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We've got a front-loaded month my Brothers!

There's the Labor Day Degree at John Darling Lodge no. 154 at Sunrise (7:14 am) on September 5th. They are Raising two of their own Brothers, and it would be great if you could come support them! Table Lodge is at Hillsborough no. 25 Tuesday, September 6th, and our monthly Lodge Visit will be to Brandon Lodge no. 114 on September 8th. Hope to see you out at as many as your Cable-Tow allows!

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

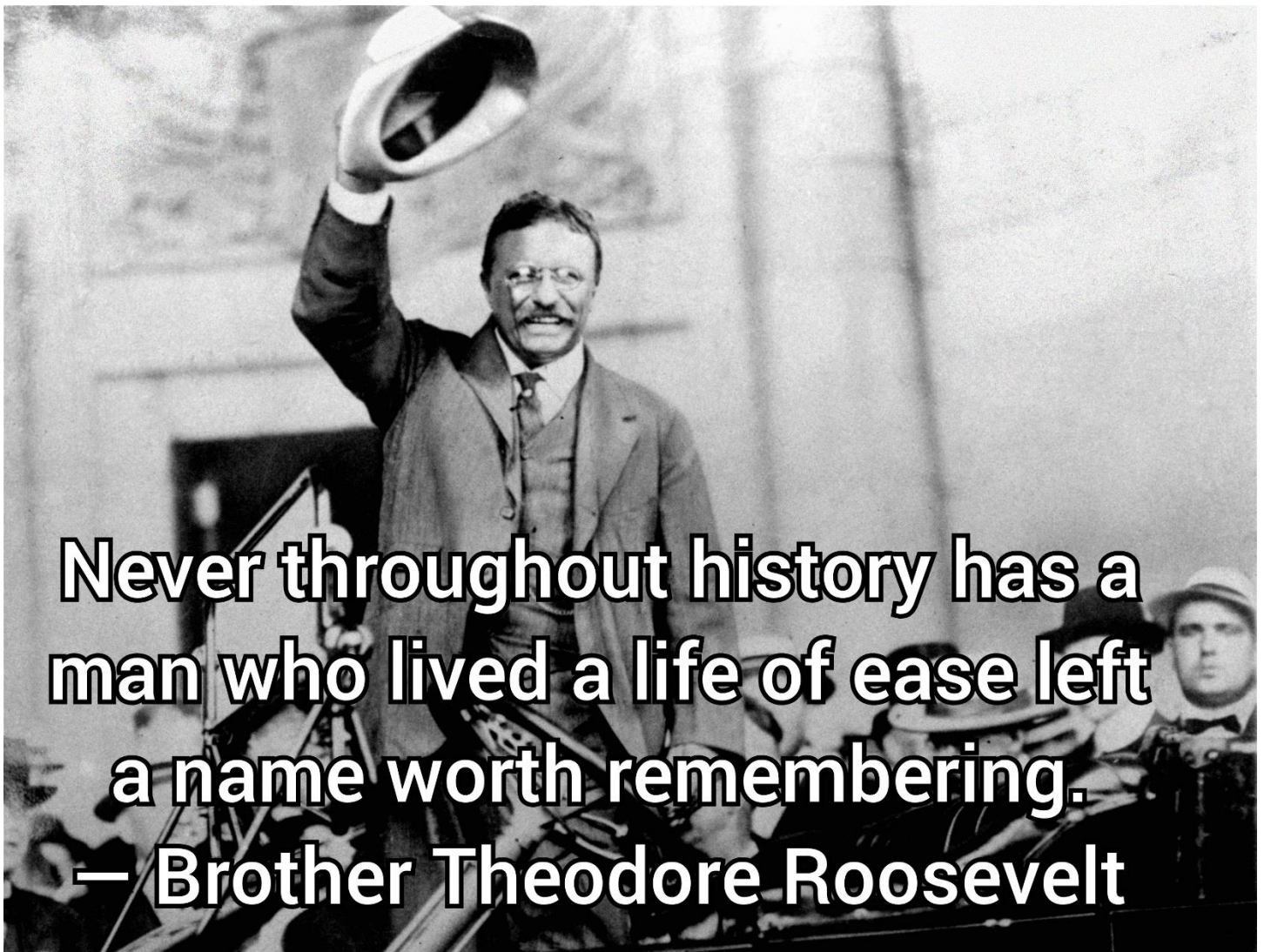
IMPORTANT SCHEDULE CHANGE:

Our weekly Degree Practices have moved to WEDNESDAYS at 6:30 pm, from now until Wednesday, November 2nd. Take due notice there of...



