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Our Monthly Lodge visit for July is to PTF United No. 153 on the 20<sup>th</sup>, and we've got an EA Degree on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.  
We look forward to seeing you!

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

W. Jerry M. Snell, Jr. - W. Stephen Edson – Br. Raymond Ciunci – Br. Allan A. Jenkins

DONATE



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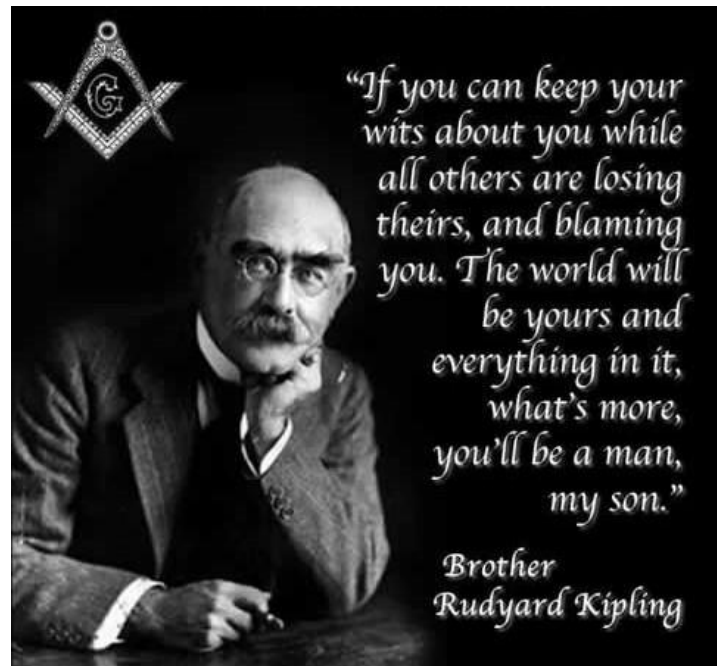
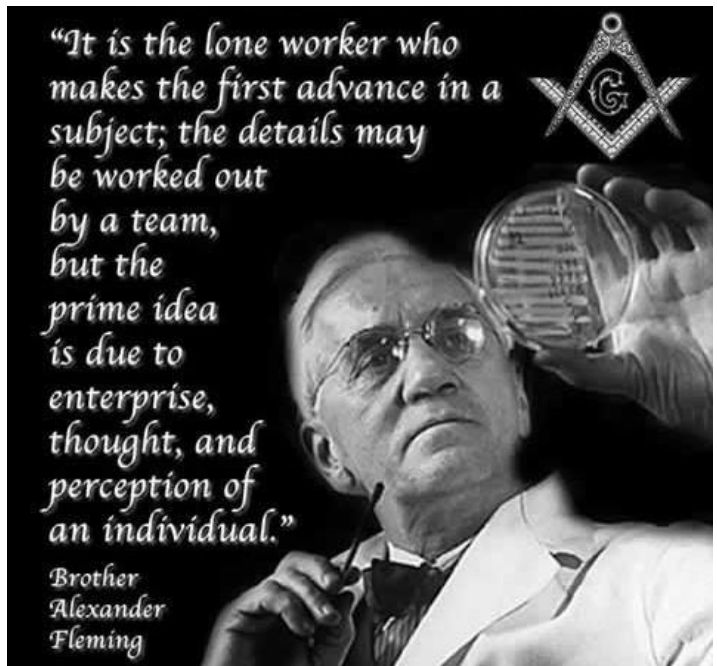


