

Summer is winding down Fall activities are starting!



GREETINGS!

September 2015 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**, email update-editor@high12.org. This publication is devoted to the interests of the Wolcott Foundation, Inc., High Twelve International, Inc., and its member clubs for the benefit of Freemasonry and affiliated orders. Contributions of interesting, appropriate editorial matters are welcome. High Twelvian's are invited to submit such material for publication. **Submit all articles by e-mail. Articles should be received by the deadline date of the 20th day of each month.** Updates will be sent out the last of the month. Depending on the volume of articles, they may be carried over to a later date by the Editor. Articles must be sent to the Editor and not called in. Mervyn J. Harris, Editor.

Congratulations

to our members and ladies, celebrating their Birthday, Anniversary or other Special Event in September. Don't forget to make a contribution to the Wolcott Foundation, celebrating your happy event or occasion! Some members donate \$1.00 or more for every year they have been married. Seems like a very nice gesture on their part and a great tribute to a Happy Marriage to that Special Person!

International High Twelve President Jerry L. Saville (PSP, CA):

Greetings, if you read last month's newsletter you will recognize, I hope, several of the below paragraph's. I think the news on the change to High Twelve membership eligibility, the dates of next January's High Twelve Mid-Year-Meeting and next June's International Convention are worth repeating. It's worth taking the space to print this information again in hopes that you will work to bring in new members now that the gate is open for EA and FC's to join. Of course we hope by now that you have posted your schedule for the Mid-Year-Meeting and the 2016 International Convention.

I'm pleased to report that the proposed Bylaw Amendment on High Twelve membership eligibility was passed. The Bylaws now allows **all** Masons in good standing eligible for High Twelve membership. As of last month there are over 4700 EA/FC's just in California. How many EA/FC's do you have in your Town/State? Now that all Masons can join High Twelve invite them to your Club meetings so they can share the Fun, Food and Fellowship and get involved in our community activities.

Remember, these are changing times - High Twelve does not have to meet at Noon on a weekday - you decide what's best for your members. What a great opportunity to increase the number of High Twelve members, and clubs, across the land. Invite men that you think would make great Masons to lunch. Remember there are a lot of good men that will not ask to join organizations but may join us for lunch - it could be a great start on their Masonic journey.

Your Executive Board has been very busy since the June Convention. Thanks to the negotiation skills of Brother Will, our outstanding General Counsel, the Mid-Year-Meeting will be held next January in New Orleans. We have contracted with the Maison-Dupuy Hotel in the French Quarters at 1001 Toulouse St, New Orleans (www.maisondupuy.com). The Mid-Year-Meeting dates are 24-27 January 2016. Tours will be available before and after the meeting if you desire. What a great location for a family vacation, and of course a meeting, and the room rates are only \$129. Kevin will have the Registration Forms online later this year. Hope you will join us for fun, food, and fellowship.

Fraternally, Jerry Saville, President, jsaville@bak.rr.com, 661-203-5747.

International 2nd Vice President William Haynes (PSP, PA):

Enthusiasm is often under used in Masonic recruiting. When you are trying to entice a brother to join High Twelve, if you are not enthusiastic about High Twelve, why should he become enthusiastic about becoming a member of High Twelve? As you have probably observed over your life's experiences, enthusiasm breeds enthusiasm. Voice tonal changes and hand/arm movements convey enthusiasm. To be convincing, you need to convey enthusiasm. Would you buy something from a sales person who seemed bored or is treating your questions like utterly dull routine questions? No! And neither would most persons. So, ours is a great organization and needs you to express your enthusiasm for it, not only to potential members, but in general when discussing it within Lodges and other Masonic gatherings. Fraternaly, Bill Haynes.

Donald M. Whistler, PIP, International Treasurer, Convention Chairman of the 94th Annual Convention of High Twelve International:

I have wanted to inform those of you who purchased raffle tickets to support the Annual Convention who won the three prizes. Unfortunately, I did not get an article in last month's Monthly Update to do it.

