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Meetings: 1st and 3rd Thursdays

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

R.: H.: Adam Feldman - W.: Jerry M. Snell Jr. – W.: Marty Greif – Br. Allan Jenkins
W.: Wade Angel – Br. Jack Jones – Br. Denis Monefeldt



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

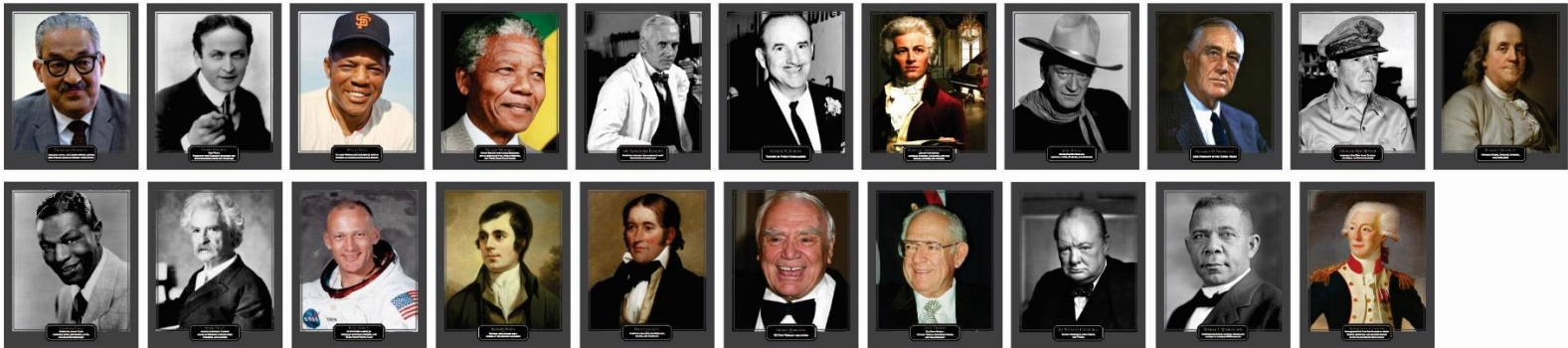
Monthly Bingo jackpots at the Florida Masonic Home in St. Petersburg

Metropolitan Ministries

The Joshua House



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 and Community Lodge](#)

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



Your 2024 J. F. Swartzel Officers are as follows:

Worshipful Master Brother Brian Andrew Reach
Senior Warden Brother Allan Arthur Jenkins
Junior Warden Brother Demetrios Thomas Dellis
Treasurer W : Jeffrey Thomas Sklet
Secretary W : David Bruce Lambert Sr.
Chaplain Br. Thomas Martin Sheehan
Marshall W : Stephen Douglas Edson
Senior Deacon Brother Joe Circhirillo
Junior Deacon Brother Thomas Holland Overman
Senior Steward Brother Dickey Parrish Davis
Junior Steward Brother Jack Wilbur Jones
Tyler Brother Lamont Jay Richardson
Musician Brother John S Nagy
Historian W : Samuel McPherson





Please remember your Lodge boosters and thank them!

R.:W.: Ronald E. Stanley - R.:W.: Donald R. Bell - Mark L. Lager - Daniel Allen - Brad Sollberger - Ernest P. Sidlow



Chair Chatter

From the Secretary: Worshipful David Lambert, Sr.

Brethren,

Please check your Dues Card to see if you have paid your 2024 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:

November 2024.

- 5th Election Day, NO Degree Practice.
- 6th (6:PM – 7:PM, MLT), (7:PM – 8:PM), District School of Instruction @ John Darling No. 154).
- 7th Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30PM.**
- 8th 7:PM - Masonic Park Board Meeting @ EGYPT Temple.
- 12th 6:PM Officers Meeting / 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 15th (Canceled) Third Friday FULL Menu Fish Fry at J.F. Swartsel (Canceled).**
- 16th Trestleboard Articles to W.: Sklet.**
- 18th 7:30 PM, Friendship Chapter No. 209. Stated Meeting.
- 19th Lodge Visit to Universal, NO Degree Practice.
- 21st Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30PM.**
- 23rd 9:AM – Noon, Open Books at Zone School of Instruction @ John Darling Lodge No. 154**
- 25th 6:30 – 8:30 Master Mason Association of Hillsborough County @ EGYPT Shrine.**
- 26th 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 28th Thanksgiving Day.

From the Worshipful Master: Brother Brian Reach

My Brothers, this past month has been a trying time for so many. As one of our own Brothers put it, "If I never see another October like this one, it will be to soon." Amen to that.

