

CONGRATULATIONS To The New HTI Officers for 2016-17



GREETINGS!

August 2016 Issue

# *High Twelve International Monthly Update*

**Monthly Update** is published monthly by High Twelve International, Inc. at 743 Palma Drive, Lady Lake, FL, 32159. 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.

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(1955)

With Deepest Sympathy  
**Reverend Jon Silver Feather, PM, PSP**  
 International Chaplain  
 March 26, 1938 ~ July 27, 2016

Born Bliss J. NeHalsingh in Boston MA, Jon and his wife Mari-An changed their names when an uncle found out that their native name was Feather. Jon was

predeceased by his wife Mari-An Gray Feather on October 5, 2012 and a son Michael. He is survived by his children Jay Red Feather, Robin Brokraw, Claudia Sparrow, Michelle Emerald Feather and several grandchildren.

A Masonic Service will be held Saturday, August 27, 2016 at the Grants Pass Masonic Lodge #84 A.F. & A.M. at 4:00 PM, 320 NW E Street, Grants Pass, OR 97526. Jon was a Past Master and lodge organist.

Jon had been International Chaplain for the past eight years and was recently reinstated at the 95th Annual Convention in San Diego. Jon was also a Past State President of the California Association in 2006-2007.

Cards of condolence can be sent to:

Robin Brokraw  
1925 Keldan Ln  
Grants Pass OR 97527

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**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 Dr. Ronald W. Woods, PSP (IN):** Brethren all, let us give a prayer for our deceased brother and International High Twelve Chaplain Jon Silver Feather and his family. Chaplain Silver Feather served International High Twelve for many years and had agreed to serve one more year for us. His loss will be felt by all who knew him.

Now that the first month is over we are working on rearranging the Vice Presidents local states for them to visit and support. Also we are working on the location of cities in the State of Kentucky to visit and work to develop High Twelve Clubs.

It is hoped that the DVD we have being prepared will be ready soon, so it can be used. Such a current program as the one in Kentucky will require multiple visits to the locations we have chosen and encouraging that one or two persons there that what they can do will be very rewarding in putting together a High Twelve Club. It is my plan also to visit many of the State High Twelve Associations for their annual meetings. To date I will be at Illinois in August, and Indiana in September and Florida in December. Other States will be contacted we as determine their annual meeting dates.

We are presently working to arrange for the Mid-Year Meeting. However the cost factor at the present location we have selected will cause us to look at another location. We will notify everyone as soon as a location is confirmed. Fraternaly, Dr. Ronald W. Woods

**International 1st Vice President William Haynes, PSP (PA):** Special Projects - Most successful fraternal organizations have a special project that the members work on. This has several benefits: it builds a sense of comradeship, the members get to know one another better; something benefits (charity, park, city, etc.) and the organization has another purpose for its existence.

These projects do not have to be magnificent such as the Hoover Dam but can be meaningful and small. The Pennsylvania Associations of High Twelve Clubs annually cleans up the area surrounding the statue of George Washington, kneeling in prayer and the surrounding walkway at Freedom Foundation in Valley Forge

National Park. Annual flowers are planted around the statue and beside the walkway. This event is preceded by coffee and doughnuts at the dining facility in the MacArthur building and followed by a luncheon there also with a short program. It is a delightful experience and the ladies, really enjoy themselves and are great helpers. Total time is about four hours plus travel time. Think about what your club can do, plan the project and then work on it.

**International 2nd Vice President Joseph Santisteban, PSP (IL):** First off, I want to thank all of you who voted for me during our recent convention. I will do my best to live up to your expectations and continue to support High Twelve as I have in the past. It's hard to believe that 12 months have passed since both this convention and our state convention. The old adage of 'time flies when you're having fun' is true.

Our Illinois State Convention will probably be a fond memory by the time some of you read this article. Let me take a few minutes to cover some highlights during my 'reign of terror'. I visited all our Illinois clubs and also had the opportunity to give High Twelve presentations to a number of our Masonic bodies, all which were well received. I had a chance to attend an event entitled, Two Grand Masters. This was in honor of our Grand Master and the Prince Hall Grand Master. I got to speak with both these fine gentlemen about High Twelve. Not only was this a unique experience; it was the first of its kind held in Illinois! As a result, there is a good possibility that the next club started in Illinois will include Prince Hall Masons.

