



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



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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

McKittrick Elementary School

“Helping Paws Program”

Rainbow Assembly (Hillsborough County)

De Molay (Hillsborough County)

Shriners’ Hospital

Lifepath Hospice

Jobs’ Daughters

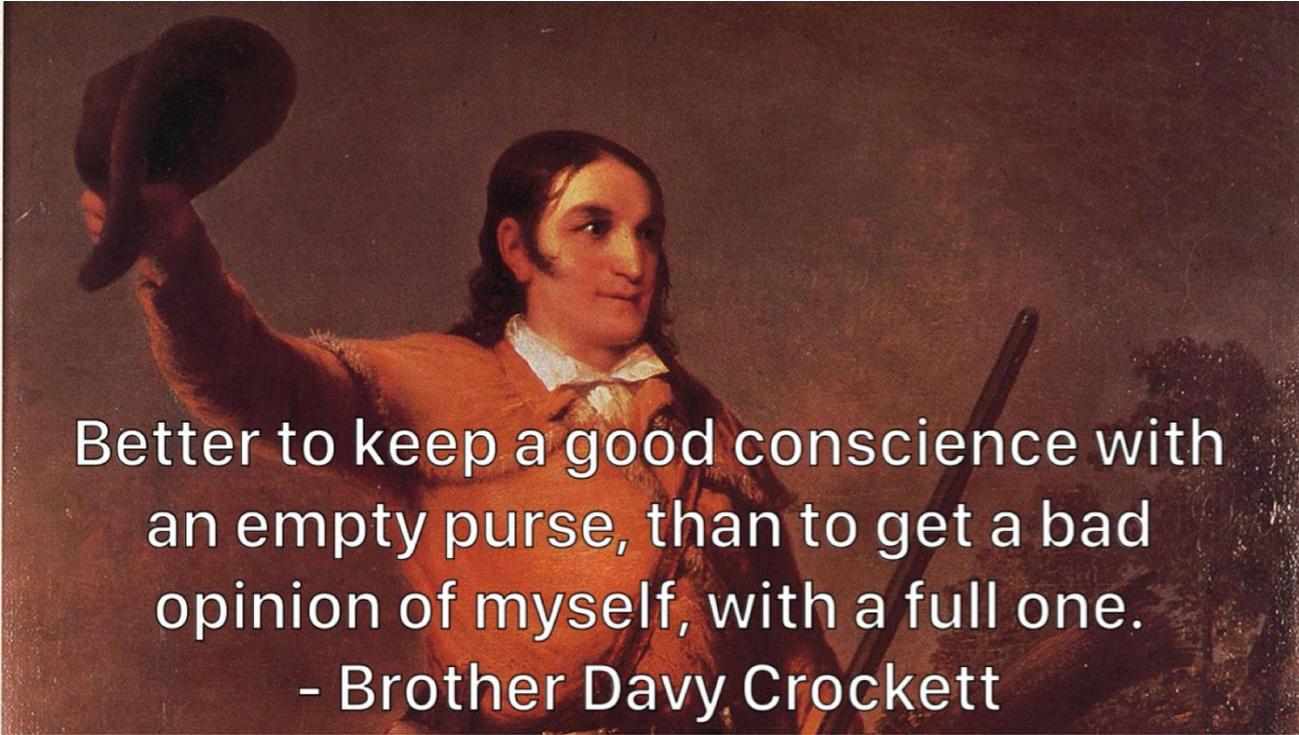
Land O Lakes High School

Steinbrenner High School

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

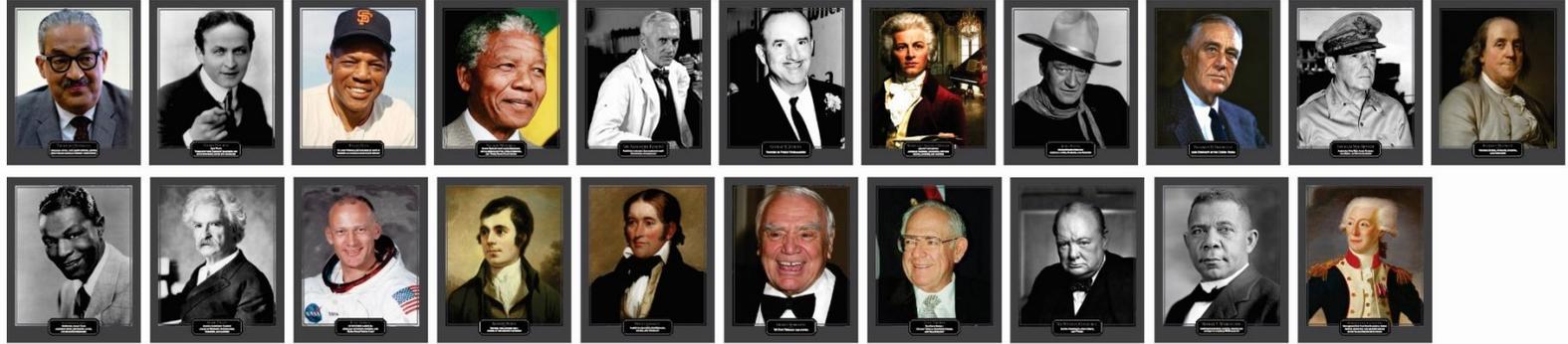
Metropolitan Ministries

The Joshua House



Better to keep a good conscience with an empty purse, than to get a bad opinion of myself, with a full one.
- Brother Davy Crockett

