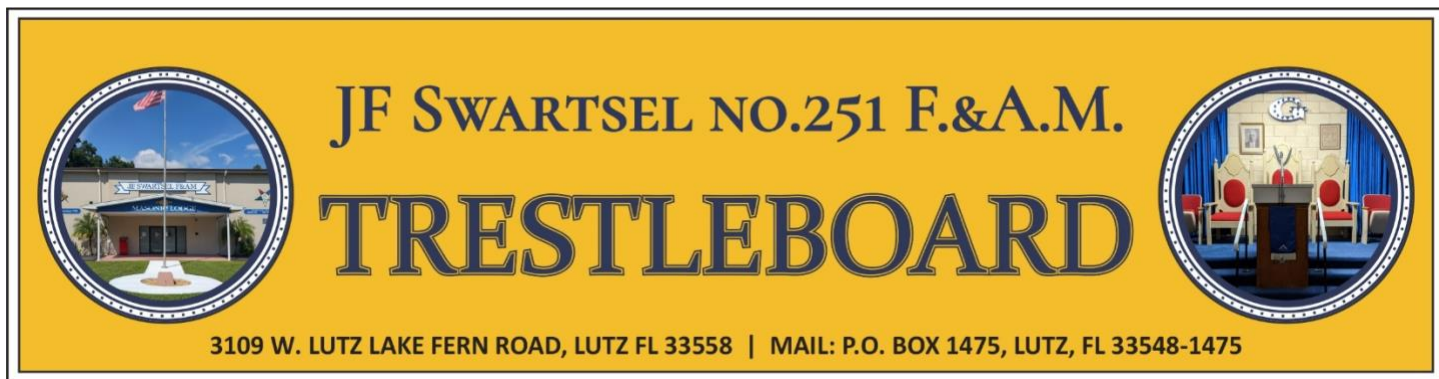




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Email: info@JFSwartsel251.org **Website:** www.jfswartsel251.org **Phone:** 813-949-4814

