



Published monthly Volume C Issue No. – 4 April A.D. 2025, A.L. 6025

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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/jfswartsel251

Meetings: 1st and 3rd Thursdays

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

W.: M.: Allan Jenkins - R.: H.: Adam Feldman - W.: Jerry M. Snell Jr. – W.: Marty Greif –
W.: Wade Angel – Br. Jack Jones – Br. Denis Monefeldt



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

Land O Lakes High School

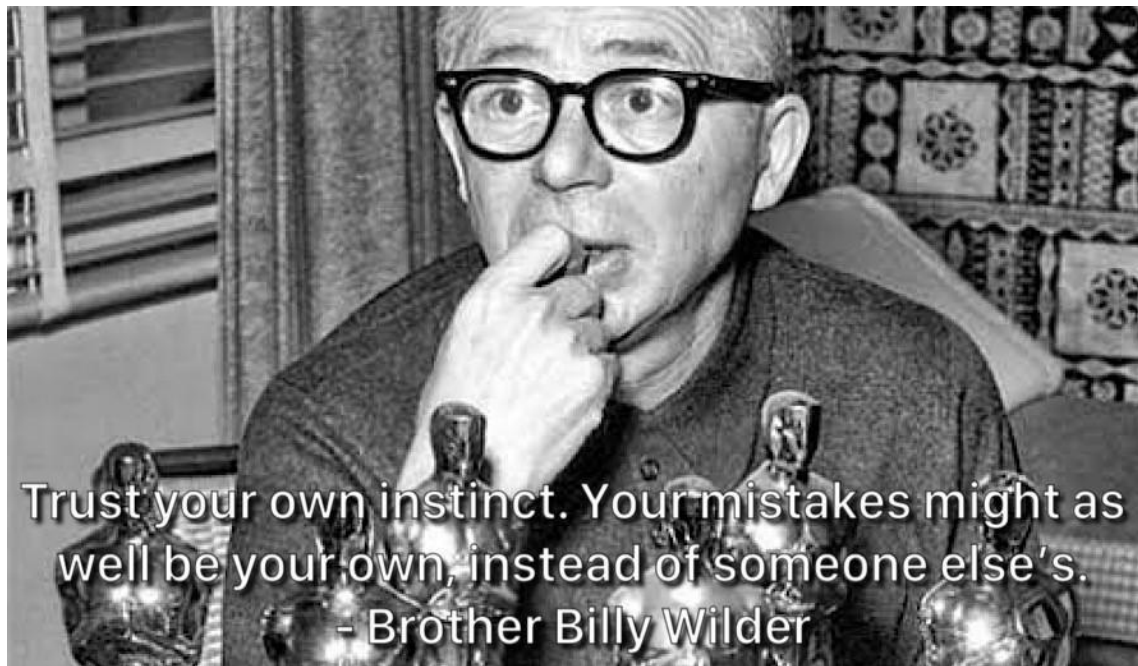
Steinbrenner High School

Monthly Bingo jackpots at the Florida Masonic Home in St. Petersburg

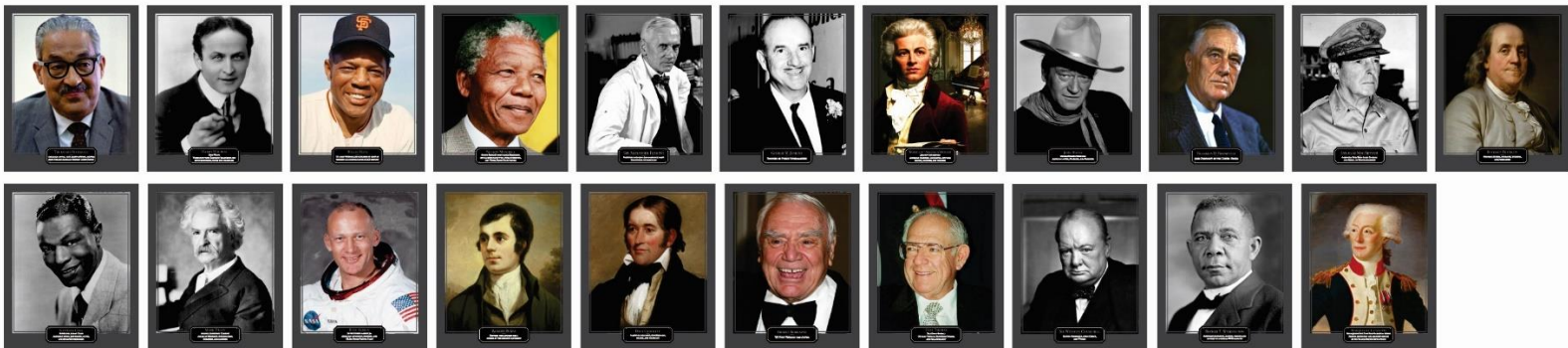
Metropolitan Ministries

The Joshua House





If they could do the things they did then,



imagine the things that we can do now.

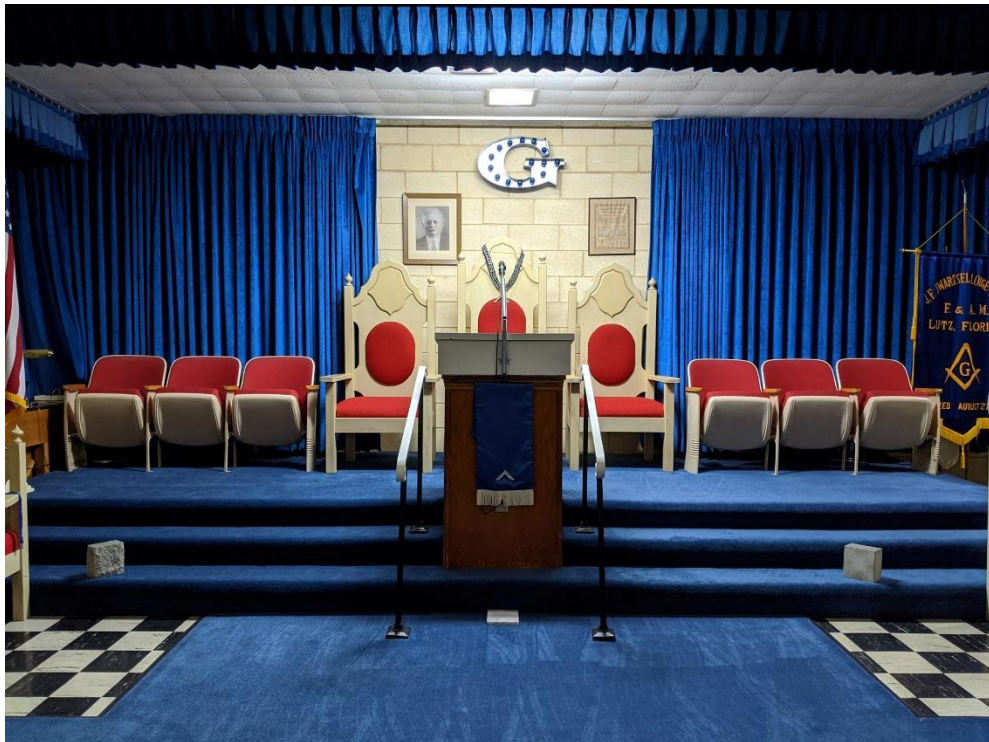
Thank you to **all** of our Past Masters - Who laid the foundation for us to build upon

[The Past Masters of J.F. Swartsel, Palma Ceia and Community Lodge](#)

Please follow the link to our website for a complete list of past masters.

Your 2025 J. F. Swartsel Officers are as follows:

Worshipful Master Brother Allan Arthur Jenkins
Senior Warden Brother Joe Circhirillo
Junior Warden Brother Thomas Holland Overman
Treasurer W ♂ Jeffrey Thomas Sklet
Secretary W ♂ David Bruce Lambert Sr.
Chaplain Br. Jason Warren Schein
Marshall W ♂ Brian Andrew Reach
Senior Deacon Brother Jack Wilbur Jones
Junior Deacon Brother Denis Graham Monefeldt
Senior Steward Brother Kyle John Jesso
Junior Steward Brother Jose Lao Labasbas Jr.
Tyler Brother Jose Louis Valdes
Musician Brother John S 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 2025 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.

Calendar of Important Lodge Dates:

April 2025.