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. Swartzel, 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:

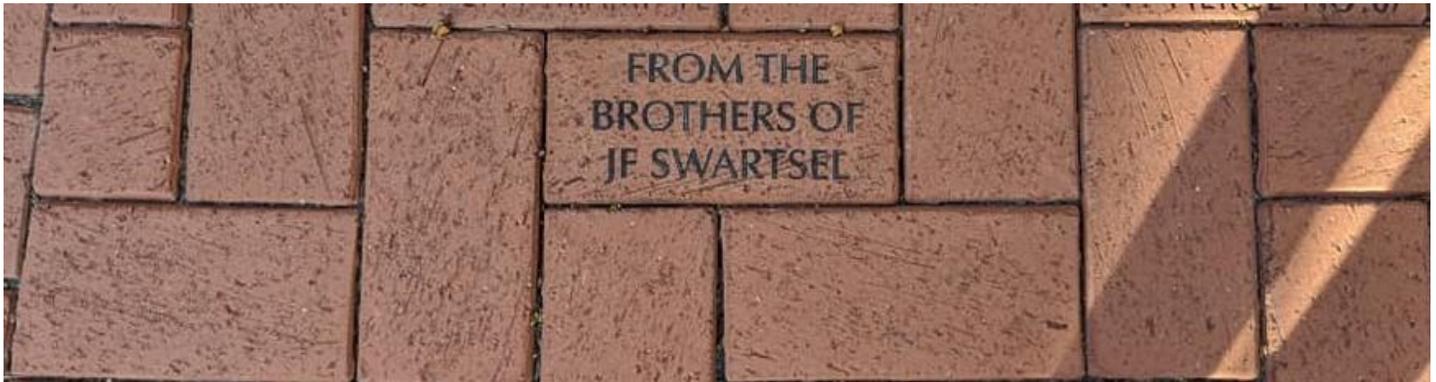
Worshipful Master Brother Allan Arthur Jenkins
Senior Warden Brother Joe Circhirillo
Junior Warden Brother Thomas Holland Overman
Treasurer R • H • Jeffrey Thomas Sklet
Secretary W • David Bruce Lambert Sr.
Chaplain Br. Jason Warren Schein
Marshall W • Brian Andrew Reach
Senior Deacon Brother Jack Wilbur Jones
Junior Deacon Brother Denis Graham Monefeldt
Senior Steward Brother Kyle John Jesso
Junior Steward Brother Jose Lao Labasbas Jr.
Tyler Brother Jose Luis Valdes Jr.
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 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: January 2026.

