelve Clubs:

How many Associations can duplicate this great idea? Membership Incentive Plan. HIGH TWELVIANS WE NEED MEMBERS! So, this year our Association has allocated some money to encourage growth in membership. When a club, any club gets two (2) new members then that club receives \$100.00 payable when achieved (Once) for use by that club! AND whichever club gets the highest percentage (%) of new members gets an additional \$250.00 for use by that club for - more - membership gain! This will be based on the memberships as of April 10, 2015!

(Bragging rights are not subject to limitation!)

Humor: A lady named Babbette finds herself in dire trouble. Her business has gone bust and she's in serious financial trouble. She's so desperate that she decides to ask God for help. She begins to pray... "God, please help me. I've lost my business and if I don't get some money, I'm going to lose my house as well. Please let me win the lotto."

Lotto night comes and somebody else wins it. Babbette again prays..."God, please let me win the lotto! I've lost my business, my house and I'm going to lose my car as well."

Lotto night comes and Babbette still has no luck.

Once again, she prays..."My God, why have you forsaken me?? I've lost my business, my house and my car. My children are starving. I don't often ask you for help and I have always been a good servant to you. PLEASE just let me win the lotto this one fine so I can get my life back in order."

Suddenly there is a blinding flash of light as the heavens open and Babbette is confronted by the voice of God Himself: "Babbette, meet me halfway on this. buy a ticket."

One day a lady decided to face her fears and go riding on a horse. It was easy for her to get on and she was doing just fine until the horse started to go faster. She started slipping off the saddle. She couldn't hold on to the horse and her head started hitting the ground.

She was almost knocked unconscious when the Wal-Mart manager came out and unplugged the

machine.

Fraternally, High Twelve International, Inc.

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