

Hello Summer! 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 June 2019

**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 30th day of each month.** Updates will be sent out the last of the month. Depending on the volume of articles, they may be carried over to a later date by the Editor. Articles must be sent to the Editor and not called in. **Mervyn J. Harris, PIP**, 352-753-3505 or 352-817-0707, Email address: [update-editor@high12.org](mailto:update-editor@high12.org)

### MEMORIAL DAY

Every May, we celebrate Memorial Day. But what does Memorial Day signify? Sadly enough, there are those who believe it is the unofficial start to summer; the first Bar-B-Que of the year, just another three-day weekend, and a big sale day at the stores, schools will soon be closing for the summer vacation, the opening of swimming pools, etc. Yes, all of this happens on Memorial Day.

But Memorial Day really honors the men and women who made the supreme sacrifice – they gave their lives for their country when their country called them. It is a very solemn day that should be set aside to remember and honor those who fought and died to maintain the freedoms we now enjoy that is unmatched anywhere in this world.

If it wasn't for these brave men and women, I shudder to think what life would

be like under an oppressive ruler. The location of the first observance of Memorial Day is in dispute. Some claim the custom of honoring war dead began in Boalsburg, Pennsylvania. Others claim the custom was originated by some Southern women who placed flowers on the Graves of both Union and Confederate soldiers after the Civil War. According to one writer, the first Memorial Day service took place on May 30, 1866, on Belle Isle, a burial ground for Union soldiers in the St. James River, at Richmond, Virginia.

The school superintendent and the mayor planned the program of hymns and speeches and had the burial ground decorated with flowers. In 1865, Henry C. Welles, a druggist in the village of Waterloo, NY, mentioned at a social Gathering that honor should be shown to the patriotic dead of the Civil War by decorating their graves.

In the spring of 1866, he again mentioned this subject to General John B. Murray, Seneca County Clerk. General Murray embraced the idea and a committee was formulated to plan a day devoted to honoring the dead. In May of 1866, just in time for the Centennial, Waterloo was recognized as the Birthplace of Memorial Day by the United States Government. This recognition was long in coming and involved hours of painstaking research to prove the claim. While other Communities may claim earlier observances of honoring the Civil War dead, none can claim to have been so well planned and complete, nor can they claim the continuity of observances that Waterloo can that had honored soldiers who had died in the Civil War.

Regardless of who was involved and where the first observance was, it is more important to remember whom we honor and why. This year and every year – Remember and honor. *By Dan M. Williams, member of the Villages High Twelve Club #674, Lady Lake, Florida. **All gave some; Some gave all!***

**What Is Decoration Day?** Decoration Day was originally the name of Memorial Day. The first Decoration Day took place on May 5, 1868.

**Congratulations** to our members and ladies, celebrating their Birthday, Anniversary or other Special Event in **June**. 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: Joseph Santisteban, PSP (IL):**



Greetings High Twelvians, Brethren, and Ladies,

Well, it's that time of the year again. The time when you choose the new leadership for High Twelve

International. What an interesting month to do it in, June, when we celebrate Father's Day (16th) and President Trump's Birthday (14th). This is also the time when the National Sojourners are celebrating their Centennial Anniversary as well. Our 'Number One', Jonathan Dilley, accuses me of mentioning them a lot. I should've listened to him and cut back – just got another job offered to me.

As usual, I've been busy attending a number of Clubs and other meetings and submitting more reports than I want to. I am finally starting to wind down on some of my activities. Additionally, I'm busy getting my house ready for the buyers. My agent in Tucson, AZ is busy finalizing my stuff. I've now looking forward to spending some overdue, quality time with my family. I'm sure another adventure will be coming but I'm hoping to delay it as much as feasible.

On 17-18 May I attended the North-Central Association High Twelve Annual Convention in Pleasant Hills, Iowa. I've always enjoyed visiting my Brothers in that neck of the woods and this year was no exception. I got to install the new officers which I always enjoy. I had a fine time with the Brothers and their ladies. Not only is traveling part of my job, I also enjoy it. I've lost count of all the new friends (Brothers) I've met during my time in the International line. My car is now over 200K miles and is sporting a relatively new set of Michelins.