I attended the High Twelve International Convention in San Diego, CA, and, although the election results were different from what I had expected prior to my arrival, the entire event was enjoyable, interesting and enlightening. I am looking forward to working with our new International President, Dr. Ronald Woods, and the rest of my fellow officers. I decided to take a break after our convention and visited with my family in Arizona.

I arrived in Tucson the afternoon of Father's Day and enjoyed dinner with the kids. I also got to spend the 4th of July there. Can't think of a better way to end a convention and start a vacation. It was a 'balmy' 105 degrees when I left Tucson and was 'strongly encouraged' to leave the hot weather in Arizona, which I did!

I had a chance to participate in my first High Twelve International Conference Call. This was a good venue to finish up some last-minute details and start working on the coming year's game plan. So far, my 'tour of duty' in High Twelve has been interesting, and fun. I will keep doing my best to promote High Twelve, and earn my pay! As one of my cartoon heroes used to say: That's all folks... for now. Until next time, stay safe, have fun and keep taking care of our Brothers, their families and our beloved Fraternity. Respectfully and Fraternaly, Joe Santisteban!

**International Secretary Kevin Hokerk-Robinson, PSP (AZ):** It was nice to see so many familiar faces at the 95th Convention and some new ones! As usual it was a busy time for me but this year I was told by the International President that I was NOT to work on Thursday but to go on the guided tour which Mychaeltodd and I did. Usually I am getting the report packet copied, registration bags made, meal cards done, etc. etc. while the tour goes on. Although I have been to San Diego many times (USNR & dog shows) the tour was informative as lots has changed over the years. The group luncheon was excellent with plenty to talk about. I did my usual work on the day before and when done Mychaeltodd, Don Whistler, Winton Hewitt and myself went over to the USS Mid-Way and did the walking tour. I would highly recommend it to anyone - a lot of history there!

Now for some convention highlights:

- A video of the convention has been posted to the HTI Home Page - it shows the people, places toured, meetings, speakers and can be viewed [HERE](#) as an overview of the four days
- The Executive Board had previously authorized a new promotional video to be produced using the Ernest Borgnine introduction from 1987 and new material and will be posted to the HTI Home Page and

in the Everyone Tab: Membership Expansion when the Executive Board approves the video hopefully on 8/8

- A number of concerns the membership has had with the Wolcott Foundation were addressed (check clearing, bylaws, financial reporting and zone elections) by their General Counsel, Matthew Dupee, Esq. It was acknowledged that they have to do better in the basic operation and communication to the membership and assurances were given that things will improve substantially.
- The international bylaws were amended to add the words "or affiliates" to clubs. This has the potential to allow expansion to those grand lodge jurisdictions that don't allow "Masonic Clubs."
- Elections - the positions of 2nd and 3rd vice-presidents both had multiple candidates running
  - Joseph Santisteban, PSP IL, was elected 2nd Vice-President
  - Jonathan Dilley, President CA, was elected 3rd Vice-President
  - Michael Hemphill, President FL, was elected 3 year Endowment Fund Trustee
- Installation
  - An attitude adjustment hour was held
  - Jon Silver Feather with the aid of his granddaughters put on his magic show. This will certainly be remembered by all in attendance. I did not know Jon had this ability and he strongly asked permission from Jerry to be the entertainment.
  - The officer's were duly and truly installed by Mervyn J. Harris, PIP as in years past
  - The out going International President, Jerry Saville, was presented his PIP Jewel, GOLDEN life time membership card and plaque for is year of service. Oh yes, he did remember to bring the charger for his flip phone or as he calls it "his flipper!"
  - The incoming International President, Dr. Ronald Woods, Sr. was presented his collar, gavel/sounding block and addressed the gathering
  - You can view the officer line up [HERE](#)
- Overall, the convention was very successful and we thank Jerry for securing the site and making the arrangements.
- Mid-Year is not set yet but will be posted in the Events when more is known.