The first prize was won by Larry Leaver who is a member of James Buchanan Club, No. 687, Lancaster, PA. The prize was a timeshare for one week at the Pines, Mt. Jackson, VA.

The second prize was won by Carol and Malcolm White. Malcolm is a member of Bakersfield Club No. 95, Bakersfield, CA. The prize was a Bulova Gold Watch with a Blue Lodge symbol on it.

The third prize was won by Richard Kessler who is a member of Acacia Santa Rita Club, No. 505, Tucson, AZ. The prize was a fleece lined jacket with the Masonic logo of your choice embroidered on it.

Winton Hewitt and I wish to thank all of you who supported the Convention by purchasing tickets.

Past International President Merv Harris, Editor:

Here it is September and we will soon be seeing on the news and in the newspapers about the cold weather, snow and ice. We in Florida have been having heat and rain and I know the rest of the country has been having yucky weather too.

Now that fall is here, our clubs will be meeting once again and we can start receiving articles from the clubs and Associations. I know you fully understand that if we don't receive articles and photos from

the members, clubs and Associations, there would not be a Monthly Update.

We started the Monthly Update several years ago to let the clubs know what other clubs are doing around the country and hopefully they will pick-up on ideas for their own club. Articles and photos have been fewer and fewer each year and we need to hear from you with what's happening in your club and to your members.

Please send the articles to me at mjghi12@centurylink.net along with any photos you have. We want to hear about functions, Awards, Honors and what is happening with your clubs. There are no restrictions on who can send articles to the Update. You don't need anyone's permission and if it is something that should not be included, we will not publish anything to embarrass anyone or any club.

Here is an example of a short article we received this month from the North Central Association, Iowa/South Dakota -- In July we had DaNiel Wood, Member of Gavelers #91, Elected as Junior Grand Warden to the South Dakota Grand Line, for 2015-2016 -- from their Monthly Report for July -- Roger H. Hansen

It may not seem important to everyone but the members in those two States may be hearing about it for the first time.

When you do submit an article, please ensure the name and number of the club is included, along with which Association it is part of and include your State.

Photos should have the names of who is displayed; and list them from left to right. You can see in the photos submitted this month, I have no idea what their names are or what office they hold. We want to give credit to everyone and really want to know who they are.

Please submit your articles and photos by the 20th of the month proceeding the month of publication of the Update. Photos can be in color or black and white. Also, do not include the photo within the article as changes cannot be made if it is included within the article.

Thank you for the support and assistance you have given over the years and we are looking for your continued support to ensure we have the best newsletter possible.

The one subject we would like to have input for is how your club recruits new members. With our membership dwindling, we all need assistance on how to bring in those new members. Thank you once again for your support. Fraternally, Merv Harris, Editor.

International Secretary Kevin Hokerk (PSP, AZ):

Greetings! Well the summer in Arizona is letting up a bit, average weekly temperatures coming down with a bit of monsoon activity -- all this is GOOD!

As you are receiving this edition of the Update, The Annual Pocket Planner Fundraiser should have been dropped in the mail to all members. Look for the additional item included this year and we hope you find it useful!

With many clubs starting to meet again after a summer hiatus it is time to start submitting articles of interest with pictures [people identified] for the Fall edition of *The High Twelvian*. Cut-off for submissions will be October 15, 2015 by email or snail mail to the International Office. 2016 Mid-Year-Meeting sign-up Forms in New Orleans will be included in this issue of the High Twelvian.

Does your club or association have an EVENT you want known about? If so, provide the details to the International Office and it will be included in Events Calendar on the Website. It is as easy as 1, 2, 3!

You are receiving this if your email has been provided to the International Office -- ask your fellow High Twelvians if they are receiving their copy. If not, all they have to do is send an email to the International Office OR register through the Website. We are one of the best kept secrets in Masonry. Email is one of the easiest ways to spread the word of what we do and 58% of our members [club secretaries] have not provided their email address. **Email addresses are not sold, rented, leased or given to any 3rd party vendor by High Twelve International.** It is easy, painless and takes next to no time to do--so ask the question did you get this month's Monthly Update from High Twelve International? Fraternally, Kevin Hokerk-Robinson.