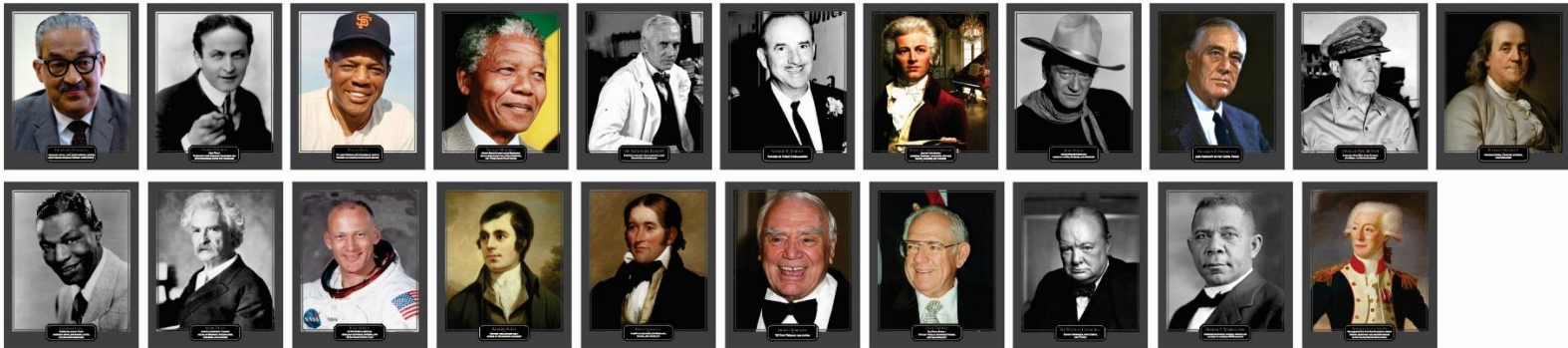
Who does J. F. Swartsel Lodge support in the community?

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
Metropolitan Ministries
The Joshua House



**Never throughout history has a
man who lived a life of ease left
a name worth remembering.
— Brother Theodore Roosevelt**

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**

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 • Floyde 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 R•H• Adam S. Feldman, RHDl - 2021 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!

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 Brother Allan Arthur Jenkins (Pro-Tem)
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



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,

Please check your Dues Card to see if you have paid your 2022 Dues, and 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: September 2022.

- 1st Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 5th Labor Day Degree MM @ John Darling no. 154. Coffee and Donuts at 6:15 AM, Degree begins at Sunrise (7:14 AM) Lunch served between 1st and 2nd part. 2 Candidates, both from 154!**
- 6th Table Lodge at Egypt Temple Shrine. 7 Course meal with toasts and Fellowship begins promptly at 6:30 PM. Reservations required; tickets available on Hillsborough25.org**
- 7th 6:30 PM, Degree Practice. (MOVED TO WEDNESDAY UNTIL 11/2)
- 7th (6:PM – 7:PM, MLT), (7:PM – 8:PM, District School of Instruction @ John Darling No. 154).
- 8th Holyrood Lodge No. 257 Stated Meeting @ J. F. Swartsel 251, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30PM.**
- 8th Monthly Lodge Visit: Brandon Lodge no. 114, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM**
- 9th 7:PM - Masonic Park Board Meeting @ Tampa 240. **(Check for ZOOM meeting).**
- 13th Officer Meeting @ J.F. Swartsel Lodge. 6PM start
- 14th 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 15th Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30PM.**
- 16th Third Friday FULL Menu Fish Fry at J.F. Swartsel Lodge – Serving from 5 - 7:30 PM.**
- 17th Trestleboard Articles to R.: H.: Feldman**
- 19th 7:30 - Friendship Chapter No. 209 Order of the Eastern Star meeting.**
- 21st 6:30 PM, York Rite Commandery Practice at J.F. Swartsel Lodge
- 23rd **6:30 – 7:30 Master Mason Association of Hillsborough County @ John Darling No. 154. With Memorial Lodge to follow.**
- 24th 9:AM – Noon, Open Books at Zone School of Instruction @ John Darling 154.**
- 28th 6:30 PM Degree Practice.

From the Worshipful Master: Brother Ray Ciunci

Greetings from the East Brothers!!

