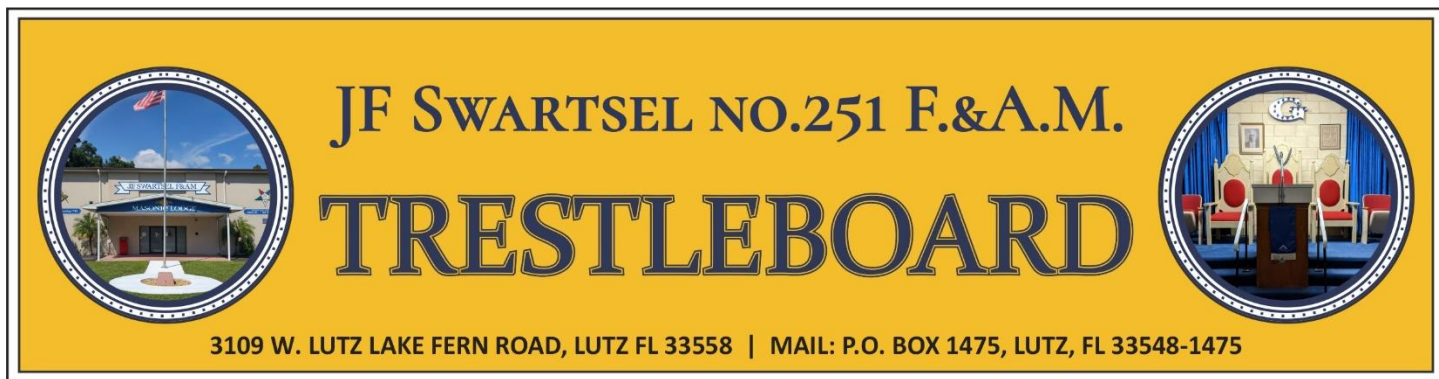




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Email: info@JFSwartsel251.org **Website:** www.jfswartsel251.org **Phone:** 813-949-4814

