

**SPRING is finally here!** Now is the time to bring a friend to the High Twelve meeting, so they can see why you belong! **Think membership!**



## ***High Twelve International, Inc.*** **Monthly Update March 2017**

**Monthly Update** is published monthly by High Twelve International, Inc. at 743 Palma Drive, Lady Lake, FL, 32159. Telephone numbers **(352) 753-3505 or (352) 817-0707**. This publication is devoted to the interests of the Wolcott Foundation, Inc., High Twelve International, Inc., and its member Clubs for the benefit of Freemasonry and affiliated orders. Contributions of interesting, appropriate editorial matters are welcome. High Twelvians are invited to submit such material for publication. **Submit all articles by e-mail. Articles should be received by the deadline date of the 20th day of each month.** Updates will be sent out the last of the month. Depending on the volume of articles, they may be carried over to a later date by the Editor. Articles must be sent to the Editor and not called in. Mervyn J. Harris, PIP, 352-753-3505 or 352-817-0707, Email address: [update-editor@high12.org](mailto:update-editor@high12.org)

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

**International President: Dr. Ronald W. Woods, PSP (IN)**

As I have said before only three more months to go and so much to do. Marilyn had a heart attack February 24th just after I returned on February 21st from the Grand Masters Convention in Omaha. Talk about timing, I did a quick examination and took her to the local hospital at once. They did a great job and sent her to St. Francis hospital in Indianapolis IN. By the time I and our two daughters arrived there, Marilyn was being cared for and one stint was performed. She arrived there some time between 4:30 and 5:30 PM and was in a recovery room by 7:00 PM.

I brought her home on Monday afternoon and today you would not be able to realize she ever had the attack. I thank all my and her friends and all my masonic brothers for their prayers.

The Grand Masters Convention was very interesting and Brother Haynes and I talked with many brothers in various grand lines. We have much to follow up on.

Since then I have visited two Indiana High 12 Clubs. It is noted that these two clubs are doing just fine. One just welcomed three new members with new member certificates. Just one of the items each club can receive from High 12 International. That club also gave their speaker a certificate they received from High 12 International.

Attention to all club secretaries, be sure to examine the supplies you can receive from your International Secretary.

I will be visiting more clubs in the next few weeks and a few out of state. Also Marilyn and I are finishing plans for the June International Convention in Indianapolis which will be on June 7th thru 10th. The Grand Masters Banquet will be in the evening of June 9th, Wolcott Lunch June 10th followed by a Wolcott meeting. Then the Installation Banquet will be 6:00 PM June 10th followed by the installation of 2017-2018 officers and our scheduled entertainment.

GOD bless each of you for all you do for Masonry and Mankind.  
Fraternally, Dr. Ron Woods

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

Greetings fellow High Twelvians, I think I'm still recuperating from my longer-than-usual vacation with the family 'out West' and our Mid-Year-Meeting. Whenever I'm asked how the meeting went, my normal response is that it went well – you should have been there. I also add that, the toughest decision we had to make was where we were going to eat. What would you expect from a good Mason?

I thought things would slow down for me this year but I must not have looked at my calendar. Maybe it's that someone else looked at my calendar and saw

some free days. Anyway, besides doing my normal High Twelve duties, I've also been 'volunteered' with additional tasks with the Eastern Star and the American Legion. I'm not really complaining though because there always seems to be food at meetings and functions I attend.

I'd like to share some 'words of wisdom' that I remember reading a while back. I'm going to try to tailor them to High Twelve. Call this my opinion as to why I believe High Twelve is still alive and well today. Let me start with the premise that we all know that many institutions do not survive over time by accident. Many of these organizations survive only through the proper application of sound rules and guidelines.

When an organization dates back to 1921, as we do, it is safe to assume that it must be doing something right. The power of the accumulated wisdom of the past is a compelling force on the present. High Twelve brings together Brethren in a friendly, ritual-free environment, who might not otherwise see each other. It also allows for spouses (in most clubs) to interact in a Masonic environment and meet other like-minded ladies. This can result in a win-win situation.

Masonry, marching under the leadership of God and the banner that bears the motto, Love thy neighbor as thyself, knows neither race nor nationality, caste nor condition, as it proudly moves down through the ages. High Twelve is a minor extension of the Masonic movement. I think we will continue to see things change for the better. We are an organization that fills a need that other don't. I smiled last week when I was asked for an application for membership...twice. As always, stay safe, have fun, and take care of each other. Hope to see you during my travels.

