

## HTI Update December 15, 2023

High Twelve International, Inc. <HTI@wildapricot.org>

Fri 2023-12-15 7:00 PM

To:Treasurer <treasurer@high12.org>

### High Twelve International News & Information

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# High Twelve International December Up-Date

December 15, 2023

## HIGH TWELVE IS FAMILY FELLOWSHIP FUTURE

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### International President - Rick Santella

#### FELLOW HIGH TWELVIANS

The human body has a lot of moving parts that provide the lifeline and lifeblood of a working individual. The healthier the moving parts are, determines the longevity and viability of the individual.

No difference to the viability and longevity of High Twelve International. You, the Officers, and Members, are our lifeblood! Each member contributes, each member brings life to our existing Clubs and Associations, and each member helps make the High Twelve “body” grow.

I ask each of you to keep this in mind as you attend your Club activities and meetings. Keep inviting other Master Masons and their loved ones to experience for themselves what High Twelve represents, who we sponsor and how we enjoy “being” with our Brothers.

Many of our Clubs will be electing and installing new Officers this month and, in the months, to follow. Support them, keep them busy, give them ideas on how we maintain growth and viability, and most importantly, hold them accountable and ask them to raise the bar for others to follow. The more we expect from ourselves and our Officers, the easier it becomes to see what lies ahead for our future.

I know most Masonic Bodies are experience hardships with memberships, but High Twelve offers what many other Masonic Bodies do not....

**FAMILY** – the ability to invite your loved ones to attend and share the day with others.

**FELLOWSHIP** – the ability to “BE” with others and concentrate more on our brotherhood, sharing of ideas, and love of Fraternity in any venue and time of your choice.

**FUTURE** – The sponsorship of the Wolcott Foundation and our Youth Groups – two very viable entities that pave the way for them, our future leaders!

Wishing all a very blessed and inspiring Holiday Season! Stay safe in your travels, be thankful for the relationships you have built, hug your loved ones and Thank God for being a member of what I truly believe is an uplifting and inspiring Masonic Body- High Twelve International!

God Bless!

Rick Santella, President  
High Twelve International

## **FAMILY FELLOWSHIP FUTURE!**

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### **Darrin Pitts, 2nd HTI Vice President**

High Twelvians I would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve your High Twelve International. The first 6 months have flown by and have been very exciting under the direction of our President. We are trying to reach out to all the associations and get feedback on what we can do to support your High Twelve in the various states. I am truly excited about the upcoming year our President has put together an exciting mid year in New Orleans and I hope I get to see a lot of you there. As the holidays draw near I hope each and everyone of you are going to spend the holidays with the people you hold dear. Happy Holidays! See you in January!

Fraternally,  
Darrin Pitts

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### **Jared R. Kichline, 3rd HTI Vice President**

As we enjoy this Holiday Season, I hope that you take some time to enjoy the fellowship of your local High Twelve Club. The joy of a social hour among friends and Masonic Brothers is the greatest benefit of belonging to our organization. Also, as we take the time to visit with friends, and loved ones to catch up on the time that passed since our last visit, mentioning to them about the great times you have at your High Twelve Club, or the great work that you support through the Wolcott Foundation is sure to interest them. If you have not been to a High Twelve Club meeting in a while, that is not a problem. What a great New Year's resolution it would be to decide to get active in your local club in 2024.

I look forward to seeing the great things that High Twelve International will do in 2024.

Respectfully,  
Jared R. Kichline

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**International Secretary, Thomas Brotherton, III**

Happy Holiday's to you and your family,

With the end of the year quickly approaching, I hope I will see a lot of you at our Midyear meeting in New Orleans. We will be doing a zoom viewing. We will not be able to take questions or comments as like our Convention, it is extremely hard for me to monitor the chat as well as all the other duties that I have to perform at our meetings. But it does give all our members a chance to view our proceedings.

Also with the end of the year fast approaching, some Clubs will be or have already installed their new officers. I hope that you have honored your Club President, if he will not be doing another term. Also Club Presidents, remember you can honor and thank that Brother who has done a lot for your Club, or that Brother who has brought in a few members this past year by awarding them the 3 Star Award. Also while ordering this forms, (at no cost) make sure you order your Clubs Dues Cards, maybe the free Birthday, Get Well, and Sympathy cards (take a look at our merchandise page). Remember also your Club can honor the incoming Masters or other leaders of Appendant bodies by ordering the FREE F-248 or F-249 Certificates for those leaders to be recognized. Maybe use that time acknowledging them to make them and Honorary Member (only good for 1 calendar year) to come and see how your High Twelve Club is.

I would like to thank each and every one of you for supporting your Clubs and being a part of High Twelve. May you and your family and friends have a Happy and Safe Holiday.

I leave you with a toast for the New Year: Here is to Family, Fellowship and to the Future of High Twelve and this Great Masonic Fraternity.

Fraternally,  
Tom Brotherton

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**Kevin L. Hokerk-Robinson, HTI Treasurer**

I hope you will enjoy this issue - it is a long one this month! So, thank you to everyone who submitted an article. You are what makes this eNewsletter possible each month!

