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Our Monthly Lodge Visit is to PTF United Lodge
no. 153 on 4/5, and put May 3rd on your
calendars now... MM Degree at J.F. Swartsel!

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

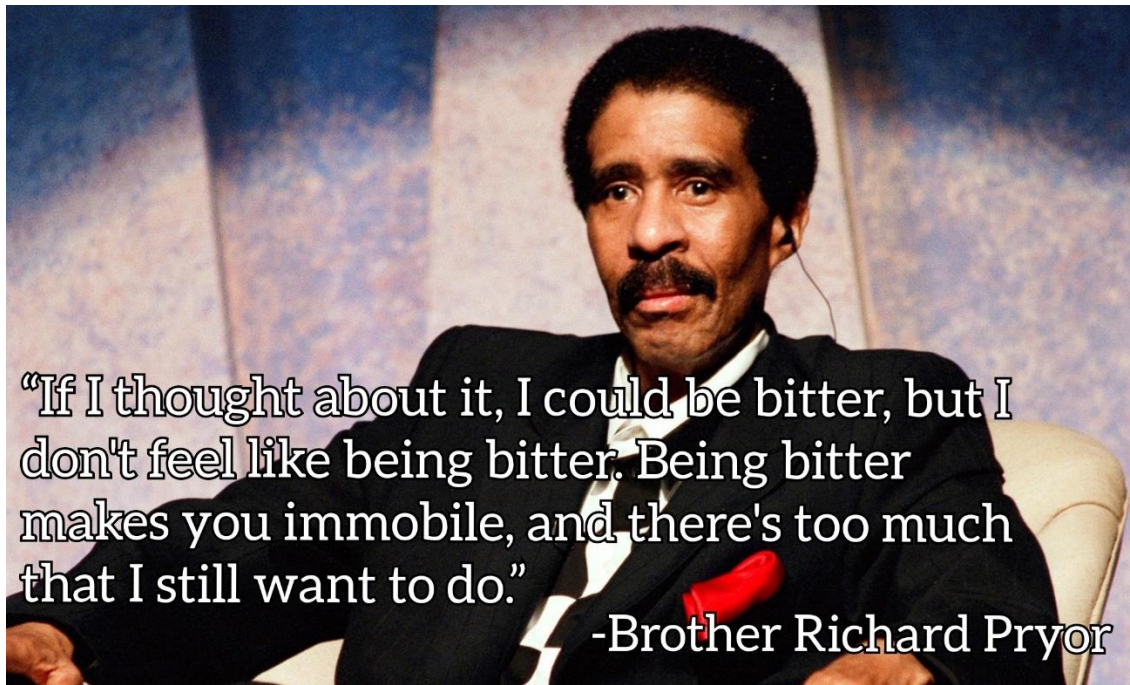
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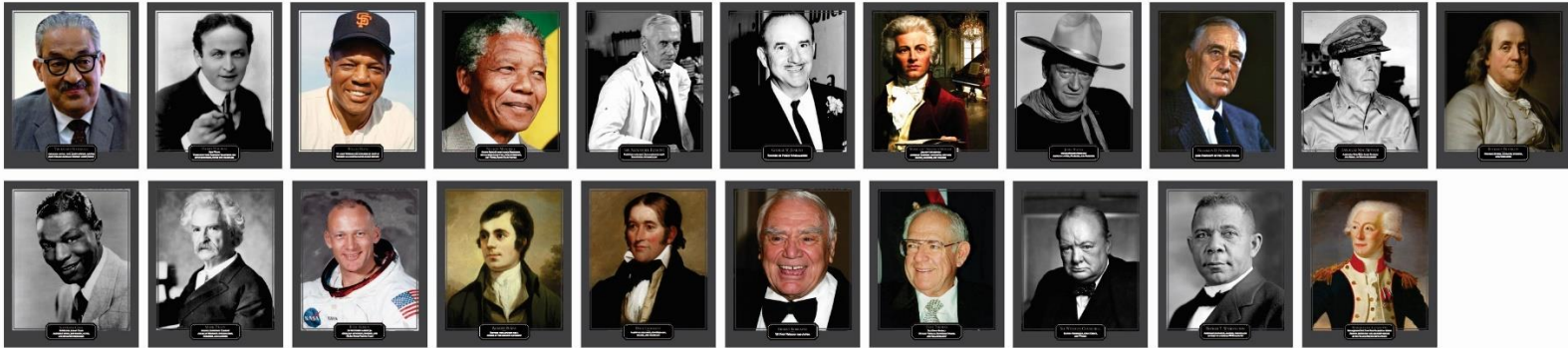
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Who does J. F. Swartsel Lodge support in the community?

