

Summer has arrived! 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 August 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



**UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
WE WISH YOU A HAPPY 227th BIRTHDAY
FOUNDED AUGUST 4th 1790**

Congratulations to our members and ladies, celebrating their Birthday, Anniversary or other Special Event in August. 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: William H. Haynes, PSP, (PA)

Replace Yourself - As with every Masonic organization, High Twelve is suffering from a decreasing membership. To help remedy that situation, I am asking you to replace yourself. This should be easy as all of us have a Masonic friend who does not belong to High Twelve. Just ask him to attend a meeting with you and usually he will submit a petition when he sees the brotherhood and enjoyable time that is had by all members.

I keep pushing the personal contact as it has been my experience that general briefings at Masonic meetings educate the attendees but do not necessarily produce new members. A personal contact works best. However, do whatever is effective for you, **but do something**. You must do something for any action, which is better than no action. We can talk all we want but performance is the only thing that counts and that means bringing in new members.

When you bring in a new member, you will receive a lapel pin and I replaced myself pin shipped to you by our International Secretary. There are additional notches for more pins as you bring in more new members. Be sure to use the current Monthly Reporting Form as this has been modified to provide the information to him.

I hope all High Twelvians will be wearing this lapel pin with the I replaced myself pin this year. Fraternally, Bill.



International 1st Vice President: Joseph Santisteban, PSP (IL)

Greetings fellow High Twelvians, first, I have to say *thank you* to all of you who showed confidence in my moving up the line. I will continue to do my best for the organization. This year's Annual Convention seemed to go smooth without any surprises, which was nice. I was glad for that because I also attended the National Sojourners Annual Convention the following week in Austin, TX. I was able to talk a little about High Twelve as well while there.

Good thing I happened to have a High Twelve Application with me while in Texas. I was happy to give it to a prospective new member. The clubs close to my region are starting to attract new members. One way is to do what a High Twelvian did to me -- he invited me to his meeting as his guest -- and paid for my lunch. If you haven't tried this approach yet, do so and see what happens. I haven't met too many Masons who will turn down a free meal.

I've often been asked Why should I join High Twelve? I think I've been able to give a good answer. Think about how YOU would/will answer this question. It's almost the same thing that happens when asked Why should I become a Mason? You need to have a response ready to provide when/if asked either of these questions.

Masonic trivia: *Do you know a non-Mason that sports a square and compass? In the court case of Hammer vs. the state of Indiana, in 1909, the Supreme Court ruled that it is a criminal offense to wear a symbol or emblem of an organization that you are not a member of. The reasoning behind it was that organizations with selective membership go through the process of determining whether or not the person is a good fit for the organization or society, and that wearing an emblem of a group you are not a member of is deceitful and gives a false pretense.*

Until next time, stay active in your Club and offer a ride to a member who may not be attending as often as he could. Also, visit other Clubs when possible and see what they are doing or how you might be able to help. Above all, attend your Lodge meetings! As

always, stay safe, have fun, and take care of each other. Fraternally and Respectfully,
Joe Santisteban.

International 2nd Vice President: Jonathan P. Dilley, PSP (CA)

My monthly report for July is focused on our youth and how they see us as leaders and mentors.

On June 22nd I had the privilege of attending the Grand Bethel of the California Job's Daughters International and representing High Twelve as its International 2nd Vice President and California as the Association President. I was introduced to the Grand Dias along with the Grand High Priest and the Deputy Grand Master of the State of California.

After being introduced and seated, I watched leaders from multiple Masonic bodies escorted to the East and introduced and several spoke on their gratitude for this and that. It was during this lengthy process that a Brother turned to me and said, Looks like this is more about the adults than it is for the kids! This brother's comment stuck with me for the remainder of the evening and I pondered its validity.



When we visit our youth and support them in their education and in the opportunities they have to lead, are we there to be seen and recognized or are we there to leave a lasting impression to inspire our youth to greatness?

I remained at Grand Bethel by staying the night and participating in the many events the day to follow and it was not only inspirational to the girls in attendance, it was inspirational to me. At one point, I even got emotional as I looked out over the entire attendance and reflected on the many trials of Job found recorded in the Holy Bible and God's promise that he would restore unto Job all that he had lost and more. It was clear to me that these Job's Daughters are more than just Daughters of Job in name but also the fulfillment of God's promise. Each of these girls has added and will add to the family of Job. I shared my thoughts with one of the adult leaders and she commented that she had never

considered Job's Daughters as a fulfillment of Promise and was motivated by the idea.

I made it a point to reach out to the youth prior to my departure and congratulated the newly announced officers and discussed with the adult leaders the opportunities made available to the youth through Wolcott and California's Ensign Mayo Program.

When we visit our youth, I am now driven even more to attend not as just a dignitary but also as an example. I want to inspire and give hope to our youth that they are wanted, needed and appreciated! It is so important to support their efforts to do well and to lead their peers. Otherwise, why would our youth ever desire to follow us and join us in our various Masonic organizations?

I look forward to my next visit in 2018 to the Grand Bethel and I am looking forward to my

visit with the DeMolay this year and have a renewed passion knowing that no effort is ever wasted and we really do make a difference as Masons, especially as High Twelvians! Fraternally, Jonathan Dilley

International 3rd Vice President: Jerry J. Hamilton, PSP (PA)

High Twelve- It's Not Just For Noon Anymore

This spring and summer I have visited High Twelve Clubs planting flowers at 10:00 AM near patriotic statues, picnicking all afternoon along river banks or enjoying their membership at any time. We have clubs that meet for dinner in the evening and some that meet for breakfast. The choice is yours. Our clubs can meet at most any time and almost places. As State President I was asked to adjudicate a member's complaint about meeting at a Bowling Alley. (We left it up to a membership vote.)

Just as time and meeting place is up to the membership, the program is up to the members also. Some clubs invite the ladies to every meeting. That helps to meet any minimum requirements set by the dining establishment and also relieves the concern of leaving the ladies home alone again. If ladies are present, Masonic topics should not be presented by every speaker at every meeting but announcements of coming Masonic events should always be a part of every meeting. Let's have a Masonic Minute at every meeting

Some clubs have fund raising activities to benefit our Wolcott Foundation. Of course the Red School House should always be passed around the tables at every meeting and the contents promptly sent to our Foundation Office. But to quote a famous line, "What more do ye than others?" How about an annual fund raiser for our Wolcott Foundation. Could the members who do not attend the monthly meetings be asked to make a reservation for a Phantom Dinner. (Pay for a nonexistent dinner where the proceeds go to Wolcott?) This is much like a Bake less Bake Sale and can be a lot of fun. I know of another Masonic Group that sends out "1040" Tax forms and asks the members to pay for every grandchild, TV set, Radio and cell phone, etc. Proceeds go to their charity but I recommend Wolcott.