Also, all members should have received the hard copy in the mail of the *High Twelvian Magazine* - if you did not receive one or want additional copies let me know at [high12ian-editor@high12.org](mailto:high12ian-editor@high12.org)

Earlier this month the annual EIN and Club Information verification was mailed to the EIN Contacts on file. Please take 5 minutes to validate and return in the provided envelope, sooner than later please!

Kevin - and eNewsletter & High Twelvian Magazine Editors

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**Wolcott Foundation at George Washington University**

Endowment continues a 70-year tradition that has opened doors for more than 500 GW students.

December 6, 2023

Authored by:

Rahim Jessani



Provost Christopher Bracey (l), President Ellen M. Granberg and Wolcott Foundation Chair Michael Clark. (William Atkins/GW Today)

To realize her dream of working in international trade policy, Tiffany Smith, M.A. '91, knew she needed a graduate degree. But attending GW's Elliott School of International Affairs in the nation's capital seemed out of reach for the Texan.

Smith's career path opened up when she received the [Wolcott Foundation Fellowship](#), which helped with her tuition and gave her the financial stability to pursue unpaid internships during her studies.

"I never would have made it to D.C. for graduate school without the Wolcott Foundation Fellowship," said Smith, now the National Trade Council's vice

president of global trade policy. "Everything that I have achieved in my career in trade policy is directly a result of being selected as a Wolcott Fellow and attending GW."

Since 1953, more than 500 GW students like Smith have benefited directly from the foundation's annual funding of the Wolcott Foundation Fellowship program. Now, thanks to a \$4 million gift to GW's endowment from the Wolcott Foundation, more students like Smith can pursue careers in public service for generations to come. This gift also transitions the fellowship's administration to GW—a meaningful tribute to the enduring seven-decade relationship between the Wolcott Foundation and GW.

The Wolcott Foundation's investment in these students stems from its



The Wolcott Foundation's investment in these students stems from its mission of using education as the driving force to create a "moral compass in government," an ode to its Masonic origins. According to Michael Clark, chair of the Wolcott Foundation, GW is the ideal university that unites education and public service because of its location in the nation's capital and its revered founder, George Washington, who was a Mason.

"I believe in GW, and I am thrilled that the positive impact we have on students now will last forever because of the tremendous work of GW," said Clark. The Wolcott Foundation is a non-profit supported by High Twelve International, an organization of Master Masons dedicated to the welfare of humankind and civic affairs.

The fellowships provide critical support for students seeking to learn from GW's internationally recognized faculty, participate in impactful research and service, and take advantage of the mentoring and career development opportunities that prepare them to serve the public interest and influence public policy, GW President Ellen M. Granberg noted.

"Students seeking public service careers have a passion for changing the world, and GW is one of the best institutions in the world when it comes to cultivating the next generation of leaders in this sector," Granberg said. "We are immensely grateful for the Wolcott Foundation's longstanding support of talented students and value their trust in our ability to continue their legacy."

Donna Arbide, GW's vice president for development and alumni relations, explained that alumni from this cohort have gone on to serve in important capacities in the federal government, international business and represent the U.S. in foreign relations, such as former American ambassador to Honduras, Charles Ford, M.A. '75.

"It's impossible to understate the positive impact of the Wolcott Fellows on individuals, society and frankly, on our democracy," Arbide said. "At GW, we change the world one life at a time, and the Wolcott Foundation has helped

hundreds of students go on to make a real difference. It's an amazing illustration of the power of philanthropy in action."



President Granberg (c) with current Wolcott Foundation fellows and trustees of the Wolcott Foundation. (William Atkins/GW Today)

The Wolcott Foundation funds fellowships of up to \$30,000 for graduate students in GW's School of Business (GWSB), the Elliott School of International Affairs (ESIA) or the Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration (TSPPA). Award criteria are outstanding academic, civic and social credentials and a commitment to civic service.

"Thanks to my Wolcott Fellowship, I achieved my aspirations to devote my life as a public servant and a catalyst for international goodwill," said G. Lincoln McCurdy, M.A.'75, who has received multiple international awards for his work in building U.S.-Turkey commercial relations and people-to-people diplomacy. "The Wolcott Foundation not only provided me with the financial means to study at GW, but members of the foundation took an interest in the fellows and provided a supportive social network."

During their degree programs, Wolcott Fellows benefit from strong mentoring and networking opportunities provided by the foundation. After graduation, the foundation's robust support of its award recipients helps Wolcott Fellows build community and achieve their career aspirations.

"Getting to know the other Wolcott Fellows and Wolcott alumni network—including leaders in government and those dedicated to public service—was a springboard for my own career," said David Okun, M.A. '16, a State Department country officer working to deter and resolve international child abductions.

Former fellow Alivia P. Roberts, M.P.A. '20, believes the foundation's holistic approach to the student experience transforms the pathway for public servants to succeed.

"The Wolcott Foundation should be proud of their work as it changes the trajectory of public servants," said Roberts, director of federal government affairs at the Motion Picture Association. "Being a Wolcott Fellow gave me an advantage when entering the workforce and in my life. I am so grateful for the foundation's commitment in helping students like me become better versions of themselves, build relationships with like-minded scholars, and serve their communities."

Interested students can find more information, including the fellowship application, [online](#). The deadline for applications is Jan. 15, 2024.