I'm not done traveling yet – I have two more trips – one to Omaha, Nebraska for (you guessed it) the National Sojourners Annual Convention and the last one down the road to Addison, Illinois for our Annual Convention. I hope that a lot of familiar faces attended our convention and I hope that every Club was represented. This is the best opportunity to meet all the International Officers, learn what changes have taken place in High Twelve, and what the plans for the future are.

Always remember to carry a High Twelve Application with you. As it's happened too often, I never know when I'll meet a Brother who becomes interested in becoming a High Twelvian after we've talked a little. Recruiting tip: Invite a Brother to join you at your next Club meeting AND offer to buy his lunch. I have yet to meet a Brother who will turn down a free lunch!

I can't believe the time has flown. By the time some of you read this Newsletter, I will be out of office and sporting a new title – Immediate PIP. I'll take this opportunity to say **Thank You** all for your support of High Twelve International. It is a wonderful and necessary organization that is essential to the mental health and welfare of our Brothers and their fabulous ladies, who I also thank from the bottom of my heart. As always, stay safe, have fun and watch out for each other. Fraternally, Joe.



The above photo is when I attended my Club this month. The Brother on the right is our Club President, Ed Rund (Past State President and State Secretary). I'm the good-looking one on the left.

**As the International President prepares to exit the door, he wanted to provide just a little more humor for your enjoyment:**

A Pastor goes to the dentist for a set of false teeth. The first Sunday after he gets his new teeth, he talks for only eight minutes. The second Sunday, he talks for only ten minutes. The following Sunday, he talks for 2 hours and 48 minutes. The congregation had to mob him to get him down from the pulpit and they asked him what happened. The Pastor explained the first Sunday his gums hurt so bad he couldn't talk for more than 8 minutes. The second Sunday, his gums hurt too much to talk for more than 10 minutes. But, the third Sunday, he put his wife's teeth in by mistake and he couldn't stop talking.

A social worker from Ohio, who was recently transferred to the mountains of North Georgia, was on the first tour of his new territory when he came upon the tiniest cabin he had ever seen in his life. Intrigued, he went up and knocked on the door. Anybody home? He asked. Yep, came a kid's voice through the door. Is your father there? Asked the social worker. Pa? Nope, he left before Ma came in, said the kid. Well, is your mother there? Persisted the social worker. Ma? Nope, she left just before I got here, said the kid. But what, protested the social worker, are you never together as a family? "Sure, but not here, said the kid through the door, This is the outhouse.

Would you like dinner? The flight attendant asked the passenger seated in front. What are the choices? The passenger asked back. Yes or no, the flight

attendant replied.

A truck driver was driving along the freeway and suddenly noticed a sign that read: Low Bridge Ahead. Before he knows it, the bridge is right in front of it and his truck gets wedged under it.

Cars start backing up for miles. Finally, a police car comes up. The cop gets out of his car and walks up to the driver, puts his hands on his hips, and says, Got stuck, huh?

The driver says, No, I was delivering this bridge and I ran out of gas.

### **International 1st Vice President: Jonathan Dilley, PSP (CA)**

With less than two weeks until the 98th Annual Convention of High Twelve International, it's time to prepare to come to the table once again with our thoughts and ideas on how we can increasingly improve upon what we have done in the past and add upon our accomplishments as we build for the future of High Twelve. If Elected, I am looking forward to continuing the work with our International line of Officers in the areas of Membership, the support of our Wolcott Foundation and the way in which we frame what we do. It's extremely important to ask ourselves the question, "What is High Twelve to you?" When we first joined High Twelve, was it at the invitation of a Brother to break bread during lunch? Was our initial interest to support the ideals of High Twelve and contribute to the work being done to assist students seeking higher education as Wolcott Fellows? Or, what our reason for joining High Twelve to enjoy food, fellowship and fun while accomplishing more? More Fun? More Fellowship? More Friendship? More Charity? More Brotherhood?