Thank you for electing me Third Vice President and I hope to take you by the hand real soon. Jerry

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

High Twelve brothers all. Well, as you all know my time is over. There appears that we now have some peace and understanding with Wolcott and its new Chairman Brother Clark. I have just read Brother Haynes new idea to bring in one new member. It is a good plan and great idea. Clubs that are lacking can gain much by encouraging their members to use this idea.

This Fall I will begin my work in developing new Clubs in Indiana; and if I can gain up to three more new clubs then the plan is to start in Kentucky. Terre Haute, Indiana appears to be a good location to start. I like to visit Lodges and make a presentation as a search to locate a brother, who shows interest in helping form a new Club. Why Terre Haute you ask? Well there are 4 lodges there and three of them meet on a Monday, Tuesday or on a Wednesday and I and a helper can visit all three Lodges in three days. And the follow up visits a month later should be easy.

Also, today I had a personal talk with Brother Kenneth Roy, Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Indiana. He has expressed an Interest in helping to reestablish High Twelve in Evansville, Indiana. If all goes well, I have found a friend there. At the same time our Junior Grand Warden has shown some interest in High Twelve also.

Brothers, I offer my apologies to all the Trustees of Wolcott. However, something had to be done or else we may have lost this wonderful charity in its totality. I could not let the problems observed in Florida and Arizona move to other States. No one but me knows the number of brothers that suggested we find a new charity and start over. This I could not allow, so drastic measures needed to me taken to bring awareness to the Trustees of Wolcott that a change was necessary. It has happened and time will tell if my drastic action was successful.

GOD Bless each one of you in your efforts of growing your home club and supporting Wolcott in its future progress.

Fraternally, Dr. Ronald W. Woods. PIP

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

Well here we are in the dog days of summer, public schools are now back in session and the *MONSOON* has arrived and we have had a nice amount of rain from several storms.

Wanted to let everyone know that the Mid-Year 2018 meeting will be in Las Vegas **tentatively** set for the week of 1/21 at the Plaza Hotel in old town. When it is set and the details known the information will be posted as an event on the HTI home page.

Many clubs have been have been on summer break and I would like to remind the club secretaries to let the international office know of any changes that occurred during the summer on your Online Monthly Report.

2018 Pocket Planners will be mailed to all domestic members around Labor Day as usual. This time there will not be extras available as we had to change vendors as Brother and High Twelvian John Whiteman has retired! John and his wife have done an outstanding job doing the mailing portion of the pocket planners for many years. Thank you John and enjoy your retirement!

There has been a spurt of interest in forming new clubs in Florida, Texas, Nebraska and New Jersey.

Winter Haven High Twelve Club #782 was chartered on July 29th in Winter Haven, FL by Michael Hemphill, PSP, Endowment Fund Trustee representing HTI. Congratulations!

Comments from Brother Paul Weathers, PM



Many of you are hesitant to give serious thought and attention to the fact that death is an unavoidable part of life. It is an essential duty to our loved ones to know of our desires for when that eventful day arrives. I encourage each and every one of you to give them your desires and thoughts in writing.

Do you desire a Masonic Last Rites service? Do you prefer

a Chapel, Lodge Hall or grave side service? Have you informed them of what items if any, to accompany your remains into their long home (final resting place?)

Do your family members know where to find your Masonic Lambskin Apron and other items that meant so much to you? Do they know what memorial items, if any, that you'd like for them to display for viewing? Is there something special that you'd wish to be read at your service; a poem, scripture passage, a record of your Masonic or military life, or some other special memory, perhaps a favorite story or joke you'd like to be shared?

These are just a few ideas of which you need to put into written words, and make sure that its location is well known to family members.

Don't forget to show them where insurance policies, financial records and other important documents are located. Do you not think these things and other matters should be discussed with your family members, both blood and fraternal?

Brothers, with our forethought and preparation of such matters we can ease the stress on our grieving survivors. Don't put it off, do it today. Think it through and document it. Share it with several people to be sure of its availability.

And why not write your own obituary. Who knows better than you how to word it? Be sure to include good memories which will bring a smile or even a good laugh. It might make your passing a little easier for those who cared for you and we should leave good memories for them to remember us by.

This thoughtfulness and actions pertain to one of our final duties to our family and friends, because tomorrow for us may never come. Fraternaly, Paul Weathers

Fact or Fiction? No English dictionary has been able to adequately explain the difference between these two words. In a recent linguistic competition held in London and attended by, supposedly, the best in the world, Samdar Balgobin, a Guyanese man, was the clear winner with a standing ovation which lasted over 5 minutes.

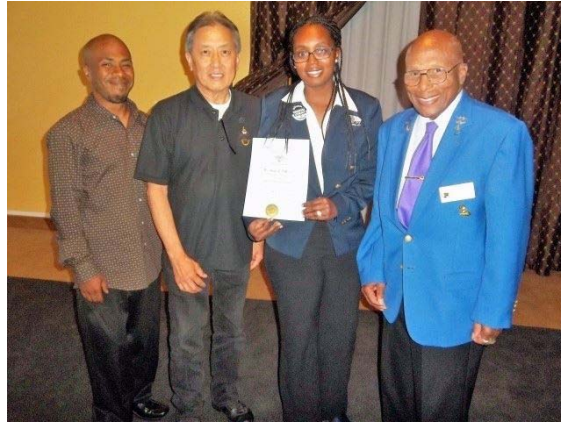
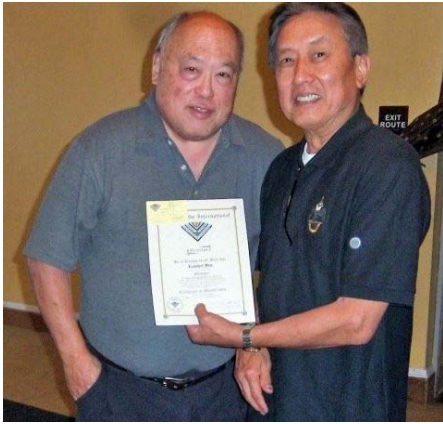
The final question was...How do you explain the difference between COMPLETE and FINISHED in a way that is easy to understand? Some people say there is no difference between COMPLETE and FINISHED. Here is his astute answer:

When you marry the right woman, you are COMPLETE. When you marry the wrong woman, you are FINISHED. And when the right one catches you with the wrong one, you are COMPLETELY FINISHED!

