



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

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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

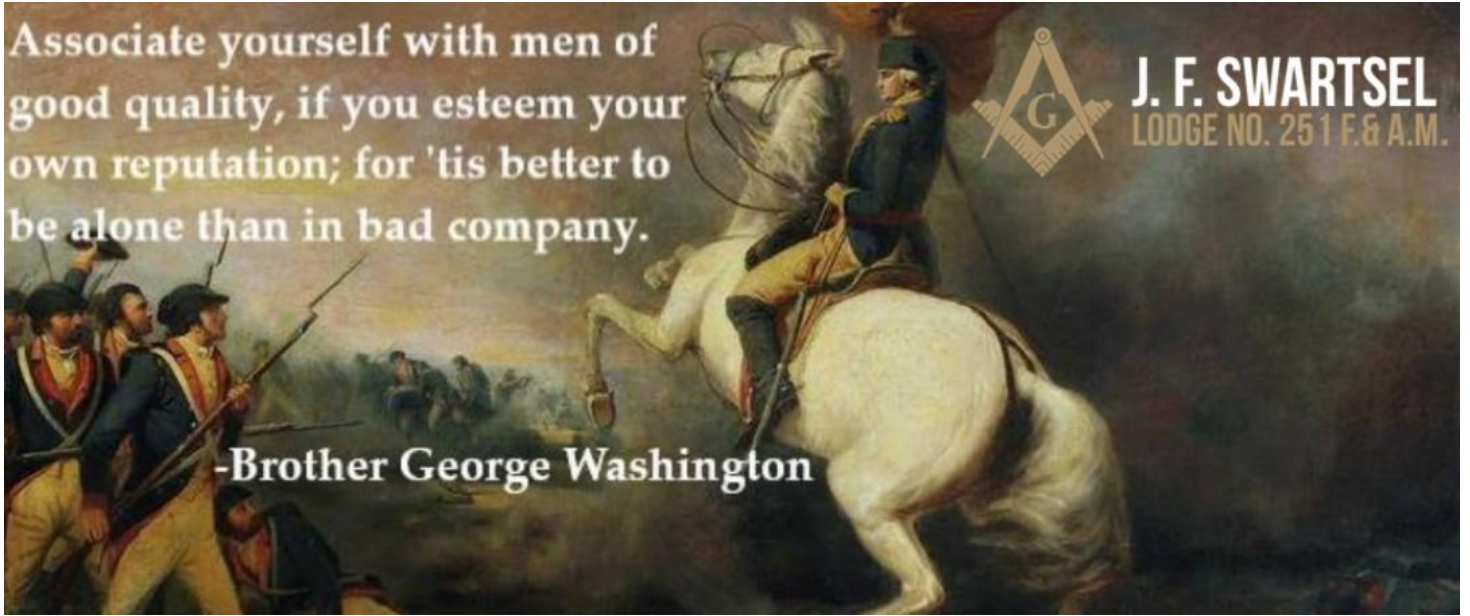
Your Catechism Instructors for the three symbolic degrees in Freemasonry are:

