



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

Published monthly Volume MMXIX Issue No. 10 – October 2019 AD, 6019 AL

Our stated Communications are held on the 1st and 3rd Thursday - - Supper 6:30 – Meeting 7:30

The third Friday of EACH month is reserved for an open to the public Fish Fry at the lodge

The fifth Thursday night of the month is reserved for an open to the public family night at the lodge

3109 Lutz Lake Fern Road, Lutz FL 33558 \\ Mail: P.O. Box 1475, Lutz FL 33548-1475

Email: info@JFSwartsel251.org Website: www.jfswartsel251.org Phone: 813-949-4814

Facebook: www.facebook.com/jfswartsel251

If you know a brother that is in distress or in need of a ride to the lodge for a meeting, please let us know.

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

W. Jerry M. Snell, Jr. - W. Stephen Edson – W. Stuart J. Graff – Br. Raymond J. Ciunci

WHO DOES J. F. SWARTSEL LODGE SUPPORT IN THE COMMUNITY?

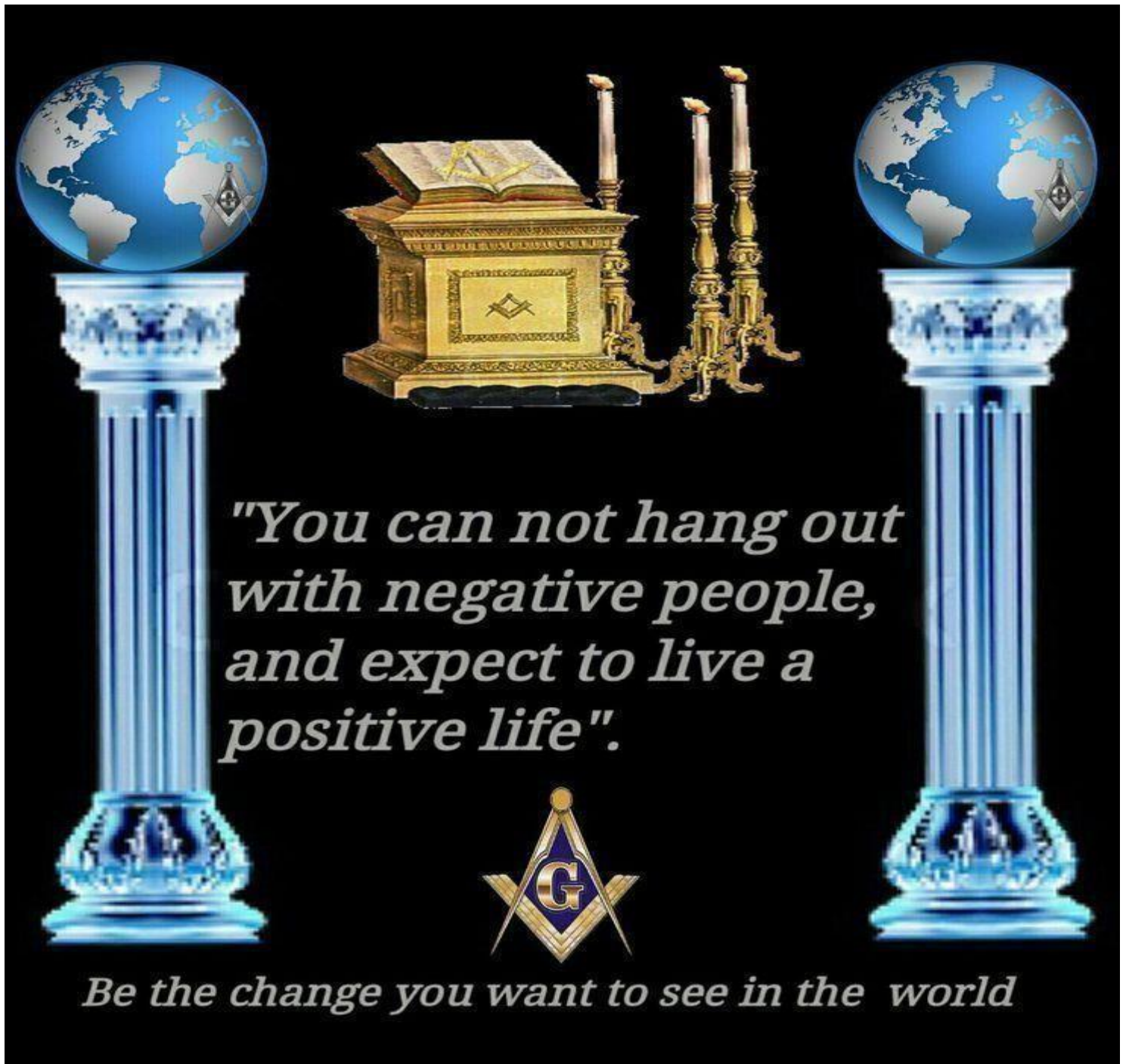
DONATE DONATE = DONATE

The Lutz Fire Department TOPS (take off pounds sensibly) Lutz chapter 56 BSA (Boy Scouts of America) pack and troop 12;
Lutz Lutz Little League Baseball Awards college scholarships in N.W. Hillsborough County Mc Kittrich Elementary “Helping
Paws Program” Rainbow Assembly (Hillsborough County) De Molay (Hillsborough County) Shriners’ Hospital Lifepath
Hospice Jobs’ Daughters

Have you been to your lodge lately?

Do you know who returned their catechism lately or who we are preparing for advancement?

Would you like to help with any of the degrees?



A very special thank you to **all** of our Past Masters;