**Wolcott Foundation Zone 5 Trustee Michael Clark, PSP (MI):** Distinguished West Michigan Woman speaker at Furniture City High 12 #236



In the 70's it was not unusual for a female high school student to be a class and school leader. Unfortunately, success later in life on a high scale was often not available to women, even those with outstanding credentials.

Ms. Kimberly Ridings, a former high school student of Furniture City High Twelve Past President and Michigan State President Michael Clark accepted his invitation to be a speaker at a recent High Twelve luncheon.

Kim has excelled in the business world with degrees in construction management, architectural drafting and a Master's Degree in Management.

Kim along with her husband Jeff, manage over 500,000 square feet of office space in Greater Grand Rapids and she is a strong advocate of bringing women into the construction industry in non-traditional roles.

Kim is the immediate Past President of the Mary Free Bed Hospital Guild, a prestigious position with one of the largest rehabilitation hospitals in the country. Kim oversaw a recent large expansion of the Mary Free Bed facilities in downtown Grand Rapids, just two blocks from the Grand Rapids Masonic Temple.

Kim's presentation centered on the recent expansion and the wide variety of services provided by The Mary Free Bed Hospital to the citizens of West Michigan, where she now serves as a member of the Hospital Board

of Trustees.

Kim was recently named a YWCA Woman of Achievement and was named one of the fifty, 2016 West Michigan Women of Achievement.

Kim also serves as a trustee on the board of the Wade Sackner Foundation, a foundation funded by a trust left by Brother Wade Sackner of Grand Rapids Masonic Lodge No. 34. The foundation annually distributes over \$300,000.00 in funds to help local charities, which were close to Brother Sackner, including the Red Cross, YMCA, Heart of West Michigan, Mary Free Bed Hospital and the Saladin Shrine.

**Senior Wolcott Fellow Tom Wallis (2014):** My name is Tom Wallace. I'm originally from Michigan (Go Blue), and received the Wolcott Fellowship to attend the Elliott School of International Affairs in 2012-2014, where I received an MA in Security Studies. Since graduation I've worked at the Institute for Defense Analyses, a federally funded research and development center (FFRDC) that assists the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Staff, the Combatant Commands, and Defense Agencies in addressing important national security issues, focusing particularly on those requiring scientific and technical expertise.



Wolcott's financial support was a trans-formative event in my life. At the time, although I had applied to graduate school, I knew there was no way I could afford it, and was largely resigned in my head to the idea that perhaps government service wasn't going to happen for me. Learning that I would be able to attend thanks to Wolcott was a truly joyous moment. Since then, I've sought to repay Wolcott's investment in me by excelling academically, contributing professionally to our national security, and remaining active in both the Wolcott and GWU communities to 'pay it forward'. Thanks so much!

**Arizona High Twelve Association:** Several of Arizona's High 12 Clubs are busy during their summer. Several of the Clubs continue meeting during the summer months while several of the Clubs have special activities to continue Club activity but not have regular monthly meetings.

**Sun City West Club No 567** is one of the Club's that has special luncheon gatherings during the summer months. The luncheons include inviting the Ladies and Club Widows and are held at a local country club in a relaxed setting. The Southeastern Valley Club 765 continues to have meetings on the 3rd Saturday of the month with speakers and presentations. The Club members have also been busy in the local community presenting certificates of recognition to those local businesses and groups that appropriately display the US Flag. Patriotism never takes a holiday! In Tucson, the Sahuaro Club No 523 meets every Thursday morning for breakfast and updated information about the various Masonic Lodges and affiliated Masonic groups having activities during the summer. The Old Pueblo Club No 773, also in Tucson, continues meeting twice a month on Thursday mornings for breakfast and fellowship.

**Arizona welcomes** any High Twelve Club members who are visiting the Tucson or Phoenix areas during the year. A reporting on the various Arizona club meeting dates, times, and locations can be found on the High Twelve International Website ([high12.org](http://high12.org)) selecting the Association tab and then selecting Arizona. Many of the clubs include Ladies in their meetings. Arizona High Twelve Clubs offer an opportunity a relaxing environment with warm Masonic fellowship. If you need additional information, contact the State Association President, Dave Miller, at 623.875.2149 or [gdmillerak@msn.com](mailto:gdmillerak@msn.com).