- 1st 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 2nd (6:PM – 7:PM, MLT), (7:PM – 8:PM), District 19 School of Instruction @ Holyrood Lodge No 257.
- 3rd Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 8th 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 11th 7:PM - Masonic Park Board Meeting @ EGYPT Temple.
- 15th 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 18th 5:PM – 7:PM, Third Friday FULL Menu Fish Fry at J.F. Swartsel.**
- 19th Trestleboard Articles to W.: Allen Jenkins & W.: Jeff Sklet.**
- 19th 9:AM - Master Mason Degree, J. F. Swartsel Lodge.**
- 21st 7:30 PM, Friendship Chapter No. 209. Stated Meeting.
- 22nd 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 23rd 6:30 PM, J. F. Swartsel Lodge,s 100th Anniversary Ceremony Celebration, Followed by Dinner Reception.**
- 26th 9:AM – Noon, Open Books at Zone School of Instruction @ John Darling Masonic Center.**
- 28th 6:30 – 8:30 Master Mason Association of Hillsborough County @ EGYPT Shrine.**
- 29th 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.

From the Worshipful Master: Worshipful Allan Jenkins

My Brothers,

It's hard to believe that Quarter 1 is already behind us, and we are moving full speed into Quarter 2. Time truly flies—one day, we're planning for the year ahead, and the next, we're reflecting on all that has already been accomplished. It reminds me of a line from a Luke Bryan song: *"The days are long (especially with all these meetings), but the years are fast."*

This first quarter was filled with energy, excitement, and hard work, much of it driven by our 100-year celebration. One of the most significant milestones has been the launch of our building project. We've made great progress, with the floors in the entranceway, hallway, and bathrooms have been replaced, and the floor medallion carefully placed. The new doors are expected to arrive in the first week of April, adding another finishing touch to our renovations.

Preparations for our celebration are also well underway. The menu is set, smokers have been reserved, and the dining room has been configured to accommodate 140 guests. Everything is coming together to ensure this event is one to remember.

April Schedule Updates

We've made a few adjustments to our April schedule to align with our centennial celebration:

- Our first Stated Communication will proceed as usual on **April 3rd**.
- The **April 17th** meeting has been dispensed with.
- A **Called Communication is scheduled for April 23rd**, marking the official 100-year anniversary of our lodge.

A Historic Competition

In addition to our centennial preparations, we've also achieved another first: the formation of the **J.F. Swartsel Lodge 251 Degree Team** for the **Master Mason Degree competition**. Our team competed on **Saturday, March 22nd**, and we are now one of **nine lodges in the state** set to compete in the 2024-2025 Masonic year. A huge shout out to all the brothers who dedicated their time and effort to this challenge—it takes an immense amount of preparation and commitment, and every participant delivered.

A Heartfelt Thank You

As we continue this momentous year, I want to extend my gratitude to all the brothers who have worked tirelessly to set us off on the right foot. Your dedication, time, and effort do not go unnoticed, and it's because of you that we are making history. Let's keep the momentum going and make Quarter 2 just as remarkable as the first.

Fraternally,

W:.M.: Allan A. Jenkins

From the Senior Warden: Brother Joe Circhirillo

First, I would like to congratulate our degree team for competing in the competition. They did a great job! That's what teamwork does. Thanks for putting in all the hard work and practice. I want to thank everyone who came out to help during the fish fry. I want to thank our benefactor who helped us purchase two new fryers. The fryers were a life saver as we needed to upgrade our equipment to continue to provide a high-quality product. Well Brothers we are getting ready for 100-year celebration. I'm sure it is going to be a great occasion and we'll all have a good time. Remember Brothers, the reason we are so strong is because we stick together. We're Swartsel Strong!

Fraternally,

Brother Joe Circhirillo

From the Junior Warden: Brother Thomas Overman

Menus for upcoming meetings:

April 3rd – Smoked Italian sausage, Sauerkraut, Boiled buttered potatoes, Beets, salad and Dessert

April 17 – No meeting because of 100-year celebration

April 23rd – Grilled Chicken and Pork Tenderloin with all the fixins.

Fraternally,
Brother Thomas Overman

From the Senior Deacon: Brother Jack Jones

Brothers, JFS Lodge #251 is a rare Jewel in the Most Noble Realm of Freemasonry.

How you may ask: we are growing our membership at a steady pace through new memberships as well as transfer / plural memberships from other Lodges.

