



J. F. Swartsel Lodge No. 251 F. &A.M



TRESTLE BOARD



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STATED COMMUNICATIONS: 1st & 3rd Thursdays Dinner 6:30 PM - Meeting 7:30PM

Lodge Stated Communications

For JANUARY 2014

Thursday January 2nd
Thursday January 16th

Dinner at 6:30pm
Stated Communication at 7:30pm

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Freemasonry? To construct his earthly Temple, the Operative Mason followed the architectural designs laid down on the Trestle-Board, or book of plans of the architect. By these he hewed and squared his materials; by these he raised his walls; by these he constructed his arches; and by these strength and durability, combined with grace and beauty, were bestowed upon the edifice which he was constructing.

In the Masonic education, the Speculative Freemason is reminded that, as the Operative Artist erects his temporal building in accordance with the rules and designs laid down on the Trestle-Board of the Master Workman, so should he erect that spiritual building, of which the material is a type, in obedience to the rules and designs, the precepts and commands, laid down by the Grand Architect of the Universe in those great books of nature and revelation which constitute the spiritual Trestle-Board of every Freemason.

The Trestle-Board is then the symbol of the natural and moral law. Like every other Symbol of the Order, it is universal and tolerant in its application. Freemasonry does not interfere with any particular form or development of anyone's religious faith. All that it asks is that the

interpretation of the symbol shall be according to what each one supposes to be the revealed will of his creator. But so rigidly exacting is it that the symbol shall be preserved and, in some rational way, interpreted, that it peremptorily excludes the atheist from its communion, because, believing in no Supreme Being - no Divine Architect - he must necessarily be without a spiritual Trestle-Board on which the designs of that Being may be inscribed for his direction.

Source:
<http://www.masonicdictionary.com/trestleboard.html>

The Masonic Trestle/Tracing Board



A set of antique tracing boards depicting the symbolism of Three Degrees of Freemasonry from St. Andrew's Lodge in the UK. Each tracing board measures 30 x 20 inches. They are framed identically. The size of frames 31.5 x 21.5 inches. Each painting is marked with its order in the degree, with tacks on the upper portions of their burled wood frames. They were found with their pine storage box inscribed St. Andrews Lodge, 1817

A Masonic trestle board is a design board for

the Master Workman (Architect) to draw his plans and designs upon to give the workmen an outline of the work to be performed. In today's terms, we might call it a blueprint. It is one of the 3 movable jewels.

A trestle board is a framework consisting of (usually 3) vertical, slanted supports (or legs) with one or more horizontal crosspieces on which to hang or display an item. Today, it is better known as an "easel".

Some jurisdictions around the world call it a tracing board. It would be somewhat of a "circular logic" task to argue the difference, as, while neither can be fully proven (in historical writings), the "Tracing board" may very well have preceded the use of the word "Trestle Board" because lodges in Europe - which pre-date American lodges - use the word "Tracing Board".

Hiram's Tracing Board

Hiram Abif's tracing board is believed to have been made of wood, covered with a coating of wax. Each day he would draw his Master architect's measurements and symbols into the wax in order to instruct his Master Masons of the work that was to be accomplished.

At the end of the day, he would simply scrape off the wax and pour a new layer of hot wax onto the

board to ready it for the next day's work.

Masonic Tracing Board

Much later, in the days where lodge was held in secret areas and on hills and vales, (valleys) once lodge was in session, the Tiler (or Tyler) would draw an oblong (rectangular) or oblong square depiction (image) into the dirt that represented the form of the lodge.

Again, onto that tracing board was drawn the architect's plan...the working tools in the degree that was to be worked.

Masonic Trestle Board

Through the years, the Masonic Tracing Board progressed to charcoal or chalk on the floor of taverns where lodges were held back in the 1700s. After the lecture, the Stewards or the Entered Apprentice, as a lesson in secrecy, would get a mop and bucket and remove all trace of these drawings.

This, obviously, was a somewhat tedious and messy procedure, so cloths or rugs were created which could be laid onto the floor and simply folded up when the lecture was complete.

Later, these cloths (or rugs) were placed onto a table. As time passed, they were finally hung onto an easel...(a trestle board) much like a

drawing board at a construction site where each workman could receive clear instruction as to what his specific participation entailed.

When the team's work was completed, it was obvious that each Master Mason not only understood their specific part in the undertaking, but how their part (no matter how small), contributed to the construction of the entire edifice (building).

The meaning of the words "Nothing further remains to be done, according to ancient custom, except to disarrange our emblems" is a reference to the now antiquated use of these trestle boards (or tracing boards) during which the dirt on the ground was erased or the chalk marks on the floor of these lodges was mopped or scrubbed, to leave no trace of the form of the Lodge or the contents drawn thereon.

