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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/jfswartsel251

Meetings: 1st and 3rd Thursdays

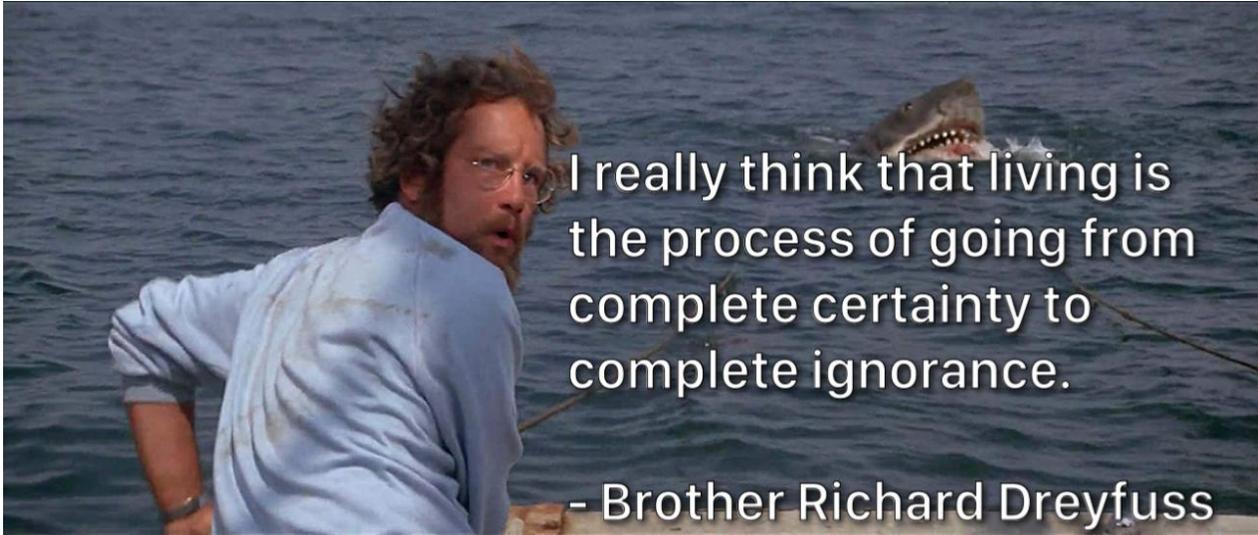
Your Catechism Instructors for the three symbolic degrees in Freemasonry are:

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 –
 Br. Per-Henrik Nordstrom – Br. Carlos Perez – Br. Anthony DeLuna

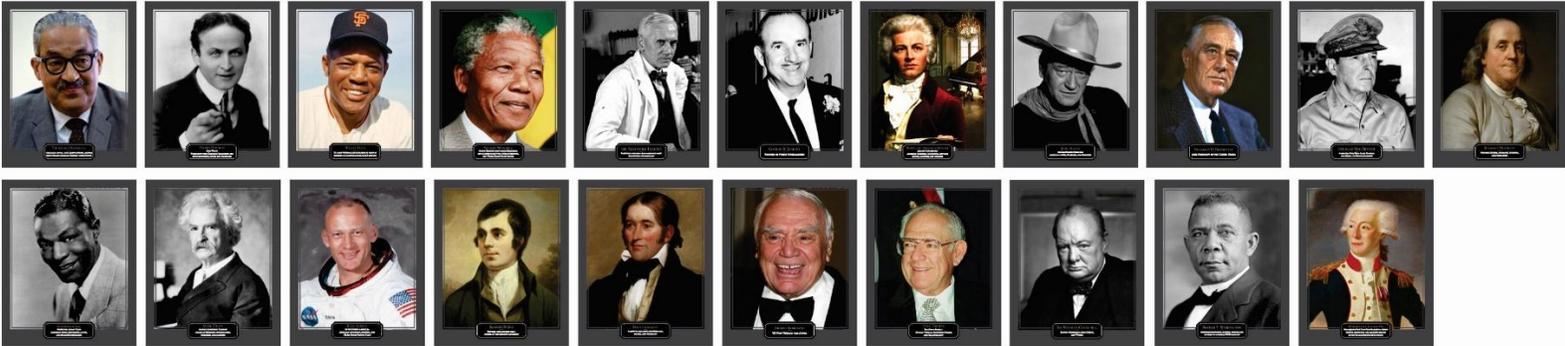


Who does J. F. Swartsel Lodge support in the community?