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*To open doors of opportunity for talented graduate students in business, international affairs and the Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration committed to careers in public service, please consider a contribution to the [Wolcott Foundation Fellowship Fund](#).*

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High Twelve International, Inc. 2024 Governing Board Mid-Year Conference

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# SAVE THE DATE!



## January 12 & 13 2024

Mark your calendars for

## High Twelve International 2024 Mid Year Governing Board Conference

### Aloft New Orleans Downtown

New Orleans, Louisiana

Join us in New Orleans "Laissez les bon temps rouler" Let the Good Times Roll  
Be a part of **HISTORY NEW** High Twelve video for the website.....be a part of  
it **World Renowned Speakers & Authors** Bro. Robert L.D. Cooper Bro.  
Roberto M. Sanchez **World Famous Restaurants** Arnaud's French 75 Café du  
Monde Brennan's **3rd most popular Destination for tourism 2023 FAMILY**  
meet Masons from across the United States **FELLOWSHIP** share stories, ideas,  
experiences and learn **FUTURE** help shape the future success of High Twelve  
International SEE YOU THERE



## See You in New Orleans!

RESERVE NOW before it's too late Go to High  
Twelve International Web Site look for  
UPCOMING EVENTS





You received this email because you are affiliated with or attending 2024 Mid Year Governing Board Conference. High Twelve International

## Don't forget our fundraiser with [Rada Cultery!](#)

We receive 40% of each order made.

Follow this [LINK](#) for the offer



## Current RADA Catalog Prices Valid Thru 7/31-24

Click [HERE](#) to view!  
From the HTI Home Page

Belleville High Twelve Club #35 - IL

Save the date 6/30/24 for a **CELEBRATION!**





### Cornerstone High Twelve Club #786 - DC

Cornerstone Club #786, *High Twelve in Our Nation's Capital*, met on December 6th for our annual election of officers. We were delighted to unanimously elect and install Angel Coy (pictured) as the fifth president of our club. We look forward to President Angel leading us over the ensuing year.

Website: <https://cornerstoneh12.weebly.com/>

Elijah Mills, Secretary

### Sun City West High Twelve Club #567 - AZ

At the meeting of the Sun City West High 12 Club on Friday, 10 November at the Royal Café Restaurant, Bob Meizinger presented information about the US VETS organization. In the photo below, Bob (on the right) is shown with Sun City West High Twelve Club Vice President, Don Winscot.

At the Friday 08 December meeting of the Sun City West High 12 Club, local

officers from the Salvation Army will speak about their activity in the Sun City/Sun City West/Surprise area. The Club will also be voting on 2024 Officers at the December meeting with installation of the officers at the January 2024 meeting.

The Sun City West High 12 Club meets on the second Friday of the month at 8AM at the Royal Café Restaurant, 10793 Grand Avenue (US Route 60) in Sun City. All local Master Masons are welcome to attend, enjoy breakfast, the program for the meeting, and fine fellowship.

The Sun City West High Twelve Club continues to work on including local Masonic Widows in Club

Events. The Club's efforts have assisted local Masonic Lodges in maintaining contact with the Masonic Widows living in the West Valley area.

Membership in the Sun City West High Twelve Club is open to all Master Masons. Masonic Widows are also welcome. For additional information, contact Club President Dave Miller.



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## Buxmont High Twelve Club #787 - PA

At our November meeting on 11/3/23, our guests speaker was Brother Chris Gibson, President of Pennsylvania Association of High Twelve, and Rick Santella, President of High Twelve, International.







## Conejo Valley High Twelve Club #634 - CA

The Club would like to publicly thank Mrs. Sharon Nystrom, wife of Club Chaplain Ron Nystrom, Chaplain of #634 who donated a new microphone to our Club.

Also a shout-out to Carol Ames, wife of our Editor Steve Ames, who has been in rehab and unable to publish the monthly newsletter. Carol has continued the monthly bulletins for 2023. Thanks so much Carol for carrying on Steve's work!

Jerry Michaelson, Secretary/Treasurer





MW Arthur Weiss, Past Grand Master of California was our guest speaker at the November meeting of Conejo Valley High Twelve Club #634 of Thousand Oaks, California. MW Art and First Lady Barbara spoke about their Panama Canal Cruise on Celebrity Cruiseline.



New member Dale Machalleck PM, and his Lady Linda attending the November High 12 meeting. Dale is a tax professional in his business life and CV#634 welcomes Dale and Linda to our club.

## Wolcott Foundation Zone 3 (CO,KA,NB, TX, LA) Trustee Election



### THE WOLCOTT FOUNDATION, INC.

An Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(3) Charitable Organization  
210 S. Broad Street, Lansdale, PA 19446  
P.O. Box 890, Lansdale, PA 19446-0909  
Phone: (215) 368-3121 Fax (215) 368-4094  
Website: [www.wolcottfoundation.com](http://www.wolcottfoundation.com)



#### Wolcott Foundation Trustees

##### Trustee/Chairman

Michael E. Clark  
6815 Sunrise Ct. SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546  
(616) 818-5820  
[mikecofr@comcast.net](mailto:mikecofr@comcast.net)  
Zone 5-Michigan, Ohio, Indiana,  
Florida, Kentucky, Illinois,  
United Kingdom

##### Trustee/Vice Chairman

Stanley Gardner  
1629 Garwood Drive  
Pueblo, CO 81005-2238  
(719) 564-9452  
[gardnercharlene17@yahoo.com](mailto:gardnercharlene17@yahoo.com)  
Zone 3-Colorado, Kansas,  
Nebraska, Texas, Louisiana

##### Trustee/Treasurer

### NOTIFICATION OF WOLCOTT TRUSTEE ELECTION ZONE 3<sup>12/2023</sup>

The Wolcott Board of Trustees announces the end of the five (5) year term for the Zone 3 (Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, Texas, and Louisiana) Wolcott Trustee.

