



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

3109 W. LUTZ LAKE FERN ROAD, LUTZ FL 33558 | MAIL: P.O. BOX 1475, LUTZ, FL 33548-1475

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

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/jfswartsel251](http://www.facebook.com/jfswartsel251)

Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays

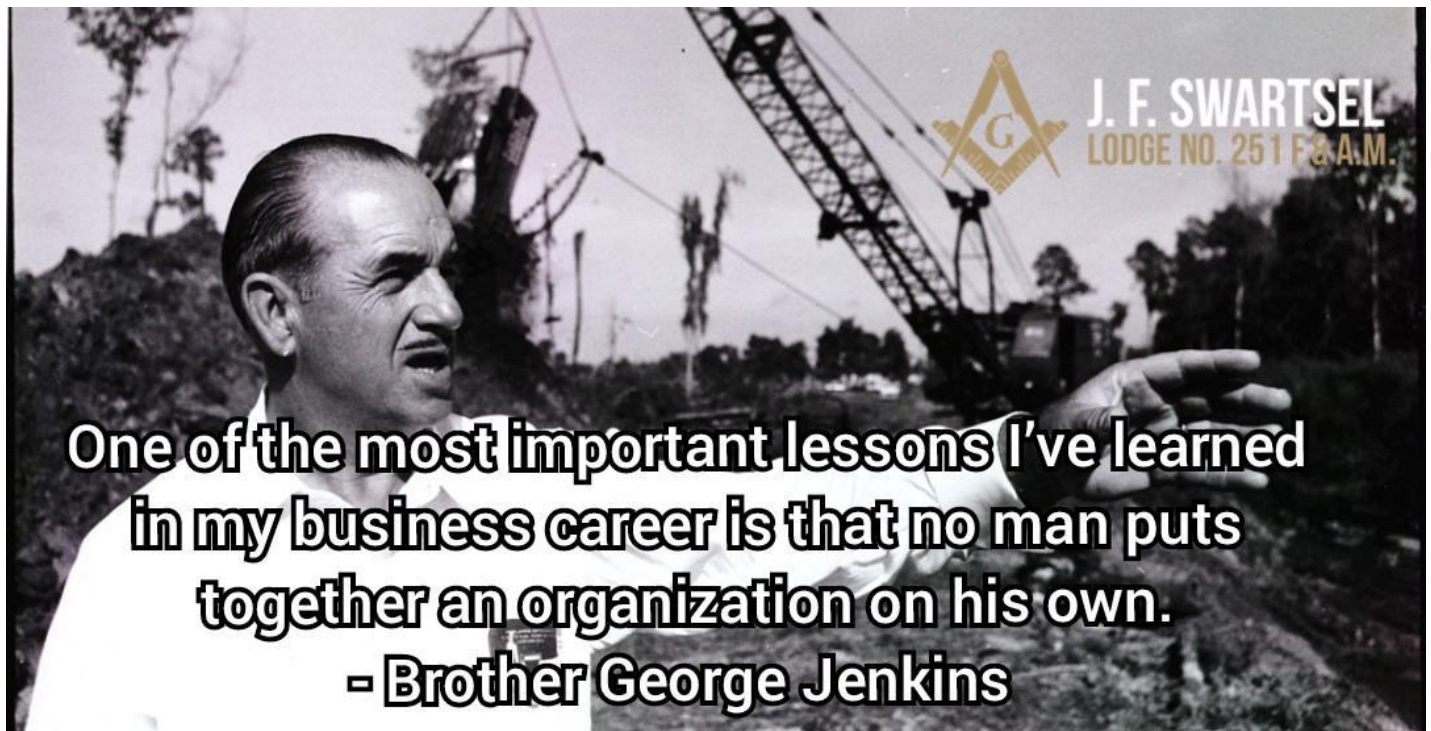
Your Catechism Instructors for the three symbolic degrees in Freemasonry are:

R.: H.: Adam Feldman - W.: Allan Jenkins - 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