- 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
- McKitrick 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



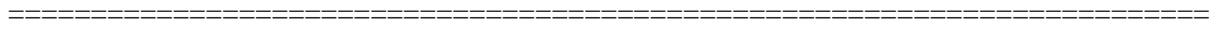
If they could do the things they did then,



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.



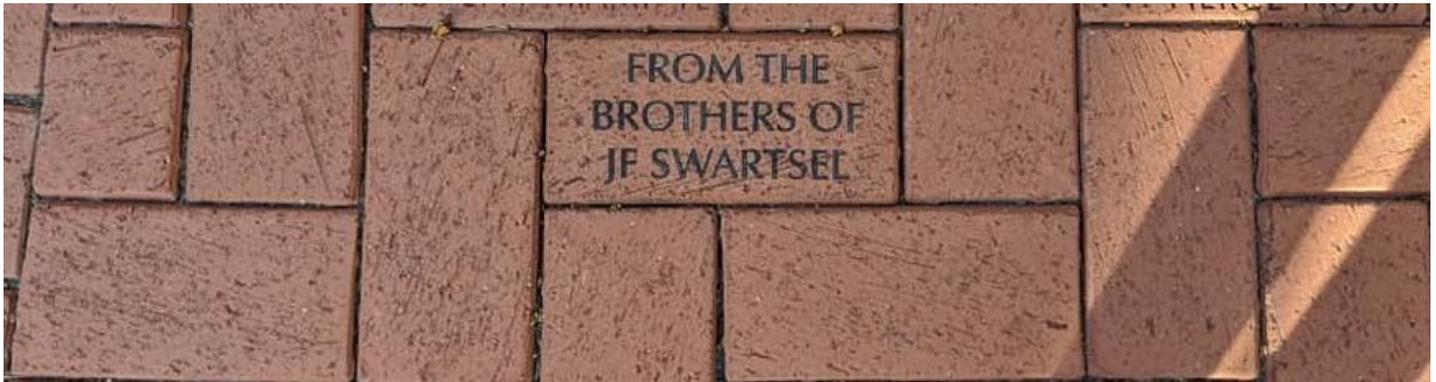
Your 2026 J. F. Swartzel Officers are as follows:

Worshipful Master Brother Joe Circhirillo
Senior Warden Brother Thomas Holland Overman
Junior Warden Brother Jack Wilbur Jones
Treasurer R :: H :: Jeffrey Thomas Sklet
Secretary W :: David Bruce Lambert Sr.
Chaplain W :: Wade Edward Angel
Marshall W :: Brian Andrew Reach
Senior Deacon Brother Denis Graham Monefeldt
Junior Deacon Brother Kyle John Jesso
Senior Steward Brother Per Henrik Johann Nordstrom
Junior Steward Brother Carlos Andres Perez
Tyler Brother Jose Luis Valdes Jr.
Musician Brother John S Nagy
Historian W :: Samuel McPherson





Please remember your Lodge boosters and thank them!



Chair Chatter

From the Secretary: Worshipful David Lambert, Sr.

Brethren,

Please check your Dues Card to see if you have paid your 2026 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:

February 2026.