- 4th (Cancelled) Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, (Cancelled).**
- 6th 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 7th (6:PM – 7:PM, MLT), (7:PM – 8:PM), District 19 School of Instruction @ John Darling Masonic Center.
- 9th 7:PM - Masonic Park Board Meeting @ EGYPT Temple.
- 10th 2026 Open Installation of Officers Saturday, January 10, 2026, Coffee and Donuts 8:AM – 9:AM, Brother's will open Lodge at 9:AM and Open Installation will start at 10: AM.**
- 13th 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 15th Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 16th 5:PM – 7:PM, Third Friday FULL Menu Fish Fry at J.F. Swartsel.**
- 17th Trestleboard Articles to R.: H.: Jeff Sklet.
- 18th 1:00 PM Masonic Park Board Annual Meeting @ Masonic Park in Wimauma, FL.
- 19th 7:30 PM – Friendship Chapter No. 209 meeting.
- 20th 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 23rd 7:PM, DeMolay.
- 24th 9:AM – Noon, Open Books at Zone School of Instruction @ Universal John Darling Masonic Center.
- 26th 6:30 – 8:30 Master Mason Association of Hillsborough County @ EGYPT Shrine.**
- 27th 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 29th 6:30 PM, Family Night at J. F. Swartsel Lodge.

From the Worshipful Master: Worshipful Allan Jenkins

A January Message to the Craft

Brethren,

As we welcome the month of January, we are reminded that every new year in Masonry brings with it a renewed sense of purpose, possibility, and light. Just as the calendar resets, so too does our work within the lodge—guided by new leadership, fresh enthusiasm, and the timeless principles that unite us as Masons.

January has always symbolized beginnings. It is the moment when we pause, take stock of our past labors, and set our sights upon the unworked stone before us. It also marks one of the most important transitions in our Masonic calendar: the installation of new officers who will lead the Craft through the coming year.

It is with great pride and heartfelt congratulations that we welcome our new officers for the 2026 Masonic Year:

Worshipful Master: Joe Circhirillo

Senior Warden: Bro. Tom Overman

Junior Warden: Bro. Jack Jones

May the Great Architect of the Universe guide each of them as they assume their duties and obligations. Their commitment, leadership, and devotion to the Craft will undoubtedly strengthen our lodge and further the work we have been entrusted with. As we look ahead, I would also like to extend my deepest gratitude to the elected and appointed officers who served throughout the **2025 Masonic Year**. Your dedication, patience, and countless hours of labor—often unseen but always appreciated—made this past year successful and meaningful. You upheld the values of our fraternity and ensured that the lodge continued to flourish. Thank you, Brethren, for your unwavering service.

Now we turn our attention to the work before us. The 2026 Masonic Year presents new opportunities for growth, education, fellowship, and charity. I encourage each of you to support our incoming officers, attend lodge regularly, and take part in the programs and initiatives that will shape our future. Let this year be one of unity, revitalization, and active participation.

May we enter this new year with renewed zeal, strengthened resolve, and hearts dedicated to Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. Together, we will continue to build upon the solid foundation laid by those who came before us and carry our lodge confidently into the future.

Fraternally,

W.:M.: Allan A. Jenkins

From the Senior Warden: Brother Joe Circhirillo

Brothers,

This is my last message as Senior Warden. I want to thank all the Brothers for the help with the Fish Fries. They have been a mainstay here at J.F. Swartzel. I want to wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year.

I am looking forward to working with all my Brothers in the coming year. I know we will have a great year because all you Brothers make it happen. Thank you again for all your help this past year and I look forward to being with you in the new year as your Worshipful Master.

Fraternally,
Brother Joe Circhirillo

From the Junior Warden: Brother Thomas Overman

This is from Tom Overman, Senior Warden, elect I thank you for the confidence that you showed me in electing me your new SW. I am looking forward to serving you.