Fraternally and Respectfully, Joe Santisteban.

P.S. Let me leave you with what I believe is a startling revelation: 'Barney'---  
The Cute, Purple Dinosaur

1. Start with the given: CUTE, PURPLE DINOSAUR
2. Change all the U's to V's (which is proper Latin anyway) CVTE,  
PVRPLE DINOSAVR

**International 3rd Vice President: William H. Haynes, PSP (PA)**

Our Missing Brothers:

Not everyone can always make the club meetings. Many things come up that prevent attendance and that is to be expected. However, sometimes the missing is of a permanent nature such as a long term illness or confinement to an assisted care facility. These brothers do not need to be forgotten as so often happens. At the very least cards can be signed by all at the meetings and sent to the missing. If your club has a newsletter, then these names

should be published so other brothers know of the need to visit or call the infirmed. If the brother died, then hopefully the widow is invited to attend club meetings and events. I have never understood the neglect of out infirm brothers by those of us that have vowed to assist all brothers in need. The visits or phone calls would certainly liven up their days. So, brethren, please remember to attend to the missing brothers.

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

Well my foot is doing much better now after the 'old age maintenance surgery' I had on 11/30. I go back in a month and then will be able to schedule the surgery to remove the 2 screws that were put in. Will wait until after the 96th Convention to do this as I will have to be back into a small walking boot for 2-3 weeks, ugh!

The 2017 version of the address label fundraiser went into the mail on 3/1 to all members and should be delivered to everyone shortly. The Executive Board approved the ability for members to make donations via the HTI website. The link is on the HOME page and easy to use. Just remember you don't have to create a PayPal account to make a donation, just scroll down past that information.

The Spring edition of *The High Twelvian* magazine was sent to the printer on 3/10 and should be in the mail to all members and Grand Lodges by 3/24. This edition will have the usual convention information, registration and delegate forms. Online registration will be available in the next few days. I am really looking forward to the Indianapolis Motor Speedway "kiss the bricks" tour as I am a fan of NASCAR! Also included are 2 Wolcott Foundation bylaws amendments submitted by their General Counsel and a complete rewrite of the Wolcott Foundation Bylaws as discussed at the 2017 Mid-Year Governing Board Conference. Both will come up at the Wolcott Foundation General Membership meeting at the convention.

**Club Secretaries:** be sure to file a **March Online Monthly Report** so I have an accurate membership count (regular and Masonic Home split) as March is the basis month for the annual billing which will go into the US Mail directly to you on 4/30.

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

to them!

That's all for now! Kevin

### **California High Twelve Association: Johnathan Dilley, President and 3rd International VP**

Welcome to the California Association of High Twelve Clubs. High Twelve has a rich history of Master Masons coming together with the expectation of finding refreshment from their labor. Membership in High Twelve is limited to Master Masons in good standing, however, our meetings are open to any who wish to join us for Food-Fun-Fellowship since High Twelve Clubs are without formal Masonic Ritual, and therefore, we welcome any Master Mason from any recognized jurisdiction (DeMolay & Sojourners Welcome) to come break bread with us. We also encourage clubs to include their wives, friends and guests since they are permitted to be present while we conduct our meetings. High Twelve is also dedicated to service within our fraternity and throughout our great country by extending support to our public school, various community projects and activities. We have actively empowered students to go to college and/or trade schools, by means of our two major projects, the Ensign Mayo Student Loan Fund, for California Masonic Youth and Master Masons who qualify, and the Wolcott Foundation, for graduate Students going into Government and attending George Washington University in Washington, D.C. The Ensign Mayo Student Loan Fund is a non-interest loan, which must be repaid after graduation. The Foundation funds are not a loan and will usually cover all costs for students working on their graduate degrees.\_