He won a trip around the world and a case of 25 year old Scotch!

California High Twelve Association, Oakland High Twelve Club #2:

We were privileged to have as their speaker on June 26th, Ms. Kendra L. Willis, Author, Columnist, Financial Educator and Certified Inspirational Speaker, whose program was entitled: *Asset Protection in the 21st Century*. How do you protect your assets and be sure that your love ones will benefit from your hard work? Planning ahead, and being well informed. The members and guests present were impressed and benefited by her insights and recommendations.



Also, on the agenda was the presentation of a new member Certificate to Bro. Lambert Yim. Welcome Brother Yim! (Left Photo)

(Right Photo L-R) Richard Cleveland Valrey (grandson of PP & PSP Cleveland Valrey); Bro. Fred Kao; speaker Kendra Willis, receiving Certificate of Appreciation; and Cleveland Valrey, PP, PSP

Oakland High Twelve meets on the fourth Monday of the month at the beautiful Oakland Scottish Rite Temple in Oakland, California, near Lake Merritt at High Twelve. The food is outstanding as well as the fellowship. All Master Masons and their accompanied guest are always welcome.

Fresno High Twelve Club #10:

Hello to all of you High Twelvians and we hope you are all staying cool. That old weather man keeps telling me I'm hot and I wonder if he knows we live in a desert and it's supposed to be hot. We live in a wonderful time since we all have access to air conditioning. I remember sleeping on the porch to stay cool - what are some of your stories? I send my Best Wishes to any of you that haven't been well lately. Jim Clark called the other day and he is doing better, I hope that all of you are doing better also. I was pleased to visit with Betty Dunlavy and Erma Crider recently and they wanted to say Hello to all who remember them. I want to ask you to mark your calendars - our next meeting is on August 8th at the regular Denny's on Shaw. We will be pleased to have as our program speaker - Mr. John Alkire, the CEO of The Big Fresno Fair. He will share with us what has been happening lately at the Fair Grounds and that wonderful Museum. Perhaps you can share a few remembrances of your own. Our Board Meeting will be 11:00 am and we have important business to discuss. (1) Membership (2) Elections (3) Future of our Club. Please try to attend and share in these important topics. Our Future is in your hands. Fraternally, President Don.

The symbol most widely recognized as Scottish Rite Masonry is the Double-Headed Eagle of Lagash...it is one of the oldest Royal Crests in the existence. This symbol has been in use at least a thousand years before the Hebrew Exodus from Egypt and more than 2,000 years before the building of King Solomon's Temple. Records indicate that in the early days of modern Freemasonry the Double-Headed Eagle was first used around 1758 by a Masonic body in Paris. That Masonic body was known as The Emperors of the East and West, and controlled the advanced Degrees then in use. It is these degrees that became a precursor of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite. Our Double-Headed Eagle

features the white-ribbon motto, pendant from the hilt of the sword to the point, and displaying the Latin SPES MEA IN DEO EST, which translates My Hope Is in God. As a Scottish Rite Mason you will recognize this phrase from the lessons taught in the 31°. Generally, the symbolic meaning of this symbol in the Scottish Rite is that of duality contained in or resolving itself in unity. Among other things, it reminds us that as man we are composed of both body and spirit that he is both, temporary and eternal; that both good and evil exist in the world and that we must perpetually espouse good while opposing evil. It also reminds us that knowledge comes both from study and insight; and that our obligations are both to ourselves and to others; that both faith and reason are necessary. The various symbols of the Scottish Rite do not easily reveal their meanings to us; furthermore, there may be many meanings to any one symbol. Only after thought and reflection do they fulfill their function and begin to trigger ideas in the mind.

Florida High Twelve Association, The Masonic High Twelve Club of Lake Worth No. 316: Our 58th Year

The Masonic *Social* Club of the Palm Beaches - Originators of the Government Bee. - Our Informal meeting was held honoring the students, coaches, and sponsors of the Government Bee held on April 6, 2017. The Dinner was held at the Sandcove Yacht Club in North Palm Beach through the auspices of Debra Chandler and Christie Campbell-Gabor of the League of Women Voters.

In addition to the students and Coach of Seminole Ridge High School, who were presented with the Trophy for this year, guests of our High Twelve Club were also David and Susan Jacobs.



The students and Coaches of Suncoast High School and Royal Palm Beach High School, second and third place winners, respectively, were also in attendance as guests of the League of Women Voters and the Florida Government Finance Officers Association.

Also in attendance were Dr. Lori Dool, Secondary Social Studies Program Planner for the Palm Beach Schools, her parents, and Jeremy Baker of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association.

The location, ambience, and food were great. Everyone was impressed with the many beautiful yachts that seemed to be at close touch, and a good time was had by all. Fraternally, Bernhard Kainer, Secretary.

The Villages High Twelve Club #674:

After a month off and many people still on vacation, the club still had 31 members and guests in attendance. After the Club President Frank Charlton opened the meeting and introduced the guests, he inducted our newest member from Ohio, **James Crego**, who is the Past Master of the Willoughby Masonic Lodge; and is also a member of the Scottish Rite Bodies. He was accompanied by his wife **Linda**.



President Frank met the Cregos at the Scottish Rite get-together a couple months ago and they discussed the High Twelve and Brother Jim said that he would be interested in joining our club and the rest is history.

We had a total of eleven guests at the meeting and four of them will be inducted at the next meeting. We also have Applications from several others, who will be joining the club over the next couple of months.

(Photo above from left to right) New Member James Crego; Sergeant-at-Arms Joseph Zapora; Lady Linda Crego; and Secretary Merv Harris.)

We had one couple from Maryland, who had seen our club announcement in the Villages Masonic Lodge Trestle Board Newsletter, who came to the meeting to see what High Twelve was all about. When the free meal tickets were announced at the end of the meeting, they were the ones, who won the tickets for the two free meals that are donated each month by Will & Marian Backstrom. They asked for an Application and will be joining the club in the near future.