As many of you know, we lost our good friend and Brother Lamont Richardson on October 12. His is survived by his wife Nancy. A celebration of Life service will be held on Saturday, November 2 at 2:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 6209 Land O' Lakes Blvd, Land O Lakes, FL 34637.

Upcoming Lodge visit:

Universal Lodge No 178 Tuesday, November 19
4601 N Habana Ave, Tampa, FL 33614

Lodge Report following Hurricane Milton. The cedar tree next to the Masters parking spot was blown down and took out the power and created some sort of fault which caused a fair number of issues. This caused a number of problems: lights in the Lodge Dining room and hallways blew, kitchen refrigeration units failed, and our lift to fail. Most of these things have been addressed and the building is available for events. The two major exceptions are the Lift and the freezer. With any kind of luck at all the lift will be fixed by the time you read this!

DeMolay Chapter Update:

Our application to establish a DeMolay Chapter at J.F. Swartsel Lodge has been received and approved by DeMolay International. We still have to assemble the local Advisory Board. To that end, we need to assemble men and women to sit on the Advisory Board. If you have an interest please let me know.

Next year will be very exciting given that we are celebrating our Centennial ... but I will leave that to our presumptive 2025 Master to talk about.

Fraternally yours,
W:. Brian Reach

From the Senior Warden: Brother Allan Jenkins

Let me start by saying congratulations to our two newly entered brothers. Henrick Nordstrom and Anthony DeLuna. Our degree team put on a very inspired degree. All of the participating brothers worked hard, and it really showed in the degree. Putting degrees together and being part of this process is very rewarding as a Mason. If you have not been in a degree before, please get with the Senior Deacon and let him know that you are interested. You do not have to be in the current officer's line to participate. I can promise you that you will get something out of the process.

We will have the last degree of the 2024 year on Saturday, December 7th. It will be the Master Mason degree, and it is our annual Farmers Degree. This degree is always a special one as we pay honor to the man that gave us the land we are on and named our lodge after. I invite every brother to attend and make this last degree the largest turnout of the year. Come out and show your support.

Lastly, we are entering the holiday season. For most it is a joyous time of celebration with family and friends. However, for others it is not so joyous. Remember our obligations this season and ensure you do your best to check in on someone that you have not seen in a while. Your call or visit maybe the one thing that gets them through this time.

Brother Allan Jenkins

From the Junior Warden: Brother Demetrios Dellis

Nothing from the South

What have we been up to?

Swartsel, the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Also, a good night for practice.



District School of Instruction. Only the lonely. Not too many Brothers from Swartsel tonight. Most of the Brothers here tonight are from PTF United. Congratulations to them for retaining the Column Under Construction!



At our last Stated Communication, RH Feldman gave a presentation on Freemasonry and how it has influenced our lives. Many requested a copy of the presentation, and it has been posted below for your reading pleasure:

During the ceremony of your initiation you stated that you were prompted to solicit our privileges by a favorable opinion, preconceived, of the Institution, a general desire for knowledge and a sincere wish to render yourself more extensively serviceable to your fellow creatures. In order in some small measure to gratify your desire for knowledge, I shall proceed to put you in possession of certain facts, which, had you known them earlier, might well have added to your preconceived favorable opinion. You will not have realized it but Freemasons have had an influence on your life thus far to an extent that you have never dreamed of. I will not mystify you further but will proceed to explain how this is so.

Soon after you were born, I expect that you were vaccinated against Smallpox. The discovery of this method of combating this dreadful disease was the work of W. Bro. Edward Jenner. You may have had a serious accident or illness requiring surgery and needed an anesthetic, for which you can thank Bro. Dr. Crawford Long who first used Ether for this purpose. You are probably one of the millions who have good cause to bless W. Bro. Sir Alexander Fleming, a Grand Officer in the English Constitution and of course the discoverer of Penicillin. He was appointed Grand Senior Warden in 1946. Joseph Lister Lodge No. 8032, which is the Lodge of University College Hospital is named after Bro. Joseph Lister, the discoverer of antiseptics.

On going to school you prepare to be educated. Freemasonry at school you may well ask? The answer is an emphatic 'Yes'. Let us commence with Geography, where you learn about countries such as Bolivia and the former Rhodesia, named after Bros. Simon Bolivar and Cecil Rhodes. In fact there are hundreds if not thousands of cities, towns, rivers and mountains etc. named after prominent Freemasons and we think immediately of Dallas, Houston, Washington, Mount McKinley, Durban, Lafayette and countless others.