My first goal will be to assist our new WM, Joe Circhirillo, in all his new projects. I will continue to work with Brother Davis on the yard committee, will push forward to put a new floor covering from the flagpole to the front door, Roman columns at the front door, and acquire new fish fry feather signs.

Lastly to ask to change the meeting and degree start time from 6:30 PM to 7 PM so that the new younger brothers can participate in all our business activities.

Fraternally,
Brother Thomas Overman

From the Senior Deacon: Brother Jack Jones

2025 – The Year of Brotherly Love

My Brothers! What a glorious year, chocked full of memories and great work. *From*: the installation of our EPIC new Lodge doors and flooring, to the JFS #251 Centennial Celebration with the Grand Master, Lodge activities like Trap shooting – Bowling - Fishing trips – Family Nights and elevated participation of our members at our Stated Communication meetings and Degree Ceremonies! The dinners by Brother Overman were outstanding, as were our well-run meetings by WM: Jenkins! Let us also reflect upon our success in the many charity events and community outreach projects, proudly representing the Lodge at every event.

As your Sr. Deacon, it has been a *true honor to serve you*. I have reveled in the invigorating experience of being a JFS Brother, with a group of true men and Masons of integrity. It was a joy to be in your midst at all of our Lodge interactions. Reflecting on my year “displaying and closing” the Great Lights of our noble fraternity, I know that I will forever feel the honor of the centuries of Freemasonry in my heart. My role in the Lodge has made me a better man, husband, father and friend; I will ever walk and act as such. I Thank You!

My hope and vision moving forward is to continue the quest for true brotherly love and affection at our beloved JF Swartsel #251. I will be working to elevate and nourish the tradition of the BOND that we have forged in our 100th year. The promise and commitment I vow to you, my brothers, is that I will aim to embody, exemplify and promote our unique brotherly connection. This is what makes our Lodge a model for *all*, in this ancient and noble fraternity. 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!

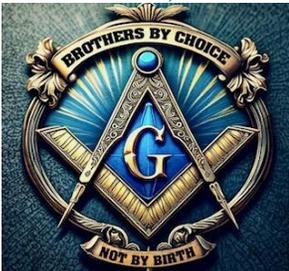
To again quote the wisdom of Worshipful Lambert Sr. – “It’s ALL about the BROTHERHOOD!”

Let’s keep the momentum going into the New Year, as we spread the cement of brotherly love and affection...

May Brotherly Love Prevail !!!

Fraternally Yours... (as always, with Butterscotch in hand :))
Your Sr. Deacon, Jack Jones

Fraternally,
Bro. Jack Jones, Sr. Deacon



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



What have we been up to?

Great night of practice! Last one before the big day. Farmer's Degree this Saturday. Coffee and donuts at 8:00. Gavel drops at 9:00.



Masonic Leadership Training and District School of Instruction. Thanks to all who came out to support the cause. Congratulations to Hillsborough Lodge No. 25 for winning the Column Under Construction for having the most Brothers present.



Another great stated communication! Started off with another great meal from our Junior Warden. During the meeting we balloted on one new petition and two new transfers. Our little Lodge continues to grow! Don't forget to come out to the Farmers Degree on Saturday. It will be a Fellow Craft Degree. Coffee and donuts at 8:00 AM. Gavel drops at 9:00. [#swartselstrong](#)



Join us in congratulating our two newest Fellow Crafts! Brothers from three Districts— including the District Deputy Grand Master of District 18 and representatives from seven nearby Lodges—were on hand to witness one of the strongest degrees in recent memory. An exceptional lecture delivered by R:W: Lawrence, a beautifully delivered charge, and well-polished ritual combined to make it a truly memorable morning. A job well done by all involved!



Please join us in supporting Brothers who helped make our 100th a success!