The reason why your lines of travel are at right angles within the lodge and thus the reason that we "square" the lodge is a "throwback" to the antiquity of the ritual.

If the brethren were to walk atop the markings made in the dirt on hill and vale; atop the chalk on the floor of the taverns; or tread upon and thus soil the cloths or rugs used to provide the workings of that degree, the message of that lecture which was being worked could be

partially or fully destroyed.



Therefore, "Squaring the Lodge" in a semi-military-like precision, goes back many centuries as the means of preserving the ritual and the degrees being worked so as not to destroy the symbolism of their markings before their usefulness on that day has been completed.

Source: <http://www.masonic-lodge-of-education.com/trestle-board.html>



**Wishing All the Brethren of
J.F. Swartzel Lodge and Their
Family and Friends a Happy
and Prosperous New Year!**

CHAIR CHATTER

From The EAST

My Brothers, I hope you had a wonderful Holiday season and were able to spend some time with family and friends. I want to thank everyone who came out for the installation of the Lodge Officers. With your help and guidance, we are going to have a lot of fun this year. I encourage everyone to come out and get involved. Always remember, it is your Lodge.

We are having a fish fry in January. It will be on the third Friday, January, 17th. We start serving at 5:00 and go until 8:00 or whenever the fish runs out!

We also have a Family Night in January. It is the fifth Friday of the month, January 30th. The Lodge will supply the meat and everyone who comes should bring a dish to share.

Please check the Trestle Board or the website for more dates.

I want to close with a saying from W.: Savage, Visitors are welcome, members are expected.

*Jeff Sklet, Worshipful
Master*

From The WEST

I trust everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Hopefully you enjoyed lots of good food and cheer with your family and friends, and are looking forward to 2014 with anticipation and enthusiasm. The WM has already reminded you about the upcoming Fish Fry on Friday, January 17th and I expect you will be getting a call very soon from our newly installed Senior Deacon asking for your help with the upcoming Degrees. By my calculation we should be in need of a Master Mason Degree sometime near the end of January and an Entered Apprentice Degree sometime near the end of January or first part of February. Please come out and support your Brothers. I look forward to seeing you all in Lodge!

Fraternally,

*Chuck Osborne, Senior
Warden*

From The SOUTH

I was overwhelmed with the support I received at our lodge meeting of December 19th. You Brothers really came through for me and I thank you all.

This is an exciting year for me and I feel ready to go. Please remember our Lodge functions this year and support them when

you are able, this is your Lodge.

We have a fish fry and family night this month and your contributions are always needed.

I want to congratulate all elected and appointed officers, and look forward to working with all of you.

My Brothers let's have a banner year and give our support to the Worshipful Master who has worked very hard over the last few years. Let us show our appreciation by supporting him.

Fraternally,

*Danny Valdez, Junior
Warden*

From The SECRETARY'S DESK

My Brothers:

By the time you read this, the Installation of 2014 Officers probably will have been completed.

I would like to congratulate each and every one of them on their having been either Elected or Appointed. It is now time for each of us to get behind them and SUPPORT them in their NEW OFFICE and DUTIES.

I therefore, offer my congratulations and support to EACH of you and to the Lodge in my capacity as Lodge Secretary. I stand ready to support EVERY member

of the Lodge in my position as Secretary for the GOOD of the Order and the Lodge.

In the absence of the ACTUAL Worshipful Master, we have had a very good year. An awful lot has been accomplished for the good of the Lodge (many ideas are credited to W.:Savage) and were MUCH needed. I look forward to the continued forward progress that I know we are capable of doing and GROWTH of the Lodge.

Faternally:

Donald R. Bell, Secretary

**Please See PAGE 9 for
other
IMPORTANT
JANUARY LODGE
DATES!**

**From
FRIENDSHIP
CHAPTER #209**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Can it really be 2014? Last year flew by! During November, our Worthy Patron honored our veterans and brought a memorable program. We also celebrated our District Friends' Night with members from our sister Chapters serving in our stations.

We held our Chapter Christmas party at our second meeting in December and our Organist shared a beautiful program which included sing-along by the members.

Please, make plans to join us on Monday, January 20th, as we welcome our special guests - Past Grand Matrons and Past Grand Patrons, as well as, Past Grand Officers to serve in our stations. This is the last "big" meeting of the 2013-2014 year, and your presence will make this evening complete.

Masons in good standing and their female relatives are eligible for membership in the Order of the Eastern Star. Information brochures are available in the literature holder on the wooden shelf in the Lodge foyer. I will also be happy to provide information and petitions by request.

Praying you had a blessed Christmas season and that you will have a special awareness of the Lord's presence in your life in 2014.