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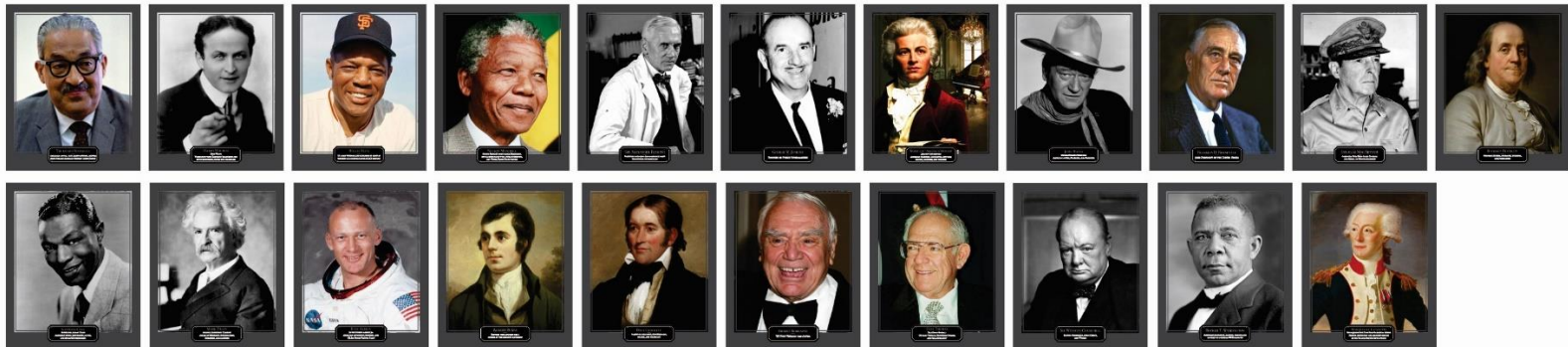


**Who does J. F. Swartsel Lodge support in the community?**

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  
McKittrick Elementary School  
“Helping Paws Program”  
Rainbow Assembly (Hillsborough County)  
De Molay (Hillsborough County)  
Shriners' Hospital  
Lifepath Hospice  
Jobs' Daughters  
Monthly Bingo jackpots at the Florida Masonic Home in St. Petersburg



If they could do the things they did then,



imagine the things that we can do now.

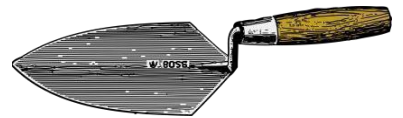
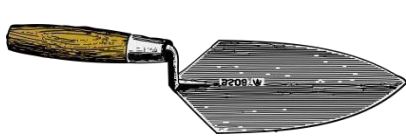
**A very special thank you to all of J.F. Swartsel's Past Masters - Who laid the foundation for us to build upon**

**The Past Masters of J.F. Swartsel that are still with us today, and continue to carry the torch of Light on behalf of Freemasonry**

1957 W • Randolph Dey - 1965 W • Thomas B. Daughtey - 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 - 2019 W • Jerry M. Snell, Jr.  
 2020 W • Adam S. Feldman

## **Your 2021 J. F. Swartsel Officers are as follows:**

**Worshipful Master** W ∴ Samuel McPherson  
**Senior Warden** Brother Raymond Joseph Ciunci  
**Junior Warden** Brother Wade Edward Angel  
**Treasurer** W ∴ Jeffrey Thomas Sklet  
**Secretary** W ∴ David Bruce Lambert Sr.  
**Chaplain** W ∴ Jerry Marvin Snell Jr.  
**Marshall** W ∴ Stephen Douglas Edson  
**Senior Deacon** Brother Dennis Morgan Victor Martin  
**Junior Deacon** W ∴ Danilo Orlando Valdez  
**Senior Steward** Brother Demetrios Thomas Dellis  
**Junior Steward** Brother Joe Circhirillo  
**Tyler** W ∴ Bahram (Tony) Hedayat  
**Musician** Brother John Nagy  
**Historian** W ∴ Adam Scott Feldman



**Your Amazon purchases can be helping the Fraternity!**

Next time you need something, go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) instead of [www](https://www.amazon.com), and select “the Masonic Home Endowment Fund, Inc.”, and ½% of your purchase will be donated to provide help, aide, and assistance to the residents of the Masonic Home!

**The link is** [http://smile.amazon.com/ch/59-2740213](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/59-2740213)

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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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## Chair Chatter

### From the Secretary: Worshipful David Lambert, Sr.

Brethren,

Please email or call me with any changes in your contact information.

