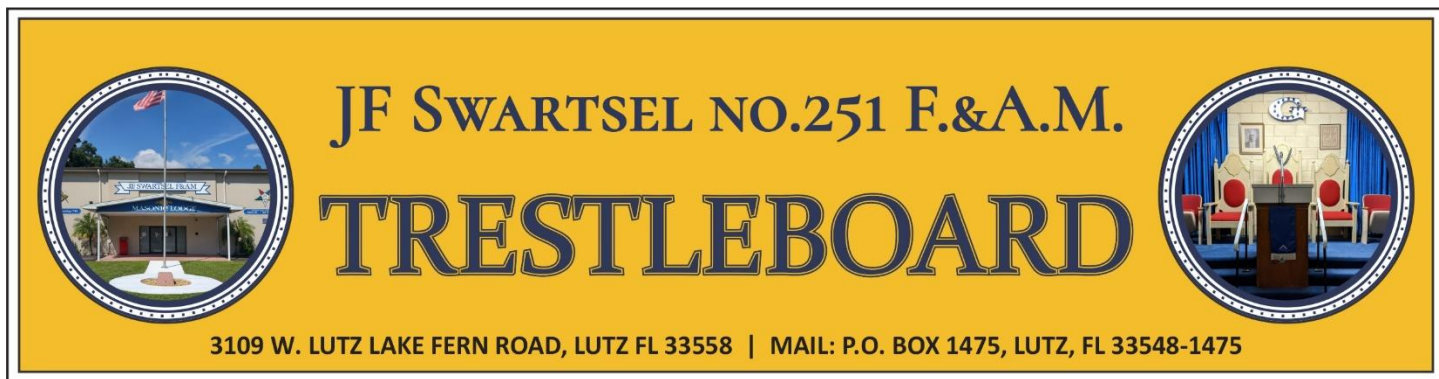




Published monthly Volume CI Issue No. – 07 July A.D. 2026, A.L. 6026

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:

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

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

Heart Dance Foundation

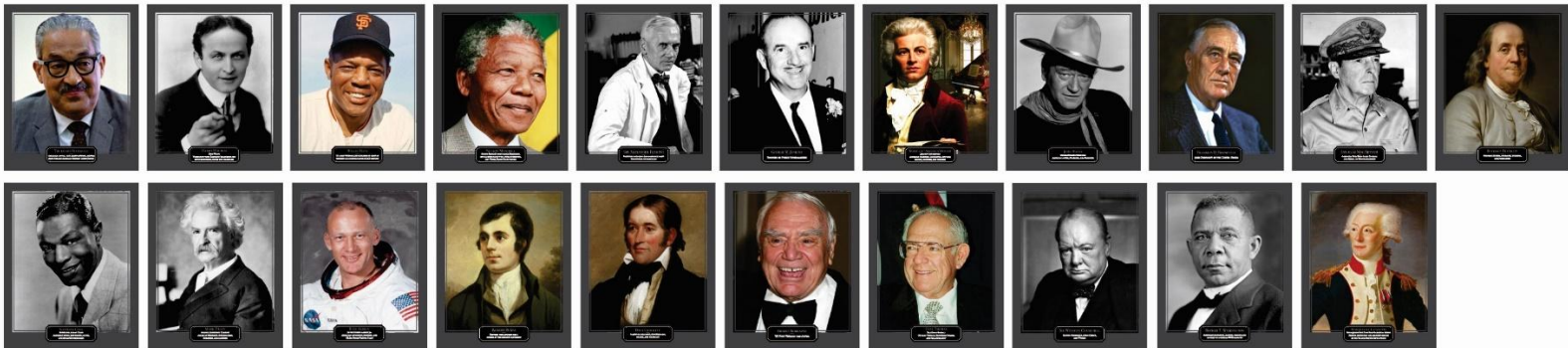
Metropolitan Ministries

The Joshua House

Friendship Chapter No 209 Order of the Eastern Star



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. Swartsel 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 so I can update your records.

Calendar of Important Lodge Dates:

July 2026.