IL High Twelve Association, Northwest Masonic High Twelve Club #769:

(July Meeting) Our speaker in July was Dr. Denise Casey, Founder and Director, Barrington Behavioral Health and Wellness. Dr. Casey complemented the gathering for our outside activities and highlighted the importance of having life purposes and involvement. The importance of personal attachment with people and organizations strengthen your purpose in life.

Our attendance consisted of thirteen High Twelve members and eight special guests, namely Mrs. Rosemarie Pegoraro, Mrs. Sandra Chapman, Mrs. Cathy Curielli, Mrs.

Cheryl Aronson, Mrs. Linda Masny, Mrs. Patt Maris, Mrs. Joan Rogers, and Mrs. Jan Van Cleave. Our special dignitaries were High Twelve International First Vice President, Joe Santiseteban and Brother Edward Rund, State Secretary. Brother Willie Meir, Secretary and Zone 4 Manager for the Wolcott Foundation has elected to retire and his elected position is open. The thirteen Illinois Clubs will be involved in the selection of Brother Meir position at the Quincy Annual Meeting on August 11th and 12th. Brother Ed Rund is our official representative for Club No. 769 at the Illinois Annual Convention in Quincy.

At our meeting, we authorized to send fifty dollars to each youth organization, namely, Sunshine Rainbows Girls; Job's Daughter No. 14; and DeMolay Chapters in Barrington and Bloomingdale.

Our official election yielded the following new officers: David Truax, President, Joe Pegoraro, 1st Vice President; John Chapman, 2nd Vice President; Prakash Naik, 3rd Vice President; Lou Aronson, Secretary-Treasurer; Marvin Selock, Chaplain; Gene Pratt, Masonic Representative; Don Van Cleave, Wolcott Representative; John Riggs, Sergeant of Arms. Brother John Peter Curielli was recognized for an outstanding year and received his Past President title. All officers will be officially appointed at our August 22nd meeting. During President Curielli year, the Club representatives visited two youth organizations and at least two High Twelve Clubs and provided excellent meeting speakers. All members are invited to Barrington Lodge this Saturday (7/29) to celebrate their 150th year with members from Grand Lodge.

Brother David Truax was pinned with Northwest's Club Presidents pin and Don Van Cleave was recognized as Secretary with a plaque. (Picture below left) Brother Prakash Naik was officially thanked for setting up and conducting the tour at BAPS Temple in Bartlett on Saturday, July 22nd. (Picture below right)

No Sickness and Distress was reported and it was good to see Cathy Curielli walking with the big shoe. Brother George Rogers gave a summary of the Wolcott Fund as he recently gave a talk on the Wolcott Fund to Job's Daughter. Fraternally, Don Van Cleave, Secretary/Treasurer.



Northwest Masonic High Twelve Club No. 769:

(June Meeting) Our speaker on July 25th will be Dr. Denise Casey, Founder and Director, Barrington Behavioral Health and Wellness. We need to be kept abreast on Addiction Recovery, Hypnotherapy, and trauma recovery Clinical Hypnosis. She is also Certified in Cognitive Therapy. Dr. Casey is a graduate of Adler School of Professional Psychology

and Trinity College. She has studied addictions and hypnosis at advanced levels.



Previously she has taught at the graduate level for Northeastern Illinois University and was on medical staff with Lutheran General Hospital, where she spent 10 years in the Counseling Center of Lutheran General Hospital. Her experience with addictions spans over 20 years. She has conducted interventions, presented on issues related to codependency, created and ran a group for couples in recovery, worked with adult children of alcoholics and has worked with professionals who were impaired by substance use in their personal or professional life.

Our collections in June yielded twenty dollars for Wolcott Fund. It was deposited and our checking account will be \$266.05 with \$38 designated for Wolcott Fund and \$116 designated for other charity. Eighty-five dollars was submitted in June to our State organization as dues. As the check to the last year's youth organization was finally cashed, we are in a position to use the same youth organizations this year. At our July meeting, we will discuss distribution of our other charity fund such as the youth organizations. As Secretary, I will propose that funds be distributed to four youth organizations and then provide a check to our State President in August for the state organization to contribute to Masonic Charities at Grand Lodge.

In June, it was proposed that available members visit other High Twelve Clubs, namely Cornerstone (July 5th) and DuPage Club on July 19th (Wednesday at Noon). DuPage Club address is Hi View Restaurant, 425 Road, Villa Park, IL. At Cornerstone Club, we learned that other Masonic activities were highlighted.

This coming Saturday, July 22nd at 9:30 am, we plan to meet and tour the Hindu Temple in Bartlett. Bring a friend and enjoy the tour (10 am to Noon).

At our July meeting, we select our new Club officers and appointed positions. Your participation is important to our Club.

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

(June Meeting) Our Program Topic: Officer Wise will be covering various topics of law Enforcement

Officer Wise has been in law enforcement with Northern Regional for 22 years; prior to working in the County's Adult Probation Department.



As part of many firsts in the history of the agency, in 1970, The Governor's Justice Commission, acting in concert with the Pennsylvania Department of Community Affairs, was solicited by several York County Municipalities to determine the need and feasibility of the consolidation of police services. Both agencies realized that police services in the Commonwealth had to be cost-effective to better serve socio-economic concerns of our community. To that end, funding to implement the delivery of police services was

provided to the original five York County Municipalities (Dover Twp., Dover Borough, Wellsville Borough, Manchester Twp., & Paradise Twp.) that agreed to participate in organizing the Northern York County Regional Police Department.

HIGH TWELVE NEWS

The election of officers for the 2017/2018 year took place at the May meeting. We would like to thank Past President Roger Stabley for his service to our club this past year. Our officers for 2017/2018 are President C. James Wilson, first VP Earl Shaffer Jr., second VP John Hynd, Secretary/Newsletter Editor Carl Belcher, Treasure Richard Graybill. Masonic Rep. Don Whistler, Chaplain H. Vernon Tyson, and Sgt.-At-Arms - Robert Casbeer.

The High Twelvians of the year for 2016/2017 were awarded to past president Gorden Heath and Frank Miller. We thank them both for their dedication and service to First Capital #668. This is the last meeting until September.