Faternally,

*Elizabeth C McAbee
Worthy Matron
813/494-6210*

2B1  **ASK1**

Lodge News and Events

PETITIONS REPORT

Petition for the Degrees:

Dylan Chad Kennedy

**Received 12-19-13
and referred to
Investigation
Committee.**



***The FISH FRY
for JANUARY is
scheduled for
Friday, January
17th***

***Food is served
from 5pm to
8pm***

***Invite Your Friends
and Neighbors and
Join Us for Fun,
Fellowship and
Great Food!***

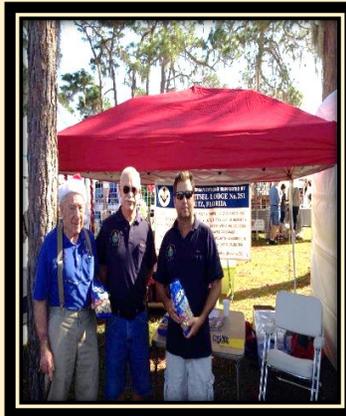
J.F. Swartzel Lodge Supports McKitrick Elementary School at Christmastime



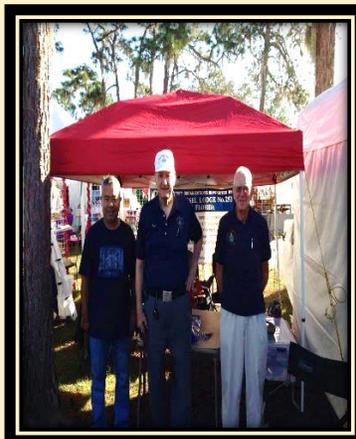
Brother Chuck Osborne, Sr. Presents JF Swartzel Lodge's annual Christmas donation of \$200 in Gift Certificates to Lisa Carlson, McKitrick Elementary School Guidance Counselor.

We can only know the fullest joys of Masonry when we truly walk the paths of service and of hard work in the quarries. - *George E. Burrow*

J.F. Swartzel Lodge Brothers Tending the Lodge Booth at the Lutz Lake Park Arts and Crafts Fair in Early December



Brothers Don Carlisle, Ron "Poppy" Speaks, and Jim Cline



Brothers Jordan Pongase, Floyd Dozier, and Frank Penny

Freemasonry is "veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols" because these are the surest way by which moral and ethical truths may be taught. It is not only with the brain and with the mind that the initiate must take Freemasonry but also with the heart. - *C. H. Claudy*

Did You Know....

The oldest Masonic Lodge in the world (with verifiable lodge minutes) is the **Lodge of Edinburgh No. 1, Edinburgh, Scotland**...sometimes known as Mary's Chapel.

In July, 1949, it observed its 350th anniversary of its establishment. In 2008, (at the time of this writing), Lodge of Edinburgh No. 1 is 409 years old.

As early as 1600, The Lodge of Edinburgh began to admit non-operative Freemasons. In June, 1600, the Laird of Auchinleck was made a speculative member, the first authentic record of the making of such a member.

The famous Dr. Desaguliers visited the The Lodge of Edinburgh on August 24, 1721. He had served as Grand Master of England and was referred to as "General Master Desaguliers". On the next day, while he was present, the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, the Treasurer, the Deacon Convener of the Trades and the Clerk to the Dean of the Guild Court were admitted as members.

This date is thought to mark the change over from operative to speculative Freemasonry in Scotland.

Source: <http://www.masonic-lodge-of-education.com/apprentice-training-masonic.html>

JANUARY Anniversaries



17th	Donald Carlyle	27rd	Kenneth Moore
19th	Donald Coon	30th	David Lambert
23rd	John Hunt		

JANUARY Birthdays



4th	Richard Puls, Jr.	29th	Kenneth Williams
9th	Gary Gentry	28th	Charles Snow
13th	Gary DeVault	31st	James Fullwood
24th	Phillip Eubank		Michael Carver
26th	Paul Plummer		Charles Osborne

J.F. Swartsel Lodge #251

January 2014 Events Calendar

DECEMBER 28TH – OPEN INSTALLATION OF 2014 OFFICERS Begins at 10:00am

******* Lunch Will Be Available Immediately Following The Ceremonies *******

- January 1** NO DISTRICT SCHOOL because of the New Years Day Holiday **BE SAFE**
- January 2** Stated Meeting of J. F. Swartsel.....Dinner at 6:30 pm - Lodge opens at 7:30 pm
- January 12** Annual Meeting of Masonic Park Corporation at Tampa Lodge No. 240.....2:00 pm
- January 16** Stated Meeting of J. F. Swartsel.....Dinner at 6:30 pm - Lodge opens at 7:30 pm
- January 17** Lodge Monthly Third Friday Fish Fry.....Serving from 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm
- January 18** Monthly meeting of Memorial Lodge No. 23 at Fellowship Lodge.....10:00 am
- January 19** Monthly meeting of Masonic Home BOT at the Home..... 11:00 am
- January 24** Monthly meeting of Hillsborough Masters & Wardens at Fellowship 265.....7:00 pm
- January 30** Family Night Dinner at JF Swartsel Lo..... Dinner Begins at 6:30 – Lodge Opens 7:30pm