**William E. Wilkinson, Esq., International High Twelve Legal Counsel** receiving an Award from the Grand Master of Arizona:



Photo: The Grand Master of Masons in Arizona, presenting Brother Wilkinson with the Grand Lodge Distinguished Service Medal for service to the Grand Master and the Grand Trustees during 2015-2016 on Saturday, June 4, 2016, at the 134th Grand Lodge Communication in Tucson, Arizona.

**California High Twelve Association, Fresno High Twelve Club:** The Square and Compasses (or, more definitively, a Square and a set of Compasses which are joined together...each leg of the compass pointing in opposite directions) is the single most universally identifiable symbol of Freemasonry. Due to slight Masonic jurisdictional differences around the world, this symbol does not always look exactly the same to all Freemasons. Some jurisdictions call this symbol the Square and Compass, (non-plural) and a few jurisdictions omit the G at its center. But, no matter its slightly different look, all Freemasons are in unison as to what this symbol means to them within the fraternity.

*Speculative Masonic Symbolism of the Square and Compasses:* In speculative Freemasonry, this emblematic symbol is used in Masonic ritual. The Square is an emblem of virtue in which we must square our actions by the square of virtue with all mankind.

The Compasses exemplify our wisdom of conduct... the strength to circumscribe our desires and keep our passions within due bounds.

When these 2 Masonic tools are placed together with God (the Creator) as our central focal point... (Just as King Solomon built God's Temple, first... and then built his house around it), peace and harmony is the result.

The Information below may be found in Mackey's Revised Encyclopedia of Freemasonry, Volume 2, Page 963, 1929. A Short History About the Square and Compasses: THE SQUARE...Morality; THE COMPASS...Boundaries; Trying Square: In the operative stone mason era, the 90 degree angle of the square was a necessary tool used to test the accuracy of the sides of a stone to ascertain that the stone's angles matched the square's true right angle; Morality: In speculative Freemasonry, the square is a symbol of morality.

*Official Masonic Usage:* 1. it is one of the 3 Great Lights (the Square, the Compass and the Holy Book). 2. It is the working tool of a Fellowcraft; 3. It is the official emblem of the Master of the Lodge. In each of its above roles, it inculcates (teaches) the repeated lesson of morality, truthfulness and honesty.

**Oakland High Twelve Club #2:** Our speaker for the month of May was Brother Saleh Sam Khashabi, who presented: Persian History. We thank him for his most informative and indeed, enlightening presentation. Our speaker for the month of June, was Mr. Peter M. Friedman, Lecturer, NRA Training Counselor, Glock Factory Certified Instructor, NRA Pistol, Rifle & Shotgun Instructor and NRA Personal Protection Instructor (CCW), who presented: Where Freedom Flies. Those in attendance enjoyed his most informative message, indeed, relevant and timely presentation.

Oakland High Twelve meets on the 4th Monday of the month at the Scottish Rite Temple, 1547 Lakeside Dr., Oakland, CA, at High Twelve, all Master Masons and their guests are invited to attend. Fraternally, Spence Sargent!

**District of Columbia High Twelve Club #576:** New Life at a High Twelve Meeting: Why do we attend the High Twelve Luncheon Meetings? It is probably because we expect to find good food, great fellowship and an interesting program. I bet you never expect to have new life emerge during your High Twelve Meeting!

My Lady Joy and I attended the High Twelve Club #726, in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, in June. Yep, we expected good food, great fellowship and an interesting program. WELL, the food was spaghetti and meatballs with apple crisp for desert. The spaghetti was cooked to perfection, the sauce was not real spicy, which is good for us of the older generation, and the meat balls were out of this world! Then came the apple crisp with vanilla ice cream WOW, what a hit on a diabetic diet!!

We ate and talked and donated the lunch proceeds and cash jar to the Jobs Daughters (in May we did the same for the local DeMolay Chapter). The speaker for the day was introduced. The speaker was Vaughn Erickson, the proclaimed Guru of Butterflies in Central Pennsylvania. Mr. Erickson has turned his carport on his home into a butterfly sanctuary with plants, flowers, water and habitat conducive to growing butterflies.