### **Calendar of Important Lodge Dates: July 2021**

<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>DDGM Official Visit to J. F. Swartsel Lodge at our 1<sup>st</sup> SC, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.</b>
<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6:30 – 7:30 Degree Practice @ J. F. Swartsel.</b>
<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6:PM – 7:PM MLT, / 7:PM – 8:PM District School of Instruction @ John Darling No. 154.</b>
<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:PM - Masonic Park Board Meeting @ Tampa 240.</b>
<b>13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6:PM - 6:45 Officers meeting, 6:45 – 8:PM Degree Practice</b>
<b>15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.</b>
<b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Trestleboard Articles due to W.: Feldman.</b>
<b>19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:30 PM, Friendship Chapter No. 209 Stated Meeting.</b>
<b>20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>NO PRACTICE! Monthly Lodge Visit: PTF United No. 153, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.</b>
<b>21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>6:30 – 8:00 Commandry Practice @ J. F. Swartsel No. 251.</b>
<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>E. A. Degree, J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.</b>
<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>6:30 – 7:30 Master Mason Association of Hillsborough County.</b>
<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8:30 – Noon, Open Books, Zone School of Instruction @ Tampa Scottish Rite.</b>
<b>27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6:30 – 7:30 Degree Practice.</b>
<b>29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6:30 – 8:00, FAMILY NIGHT @ J. F. SWARTSEL / COVERED DISH.</b>

### From the Worthy Matron: Elizabeth McAbee

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our ice cream social held on June 7 was a wonderful time of fellowship and relaxation. Members who painted patriotic coasters were pleased with their creations and donated them to be presented at our dinner when we honor our First Responders on Monday, October 4.

Mark your calendar now to join us for a district luncheon to honor our founder Robert Morris on Sunday, August 22, 2:00 p.m., at Palma Ceia Chapter (A.W. Windhorst Lodge, 5011 N. Nebraska Ave., Tampa, 33603). Friendship Chapter is responsible for bringing side dishes (baked beans, chips, veggie trays, etc.).

Friendship Chapter will be dark during July and August. Our next meeting will be Monday, September 20, when we will honor the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls by having former Rainbow Girls serve in our stations.

We cherish our family ties and appreciate all the Lodge does to support our Chapter. Masons in good standing as well as their female relatives are eligible for membership in the Order of the Eastern Star. Information and petitions can be easily obtained by contacting me.

Have a safe and restful summer. Praying you're blessed...



Fraternally,

Elizabeth C McAbee  
Worthy Matron  
813/494-6210  
*Matthew 5:16*

## **Worshipful Master: Brother Sam McPherson**

My Brothers, Vacation time is here and so is the hot weather. Being outside, if you must, keep hydrated and keep sheltered as much as possible., Do not let that slow you down from attending your Lodge. We need your attendance and support now as much as ever. Summer is upon us and the year is halfway through; life as we know it will not be back to normal, but we are seeing signs of recovery as Brothers are beginning to come back. It has been great seeing them again!

I congratulate Bro. Walter B. Price Jr. on being passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft this past month; he continues the legacy his father began as a Mason. There is still much to learn... enjoy the journey my Brother. We traveled to Brandon 114 this past month and had a great visit, thank you Brothers. We will visit PTF United No. 153 on 7/20, Dinner at 6:30 Lodge 7:30PM. They will be reading from the oldest Masonic records ever discovered, dating to the 1500s! See you there!

Brothers, we will have our first family night gathering in over a year on July 29<sup>th</sup> so bring your favorite vegetable or dessert to a fun and games night at the Lodge. Let's have a great turnout...see you there!

Happy Birthday to all our Brothers having a birthday in July, may the G.A.O.T.U. bless you with many more. Enjoy your special day.

Brethren, remember that you, in your workaday life, are someone's impression of what Masonry is. Please govern your life, and behavior. As Mason we are always being tested, here is an example, hope you enjoy as much as I did.

### **THE TEST Author: Unknown**

Several years ago, the story is told of a Mason who always wore his Masonic ring and lapel pin when in public. On some occasions, he rode the bus from his home to the downtown area. On one such trip and when he sat down, he discovered the driver had accidentally given him a quarter too much change.

As he considered what to do, he thought to himself, "You'd better give the quarter back. It would be wrong to keep it." Then he thought, "Oh, forget it, it's only a quarter, who would worry about this little amount." Anyway, the transit company gets too much fare; they will never miss it. Accept it as a 'gift from God' and keep quiet.

When his stop came, he paused momentarily at the door, then he handed the quarter to the driver and said, "Here, you gave me too much change."

The driver with a smile replied, " I noticed your Masonic ring and lapel pin. I have been thinking lately about asking a Mason how to join. I just wanted to see what you would do if I gave you too much change. You passed the test. Can you tell me how to become a Mason?"

When the Mason stepped off the bus, he said a silent prayer, "Oh God, Grand Architect of the Universe, I almost sold you and my beloved Masons out for a mere quarter."