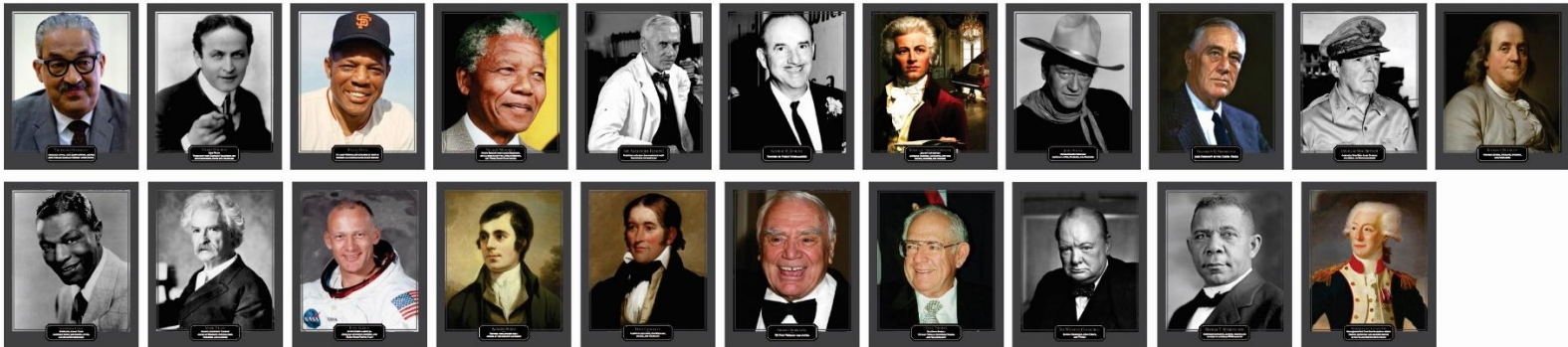
**Who does J. F. Swartsel Lodge support in the community?**

- 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
- Heart Dance Foundation
- Metropolitan Ministries
- The Joshua House
- Friendship Chapter No 209 Order of the Eastern Star



One of the most important lessons I've learned  
in my business career is that no man puts  
together an organization on his own.  
- Brother George Jenkins

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

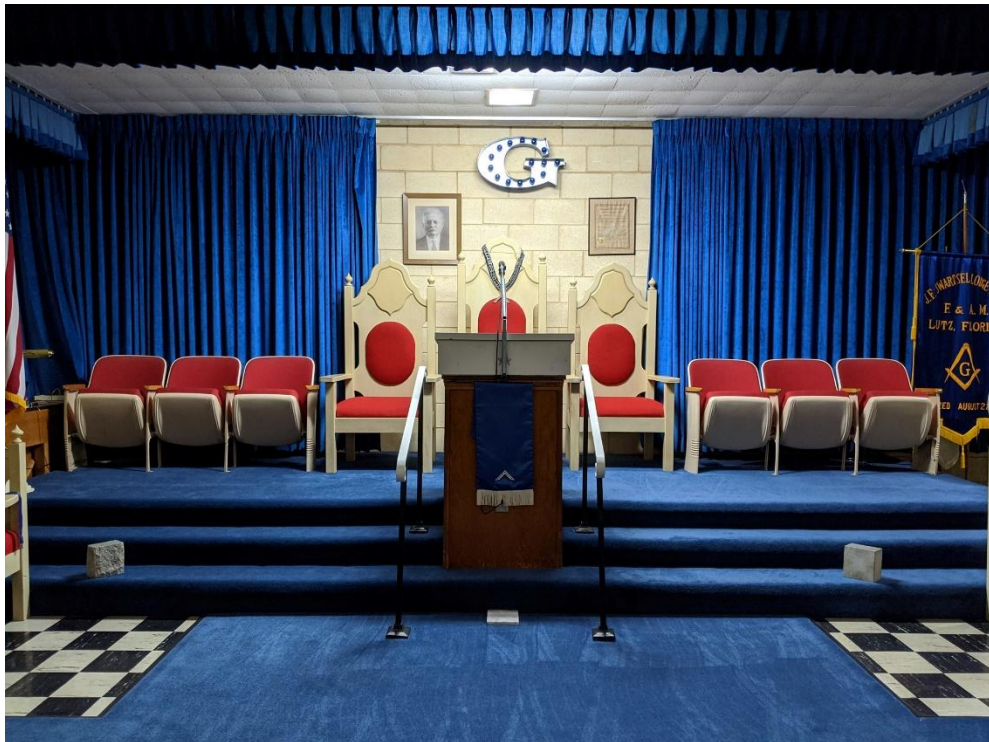
**[The Past Masters of J.F. Swartzel, Palma Ceia and Community Lodge](#)**

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



**Your 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** R : H : Adam Scott Feldman  
**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](mailto:dlambert7907@gmail.com) so I can update your records.