He showed us several homemade devices he developed to hang the chrysalis birth housing on paper clips using crazy glue. He also had a screened container to house the butterflies after birth. He had two chrysalis' hanging on this birthing bar and he warned us that a butterfly might hatch during his talk. Would you believe that about 5 minutes before Mr. Erickson completed his talk a Spice Wood Swallow Tail butterfly worked its way out of the chrysalis and spread its wings to dry and walked around his new environment. What an experience to go to a High Twelve meeting and witness new life coming into the meeting room. Maybe we can all think about going to a High Twelve Meeting and get some fresh air into our daily life! Fraternally, Gilbert B. Monck, Member of Clubs 636 and 726, International High Twelvian of the Year 2010.

**Illinois High Twelve Association, Moline Area Masonic High Twelve Club #88:** Have you asked a fellow Master Mason to visit your High Twelve Club? This method is the best way to keep your club going. We'll have 4 meetings in AUGUST. 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. This month's program chair is Buck Wendt and he has a wonderful line-up of speakers who will enlighten and entertain us.

**AUGUST 5:** Denise Maynard, of Genesis Diabetes Care Center in Silvis, will discuss diabetes. **AUGUST 12:** Buck Wendt will be doing the program on the 12th. **AUGUST 19:** Lori Riessen, R.N., Program Director for the Genesis Wound and Hyperbaric Institute, Moline. She will be discussing what they do at The Wound Institute.

**AUGUST 26:** Mr. & Mrs. Buck Wendt will be hosting a picnic at their beautiful home on the banks of the Rock River. As you know there will be no meeting on September 2nd, since that is the start of the Labor Day weekend.

This bulletin will continue the format and the history of the various American Flags from the War of 1812 to the

Civil War. So hang now and let the show begin:

**1795**-The official design is modified and updated to include two more states into the Union: Kentucky and Vermont. The stars pattern has now shifted away from the circle to five staggered rows.



**1814** - Inspired by the majesty of the flag and its visual impact during the War of 1812, Francis Scott Key pens a tune he titles The Star-Spangled Banner. The song's patriotic message earns it national recognition. It is officially adopted in 1931 as the national anthem.

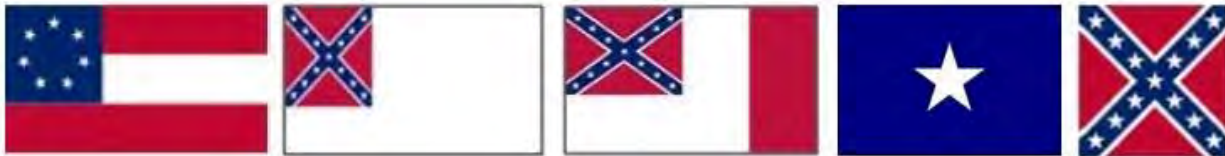
**1818** - The official flag is modified and updated to showcase five additional stars on the blue field in honor of Tennessee, Ohio, Louisiana, Mississippi and Indiana receiving state status. The stars are now arranged in four rows of five across.

**1819** - The flag is updated at the end of the year when Illinois is added into the Union. The 21 stars are now arranged with one row of four with one row of five on top and two rows of five below.



**1820** - Two more stars are added with the inclusion of Alabama and Maine. The 23 stars are now arranged with one row of five with one row of six on top and two rows of six below.

**1822-1867** - Fourteen more stars are added to the flag with the inclusion of Missouri, Arkansas, Michigan, Florida, Texas, Iowa, Wisconsin, California, Minnesota, Oregon, Kansas, West Virginia, Nevada and Nebraska. There are now thirty seven stars on the American Flag.



**1861-1865** - The rival of the Stars and Stripes, the official flag of the Confederate States of America, is created. This flag goes through three major iterations before the South falls to General Grant in 1865, including the Stars and Bars, which played off of Ross's original design, The Stainless Banner, which featured the Confederate battle symbol (the blue starred X pattern on the red background) in the upper left corner of a white field, and The Blood Stained Banner, which added a red bar onto the right side of the second iteration. There was also a popular though unofficial Bonnie Blue Flag that featured a deep blue field with one large white star on it. In popular memory, the Confederate Battle Flag is remembered as the flag of the confederacy, even though it was never officially considered that.