Our actions are the only Masonic creed some will ever see. This is an almost scary example of how people watch us as Masons and may put us to the test even without us realizing it! Always be diligent, whether it be at the theater, restaurant, grocery, service station or just driving in traffic.

Remember, whether it be a lapel pin, a ring, or an emblem on the car, you carry the name of our great Fraternity on your shoulders whenever you call yourself a Mason. You never can tell who might be watching!

**Good men search for Freemasonry; Freemasonry makes them better.**

Stay safe until we meet again.

S McPherson WM.



**From the Senior Warden: Brother Ray Ciunci**

Greetings from the West Brothers!!

Hello Brothers! – we are in July. Wow! Things are really flying by.

Brothers, if you have been fully vaccinated, **I continue to encourage you to return to the Lodge.** Many Brothers have already done so and it's really been a pleasure to see them.

We continue to bring in new members and we are continuing to see frequent catechism givebacks. We are also in the midst of planning several major physical improvements. The new stoves are in place and we have several other major improvements that are in the planning stage.

Early in June I traveled to Grand Lodge for the first time and overall, it was an enjoyable experience!! I met and “broke bread” with several Brothers. It was extremely educational to hear the Brothers debate the legislation that we voted on. I also got to meet Brothers from literally all over the Globe. It was all pretty cool!

Please continue to pray for our Military, First Responders, Medical Personnel, and Brothers who are under the weather.

The following is a continuing look at Masonic related definitions – some are basic but most are informative. Hope you enjoy!

Brother Ray Ciunci, SW

DAIS: The platform, or raised floor, in the East of the lodge where the Master sits. In the lodge, the steps to this should be three. The Senior Warden's place should be raised two steps and that of the junior Warden, one step.

**DARKNESS:** Symbolizes that state of ignorance before light (knowledge) is received.

D.D.G.M: District Deputy Grand Master, an assistant who acts for the Grand Master in a particular district.

DEACON: Comes from the Greek diakonos meaning "messenger or waiting-man."

"DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF THE HOLY SAINTS JOHN.": Dedication is a less sacred ceremony than consecration. Hence, lodges are consecrated to God, but dedicated to patrons of the Fraternity.

DEMIT or DIMIT: A release; a resignation of membership; a paper certifying a withdrawal from a lodge (or Masonic body) when in good standing. Both spellings are used, although DIMIT is peculiar to Freemasonry only. In the U.S. some jurisdictions use the former spelling, but the majority use the latter, "Dimit."

DESTITUTE: lacking means, as without money or food.

**DIGEST:** Book of laws of a Grand Lodge in the U.S.; sometimes called The Code.

**DISPENSATION:** Permission to do that which would be forbidden otherwise.

**DISTRESS:** Physical or mental anguish. A Brother in distress does not necessarily mean that he is without funds.

**DOTAGE:** An advanced age when the mind is no longer able to comprehend clearly.

DUE EAST AND WEST: Moses built the Tabernacle due east and west and this practice was carried on by the church builders. The Freemason travels from the West to the East (light) in search of a Master from whom he may gain instruction, or light,

**DUE FORM:** A Masonic body is opened or closed in "due form" when performed fully according to a prescribed ritual. Distinguished from "ample form."

**DUE GUARD:** A mode of recognition peculiar to Freemasons.

**DULY AND TRULY PREPARED:** That the candidate is truly prepared in his heart and mind to receive further enlightenment; also, properly clothed, Masonically.

### **From the Junior Warden: Brother Wade Angel**

First, I want to congratulate Brother Walter Price Jr on being passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft on June 17<sup>th</sup>. The Degree went very well, and it was well attended. Brother Solis from Brandon Lodge did a great job on the lecture, and Worshipful Feldman delivered a perfect charge. After the ceremony, I was talking with some of the Brothers and we discussed how it would be beneficial to the Lodge if we could get more Brothers on the Degree team. That way, we could have the positions filled and get an opportunity to have time off as well. I would like to ask our Brothers to please consider coming to our practices on Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm. There are non-speaking parts too. Some of the Brothers could really use a break from time to time and your help would be greatly appreciated. J. F. Swartsel is starting to get a reputation for good Degree work, and I would like to see more of us be a part of that. Thank you Brothers.

