J. F. Swartsel lodge No. 251 F. & A.M. Trestleboard

Published monthly Volume LXXXX Issue No. 8 August 2016 AD, 6016 AL

Stated Communications: 1st and 3rd Thursday - - Supper 6:30 – Meeting 7:30

The third Friday of EACH month is reserved for a public Fish Fry at the lodge

The 5th Thursday night of the month is reserved for Family night at the lodge

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IN THIS ISSUE YOU WILL FIND….
Masonic Education, Chair Chatter, Lodge News & Events, Calendar of Important Events, Lodge Officers, Sponsors and Website Information

Masonic Education Submitted by W*:.* Stuart Graff

From The Books of the Book – Exodus – by Clarence H. Cohen, PGM of Georgia

Exodus is the second book of the Pentateuch. The word Exodus in Greek means "departure", the "going out", of the Hebrew people who for more than four hundred years were sojourners and slaves in Egypt. The bitter oppression of the Hebrew race by the Egyptians and their dramatic release under the leadership of Moses, is the central theme of Exodus.

That Moses was the author of this book there can be no doubt, as it is a history of matters of fact, it was doubtless written after the giving of the law on Mount Sinai and the erecting of the tabernacle.

The book of Exodus records the cruel persecution of the Israelites in Egypt; the birth, exposure and preservation of Moses; his subsequent flight into Midian; his call and mission to Pharaoh; the miracles performed by him and his brother Aaron; the institution of the Passover; the passage across the Red Sea and the destruction of the Egyptian army; the journeying of the Israelites into the desert, their idolatry and murmurings against God; the promulgation of the law from Mount Sinai, and the erection of the tabernacle.

One of the greatest utterances of all times is the cry of Moses to Pharaoh, "Let my people go" (5:1). How many times has this cry been uttered since?

Everyone who is reading this should turn to his Bible and read Exodus 20: 1-17. In the Decalogue is expressed the moral and religious teachings which governed the people of Israel. The meaning of the covenant id given in 19: 1-6.

As the center for their worship of God the tabernacle played a large part in the life of the Israelites. It is the model for the sanctuary part of King Solomon's Temple, upon which the symbols and allegories of speculative Masonry are fashioned.

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Friendship chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star along with members of J. F. Swartsel Lodge enjoyed a wonderful "Lodge – Chapter Day of Fun" on Sunday July 17th. The 'Funday Sunday' began at 2:00 PM at the Tampa Theater with a tour of the historic downtown theater where we then saw the classic movie "The French Connection" starring Gene Hackman and a host many others. After the movie we went to the Outback Restaurant in Temple Terrace where we enjoyed our choice of dinner and drinks selected from the menu. The above pictures were taken at the restaurant and show all participants enjoying the fellowship and camaraderie that can only be gained when friends get together for a celebration. Thanks to each and every one of the brothers and sisters that were in attendance for a wonderful and memorable *Funday-Sunday.*

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Your Catechism Instructors for the three symbolic degrees in freemasonry are:

R:.W:. Sam Pesola, W:. Jerry Snell, W:. Jeff Sklet, W:. Stuart Graff, Brother Sam McPherson

Comments from the Craft

Thanks to all who have donated to the building fund. It has helped make our lodge second to none. W:. David B. Lambert

I am truly enjoying the articles; especially the Masonic Education. It is a great reminder of why I became a Mason.

The articles as well as the design of the Trestleboard are making me very happy that I am a member of this lodge even though I can't seem to get to all of the meetings. Keep up the good work. Thanks.

Chair Chatter

From the Worshipful Master's station: W:.M:.Danny Valdez

My Brothers, last month was a good month for our Lodge we had 5 new Master Mason sit in the East as is out tradition in the Lodge. We balloted on 3 Candidates to receive the Three Symbolic Degrees and 3 Master Masons gave back their catechism.
At the Grand Master's Visitation we had 20 Brothers and their wives. If we weren't first in attendance, at the Grand Master's Meeting we were very close.
Elizabeth McAbee of Chapter 209 Order of the Eastern Star and Worthy Matron, put together an outing to help bring our Lodge and Chapter together in a day of fun and Fellowship. Those in attendance: R:.W:. Bell and Gloria, Worshipful Graff and Dottie, Brother Penny and Grace and myself; along with the Ladies of the Chapter and Brother McAbee. We started out with a tour of the old Tampa Theatre, saw a great movie classic (The French Connection – starring Gene Hackman) and ended at Outback Restaurant in Temple Terrace. It was a great day for all.
Our last Fish Fry went well considering it is summer; to all that helped I want to offer my sincere "Thank You".
My Brothers let us not forget the District School, Zone School and Masonic Leadership Training. The Brothers that put these schools together work hard for your benefit. Take advantage of it.....it cost you nothing except a little bit of your time.
Thank you Brothers for making this one of the best Lodges in the Country.

From the Secretary's station: W:. David B. Lambert, Sr.