With this extremely positive fact of our Lodge growth comes our responsibility to train, instruct and mentor our “Brothers” new to the craft through the Sacred Degrees of Masonry.

The Value of our Rituals is vast... we all remember our Degrees and the personal impact that they had on us.

Masonic degrees are invaluable to the Lodge, providing a framework for personal and communal growth. They preserve the traditions of Freemasonry, strengthen the bonds among members, and uphold the values that define the fraternity.

I am asking every brother who is able to consider this and become part of our Masonic Degree Team practices normally held every Tuesday evening from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. We can use assistance and support; plus, you benefit from contributing, learning, and enriching your connection with the Lodge and your Brothers.

If you would like to participate and be part of the JFS #251 Degree Team work and communications, please contact me (call or text message) @ (813)545-5449.

Thank You!
Brother Jack Jones

A message from Friendship Chapter #209 Liaison: Sister Barbara Grant

Installation of Officers 2025-2026 was held Saturday, March 15, 2025. We are excited to have several of our new members being installed as Elected Officers in our Chapter. Sister Charlotte Miller, Worthy Matron and Brother Brian Reach will serve as Associate Patron this year for their first time to hold these offices. So now we have our Masonic brothers and "OES sisters with a new "slate" of officers. We are thankful for, and hopefully will continue our wonderful relationship with our organizations working together as a whole for our fellowship. Congratulations to Allan Jenkins, W.M. and the brothers of our growing Lodge for the plans for the 100-year celebration. Gee, our country is 250 years old this year and J.F. Swartsel Masonic Lodge 251 F.&A.M. celebrates 100 years on April 23, 2025. Can't wait to attend this celebration.

Star Love,
Barbara Gant
Liaison

In honor of our 100-year anniversary, this is the original Lodge building from back in the day



What have we been up to?

Degree competition practice. Working hard to get better 📖



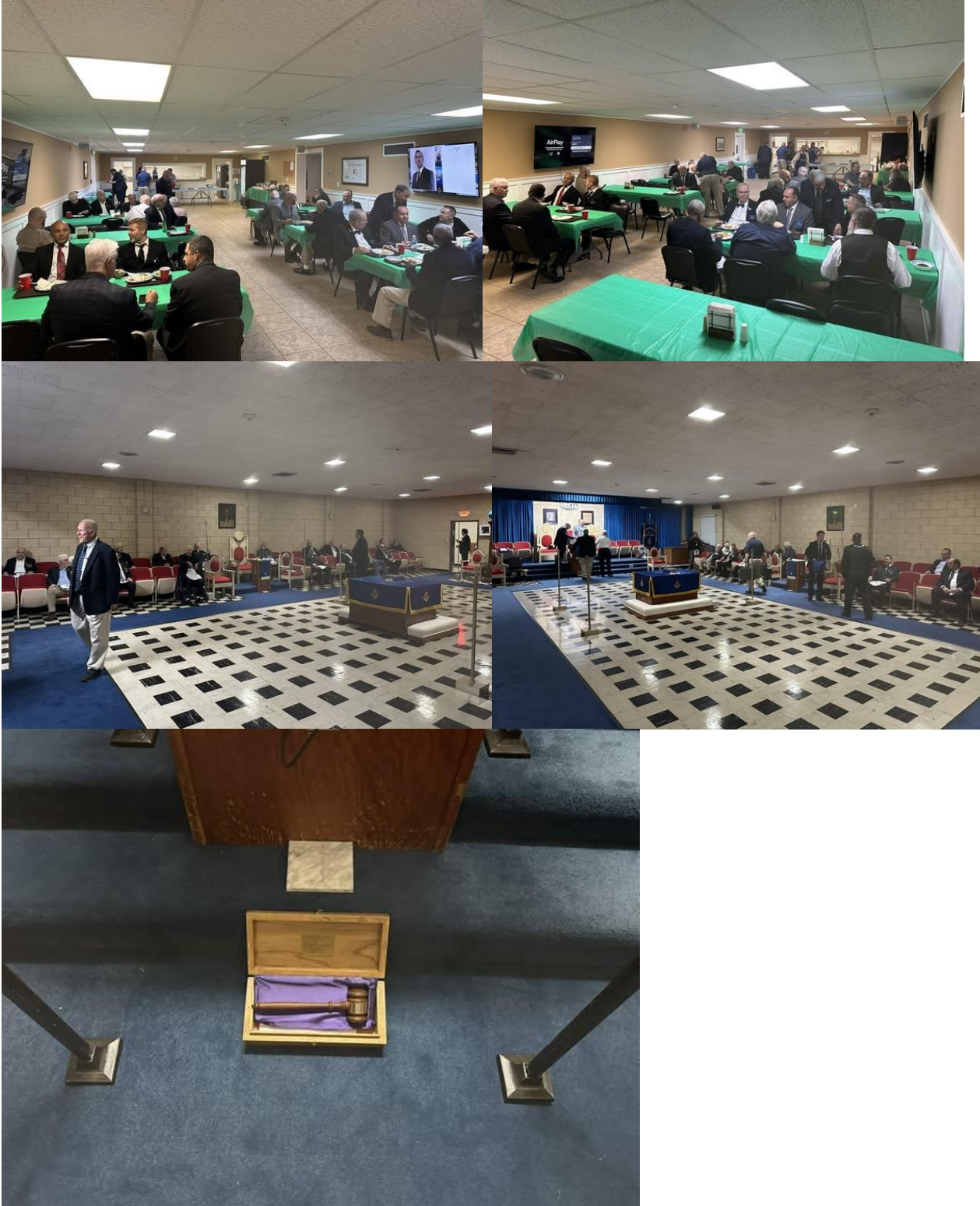
MLT and District School of Instruction. Great time visiting with the Brothers from around District 19. A lot of information being learned and shared.