Without whose guidance we wouldn't be where we are today

Below is a list of those that have not yet gone to the Celestial Lodge above.

1965 W ✱ Thomas B. Daughtey - 1973 W ✱ Stanley E. James - 1976 W ✱ Phillip V. Getz - 1981 W ✱ Edward B. Wilson - 1985 W ✱ Charles Inman - 1986 W ✱ Gary F. Gentry - 1992 W ✱ Floyd A. Dozier - 1995 R ✱ W ✱ Donald R. Bell, PDDGM - 1998 W ✱ Gary A. Richey - 1999 W ✱ David B. Lambert, Sr. - 2000 W ✱ David B. Lambert, II - 2001 W ✱ James R. Lambert - 2002 W ✱ Gregory A. Lambert - 2003 W ✱ Joseph E. Fara, Sr. - 2007 W ✱ William L. Boortz - 2008 W ✱ Gregory L. Savage - 2009 W ✱ Drew M. Keenan - 2011 W ✱ Richard D. Sego - 2012 W ✱ Jerry M. Snell, Jr. - 2013 W ✱ Gregory L. Savage - 2014 W ✱ Jeffrey T. Sklet - 2015 R ✱ W ✱ Charles C. Osborne, PDDGM - 2016 W ✱ Danilo O. Valdez . - 2017 R ✱ W ✱ Charles J. "Sam" Pesola, PDDGM - 2018 W ✱ Martin A. Greif -

Your 2019 J. F. Swartsel officers are as follows:

Worshipful Master – W :: Jerry Martin Snell, Jr.

Senior Warden – Brother Adam Scott Feldman

Junior Warden – Brother Samuel McPherson

Treasurer – W :: Stuart Jay Graff

Secretary – W :: David Bruce Lambert, Sr.

Chaplain – Brother Al Timothy Cochran

Marshal – Brother LaMont Jay Richardson

Senior Deacon – Brother Craig Frederick Muth

Junior Deacon – Brother Raymond Joseph Ciunci

Senior Steward – Brother Wade Edward Angel

Junior Steward – Brother Dennis Morgan Victor Martin

Tyler – Brother Brian Andrew Reach

Musician - Brother John Nagy

Historian – Brother Frank William Fernandez



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The link is <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/59-2740213>