Well Brothers my hip surgery went well. It has been 4 weeks since and I am slowly getting better. While the recovery has been challenging, I am slowly getting back to normal.

Brother Wade Angel is doing a fine job filling in for me in the east and the Lodge keeps rolling along, I am doing my best to stay somewhat connected to the Lodge while recovering from home.

Between Brothers we have recently Initiated and those who are transferring in, we will be adding eight new Brothers this month alone! Why do we consistently attract so many new members? Because of Brotherly Love. We all truly care about one another. The word spreads when you have a great Lodge.

All for now

Fraternally,

Ray Ciunci

From the Worthy Matron: Sister Elizabeth McAbee

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Friendship Chapter returns from its summer recess beginning Monday, September 19, with Friends Night. Friends of our Officers will serve in our Stations for the evening.

Mark your calendars for Monday, October 3. 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



From the Senior Warden: Brother Wade Angel

Nothing from the West

From the Junior Warden: Brother Brian Reach

It's hard to believe that it is already September! I can't wait until that first day when you can feel Fall in the air.

Remember, Degree practices are moving to Wednesday nights. We can always use an extra Brother or two as candidates or conductors. Thanks in advance.

September Dinner Menu for Stated Communications:

September 1: Baked Ziti with garlic bread, salad and dessert.

September 15: Chili over pasta with a vegetable, salad and dessert.

Check our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/jfswartsel251>, for changes to the above menu selections.

Brother Brian Reach JW

From the Senior Deacon: Brother Allan Jenkins

My Brothers,

Our Ritual work is one of the most unique things to our Fraternity. It truly separates us from all other Fraternities. In fact, our devotion to learning the ritual work is what helps us live up to our motto of making good men better. When you learn the Ritual for what it is, a life transformed in its journey towards the path to the celestial Lodge above. You start to embrace the work with a devotion to learning and growing, instead of just learning your role in the Ritual. This month we start our journey towards a Fellow Craft Degree. We will be passing 4 new Entered Apprentices to the Degree of Fellow Craft. This Degree is the second in one's long journey towards betterment of oneself.

I would like to invite all of the Brothers from J.F. Swartsel along to the practices on Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30. If you don't have a role currently and would like to be part of this amazing event, please let me know. If not, I hope to see you all at our Degree on Saturday, November 5th at 9:00 a.m.

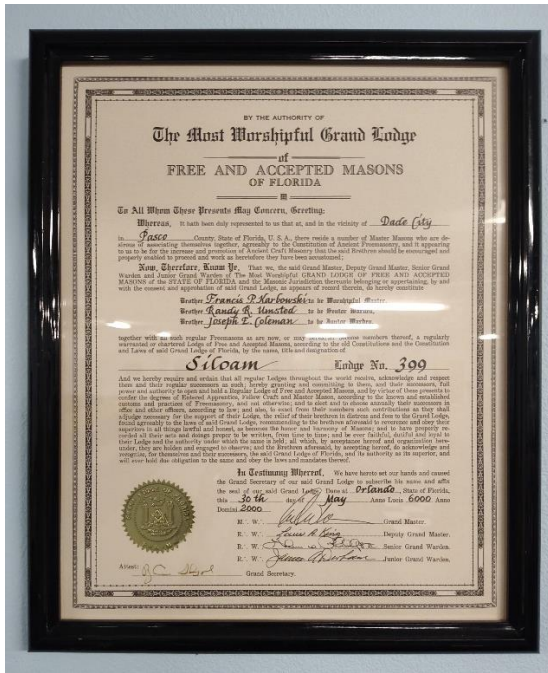
Have a Blessed Day,

Allan Jenkins - Senior Deacon



7/28: J.F. Swartsel traveled north to District 14 to visit Siloam Lodge no. 399 in Brooksville. While many of us were first time visitors, our Lodge actually helped in the starting of Siloam Lodge way back in the year 2000! We had a wonderful meal and thoroughly enjoyed the fellowship! The Lodge is located in the same parking lot as the Shrine, which made the decision of the after-party location a fairly easy one, and I can see us paying another visit soon!