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

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

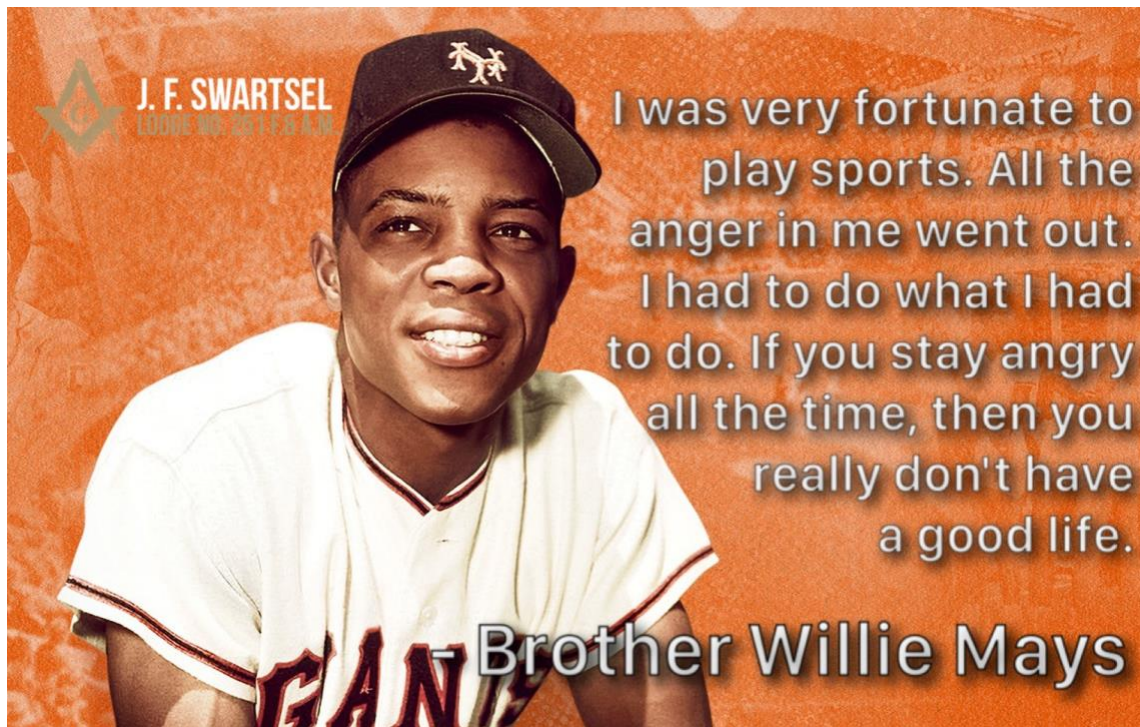
Steinbrenner High School

Heart Dance Foundation

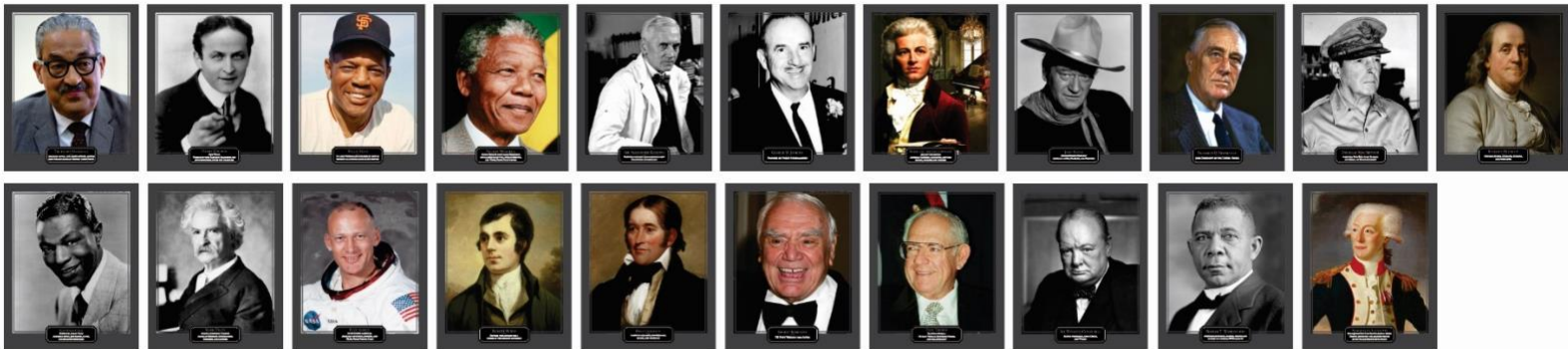
Metropolitan Ministries

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.