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.

Thank you to all of our Past Masters - Who laid the foundation for us to build upon

**The Past Masters of J.F. Swartsel and Community Lodge © who 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 - 1985/1997 W • Harold A. Glisson © - 1986 W • Gary F. Gentry
1987/1994 W • R. Willard Brown - 1988 W • Floyd G. Kirk © - 1992 W • Floyd A. Dozier - - 1992 W • Michael P. Byers ©
1993 W • Winston A. Williams © -- 1986 W • Gary F. Gentry 1995 R • W • Donald R. Bell, PDDGM
1995 W • Walter T. Beaver © - 1996 W • Robert Thibodeaux © - 1998 W • Gary A. Richey - 1998 W • Christopher Boles ©
1999 W • David B. Lambert, Sr. - 1999/2010/2013 W • Steven G. Whitmer © - 2000 W • David B. Lambert, II
2000 W • Kenneth C. Tucker © - 2001 W • James R. Lambert - 2001 W • John W. Warren © - 2002 W • Gregory A. Lambert
2003 W • Joseph E. Fara, Sr. - 2004/2007/2011 W • Steven C. Whidden © - 2005/2006 W • Robert L. Herman, Sr. ©
2007 W • William L. Boortz - 2008/2013 W • Gregory L. Savage - 2008/2012 W • Keith A. Crews ©
2009 W • Drew M. Keenan - 2009 W • Matthew K. Jones © - 2011 W • Richard D. Sego - 2012/2019 W • Jerry M. Snell, Jr.
2014 W • Jeffrey T. Sklet - 2014/2015/2018/2019 W • Jerry A. Haywood © - 2015 R • W • Charles C. Osborne, PDDGM
2016 W • Danilo O. Valdez. - 2016 W • John Northrop © - 2017 R • W • Charles J. "Sam" Pesola, PDDGM
2017 W • David Jones © - 2018 - • W • Martin A. Greif - 2020 W • Adam S. Feldman - 2021 W • Samuel McPherson

Your 2022 J. F. Swartsel Officers are as follows:

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



Your Amazon purchases can be helping the Fraternity!

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

Next time you need something, go to smile.amazon.com instead of www, 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!



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. Also check your Dues Card to see if it is current.

Calendar of Important Lodge Dates: April 2022.