Illinois High Twelve Association:

Our new President is George W. Rogers with a full field of officers as shown in the photo below. Our new State President, Joe H. Santisteban's first official duty was to install all new officers in his Club No. 769, with the assistance of Edward Rund, State Secretary and Jay Reed, acting Marshall. The candle lighting service with the open bible reminds each attendee of their obligation.

State President Joe Santisteban reported on the State Convention held last weekend where eleven of the thirteen Clubs were represented. Five Out of State International officers attended and with pride,



attendees voted brother Mark Nokes to be the 3rd Vice - President for the 2015-2016 year.

Brother Joe mentioned one of programs for the coming year would be no solicitation of decals, key holders, etc. as a donation of any amount would create manual

work for Clubs as funds are for Grand Lodge charities and they could be secured in other manners such as cash donations. Brother Joe Pegoraro was appointed as the State Masonic Representative.

Attendance today was twelve members (Reed, Tollman, Chapman, Pegoraro, Truax, Selock, Albert, Santisteban, Naik, Rogers, and Van Cleave) with Ed Rund as State Secretary. Special attendees are Mrs. Sandra Chapman, Mrs. Rosemarie Pegoraro, Mrs. Joan Rogers, and Mrs. Ronnie Rund. Collection for today was twenty-two (\$22) for the Wolcott Foundation and eight (\$8) dollars for our other charities. Table talk included discussion by President George Rogers on the use of speakers at each meeting. On September 25, 2015 meeting, Brother Richard Pugh will talk on the the airline industry. Several comments from members and special guest as to the importance of visiting our four local Masonic youth organizations and other High Twelve Clubs. A challenge was made for future discussions on varying meeting time (breakfast, dinner, etc.) and date due to calendar conflicts (Thanksgiving, Christmas, etc.). Brother Prakash Naik noted his phone number ([847-885-4761](tel:847-885-4761)) and email address (usrobot825@gmail.net) needs correction as shown in distributed handout.

Minutes from our July meeting was approved and Don Van Cleave gave a summary of financial status of \$265.05. After deposit on August 26, 2015, our balance will be \$319.05. Due to delayed tabulation in our audit, the actual charitable allocation was not available during the meeting. The charitable tabulation fund now available as: Wolcott Foundation is \$58; Other Charities Funds is \$86 minus \$50 authorized for the second DeMolay Chapter or \$36 for future use. International Dues (June-May) of \$200 was paid in June and State Dues (July-June) of \$100 was paid in July. The second DeMolay Chapter was approved once the Chapter was established in July, 2015. The Other Charities fund was established in August, 2014. Submitted by Don Van Cleave, Secretary-Treasurer

Moline Area Masonic High Twelve Club #88:

Have you asked a fellow Master Mason to visit our High Twelve Club? This method is the best way to keep your club going. We'll have 3 meetings in September, the 11th, 18th, and 25th. There is no meeting on the 4th, so we can enjoy the Labor Day weekend. All meetings are at DENNY'S RESTAURANT, 2601 52nd Avenue, Moline. Try to come about 11:00 am and have time to eat and enjoy the fellowship before the program at noon (High Twelve). Ladies and guests are always welcome.

Program chair for September is: Al Giesecke, who volunteered to be the Program Chair for September 2015.

September 11th: Buck Wendt will host the annual High Twelve Picnic at his home on the river. His house is on 2324 North Shore Drive. 1st street past Denny's, heading west on the left. Drive toward the river, make a turn, his house is the 2nd or 3rd. Bring a dish to pass.

September 18th: Open program, any volunteers? September 25th: Open Program, volunteers, anybody?

A letter from Edward A. Rund, PSP, State Secretary is posted below:

Brethren & Lady,

Let me first mention that our dear Sister Liz Iwanowski, who just received the 2015 Award, Illinois High Twelve Lady of the Year, was recently appointed as Club Corresponding Secretary by the DuPage Club President, William Orr.