- 1st (6:PM – 7:PM, MLT), (7:PM – 8:PM), District 19 School of Instruction @ John Darling Masonic Center
- 2nd Stated Communication / DDGM Official Visit of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 7th 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 10th 7:PM - Masonic Park Board Meeting @ EGYPT Temple.
- 14th 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 15th 7:PM – York Rite at J. F. Swartsel No. 251, (Chapter & Council).
- 16th Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 17th 5:PM – 7:PM, Third Friday FULL Menu Fish Fry at J.F. Swartsel.**
- 18th Grand Masters Official Visit, Districts 19 & 20, 5:PM, Registration, 6:PM, Dinner, 7:PM Meeting.
Tampa Scottish Rite, 5500 Memorial Highway, Tampa, FL 33634.
- 20th 7:30 PM – Friendship Chapter No. 209.**
- 21st F C Degree at J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 22nd 7:PM – York Rite at J. F. Swartsel No. 251, (Commandery of Knights Templar).
- 25th 9:AM – Noon, Open Books at Zone School of Instruction @ Universal John Darling Masonic Center.
- 27th 6:30 – 8:30 Master Mason Association of Hillsborough County @ EGYPT Shrine.**
- 28th 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 30th 6:30 PM, Family Night at J. F. Swartsel Lodge.

From the Worshipful Master: Worshipful Joe Circhirillo

This is Joe Chic, your Worshipful Master.

Check out your lodge! The kitchen is going to look beautiful when it is finished, and with the dining room renovations, everything in the lodge is looking brand new. We should all be proud of what we have, and we will have the opportunity to showcase it during our Family Night on July 30th. I want to thank all of the brothers who helped make this renovation successful. Remember our fish fry resumes again this month, July 17th. I am looking forward to everyone's help. This is our largest money making event for Charity. This month we will also have our District Deputy Grand Master visiting the lodge. We need everyone in attendance, and I ask that all brothers wear a coat and tie for the occasion.

I also want to thank all of the brothers who worked the Fourth of July Parade in Lutz. Your hard work and dedication are greatly appreciated.

Brothers, the reason our lodge is doing so well is because our membership is strong. As I keep reminding everyone, if you know a brother who has not been to a meeting in a while and you are friends with him, give him a call. Let him know we are missing him and that we would love to see him back at lodge.

So long from the East. I will see you all next month.

This is your Worshipful Master, Joe Chic, thanking each and every one of you for everything you do for our lodge and for your fellow Brother Masons.

Fraternally,

W.:M.: Joe Circhirillo

From the Senior Warden: Brother Thomas Overman

The kitchen remodel is moving along. Most of the cabinets are in place. The counter tops should be next. The new dining room and kitchen floor tile are in place. JW Jack Jones and WM Joe Chic will keep us updated.

We will need our booth workers to show up for July 4th parade for the set up at the Lutz library no later than 630am. I propose everyone wear their short sleeve masonic shirt. Anyone with an extra large ice chest, please advise me. We need a total of four. One from the lodge plus three more. I am bringing two eight foot tables and six folding chairs, a raffle bucket

JW Jack is bringing 12 cases of water and banners to hang. W David L is bring a 10x10 canopy plus the ice for the coolers. Emily and Dennis Monefeldt are providing the signs for Raffle. Jack will be at the head of the parade with the Lutz Govna in his vintage 1962 Corvette. Please come out to support this historical event. All masons of all lodges are invited to show up in your lodge shirts.

Fraternally,

Brother Thomas Overman

From the Junior Warden: Brother Jack Jones

The Spirit of The Brotherhood on Display in 1776... "A multi-national and multi-cultural Force"

My Brothers ~ It is here... The 250 year (semi quincennial) is upon us !!! What a great time to be and American and a Mason. American Freemasons was not the only Brothers that had a major impact on the force that lead the Revolution for Freedom in 1776 – there were Freemasons from many different countries and even "Tribes." Here is some exciting patriotic history of the work of our Noble Fraternity in making America Free:

The Native American Masons: extremely important in forging a path in America as indigenous Tribal leaders assisted in the fight for freedom. Many Native Americans fought with the Continental Army, acting as scouts, guides, and messengers, using their knowledge of the terrain to help the rebels. Notable figures like Cornstalk, a leader of the Shawnee, and other tribes provided critical local intelligence.

~ Red Jacket, a Seneca leader, who was a Mason, and Benjamin Franklin's close friend.

Freemasonry was well known to the Northern Tribes of North America, and several other tribal leaders have been rumored to be our Brothers.

France

~ Marquis de Lafayette - Perhaps the best-known foreign Mason associated with the Revolution. He became a major general in the Continental Army and remained a lifelong friend of the United States.

~ François Joseph Paul de Grasse - The French admiral whose fleet helped secure the victory at Yorktown in 1781.

