



Published monthly Volume XCVI Issue No. 9 – September A.D. 2021, A.L. 6021

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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/jfswartsel251

We will be having a Fellowcraft Degree on Tuesday the 21st

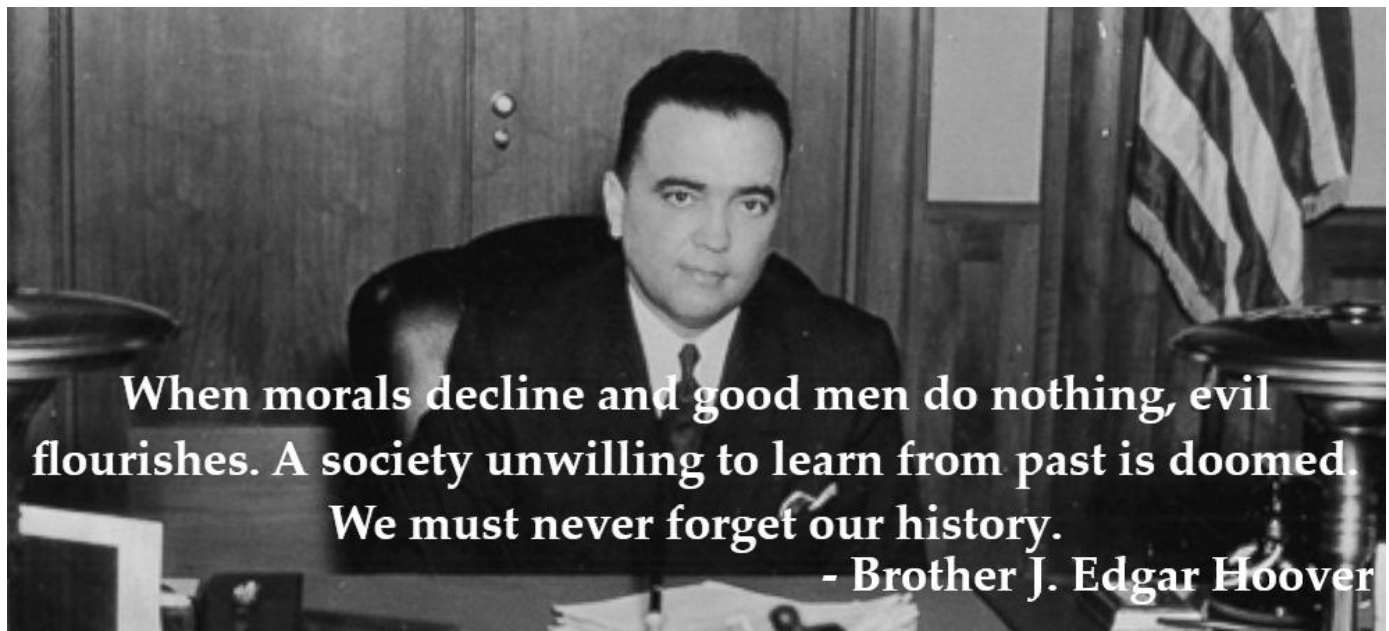
Your Catechism Instructors for the three symbolic degrees in Freemasonry are:

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

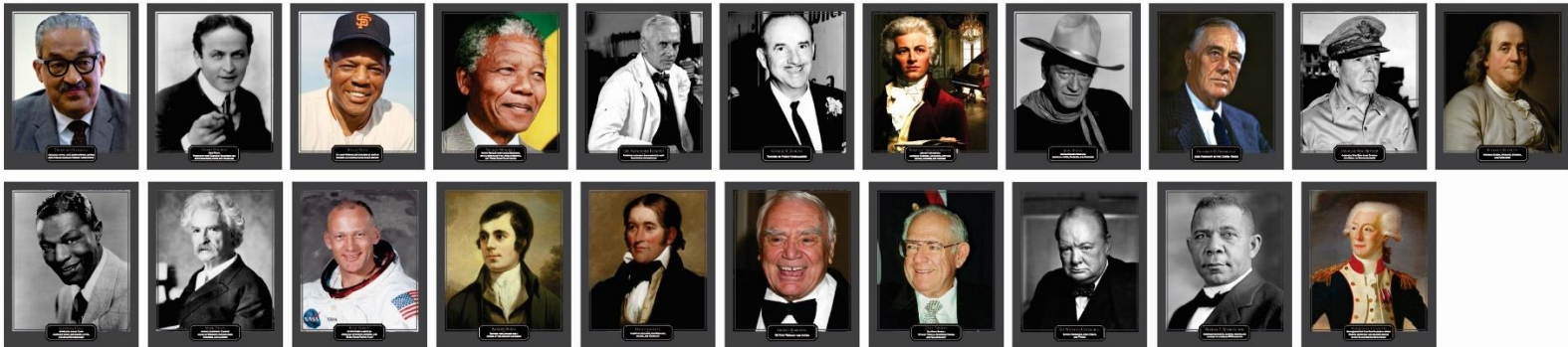


Who does J. F. Swartsel Lodge support in the community?

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.

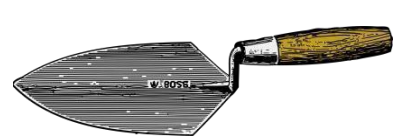
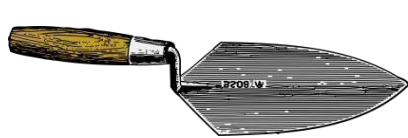
A very special thank you to all of J.F. Swartsel's Past Masters - Who laid the foundation for us to build upon

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 Brian Andrew Reach (Pro tem)
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 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)



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: Worshipful David Lambert, Sr.

Brethren,

If you have changed your address please give me a call @ (813) 838-7705 or email me at dlambert7907@gmail.com so I can update your records.

Calendar of Important Lodge Dates: September 2021.

- 1st** (6:PM – 7:PM, MLT), (7:PM – 8:PM, District School of Instruction @ John Darling No. 154).
2nd **Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
7th **6:30 – 7:30 Degree Practice @ J. F. Swartsel.**
10th 7:PM - Masonic Park Board Meeting @ Tampa 240.
14th **6 PM Officer Meeting @ J. F. Swartsel.** (all MM welcome to attend). Degree Practice to follow
15th **6:30 – 8:00 Commandry Practice @ J. F. Swartsel No. 251.**
16th **Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
17th Trestleboard articles to Feldman.
20th 7:30 - Friendship Chapter No. 209 meeting
21st **Fellowcraft Degree @ J.F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Degree Begins at 7:30 PM**
24th **6:30 – 7:30 Master Mason Association of Hillsborough County.**
25th **8:30 – Noon, Open Books @ Tampa Scottish Rite.**
27th **6-8:30p MLT Modules 6-10 on Zoom and live at Tampa 240 (Preregister via W.: Feldman)**
28th **6:30 – 7:30 Degree Practice.**
30th **6:30 – Family Night @ J. F. Swartsel.**

From the Worthy Matron: Elizabeth McAbee

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Friendship Chapter returns from its summer recess beginning Monday, September 20, by honoring the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls. Former Rainbow Girls and adults who have been active with Rainbow will serve in our Stations for the evening.

Mark your calendars for Monday, October 4. Swartsel Lodge and Friendship Chapter will honor our First Responders and their families with a dinner at Swartsel Lodge for the Fire Stations on Lutz Lake Fern Road and Van Dyke Road as well as District I (North Central County) of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office at 6:00 p.m. YOUR assistance is needed to make this event a success and show our appreciation in a small way for all these families sacrifice for us.

Menu will include salad, lasagna, garlic bread, dessert, and drink. A sign-up sheet will be available so many will be able to participate.

Praying you stay healthy and safe...