2014 Lodge Officers



Worshipful Master

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jtsklet@yahoo.com
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Secretary

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Tyler

Gregory L. Gough
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Historian

W.: Ron Speaks
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Musician

John S. Nagy
John2013@coach.net
813-949-0718

JF. Swartsel Lodge #251 of Free and Accepted Masons

PAST MASTERS

1925 - 1949

Marvin Roberts	1925-26*
Edward Roberts	1927-34*
E.W. Johnson	1929*
Stephen Tinsel	1930*
W.M Wohlhutner	1931*
Edgar Hooker	1932*
Lewis Hatton	1933*
W.W. Saylor	1935-40*
R.E. Paterson	1936*
William Hatton	1937-39*
L.L. Harper	1938*
Henry T. Barlett	1941*
W.D. Gorden	1942*
Robert C. Martin	1942*
George M. Lewis	1944*
Barney Gay	1945*
Benjamin F. Huber	1946*
F. William Hiller	1947*
Charles Chesire	1948**
Charles S. Little	1949*

* Deceased
 ** Dimitted
 * ** Deceased/Dimitted (Served 23rd District)

1950 - 1974

Jake T. Hickman	1950*
J. William Davies	1951*
J. Alvin Dey	1952*
George T. Bareford	1953*
Robert Q. Coram	1954*
George T. Beutel, PDDGM	1955*
Robert Gupton	1956*
M. Randolph Dey	1957*
James Galloway, Jr.	1958*
Franklin G. Deane	1959*
C. Pierce Garrison, PDDGM	1960*
Roy C. Meade	1961*
Andrew W. Murdoch	1962*
James Edgar Brant	1963*
Hubert W. Johnson	1964*
Richard I. Puls, Sr.	1964*
Thomas B. Daughtey	1965*
James W. Bland	1966**
T. Craig Wheeler	1967*
Freddie E. Hughes	1968*
Clyde H. Smith	1969
Charles R. Murphy	1970*
James P. Plummer	1971*
William K. Thacker	1972*
Stanley E. James	1973*
Joseph Winchester	1974*

* Deceased
 ** Dimitted
 * ** Deceased/Dimitted (Served 23rd District)



Past
Masters

Continue On The
Next Page...

J.F. Swartsel Lodge Past Masters

1975 – 1999

V. Curtis Lovvorn	1975*
Phillip V. Getz	1976*
Frank T. Newsome	1977*
Clark W. Barlow	1978
John E. Adams	1979*
John D. Wilson	1980*
Edward B. Wilson	1981
Thomas L. Osborn	1982*
Edward Malinski	1983*
Lloyd D. Herbert	1984
Charles Inman	1985
Gary F. Gentry	1986
John T. Blanton, Jr. PDDGM	1987* **
Thomas J. Stewart, Jr.	1988*
Chester E. Wiese	1989*
John R. Hilton	1990*
Earl R. Shanks	1991**
Floyd A. Dozier	1992
Marion D. Luke	1993*
James W. Ulmsted, Jr.	1994**
Donald R. Bell, PDDGM	1995
Larry G. Padgett	1996*
M. Allen Richey	1997*
Gary A. Richey	1998
David B. Lambert	1999

* Deceased
 ** Dimitted
 * ** Deceased/Dimitted (Served 23rd District)

2000 – 2013

David B. Lambert, II	2000
James R. Lambert	2001
Gregory A. Lambert	2002
Joseph E. Fara, Sr.	2003
Bruce B. Vaughn	2004*
Donald E. Belcher	2005*
Joseph P. Wells	2006
William L. Bortz	2007
Gregory L. Savage	2008
Drew M. Keenan	2009
Donnel G. Cortright	2010
Richard D. Segó	2011
Jerry M. Snell, Jr.	2012
Gregory L. Savage	2013

* Deceased
 ** Dimitted
 * ** Deceased/Dimitted (Served 23rd District)

Trestle Board Editor
 Brother Brian P. Stricker

Do You Have Suggestions OR Would You Like To See Something Of Interest To The Brethren in the Online Trestle Board?

Send Your Suggestions OR Contact Brother Stricker at bpstricker@gmail.com OR at 813-833-9630

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