If you were at the State Convention you heard in my report that Illinois High Twelve lost 7% of its membership for 2014-15. We can't sustain that level of losses without a concerted effort to bring in new members. Shortly after the Convention Weekend, I sat down and drafted the attached article in hopes of lighting a fire under our active club members around the State.

Please use your best judgment as to the most effective means of circulating this among your active members (email or as a handout at the next meeting). Encourage them to read this and ACT ON IT! We're not asking the impossible.

Fraternally, Edward A. Rund, PSP, State Secretary

TACKLING THE ISSUE OF HIGH TWELVE MEMBERSHIP BY ED RUND, PSP, STATE SECRETARY:

The issues and points I will present in this article are not unheard of nor are they revolutionary. Most of us are aware of these things but are just too busy, disinterested, believe we are not capable or, worse, have the let the other fellow do it attitude. But each of us must rise beyond our imagined fears and general lethargy to keep our High Twelve Clubs alive, financially healthy, and socially attractive.

We may ask, What causes a person to take action? The action might be well thought out or based on impulse, but almost always the motion to act, i.e., speak or behave, springs from a conscious or subconscious felt need that must be fulfilled. This is a behavioral framework consistent with all human beings. Colloquially remember, we do what we want to do!

Given these considerations, how might we turn it to High Twelve's advantage and in particular, the means to attract and retain new club members. What might the needs of a potential member be that we could satisfy?

- Satisfy loneliness through enjoyable companionship
- Offer enjoyment of pleasing food beyond the home
- Provide valued education or helpful information/insights

- Create a venue to engage the spouse in a social setting away from the house and time spent on family needs

To continue to retain the member after joining:

- Provide interesting meetings and programs
- Create satisfaction with the overall club experience
- Keep all related costs manageable; important for the fixed-income folks
- Build on feelings of guilt, in the face of other members, by his not attending
- Minimize situations likely to create interpersonal upsets
- Strengthen member values regarding financial support for Wolcott and other such organizational programs

Now, there are obviously going to be Masons who do not care for this type of experience or whose employment precludes lunchtime meetings. Note that the latter can be offset by holding one or more meetings a month at evening dinner time. Also once some members become active, there arises legitimate reasons for resignation: health issues, relocation out of the area, as well as newly encountered interests that absorb most of the member's time or he believes better meet his social needs.

However, the bottom line is that current, active members must persistently take the initiative to reach out, in person, to eligible Masons, explain what High Twelve is all about and its many benefits. Then once the Mason agrees to come to a luncheon, become his faithful High Twelve companion - his buddy. Maybe offer him a ride or pick up the cost of his first meal at the club. Importantly, make sure he is warmly welcomed, comfortable, and begins to establish social connections with other members through casual discussions and exploring shared commonalities.

I realize this takes time and effort, but this is critical! Otherwise, we are going to watch as deaths, waning interest, or relocations bring about the eventual demise of your High Twelve Club. Brethren, potential members are out there. Now let all of us go out and find them! wherever they're hiding.

Labor Day

Observed on the first Monday in September, Labor Day pays tribute to the contributions and achievements of American workers. It was created by the labor movement in the late 19th century and became a federal holiday in 1894. Labor Day also symbolizes the end of summer for many Americans, and is celebrated with parties, parades and athletic events. Labor Day, an annual celebration of workers and their achievements, originated during one of American labor history's most dismal chapters. In the late 1800s the average American worked 12-hour days and seven-day weeks in order to eke out a basic living. Children as young as 5 or 6 toiled in mills, factories and mines across the country, earning a fraction of their adult counterparts' wages. People of all ages, particularly the very poor and recent immigrants, often faced extremely unsafe working conditions, with insufficient access to fresh air, sanitary facilities and breaks. The idea of a workingmen's holiday, celebrated on the first Monday in September, caught on in other industrial centers across the country, and many states passed legislation recognizing it. Congress would not legalize the holiday until 12 years later, Congress passed an act making Labor Day a legal holiday in the District of Columbia and the territories. More than a century later, the true founder of Labor Day has yet to be identified.