- 3rd 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 4th (6:PM – 7:PM, MLT), (7:PM – 8:PM), District 19 School of Instruction @ John Darling Masonic Center.
- 5th Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 9th 6:30 PM – Open Books at Universal Lodge
- 10th 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 12th E A Degree, Dinner 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 13th 7:PM - Masonic Park Board Meeting @ EGYPT Temple.
- 15th 2:PM - DeMolay Initiation - Lincoln DeLuna.
- 16th 7:30 PM – Friendship Chapter No. 209 meeting.
- 17th 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 18th 7:PM – Plant City York Rite at J. F. Swartsel No. 251, (Chapter & Council).
- 19th Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 20th 5:PM – 7:PM, Third Friday FULL Menu Fish Fry at J.F. Swartsel.**
- 21st Trestleboard Articles to R.: H.: Jeff Sklet.
- 23rd 6:30 – 8:30 Master Mason Association of Hillsborough County @ EGYPT Shrine.**
- 24th 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 26th 7:PM - Plant City York Rite at J. F. Swartsel No. 251, (Commandry).
- 27th 7:PM, DeMolay Advisor's Meeting.
- 28th 9:AM – Noon, Open Books at Zone School of Instruction @ Universal John Darling Masonic Center.

From the Worshipful Master: Worshipful Joe Circhirillo

This is your Worshipful Master, big Joe Chic. I'm looking forward to leading this great lodge this coming year. I want to thank all my brothers who voted for me and who have faith in me to lead. I want to make some changes this year. I want to bring in the EAs and Fellowcrafts into our lodge when we have education, if the lesson is appropriate, we open the lodge and then we will put at ease to bring in these brothers so they can listen to the education. I want to get them involved early in their Masonic travels. I also would like to do more visits to other lodges so they can see the character of our lodge. I want to thank all the brothers that help during the fish fries. Remember, this is one of our biggest money makers throughout the year for our charities. Let me rephrase that this is our main money maker for our charities. I know that we have other fundraisers, but this is our steady one every month. I want to thank everybody that helps and their wives. It takes a large group to put this together so let's keep it going that's what we're known for the fish fries. If there is something you want to discuss, please let me know and we will discuss if it is for the good of the lodge and the brothers. We are stronger as a team instead of an individual that's what makes JF Swartzel a fantastic and growing lodge. When a Brother is in need of help, we help him, we are Swartzel Strong. Let's keep up the good work, brothers. I am honored to be your Worshipful Master.

Fraternally,

W.:M.: Joe Circhirillo

From the Senior Warden: Brother Thomas Overman

Brothers,

I will not be a part of the degree team for their upcoming EA DEGREE, but will serve as a backup. Nor will I be a part of the upcoming competition team. I will continue to labor in the regular meetings as the SW. Please come to the degree practices. We need candidates and conductors. Only two more practices left, Tuesdays at 630pm.

Fraternally,

Brother Thomas Overman

From the Junior Warden: Brother Jack Jones

My Commitment to the Brothers of JFS #251: Your Junior Warden

My Brothers, 2026 has kicked-off with our Officer installation and Lodge line-up in full swing. It is truly and honor to serve you as Your Junior Warden (JW). I want to share with you a synopsis of my Official Duties from the Grand Lodge, as well as my vision of my personal commitment / duties to you.

First, from the FL Masonic Digest:

Junior Warden - Duties

- Attend the Grand Communication or have a proxy appointed, if unable to attend
- Serves as Chairman of the Lodge Vigilance Committee while taking charge of the craft during the hours of refreshment.
- Serves as a member of the Lodge Board of Relief per the Digest.
- He can serve as a member of the Lodge Finance Committee
- Can serve as a member of the Lodge Committee on^[1]Charity
- Can serve as a member of the Committee on Lodge^[1]Property
- Serve as a mentor to the SD

Because

- He is expected to know the workings of all of these^[1]_{SEP} Committees should he be Elected to the West and East. If something were to happen to the Worshipful Master and Senior Warden that they were absent, it becomes the JW's duty to preside *(Digest Chapter 20.13)
- Should the absence be permanent the Junior Warden would ascend to the East for the remainder of the Worshipful Master's term.^[1]_{SEP} Constitution Article X, Sec.11