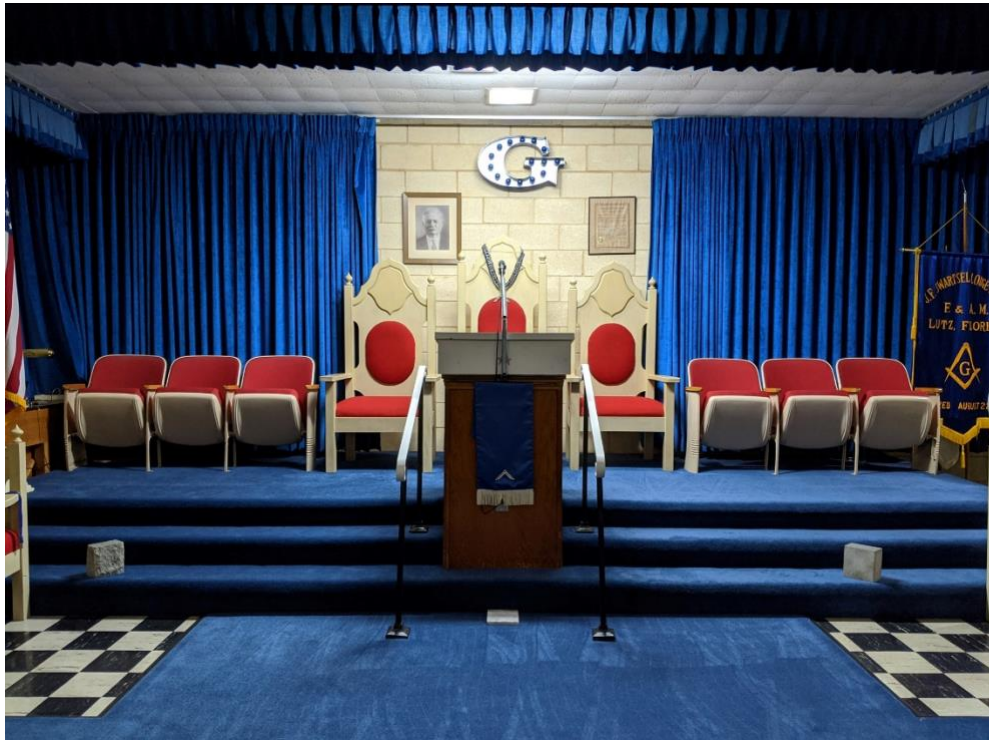
Thank you to **all** of our Past Masters - Who laid the foundation for us to build upon

[The Past Masters of J.F. Swartsel, 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:

September 2026.

- 1st Fellowcraft Degree @ J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 2nd (6:PM – 7:PM, MLT), (7:PM – 8:PM), District 19 School of Instruction @ John Darling Masonic Center
- 3rd Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 7th 7:30 PM – Friendship Chapter No. 209.
- 8th 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 11th 7:PM - Masonic Park Board Meeting @ EGYPT Temple.
- 12th 6:10 PM, Tampa Bay Rays Game.
- 15th 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 16th 7:PM – York Rite at J. F. Swartsel No. 251, (Chapter & Council).
- 17th Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 18th 5:PM – 7:PM, Third Friday FULL Menu Fish Fry at J.F. Swartsel.**
- 19th Trestleboard Articles to R. H. Jeff Sklet.
- 21st 7:30 PM – Friendship Chapter No. 209.**
- 22nd 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 23rd 7:PM – 9:PM, Bowling Night @ Pin Chasers Mid – Town, 4847 Armenia Ave. Tampa, FL 33603.
- 23rd 7:PM – York Rite at J. F. Swartsel No. 251, (Commandery of Knights Templar).
- 25th 7:PM – DeMolay Advisor's Meeting.
- 26th 9:AM – Noon, Open Books at Zone School of Instruction @ Universal John Darling Masonic Center
- 28th 6:30 – 8:30 Master Mason Association of Hillsborough County @ EGYPT Shrine.**
- 29th 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.

From the Worshipful Master: Worshipful Joe Circhirillo

This is your Worshipful Master, Big Joe Chic. It has been a very difficult few weeks following the loss of my wife, Teri. I want to sincerely thank all of the brothers who called, sent messages, cards, attended her funeral and supported my family during this incredibly difficult time. Teri passed away on our 30th wedding anniversary. Brothers, losing a loved one is never easy, and my wife was everything to me. I know it may take me some time to work through this loss, but with the love, support, and prayers of my brothers, I know I will get through it. I want to thank my SW, Tom Overman for taking the helm during this difficult time.

I want to thank everyone who helped with the fish fry. Your support and dedication mean more than you know. Remember, **we are Swartsel Strong!** I look forward to returning to the lodge very soon. Until then, please continue to keep my family and me in your prayers.

Fraternally,

W.:M.: Joe Circhirillo

From the Senior Warden: Brother Thomas Overman

Please come out as we pass two of our EAs to FC Sept 1st. Join us for the Ray's game Sept 12th leaving our lodge at 530pm. We will either carpool or rent a van depending on the number traveling to the game. Family and friends of all lodges are welcome. Get your money into David Lambert by September 3rd. You can bring your payment to our FC degree September 1st or to our Standard Communication meeting September 3rd. See you there. The info is on what's app. Bowling to follow September 23rd.