**Northwest High Twelve Club No. 769:** The meeting started on time at the Red Apple Restaurant, 2121 S. Plum Grove Road, Palatine. President George Rogers opened our meeting with the pledge of alliance followed by Brother Marvin Selock opening prayer. Illinois State High Twelve officers were well represented at our meeting with President Joe Santisteban, Charles R. Coffey (First Vice President and President elect), Edward Rund, State Secretary were in attendance as pictured with our President





George Rogers. (Photograph). President Joe Santisteban reported on the International Convention and stated how many attendees recognized the Illinois Clubs' participation at State and International level. Brother Joe Santisteban accepted the 2nd International Vice President Role (a first International Illinois officer since 1982.)

Complete attendance was thirteen members and three special guests (Mrs. Cathy Curielli, Mrs. Sandra Chapman, and Mrs. Joan Rogers. Included in attendance was two High Twelve members, Brothers David Abt (Cornerstone) and Mike Rothman (Midwest) who added to our discussion. Don Van Cleave was presented a Masonic ring for his participation in serving a Club brother by Prakash Naik and Mrs. Sandra Chapman present around two hundred pounds of toilet articles for Northwest suburban Journey - The Road Home that serves homeless clients. The toilet articles were collected by Illinois Eastern Star members for the Palatine office.

Brother John Peter Curielli was elected President of Northwest High Twelve Club No. 769, effective August 1st, 2016 and he will be supported by Brother David Truax, First Vice-President, Brother Joe Pegoraro, Second Vice President, Brother John Chapman, Third Vice President, and Don Van Cleave, Secretary/Treasurer. President elect John Peter Curielli will announce appointed officers in August. Illinois State First Vice President, Charles Coffey, George Rogers, and newly elected Club 769 President, John Peter Curielli is shown in photograph.

Brother David Truax accepted the assignment of developing a 2016-17 budget after it was determined that funds were not available to contribute \$250 for the youth organizations and contribute \$100 to Illinois Masonic Charity Fund. The budget discussion centered on the Wolcott Foundation amount (State recommendation is a two-dollar donation per members at stated meeting) versus a portion of membership dues of twenty-four dollars (\$15 committed to High Twelve Dues with \$9.00 available for other expenses -speaker meals, etc. and to the Wolcott Foundation; and four Youth Organizations.)

Our Club will visit Frank S. Land Chapter (DeMolay) at Barrington Lodge #522 (located at: 312 South Cook St., Barrington) on August 16th at 7:00 pm. The DeMolay Chapter Officers will put on the DeMolay Degree for the High Twelve Club Members.

**Our State Convention will begin on August 12th in Mattoon, IL**, with a full day planned for August 13th. Your hotel reservations and registration should be completed by August 1st. An email was sent to each member of meeting agenda and registration form.

Dear High Twelve Brethren: It does not seem like it is time for our **Illinois Masonic High 12 Annual Meeting** in Mattoon, but it is. Attached please find the registration form. All registrations should be submitted with payment by August 1, 2016, and hotel reservations need to be made by July 29, 2016 to secure our rate of \$94 plus tax. The hospitality room will be open from 3:00 PM until time for the Friday evening get together.

The evening get together on Friday evening August 12, 2016 will begin at 5:30 PM at Stadium Grill ([www.mattoonstadiumgrill.com](http://www.mattoonstadiumgrill.com)), 102 Dettro Dr., Mattoon. The hospitality room will be open again after dinner until approximately 10:30 PM.

Registration for the Illinois Masonic High Twelve Annual Meeting will begin at 8:00 AM on Saturday August 13, 2016, at the Mattoon Masonic Temple, 116 N. 1st Street, Mattoon, IL, with coffee and donuts available.

The memorial service will begin approximately 9:00 AM, with formal opening to follow. The Ladies program will start approximately 9:30 AM or after the memorial service and return around 3:00 PM.

Men's lunch will be served approximately Noon. The formal meeting should be adjourning approximately 3:00 PM. The hospitality room will be open approximately 3:00 PM until time for the banquet approximately 6:00 PM, which is to be held at the Mattoon Masonic Temple.