~ Louis Philippe II, Duke of Orléans - An influential French noble and Grand Master of the Grand Orient of France. Although he did not fight in America, his leadership helped make French Freemasonry an important center of support for American independence.

~ Bernardo de Gálvez, a Spanish general, was instrumental in capturing British posts along the Gulf Coast and in the Mississippi Valley. These efforts really helped tip the balance in the American Revolution.

Poland

~ Tadeusz Kościuszko - A skilled engineer who designed important American fortifications, including those at West Point. He is widely regarded as a Freemason.

~ Casimir Pulaski - Known as the "Father of the American Cavalry." Masonic histories associate him with the fraternity.

Prussia (German States)

~ Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben — One of the most important foreign volunteers. He trained the Continental Army at Valley Forge and introduced the military drills and discipline that transformed Washington's army. He is generally considered to have been a Freemason.

These men illustrate how Freemasonry often provided an international network of friendship, enlightenment ideals, and personal connections that crossed national boundaries. Masonic ties connected numerous military officers, diplomats, and statesmen who supported the American cause.

Many of the Founding Fathers were indeed Freemasons, and while there's no single direct "Masonic" blueprint in the Constitution or the Declaration, certain values that Freemasonry holds—like reason, liberty, equality, and a sense of brotherhood—are definitely reflected in the founding documents. For example, the emphasis on natural rights, the pursuit of knowledge, and the idea of a social contract all echo Masonic ideals. So, while not explicitly spelled out, that shared Enlightenment spirit is definitely there.

As we close this reflection of Freemasonry's impact on the foundation of ***The Republic of The United States of America***, below is a recap of our ancient Masonic "Rebel" Brethren who were distinguished and important leaders of the American Revolution

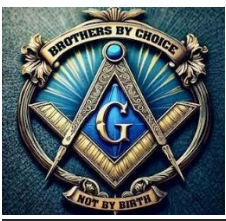
1. George Washington – Commander of the Continental Army and later the first U.S. President. He is the best-known Masonic figure of the Revolution.
2. Benjamin Franklin – Diplomat, scientist, signer of the Declaration of Independence, and former Grand Master of Pennsylvania.
3. Paul Revere – Silversmith, patriot, and later Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.
4. John Hancock – There is strong historical evidence that Hancock was a Freemason, although some details of his initiation remain debated.
5. Joseph Warren – A physician, patriot, and Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. He was killed at the Battle of Bunker Hill in 1775.
6. Nathanael Greene - one of the Continental Army's most important generals and served as Washington's trusted commander in the Southern Campaign.
7. John Paul Jones – Celebrated naval hero and generally accepted as a Freemason.
8. Richard Caswell – Revolutionary leader, governor, and recognized Freemason.
9. Daniel Brodhead – Continental Army general and Freemason.
10. James Clinton – Revolutionary War General and Freemason

God Bless America and All Freemasons across the Globe!

We are JFS #251, Baby !!!

May Brotherly Love & "Great" Food Prevail

Fraternally,
Brother Jack Jones





1776-2026

250
YEARS



4TH OF JULY
INDEPENDENCE DAY

What have we been up to?

A new year for District 19 is here, and we are proud to welcome R. W. Jody Meguiar as our D.D.G.M. If enthusiasm, commitment, and hard work are any indication, this is going to be one outstanding year for our District. Looking forward to seeing what we accomplish together!



We admit it... we may be a little biased.

But we believe there is no finer District Instructor in all of Florida in 2026 than our very own R:H: Jeff Sklett.

Jeff's dedication to the Craft, commitment to Masonic education, and steady leadership continue to strengthen both our District and our Lodge.

We are proud to call him a Brother of J.F. Swartsel Lodge No. 251.

Congratulations, R:H: Jeff. Your Lodge stands proudly behind you.