California High Twelve Association, Fresno High Twelve Club #10:

Brethren, our speaker at the August meeting was Chris Raines, Educational Park Ranger from the U.S. National Parks Service. He highlighted National Parks Service as who they are and their mission, goals and objectives. Everyone at the meeting really enjoyed his presentation. Our September guest speaker is Mary Golden, Program Manager in the Public Affairs Office from Veterans Affairs. I'm sure that many of you who are veterans will enjoy this program.

We normally have our Installation of officers for the ensuing High Twelve Year at the October Meeting. I will notify everyone through the Chime if the Installation will be held at the October meeting. We hope to see many of our members and ladies at the September meeting that will be held on September 1, 2015 at 12:00 Noon. The Board of Directors will meet as usual at 11:00 a.m. to discuss all matters that may properly come before it. Fraternally, Jack Farson, Secretary

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

Now that fall is here, Tri County is once again hosting evening dinners for their club and other Masonic Organizations in the Lady Lake/Villages Area.

The first dinner in October will be a Prime Rib Dinner at the Ocala Shrine Club. They are co-hosting the dinner with the Shrine Club and will have entertainment along with the dinner. The cost of the entertainment is being shared with the Shrine Club, Scooter Club and Tri County High Twelve Club.

All Masonic Organizations are invited to the dinner and they hope to have over 100 members and friends in attendance.

The second event in December will be a Christmas Dinner at the Cottom Farm in Lady Lake. The event will include a Hayride from the parking area to the Southern Home, followed by a tour of the residence. The dinner will be served in the dining room with china and crystal-ware and then followed up with a hayride through the Christmas decorations. This event is restricted to just 30 people and we are nearly full at the present time. A few reservations are still available.

NOTE:

When you finish reading this month's Update, read the jokes at the end of the newsletter, which were furnished by James Satterthwaite, Past Florida State President and Past International President. Jim hasn't lost his passion for good funny stories. He and Naomi are now living at the Michigan Masonic Home in Alma, Michigan.

If you would like to contact them, their email address is jrsatt@frontier.com.

Wolcott

Look to the Future - As a Trustee for the Wolcott Foundation, I look to the future for young people that will be serving his country. He has enrolled in a ranking college's program for governmental studies. His plan is to be a future candidate for a Wolcott Fellowship. I will keep my eye on him as he progresses through his college and watch for prospective young people that would be excellent candidates. There are no promises of a Fellowship, but people may also become future members of the Masonic family, either as Masonic or as Eastern Star candidates.

Here is a short note from one of the recent Wolcott Fellows at George Washington University:

Mr. White, Wolcott Foundation Chairman,

I apologize for the delay in getting this information to you, but per my Wolcott Fellowship Contract, here is my information:

Address: Washington DC 20008
Employer: Senator Dan Coats
Position: Press Assistant

Thank you so much for your generosity in granting me this Fellowship. It has made it possible for me to attend college. Once I schedule my fall classes I will send a letter outlining my credit hours.

Thank you again, Amy Timmerman

HUMOR:

Our teacher asked what my favorite animal was, and I said, Fried chicken. She said I wasn't funny, but she said I was honest.

My parents told me to always tell the truth. I did. Fried chicken is my favorite animal. I told my dad what my favorite animal was, and he said I was honest.

I do, too, especially chicken, pork and beef. Anyway, my teacher sent me to the principal's office. I told him I was honest.

The next day in class my teacher asked me what my favorite live animal was. I told her it was chicken. She said I was lying and sent me back to the principal's office. He laughed, and told me not to do it again.

I don't understand. My parents taught me to be honest, but my teacher doesn't like it when I am. Today, I told my teacher I was honest.

Guess where the heck I am now...