- 5th **Monthly Lodge Visit: PTF United no. 153 6:30 Dinner/ 7:30 Meeting (No Degree Practice)**
- 6th (6:PM – 7:PM, MLT), (7:PM – 8:PM, District School of Instruction @ John Darling No. 154).
- 7th **Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 8th 7:PM - Masonic Park Board Meeting @ Tampa 240. **(Check for ZOOM meeting)**
- 9th **Bro. Martin Pollak using downstairs @ J. F. Swartsel Lodge.**
- 9th **8:AM – Noon outside workday at J. F. Swartsel Lodge.**
- 12th **6:30 – 7:30 Degree Practice @ J. F. Swartsel.**
- 14th **DDGM Visit of Holyrood Lodge @ J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 15th **3rd Friday Fish Fry @ J. F. Swartsel Lodge.**
- 18th 7:30 - Friendship Chapter No. 209 meeting.
- 19th **6:30 – 7:30 Degree Practice @ J. F. Swartsel.**
- 20th 6:30 – 8:00 Commandry Practice @ J. F. Swartsel No. 251.
- 21st **Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 22nd **6:30 – 7:30 Master Mason Association of Hillsborough County @ John Darling No. 154.**
- 23rd **9:AM – Noon, Open Books @ John Darling No. 154.**
- 25th Boy Scouts using downstairs.
- 26th **6:30 – 7:30 Degree Practice @ J. F. Swartsel.**
- 28th **6:30 – 7:30 Holyrood Lodge Degree Practice @ J. F. Swartsel.**
- May 3rd Master Mason Degree at J.F. Swartsel Lodge, 6:30 Dinner, Degree Begins at 7:30PM**

From the Worthy Matron: Elizabeth McAbee

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Friendship Chapter appreciates the opportunity to be included in the monthly Trestle-Board. Congratulations to the 2022 Officers for the Masons and Eastern Star. March begins the new year in our Chapter, and while you'll notice that the WM has not changed, we're delighted to have returning and new members actively participating as Officers this year.

Friendship Chapter will celebrate its birthday and honor Past Matrons/Past Patrons on Monday, April 18. Please join us at 6:30 p.m. for a covered dish dinner to begin our celebration. If it's been a while since you've been in Chapter, please join us. We miss you!

Our Chapter is privileged to have a Grand Representative (Nancy Richardson, Maine) and several Grand Chapter Committee members serving our Grand Chapter this year. This year's Grand Chapter session, *Friendships Are Golden Session*, will be held April 5-7, at the Renaissance Golf Resort in St. Augustine, and many of our members plan to attend.

Masons in good standing and any female relatives who are related by birth, marriage or adoption 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. Our members are also happy to provide information and petitions by request.

Praying you're blessed...

Faternally,

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

Worshipful Master: Brother Ray Ciunci

Greetings from the East Brothers!!

As we move into another month there are a couple of things I want to mention.

- We welcomed our Brothers from Holyrood Lodge this month who will begin holding their meetings in our Lodge. We have had several meetings with them, and they are sure a nice group of Brothers.
- We had some great news this month! R:.W:.. Robert Lambert who is the Past Master of Holyrood Lodge, from our District and our new “roommates” will be installed as the new Grand Master for the coming year! Also our very own Past Master W:.. Adam Feldman has been selected to be the new District Instructor for the coming year for District 19 and based on my firsthand observations he sure deserves it.
- Our D:.D:..G:..M:.. Tom Newton visited us this past month and it was a pleasure to have him in our Lodge.
- We initiated two new Brothers, one from our Lodge and one from Holyrood Lodge this past month. Based on my previous discussions with the officers of Holyrood we hope to be combining our efforts in everyway possible.
- We also had our second Family night since the Pandemic began and we will be restarting the Fish Fry this month
- We also visited Temple Terrace Lodge in March and enjoyed a night out with those Brothers. If you have a chance, you should pay them a visit. We were all impressed about how beautiful their Lodge room looked. This was our first Lodge visit
- We will be awarding two \$500 Scholarships this month – one to Land O Lakes High School and one to Steinbrenner High School.
- This past month I was honored to give the benediction at the installation of the OES chapter 209 that meets in our Lodge.
- Early this month we will be meeting for a second time with an elevator contactor to see if we can complete an agreement to install an elevator.
- The Lodge is also filling back up to pre-Pandemic attendance.

There is a lot of good things happening – So come and join us.