After the banquet, awards and installation of newly elected State Officers the convention will close for the year. The hospitality room will be open until approximately 10:30 PM. We look forward to having you join us in Mattoon.

If you have any questions or problems please feel free to contact me. Home (217) 235-1388, Cell (217) 273-7010, email coffev46(5)consolidated.net

In High Twelve Friendship, Charles Coffey, 1st Vice President, Illinois Masonic High 12 Clubs

**REGISTRATION FORM 2016 ILLINOIS MASONIC HIGH 12 ANNUAL MEETING  
AUGUST 12 & 13, 2016  
MATTOON, ILLINOIS 61938**

Our headquarters hotel for the Annual Meeting on August 12 & 13, 2016 In Mattoon will be the Hampton Inn, 1416 Broadway Avenue East, Mattoon, IL 61938. Phone 217-234-4267. Room Rate Is \$94 per night plus tax. Please call the hotel directly and ask for the block of rooms under Masonic High 12. We currently have a block of 20 rooms but can add If needed. Any rooms not reserved by July 29, 2016 will be released for general sale.

All meetings and the banquet will be held at the Mattoon Masonic Lodge, 116 N. 1st, Mattoon, IL 61938.

A ladies program will be held on Saturday August 13, 2016 starting approximately 9:30 AM or Immediately following the Memorial Service.

Please fill out the Registration Form and send It to: Mattoon High 12 Club #89, % Charles Coffey, 3185 E. Co. Road 360 N., Mattoon, IL 61938 NO LATER THAN AUGUST 1, 2016. All checks should be made payable to Mattoon High 12 Club #89. Please feel free to copy this registration form and provide it to anyone who wishes to attend.

Registration form and other information can be found [HERE](#)

**Pennsylvania High Twelve Association, First Capital High Twelve Club #668:** The election of officers for the 2016/2017 year took place at the May meeting. First we would like to thank President Gordon Skip Heath for his service to our club this past year.

Our officer's for 2016/2017 are President Roger Stabley, first VP James Wilson, second VP Earl Shaffer Jr., Secretary/Newsletter Editor Carl Belcher and Treasure Richard Graybill.

The High Twelvian's of the year for 2015/2016 were awarded to past president Lonny Neiman Sr. and Secretary Carl Belcher. We thank them both for their dedication and service to First Capital #668.

York Forest No. 30 Muscular Dystrophy Golf Tournament Monday, August 1, at Honey Run Golf Course.

Autumn Day at the Masonic Village at E-town September 24, 2016, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, 42nd Masonic District Picnic Sunday August 14th 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM John Rudy Park,

**Mervyn J. Harris, PIP (FL):** Brethren, we are ready to start another High Twelve Year and will be seeing our Northern Friends for those of us living in the South. Also, the clubs in the North will be welcoming back their members and officers from vacations around this great country.

In Florida we have very few clubs meeting year round and our own club experienced for the first time in our history, the problem of not meeting our minimum number of members at the meeting to meet our minimum

meal count of thirty people. We will probably only have 26 in attendance, which means we will have to pay for the thirty meals. It really hurts the pocket book when we have to pay for thirty but only have twenty-six in attendance.

We hope your club does not have the same problem and your members attend regularly. Another problem with our club and clubs generally is that membership is down, so when it is slow, we must take special actions to ensure we have enough people for a good meeting and if we have speakers or entertainment, there are enough people to enjoy the meeting.

This brings me to a subject that affects our clubs; Associations; and International. We all need more members! The lack of members effects finding officers to manage the club; and to find locations for our meetings. It also affects the income to pay Per Capita, both State and International and to make donations to Wolcott and the Masonic Youth Groups.

I would encourage each and every one of you to invite your Masonic friends to your meeting and let them see how enjoyable it is to have great conversation, good food and meet some of the greatest people in town.

It is up to you, not someone else, to make people aware of Masonry and High Twelve. If you are proud of your club, introduce them to the other members and treat them as guests and family, you may have a new member in your club.

For those of you, who play golf, you are in the prime area for meeting Masons, Shriners and O.E.S. members. You can identify them by looking at their hands for Masonic jewelry or Lapel Pins. When you find either, you have found your future member.