In His and fraternal love,

Elizabeth C McAbee
Worthy Matron
813/494-6210



Worshipful Master: Brother Sam McPherson

My Brothers, September is here and school has begun, so watch out for our children crossing the highways and streets. Summer is almost over, and while we are in the last quarter of the year, we are still dealing with this virus now called the Delta Variant... it's just refusing to go away but it will in its own time. Meanwhile we as a personal choice must start to abide by the CDC guidelines even though you may or may not believe in the various vaccinations, there are hospitals and emergency rooms full and bodies being put into refrigeration trucks. This is real my Brothers, and we have got to mask up to protect each other.

I want to congratulate our new Brothers Cote and Carner on beginning their journey in Freemasonry, welcome!

Our fish fry restart has been delayed until further notice. we will also postpone our Lodge visit for September. Thanks for your continued support. There will be a Fellowcraft Degree at J.F. Swartsel on September 21st... let's support our Brothers!

Who was Hiram Abiff? (Jim Pullins, Pleasant Valley #53)

Hiram Abiff, we know, was a widow's son. He was the son of a man of Tyre, but his mother was an Israelite, said in one record to have been of the tribe of Naphtali, and in another, of the "daughters of Dan."

His mother was indeed a native of the tribe of Dan, but her first husband was of the tribe of Naphtali, to whom Hiram was probably born. After the death of the first husband, she then married a man of Tyre, and her son was brought up as a Tyrian and fully educated and trained in the arts of that land. Tyre was one of the principal seats of the Dionysiac fraternity of artificers, a Society engaged exclusively in the construction of edifices and united in a secret organization, subsequently imitated by the Operative Masons of the Temple. Hiram Abiff was quite probably a member of this organization. From this secret society of operative masons there was evolved the Order of Speculative Masons, of which Hiram Abiff was the first Grand Master.

His mother, being a daughter of Dan, the fifth son of Jacob, endowed Hiram with characteristics of this tribe. This tribe was said to be bold, courageous, daring and cunning. The banner of Dan was blue. This may be an origin for the choice of blue as a Masonic color.

In Chronicles, Chapter 2, verses 13 & 14, Hiram King of Tyre tells Solomon about the man he has sent to oversee the work of the Temple:

"And now I have sent a cunning man, endued with understanding, of Hiram my father's, the son of a woman of the daughters of Dan, and his father was a man of Tyre, skillful to work in gold, and in silver, in brass, in iron, in stone, and in timber, in purple, in blue, and in fine linen, and in crimson; also to grave any manner of graving, and to find out every device in which shall be put to him, with thy cunning men, and with the cunning men of my lord David thy father."

Obviously, a good man to supervise the construction of a building containing all those materials and to manage all the workers.

It appears that Naphtali was also the fifth son of Jacob. The Lord, in Deuteronomy 33:23, says "Naphtali, satisfied with favor, and full with the blessing of the Lord, Possess thou the west and the south." In the same Chapter, the Lord refers to Dan as "a lion's whelp."

All of this together, shows us that our character Hiram Abiff, is a wrapping of many Masonic symbols and characteristics. He inherits possession of the west and south, descended from the tribe that possessed the Lion of the Tribe of Judah (a symbolic reference to Christ) and possesses skills critical to the mastery of his craft. The mystery of who he is still remains, for while there are references to Hiram in his character as a craftsman, there is no Biblical reference to the name Abiff which is uniquely Masonic.

Stay safe Brothers,

S. McPherson WM

From the Senior Warden: Brother Ray Ciunci

Greetings from the West Brothers!!

Hello Brothers! – We are moving into September – The year has just flown by.

I have unfortunately been away from Lodge the last few weeks since I am dealing with a medical issue (not COVID) that I am trying to resolve. So, I apologize if this month's article is somewhat light.