DeSoto Lodge No 105
All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast

December 14th 2025, 8 am to 12pm
@ 10801 Desoto Rd, Riverview, FL

**\$10, EGGS, BACON, SAUSAGE,
PANCAKES, HOMEFRIES, GRITS,**

Last evening, Brothers from J.F. Swartsel traveled to A.W. Windhorst Lodge to support W.:M.: Wingo in his last full evening in the East. The night was filled with strong fellowship and some exciting insights about the lodge's future direction. A solid reminder of what teamwork and brotherhood look like when everyone shows up with purpose.



J.F. Swartsel Lodge proudly continues its longstanding tradition of working in harmony with our neighboring Brothers. This morning, we convened at Dade City Lodge No. 48 alongside Zephyrhills Lodge No. 198, Bushnell Lodge No. 30, Pearl Of the West No. 146 and Trilby Lodge No. 141 to confer the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. The degree was delivered through a coordinated, lodge-to-lodge collaboration that showcased disciplined ritual work, thoughtful preparation, and a shared commitment to preserving the ancient landmarks, customs, and high standards of our Craft.

Moments such as these reinforce the operational strength of Freemasonry at its best—multiple lodges laboring together on the level, aligned in purpose, and unified in execution. The collective effort not only ensured a powerful and well-exemplified degree, but also reaffirmed the value of Masonic unity, fellowship, and continuity. By honoring time-tested practices and investing in our Brethren through quality degree work, we strengthen the foundation upon which Freemasonry continues to thrive for future generations.





Community DeMolay will be hosting its first Initiation, marking an important step in supporting the next generation of leadership. We are proud that the candidate is the son of a member of J.F. Swartsel, reflecting our continued commitment to tradition, mentorship and investing in the future.

Further details to follow.

Save The Date

Sunday, February 15th, 2026

J.F. Swartsel Masonic Lodge #251

Lutz, Florida

Last stated meeting of the year. A great turnout from the Brothers! Another great meal from our Junior Warden. We had a very special guest. R. W. Julian Makenzie gave us his presentation as he runs for the Grand South. We also had a check presentation to the representatives from Heart Dance. See you next year Brothers.



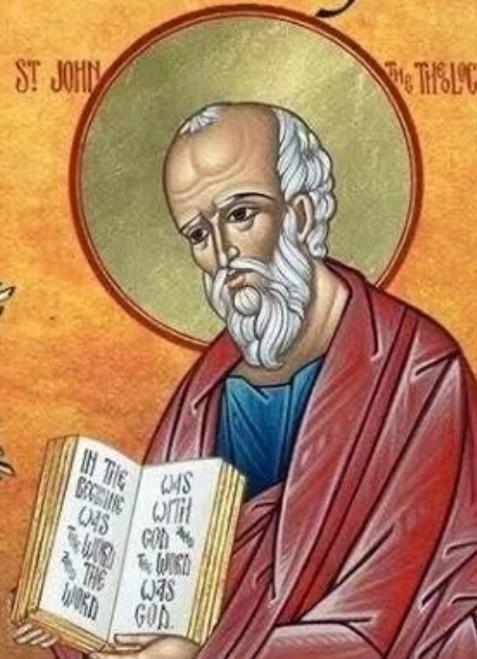
From the Brothers of J.F. Swartsel and the Sisters of Friendship Chapter OES.



www.freemasonrings.com

Happy
Saint John's Day!

ST JOHN THE THEOLOGIAN



Swartzel on the road supporting the incoming officers of PTF United Lodge No. 153. Congratulations WM Rob Nelson and the rest of the Officers. We hope you have a prosperous year!



On Saturday, January 10th, 2026, Brother Joe Circhirillo Sr. will be duly installed as Worshipful Master, together with the officers who will serve the Lodge in the coming year.

Coffee and Donuts will be served at 8:00 AM, the Lodge will open at 9:00 AM and the Installation Ceremony at 10:00 AM. Lunch to follow.

This event is open to family and friends, and your presence would greatly honor the Lodge as we mark this important and historic occasion in our continued work.

We look forward to your fellowship and support as we welcome our newly elected and appointed officers.



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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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"TO BE ONE, ASK ONE"
J. F. SWARTSEL LODGE NO. 251 F.&A.M.



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