Fraternally,

Brother Thomas Overman

From the Junior Warden: Brother Jack Jones

My Brothers: we are picking up great momentum in the heat of the summer with lodge membership and degree work... congratulations and thank you all for your involvement. With the many plural memberships and new candidate petitions which have come before the Craft recently, there have been several opportunities for us to exercise one of the most sacred rites in Freemasonry - **BALLOTING**

Below is **critical information** for us to always remember; guidelines have been handed down from the Grand Lodge on Masonic Etiquette & Decorum while balloting:

“The ballot is both secret and inviolable. When it is taken the act is fateful for the Candidate and momentous for the Lodge. It is Etiquette for the Lodge Room to be in complete silence, the Officers should remain at their stations and places in silence and dignity. The Grand Lodge Constitutions make discussion of the ballot, on conviction thereof, a Masonic offense. Except the Holy Bible, the ballot is the most sacred thing in the Lodge. Every Mason owes to his Lodge the duty of protecting it against poor material and every Mason owes to every petitioner a fair ballot – the only protection a petitioner has against unfair discrimination and unreasonable prejudice. The upright man and Mason, true to the tradition of the Craft, will never allow personal spite or prejudice to influence his behavior at the ballot box. “

Let us work to execute our obligation to **ballot with respect**, on all occasions, as we embrace this privilege to strengthen the integrity of our Lodge Membership!

**~~~ We are JFS #251, Baby ~~~
May Brotherly Love & Great Food Prevail**

Fraternally,
Brother Jack Jones



What have we been up to?

Nobles Birthday Party - Swartsel Brothers attended the Nobles Birthday at Egypt Temple ! A lot of fun was had by all. We hope to see you there in the future.



District School - We won the Column last month... now we have to defend it! Plus, we're supporting our RHDI who is a member 251 and (like you needed another reason to go) the Brothers of various Lodges go to a watering hole after to continue the hang.

J.F. Swartsel Lodge no. 251 retains the Column!
Winners in July and now August!