Another great turnout for our Stated communication! It might be Brother Overman's good cooking but I think it is all the good fellowship and fun we have together as men and Masons. We are truly blessed as a Lodge. We look forward to seeing everyone next time. Check the Trestle board for the menu.

PS: We still have the Traveling Gavel

PPS: I spy a DI



The 100-year anniversary medallion arrived! It looks great. Going to look better once it's installed.



Last practice before Degree Competition. We are ready!



At long last, we bid farewell to the Traveling Gavel. The Brothers of PTF will take excellent care of it until we visit to reclaim. Our thanks to all who were here to share an excellent meal and warm fellowship.



Another good turn out for the fish fry! Thanks to everyone for coming out and supporting us. We put our two new fryers to good use that night. Thanks to all the Brothers for all the hard work.



The J.F. Swartsel 2025 Degree Team ready for competition.



MMA of Hillsborough County meeting. Here to hear what's going on around the county. We also got to hear R.: W.: Rob Estell deliver his message as he is running for the Grand South. Good fun and fellowship was had by all!



Getting ready for our 100th year anniversary! We'll post after it's complete.



100 Anniversary officers meeting. The more preparation the better.



Some of our members attended the Fellowcraft Degree at Holyrood Lodge. Along with other visiting Brothers from other Lodges. This is what makes our Fraternity strong by visiting and supporting each other. Congratulations to the newly passed Brother. We look forward to your future in the Fraternity.



Today we had the privilege of visiting the home of our namesake, and giving it a good cleaning. While there, we noticed additional Swartsel grave sites, and ended up cleaning a total of 12 family headstones ahead of our upcoming Centennial. Thank you to the Brothers of 251 for their devotion to our Lodge, and our gentle Craft of Freemasonry!



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
TERMITE & PEST CONTROL

Phone (813)960-PEST
Fax (813)968-PEST
(7376)

Inspection Specialist

Tony Hedayat
State Certified
Pestex1@yahoo.com

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

WZPH 96.7FM
The Zephyr
Tampa, Florida, USA, 24/7, 365/yr

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

FREE iPhone App WZPH Android App WZPH

Dr. Dr. Thayer
813-948-3629
cel 813-995-0191
email: drdr.docthyer@gmail.com

ADVANCED
FILM SOLUTIONS, INC.

WINDOW TINT

HOME | OFFICE | AUTO | MARINE

813-949-FILM

1642 LAND O' LAKES BLVD IN LUTZ

www.ADVANCEDFILMSOLUTIONS.com

WANT TO KNOW A SECRET?

JFSwartzsel251.org

3109 W. LUTZ LAKE FERN ROAD
(SUNLAKE AND LUTZ LAKE FERN)

"TO BE ONE, ASK ONE"

J. F. SWARTSEL LODGE NO. 251 F.&A.M.



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.