Turning to Chemistry, you are taught to use symbols for the various elements. This was the work of Bro. Baron Berzelius, who also first discovered and isolated several of those elements as did Bro. Jose Bonifacio, the famous Brazilian statesman and scientist. Another brilliant chemist and mineralogist was W. Bro James Smithson, a London Freemason, better remembered for his legacy which led to the foundation of the world famous Smithsonian Institute, a seat of learning unique in the world.

Back in the classroom, do you remember an experiment with iron filings and a magnet? This introduced to you the study of electro-magnetism and the important work of Bro. Hans Christian Oersted. With history it is virtually impossible to find a page in the last two hundred years without encountering Freemasons. Indeed, amongst them are some black sheep whom we might feel reason to reprehend, albeit with mercy but by far the greater number were worthy men. Coming to mind are The Duke of Wellington, the French revolutionaries Talleyrand and Jean Paul Marat, John Wilkes, Edmund Burke, Marshall Bernadotte, Barons Scharnhorst and Gneisnau who gave their names to the two famous battleships of the second world war, Daniel O'Connell, Louis Kossuth, George Washington, the first of many Presidents of the United States to be involved with the Craft, Field Marshal Lord Roberts, Lord Kitchener of Khartoum, Field Marshall Earl Haigh, Admiral Jellicoe, Admiral Beresford, General Pershing down through to Winston Churchill whose grandfather had been a Grand Senior Warden, Generals George Marshall, Douglas MacArthur, Omar Bradley and Mark Clark. Col. Jimmy Doolittle and at least two modern day English Grand Officers, Marshall of the Royal Air Force Lord Newall and Field Marshall Lord Alexander of Tunis.

Among the many Presidents of the United States who were Freemasons after Washington we find James Munroe, James Buchanan, Andrew Johnson, Theodore Roosevelt, William Taft, Warren Harding, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Lyndon Johnson and Gerald Ford. Harry Truman was actually the Grand Master of Freemasons of the State of Missouri before becoming President of the U.S. All these men had a commitment to public service above and beyond the norm. It is now the usual procedure at the inauguration of a U.S. President for him to take the Oath of Office on Washington's Masonic Bible.

Still, all work and no play will not do. What did you play at? Did you ever pretend to be Davy Crocket or Buffalo Bill? Oh yes, Senator Davy Crocket and William Cody were real people and members of our order as was General Tom Thumb, the diminutive dwarf. What of the entertainment industry? For many years the chief film censor was Bro. Will Hays and among the famous Masonic personalities in the film industry were David W. Griffiths, Cecil B. DeMille and Louis B. Mayer as well as such well known stars as Bud Abbott, Gene Autry, Joe E. Brown, Oliver Hardy, Clark Gable, John Wayne, Douglas Fairbanks, Peter Sellars and hundreds of others. When leaving a building used for public entertainment did you ever imagine that lightning conductors were invented by a Freemason. They were and the Brother in question was the immortal Benjamin Franklin who also invented bi-focal glasses and later became postmaster general of the United States.

Still, not all time out of school was your own. Occasionally, I imagine that you were dragged off to visit a favorite relative scrubbed clean, no doubt, with a product of Bro. Lord Leverhulme, the soap and detergent tycoon. During the visit you may perhaps have enjoyed some iced tea. Could it have been Liptons, where once more we meet a Freemason in the person of Bro. Sir Thomas Lipton, the ocean yachtsman and tea magnate. Much tea was sold by W. Bro. Jack Cohen, the founder of Tesco and much was drank in the famous holiday camps of W. Bro. Billy Butlin.

Then again doubtless in those tender years you were thrilled by tales of high adventure and on looking back, is it not true that truth is stranger than fiction. Many of the true stories tell of bravery, heroism, fighting against all odds and of brotherly love. Such stories as

that of Bro. Charles Lindbergh, flying out alone, putting his trust in the Almighty on that first wild, impossible crossing of the Atlantic in a small single engine aeroplane, and of Bro. Capt Robert Falcon Scott, struggling to the South Pole and back to his tragic though heroic death. From his diary it is known that his thoughts were always of others. Scott was initiated into the Drury Lane Lodge in London. There is the happier story of Bro. Sir Ernest Shackleton, of Peary and the North Pole, of Byrd flying over both Poles, not without thrills on each occasion.