A priest, a doctor, and an engineer were waiting one morning for a particularly slow group of golfers. The engineer chimed in, I don't know, but I've never seen such inept golf! The priest said, here comes the greens-keeper ahead of us? They're rather slow, aren't they? The greens-keeper replied, Oh, yes. That's a group of blind golfers. They play for free anytime! The group fell silent for a moment. The priest said, that's so sad. I think I will see my ophthalmologist colleague and see if there's anything she can do for them. The engineer said, Why can't the

Two boys were walking home from Sunday school after hearing a strong preaching on the devil. One said to the other, I know how Santa Claus turned out. It's probably just your Dad.'

Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, 'Why is the bride dressed in white?'

The mother replied, 'Because white is the color of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life.' The child thought about this for a moment then said, 'So why is the groom wearing black?'

A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could, trying not to be late for Bible class.

As she ran she prayed, 'Dear Lord, please don't let me be late! Dear Lord, please don't let me be late!' While she was running and praying, she tripped on a curb and fell, getting her clothes dirty and tearing her dress. She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again! As she ran she once again began to pray, 'Dear Lord, please don't let me be late...But please don't shove me either!'

Three boys are in the school yard bragging about their fathers. The first boy says, 'My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a poem, they give him \$50.' The second boy says, 'That's nothing. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a song, and they give him \$100.' The third boy says, 'I got you both beat. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a sermon, and it takes eight people to collect all the money!'

An elderly woman died last month. Having never married, she requested NO male pallbearers. In her handwritten instructions for her memorial service, she wrote, 'They wouldn't take me out while I was alive, I don't want them to take me out when I'm dead.'

A police recruit was asked during the exam, 'What would you do if you had to arrest your own mother?' He answered, 'Call for backup.'

A Sunday School teacher asked her class why Joseph and Mary took Jesus with them to Jerusalem...A small child replied, 'They couldn't get a baby-sitter.'

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to 'Honour thy father and thy mother,' she asked, 'Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?' Without missing a beat, one little boy answered, 'Thou shall not kill.'

At Sunday School they were teaching how God created everything, including human beings. Little Johnny seemed especially intent when they told him how Eve was created out of one of Adam's ribs. Later in the week his mother noticed him lying down as though he was ill, and she said, 'Johnny, what is the matter?' Little Johnny responded, 'I have pain in my side. I think I'm going to have a wife.'

Two cannibals were eating a comedian: one cannibal says to the others: does this one taste funny to you?

A young waiter just had his first customer, which turned out to be a BIG BURLY truck driver. The young man walked up to the table where the truck driver was sitting and asked; Can I take your order sir? The truck driver replied, Sure kid, I want three flat tires and two headlights. The young man was very puzzled and said, I beg your pardon? The truck driver said again, Look kid; I want three flat tires and two headlights. The young man was still puzzled, but replied; Yes sir, whatever. The young man then took the request to his boss who was the head cook. He told him about the truck driver's order, and that he wanted three flat tires and two headlights, I think he's in the wrong place. The head cook said, I know what he wants, he wants three flap jacks and two eggs sunny side up; the truck driver is just trying to be smart, I know him. The cook said to the waiter Here, take this bowl of beans, give it to him. The truck driver said, Listen kid, I didn't order this; I said I wanted three flat tires and two

headlights. The waiter replied, Well sir, the head cook said while you wait for your parts, you can gas up!

A mean lookin' cowboy was sitting by himself in a Saloon. He was a pretty intimidating sight, so no one bothered him as he downed a few whiskey and beers. After chugging his last drink he slammed some coins on the tabletop and got up to leave. Right after he left though he came storming back in and said, Listen up you mangey dogs and everyone, terrified, immediately fell silent. Someone done took my horse. Now here's what's gunna happen. I'm gunna order me another drink, finish it, and when I walk back outside this time my horse BETTER be there or else I'm gunna do what I did in Texas... and believe me, I don't want to do what I did in Texas! Like he said, after he finished his drink he walked outside and sure enough, someone had returned his horse. He was getting on it when one of the bar patrons ran up to him and sheepishly asked, Sir I don't mean to bother you but I just have to know, what did you do in Texas? The cowboy looked at him square in the eyes and replied, I walked home.

Fraternally, High Twelve International, Inc.

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