We are currently in position to accomplish great things for Freemasonry in California and it is our plan to include the DeMolay from the Northern Jurisdiction and Southern Jurisdiction in the launching of Operation Phoenix. Operation Phoenix recognizes the experience that each Member of DeMolay brings to Freemasonry if they decide to take the important step to becoming a Master Mason. Any Master Mason can start a High Twelve Club and those who do can play a key role in the leadership of that club. It is hoped that new Master Masons coming from the ranks of DeMolay will see the opportunity to continue the leadership that they have already displayed in starting and leading new High Twelve Clubs in the North and in the South while inviting their Chapter Dads, Moms, fellow DeMolay Members (since there is no rule prohibiting their attendance), Job's Daughters, Rainbow Girls and the local Lodges, etc. to join them at their meetings creating a central hub where Freemasonry can explode; led by our youth as Master Masons. It is time to let our Masonic Youth know that they are needed, wanted and appreciated by supporting this new goal of Operation Phoenix. Recognition will also be given to those existing Clubs who can show an inclusion of DeMolay in their Club meetings and the new Master Masons coming from DeMolay in their Club Leadership. Let's watch High Twelve rise up as the Phoenix and let's empower our Youth in Masonry! Visitations to our clubs will also be scheduled

in an effort to strengthen the bond between the State Association and our Members as well as the continuation of our Conference Calls to the club Presidents and Secretaries. My door is always open and I look forward to hearing stories from each of you as you succeed in building and growing your clubs. Jonathan Dilley, President California Association of High Twelve Clubs.

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

Brethren: The following is an explanation of our per capita obligations and our dues structure. Our \$30.00 annual dues are distributed as follows; \$15.00 per member for California State Association of High Twelve Clubs and \$10.00 goes to International High Twelve. \$5.00 is retained for Fresno High Twelve Club No. 10. In 2016 the School House donations amounted to \$148.50 and we donated \$300.00 to our two scholarship funds. \$200.00 to the Wolcott Fund and \$100.00 to Ensign Mayo Loan Fund. As you can see the \$30.00 we charge for our annual dues is more than reasonable. Jack Farson Secretary/Editor.

**Florida High Twelve Association, Village High Twelve Club #674:**

Greetings High Twelvians. What a great Prime Rib dinner we had at the Ocala Shrine Club on Friday, February 10th. They even threw in Birthday cake for dessert and nobody went away hungry. We were glad to see such good participation at this event.



At our regularly stated March meeting we enjoyed entertainment by Billie Thatcher, who is a very popular singer here in The Villages. She performed many show tunes for us. It was great to have our Treasurer, Don Menard, back with us after his recent hospitalization. However, we were sorry to hear that Tom Pickett is currently experiencing heart problems this month. We wish him a speedy recovery. I would like to thank Joe Zapora for filling in as Sergeant-at-Arms and Rev. Ted

Nace for Chaplain.

We discussed our upcoming Picnic at Hickory Point Pavilion scheduled for April 22nd. A signup sheet was passed around to let us know how many can make it and what dish you can bring. Be sure to invite any prospective members to join us at this fun event.

They always say things happen in three's, and we are saddened to report we lost three of our members this month, Brothers Robert Clevenger, Frank

Bochniak, and John Golia.

Daylight savings time begins soon. Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead. Next month will be a presentation by Metro Crime Prevention. Fraternally, Frank.

We have received an Application and check from a former member, Brother R. W. Edward Mayfield to re-join the club. Action on his request will be processed at the next Executive Board Meeting. Our Thanks to Brother Ed for joining our club once again! We will now have 34 members and with the assistance of our members in seeking new members, our club can once again grow to its former membership.

The Drawing for the two Dinner Tickets donated by Will and Marian Backstrom was won by Brother Merv Harris at the March meeting. Why don't you attend the next meeting? And perhaps your name can be added to those members, who have won the Free Meal Tickets donated by the Backstroms!

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



In February, seven High Twelve participants' attended the installation of Frank S. Land DeMolay Chapter in Crystal Lake. The pictures attached speak of this impressive ceremony. We have another opportunity this year to support our youth organizations when we attend the Sunshine Chapter on March 25th. Financial assistance is important but sideline attendees help. It has been 32 years since I've attended a DeMolay installation; and Job's Daughters and a Sweetheart group turned out with their support. Mr. & Mrs. Lou Aronson had to be proud with Tommy Lange installing Master Councilor, Joshua Velazquez. Brother George Rogers gave an excellent talk on the Wolcott Foundation.

Our speaker in February was Mrs. Linda Masny, Representative for Berkshire Hathaway Home Services, who provided an excellent check sheet on how to sell and prepare your home. Many today's attendees are in the position to downside home and some excellent questions pertained to carpet replacement to cloudy thermal window, etc. was discussed.