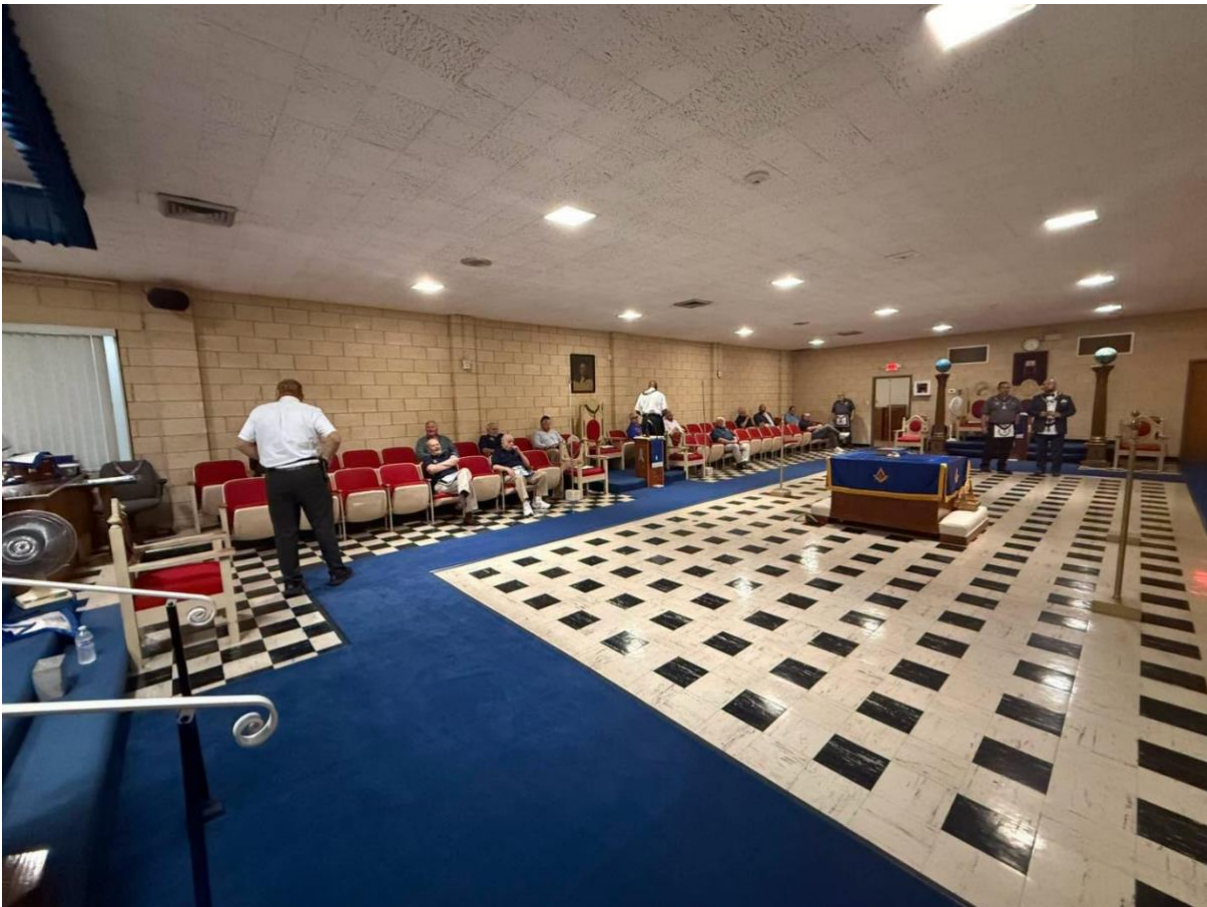


**Thank you to the 10 Brothers
that brought home the win!**

Stated meeting night! Another great meal by the JW and his team. We balloted on some new Brothers and had some good fellowship.







Continued fellowship and Brotherly Love.



Great turnout for practice! Looking forward to the EA Degree on Thursday 8/13. Dinner at 6:30. Gavel falls at 7:30



Sam's first Shrine meeting.



Great turnout for our newest member of Swartsel! Thank you to all the Brothers who came out and made the night special and to support our new Brother. His father in law, who is a Brother, was visiting from Brazil to witness the Degree.







A perfect ending to a special night at our favorite after Lodge meeting place. The fellowship and brotherly love was flowing!



Doing our part for the public. Swartsel had three different teams manning drop sites around Hillsborough County for the Supervisor of Elections. Everyone had a good time and everything went smoothly. Looking forward to doing it again in November.





What a great night at Swartsel lodge! We started with another great meal by our Junior Warden and his staff. Then we had an action packed meeting. We had a 60 year service award presentation to our beloved Brother Frank Penny. A Mason's Mason. Then we had some membership certificates to hand out. Then we handed out some hardware to W:. Jenkins for all the accomplishments his year as Worshipful Master. Finally we heard from R:. W:. Steve Clark, candidate for the Grand South. Very inspiring message.









After another successful meeting at Lodge, some Brothers hit our favorite post Lodge watering hole. It might be the cold beer talking but it looks like these Brothers like each other 😊...



Brothers be on the lookout. We are going to be having some fun over the next couple of months



Fish Fry - the Brothers out back cooking enjoyed the night. Slow and steady. Hardly no waiting and the cookers kept up. Thanks to everyone who came out to support us. We can't do it without you! ❤️. A special thanks to all the Brothers who make the fish fry a success. You made W.: Joe proud.





Master Mason Association of Hillsborough County. Great turnout for the monthly meeting. The Illustrious Potentate addressed the group. A lot of fun and good fellowship was had by all and we took care of the business of the Association.



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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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