#### Section D – Nominations for Zone Trustees

1. The Secretary shall by January 1 of each year, announce in an approved High Twelve International publication or in a written communication, by letter or email, and posting on the Wolcott Foundation website. The announcement shall include the expiration of a Zone Trustee's term of office and provide the information listed below for application by candidates seeking election to the office of Zone Trustee.
2. Candidates for the office of Zone Trustee for a geographical zone shall be

ROBERT L. MORTON  
1397 Pickwick Lane  
Lansdale, PA 19466  
(215) 368-2133  
[rmorton4@comcast.net](mailto:rmorton4@comcast.net)  
Zone 6-District of Columbia,  
Maine, New Jersey,  
Pennsylvania, Maryland

**Trustee/Secretary**

Dr. William Wilkinson  
8041 N. Northern Ave  
Tucson, AZ 85704  
(520) 981-1200  
[wwilkinsonaz@gmail.com](mailto:wwilkinsonaz@gmail.com)  
Zone 2-Arizona, Hawaii,  
California, Japan, Italy

**Trustee**

Roger Hansen-PIP  
900 East 35<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sioux Falls, SD 57105-5039  
(605) 338-3560  
[Hylegaard2@aol.com](mailto:Hylegaard2@aol.com)  
Zone 4- Iowa, Missouri, South  
Dakota

**Legal Counsel**

Matthew E. DuPee Esq.  
P.O. Box 1266  
Aiken, SC 29802-1266  
(215) 260-7884  
[mddlaw@outlook.com](mailto:mddlaw@outlook.com)

**Foundation Administrator**

Carol DiPietro  
210 S. Broad Street  
P.O. Box 890  
Lansdale, PA 19446-4094  
(215) 368-3121  
[Cdi Pietro306@hotmail.com](mailto:Cdi Pietro306@hotmail.com)

Rev 7/2022

## HTI Update December 15, 2023 - Treasurer - Outlook

nominated in writing by a High Twelve Member within the Zone, to the Secretary of The Foundation, not later than March 1<sup>st</sup> of the year in which the office of Zone Trustee is to be filled. Nominations may be made by letter or electronically.

3. Such nomination(s) must be filed with the Foundation Secretary and must include:
  - a. A written endorsement from the nominee's Constituent Club or a State Association within the Zone for which the nominee is a candidate.
  - b. Nominee's signed agreement to serve in accordance with these Bylaws, if elected. **(Form is available from the Wolcott Secretary)**

If there is more than one qualified candidate, an election for Zone Trustee will be held in Zone 3 between March 15 and May 15, 2024, in accordance with the Wolcott By-Laws.

If you are interested in placing your name in nomination for the position of Wolcott Trustee from Zone 3, please complete all applicable requirements listed above and send them to:

Dr. William Wilkinson, Esq.-Secretary  
The Wolcott Foundation Inc.  
8041 North Northern Avenue  
Tucson, AZ 85704  
[wwilkinsonaz@gmail.com](mailto:wwilkinsonaz@gmail.com)

**All mail must be postmarked no later than March 1, 2024.**

AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE OF YOUR COUNTRY  
Working with and through High Twelve International, Inc.

## Orlando High Twelve Club #435 - FL

Greetings my Brothers and Happy Holiday,

On behalf of our President Larry Williamson, I want to thank everyone for the positive response that we received regarding the Paisley Children Charity Event. Our Treasurer Chet King will be issuing a check in the amount of \$100.00 and forwarding it to Brother Fred Kidwell, who is heading up this project on behalf of the High Twelve Clubs in Florida.

Once again I want to wish everyone an enjoyable and safe Holiday season and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Fraternally,  
Jim Judovits, Secretary

## Cochise Masonic High Twelve Club #703 - FL

Hello, All High Twelvians and Guests. The following summarizes the Hi-12 Club activity this past Sunday, December 3. Keeping to support our motto, "In Service To Freemasonry," your Club Officers and supporters prepared a great breakfast at 8 AM for the local Sunrise Assembly #39 Rainbow Girls. There was plenty of good food, and those present enjoyed it. A big shout-out to WM Rayna Stanley, Ms. Evelyn, and Master Jack Stanley for sweeping the floor, cooking sausage & potatoes, putting cutlery in napkins, and catching anything else needed. Harry Brown, Carlton Buscemi, Kenn Barrett, and Lady Lilla were on hand to help. The cleanup took little time; the girls did most of the washing. We also appreciate Mother Advisor Gloria Linden and Rainbow Dad Brian Strecker helping.