It has been a busy year and this next will only be added upon by more visits to our State Associations in my drive to invite our Members to think about these things. To consider how we embrace our visitors when they come to our meetings with the hope that they leave feeling part of a family and knowing they are needed, wanted and appreciated for all that they do. Are we taking the time to get to know each other and learn more about who our Brethren really are and know more about what they do and why they do what they do as they travel the pathway of Freemasonry and of life? I am inspired by so many great men every day. I can say, that as I have served as an International Officer, I have created new friendships, identified new mentors and have found opportunities to inspire or touch the lives of others in what we do.

I look forward to seeing each of you at the Annual Conference of High Twelve International and throughout the year as I travel to meet with your Associations and I hope to get to know more about who you are, what inspires you to do what you do and what makes you proud to be a Member of High Twelve. I know we all care about High Twelve and I am Honored to know so many great men who I truly consider my family! See you in Illinois!

Fraternally, Jonathan Dilley

### **International 3rd Vice President: Mike Haxton, PSP (KS)**

Good Day Brother High Twelvians! First, I am sorry about the lateness of the Spring High Twelve magazine, we are taking steps to be sure that it does not happen again.

At Chicago you will have the opportunity to accept or reject the beginning of the Life Membership proposal. If you accept it, then we will give it to the lawyers and CPAs to make it all legal and stuff so we get the job done and keep it immune to the tax man.

What appeared in last month's Monthly Update is the final form as far as what we want to do. You can look it up at the website.

Let's talk about communication. You are reading this, so you are not who really needs to see this. But the guy you share it with does need to see it, so I hope that you're printing it off and taking it to Club meetings.

With Merv's retirement as Editor, we must decide what we are going to do. Having printed a 12 page news magazine for my Grotto for ten years, I understand the work that goes into such an endeavor. This monthly is on a par with that as far as the information in it goes. It takes two full days to get it ready to go out.

My big question is why is the readership so low? 25% is really not acceptable especially when we know who opens the email and who simply deletes it. (Email programs can do that you know).

It costs roughly a Quarter to send out a printed 12 pager on the plain paper that I used for the Ankaragram (yeah, I know, original) for Ankara Grotto. Doing the math that would be about \$650.00-\$800.00 per issue if we did a mailing, say on the off three months from the High Twelvian. That would be a week's work for somebody to print, collate and mail it. Would we get more readerships? Would you accept it? Would it be worth an extra buck a year on the per capita to fund it? Or are you willing to continue to share the current mode when you go to your Club meetings?

We are pretty much beaten our willing horse to death, but we all owe Merv a serious vote of thanks for the hard work he has put in on this newsletter. It is hard work, and often unappreciated.

I hope to see you all at the International Convention in Chicago. If you have not yet seen the Registration Form you can go to the HTI website and download it. We need you to be there. We have a lot of important business on which to discuss and vote. Besides, it may be your last chance to see Lake Michigan before the Asian Carp invades.

I look forward to seeing more of members next year during all of the International Officers' travels. See you soon, Mike.

***It is amazing how much can be accomplished when nobody cares who gets the credit.***

**International Treasurer: Mark Nokes, PSP (IL):**



**High Twelve International, Inc.**

## 98th Annual Convention

June 12-16, 2019

### *Welcome Letter*

**Mark Nokes, Convention Chairman**

[treasurer@high12.org](mailto:treasurer@high12.org)

**847-828-0273**

### **Guest Hotel**

**Hilton Garden Inn Addison**

551 N Swift Rd

Addison IL 60101

630.691.0500

Meetings & Meals at

**Scottish Rite - Valley of Chicago**

383 E Lake Street

Bloomington IL 60108

630.439.3400

Hotel will provide shuttle transportation (*1.7 miles*) both directions

May 29, 2019 was the last day for Guaranteed Room Rates

Hotel reservations can still be made as space available at current room rates

**Link to the registration form [HERE](#)**



John Peter Curielli Illinois High Twelve State 2nd VP and his you bride of 50 years, Cathy and their son Peter (beautiful orange pants) celebrating their Golden Anniversary.