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

Chair Chatter



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

Important dates for October

- 1st 6:30 – 7:30, Officers Meeting after Degree Practice @ Swartsel.
- 3rd Stated Communication of Swartsel Lodge, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.
- 5th 10:AM – 11:30 Order of the Rusty Nail Degree Practice @ John Darling 154.
- 8th 6:30, Degree Practice @ Swartsel.
- 11th Masonic Park Board Meeting @ Tampa 240.
- 12th Rusty Nail Degree @ John Darling Lodge 154.
- 15th 6:30, Degree Practice @ Swartsel, (Farmers Degree).
- 17th Stated Communication of Swartsel Lodge, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.
J. F. Swartsel Lodge members will be voting by written ballot on the Resolution for the merging of J. F. Swartsel Lodge No. 251 and Community Lodge No. 292, with J. F. Swartsel Lodge No. 251 being the continuing Lodge.
- 18th Third Friday FULL Menu Fish Fry at J.F. Swartsel Lodge – Serving from 5 – 8 PM or when the food runs out.
- 18th 6:30, Hillsborough County Master Masons Association @ John Darling 154, with Memorial Lodge to follow.
- 19th WIDOW'S LUNCHEON SATURDAY, (October 19th @ 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM , Red Lobster Restaurant, 11601 N. DALE MABRY HWY TAMPA, FL
- 22nd 6:30, Degree Practice @ Swartsel.
- 29th 6:30, Degree Practice @ Swartsel.
- 31st 6:30, Family Night @ J. F. Swartsel Lodge No 251.

From the Worshipful Master's station: ^ W. Jerry M. Snell, Jr.

By the time you receive this we will have three new Master Masons; Brother's Jenkins, Schmidt and Polack. I want to congratulate them on having completed their journey in Free Masonry. We look forward to seeing you in the Lodge as well as our two new Entered Apprentices.

I want to thank all the Brothers for their hard work on the lodge workday. Many things were accomplished such as the flagpole fixes, cleaning of the floors, trimming the tree and repairing the fascia on the east side of the building.

October is a busy month for us, we'll have our two stated meetings with the second one being for our merger vote as well as the resolutions. Our third Friday fish fry, and fifth Thursday Family night now starting at 6:30 pm as well as our Widows luncheon held at Red Lobster on N. Dale Mabry; October 19th.

From the Senior Warden's station: 🏛 Brother Adam S. Feldman

There's just something special about JF Swartsel Lodge...

Our attendance is higher than Lodges with four times as many Brothers on their rolls. Our monthly visit to other Lodges typically results in us bringing more Brothers than the host Lodge has in attendance! Our ritual work is better than any other Lodge I've traveled to... and I've been doing a fair amount of traveling! When we have a work day or Fish fry at the Lodge, it is always well attended with Brothers looking to help. Representatives from Lodges who have consolidated or merged make it a point to see "what we are doing", in hopes of incorporating our practices into their respective Home Lodge. We have definitely established a winning culture!

If Freemasonry has taught me anything, it is that you can't compare yourself to anyone other than the "You" you were yesterday, and the "You" that you're endeavoring to be tomorrow. Our tomorrow looks bright because of the effort you, the Brother of JF Swartsel has given to your home away from home in the past. I thank you all for the time and effort you've put in toward our gentle Craft, and am excited to see what the future holds for our unique and wonderful Lodge!

From the Junior Warden's station:  **Brother Sam McPherson**

We thank the Great Architect the universe for surviving Dorian as one of most powerful hurricanes diverted from the Tampa bay area, but not for our brothers and families and friends in the Bahamas. As masons, we should show brotherly love by bringing donations to send to them. They are in need of everything.

We had a great turnout for family night this past month with fun and fellowship. If you weren't there plan for the next one Oct 31, 2019 at 6:PM. Hope to see you there with your favorite dish (to share). Brothers, we have activities at our lodge that require brothers to participate such the fish fry the third Friday of every month; lets come out and support your lodge along with lending a hand and building relationships.

I would like to congratulate our newly initiated brothers on the 26th September and our brothers raised on the 28th of September.

We are visiting community lodge in support of their DDGM visit on the oct 2, 2019. 6:30 PM dinner with the meeting beginning at 7:30Pm

Month of October Masonic Education

10/3 Bro. W. Angel

10/17 W.: J. J. T. Blum

Masonic Education

Submitted by W.: Stuart J. Graff



Vouching

One of the privileges and one of the responsibilities of the Master Mason is that of vouching for a brother. To vouch for a Mason is Masonically to say to the brother to whom one introduces him who is vouched for: "I know that this brother is a Mason."