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

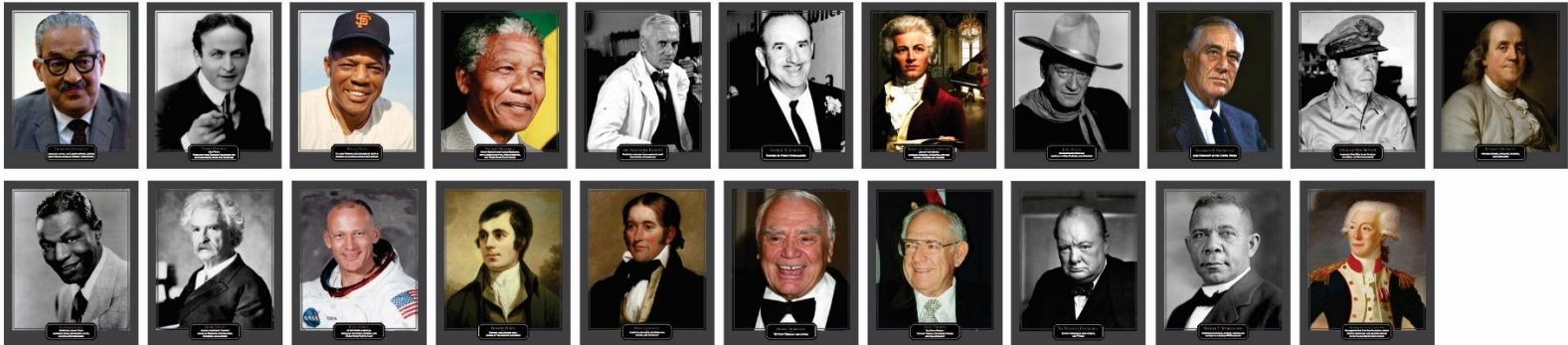


Who does J. F. Swartsel Lodge support in the community?

- 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



If they could do the things they did then,

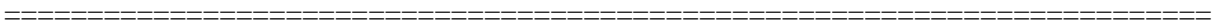


imagine the things that we can do now.

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 so I can update your records.

Calendar of Important Lodge Dates:

June 2026.

- 2nd 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 3rd (6:PM – 7:PM, MLT), (7:PM – 8:PM), District 19 School of Instruction @ John Darling Masonic Center.
- 4th Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 9th E A Degree @ J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 12th 7:PM - Masonic Park Board Meeting @ EGYPT Temple.
- 15th 7:30 PM – Friendship Chapter No. 209.
- 16th 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 17th 7:PM – York Rite at J. F. Swartsel No. 251, (Chapter & Council).
- 18th Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 19th 5:PM – 7:PM, Third Friday FULL Menu Fish Fry at J.F. Swartsel.**
- 22nd 6:30 – 8:30 Master Mason Association of Hillsborough County @ EGYPT Shrine.**
- 23rd 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 24th 7:PM – York Rite at J. F. Swartsel No. 251, (Commandery of Knights Templar).
- 26th 7:PM – DeMolay Advisor's Meeting.
- 30th 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.

From the Worshipful Master: Worshipful Joe Circhirillo

From the East your Worshipful Master Big Joe Chic

Hello Brothers this is your Worshipful Master big Joe Chic in the East. I want to thank all the Brothers that attended the Grand Lodge last month in Orlando. We all had a fabulous time and we were able to elect a new Grand Master and his grand line. If you've never been to a Grand Lodge, you need to attend. It's a good opportunity to meet Brothers from different lodges. This month we started the remodel of our kitchen. Let's hope that the remodel only last 2 to 3 weeks. I'm sure that our Brother Eric Bade will do a fabulous job on our new kitchen. Remember Brothers our kitchen has not been remodeled for over 31 years. It was time for it to be remodeled. We have a stated communication meeting on June 4 and the DDGM visit on June 18. For the June 18 meeting, coat and tie will be required Brothers. If you know a Brother that has not been in a meeting please call him up and invite him to our meetings. Tell him how much we miss him. Looking forward to seeing you at our meetings remember the reason we are so good is because we are Swartsel strong Brothers. We will have EA degree on June 9 we need all brothers to come out and support our new brother on June 9th.

Fraternally,

W.:M.: Joe Circhirillo

From the Senior Warden: Brother Thomas Overman

I returned from the Grand Lodge Convention. New Grand Officers were elected and new Legislation was voted on.

We have an upcoming E.A. Degree. Our last practice will be June 2nd. Please show up to support your degree team.

We are still working on removing the front yard red cedar tree and replacing the front door ramp.

Fraternally,

Brother Thomas Overman

From the Junior Warden: Brother Jack Jones

My Brothers: As we journey into the historic milestone marking 250 years of American Freedom, it is an opportune time to remember & reflect upon our Masonic Forefathers who boldly lead the creation of the great Republic of the USA.

The American Revolution was a crucible that forged the nation's ideals, and behind many of its architects stood a Noble Brotherhood that shaped their thinking: Freemasonry. Our fraternal organization, with its emphasis on enlightenment values, self-improvement, and civic responsibility, counted many of the era's most important figures among its ranks. Here, let's explore some of the most famous forefathers who were Freemasons, shaping both their generation and the future of America.