Quincy Masonic High Twelve Club # 40:

President: Ray Shortridge Meeting Secretary : Dean Lillis reported on Sprouts Inn Restaurant 2814 N. 12th Street Quincy Il. Quincy Masonic High Twelve Club meets every Wednesday at 12 Noon, at Sprouts Restaurant. We presently have 69 members listed on our roster. We lost one in death since August 2016 and haven't lost any due to non-payment of dues for two years running. We lost one due to requested Demit and we believe we have two more Demit requests coming. We annually hold our Christmas dinner the second Wednesday in December at Union United Methodist Church and our annual picnic the second Wednesday in June at South Park, big shelter in Quincy. In the past year, members of our club have visited several of our clubs in Illinois, Indiana and Ohio. We maintain a strong weekly speaker's schedule, covering subjects that include; Health and Wellness, Finance, Community events, Business Development and Social Issues. Our speakers range from retired school teachers, physicians, business leaders, political leaders, and community leaders. I am now filling the role of club president for the second time in five years. This past year I was honored to receive the award of being the High Twelvian of the year for 2016-17. I am deeply honored with this award. As for plans for the rest of the 2017, We hope to increase our membership in the coming months and improve our outreach efforts. We are an aging club with many of our active members in their 70's to mid-90. Many find it difficult to get too many of our meetings. But are willing to try to attend at least once a month. Of the 69 active members on our roster, we see at least 50% of them monthly. The other 50% we see on occasion, and if nothing more, are current in their dues. We have a solid base group of 30 members that you can count on to attend weekly, With minor absence noted. Thank you and God Bless. Ray Shotridge, President and Gary Farha, 1ST VP.

Freeport Masonic High Twelve Club #43:

President: Calvin Barklow Meetings Secretary : Roger Carson, High Twelve Club #43 continues to meet every Thursday at Logan's Restaurant, from approximately 11:45 until 1:00. The restaurant is located at 1805 S West St., on Rt. 26. We have had good attendance, especially for the past 6 months. We are averaging about 18 members and guests. Our largest attendance was 23. Must be the food! The food has been good and prices are reasonable with large servings. Everyone is welcome to come and see for yourself. We lost two members this year. They were good members who attended regularly. They are missed, however we have two new members with the possibility of

two prospects. We have 25 members, and we have good attendance from wives and widows. Our speakers have been varied and interesting. They have come from the local health network, Chamber of Commerce, the Senior Resource Center and the Director of the Scottish Rite Dyslexic Learning Center. We have donated to the dyslexic learning center and intended to contribute to a needy family at Christmas, but did not succeed due to a lack of communication. The first meeting of each month is our business meeting where we hold a drawing for a prize. It has been fun and interesting. The president acquires the speakers. Our continued plans are to get more new members. However, the Freeport club considers itself holding its own. Fraternally, Calvin Barklow President.

East Orange High Twelve Club #137:

The meeting came to order at noon at Miranda Café with an invocation offered by Frank Nemeth, who led us in the Pledge to the flag of our great Nation and our Republic.

President Daume welcomed the members and guests. Minutes of our last Meeting were reviewed. The Secretary/Treasurer continued that the checking account has \$2,555.46 of which \$265 is reserved for the Wolcott Fund. Our CD has \$3,120, earning a whopping 0.01% interest per annum. He noted we have 18 Dues paying members, plus one Honorary member.

A Birthday Card was signed and sent to member S. Mender (his 80th) There was no sickness/distress reported.

There was no Old Business and because no jokes were told, no funny business. Other topics discussed during lunch were phone calls to absent members should continue; our meetings should be announced at Masonic Meetings (and they are.) In 2019 this club will celebrate 70 years and our club has had 60 Presidents. Most recent Presidents (6) have served for multiple terms, except Check Secallus (how'd that happen?).

Benediction was given by this Scribe, the meeting adjourned at 1:20. Secretary/Treasurer Chernack noted the Wolcott School House donations at \$22.00 and the lunch garnered \$7.00. Respectfully submitted, Donald Daume.

Ohio High Twelve Association, Downtown Columbus High Club No. 453:



Speaker for Downtown Columbus High Twelve Club No. 453 - Kevin Clouse of the Ohio Emergency Management Agency spoke to us on May 15, 2017 about Emergency Management in Ohio. Mr. Clouse is on the left with our Club President John Brand on his right.

On May 22, 2017, Dale Arnold, Ohio Farm Bureau, Director, Energy, Utility and Local Government Policy was our guest speaker. He is in the middle holding Certificate with Club President John Brand on the right and Club Secretary Dr. Frank Wright II on left. Mr. Arnold's presentation was Local Stakeholder's Role in Energy Development Management in Ohio. Mr. Clouse is on the left with our Club President John Brand on his right.

The following was Provided by International Secretary Kevin Hokerk-Robinson: True meaning of stress:

A young lady confidently walked around the room while leading and explaining stress management to an audience; with a raised glass of water, and everyone knew she was going to ask the ultimate question, 'half empty or half full?'.....she fooled them all...How heavy is this glass of water...she inquired with a smile.

Answers called out ranged from 8 oz. to 20 oz.

She replied, The absolute weight doesn't matter. It depends on how long I hold it. If I hold it for a minute, that's not a problem. If I hold it for an hour, I'll have an ache in my right arm. If I hold it for a day, you'll have to call an ambulance. In each case it's the same weight, but the longer I hold it, the heavier it becomes. She continued, and that's the way it is with stress. If we carry our burdens all the time, sooner or later, as the burden becomes increasingly heavy, we won't be able to carry on.

As with the glass of water, you have to put it down for a while and rest before holding it again. When we're refreshed, we can carry on with the burden - holding stress longer and better each time practiced. So, as early in the evening as you can, put all your burdens down. Don't carry them through the evening and into the night... pick them up tomorrow.

Whatever burdens you're carrying now, let them down for a moment. Relax, pick them up later after you've rested. Life is short. Enjoy it and the now 'supposed' stress that you've conquered! Most of these are quite humorous, but after you laugh or smile, look deeper into the true meaning of the statement.