Jr. Warden - Responsibilities

- Learn the ritual of the SW
- Prepare to preside in the East during a FC degree
- Obtain a Florida Masonic Monitor (Blue Book),TM Florida Masonic Code, Handbook of Floor work Procedures, a Digest of Masonic Law of Florida and a Mentor's Manual
- Obtain a copy of the Lodge Secretary's^[1]_{SEP} Administrative Guide (GL215)

My Personal Commitment to you:

During Refreshment and Beyond

- Provide **all** of the Needs of the Kitchen for the Refreshment of the Craft
- Work to ensure harmony at all times within the lodge especially while the Brothers are at Refreshment.
- Pursue "Vigilance" in the conduct and interactions with all while in our Beloved Lodge #251
- Participate fully with all Officers and Appointees to continue to grow the Brotherhood and Impact of our Lodge activities, both within JFS and in community outreach / charities.
- Last, but NOT Least... ***Provide delicious and healthy Meals for My Brothers!***

I share my vision as Jr. Warden as a testament of commitment to serve you, JF Swartzel #251, to the best of my ability, adhering to all the duties listed above. That I will constantly be working to nourish you with not only quality / healthy food and drink, but also to nourish our BOND of brotherly love.

Remember: The most important Masonic Lodge in the entirety of Freemasonry is OUR LODGE; we must continue to create and build upon our solid cornerstone made up of Wisdom, Strength, Love and Respect... it is up to us!

May Brotherly Love & * Great Food * Prevail !!!

Fraternally,
Brother Jack Jones



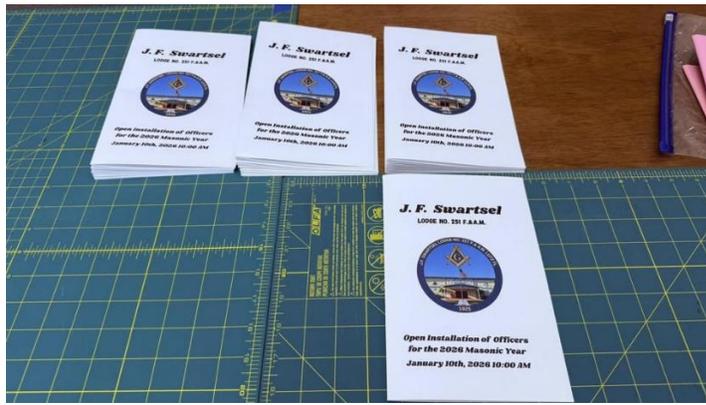
Profit and Loss	
J.F. Swartzel Lodge No. 251	
Distribution account	Budget
	2026
Income	
4007 Membership Dues	25,000.00
4020 Building rent income	-
4040 Other lodge donations	500.00
4070 Monitors Sold	60.00
4080 Fish Fry	12,000.00
4090 Charity Basket Donations	1,000.00
4099 misc lodge income	100.00
4110 E A Degree Fees	1,000.00
4120 F C Degree Fees	500.00
4125 MM Degree Fee	500.00
4140 Bank interest received	15.00
4151 Heart Dance Fundraiser - Income	-
4250 Perpetual Membership Income	9,700.00
4280 Income from Eastern Star	960.00
4290 Back ground Check Income	85.00
4901 100 Year Anniversary Coin Sales	-
4005 4005 2023 Membership Dues	-
4060 Ciphers (Red Book) sold	100.00
4201 Poll Worker Income	6,500.00
4604 Cash Income from Lodge Merger	-
Cash from Investments	16,990.00
Total for Income	\$75,010.00
Gross Profit	\$75,010.00
Expenses	
6000 Fish Fry Expense	5,760.00
6050 Lodge Electricity	2,800.00
6060 Lodge Yard Maintenance	1,200.00
6061 Lodge Building Maintenance	2,500.00
6080 Lodge Water/Sewer	300.00
6090 Lodge Property Taxes	750.00
6091 Lodge Taxes	
6110 Sales Tax Paid	250.00
6141 Lodge Donations - Oasis	-
6142 Lodge Donations - Heartdance Foundation	-
6143 Lodge donations - Joshua House	-
6149 Donations - Scottish Rite Foundation	1,000.00
6201 GMDV	2,000.00
6220 Background check expenses	85.00
6230 Office Supplies and expenses	3,000.00
6250 Lodge Cleaning Supplies	-
6260 Bank Charges	10.00
6270 Lodge Kitchen Supplies	1,000.00
6271 Lodge Equipment Expense	500.00
6272 Lodge Fishing Trip	-
6290 Non Meeting Lodge Food Purchases	1,500.00
6315 Fire/Security Alarm expense	3,500.00
6360 Property Insurance Expenses	3,300.00
6370 Liability Insurance Expenses	1,000.00
6390 Lodge Secretary Stipend	7,200.00
6400 Postage	1,000.00
6411 Internet Expense	2,300.00
6441 Grand Lodge Travel	3,000.00
6451 Grand Lodge Per Capita Expenses	9,700.00
6471 Advertising/Promotional	500.00
6481 Masonic Charitable Contributions	4,000.00
6491 Non Masonic Charitable Contributions	2,000.00
6501 Grand Lodge of Florida - LYPMGC	2,000.00
6511 Entertainment	-
6602 Paid Scholarship Expense	8,000.00
6605 100 Year Anniversary	-
6606 Heart Dance Fundraiser - Expense	-
6801 DeMolay Start Up	-
6951 Masonic Paraphernalia	1,500.00
Bank Charges & Fees	30.00
6070 Lodge Building and Capital Expense	-
6147 Recognition Award - Friendship Chapter	-
6148 Charitable Contributions	1,500.00
6150 Purchase of Masonic Bibles	1,500.00
6240 Lodge Computer and Equipment Expenses	250.00
6410 Lodge Pins / Wages and Other Accessories	-
6902 Florida Dept. of Agriculture	75.00
Total for Expenses	\$75,010.00
Net Operating Income	\$0.00
Net Other Income	
Net Income	\$0.00