As I am sure you are aware COVID has come back to a point that resembles where we were when things first broke out. The news coverage relates that approximately 95% of those that have been hospitalized are sick because they have not been vaccinated. This has resulted in our hospitals being overloaded and medical care not being available to those who need it. While you may have concerns about being vaccinated, for whatever reason, please give the issue some additional thought and for your well-being and the well-being of your family please get vaccinated.

We recently raised another Brother to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, so the Lodge continues to roll. I am very much looking forward to being able to return to Lodge and would be happy to see you all there.

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

.....

FAITH. The evidence of things not seen; confidence; trust.

FAITHFUL BREAST: Symbolically, the initiate is instructed that the lessons he has received are to be treasured in his heart and remembered, and not to be forgotten; that which is told in confidence will be so held.

FELLOWCRAFT: A craftsman no longer an apprentice who has been admitted as full member, but who has not yet reached the status of a master. The fellowcraft age represents the stage of manhood.

FEALTY: Loyalty.

FIAT LUX ET LUX FIT: Latin motto meaning "Let there be light, and there was light."

FIDELITY: faithfulness.

FIRST LANDMARKS OF MASONRY: Modes of recognition with no variation.

FORM OF A LODGE: An oblong square or parallelogram, twice as long as wide. At the time of the Temple, the only known world was the Mediterranean Sea and the countries to the north, south and east, forming an oblong. Thus, the Freemason's lodge was the world itself.

47TH PROPOSITION OF EUCLID: Derived its name from the fact that it was the 47th problem in Euclid's geometry. Sometimes called problem or theorem, which are also correct. The 47th Proposition, or problem, is to prove that in a right angled triangle, the sum of the squares of the two sides is equal to the square of the hypotenuse. Masonically, it is an emblem of the arts and sciences and reminds us that next to sinfulness, the most dangerous enemy of life is ignorance.

FRATERNITY: A brotherhood, in which blood-bonds are replaced by a common devotion to a principle, code, or creed.

FREE BORN: A free soul; one having attained mastery of himself by self discipline. It is a misconception that this refers to one not born into slavery.

FREEMASONS: The early builders in Operative Masonry times were free men, not serfs or bondsmen and were free to move from one place to another as their work demanded. Thus, they came to be called "Freemasons."

FURNISHINGS OF A LODGE: Holy Bible, Square and Compasses, Charter or Dispensation.

"G": The letter -G- is the Saxon representative of the Hebrew Yod and the Greek Tau; The initial letter of the name of the Eternal in those languages. It stands not only for God, but for Geometry, that science so important to all Freemasons.

G.A.O.T.U.: Grand Architect of the Universe.

GAVEL: Derives its name from its shape-that of the gable or gavel end of a house. It is a tool used by a stonemason and resembles a hammer having a pointed end for cutting. The Working Tool gavel differs from the upright gavel, or "Hiram." (See Hiram.)

GOD: The Hebrew words for Beauty, Strength, and Wisdom (the supports of Freemasonry) are Gomer, Oz, and Dabar. The initials of these words compose the English name of the Deity.

GRAND EAST: The place where the Grand Lodge holds its communications and from which place the edicts are issued.

GREAT LIGHTS: The Holy Bible, Square and Compasses. The Bible represents the will of God, the Square is the physical life of man and the Compasses represents the moral and spiritual life.

GRIPS: Every brother following his raising should be taught to start with the grip of an Entered Apprentice Mason and go through the grips, passes, and words to the Grand Masonic Word.

GUILD (GILD) MASONS. GUTTURAL: From the Latin guttur meaning "the throat."

Brother Ray Ciunci, SW

From the Junior Warden: Brother Wade Angel

With the new surge in coronavirus cases, it is important that we all take extra care in protecting ourselves. That means different things to different people on a personal level, but on a community level we should take the time to think of those around us. There are several ways to protect ourselves and others and individual choices are not always the same. If our idea of being safe is to just keep a social distance, fine, but if someone else wears a mask but does not social distance from us, our job is not to "educate" them. Just move farther away. It is a confusing time with variable information and we have to decide what is best for us and not others. Please be kind to those who are of a differing opinion. It is after all what makes us all unique.