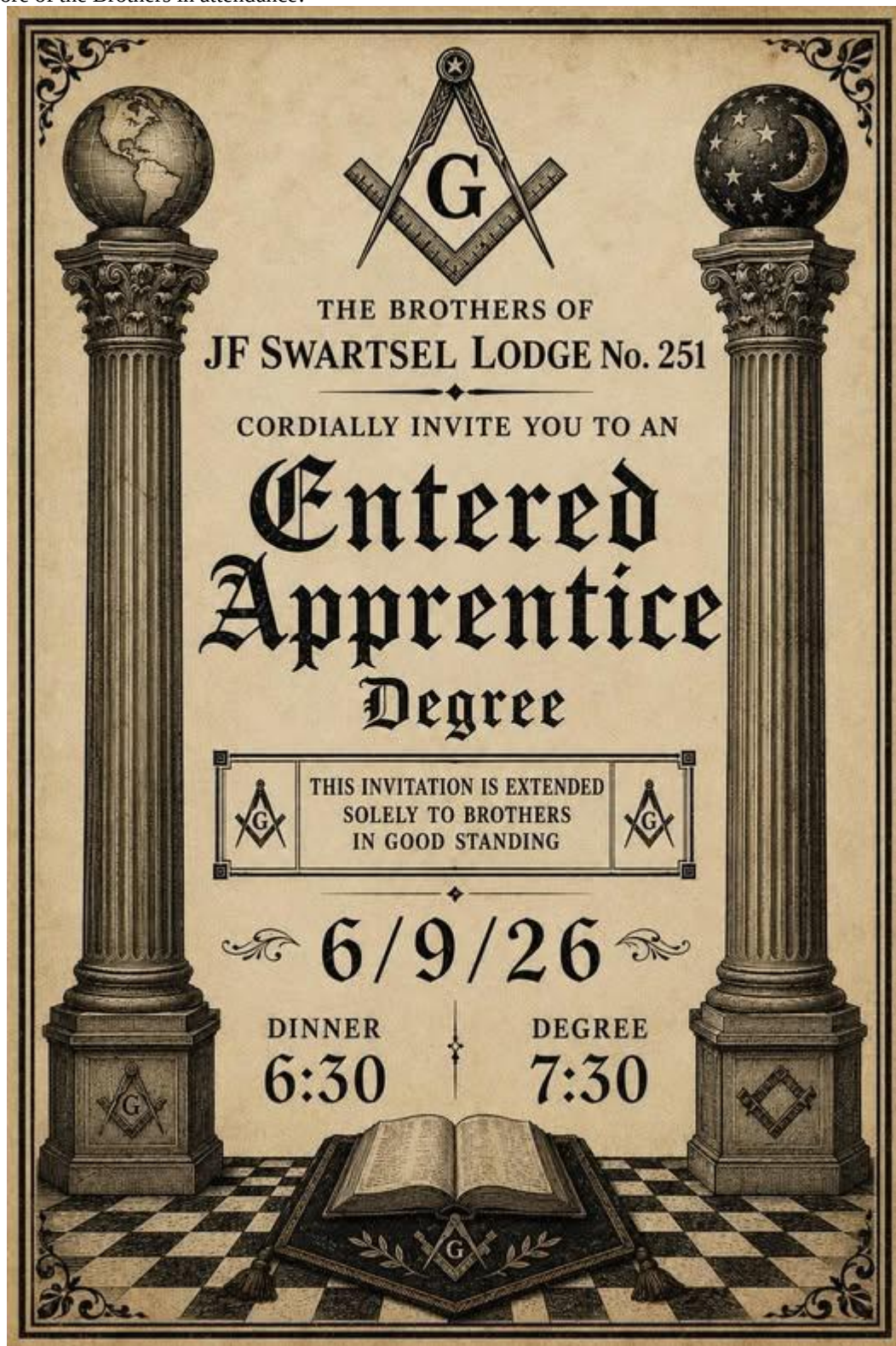


Getting ready for the big renovation of the kitchen! Thank you to the Brothers and Sisters who came out to get the cabinets emptied. We've taken the first step in the long needed trip. Here is the a fast and safe renovation.





A great turnout at our stated meeting. Thanks to all the Brothers for coming out and supporting the Lodge. We had a great meal by our Junior Warden and his team. We covered a lot of ground in the meeting and approved replacing the floor in the main dining room. This combined with the kitchen renovation, the downstairs will almost be a new lodge. Looking forward to seeing what it looks like and seeing more of the Brothers in attendance!









We will certainly miss gathering with our regular Fish Fry family this month. Your friendship and support mean a great deal to us. We look forward to seeing everyone again in July, when we'll be proud to unveil our newly renovated kitchen and serve the quality meal you've come to expect. As always, proceeds from our Fish Fry help support those in need within our community. Thank you for your patience during this brief interruption.



What a wonderful evening at J.F. Swartsel Lodge as the Brothers proudly conferred the Entered Apprentice Degree upon our newest Brother.