Fraternally Yours,

Ray Ciunci – Worshipful Master

From the Senior Warden: Brother Wade Angel

To all of our Brothers who are thinking of going to Grand Communication, make your reservations now! I hope we have a large contingent again this year. This year's Grand Communication should be large, with even more attendance, more vendors, and more opportunity to meet Brothers from all over the world. I for one am really looking forward to it. There is a lot to learn, and a lot of good times spent with friends and Brothers. District 19 is going to be well represented and we need J. F. Swartsel to have a good showing too. Let's show everyone in the State our Lodge's commitment to the Fraternity. If you are a new Master Mason, you will learn so much through meeting Brothers from around the State and from other states. Some of those connections may last a lifetime.

We will be starting up our fish fries again soon too. We will need Brothers to volunteer and help with the cooking and serving. It will be good to see people in the community come out again for the meals. It will also be good to start generating some funds for the Lodge again too.

We also have some ceremonies coming up again this month and in coming months. Let's show support for our Brothers going through the degrees by having good attendance for them. I really look forward to these coming months of activity.

Fraternally Yours,

Brother Wade Angel

From the Junior Warden: Brother Brian Reach

First off, I would like to congratulate and welcome our newly minted Brother David Hopkins. I would also like to congratulate the EA Degree team for their very fine work.

As we began this year, the Grand Communication seemed soooooo far away. Now, it's just right around the proverbial corner at the end of May. I am really looking forward to the experience. I hope all of you who wanted to go were able to make the arrangements! See you there!!!

April Dinner Menu:

April 7: Swedish Meatballs over noodles, vegetables, garden salad and dessert.

April 21: Lasagna, green beans, bread/rolls, garden salad, and dessert.

Brother Brian Reach JW

York Rite Lessons

Companions and Sir Knights,

Who were Jug Masons?

An epithet used during the Anti Masonic excitement in 1826, upon certain assemblages of men, pretending to confer the degrees upon candidates weak enough to confide in them. Their instructions were derived from the expositions of Morgan and exacted a small fee for initiation, usually a jug of whiskey, or money enough to buy one.

“The best way to cheer yourself up is to cheer everybody else up”. Mark Twain

What is Kaaba and where is it located?

The name of the holy temple of Mecca, to the Mohammedans is what the Temple of Solomon was to the Jews.

“Ah, but a man's reach should exceed his grasp, or what's a heaven for? Robert Browning

There are no Gentlemen in Freemasonry, only Brothers. Wise Old Past Master

“A joyous occasion is never quite as wonderful as when it becomes a memory.” Jimmy Carter

Zealously,

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?

2/23: Congratulations to our three newest Fellowcrafts! Congratulations also to Brs. Reach and Dellis who both excelled during their first times in the East and SD Chairs! Thank you to Worshipful Hosmonek for providing a wonderful lecture and, as always, thank you to our Brother John Nagy for bringing the performance to life with his music. After the Degree, we continued the festivities at our local watering hole... a great night to be a Mason!



2/25: Don't call it a comeback, we've been here for years!

The Brothers of JF Swartsel won another tie at the Master Mason Association of Hillsborough County meeting. Congrats to JFS; keep 'em coming!



3/7: Admittedly, not my best work as a photographer, but after our Stated Communication, a group of us continued the party at Paninis, including a first time visitor from H25. We look forward to seeing you again soon!



3/16: We have resumed our monthly Lodge visits, and the first one of 2022 was to Temple Terrace Lodge no. 330! The meal was a fantastic St. Patrick's Day spread, and we happened to attend during their Official Visit. It was great to see RWDDGM Wenzel and RHDI Vogt as well as our JGW Don Cowart and RW Tony Chavez... because what St. Patrick's meeting would be complete without an Irishman?



3/17: J.F. Swartzel Lodge welcomes RWDDGM Tom Newton and his travelling committee into the Lodge for his 2nd Official Visit! The meeting was attended by our JGW Don Cowart, and festivities continued at Paninis.



3/19: Congratulations to the newly installed Worthy Matron Elizabeth McAbee and the Officers of OES Friendship Chapter for the 22-23 year! WM Ray Ciunci was in attendance and honored to deliver the Benediction.