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

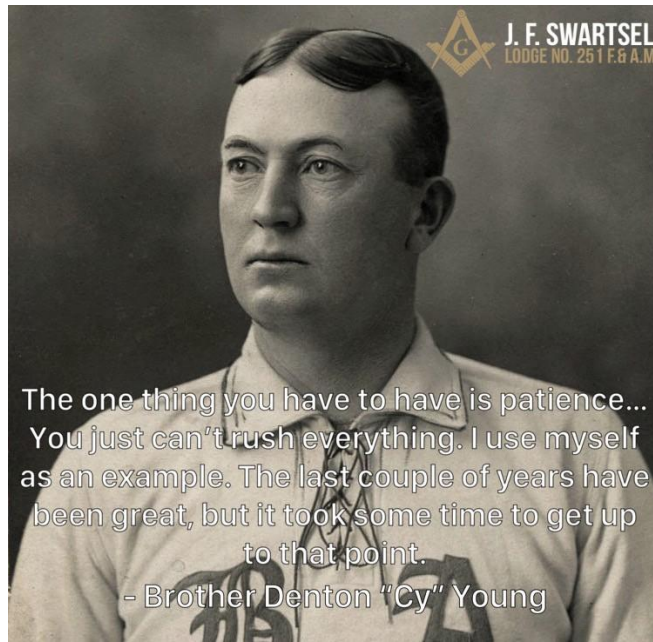
Steinbrenner High School

Heart Dance Foundation

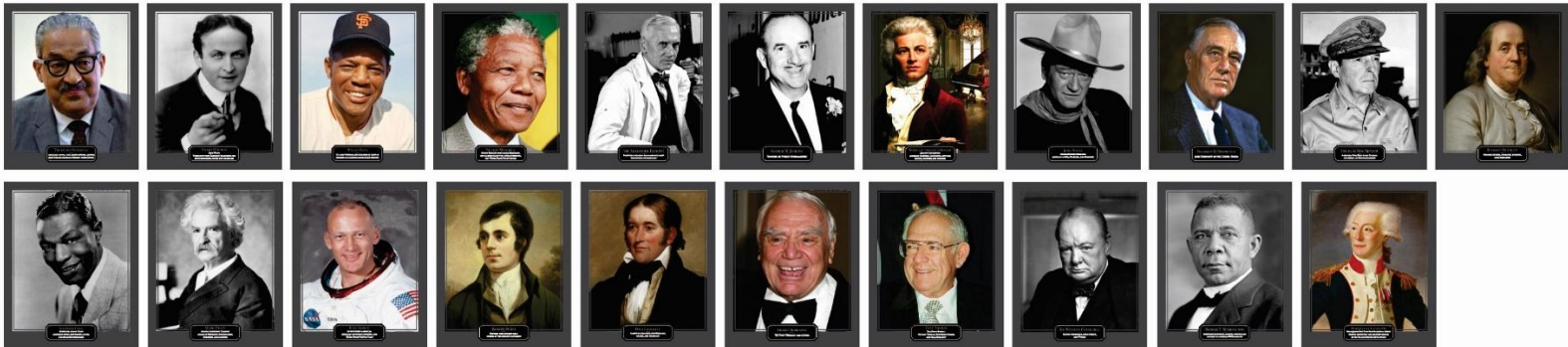
Metropolitan Ministries

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.

October 2026.

1st Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.

5th 7:30 PM – Friendship Chapter No. 209.

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.

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.

19th 7:30 PM – Friendship Chapter No. 209.

20th 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.

21st 7:PM – York Rite at J. F. Swartsel No. 251, (Chapter & Council).

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.

28th 7:PM – York Rite at J. F. Swartsel No. 251, (Commandery of Knights Templar).

From the Worshipful Master: Worshipful Joe Circhirillo

This is your Worshipful Master, Big Joe Chic.

I want to thank all the brothers who have participated in and supported the degrees during my absence. I also want to extend my sincere appreciation to everyone who has been working the fish fries. Please remember that our fish fries are the largest source of fundraising for our charities, and your continued support is greatly appreciated.

I hope to be back shortly, as soon as my doctor releases me following a personal medical condition.

I would also like to thank all my officers for keeping the Lodge running smoothly, especially my Senior Warden, Tom Overman.

I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Keep up the good work my brothers that's why we are Swartsel strong

Faternally,

W.:M.: Joe Circhirillo

From the Senior Warden: Brother Thomas Overman

The baseball game was a hoot enjoyed by 17 brothers and wives. It was followed up by a bowling night against PTF United September 23rd. Stan was high scorer for us. Sam kept his record in tack.

The tree is coming out 8am Oct 9th. Spence, Dickey, and Tom O are putting it on the ground. We need brothers to load it on my trailer at noon to be carried to the dump.

We have an EA DEGREE coming up with Henrik in the East. Please come to practice to support the degree team. We need conductors and candidates at practice.

I need brothers that are not in the degree to go with me to take King Solomon's Crown to Universal Lodge 178 on 10/06/2026. If you can go, please call me. My phone number is 813-624-6464. They will need a head count for dinner.

Faternally,

Brother Thomas Overman

From the Junior Warden: Brother Jack Jones

My Brothers: On Sept. 1st, we at J.F. Swartsel executed yet another symbolic Masonic Degree in the Fellowcraft Degree, I direct your attention to the core tenants found therein.

The Symbolism of Corn, Wine, and Oil in Freemasonry.

The description and details of the beautiful allegory in the article below is taken from the teaching in the book "The Symbolism of Freemasonry" by Albert G. Mackey

Among the beautiful symbols of Freemasonry are **Corn, Wine, and Oil**—three elements that have been used from ancient times to represent the blessings of life and the rewards of faithful labor. In Masonic tradition, they symbolize **Plenty, Refreshment, and Prosperity**, reminding us that the blessings we receive should inspire gratitude, humility, and service to others.

Corn — A Symbol of Plenty

In Masonic symbolism, **corn represents plenty and nourishment**. It reminds us of the temporal blessings of life—those things necessary for our health, comfort, and support.

The symbolism also carries a moral lesson. Just as the seed must be planted and cultivated before it produces a harvest, so must a Mason cultivate his own character through honest labor, discipline, and good works.

At the beginning of our Masonic journey, we are reminded to approach our work with **“clean hands and a pure heart.”** The material blessings represented by corn therefore become more meaningful when they are accompanied by moral and spiritual growth. We should be grateful for what we have and willing to share our abundance with those in need.

Wine — A Symbol of Refreshment

Wine symbolizes refreshment and inward comfort. It represents the reward and renewal that come to the man who faithfully performs his duties upon the great stage of life.

Masonry teaches us that our earthly labors are temporary. We work, serve, struggle, and fulfill our obligations, but eventually the labors of this earthly lodge are brought to a close.

The traditional symbolism of wine therefore points beyond our present existence toward the **“celestial lodge above,”** where the Great Architect of the Universe forever presides. It reminds us that faithful labor is not without purpose and that the Mason should live his life in preparation for something greater than himself.