***Three levels of Governance for High Twelve International  
Left to right: Mark D. Nokes, Illinois High Twelve State President  
Joseph Pegoraro, Northwest Club No. 769 President  
Joseph H. Santisteban, High Twelve International President  
This was at the monthly May meeting for Northwest Club 769.  
Their guest speaker was from "A Place For Mom"***

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



My Fellow High Twelvians, This is my final submission as your Secretary and I would like to say Thank You for your support



over the years. I have tried by best to provide reliable information, Forms and timely delivery of merchandise to you, the members, clubs and associations. And now to move on to some business for the last time!

The 2019 Spring edition of the *High Twelvian* went into the US Mail in Phoenix AZ on 5/5/19. It should be in everyone's hand by 6/6/19. The convention information is in the back portion, but don't wait for the magazine to be delivered...you can still do your registration from any PC, laptop, tablet or smart device! The cut off for guaranteed room & rates was 5/29 and are now based on availability at current rates.

Association President's remember to complete an Activity Report and email to this office by 6/10/19. Be sure your clubs have completed a Combine Proxy for the club vote. Anyone can carry the vote for a club just make sure the Form is filled out correctly. All Forms are located at the bottom of the event on the HTI website.

To those clubs who have returned your clubs 2019-20 Per-Capita payment in the postage paid, self addressed envelope THANK YOU! To the rest of you it was due and payable upon receipt. Please don't drag it out all year like the 7 clubs who have not yet paid 2018-19 Per-Capita yet and will lose their vote if not paid by 10:00 AM on 6/15 at the convention. These are the funds we need to operate on until the next billing cycle a year from now.



The Widows pin to the left is now available for \$5.00 ea + S&H and can be conveniently ordered from the Merchandise Tab on the HTI website. This is an excellent way to honor our member's widows who continue to support our clubs.

That's all for now - See **YOU** at the 98th Convention in Chicago!!! Kevin L. Hokerk-Robinson, Secretary

Just a reminder that if you have not mailed in your donation for the **2019 Label Program** please take a couple of minutes do so today, every dollar received helps! You can even donate online [here](#) (*you don't need to have a PayPal account to use the service!*).

### **Florida High Twelve Association:**

**Lake Worth High Twelve Club #316:** Article and photo submitted by Past President and current Secretary Bernhard Kainer:



Presenting to John Karroum, Grand Master of Masons in Florida, his Honorary Membership in Lake Worth High Twelve Club #316, by its President, Sidney King. (Do we have other Grand Masters in High Twelve Clubs?)

The Grand Master was installed, and he is from Boynton, Florida, which is next door to Lake worth, and both Sidney King and I have visited the Boynton Lodge of which the Grand Master is a member.

**State Association President Robert T. Cunningham, Sr.:** Dear Fellow High Twelvians; I trust everyone had a good Month of May. Cinco de Mayo and the Salsa was great. With Mother's Day on the 12th we pay well deserved tribute to our mothers. Brother Michael Hemphill, State Secretary and I attended the 16th District Master and Warden Association meeting on the 4th. I again offered to speak about High Twelve at any Lodge meeting. I was honored and recognized as State President at my Lodge, Orange Blossom Lodge No.80. Brother Michael Hemphill, State Secretary: Brother Jim Davis, State Sgt-at-Arm and I attended Orlando #435 Club on May 20th.

The State Officers had a teleconference call on May 21st. I had the pleasure and Honor to present High Twelve to the Florida Grand Court of Amaranth. I met H.L. Norma Savoley, Grand Royal Matron and S.K. George Goddard, Grand Royal Patron. Brother Michael Hemphill, State Secretary and his Lady

Ceal also attended. She will be a State Officer for the Grand Court for the upcoming year. Way to go Ceal! We also had a High Twelve Information Table at the Florida Grand communication this year.

The table was manned by RW Bob Cunningham, State President, Brothers Michael Hemphill, State Secretary, Jim Davis, Sgt-at-Arms. Bob Morrow, member Orlando #435 and Tom Clark, Member Orlando #435. We had several possible petitioners stop by. We also passed out two New Club Starter Kits.

I hope everyone was able to take advantage of the state sales tax holiday for hurricane supplies. June 1st starts the hurricane season. Be prepared!

Please keep our distressed Brothers and Sisters in your prayers. In addition, our Military Forces where ever they may be and our First Responders. Fraternaly, Robert (Bob) T. Cunningham, Sr., State President.