Masonic Education

Point within the Circle

The point within a circle is a common symbol used in Freemasonry.

As with many masonic symbols the origin of the point in the circle is unknown. In carvings from Ancient Egypt the Alpha and Omega symbols representing God often had a circle with a point in between them. In the case of the Egyptian symbol the two vertical lines are replaced with snakes.

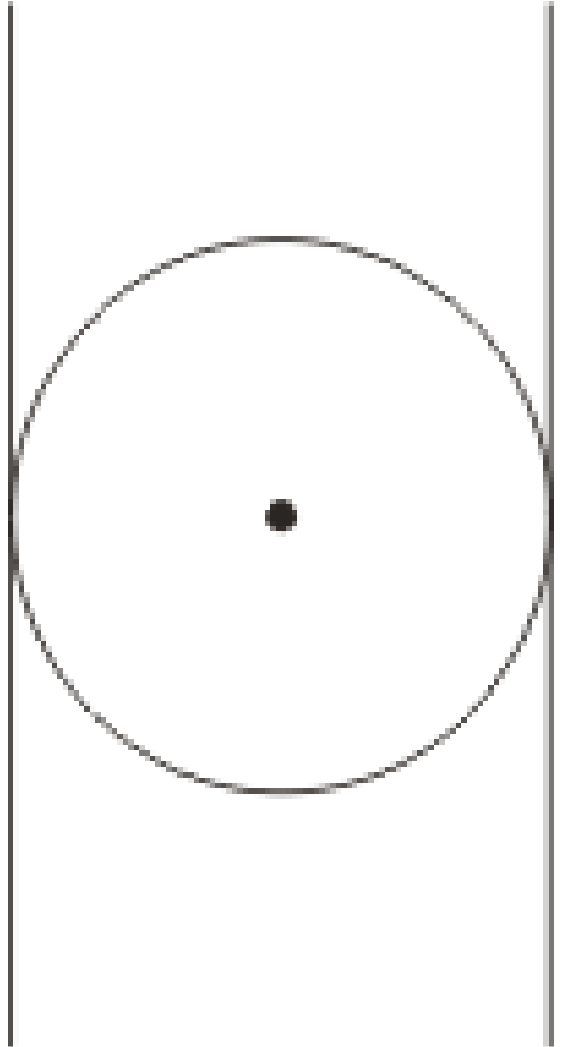
Regardless of the symbol's origin, Freemasonry has adopted it to represent what is, in the opinion of this writer, one of our most important ideas in Freemasonry. In all interpretations of this image, the point in the center represents the individual man or mason.

Taking just the circle it is a reminder we are all circumscribed with a circle in our lives and those who enter the circle, both in a literal (people we see) and figurative sense (people who our actions may impact), have a claim on our kind offices. Our good will to our fellow man and our fellow mason is paramount to the moral ideals behind Freemasonry. It can also be said the same circle is a dividing line between our internal passions and a mason's duty to God and his fellow man. A mason should never allow his internal passions, prejudices and selfish interests to pass outside the circle.

There are many other references to the circle with the point in its center, there are also just as many interpretations of its meaning throughout history and in the masonic fraternity. As an example, some say it is in reference to the candidate circumambulating the masonic altar.

The two lines on either side of the circle, for Freemasons, represents St. John the Baptist on the left and St. John the Evangelist the right. Two prominent Saints revered in Freemasonry because of their connection with what is deemed the Mother lodge in Jerusalem. St. John Lodge of Jerusalem was first believed to be dedicated to St. John the Baptist and then to St. John the Evangelist. The Feast of St. John the Baptist falls on the Summer Solstice, the Feast of St. John the Evangelist falls on the Winter Solstice so the lines are also often said to represent the Summer and Winter Solstice.

Regardless of its origin or interpretation the symbol is a reminder to Freemasons everywhere to remain true to our obligations to those around us and to ourselves.



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"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!"

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