George Washington

Perhaps the most iconic Freemason of the Revolutionary era, George Washington was initiated into the Freemasons in 1752 at the age of 20. He remained an active member throughout his life, and his commitment to the Masonic principles of virtue and liberty influenced his leadership. Washington famously presided over Masonic ceremonies, and his role as the "Father of His Country" was deeply intertwined with his Masonic brotherhood.

Benjamin Franklin

A polymath and one of the most influential Founding Fathers, Benjamin Franklin was also a prominent Freemason. Initiated in 1731 in Philadelphia, Franklin used his Masonic connections to foster civic projects, including the creation of the first American Masonic Grand Lodge. He also leveraged his Freemason ties in his diplomatic work, particularly during his time in France, where he helped secure crucial support for the American cause.

Paul Revere

Paul Revere, the famed midnight rider who warned the colonial militia of British troop movements, was also a Freemason. Initiated in 1760, Revere was an active member of St. Andrew's Lodge in Boston. His Masonic affiliations often brought him into circles of revolutionary leaders, and his courage and dedication to the cause embodied both Masonic ideals and revolutionary spirit.

John Hancock

John Hancock, the bold patriot best known for his flamboyant signature on the Declaration of Independence, was a Freemason as well. He was initiated in 1765 and became a master of his lodge. As a wealthy merchant and president of the Second Continental Congress, Hancock used his influence to support both the Masonic fraternity and the patriot movement.

James Monroe

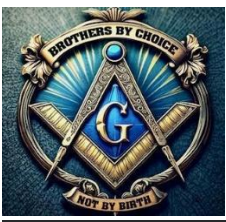
James Monroe, the fifth President of the United States, was also a dedicated Freemason. Initiated in 1775, Monroe embodied the Masonic values of integrity and public service. Like many of his peers, Monroe believed in the power of personal and civic responsibility, which guided his political career from the Revolutionary War era to the presidency.

Freemasonry was a subtle but powerful force during America's revolutionary period, shaping leaders who believed in equality, justice, and progress. These forefathers carried Masonic ideals into the very heart of the new Republic, leaving a legacy that continues to influence American identity today.

We are JFS #251, Baby !!!

May Brotherly Love & "Great" Food Prevail

Fraternally,
Brother Jack Jones



J.F. SWARTSEL LODGE NO. 251

FISH FRY

Get Hooked
on Our...

fundraiser

Friday **JUNE 19, 2026**
5 - 7pm

\$15
PER PERSON

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INCLUDES ALL YOU CAN EAT SWAI FILLETS,
FRENCH FRIES, COLE SLAW, HUSHPUPIES,
GRITS, TEA AND DESSERT