And on this same day, we supported the Community Health Family Services with their Christmas Party at the American Legion. Your Hi-12 Cub provided hot dogs w/bun, ten pizzas, and drinks. As you can imagine, all the pizza was gone; it's not surprising even the very youngest little one knows what pizza is. Hi-12 Club President Kenn Barrett and Lady Lilla, Harry Brown, Rayna Stanley, Carlton Buscemi, one young man from the Bream H.S. football team, three men from the Buena H.S. football team, and one man from Tombstone H.S. JROTC, and they did a great job while we old guys sat down to rest our weary bones. AND Jerry Dryer was Santa Claus, and Lady Carol Dryer was Lady Santa Claus. A perfect time was had by everyone attending.

The next Club meeting is this coming Friday, December 8, at the Manda Le Restaurant - order food at 4:30 and program at 5 PM. The program will be our short version of a Christmas Party with the exchange of gifts, and it is voluntary; please, no gifts higher than twenty dollars.

Lady Doris Millard won the honored Ladies' meal. Your Club Officers look forward to seeing everyone at the Hi-12 Christmas Party.

See everyone this Friday, December 8, 2023, at the Manda Le Restaurant at 4:30 PM.

WB Andy Anderson, Secretary

### **The following is a summary of the December 8, 2023 meeting.**

The Christmas gift exchange was the big deal of the evening. We had many gifts; each one had to be opened so we could share in the booze and candy. The decorating of the gifts was lovely.

After the gift exchange, we conducted the 2024 Club Officers installation, and they are. We had a quorum of seven members present.

President Kenn Barrett  
1st VP Rayna Stanley  
2nd VP Bro. David Pickler  
Secy / Treas Andrew Anderson  
Masonic Rep. Harry Brown  
Club Wolcott Rep. Andrew Anderson  
Chaplain Al Camacho

### **Trustees:**

- One year, Chuck Fortner and Brandon Martin
- Two-year Bro Mark Thibodeau
- Three year - Vacant

Barbara Hays won the 50/50 for \$45.00, and the Honored Ladies meal for January 12, 2024, is for Doris Millard.

Presentations: Harry Brown, HTI Wolcott Rep Trustee, presented to the Cochise Hi-12 Club a certificate for the donation to the Wolcott Foundation of \$ 435.00 from the Red schoolhouse. Thank you to all the Club Officers, Members, and guests for their generous contributions to our Charity.

A personal note from the Club Secretary. Thank you, Club Officers of 2023, for your dedication to the success of the Club. From my perspective, on July 9, 2024, we will have been around for thirty years. Were there ups and downs? Yes, but they stayed strong because all Masons and guests needed a social club to meet free of ritual

needed a social club to meet free of ritual.

The Cochise Hi-12 Club has done very well in keeping with High Twelve International's motto, "In Service To Freemasonry."

Merry Christmas to all, and have a blessed 2024 New Year; see you next year.

Secretary, Andrew Anderson

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## Quincy High Twelve #40 - IL

Karen and I returned home today after being on our annual pilgrimage to Florida. It was a good time away for the both of us, spending one day in St. Augustine sitting on the beach for a while then touring a lighthouse and grounds. BTW, we didn't climb the 219 steps to the top. Another day we toured a Clydesdale farm. Very interesting. It was a sad time to leave, but it's always good to be home.

Well, 2023 is almost a thing of the past. We only have two more meetings this year, tomorrow (12-6) and next week (12-13) because of the Christmas and New Year holidays. Hopefully, we'll see you at one of these meetings.

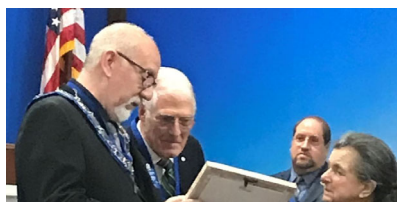
Clif Weisinger, Secretary

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## Conejo Valley High Twelve #634 - CA

Brother Bob Kelley, Luncheon Chairman of CV634, and a member of Conejo Valley Masonic Lodge #807, Thousand Oaks, CA received the Hiram Award for his service to the fraternity and the community.

Pictured with Bob are his wife Virginia, Jerry Michaelson Secy/Treas. CV634 and Master of the Lodge Worshipful Steve Wolvek.





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**Wolcott Foundation - Michael Clark, Chairman**

**DON'T FORGET TO DONATE!**



Any club in need of a schoolhouse please let **Conrad Dombkiewicz, Parliamentarian** know at [cwdombkiewicz@verizon.net](mailto:cwdombkiewicz@verizon.net)



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## Omaha High Twelve #68 - NE

Omaha High Twelve Club #68 met for its regular monthly meeting on the third Tuesday in November. In addition to the normal fun, good food, and warm fellowship, Brother John Grant, Vice President of the Club and owner of Illinois Regalia, presented the club with an American Flag for its meetings.

Additionally, election of officers was held resulting in the following for 2024: President, Sean W. Reed; Vice President, John Grant; Sec'y / Treasurer, Carl Highman; Masonic Representative, Roy Brandburn.

The following are the appointed officers for 2024: Chaplain, Thomas J. Hurley, Sgt at Arms, T.J. Brumfield.

For the December meeting the wives or significant others are invited and there will be a White Elephant gift exchange.