#### Calendar of Important Lodge Dates:

##### May 2026.

- 2<sup>nd</sup> 9:AM – Master Mason Degree @ J. F. Swartsel Lodge, coffee & donuts 8:AM, Degree 9:AM, dinner after Degree.**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> 2:PM – DeMolay Degree @ J. F. Swartsel Lodge No. 251.
- 4<sup>th</sup> 7:PM – York Rite at J. F. Swartsel No. 251, (Commandery).
- 5<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM – Monthly Lodge Visit to DeSoto Lodge No. 105.
- 6<sup>th</sup> (6:PM – 7:PM, MLT), (7:PM – 8:PM), District 19 School of Instruction @ John Darling Masonic Center.
- 7<sup>th</sup> Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 8<sup>th</sup> 7:PM - Masonic Park Board Meeting @ EGYPT Temple.
- 12<sup>th</sup> 6:PM – Officers Meeting, 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 15<sup>th</sup> 5:PM – 7:PM, Third Friday FULL Menu Fish Fry at J.F. Swartsel.**
- 16<sup>th</sup> Trestleboard Articles to R.: H.: Jeff Sklet.
- 16<sup>th</sup> 10:AM – Masonic Education @ John Darling Masonic Center.
- 18<sup>th</sup> 7:30 PM – Friendship Chapter No. 209 meeting.
- 19<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 20<sup>th</sup> 7:PM – Plant City York Rite at J. F. Swartsel No. 251, (Chapter & Council).
- 21<sup>st</sup> Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 23<sup>rd</sup> 9:AM – Noon, Open Books at Zone School of Instruction @ Brandon Lodge No. 114.
- 25<sup>th</sup> 197th Annual Grand Communication on Monday, May 26th through Wednesday, May 27th, 2026. It will be held at the Rosen Plaza Hotel, located at 9700 International Drive, Orlando, Florida, 32819.**

## **From the Worshipful Master: Worshipful Joe Circhirillo**

From the East your worshipful master Big Joe Chic.

First of all thank all the brothers that helped with a fish fry last month again we had a good showing and we made money for charity. I want to thank you for the help that you give for the fish fry. I could not do it by myself you make it happen. This is why we are Swartsel Strong. I also want to thank all the brothers that participated in our master mason degree, the degree team makes us rock. I want to congratulate the brothers that became master masons and look forward seeing them in our lodge meetings. This month at our officers meeting, we will discuss the plans to remodel our kitchen. Eric Bade will be at our meeting to answer any questions we have about the remodel. Brothers I look forward to getting this project started so we will have a new beautiful and workable kitchen. We will also discuss other ongoing events. Brothers, please encourage other brothers, that you know have not been to the meetings in a while. If you know any give them a call. Tell him we miss him at our meetings. I also want to thank the brothers that always help with projects around the lodge to make our lodge look nice. I thank you for all you do for the lodge. It is very much appreciated by me and the officers. Brothers do not forget our extra fish fry that we're helping with in Hernando County on May 8 at Simpson's Farms, this is an extra fundraiser for us, in addition to our own monthly fish fry.

Fraternally,

W.:M.: Joe Circhirillo

## **From the Senior Warden: Brother Thomas Overman**

FAMILY NIGHT, APRIL 30th: We have a different and special night. Our guest will be a Western Montana Cowboy, HANK BARON. Hank has written five Western cowboy books. He is an accomplished poet, a musician who plays a mean banjo, and is a stand-up comedian. He was President of the Montana's Guide Association for ten years as well as President of the United States Guide Association. He has built stage props for Western movies. His specialty was Conestoga wagons. He has conducted real cattle drives for the tenderfoots of North America on a yearly basis.

In his early years, he worked for the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad in Tampa, FL. where country music singer Mel Tillis renamed him Hank because he could not pronounce Henry without studdering.

Hank was a Worshipful Master in North Carolina and Montana. Hank currently resides at The Masonic Home in St. Petersburg. He will be our Family Night entertainment.

Fraternally,

Brother Thomas Overman

## From the Junior Warden: Brother Jack Jones

### **Freemasonry... here's to the Past and to a Glorious Future!**

My Brothers - Masonic History is actually very well documented over the centuries and has a unique and storied past. The roots of Freemasonry go back to the late 16th and early 17th centuries. Of course, we all know that the earliest known lodges were in Scotland and England—most famously, the Lodge of Edinburgh (formed in 1599) and the first Grand Lodge, which was established in London in 1717. These lodges grew out of the guilds of stonemasons, but gradually evolved into more philosophical and fraternal societies, emphasizing moral teachings and personal development. So, the early lodges were both trade-based and, over time, became more symbolic and philosophical... "Speculative Masons."