Our attendance consisted of fourteen High Twelve members and six special guests, namely Mrs. Joan Rogers, Mrs. Rosemarie Pegoraro, Mrs. Cheryl

Aronson, Mrs. Cathy Curielli, Mrs. Jan Van Cleave and Ms. Sherri Jorgenson. Our special High Twelve International Second President, Joe Santisteban was joined by Brother John Jorgenson, President of Middle Chamber No. 725, Illinois State Secretary, Ed Rund and Chuck Masny.

At the request of our longtime waitress, Joanne, a special collection was made to assist Joanne's special 'adopted' daughter (Talia Freund) who is fighting a rare bone cancer and who needs funds to fight high medicine costs and her bucket List goals. Our collections today yielded \$130 for Ms. Talia Freund, twenty-eight dollars for Wolcott Fund and nineteen dollars for our other charity. Once deposited, our checking account will be \$513.05 with \$109 designated for Wolcott Fund and \$92 designated for other charity. A check (\$50) was reissued for Bethel Chapter No. 14 that was lost in July, 2016.

Brother Joe Santisteban provided an interesting review of International High Twelve activities and our new locations in Hawaii and Italy. Our next schedule meeting will be on March 28th (noon at the Red Apple Restaurant with a special Rainbow visitation pending in March). Fraternally, Don Van Cleave, Secretary Treasurer.

#### **Moline Area 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. 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.

A little humor from the Midwest:

1. My goal for 2016 was to lose just 10 pounds ... only 15 to go...
2. Ate salad for dinner. Mostly croutons and tomatoes ... Really just one big, round crouton covered with tomato sauce... and cheese.....FINE, it was a pizza... I ate a pizza...
3. How to prepare Tofu:
  1. Throw it in the trash
  2. Grill some Meat
4. I just did a week's worth of cardio after walking into a spider web...
5. I don't mean to brag but... I finished my 14-day supply of diet food from Slim Fast in 3 hours and 20 minutes...
6. A recent study has found women who carry a little extra weight live longer than men who mention it...
7. Kids today don't know how easy they have it... when I was young; I had to walk 9 feet through shag carpet to change the TV channel...
8. Senility has been a smooth transition for me...



9. Remember back when we were kids and every time it was below zero out they closed school? Me neither...
10. I may not be that funny or athletic or good looking or smart or talented ... I'm sorry; I forgot where I was going with this...
11. I love being over 65.....I learn something new every day...and forget 5 others...
12. A thief broke into my house last night...he started searching for money... so I woke up and searched with him...
13. My dentist told me I need a Crown... I said, you bet, pour mine over rocks...
14. I think I'll just put an Out of Order sticker on my forehead and call it a day...Just remember, once you're over the hill you begin to pick up speed!

### **MI High Twelve Association, Furniture City High Twelve Club #236:**



Furniture City Masonic High Twelve Club No. 236 of Grand Rapids, Michigan has enjoyed several excellent speakers over the past several months.

Recently, the outgoing President of the Grand Rapids Masonic Temple Association, Brother Rob Klawieter visited and brought the members up to date on efforts to increase the revenue and maintain the expenditure levels of the building.

New areas recently vacated by the closing of the Children's Dyslexia Center have been renovated and rented to new and current tenants looking to expand their office space. The Masonic Center has over 30 professional tenants and our office space is almost 100 % occupied at this time.

Brother Rob informed us of the results of the recent attempt by an arsonist to set fire to the building. The sprinkler system immediately put out the flames, and the video security system helped to quickly identify the individual and police make a quick arrest and obtained an admission of guilt. New carpeting will now be installed in the entire amphitheater as a result of the fire.

Brother Rob is optimistic concerning the financial stability of the Temple Association, as a six figure cash balance is being maintained at this time. Brother Rob answered several questions and left with a High Twelve membership application in hand.

## **Habitat for Humanity Director of Community Development visits Furniture City High Twelve Club No. 236:**

Habitat for Humanity is an organization that most Americans have heard of, but know little about. Ivor Thomas has worked with and for Habitat for Humanity for over 18 years and has been involved with many construction projects as well as community and neighborhood revitalization projects throughout the Grand Rapids, Michigan area.

Ivor explained that the focus is not just on building homes for responsible individuals in need, but each new or revitalized home is part of an ongoing neighborhood improvement focus.