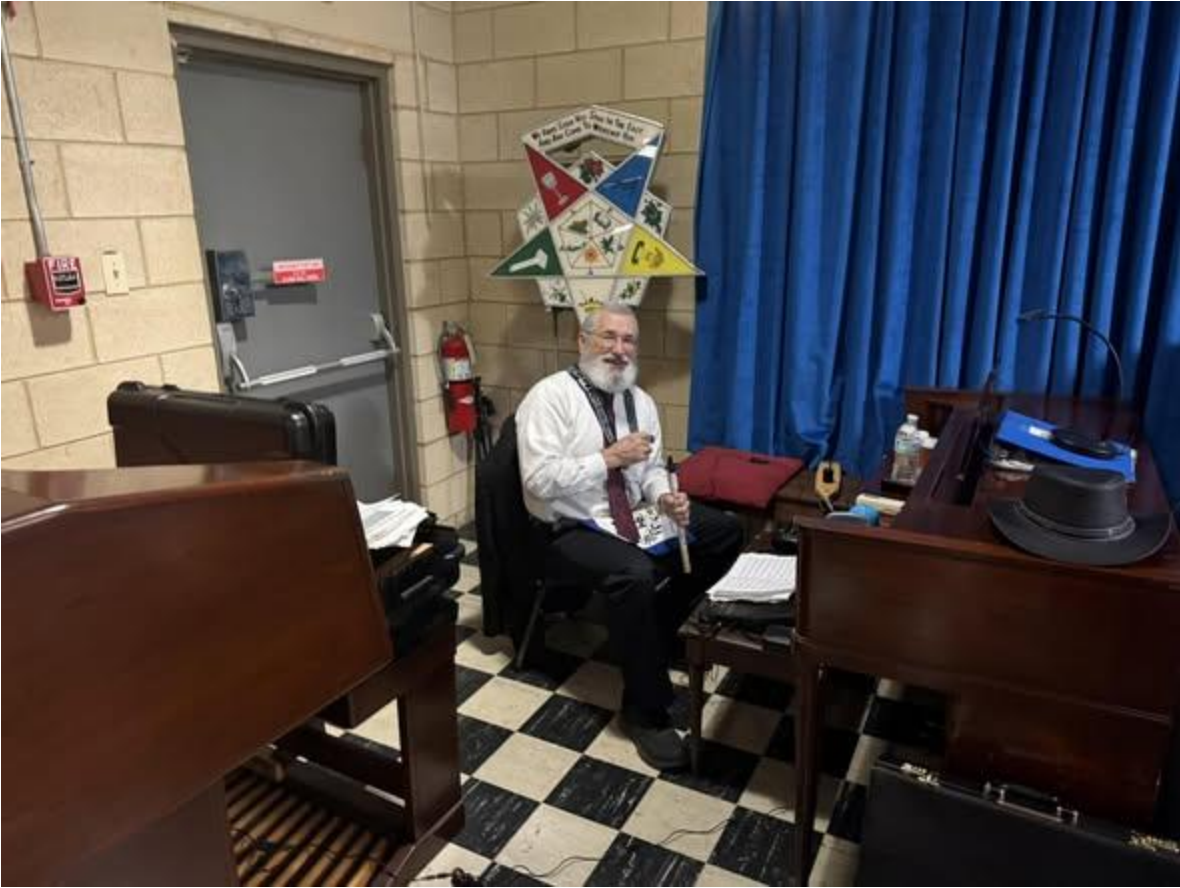
FOR MORE INFORMATION: WWW.JFSWARTSEL251.ORG

What have we been up to?

This morning, J.F. Swartzel Lodge—joined by lodges from multiple districts—came together in true Masonic fellowship to raise four worthy men to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.

A strong showing of inter-lodge cooperation, tradition, and ritual excellence made for a memorable morning and a fine example of what the Craft is meant to be: Masons laboring together in unity, strengthening the Fraternity, and advancing good men in Masonry. Congratulations to the four newly raised Master Masons. May they carry the lessons of the degree with humility, serve the Craft with purpose, and prove themselves worthy of the title they have earned.







This afternoon, DeMolay and Masons from multiple Chapters, Lodges, and Districts came together at J.F. Swartsel Lodge No. 251 for a strong show of unity and brotherhood, hosting the conferral of the DeMolay Degree and obligation upon one of our own, and assisting a brother from another Chapter in receiving his own obligation. It was a powerful reminder that the lessons of DeMolay do not end with youth—they carry forward through a lifetime of service, leadership, and fraternal commitment. Today's degree work reflected the strength of our shared traditions, the value of mentorship, and the enduring bond between DeMolay and Masonry. A sincere thank you to all who traveled, participated, and helped make this afternoon's work so meaningful. Your dedication continues to strengthen the future of both Orders.



We were proud to accompany our two newly raised Master Masons to DeSoto Lodge No. 105 this evening. The fellowship, hospitality, and Masonic education were second to none. Thank you for making their first visit as Master Masons one they will long remember.



Brothers from J.F. Swartsel No. 251 had the honor of traveling to support our brothers at A.W. Windhorst No. 185 during their second DDGM official visit.

Fraternal visits like these strengthen the bonds of Masonry beyond our own lodge walls and remind us that we are part of something much larger than ourselves. It was a great evening of fellowship, support, and shared Masonic labor.