Sean Reed, President

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## Sun City West High Twelve Club #567 - AZ

At the Friday December 8, 2023 meeting of the Sun City West High 12 Club, Major Kathy Merritt from the West Valley Corps of the Salvation Army spoke about the Salvation Army activity in the Sun City/Sun City West/Surprise area. She reported about the tremendous amount of local human services support activity throughout the year conducted by the local Salvation Army Corps, many of whom are volunteers. The routine support includes Food Pantry activity, breakfast and lunch meals, emergency utilities and rent support, as well as spiritual support activity. Her presentation also noted the Angel Tree, Red Kettle, and other special activities scheduled for the period between the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. In the photo, Club President Dave Miller presents a Certificate of Appreciation and several donation checks to Major Kathy Merritt.

At the December meeting, Club members also voted on 2024 Officers. Installation of the officers is scheduled for the Friday 12 January 2024 meeting. Don Winscot will be the Club President and Richard Young will replace Don as the Club Vice President. Bob Carhart remains as Club Secretary and Earl Paasch remains as the Club Treasurer.

The Sun City West High 12 Club January Meeting will include a report from Jesse Ramirez, the Executive Director of the Valley View Community Food Bank located in Sun City. The Sun City West High 12 Club makes an annual contribution to the Valley View Community Food Bank for the purchase of large quantities of rice and beans, two diet staples used by many people in the community.

Sun City West High 12 Club members are also be working on details for the Annual Pancake Breakfast. This fundraising activity is coordinated with the officers and members of Sun City Lodge No 72 F& AM and is scheduled for Saturday 10 February 2024 at the Sun City Masonic Center. Proceeds from the breakfast are shared with local Masonic Youth groups.

the Boy Scout Troop meeting at the Sun City Masonic Center, and other local charities.

The Sun City West High 12 Club continues to include local Masonic Widows in Club events. The Club's efforts have assisted several local Masonic Lodges in maintaining contact with Masonic Widows residing in the West Valley area.

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## **Freeport High Twelve Club #43 - IL**

Freeport High Twelve is still meeting every Thursday for lunch. Our attendance varies from 8 - 13 members and guests. We do have a new meeting place, however, since Logan's, where we've met for several years, has closed. We are now enjoying our Thursday lunches at This Is It Eatery at 16 N. Chicago, in downtown Freeport. They have good food, and we can still have our homemade desserts as well. We are only meeting the first two Thursday's in December because of the holidays. We'll start the new year off with a bang in January.

Freeport #43 continues to support the local Salvation Army. We gave them money to purchase toys for the local children, and they were elated.

We also continue to have the raffle at the 1st meeting of the month, which is the business meeting. This past Thursday a handmade lazy susan was donated by one of the members, Bob Geissberger. The lucky recipient was Mike Barr.

The Illinois 1st Vice President, John Blondell, will be our guest the second Thursday in December. We look forward to his visit. It was voted to continue with the same officers for the 23-24 year.

There's a standing invitation to anyone to come and visit. We always welcome visitors, and you might even get a free lunch!

Freeport High Twelve #43 wishes everyone Happy Holidays and look forward to the new year.

Roger Carson, Secretary

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## **The Villages Masonic High Twelve Club #674 - FL**

December 6th, after having pleasant conversation and a delightful lunch beginning at 11:00 AM, meeting was opened by President Larry Lace at 11:30 AM. Sergeant-at-Arms, Dan Williams, attended the altar followed by an invocation from James Taylor followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of Our Country led by President Larry Lace. Following that, the singing of one verse of God Bless America was sung by all.

Secretary David Windmiller presented the names of the 2024 officers to be installed, who were all elected last month by acclamation. The officers are: Larry Lace, President; Herman Strauss, 1st Vice President; Dennis Dugan, 2nd Vice President; Emmett Mills, Treasurer; David Windmiller, Secretary, Wolcott Representative and Masonic Representative; Dan Williams, Sergeant-at-Arms (appointed). DeWayne Wiesenmiller will

Williams, Sergeant-at-Arms (appointed). DeWayne Wieschmiller, will serve as Club Chaplain (when present) with Emmett Mills filling in when DeWayne is not present. Directors: Ron Hicks, Mike Freach and Emmett Mills. The secretary also mentioned that dues notifications had been sent out by email to the 27 members of the club. As of and including the day of the meeting, 15 paid their dues and 2 members requested to demit resulting in an end of December club membership of 25. A reminder email to the remaining ten members will be sent out next week.

**ENTERTAINMENT:** The children's fifth grade chorus from the Villages Elementary School at Lady Lake sang Christmas songs at the meeting. Cookies and Gator Aide was provided for the children.

President Larry Lace thanked the elementary school chorus and their chorus director for their delightful and entertaining presentation of holiday and Christmas songs and presented them with a check for \$100.00 from the Villages High Twelve International No. 674. In addition a collection was made from the Brothers present and an additional \$60.00 was raised to donate to the chorus.



## Mt. Laurel High Twelve Club #770 - NJ

This December (27th) our club will be celebrating our 11year anniversary. When we started our membership was well over 20 masons, today we are at 9 and growing. When President Rick Santella visited our club he said "it's the quality of the membership not the quantity that count".



