



**Brothers:**

**Lakeland's Masonic High Twelve Club #613 is more than a quarter of a century old. Since receiving its charter on Feb. 22, 1984, the Lakeland High Twelve Club has provided fellowship for Master Masons and their families.**

**Like many of our attendant Masonic bodies, the Lakeland High 12 Club's membership has dwindled in numbers as its membership has aged. There are only a handful of members left, many of which are very limited in their day-to-day activities.**

**For those of you who are not familiar with High 12, it is an association of Master Masons who desire an hour or so of Masonic fellowship, independent of the formal ritual of Lodge procedure.**

**The Charter for Lakeland High 12 Club #613 has been moved to Lakeland Masonic Lodge No. 91 where we are attempting to renew local High 12 activities on a monthly basis.**

**We have received permission from Lakeland Masonic Lodge 91 to begin a monthly High 12 luncheon beginning on March 11 and continuing monthly of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month.**

**Available will be a basic meal of a meat entrée, selection of vegetables plus rolls, or bread, and butter. Guests are invited to bring any dessert they would like to share with others.**

**The luncheons will begin at 1 p.m. and will be held in the dining room of Lakeland Masonic Lodge at 505 N. Massachusetts Ave. They are**

open to all Master Masons, Members of Masonic affiliate organizations, their families and guests.

There is no cost for the dinner but donations will be accepted to help offset the costs with a portion of the proceeds going to Lakeland 91 for use of its facilities. A Little Red School House will be passed around at each dinner for donations to help meet the obligation of Lakeland High 12 Club #613 each year to the Wolcott Foundation that provides graduate-level scholarships to students and to support Masonic youth activities.

The concept has met with a positive acceptance among the members of Lakeland Masonic Lodge 91. They are enthusiastic about being able to get together, in a family setting, with other Masons from around the immediate District, and those who may be visiting our area.

This model follows one used to build the successful Florida Keys High 12 Club #758 in the Florida Keys. It deviates somewhat from the more traditional High 12 luncheon. Business is held to a bare minimum giving members and guests the time and opportunity to meet and get to know Masons other than those who belong to their immediate Masonic affiliate.

Florida Keys High 12 Club #758 had great success in introducing spouses, significant others, friends, children and guests to each other in a Masonic district strung out 125 miles across 43 islands connected by one highway and 42 bridges.

One of the difficulties of promoting growth of High 12 in many areas has been the difference in lifestyles among the older, retired Masons and our newer, younger, Masonic members. Traditionally a luncheon group, most High 12 clubs meet during the work week when our younger Masonic members are involved in their occupational duties and do not have the time to attend.

One of the keys to success in the Florida Keys was scheduling meetings on Sunday. Scheduling the meetings on a Sunday afternoon at 1 p.m. offers three advantages: (1) It allows the churchgoers among us to attend services and still be able to attend the

luncheon, (2) it provides daylight hours for those who no longer choose to drive at night, and (3) it can be held on a day and time that most people are not tied down by their usual occupational duties.

Hopefully, by using the same scheduling in Lakeland, we will be able to build at least a District 24-wide setting for Masonic Family Fellowship where we can get to know each other and share some good Masonic Fellowship.

If you could help support us in our efforts to build this new Masonic Family activity it would be greatly appreciated. A note in your local Trestle Board or just passing this information on to other Brothers will go a long way to building a successful activity.

We look forward to seeing you at the first Lakeland High 12 Club #613 Masonic Family Dinner March 11.

Thanks in advance for your support.

Respectfully,  
*Dave Whitney*, President  
Lakeland High Twelve 613  
Phone: 305-664-5700