Fraternally Yours,

Wade E. Angel, Junior Warden

From the Lodge Traveling Committee:

My Brothers, here are the proposed Lodge Visits for the balance of the 2021 Masonic Year.

| Month | Lodge | Date |
|----------|------------------------|--------------------|
| October | Turkey Creek Lodge 248 | Tuesday 10/5/21 |
| November | De Soto 105 | Tuesday 11/16/2021 |
| December | Tarpon 112 | Thursday 12/9/2021 |

York Rite Lessons

“The symbol on the Royal Arch apron is the triple tau, within a triangle, within a circle. The apron is of the traditional Masonic type with a triangle over a square which symbolizes that the spiritual world, as represented by the triangle, is above the material world, as represented by the square. The triangle is the symbol of Deity and the circle represents one’s belief in immortality.” The History and Symbolism of Royal Arch Masonry by Edward R. Graham

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord. Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29: 11

“CHARACTERS: It was through the use of secret writing or characters that the secrets of the craft were preserved and information communicated only to those who possessed the secret alphabet.” Edward R. Graham

“Although the world is full suffering, it is full also of promises for overcoming it.” Helen Keller

What is the significance of the word “Amen”?

The response to every Masonic prayer is “So mote it be,” meaning Amen collectively. The word in Hebrew signifies verily, truly, certainly and is where one person confirms the word of another, and adds his wish for the success of another. It is a response to prayer. The Talmudists have many superstitions in respect to this word. This, in one treatise, it is said that whomsoever pronounces it with fixed attention and devotion, to him the gate of Paradis will be opened; and, again, whoever enunciates the word rapidly, his day shall pass rapidly away, and whosoever dwells upon it distinctly and slowly, his life shall be prolonged. Rev 22: 21

“History has demonstrated that the most notable winners usually encountered heartbreaking obstacles before they triumphed.” B. C. Forbes

Adam—derived from the Hebrew ADaMaH, the ground. From AdAm, to the red, relating to his complexion.

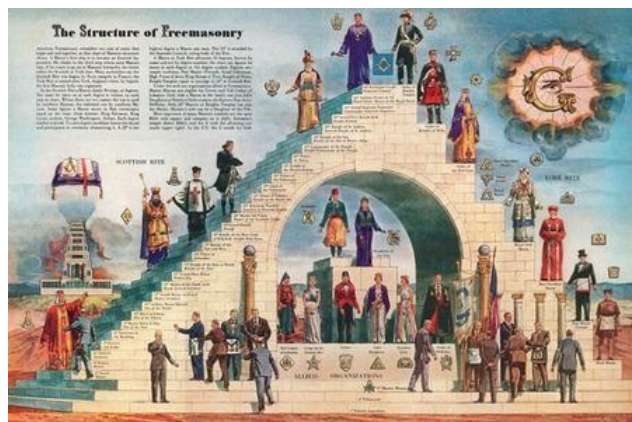
“Sometimes our light goes out but is blown into flame by another human being. Each of us owes deepest thanks to those who have rekindled this light.” Albert Schweitzer

In what degree of Masonry is Abraham impersonated?

Order of the High Priest (Excellent) represented by Joshua, the High Priest of the Jews. Zechariah 3: 1-9

“We turn not older in years, but newer every day.” Emily Dickinson

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





8/12: JFS traveled to District 20 to visit A.W. Windhorst no. 185 for our August monthly Lodge visit. We enjoyed a wonderful meal and even better fellowship. Thank you to the Brothers of 185, for your wonderful hospitality!



8/24: Congratulations to Brother Thomas Sheehan, for having earned the right to be Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason! The honor of Raising the new MM was given to RW Steve Silvers, a friend of Sheehan who recommended him to join J.F. Swartzel Lodge. Nearly every Lodge in District 19 was represented in the Degree, including RWDDGM Tom Newton and RWRHDI Drew Baldwin. Thank you to Brother Nagy, who always elevates our performance with his... and thank you to Worshipful Roscoe Love, for his compelling presentation of the Lecture. Thank you to all of the over 40 in attendance for making this a special evening!