## Member Spotlight Kenneth L Pierce "Peaches"

Very well known about the apartments of the temples is Ken "Peaches" Pierce. Peaches was a long time caterer for many Masonic events in the 18th District of NJ and the Shrine. He is famous for his big smile, and friendly personality. You might think with a name like Peaches, he must be a clown. That's right, a Shrine Clown. If that is not enough, he is a member of all 3 NJ Hi 12 Clubs, #73 Nelson W Craig, #770 Mt. Laurel and current President of #640 Masonic Home. When you run into Peaches, ask how he got his Nick name, what a great story. Thank You for your service to Masonry and High Twelve.

Conrad Dombkiewicz, Secretary

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## Houston High Twelve Club #736 - TX

### 2023 Houston High 12 Club Lecture

On December 2, 2023 Houston High Twelve Club held its annual meeting where an attendance of 50 Master Masons and High Twelvians attended for a fun-filled afternoon took place.

Houston High Twelve elected and installed its officers for the 2024 year. The Installation was presided over by International 1st Vice President Roberto M. Sanchez as installing officer, and International 2nd Vice President Darrin Pitts as installing Marshal.



From left to right are the officers of Houston High Twelve: Keith Borst Sargent at Arms, Zach Willner Secretary, James Bennett 2nd VP, Don Nesbitt 1st VP, Michael D. Nanny President (Michael Nanny served as Grand Master of Masons in Texas in 2002), and Installing Marshall Darrin Pitts who is the 2nd International VP.

Houston High Twelve also inducted 4 new members at this meeting, they included Michael Polycropoulos, Brandon Dixon, Jeff Cook and our speaker Alun Thomas-Evans.

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From left to right: Texas State Association President John F. Woolsey, Jeffrey L. Cook, Alun Thomas-Evans, Michael Polychronopoulos, Bradon Dixon.

The afternoon was concluded by a presentation from Alun Thomas-Evans who is the Grand Master of the Martinist Order of Unknown Philosophers. Alun gave a great presentation on “*the Great Priory of Martinism-Martinezism Orders*” or GPM-M. The GPM-M is an esoteric hermetic Great Priory that houses and safe keeps several lineages of Martinist and Esoteric Orders from all over the world, which is housed in the United Kingdom. (Note - These are not Masonic Orders nor does an individual need to be a Mason to join).



Above – Alun Thomas-Evans gives his presentation on the Great Priory of Martinism-Martinezism (GPM-M) while 1st International Vice President runs the slides.

Roberto M. Sanchez, PSP  
1st Vice President, HTI

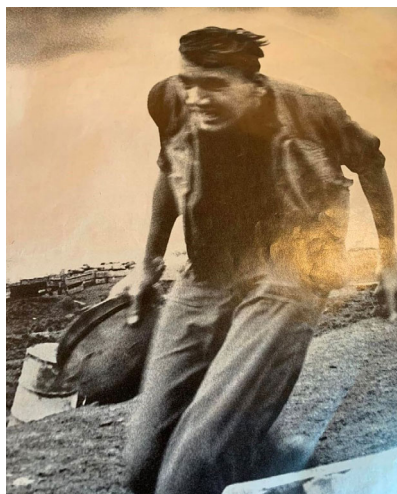
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## Houston High Twelve Club #736 - TX

At Valley Forge High Twelve meeting on November 1st, I had the honor of hearing Brother Dave Tatum's presentation on Remembering Our Fallen Heroes. Brother Dave spoke of his tours in Vietnam including his part in the defense of Con Thien along the DMZ. This defense earned him the Purple Heart and was documented in the October 1967 issue of Life magazine.

While a teacher with the Upper Darby School District, he undertook a 10-year research project with his students to document all 186 young men from Delaware County who were killed in the war. Thank Brother Dave for all that you gave and continue to give to keep the memories of those young men alive. It was a truly moving presentation.

Eric Downs





## Des Moines High Twelve Club #4 - IA

### Greetings from Des Moines (Iowa) High Twelve Club # 4!

Here is picture taken December 13, 2023, at Des Moines Club #4's Christmas Party.

In December we received "initiated" two new members, Brother Dennis Loghry on December 6<sup>th</sup> and Layton Stump whose reception was at the Christmas party, shown below.



### Officers for 2024:

#### President - Duane Wachter\*

Vice-president – David Ashby \*  
Treasurer - Douglas Stephenson  
Secretary - Richard Anderson. PP  
Assistant Secretary: Dr. Tom Gruis \* \*\* -2

Trustees: (Last three Presidents): David Ashby \* (636), Robert West \*-2 (407), and Tom Gruis \*-2 \*\* -2

Membership – Jim Mason and Phil Enabnit \*\*  
Publicity – Phil Enabnit  
House co-chairs – Richard Anderson\* and Phil Enabnit  
Parliamentarian: Ken Brickman \* \*\* IL

Auditing and parliamentarian – Ken Brickman\*  
Installation of new members – Ken Brickman\*  
Junior Past President - Dr. Tom Gruis \*-2, \*\* -2

Legal Counsel: William Clark, Jr.  
Publisher and Roster – Phil Enabnit, PSP  
International & Masonic Rep: Richard Anderson  
State Representative: Jerry Carlson \*  
Senior Past President - James D. Champion, 1973  
Senior Active President – Larry Crist (1976)  
\* - Past President of our club \*\* - Past State President

Our club meets every Wednesday except the last two of the year or if the Des Moines Public Schools call off because of weather conditions. The meeting place is the downtown, Mercy Campus, Holiday Inn at the top of the tower at 11:30 with lunch at noon.