1. Accept the fact that some days you're the pigeon, and some days you're the statue!
2. Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them.
3. Always read stuff that will make you look good if you die in the middle of it.
4. Drive carefully... It's not only cars that can be recalled by their Maker.
5. If you can't be kind, at least have the decency to be vague.
6. If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.
7. It may be that your sole purpose in life is simply to serve as a warning to others.
8. Never buy a car you can't push.
9. Never put both feet in your mouth at the same time, because then you won't have a leg to stand on.
10. Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance.
11. Since it's the early worm that gets eaten by the bird, sleep late.
12. The second mouse gets the cheese.
13. When everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
14. Birthdays are good for you. The more you have, the longer you live.
15. You may be only one person in the world, but you may also be the world to one person.
16. Some mistakes are too much fun to make only once.
17. We could learn a lot from crayons. Some are sharp, some are pretty and some are dull. Some have weird names and all are different colors, but they all have to live in the same box.
18. A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.
19. Have an awesome day and know that someone has thought about you today.
20. Save the earth..... It's the only planet with chocolate!

Special humor from the International Secretary Kevin Hokerk-Robinson: Senior on a Moped

An elderly man, looking about 100 years old, and on a Moped, pulls up next to a doctor at a street light. The old man looks over at the sleek shiny car and asks, 'What kind of car ya got there, sonny?' The doctor replies, 'A Ferrari GTO. It cost half a million dollars'

'That's a lot of money,' says the old man. 'Why does it cost so much?' 'Because this car can do up to 320 miles an hour!' states the doctor proudly. The Moped driver asks, 'Mind if I take a look inside?' 'No problem,' replies the doctor.

So, the old man pokes his head in the window and looks around. Then, sitting back on his Moped, the old man says, 'That's a pretty nice car, all right... But I'll stick with my Moped!'

Just then the light changes, so the doctor decides to show the old man just what his car can do. He floors it, and within 30 seconds the speedometer reads 160 mph. Suddenly, he notices a dot in his rear-view mirror. It seems to be getting closer. He slows down to see what it could be and suddenly WHOOOSSSHHH Something whips by him going much faster! 'What on earth could be going faster than my Ferrari?' the doctor asks himself. He presses harder on the accelerator and takes the Ferrari up to 250 mph. Then, up ahead of him, he sees that it's the old man on the Moped! Amazed that the Moped could pass his Ferrari, he gives it more gas and passes the Moped at 275 mph. He's

feeling pretty good until he looks in his mirror and sees the old man gaining on him AGAIN!

Astounded by the speed of this old guy, he floors the gas pedal and takes the Ferrari all the way up to 320 mph. Not ten seconds later, he sees the Moped bearing down on him again! The Ferrari is flat out, and there's nothing he can do! Suddenly, the Moped plows into the back of his Ferrari, demolishing the rear end. The doctor stops and jumps out and unbelievably, the old man is still alive. He runs up to the banged-up old guy and says, 'I'm a doctor....Is there anything I can do for you?'

The old man whispers, 'Unhook my damn suspenders from your side mirror!'

MI High Twelve Association, Furniture City Masonic High Twelve Club No. 236 Celebrates Summer with Annual Picnic:

The day started with thunder, lightning and rain, but by High Twelve, the sun was out, the hamburgers and hot dogs were cooking on the grill and the Fellowship was in full swing.

The Club held its annual summer picnic on July 10, 2017. The picnic is usually held in a local park, but due to renovations to the shelter house, the get together was moved to the home of Past Club President Michael Clark and his wife Gayle, in suburban Cascade.

Twenty Five members, wives, significant others and guests spent several hours enjoying the food, refreshments, and of course the company of their fellow High Twelvians. No business meeting was held or program presented, so the conversations were as numerous and varied as the food combinations available to the attendees.

The club wants to thank Brother Mike and Gayle for their hospitality.

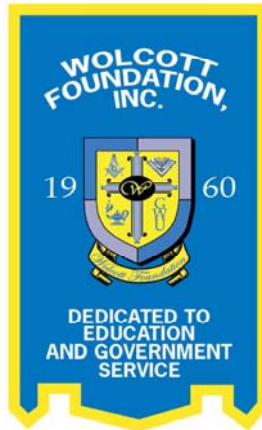


THE WOLCOTT FOUNDATION INC.

Monthly News

The Philanthropic Educational Foundation of High Twelve International

***Providing Graduate Level Fellowships at
George Washington University, Washington, DC***



**The Real Purpose of the Wolcott Foundation
Michael Clark, Chairman**

Each time you put money into the Little Red School House or make a contribution to the Wolcott Foundation, what is it that you are accomplishing?

The Wolcott Foundation has gained wide respect in the field of education for its work in providing Fellowship Grants at George Washington University (GWU). These prestigious Awards are greatly sought after by the incoming graduate students in International Business, Public Management and International Affairs at the University. Fellowships are restricted to only those students who exhibit outstanding scholastic achievement, social awareness and service, and high individual ethical standards. All qualities we as Masons admire and respect.

So what is it that sets the Wolcott Foundation apart from any other Fellowship or Scholarship granting organization at George Washington University or any other university?

We are the oldest Fellowship granting organization providing funds for graduate level students at GWU. Each Award carries a responsibility for the recipient. Each person chosen as a Wolcott Fellow is required to enter into a legal contract with The Foundation agreeing that he or she shall serve in a non-political governmental department or agency, or in a position clearly benefiting our nation in international business for a period of four years. Otherwise the individual must repay The Foundation for the educational cost from which he or she has benefited.

The thrust of the Wolcott Fellowship Program is to bring to the brightest of young people with an interest in government service and international business, an opportunity to become our leaders of tomorrow. For this we proudly say,

The Wolcott Foundation is An Investment in the Future of Our Country.

So what is the real purpose of The Wolcott Foundation? It is not to promote Masonry, High Twelve or even the Foundation. However, the Wolcott Fellows are well aware that

the money for their tuition comes from the Masonic Fraternity.

They learn from our conversations and publications, that High Twelve International and The Wolcott Foundation work together to raise the money required for each of them to obtain the opportunity to achieve their goals and dreams of public service to our country.

No, the real purpose is shown below in the faces of some of the recipients of Wolcott Foundation Fellowships. These are the future leaders of our country in the many organizations within our federal, state, and local governments.

These are our future Ambassadors, Government Department Heads, and Government Representatives traveling throughout the world showing American leadership and managing programs that promote the good of the American people.