It is always a joy to welcome a new Brother into our fraternity and to share in the beginning of his Masonic journey. We congratulate him on taking this important first step and look forward to supporting and encouraging him as he continues his path in Masonry. Please join us in welcoming our newest Brother and wishing him every success in the years ahead



JF SWARTSEL LODGE NO. 251

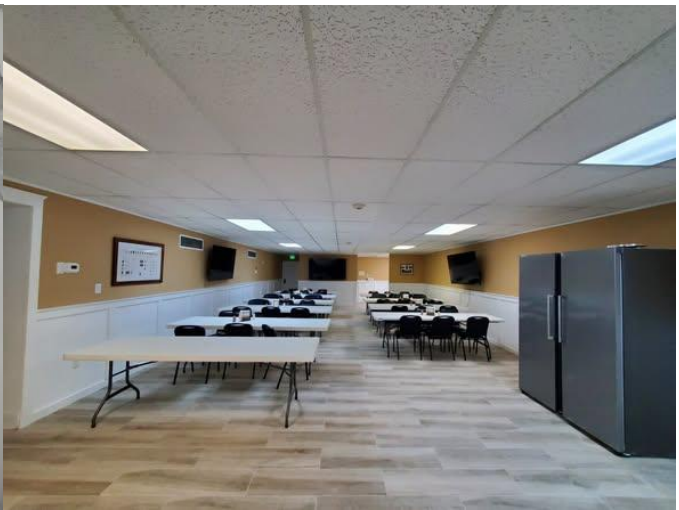
MEETING
THURSDAY
JUNE 18

CANCELLED

DUE TO
CONSTRUCTION DELAYS.



Some pics of the construction under way at the Lodge. She's going to be beautiful when done!



Happy Father's Day!



Sneak peak at the banner that will be on our float at the Lutz 4th of July Parade. It's going to be a good day!

Here is the schedule

Overview of The Lutz 4th of July Event Schedule

6:30am- ROADS CLOSE -Lutz Lake Fern Road closed at HWY. 41 to Crooked Lane. Crooked Lane closed at Planners Way.

6:45-7:15am - Early Morning Warm up with Jazzercise

7:30am - Races begin

8:15am - 1 Mile Fun Run

9:00am - Flag Ceremony with Boy Scout Troop 12 and Civil Air Patrol

9:00am - National Anthem - performed by Annabelle DePolis

9:00am - Prayer - Paul Vahue

9:00am - Lutz Salutes 250 Yrs! "Let Freedom Ring!" - Welcome by GFWC club Pres. Linda Mitchell

9:00am - Cake / Bake Registration closes and voting begins.

9:30am - Race Trophies presented at the Train Depot

10:00am - PARADE STARTS at LLF/Crooked Lane and finishes in front of the library

AFTER PARADE SCHEDULE: TRAIN DEPOT:

- Acknowledgment of Current Guv'na Becky Jenkins

- Acknowledgment of Guv'na Candidates

- NEW 2026 GUV'NA OF LUTZ INAUGURATED!

- Parade Awards Presented

- Kids' Zone in field in front of train depot

LUTZ COMMUNITY CENTER (NORTH END OF PARK):

- CAKE AUCTION-Step into the air conditioning to bid on your favorite cakes/pies/cupcake



Hear Ye! Hear Ye!
— Our —
Commandery
+ Meeting +
— for —
— 6/24 —

HAS BEEN CANCELLED

due to construction delays.

We apologize for
any inconvenience
this causes.
Thank you for your
understanding and
patience!



OUR CASTLE IS

UNDER REPAIR

BUT OUR COMMITMENT
TO THE ORDER REMAINS
STRONG!



**SEE YOU
ALL NEXT
MONTH!**

SAFETY FIRST,
HONOR ALWAYS!

UNTIL THEN, KEEP THE FAITH, THE FRATERNITY,
AND THE CHIVALRY ALIVE!

GOOD THINGS
ARE WORTH
BUILDING!



Come for our remodel, stay for the Official Visit... if you haven't seen us lately, you haven't seen us!



DDGM OFFICIAL VISIT



PRACTICE

Also A Review of...

STEPPING DOWN, STEPPING UP,
BALLOTING, AND GRAND HONORS.



6:30
PM

FOR THE DDGM'S
OFFICIAL VISIT,
LET US EXEMPLIFY
OUR WORK WITH
BROTHERLY UNITY
AND DISTINCTION.



All Brothers are *invited* to attend,
and all Officers are *highly encouraged* to attend and participate.

BROTHERLY LOVE

RELIEF

TRUTH

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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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