We had a member a few years back that enjoyed playing golf and went to the Golf course on his own just to fill in a foursome or as a partner. In about a year, he had brought in over thirty new members.

We also know that your Lady can probably bring in more members than you because when a woman likes something and mentions it, others listen because they believe her and know she is telling the truth. Sometimes, when a man attempts to do the same thing, people think they are trying to push you into something.

I was able to bring in several new people the last few months with my wife's assistance. She loves High Twelve and when we meet someone new, she brings up the topic by saying, Have you ever heard of High Twelve? And then will tell what she likes about it and then says, Merv, Why don't you tell them more! Works great and we have found new friends and members.

The existence of High Twelve is in your hands! Not just the International President or his officers! When you go to church or out to dinner and see someone with Masonic jewelry, start up a conversation and concentrate on talking about High Twelve. It will start a conversion and you are on your way to meeting that new friend and member.

Finally, we need you to let us know what you are doing at your club meetings and ceremonies. What you have or are doing can help other clubs to follow you example and they can get on the band wagon for bringing in new members. When you send your articles, add a photo or two and we can really let others know how to make High Twelve a great organization to belong too and will can increase membership instead of closing clubs or merging with another club to stay in existence.

Remember! It is up to you to bring in new members and even start new clubs. If our International President can start two new clubs and have two more forming up and also working on starting more clubs, why can't you follow his example?

**Humor:** A middle-aged frumpy couple return to a Mercedes dealership where the salesman has just sold the car they were interested in to a beautiful, leggy, busty blonde. I thought you said you would hold that car till we raised the \$75,000 asking price, said the man. Yet, I just heard you close the deal for \$65,000 to the lovely young lady there. You insisted there could be no discount on this model. Well, what can I tell you? She had the ready cash and, just look at her. How could I resist? replied the grinning salesman. Just then the young woman approached the middle-aged couple and gave them the keys. There you go, she said. I told you I could get the jerk to reduce it. See you later, Dad.

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Shirley and Abe, a retired couple from New York City, living in the Villages, are getting ready to go out to dinner. Shirley says, Abe, darling, do you want me to wear this Chanel suit or the Gucci? Abe says, I don't care. A few minutes later Shirley says, Abe, should I wear my Cartier watch or my Rolex? Abe says, Your choice. A few more minutes pass and Shirley says, Abe, love, shall I wear my five-carat pearl diamond ring or my six-carat round diamond ring with the baguettes? Abe says, Shirley, I really don't care what you wear, but if you don't get moving, we're going to miss the Early Bird Special.

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The IRS has returned the Tax Return to a man in MICHIGAN, after he apparently answered one of the questions incorrectly. In response to the question, Do you have anyone dependent on you? The man wrote: 9.5 million illegal immigrants, 1.1 million crackheads, 3.4 million unemployable scroungers, 80,000 criminals in over 85 prisons plus 650 idiots in Washington and the entire group that call themselves, Politicians. IRS stated that the response he gave was unacceptable. The man's response back was, Who did I leave out?

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Calvin sees Elmer and asks, What's up? Elmer says, First I got tonsillitis, followed by appendicitis and pneumonia. After that I got erysipelas with hemochromatosis. Following that I got poliomyelitis and finally ended up with neuritis. Then they gave me hypodermics and inoculations. Boy, you had quite a time. I'll say! I thought I'd never pull through that spelling test.

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The economy is terrible. At the beginning of the year, the politicians promised things would improve by the last quarter...Well, I'm down to my last quarter and they haven't improved!

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A young woman wasn't feeling well and asked one her co-workers to recommend a physician. I know a great one in the city, but he is very expensive. Five hundred dollars for the first visit, and one hundred dollars for each one after that. The woman went to the doctor's office and, trying to save a little money, cheerily announced. I'm back! Not fooled for a second, the doctor quickly examined her and said, Very good, just continue the treatment I prescribed on your last visit.

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Hey, cabby! How much to take me to the station? Five bucks, sir. And how much for my suitcase? No charge for the suitcase, sir. Okay. Take the suitcase and I'll walk.

Fraternally,  
Mervyn J. Harris, PIP, Editor

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