It's been a busy month at your Lodge; we have 5 new Entered Apprentice brothers, **Eric Spencer Brown**, **Edward Stephen Bush, Ian Patrick Dundas Helphrey**, **Troy Rendueles** and **John Thomas Bates** were welcomed into the Lodge after their Degree July 14th, and what a great Degree it was, a lot of good food, fellowship and fun. And if you missed Family night you missed a great time. Also J F Swartsel Lodge had a super turn out for the Grand Masters Official Visit we had 20 Brothers there, and the 22nd & 23rd Districts were congratulated for their attendance and dedication to the Craft. Brother's congratulations are in order for our Chaplain brother Frank Penny, he has received his 50 year Certificate and Pin from the Grand Lodge of Connecticut and the Grand Lodge of Florida, I don't know what the Lodge would do without Brother Penny he does so much at our Lodge. Again thank you Brother Penny. Brethren take a look at the important dates and come on out and have some fun and fellowship with your brothers.

JULY 26TH @ 4:00 PM - 10:00 PM	LODGE NIGHT OUT AT CHILIES RESTAURANT - SR-54 IN LAND O' LAKES.
July 30th @ 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM	Widow's Luncheon @ Red Lobster 11601 N. Dale Mabry Hwy Tampa, Fl
August 3rd @ 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	District School of Instruction @ John Darling Lodge No. 154
August 4th, Dinner - 6:30, Meeting - 7:30	Stated Communication **- -** J. F. Swartsel Lodge
August 12th @ 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	Masonic Park Board Meeting
August 14th 10:00 AM	Masonic Home Board of Trustees Church Meeting, 11:00 AM - Board Meeting
August 18th, Dinner - 6:30, Meeting - 7:30	Stated Communication **- -** J. F. Swartsel Lodge
August 19th from 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM	**3Rd** Friday Fish Fry at J. F. Swartsel Lodge (open to all), eat in or take out
August 26th 6:30 PM	Masters and Wardens, District 22 & 23 @ John Darling Lodge No.154
August 26th 7:30 PM	Memorial Lodge Meeting @ John Darling No.154

From the Senior Warden's station: R:.W:. Charles "Sam" Pesola

Once again my brothers, I put computer key to fingertip to give you some of my pertinent thoughts for this month. So far this year my 'station' has not given me any real challenges. For this I will be eternally grateful. I am also just as grateful to the brothers that have stepped up to fill in for me at functions that I have not have been able to attend. As you may have figured out, this has been a very busy year for me and I don't really see any possibility of a 'let up' any time soon. I do believe that going forward I will have more time to focus on my responsibilities as your Senior Warden. As you may be aware; those responsibilities are not only important to the well-being of the lodge but to the craft and the fraternity as well. If any of you have any suggestion as to how I can improve my service to you or to the lodge please do not hesitate to let me know and I will take all suggestions into consideration.

From the Junior Warden's station: Brother Marty Grief

My Brothers, I am proud to be a Mason. And I am very proud to belong to J.F. Swartsel. At the Grand Masters Official visit we were very well represented. If we did not have the most Brothers there, then we came in a very close second. Thank you for all who attended. For those of you who could not attend, I know that you were there in spirit!

Another thing that makes me proud to be a member of our lodge is the turnout. Lately we've had more Brothers than usual at our meetings. This makes it more fun for everyone! So if you have not been to lodge for a while, you might be surprised.

Our current Fund Raiser raffle to win $1,000 in restaurant gift cards is almost over. The tickets are $10 each and we only have 1,000 tickets. If you would like to buy a ticket, or would be willing to sell tickets for the lodge, please let me know. The drawing will be held August 18th at our Stated Communication.

Last, but not least, we have another Dinner Out with the Masons planned for Monday, August 29th. What makes this dinner special is that we will be dining in style at the Fountain Bistro, 238 E Davis Blvd, Tampa, FL 33606. The Head Chef is our very own Senior Steward, Wassam (Sam) Itani. Join us for a great night of fun and fellowship while we support both J.F. Swartsel and our Brother Sam!

Congratulations to Brother Frank E. Penny on 50 years of Masonic Service

These are the available pictures of your2016 officers

W:.M:. Danny Valdez

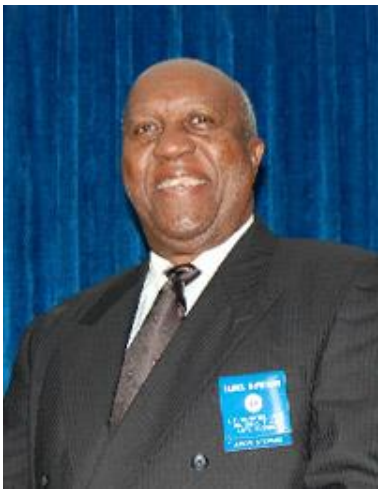
Br. Marty Greif – J.W.

Br. Frank Penny - Chaplain

W:. Stuart Graff - Historian

W:. David Lambert - Secretary

W:. Jerry Snell – S.D.



Br. Sam McPherson - J.S.

Br. Derek DeGain – J.D.

Br. Kevin Duhaime - Tyler

2016 Lodge Officers

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Please remember your Lodge Boosters and thank them

R:.W:. Ronald E. Stanley R:.W:. Donald R. Bell Mark L. Lager
Daniel Allen Brad Sollberger Ernest P. Sidlow

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