**The Villages High Twelve Club #674:** We were fortunate to have David Bishop, a noted author, who has sold over a million and a half books since he start writing after retirement. His specialty is Mystery Stories. He also discussed how the publishing of books has changed over the past few years.

In the past an inspiring author had to submit his works to the Publishing Company and they reviewed his Draft and then if it wasn't what they wanted, it was rejected and returned to the Author. Today, the Author just publishes his work and it is available for purchase. Many other things have also changed and now they have Talking Books and other versions of publications, which makes it available to a larger audience.

**Independent Club San Dimas #309:** The Worshipful Master Joseph Musgrove, San Dimas Masonic Lodge #428 had the great Honor to present to James Black member of San Dimas H-12 #309 with his 70 year pin signifying that he has been a Freemason for 70 years. (Photo below)



**Illinois High Twelve Association:** Middle Chamber High Twelve Club #725, Northbrook, Illinois - Chartered July 2002: Middle Chamber Club meets in a local restaurant at noon on the first Tuesday of each month. We are fortunate to be able to meet in a private room at the restaurant.

During the first quarter of 2019, we gained 2 new members, but lost 1 member due to death. Currently we have 18 members with the average attendance at our meetings at 10, but the average increases to 19 with the support of our guests. Our Club is honored to have one of our members, Brother Joseph Santisteban serving as President of High Twelve International. We try to maintain a strong schedule of Speakers at our monthly meetings, covering a variety of subjects. Recently we heard about the Living Kidney Donor Network, and a two-part power point presentation on a visit to the Holy Land.

Our Club was represented at the Mid-Year-State Convention in Springfield, Illinois. Our Club members also visit other Clubs in our area, which allows us to learn what other Clubs are doing. We are also active in the support of various Lodges and Community Events.

We continue to support the Wolcott Foundation through our contributions to the Little Red School House.

As always, we extend Fraternal Greetings and Masonic hospitality to all our Members and Guests. Fraternaly, Brian Robson.

**Northwest Masonic Club No. 769 Minutes April 23, 2019:** Our meeting at the Red Apple Restaurant on April 23, 2019 enjoyed Brother Vytautas (Vyts) Paukstys presentation on Children's Dyslexia Center of Metropolitan Chicago. As Chairman of the Board of Governors, Brother Vyts explained the origin of the national organization and Chicago's startup at our previous LaGrange Children's Home (1999).

Funding was Brother Vyts emphasis as they are supported by a 3.5 million dollar Endowment fund but leaving \$100,000 per year to be raised. Funds needed are \$5,000 per year per student and we have forty students in a two year program. Seventy-five students are awaiting enrollment and presently on twenty graduate each year. Students and Tudors are being trained with some Tudors coming from public schools who perform in school awareness program and Tudors used in Dyslexia LaGrange (Baptist) and now Palatine school (Methodist). Illinois Masonic Advocate Hospital is in the future for a school. Over thirty percent of the funding is received in the May 18, 2019 WALKK 5K Run being held at Scottish Temple, Bloomsdale, IL.

<https://donate.childrendyslexiacenterchicago.org>

**Anna Gillingham (1878-1963)**, compiled and published instructional materials as early as the 1930s which provided the foundation for student instruction and teacher training in what became known as the Orton-Gillingham Approach. In the hands of a well-trained and experienced instructor, it is a powerful tool of exceptional breadth, depth, and flexibility using one-on-one teacher-student instructional model. Reading, spelling and writing difficulties have been the dominant focus of the Approach although it has been successfully adapted for use with students who exhibit difficulty with mathematics.

Six members attended with honored guests, namely Mrs. Rosemarie Pegoraro, Mrs. Jan Van Cleave, Mrs. Cathy Curielli, Mrs. Ronnie Rund, Brother Ed Rund, and Brother Vyts Paukstys. Brother Joe Santisteban, International High Twelve President, opened and closed the meeting with a prayer. Twenty-two dollars was collected for the Wolcott Foundation today. Our yearly collection will be distributed this month to the Wolcott Foundation. Brother Prakash Naik will select next month speaker. Fraternaly, Don Van Cleave, Secretary



# **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 moral 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.