8/25: (Prologue) A motion was made to donate \$300.00 to McKittrick Elementary for school supplies at our most recent meeting . After being approved by the Craft, additional donations came issuing from the sidelines... and by the end of the meeting we had raised over \$1,300.00! JFS tagged along with PTF United Lodge's backpack drive, and we were able to deliver 50 brand new backpacks FILLED with school supplies... plus all those additional boxes worth of notebooks, and paper, folders, rulers, crayons and... you name it!

8/25: Principal Cline and the faculty were elated watching all we were unloading, but even more so once they discovered the backpacks weren't empty! She sincerely thanked the Brothers of the Lodge for our continual support for her school. It was a great day to be a Mason!



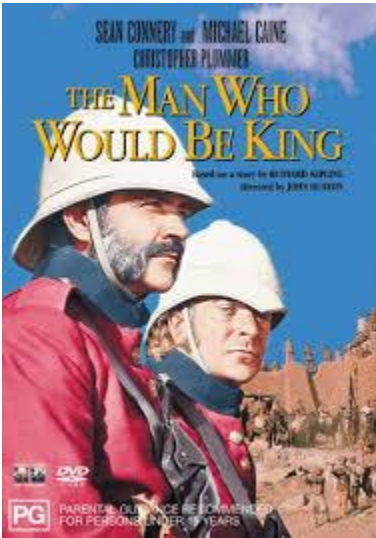
8/27: The Master Mason Association meeting had a three-way tie for first (5 Brothers). Windhorst and JFS had the WM present, but Windhorst also had the JW and won the tie for the second straight month. Congratulations 185!



8/28: Grand Master's Official Visit to the 19th and 20th Masonic Districts



Freemasonry on Film



Freemasonry has appeared both accurately and fictitiously in film since the early days of the genre.

Freemasons have played their part in the development of the Movie industry. People like Louis B. Mayer and the Warner Brothers helped to establish the industry. Or actors such as Clark Gable and John Wayne who worked in front of the cameras delighting fans all over the world.

Freemasonry as an organization, depending on the film, has been treated harshly, fairly, accurately and inaccurately. Much of this is made easier by the perceived nature of our "secret society". In fact it is such a secret society that every day more and more websites like this one are popping up all across the Internet to inform members and non-members about the inner workings of our organization. There are far too many movies for me to list that mention Freemasonry or cast us as the heroes or villains, so we'll focus on three.

Let's start with the easy one, *National Treasure* which was released in 2004. The movie actually played on the connection made by Andrew Michael Ramsay when he made a veiled connection between the Knights Templar and Freemasonry. In the film, Freemasons receive from the Knights Templar, after they are arrested by the King France (a real event), the treasure that the Knights Templar are thought to have uncovered on the temple mount when they had control of Jerusalem (a partially real event). The treasure is hidden on American soil and the founding fathers, some of whom were mason (not as many as Freemasons like to believe), left clues on the Declaration of Independence and other prominent landmarks associated with the founding of the country. Like most films involving Freemasonry it has it's parts where a mason will say "yeah, kind of." Still if you are looking for a fun movie for a lodge movie night, it is a good way to go.

The next film is the movie *From Hell*. The story follows the detective who is assigned the Jack the Ripper case in 19th century London. As he pursues the killer he discovers that there is a conspiracy going on and Freemasonry is at the center of the conspiracy. In the film, the main character has to deal with the Commissioner of Police Sir Charles Warren a real individual and mason who was the first Worshipful Master of Quatuor Coronati Lodge. As the movie progresses on the involvement of the Freemasons becomes more and more apparent and includes a scene toward the end which is now infamous in Masonic lore. It is the moment when writing is found on the wall where, allegedly, Jack the Ripper has inscribed that it is all the "Jues" fault. Some have connected the word "Jues" to the three villains in Masonic ritual. The moment in the film is historically accurate as it is Charles Warren who actually orders the writing to be removed from the wall. The real Warren would later indicate that he did it because, despite the misspelling of the word Jews, that there may be some who would go after Jewish members of the community. This is another good movie for a masonic movie night. A warning it is rather graphic when it comes to many scenes.