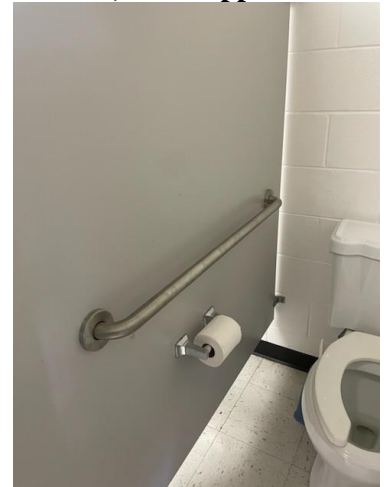
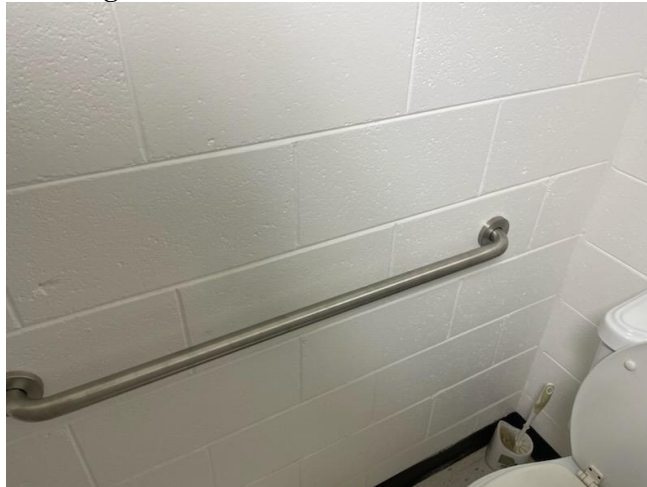
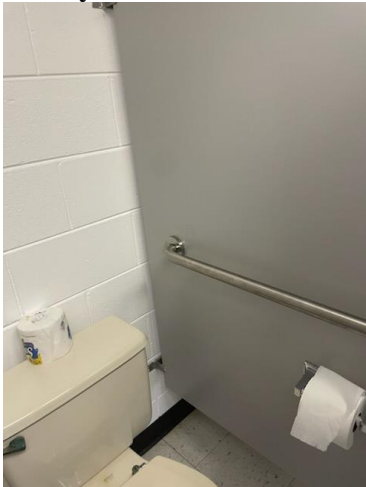




8/9: Congratulations to our three newest Entered Apprentices! Thank you to the many Brothers from numerous Districts who came by to pay us a visit, especially Worshipful Billy Scott, who drove to the Lodge believing himself to be a Conductor, and found out over dinner that he was to be the Senior Deacon! Our lecturer Worshipful Rob Hosmonek hit another one out of the park, and so did Allan Jenkins at his very first at bat from the East!



Thank you Brother Jenkins for installing new handrails in the men's and women's restrooms; much appreciated!



8/19: Our World-Famous Fish Fry is once again well received by our community!

This monthly event is an excellent fundraising opportunity for our Lodge, but more importantly than that, the event brings us all together as another opportunity to hang out with one another and do some good!

It's been awesome seeing the local community and our Masonic one as well once again patronizing our assembly as they realize we've restarted. Best of all, everyone returning to our Fish Fry for the first time since restarting looks as happy to see us again as they do the fish!



8/23: Primary Voting Day! Thank you to the many Brothers from J.F. Swartsel Lodge for coming out to help man THREE different Drop Sites! Every Brother who signed up and attended helped raise additional funds for our Lodge. Our Lodge is stronger because of Brothers like you who give up some of your free time to help our Lodge Prosper!



One last reminder that practice has been moved to Wednesdays until our Farmer's Degree in November. The York Rite has one Wednesday per month reserved, but we will be meeting at the Lodge the other three at 6:30pm. Refer to the Secretary's article for the specific dates.

York Rite Lessons

Companions and Sir Knights,

Jah is the name of Jehovah in poetry and is recorded in Psalm 68: 4

“He who provides for this life, but takes no care for eternity, is wise for a moment, but a fool forever.” John Tillotson

What part of the book of Jeremiah contains a part of the basis of Speculative Masonry?

In the book of Jeremiah, 18 to 20th verses, are the old Hebrew covenants, which parallel apart of the basis of Speculative Science. Jer 34: 18-20

“To know how to grow old is the master work of wisdom.”

What point was symbolized by the tribe of Judah?

The entrance of the candidate was symbolized by the tribe of Judah, because they were the first to cross the Joran and enter the promised land, coming out of the darkness and servitude of the wilderness, as it were, into the light and liberty of Canaan. Judah was the fourth son of Jacob, and the fourth point of the ancient English lectures. Gen 49: 8-12

“Think big thoughts but relish small pleasures.” Old Southern Proverb

KEEPERS OF THE HOUSE SHALL TREMBLE. What does this veiled allegory signify?