We remember the founding of the City State of Singapore by Bro. Sir Stamford Raffles, of the intrepid adventures of James Brooke, the White Rajah of Sarawak or the exploits of the American 'G' men directed by Bro. J. Edgar Hoover, the immortal defence of Corregidor by Bro. Matthew Wainwright, the almost unbelievable escapes of that master entertainer Harry Houdini, the strange fascinating story of Bro. Anton Mesmer who was denounced as a charlatan in his day but is now generally accepted as the founder of the science of animal magnetism commonly known as Mesmerism. What of the turbulent career of the boxer Bro. Jack Dempsey...one could continue forever.

As you grew to manhood I am sure that the cultural side of your life was not neglected. What did you read? Would it be Sherlock Holmes, Ivanhoe, Tom Sawyer, Three Men in a Boat, King Solomon's Mines etc. Remember that Conan Doyle, Sir Walter Scott, Mark Twain, Jerome K. Jerome and Rudyard Kipling were all Freemasons. Regarding the latter, much of Freemasonry was made in his book 'The Man who would be King'. It might well be that you were very keen on literature, in which case you have met works by Bros. Goethe, Alexander Pope, Goldsmith, Voltaire, Montesquieu, Pushkin, Schiller, Edward Gibbon (remember the decline and fall of the Roman Empire) James Boswell (the biographer of Dr. Johnson) who was the deputy Grand Master mason of Scotland. Amazing eh! We must not forget the Rubayat of Omar Khayam or the Tales of the Arabian Nights both translated by Masons, the former by Edward Fitzgerald and the latter by Sir Richard Burton. Perhaps you enjoy good music and among our more famous musical brethren we find Joseph Haydn, Franz Liszt, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, whose opera 'The Magic Flute' had a Masonic background, Thomas Arne, the composer of Rule Britannia, Johann Christian Bach, son of the great Johann Sebastian but a great musician in his own right, Samuel Wesley, a nephew of John Wesley the founder of Methodism who actually was the organist at the grand ceremony to celebrate the union of the two Grand Lodges in London in 1817. Martial music is represented in our hall of fame by John Philip Sousa but let us not forget something less classical in the form of Alexander's Ragtime Band by Bro. Irving Berlin and the enormous talent of Bro. Louis Armstrong.

You write many letters and many no doubt are sent overseas yet until Bro. Heinrich von Stephan formed the Universal Postal Union about one hundred and fifty years ago, this was both costly and risky. Some time or other you start to shave that stubble on your face and at this time probably Bro. King Gillette enters your life. You get on in the world and buy a car but not necessarily one made by Bro. Henry Ford. You drive on a metalled road and once again it is a Freemason, John Loudon Macadam who is the father of modern road building. Then the fair sex crosses your path and much advice is to be found in the songs and works of Bros. Gilbert and Sullivan. Bro William Gilbert was a Scottish Mason and W. Bro Sir Arthur Sullivan known also for 'The Lost Chord' and 'Onward Christian Soldiers' as well as for the Savoy Operas was the Grand Organist of the United Grand Lodge of England. You go to a party and dance the 'Paul Jones' named after the famous American and Freemason and when the party is over you sing 'Auld Lang Syne' the words by the immortal Bro. Robbie Burns.

Somewhere in the world at this moment the Red Cross Organization is doing its humane work and once again it is a Freemason, Bro Henri Dunant who founded this great organization after the bloody battle of Solferino. The Statue of Liberty in New York harbor was the work of Bro Frederick Bartholdi and the city of Paris is dominated by Bro. Gustave Eiffel's masterpiece. In fact with practically everything that you do and wherever you go you will discover your Brother Freemasons extending the hand of friendship to welcome you. You all of course have an equal part to play in all this; Do justice, love mercy, practice charity and endeavor to live in brotherly love with all mankind, so that you yourselves will be able to contribute something sincere, however small to the glorious heritage which is ours.

Brothers helping a brother clean up after the Hurricanes



A sad day

Due to damage from Hurricane Milton, we are forced to cancel Friday's scheduled Fish Fry...We will be back!

Clean up continues at 251....



EA Degree with courtesy work! It was a very good time at JF Swartsel tonight. Two Lodges came together to make new Masons. The Brothers from Holyhood Lodge No. 257 brought over a candidate and Swartsel had two candidates. Congratulations to our three newest Masons! Good food, good fellowship was had by all. We are looking forward to see how these Brothers progress within the Fraternity.



Planning for 2025 has begun! Brothers, we have a 100 year celebration in 2025 and it's going to be a big party. A lot of good things coming our way next year. Brothers get ready to have some fun and fellowship .



No rest for the weary. EA Degree last week so we start practicing for an upcoming Master Mason degree tonight coming up on December 7th.



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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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