The final film is one of the best films for any Freemason to see. *The Man Who Would Be King* is based on the short story by Rudyard Kipling. In the movie Kipling encounters a man who steals his pocket watch and quickly returns it to Kipling when he realizes that he has stolen from a brother mason. The story follows the man who Kipling encounters and his friend as they make their way into a country bordering on India and try to make their fortune. Along the way a series of misunderstandings and the discovery of a city that was founded by Alexander the Great, who in the film is claimed to be a mason, the two men rise to power only to have their deceptions revealed and punished. There is probably no other film out there that has such a strong masonic overtone. Not to mention the movie is fun with many funny parts between the two stars Michael Caine and Sean Connery (to my knowledge neither are masons).

TRESTLEBOARD ADVERTISERS



"Soft and safe be the earthly bed of our Brother; bright and glorious be his rising from it. Fragrant be the acacia spring which shall flourish there. May the earliest buds of spring unfold their beauties over his resting place, and, in the bright morning of the world's resurrection, may his soul spring into newness of life and expand into immortal beauty in realms beyond the skies. Until then, dear Brother, Farewell!"

PESTEX INTL.
TERMITE & PEST CONTROL

Phone (813)960-PEST
Fax (813)968-PEST (7378)

Inspection Specialist

Tony Hedayat
State Certified
Pestex1@yahoo.com

7222 N. Dale Mabry Hwy
Tampa, FL 33614
1-888-4-PESTEX
www.pestexweb.com

RE/MAX
ACR Elite Group

Ronald Zemetres

14823 N Dale Mabry Hwy
Tampa, FL 33618
Cell (813) 843-3474
Office (813) 961-6000
Email roncz@zemetres.com
www.zemetres.com

Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

BLITZKRIEG PAINTBALL FIELD

802 E. Bearss Ave
Tampa, FL 33613

Office-813-971-4306
Sach-813-217-2849

Russell Adams Realty, Inc.
2502 Land O Lakes Blvd.
Land O Lakes, FL 34639
813-949-3600 fax 813-949-3116

RAR
REAL ESTATE

Russell Adams
Realtor - Broker
40+ Years of Service

RussellAdamsRealty@gmail.com
www.RussellAdamsRealty.com

First Responders Financial

Jody Clayton, CFP®, CLU®, ChFC®
President

2130 Ashley Oaks Circle, Suite 101, Wesley Chapel, FL 33544
Direct Number: 813-482-9415 • Fax: 813-345-8519
Cell: 813-294-3201
Email: jclayton@jhnetwork.com • Website: www.jclaytonfinancial.com

WZPH 96.7FM
The Zephyr
Zephyrville, Florida, USA, Earth, Milkyway

1,000,000+ SONGS IN A ROW, Eyes OF NON STOP ROCKIN'

FREE iPhone App WZPH Android App WZPH
Dr. Dr. Thayer
813-948-3629
email: drdr docthay@gmail.com cel 813-995-0191

ADVANCED
FILM SOLUTIONS, INC.

HOME | OFFICE | AUTO | MARINE

813-949-FILM

1642 LAND O' LAKES BLVD IN LUTZ

www.ADVANCEDFILMSOLUTIONS.com



PLEASE REMEMBER TO **SUPPORT YOUR TRESTLEBOARD ADVERTISERS**. THEY WILL APPRECIATE KNOWING WHERE THEIR BUSINESS IS COMING FROM AND CONTINUE THEIR SPONSORSHIP



JF SWARTSEL NO.251 F.&A.M.