E-mail is [dsm.hi.12.4@gmail.com](mailto:dsm.hi.12.4@gmail.com) or [n4desmoineshightwelve@gmail.com](mailto:n4desmoineshightwelve@gmail.com)

The North Central Association of High Twelve Clubs annual convention will take place in the Des Moines area on May 18, 2024.

Dr. Tom "Doc" Gruis  
Assistant Secretary of Club # 4  
And N. C. A.

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## Steven D. Klein - President's Club - A Book Review

### Klein's Korner - Book Review

Why has there been since a dearth of Masonic information about our Masonic presidents in Presidential biographies? In this outstanding work, the author, B. Chris Ruli gives the reasons for the lack of Masonic content in these biographies and provides the data we have long wanted to learn for every Masonic President.

Ruli explains that a non-Masonic author may not fully appreciate the importance the Craft plays in shaping the

values and character of the President. They may omit what they fail to understand. Other considerations are the length of the work, and if the audience (or the publisher) has sufficient interest to explore the Masonic aspect of the President's life. Masonic and non-Masonic historians and biographers seldom interact. Grand Lodge and blue lodge archives, often understaffed, cannot provide the services a biographer requires. Amateur historians are not academic researchers. They rarely go beyond the basic resources of local libraries and the internet. Early lodge records can be missing or incomplete.

Some historians draw false conclusions based on a numbers-only analysis, saying that a prominent Mason wasn't that interested in Masonry because the Tiler's Register showed they seldom attended meetings. This is preposterous. Quantifying lodge attendance as a measurement of Masonic commitment cannot be made. Keeping scorecards this way does not reveal a Mason's love for the Craft.

Ruli provides the Masonic resumes of every President, with their Masonic activities while in office - Washington, Monroe, Jackson, Polk, Buchanan, Andrew Johnson, Garfield, McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt, Taft, Harding, FDR, Truman, LBJ, and Ford. Their blue lodges are listed with the dates of their degree conferrals and their appendant bodies memberships - York Rite, Scottish Rite, Shrine, Commandery, etc. The research is impressive, and occurs over many jurisdictions and centuries.

Perhaps Masonic events may have been perceived only as public relations, not major administration accomplishments. However, the White House maintains meticulous logs of the President's activities on a daily and even hourly basis. Newspaper stories, diaries, radio and phonograph recordings, and newsreels exist. The information has always been there for any historian who wished to find it. The definition of an event with a president can be a personal meeting, a speech, attending dedication ceremonies for Scottish Rite facilities or Shriner's Hospitals, a letter sent by the president, a

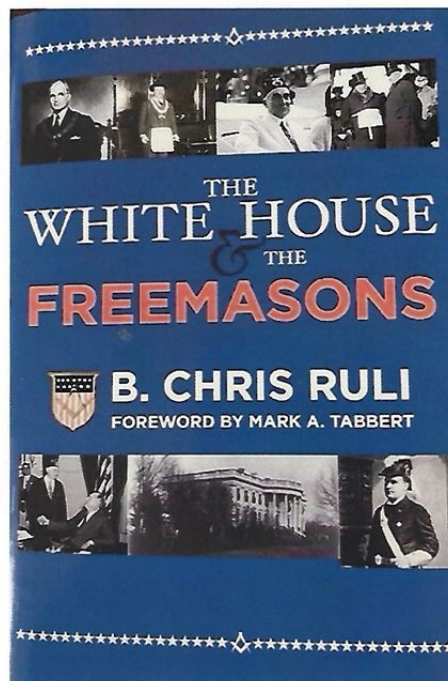


photo op, or the use of the George Washington bible or the president sending someone in his stead.

The most important precedent in Masonic Presidential history was George Washington performing a cornerstone laying ceremony at the nation's capitol on September 18, 1793. Washington was a member of Alexandria Lodge No. 22 and served as Master during one year of his presidency, the only Masonic President to do so. William McKinley's administration shows about 18 Masonic activities during his presidency. Theodore Roosevelt had about 24 Masonic events during his presidency, Coolidge; non-Mason, about 23 Masonic events. Hoover, a non-Mason, had about 21 Masonic events. Warren G. Harding died before completing his term, yet had approximately 51 interactions with Masons. FDR had about 41 Masonic activities during his tenure in office. Harry S. Truman had about 76 Masonic activities. Gerald Ford had about 16 events.

In a major decline in recent decades, fewer events have occurred as concerns arose about potential political fallout by meeting with Masons. Masonic influence has dwindled. Our ranks have shrunk, baby boomers and subsequent generations have found fraternal orders passe, social movements have changed the country and globalization and the social services that fraternal orders provide now are embedded in government programs or company benefits. Ronald Reagan had 3 events, George H. W. Bush 4 events, George W. Bush had 1. None are known to have occurred since 2005.

This is an outstanding book. I enthusiastically recommend it. This book fills a gap. It needed to be written. All activities of our Masonic presidents are conveniently contained in one book. Chris Ruli's fine work enhances Masonic knowledge and serves to inform and inspire us.



Sincerely & Fraternally, Steven D. Klein



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# HIGH TWELVE IS FAMILY FELLOWSHIP FUTURE



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