By implication it means (1) that the brother vouching has sat in open lodge with the brother being vouched for, or (2) that the brother vouching has subjected the brother vouched for to a strict trial and due examination.

In most jurisdictions no brother may undertake a private examination of any man representing himself as a brother without the orders of the Worshipful Master of his lodge, or of the Grand Master. The Worshipful Master is solely responsible for the proper purging of his lodge and therefore has the right to decide who is and who is not competent to examine a visitor.

The number of men who have never taken the degrees who try to get into Masonic Lodges is very small. Nevertheless there have been, are, and doubtless will be such men; men without principle or honor; eavesdroppers who have heard what was not intended for their ears.

Far more dangerous than the eavesdropper is the cowan. In these modern days the cowan is the man who has been legally raised but who has been dropped due to N.P.D. or suspended or expelled after trial; or he is an EA or a FC whose further advancement has been stopped for cause.

If such one was to be evilly disposed he may – and has been known to forge a good standing card to use as credentials or he may find a lost card and assume the identity of the name signed upon it. Some brethren are so unwise as to keep their good standing cards from year to year as an interesting collection. If such a collection were stolen it may be the innocent means of letting loose upon the Fraternity a whole flock of designing cowans, since dates upon such cards are changed with little difficulty. It is an excellent Masonic rule to destroy last year's card as soon as this years card is received. Loss of a current card should be immediately reported to the Grand Secretary, as well as well as the Master of the Lodge. **A card should be signed as soon as it is received.**

No avouchment may be accepted from an EA or a FC. A brother of the first or second degree may be absolutely sure that all those in the lodge in which he took his degrees were Master Masons, but not being a Master Mason he cannot possess lawful Masonic information about Master Masons. Neither is he competent to avouch to a Tyler for any EA or FC he remembers as in lodge with him as a Mason of the degree in which the lodge was then open. **The right to vouch is strictly a Master Masons' right; no EA or FC possesses it.**

Vouching for a brother is a solemn undertaking. Before the lodge the voucher puts his Masonic credit against the credit of the brother he vouches for. No squeamishness of feeling should ever interfere. A Master Mason should not vouch for his blood brother even if morally sure his brother is Mason unless he has lawful Masonic information.

No one should ever feel offended because a brother will not vouch for him. For example – (A) may remember having sat in lodge with (B), yet (B) may have forgotten that they sat together in lodge. If (B) refuses to vouch for (A), (A) should be happy that (B) is so careful a Mason, not offended that (B) does not remember or because "he doesn't trust me."

The lodge is more important than the brother. The sanctity of the tiled door is greater than the feelings of the individual. The Masonic honor of the brother doing the vouching should be of far greater worth to him than any consideration of expediency.

The entire matter may be covered in one small commandment:

"Never vouch unless you have lawful Masonic knowledge"

This year the Order of The Rusty Nail will be sponsored by and presented at John Darling Lodge #154 located at 4601 N. Habana Ave in Tampa on Saturday October 12th **beginning at 10:00 AM**. There will be no charge for attendance or lunch. Please plan to attend and bring any brother that you believe will benefit from this program. Lunch will be prepared by the sponsoring lodge and served after the conclusion of the program.



The Order of the Rusty Nail is a short program for use in a tyled lodge of Master Masons. It is designed to refresh the memories of Brethren holding a valid dues card who are not regular in their lodge attendance. The lodge will not be opened in regular form but will be tyled as normal.


The Order of the Rusty Nail refreshes the memory regarding the steps, grips, signs and passwords of the three degrees of Freemasonry. It touches on lodge customs and reviews the mysteries and legends of Freemasonry as taught in the ritual. **It is a tool designed to encourage regular attendance at lodge meetings and bring a non-attending Brother into the lodge and make him feel at ease with what may be forgotten ritual.**

There will be a special guest speaker immediately following the Rusty Nail. This speaker will be none other than M.:W.:Robert "Bob" D. (Dwayne) Trump. His program will be The Blue Lodge Honorary Fourth Degree. It is a special advanced program that all Blue Lodge Masons have the opportunity to partake in and is only available by special request.

Each of these programs will probably take less than an hour so we can all eat lunch at a reasonable time.



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