Second, I want to share my recent experience with going to the Grand Communication. I was very much impressed with the turnout for the event. Not only was there a large contingent of Florida Masons present, but there were representatives of the Grand Lodges of many other States. I saw Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama, Connecticut, New York, Virginia, and others. There were also Grand Lodge Officers from other countries. Romania, Turks and Caicos Islands, and Bahamas. A Grand Lodge Officer from The Bahamas spoke about how much assistance Florida Masons gave to them after Hurricane Dorian devastated their Homes. That was something not heard on the news. He spoke of how many trucks of goods and supplies were sent from central Florida to the Bahamas. Brothers helping Brothers. It was very enlightening. I highly recommend attending in the future. Speaking with Brothers from other Jurisdictions is very good Masonic Education.

Fraternally Yours,

Wade E. Angel  
Junior Warden

## **York Rite Lessons**

Companions and Sir Knights,

Why should the Bible be opened in the different Degrees?

Because the work done in the various degrees refers to different passages of the Scripture, viz.: 1<sup>st</sup> degree, 133<sup>rd</sup> Ps, 3<sup>rd</sup> degree, Am 7 and Ec 12 for the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree. Ps 133 Am 7,8 Ex 12

"If you would be loved, love and be lovable." Benjamin Franklin

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What does the term Raised signify?

The expressive term used to designate the reception of the candidate into the third or sublime degree of Master Mason, and alludes both to a part of the ceremony and to our faith in the glorious morn of the resurrection, when our bodies will rise, and become as incorruptible as our souls. Hos 6: 2

“Love knows not its own depth until the hour of separation.” Kahlil Gibran

Most Excellent Companion  
James F. (Robby) Robertson, KYCH  
Grand High Priest  
Grand Chapter of RAM of Florida  
Laus Deo  
**Your humble and obedient servant**

## What have we been up to?

192<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL GRAND COMMUNICATION, MONDAY, MAY 31<sup>ST</sup> THRU WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2021





**6/3:** The day after the conclusion of Grand Lodge, JFS had it's first Stated Communication of the month. It was a well attended meeting, and the fellowship continued over Lightning Hockey at Panninis once the final gavel dropped



**6/15:** It's DDGM Official Visit season. RWDDGM Tom Newton had two Official Visits in June, including the first to Universal Lodge No. 178. His committee is stacked with enough Brothers from JF Swartzel that we could open a FC Lodge with just his party! Congratulations to Brs. Greif, Edson, Sklet, Angel, and Feldman on their appointments! We know you'll bring recognition to JFS throughout the District!





**Congratulations to Br. Walter Price Jr., was passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft on 6/17! Making the evening extra special was the attendance of Brother Walter Price Sr., father of the man of honor. Thank you to Br. Gerard Solis of Brandon Lodge for performing the Lecture beautifully, Br. Feldman for the Charge, and Br. Nagy for always taking our performance to the next level with his performance!**



**6/24: The Brothers of Swartsel traveled to Brandon Lodge No. 114 to attend Lodge with our Brothers from District 20, and we couldn't pass up an opportunity to get our WM in a photo with the Junior Grand Warden, WM of Brandon Lodge, RWDDGM of District 20, and Junior Grand Deacon... who all call Brandon Lodge their home.**



**6/25: I'll give you one guess who won the tie... again... Every time so far this year! Thank you to our Brothers who come out to show the strength of our Lodge. You strengthen Freemasonry in Hillsborough County with your attendance! Afterward, we helped receive the DDGM at Memorial Lodge, and made it to the Oasis at the Shrine with enough time to see the Tampa Bay Lightning make it to the Stanley Cup Finals!**



## **“If”, by Brother Rudyard Kipling**

If you can keep your head when all about you  
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you;  
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,  
But make allowance for their doubting too:  
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,  
Or, being lied about, don't deal in lies,  
Or being hated don't give way to hating,  
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise;

If you can dream---and not make dreams your master;  
If you can think---and not make thoughts your aim,  
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster  
And treat those two impostors just the same:.  
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken  
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,  
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,  
And stoop and build'em up with worn-out tools;

If you can make one heap of all your winnings  
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,  
And lose, and start again at your beginnings,  
And never breathe a word about your loss:  
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew  
To serve your turn long after they are gone,  
And so hold on when there is nothing in you  
Except the Will which says to them: "Hold on!"

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,  
Or walk with Kings---nor lose the common touch,  
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,  
If all men count with you, but none too much:  
If you can fill the unforgiving minute  
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,  
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,  
And---which is more---you'll be a Man, my son!



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