Thank you to the brethren of A.W. Windhorst No. 185 for the warm welcome and hospitality. We look forward to many more opportunities to travel, support one another, and continue building stronger ties throughout the district.



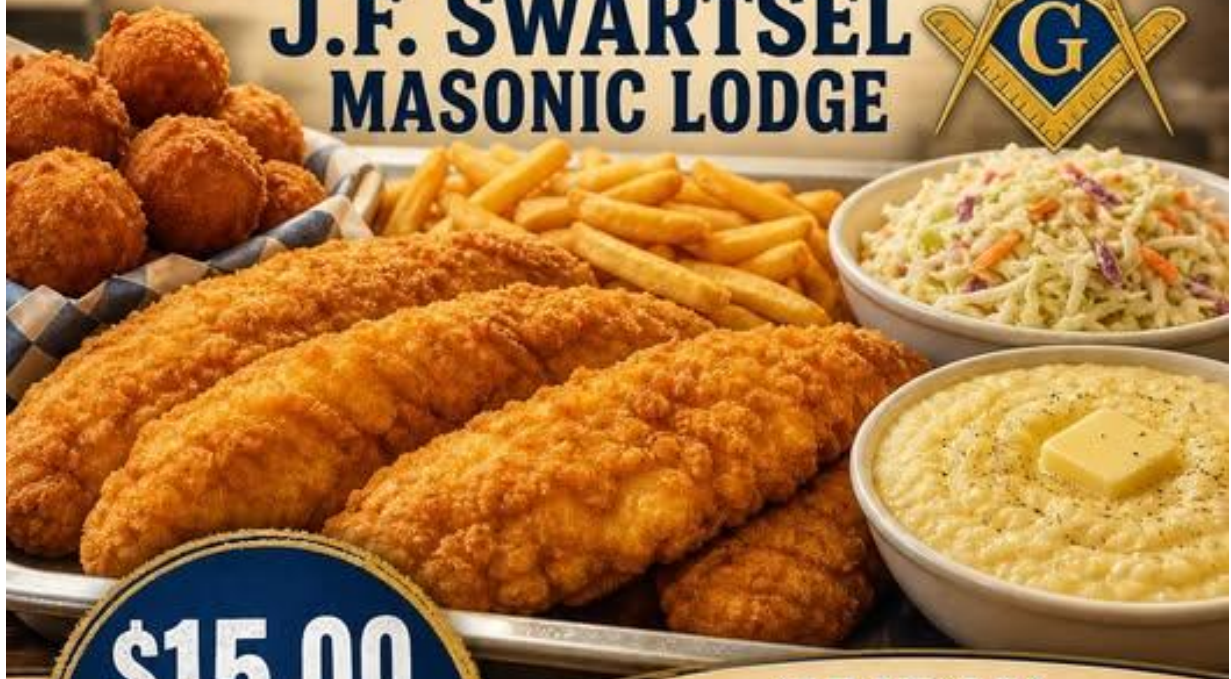


FISH FRY

FUNDRAISER

SPONSORED BY

J.F. SWARTSEL
MASONIC LODGE



\$15.00

ALL YOU CAN EAT!

INCLUDES
TEA & DESSERT!



FRIDAY

5/15/26

Between

5PM & 7PM

Great Food! ★ Great Fellowship! ★ Great Cause!