Habitat for Humanity provides financial advice and assistance to those persons qualifying and needing help obtaining a permanent home for themselves and their families.

Ivor explained the process needed by individuals to not only qualify for a home, but how they take part in the process and how they benefit educationally from the process.

The presentation was part of an experiment by Furniture City High Twelve with having an evening meal and program, instead of the usual noon meeting and program. The dinner was held at a local restaurant and members, spouses and guests ordered from the menu and enjoyed two hours of fellowship and information.

It was agreed upon that we will hold these evening dinners several more times this year.

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

The February meeting at the Masonic Center opened at 12:00 Noon. The

meal was Chicken Cordon blue. Our speaker was York County Commissioner Doug Hoke. His presentation was Size and Scope of York County Government. It was a good time to get an update on York County Government and also a chance to ask Commissioner Hoke some questions. Contact Richard Graybill at 717-225-1438 or email him at [belcher3@comcast.net](mailto:belcher3@comcast.net) to make reservations for the meetings. Fraternally, Carl Belcher, Secretary.

COME ONE, COME ALL! 2017 ILLINOIS HIGH TWELVE MID-YEAR CONVENTION HOSTED BY OUR BRETHREN OF THE ABE LINCOLN CLUB #38: When? April 8, 2017 Where? MCL Restaurant and Bakery. All are welcome to attend and represent your club.

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### Humor

Grandpa, do you mind if I play my new harmonica in here? asked little Phil. Of course not, Phil. I love music. In fact, when your grandma and I were young, music saved my life. What happened? asked Phil. Well, it was during the famous Johnstown flood. The dam broke and when the water hit our house it knocked it right off the foundation. Grandma got on the dining room table and floated out safely. How about you? Me? Well, I accompanied her on the piano!

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A farmer asked the vet to come out to check on his favorite bull who wasn't doing well at all. After checking the bull's vital signs, the vet reached in his black bag and pulled out a rather large pill. He forced open the bull's mouth and crammed the pill down his gullet. Suddenly the bull jumped up and took off like a banshee, jumping every fence in his way. The vet exclaimed, well, looks like your bull is healed! The farmer replied; now give me one of those pills. I've gotta catch him!

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A kid asked his mother, Mom, can you buy me those two toys that we had seen at the store the other day? His mother replied I will buy you one of them. One is enough to keep you busy at playtime. Later that day, the kid started doing his homework. The mother said; remember that you have two activities as homework today. The kid replied I will do one of them. One is enough to keep me busy at study time.

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My wife came home with four cases of beer, three boxes of wine, two bottles of whiskey and two loaves of bread. Are we expecting guests? I asked. No, she replied. Then why did you buy so much bread?

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A woman was having a medical problem - her husband snoring. She called the doctor one morning, and asked him if there was anything he could do to relieve her suffering. Well, there is one operation I can perform that will cure your husband, but it is really rather expensive. It will cost \$1000 down, and then payments of \$450 for 24 months, plus payments for extras. Wow! The woman exclaimed, sounds like leasing a new sports car! Hmmm, the doctor murmured, too obvious, huh?

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Well, what seems to be the problem? asked the clock repair man. It's my grandfather clock. It used to go tic toc, tic toc, tic toc. Now, it just goes tic, tic, tic, tic, tic, replied the young lady. Hmmm, I think I can fix this, he says. He opens the door on the clock, looks at it, and then says to the lady, don't worry, we have ways of making it toc!

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Little Mikey and his family were having Sunday dinner at his grandmother's house. Everyone was seated around the table as the food was being served. When Little Mikey received his plate, he started eating right away. Mikey! Please wait until we say our prayer, said his mother. I don't need to, the boy replied. Of course, you do, his mother insisted through gritted teeth. We always say a prayer before eating at our house. That's at our house, Mikey explained. But this is Grandma's house and she knows how to cook.

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I didn't know if my granddaughter had learned her colors yet, so I decided to test her. I would point out something and ask what color it was. She would tell me, and always she was correct. But it was fun for me, so I continued. At last, she headed for the door, saying sagely, Grandma, I think you should try to figure out some of these yourself!

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A mother and son were washing dishes while the father and daughter were watching TV in the family room. Suddenly, there was a crash of breaking dishes, then complete silence. The girl looked at her dad and said it was Mom. How do you know? She didn't say anything.