**What is the real purpose of the Wolcott Foundation?
It is the education of those future leaders.**

**What better purpose could we as Masons support and promote!
Please contribute as much and as often as possible.**



**Wolcott Foundation Presentation by
Senior Fellow Cherie Rusnak
Director, Office of ASEAN and the Pacific Basin
U.S. Department of Commerce**

**International High Twelve Convention
Indianapolis, Indiana - June 10, 2017**

Intro:

- Thank you, Mr. Garrido, for inviting me to join you all today. It is truly an honor to join so many distinguished Master Masons.
- I appreciate this opportunity to address and thank, in person, the generous group who made possible my rewarding career in public service.
- In my remarks today, I hope to demonstrate to you the profound impact your fellowships have not only on the young men and women to whom they are awarded but also to US businesses and to the advancement of US public policy.

How I got to GW/Wolcott Foundation:

- I am a Wolcott Fellow from the Class of 1989 and graduated with a Master of Business Administration in International Business in 1991.
- I had been referred to Professor Philip Grubb, who was with the School of Business and served as liaison to the Wolcott Foundation, by my professor and mentor from Kent State University. Professor Grub in turn referred me to the Wolcott Foundation and the Fellowship program.
- My application was supported by Lawrence Clark, who lived next door to my parents for many years, and was the Past Master of the Valley Lodge in Turtle Creek, PA.

- I can honestly say that without the Wolcott Foundation Fellowship, I would not have attended GWU and would likely not have pursued a career in public service.
- I often wonder what path my life would have taken, had I not been given the financial assistance and opportunity to study at this prestigious (and expensive) university.
- Fortunately for me, I was selected for a fellowship, which was nothing short of life changing.
- I grew up in a small, rural town outside of Pittsburgh, PA. Attending a prestigious university, in the heart of our nation's capital, was something I dared not even dream of as a child.
- Upon graduation, I was hired as an Import Policy Specialist at the US Department of Commerce to investigate unfairly dumped products in the US market.
- More than 22 years later, much to my surprise, I am happy to say that I am still with the Commerce Department.

International Trade Administration:

- Let me start with a few words about what we do at the Commerce Department's International Trade Administration, or ITA, which is where I have spent my entire federal government career.
- The mission of the International Trade Administration is to create prosperity by strengthening the global competitiveness of US industry, promoting exports, trade and investment, and ensuring fair trade and compliance with trade laws and agreements.

Highlights of my time in the civil:

- I am currently serving as the Director of the Office of ASEAN and the Pacific Basin.
- ASEAN is the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, a [regional organization](#) comprising ten [Southeast Asian](#) states which promotes intergovernmental cooperation and facilitates economic, social and political integration among its members.
- In this role, I manage staff in efforts to provide tailored assistance to U.S. companies doing business in Southeast Asia, Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands.
- The work that we do seeks to advance the Department's trade promotion, trade policy, and foreign direct investment goals.
- We also support and advance the foreign and economic policy goals of the US administration.

Example: US-ASEAN Summit:

- A recent example of this work is our efforts to prepare former Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker to participate in economic discussions with President Obama and the ten heads of state/government at the February 2016 U.S.- Association of Southeast Asian Nations Summit.
- This was the first US-ASEAN Summit hosted by a US President in the United States, and was monumental in the history of our relations.
- We worked with the White House and other US government agencies to develop the agenda and discussion framework, and invited the CEOs of three leading US

information technology companies to participate.

- The goal was to encourage the ASEAN leaders to make the needed economic and regulatory reforms that would enable US firms to successfully operate in these increasingly important markets.
- The changes we were suggesting would also help to foster greater economic growth and prosperity for the ASEAN member states.

Other Work:

- On a more micro-level, my team and I develop trade policy strategies to overcome various market access barriers US firms face when doing business in Southeast Asia.
- What this means is that we work to improve the intellectual property protection of US goods and services, make getting goods through Customs easier, and eliminate things like discriminatory taxation of US products in overseas markets.
- My team also does a lot of outreach to US businesses to inform them about things like the Trans-Pacific Partnership, or TPP as it was known, to ensure that they would have been able to take full advantage of the agreement, had it been approved.
- Prior to this position, I worked to expand market access for U.S. products and services in 17 Central and Southeast European (CSE) countries.
- In this role, I spent a great deal of my time working on Turkey, which is one of my favorite places in the whole world.
- Here again we worked at a high level to support USG policy goals and at the individual company level to eliminate discreet problems they were having in CSE markets.
- One particularly impactful project was my work with colleagues from across the US government to create a new cabinet-level dialogue with the Turkish Government in an effort to fulfill a stated Presidential priority of increasing bilateral economic and commercial relations.
- It was honestly a painful process but in the end the dialogue became a meaningful way to implement creative strategies to resolve economic policy conflicts and to explore new areas of cooperation with Turkey.
- I also planned the Deputy Secretary of Commerce's official visit to Turkey in June 2007, and served as his Policy Advisor on the ground.
- The trip included meetings and negotiations with senior Turkish Government officials, public speaking engagements and press interviews, and meetings with U.S. and Turkish business leaders.
- While the trip was deemed a success, these things are never without some potential risks.
- During our trip, several Turkish soldiers were killed in Iraq.
- The Turkish Government had opposed the US invasion of Iraq, and it was a definite sore spot in the relationship.
- The Deputy Prime Minister of Turkey took the opportunity to publicly chastise the US government during his opening remarks at a dinner he was hosting in honor of our visit.
- Of course, I thought this was going to be the end of my career in the International Trade Administration!
- Much to my surprise, the Commerce Deputy Secretary responded quite eloquently during his remarks to the Turkish DPM, and was a diplomat in the truest sense of the word.
- He later told me that if he couldn't handle the criticism, he shouldn't have the job.

- Needless to say, this was one of the most memorable projects and trips of my career.
- I was also part of the team that planned Secretary Pritzker's trip to Greece in 2014, at the request of Vice President Biden.
- The team created an Action Plan to address challenges, deliver measurable wins, and engage the private sector in discussions with the Greek government.
- The team's efforts resulted in \$2.45 billion in U.S. sales, resolution of defense contract issues, payment of healthcare debts, and over \$2 billion in new market opportunities for U.S. companies.

Work outside of HQ:

- In addition to my work at headquarters, I spent three years working at the Export Assistance Center in Pittsburgh, PA.
- This was a great opportunity for me to work closely with manufacturers and innovators and help them to enter foreign markets, many for the first time.
- I also spent four months working at the US Embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and one month at the US Embassy in Brussels Belgium.
- So, as you can see, I've had the great opportunity to work and travel throughout Europe, South America, and Asia.
- At all times, the overarching goal of my work and that of my US government colleagues has been to help to US companies do business in overseas markets.
- This is not always an easy task but I do believe that we have had measurable successes over the course of my career.