Refers to the infirmities of old age. By the house is meant the body of man, the arms and legs weakened by old age, ae the keepers. Ex 12: 3

“When we recall the past, we usually find that it is the simplest things –not the great occasions –that in retrospect give off the greatest glow of happiness.”

Bob Hope

ORIGIN OF MASONRY AND ITS ADVANTAGES

From the commencement of the world, we may trace the foundation of Masonry.

Ever since symmetry began, and harmony displayed her charms, our Order has had a being. During many ages, and in many different countries, it has flourished. No art, no science preceded it. In the dark periods of antiquity, when literature was in a low state, and the rude manners of our fore fathers withheld from them that knowledge we now so amply share, Masonry diffused its influence. This science unveiled, arts arose, civilization took place, and the progress of knowledge and philosophy gradually dispelled the gloom of ignorance and barbarism. Government being settled, authority was given to laws, and the assemblies of the Fraternity acquired the patronage of the great and the good, while the tenet of the profession disseminated unbounded philanthropy.... Read the rest from the MASONIC MONITOR

“The great thing about getting older is that you don’t lose the other ages you’ve been.” Madeline L’Engle

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

Masonic Education – On the Level

The Level is a tool used in construction.

Just about every mason hears the phrase 'On the Level' when they attend their Lodge meeting. It is one of most basic ideas put forth in Freemasonry.

At its core, on the level indicates that an object is the same distance from a common surface no matter where you measure from. This is critical in construction to make sure that a house or structure will stand, that the floors do not slope, and things will not roll or slide across the floor.

Generally, in construction when something is level, it has more to do with the ground on which it stands than gravity as a whole.

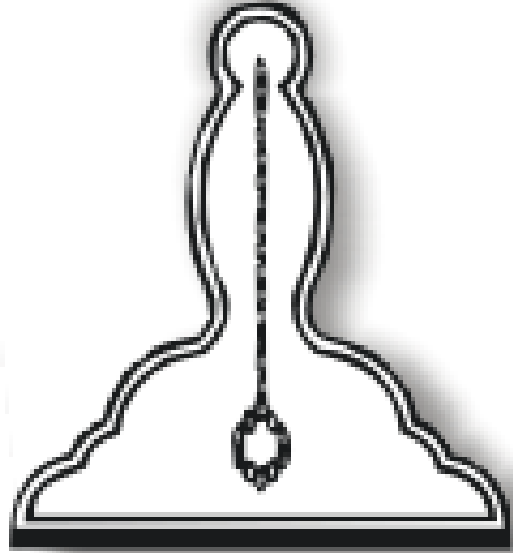
In Freemasonry a level not only refers to things that are of equal distance from a common surface, it refers to many other things.

The first thing it refers to is what the phrase most commonly translates to outside of the Fraternity. When someone is 'on the level' they are honest, they deal with someone fairly. This also can have another allusion most commonly held with one of the Cardinal Virtues of Freemasonry, Justice. The balance scale, which is a common symbol to indicate Justice, has a level as its core element. With both sides being equal, a balance scale will be level across indicating that both sides are equal.

The second thing, is that it is a reminder that we are all equal in the eyes of death, often referred to in Masonry as the "Great Leveler." It means that death comes for us all no matter what station we have attained in life, no matter what we attained as status in the Fraternity, we will all look upon the face of death. It is a reminder for all of us that we are no different from the person walking beside us on the street or standing next to us in our Lodge room.

Third and most importantly, it is a reminder to Freemasons that no matter what we do inside the Fraternity, no matter what position we hold or have held, we have a responsibility to our Brothers and to the world to treat each other as equals. No one person is more important than another in the Fraternity, even when someone briefly achieves the position of Most Worshipful Grand Master, the highest position and leader in any Grand Jurisdiction. All must be held to the same standards and all must be treated as equals.

It is for all these reasons that Lodges in several other Jurisdictions will end their meeting with everyone standing on the same surface. It symbolizes that we are all standing together equally and no one, no matter their position is exempted from standing shoulder to shoulder with their Brothers. One of the best examples of on the level comes from the installation ceremony. In it is stated, "From the ranks you have risen and to the ranks you shall return." It is a reminder that some of us may be called to lead from time to time, we must always remember that we are still 'on the level' with our Brothers.



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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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