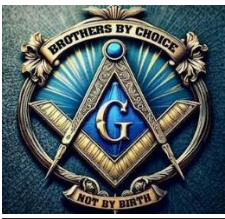
*So... how many Lodges & Members are thought to exist today?* Worldwide it is difficult to get an exact number, but globally, Freemasonry is estimated to have around 5 to 6 million members. In Europe alone, there are thought to be between 15,000 and 20,000 lodges. Overall, the total number of lodges worldwide is likely somewhere in the tens of thousands, though the exact figure is not fully confirmed.

Our Craft has weathered the Ages ... we should all be proud of our mission and accomplishments as the World's most ancient and noble fraternity of Brothers.

*Let us continue our heritage of truth, love and charity for generations to come...*

*We ARE Swartzel #251, BABY !!! ~~ May Brotherly Love & \* Great Food \* Prevail ~~*

Fraternally,  
Brother Jack Jones





# DEMOLAY

## — DEGREE —

AT J.F. SWARTSEL #251

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2026 AT 2:00 PM



DeMolay, Advisors/Parents  
& Master Masons Only

BROTHERHOOD • HONOR • TRADITION

J.F. SWARTSEL LODGE NO 251

# FISH FRY

Get Hooked on Our...

friday

5 - 7pm

MAY 15, 2026

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**\$15**  
PER PERSON



What have we been up to?

Passover



Another great stated meeting! Started off in the dark with no power but TECO got it done and we had a great time. Thanks to the Sisters of Friendship Chapter OES for cooking a great meal and our JW for a delicious cake. Finished up at our favorite watering hole.





The day has finally arrived, Degree Competition Day. The team from Swartzel is confident and ready to go. Thanks to R. W. Goolsby, Kilmartin and Wenzel for coming out and doing a fantastic job in grading all the teams. Good luck to all the teams in the Tampa Bay Area that competed and the teams from around the State. We look forward to hearing the results at Grand Lodge.





Easter Sunday celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ, offering a powerful message of hope, renewal, and the victory of light over darkness. It signifies that death and despair do not have the final word, promising new beginnings, joy, and the endurance of God's love through life's challenges.



# A NEW NAME. THE SAME PURPOSE.



WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THE NEW NAMES OF OUR BODIES,  
HONORING TRUTH, FAITHFULNESS, AND THE ORDER WE SERVE.



## NEW NAMES. ENDURING VALUES.

As we continue our journey together, these names will  
remind us of our sacred obligations—to seek truth,  
to remain faithful, and to serve with honor.

VERITAS CHAPTER. FIDELITAS COMMANDERY.  
ONE FRATERNAL PURPOSE.



A fun night at the Shrine.



A group of Brothers from Swartsel met up at an undisclosed location for fun and fellowship. It was a great time to strengthen the bonds of union and friendship. We discussed a great many things and decided this type of get together should happen more often. Looking forward to next time







Degree practice for upcoming MM degree.



Another great stated meeting and another great meal! Thanks to all the Brothers for coming out.



Fish Fry Friday. Thanks to everyone who came out to support us! A special thanks the the Ladies who come out to help along with the Brothers. We couldn't do it without you ❤️





The final practice for our Saturday Morning MM Degree is in the books, and we are ready for a memorable morning. Coffee will be on at 8:00 AM, with the gavel dropping promptly at 9:00 AM. We look forward to a morning of fellowship, excellent degree work, and the privilege of raising four worthy Brothers to the sublime degree of Master Mason.



The best way to get Brothers to show up for degree practice is to bribe them with tres leches cake 🍰. Thanks Brother Perez! It was delicious. Thanks to all the Brothers who came out to participate. We should have fun Saturday morning.



## Family Night!

Another great night good fellowship and great food. Thanks to everyone who came out to make it a wonderful night. We had a perpetual membership presentation to Brother Joel Tavera. We had some Prophets from Zara Grotto come out to talk about the Grottos and they brought their secret weapon. The Zara Queens. A great group of ladies. The main event was some cowboy humor and poetry by Hank Baron. He entertained the crowd with his wit and good nature. I'm not saying you missed a special night but ... We look forward to seeing you next time











# 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!"

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"TO BE ONE, ASK ONE"

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



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