Oil — A Symbol of Prosperity and Joy

Oil symbolizes prosperity, happiness, and joy. Its use as a sacred symbol is ancient. Throughout history, oil was used in ceremonies of **anointing and consecration**, setting apart people, places, and objects for a sacred purpose.

In Masonry, this symbolism reminds us that true prosperity is more than material wealth. A prosperous Mason is one whose life is enriched by **brotherly love, relief, truth, service, and a clear conscience.**

Oil also represents the joy that comes from living a purposeful life and from being useful to our fellow man.

The Lesson of Corn, Wine, and Oil

Taken together, **Corn, Wine, and Oil** present a powerful picture of the Masonic life:

Corn gives us plenty.

Wine gives us refreshment.

Oil gives us prosperity, happiness, and joy.

But these blessings are not merely things to receive. They are reminders of our responsibilities. We are called to be grateful for what the Great Architect has provided, to labor faithfully, to refresh and encourage our Brothers, and to use our prosperity for the benefit of others.

Thus, Corn, Wine, and Oil teach a simple but profound Masonic lesson: **we should work faithfully, live gratefully, share generously, and strive to leave the world better than we found it.**

**~~~ We are Swartsel Strong, Baby ~~~
May Brotherly Love & Great Food Prevail**

Fraternally,
Brother Jack Jones



What have we been up to?

Congratulations to our two newest Fellowcrafts!



The festivities continue!



Another great meal from the Junior Warden and his staff. The great meals are bringing in the Brothers and we had another wonderful showing. We had three new possible candidates come in to ask questions. We are still growing! If you haven't been to Lodge lately, Brother we would love to see you. [#swartselstrong](#)





Thank you to everyone who attended this evening... even PTF United with their present 📺



The Fellowship continues!



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A Class Just for Shriners and Friends

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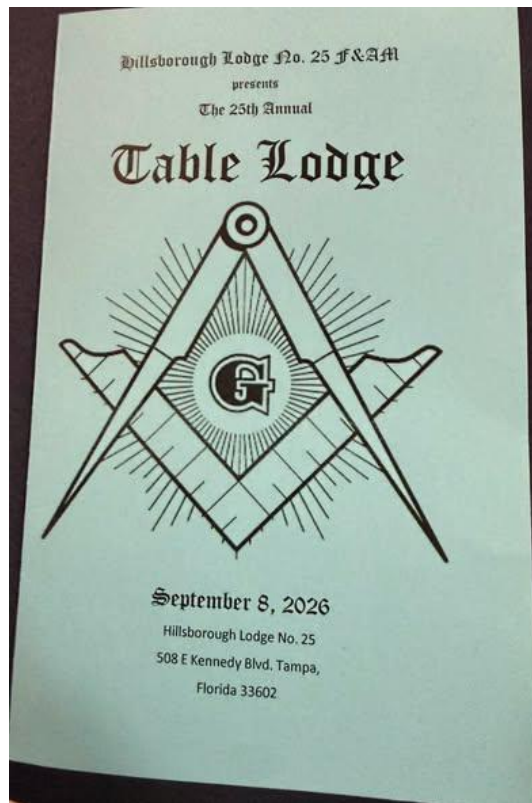
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24 Spots — Register Now with your Name, Phone Number, and Email

Happy Labor Day



Annual Table Lodge - A group from Swartsel traveled to downtown Tampa to attend Hillsborough Lodge No. 25's annual table lodge. There were Brothers there from around the area. The food was good and the fellowship was great! You should make an effort to attend next year.





Visiting our Brothers of A.W. Windhorst fame for their DDGM Official Visit!



NEVER FORGET
25 year later after the
September 11, 2001



Happy
Rosh Hashanah!



jolilecarte.com

Take me out to the ballgame!









This evening my Brothers! Show starts at 7p unless you have dinner reservations.



A promotional poster for a Scottish Rite Meeting in the Tampa Valley. The poster features a dark purple header with gold text and a central photograph of the Tampa Valley Scottish Rite Center building. The building is a large, modern structure with a prominent entrance and is surrounded by palm trees and landscaping. The poster is framed by ornate columns on the sides, each topped with a globe and a diamond-shaped emblem containing the letter 'G'. The overall design is formal and elegant, reflecting the tradition of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry.

SCOTTISH RITE MEETING
TAMPA VALLEY
ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE
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EDUCATION ~ FELLOWSHIP ~ BROTHERHOOD ~ SERVICE

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TAMPA VALLEY SCOTTISH RITE CENTER

Good Men Building a Better World

↑

Thank you to all the Brothers who came out to support our Masonic Youth and the WMs of the Valley of Tampa!







Good hang Bros! Let's do this again sometime!











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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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