A few fun facts:

- Along the way, I've also been fortunate to enjoy some once in a lifetime experiences:
 - I've ridden horses with gauchos in Argentina,
 - Seen the breathtaking artwork in the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia, and
 - Visited historical treasures such as the Aye Sofia in Istanbul, Turkey.
- These are all places I had never even imagined as a young girl growing up in that small town in rural Pennsylvania.

Personal Life:

- Yet these are pale in comparison to the important impact the Wolcott Fellowship has had on me personally.
- I met my husband, Richard Weible, at the Commerce Department.
- He too had a long career in the Federal government, having recently retired after over 40 years as a civil servant.

Other ITA Wolcott Alumni:

- And I am certainly not the only Wolcott alumni in the International Trade Administration.
- Within my agency alone, there are many alumni doing impressive work.
- The Director of the Executive Secretariat is alum from Philadelphia, PA and the Director of our Ft. Worth, TX Export Assistance Center is an alum from California.

- Perhaps most impressive is that another fellow alumni who served as the US Ambassador to Honduras. I believe Ambassador Ford has addressed this group in previous years.
- He served as a mentor to me, and many others, and his service is yet another testament to the significant impact of the work that you do and the Fellows that you sponsor at George Washington University.

Conclusion:

- In closing, as I have reflected on the past 22 years, I realize that I have a huge debt of gratitude to the Wolcott Foundation and to each of you.
- You afforded me the opportunity to earn a master's degree at a prestigious university in our nation's capital, and encouraged me to pursue a career in public service, which has proven to be immensely rewarding.
- And of course, my work at the Commerce Department also led to my meeting my husband, for whom I am particularly grateful.
- I believe that my public service contributions have helped to spread Masonic ideals into the federal government, a goal set out by the founders of High Twelve International.
- In my case, those ideals are free and fair trade and promotion of American exports, all in support of American jobs that rely on sales to overseas markets.
- Thus, as I hope you will agree, the work of the Wolcott Foundation is immeasurably impactful. Fellowships have a profound effect on the lives of the recipients, the US business community, and US public policy.
- Thank you for everything that you did for me and for what you have done and continue to do for so many others.
- I encourage you to continue this important work and to please let me or other Wolcott Alumni know how we can assist in your efforts.
- I was honored to be with you today and I hope to see you at a future Wolcott Alumni Reception.
- Thank you.

We thank Senior Fellow Cherie Rusnak for providing her notes used at the International Convention in Indianapolis in June. If you were not there, you missed a very successful young woman, who excelled in High School, College and at George Washington University; and at her work for the United States Government. We will have the notes for the presentation given by Teresa Murphy, Deputy Provost for Academic Affairs, George Washington University, who was also a guest speaker at the 2017 Annual Convention, in the September Update.

We have a correction to make with the Wolcott Fellows for the year 2017/2018 selections. William Gilman was unable to continue as a Wolcott Fellow and has been replaced by Laura Blucher. Grant Holyoak remains the second Wolcott Fellow.



Laura Blucher was born in Virginia and now resides in Washington, DC. She graduated from Tisch School of Arts at New York University. She majored in Photography and Imaging with a minor in Latin American Studies. She will attend the Elliott School of International Affairs concentrating in Latin American and Hemispheric Studies.



Grant Holyoak was born in California and now resides in Utah. He graduated from Utah State University with a BA in Sociology and a BA in Economics. He will attend the Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration.

Humor

One day in the army I was assigned KP duty. I reported to the Mess Hall and was told by the sergeant in charge that he wanted me to make 100 gallons of soup for tonight's dinner. I told him I didn't know how to make soup. He quickly handed me a book and told me to follow the directions carefully. Soon after I had a large kettle of soup simmering. The sergeant came up and tasted the soup. He took a second spoonful and stood there staring at me. I thought I had really messed up the soup and was waiting for a reprimand. Instead the sergeant said, This tastes really good... are you sure you followed the recipe?

A man opens an outdoor stand to sell bagels and puts up a sign, 50 cents each. A jogger runs past and puts 50 cents into the bucket but doesn't take a bagel. The next day, he does the same thing. For weeks and then months, this goes on. One day, as he's jogging past, the owner joins him. The jogger laughs and says, I know why you're here. You want to know why I always put money in the bucket and never take a bagel? No, says the owner, not that. I just want to tell you that the bagels have gone up to 60 cents.

I was trying to decide what to do for a talent show I planned to enter. Trusting my mother to help me out, I asked, for the talent show, what do you think I should do, sing or put on a comedy act? Glancing up from her paper, she said dryly, What's the difference?

Little Pete came home from the playground with a bloody nose, black eye, and torn clothing. It was obvious he'd been in a bad fight and lost. While his father was patching him up, he asked his son what happened. Well, Dad, said Pete, I challenged Larry to a duel. And, you know, I gave him his choice of weapons. Uh-huh, said the father that seems fair. I know, but I never thought he'd choose his sister!

My husband was driving home from work when he was pulled over for not wearing his

seat belt. Two days later – same ticket, same cop. So, the officer said, have you learned anything? Yes, I have, said my husband. I've learned I need to take a different way home from work.

A wife got so mad at her husband she packed his bags and told him to get out. As he walked to the door she yelled, I hope you die a long, slow, painful death. He turned around and said, So, you want me to stay?

A traffic Policeman recently stopped a woman for exceeding the posted speed limit. He asked the driver her name. She said, I'm Mrs. Ladislav Abdulhashim Zybkcicraznovskaya from the Republic of Uzbekistan. The cop put away his summons book and pen, and said, Well... OK... but don't let me catch you speeding again.

An American tourist was visiting a small village in Newfoundland. He approached a local person and asked, What's the quickest way to Marystown? The local, scratched his head, Are ya walkin' er drivin'? he asked the stranger. I'm driving, said the stranger. Well, that's the quickest way.

A father texts his son: My Dear Son, Today is a day you will treasure for all the days of your life. My best love and good wishes. Your Father. His Son texts back: Thanks Dad. But the wedding isn't actually until tomorrow! His Father replies: I know.

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