What have we been up to?

Funimada GIFs



Installation of Officers





Installation 2026 is officially in the books. Officers are in place, the gavel has been passed, and the lodge is positioned for a strong year ahead. Time to shift from ceremony to execution.



First Officer's meeting of the year. Setting the tone for the rest of the year and putting the Lodge on a solid path to the future.



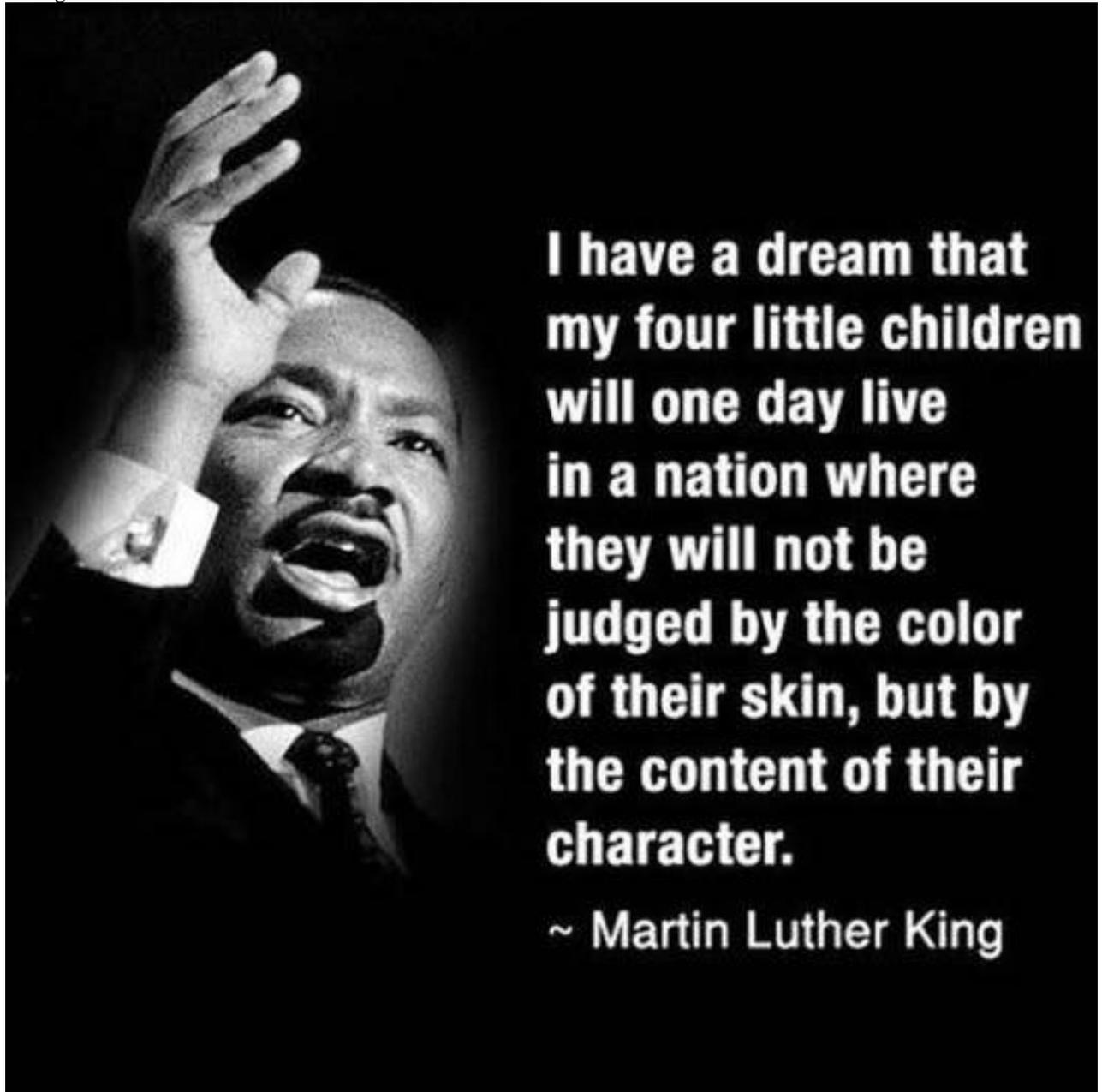
First meeting of the new year is in the books. We are off to a great start. Looking forward to seeing more Brothers in Lodge. As a reminder to all the other Lodges in Hillsborough County, we still have the Traveling Gavel. [#swartselstrong](#)



Standing room only and a complete sellout!!!

Lutz showed up and delivered. While enjoying a great dinner, you directly supported several of our local charities—and that's a win across the board. This is what happens when the community answers the call. Let's maintain the momentum and do it again next month.





**I have a dream that
my four little children
will one day live
in a nation where
they will not be
judged by the color
of their skin, but by
the content of their
character.**

~ Martin Luther King

Work hard, play hard. After practice get together



Celebrating and remembering our Brother R.: W.: Bob Moore



Master Mason Association meeting. Good turnout





SWARTSEL'S
**FAMILY
NIGHT**

Tease Your Brain
With Trivia!
Bring Your Phone!
Prizes for the Winners!

Thursday

Jan 29th

3109 W. Lutz Lake Fern Rd

Doors open at: 6:00pm
Dinner begins at: 6:30pm
Game starts at: 7:30pm

Bring a side
or dessert to
pass!

Pork loin,
Turkey,
and
Beverages
supplied by
the Lodge!



Connect with us!

Facebook

On the Web

Practice night 📖. Getting ready for our upcoming EA Degree.



Some of the Brothers got together tonight at the range for a little aroma therapy 😊. Went out for a bite to eat afterwards to continue the fun and fellowship!



Family Night at Swartsel was a blast! Great food, great fellowship, great games and even a 25 year presentation. Congratulations to Brother Jim Jenkins on 25 years of service to the Fraternity in general and our Lodge in particular. Special thanks to Rena Tabek for putting on the trivia games. She did a fantastic job. It made the evening special. The cherry on top was the desserts.





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



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