PROCEEDS BENEFIT LOCAL CHARITABLE & COMMUNITY PROJECTS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

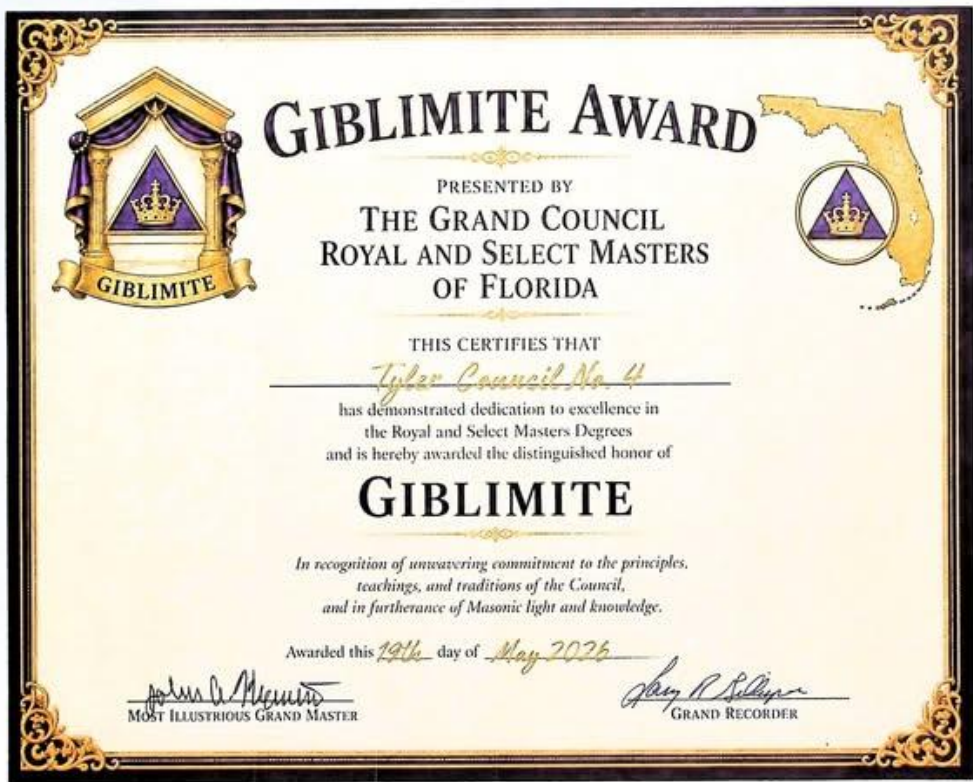
WOW! Thank you to our community for coming out to support the fish fry. We were busy from the start to the end. As always thanks to the Brothers and Sisters for all the help. We can't do it without you. We also rolled out a new marketing tool. Thanks W.: Greif!







York Rite - The 2026 Annual Convention is officially in the books, and without question, our York Rite bodies are now on the map. This year's convention was a tremendous success and a proud reflection of the hard work, dedication, and commitment of our Companions and Sir Knights. Our presence was felt throughout the jurisdiction. We are especially proud to recognize our two Grand Line officers pictured here, whose leadership and service continue to move our bodies forward. Alongside them, receiving four awards at convention is proof that hard work, teamwork, and vision still matter. The future is bright, and this is only the beginning. Congratulations to everyone who helped make this possible. Together, we continue building something worthy of pride and remembrance.



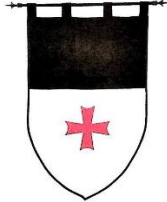
Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Florida

Is proud to award the

Beauceant Award

to

Plant City No. 6



Carl B. Anderson
Right Eminent Grand Commander

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed and affixed the seal of the Grand Commandery of Florida, this 20th day of May 2026 A.D., 908 A.O.

Ray R. Sullivan
Right Eminent Grand Recorder



Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.
gratefully expresses
Appreciation and Commendation

to

PLANT CITY Commandery No. 6

of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of
FLORIDA

for its loyal cooperation and significant achievement in not only reaching the quota set by the Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar, by securing ten percent (10%) of its members to become Life Sponsors of our Grand Humanitarian Charity, but now have 100% of its members as Life Sponsors, a most commendable achievement.



D. J. Karsman
President

October 29, 2025
Date



Memorial Day



THANK YOU

Honoring those who serve with honor.
Cherishing the memory of those who gave everything.

We are proud to present the two recipients of our 2026 Academic Scholarships at Land O' Lakes High School. These scholarships are made possible through the continued support of our community and everyone who joins us at our monthly Fish Fry. Your support helps us invest in the future of local students and recognize hard work, dedication, and academic achievement. On behalf of the Brothers of J.F. Swartsel Lodge, congratulations to these outstanding young ladies, and best wishes for continued success in all that lies ahead.



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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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