

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

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Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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



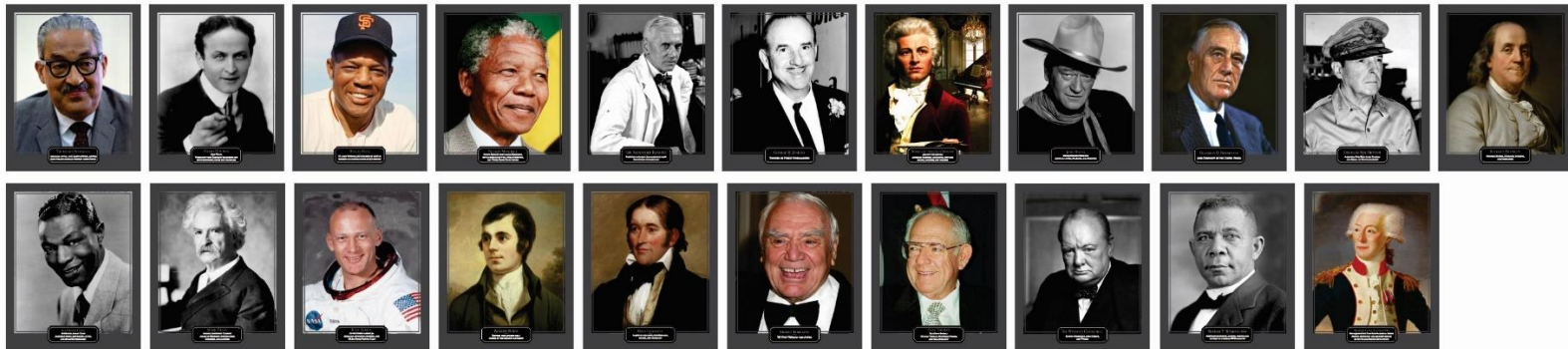
**Who does J. F. Swartsel Lodge support in the community?**

- 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

I have had this  
desire my whole  
life to prove  
people wrong,  
to show them  
I could do things  
they didn't think I could do.  
- Brother David Paterson



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 2025 J. F. Swartzel Officers are as follows:**

**Worshipful Master** Brother Allan Arthur Jenkins  
**Senior Warden** Brother Joe Circhirillo  
**Junior Warden** Brother Thomas Holland Overman  
**Treasurer** W : Jeffrey Thomas Sklet  
**Secretary** W : David Bruce Lambert Sr.  
**Chaplain** Br. Jason Warren Schein  
**Marshall** W : Brian Andrew Reach  
**Senior Deacon** Brother Jack Wilbur Jones  
**Junior Deacon** Brother Denis Graham Monefeldt  
**Senior Steward** Brother Kyle John Jesso  
**Junior Steward** Brother Jose Lau Labasbas  
**Tyler** Brother Jose Louis Valdes  
**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 2025 Dues,** and If you have changed your address, please give me a call @ (813) 838-7705 or email me at [dlambert7907@gmail.com](mailto:dlambert7907@gmail.com) so I can update your records.

### **Calendar of Important Lodge Dates:**

**February 2025.**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> 6:30 – 9:30 Lodge visit to Dade City No. 48.**
- 4<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 5<sup>th</sup> (6:PM – 7:PM, MLT), (7:PM – 8:PM), District School of Instruction @ John Darling Masonic Center).
- 6<sup>th</sup> Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 11<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 14<sup>th</sup> 7:PM - Masonic Park Board Meeting @ EGYPT Temple.
- 17<sup>th</sup> 7:30 PM, Friendship Chapter No. 209. Stated Meeting.
- 18<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 20<sup>th</sup> Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM**
- 21<sup>st</sup> Third Friday FULL Menu Fish Fry at J.F. Swartsel.**
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Trestleboard Articles to W.: Allen Jenkins & W.: Jeff Sklet.
- 22<sup>nd</sup> 9:AM – Noon, Open Books at Zone School of Instruction @ Brandon Lodge.
- 24<sup>th</sup> 6:30 – 8:30 Master Mason Association of Hillsborough County @ EGYPT Shrine.
- 25<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.

## **From the Worshipful Master: Worshipful Allan Jenkins**

The year is off to an exciting start, and we're hitting the ground running! We've launched a new Education Committee for the lodge and brought back the Lodge Mentor program, both aimed at enhancing our understanding and experience. This dynamic committee will work closely with our Lodge Mentor, Junior Warden, and myself to offer engaging educational sessions. We'll cover everything from the essential rules and regulations, lodge procedures and etiquette, to an in-depth exploration of the deeper meanings and purposes behind our rituals. The team is made up of R:.W.: Chuck Osborne, R:.H.: Adam Feldman, W:. Marty Greif (Chairman), and myself, with W:. Wade Angel serving as our Lodge Mentor. With so many newly raised brothers and more coming through, I'm thrilled to bring this enriching journey of Masonry to our lodge!

In other exciting news, our 100th Anniversary celebrations are shaping up beautifully. We've finalized a stunning mockup of the new entrance doors, which we'll be voting on soon. I'm absolutely thrilled with how they look (though I might be a bit biased)! I can't wait to hear your thoughts once you see them. The 100-year commemorative coins and pins have been ordered and should arrive in just a few weeks. Plus, the floor medallion is currently in the design and budgeting stages—stay tuned for more updates when we have pictures and pricing!

Looking ahead, we're already gearing up for the big 100-year meeting event on April 23rd. In upcoming officers' meetings, we'll begin planning key details like parking, parking guides, meal options, and seating arrangements. There's so much to look forward to, so keep an eye on March's Trestle Board for all the exciting updates!

Lastly, there will be an event (bowling, shooting or something along those lines) scheduled for the lodge and their significant others in the month of March. So be on the lookout for details coming soon.

Fraternally,

W:.M.: Allan A. Jenkins

## **From the Senior Warden: Brother Joe Circhirillo**

I want to thank all the brothers that help with the fish fry this past month that was our first fish fry in three months. It was a success and we were able to raise some money for charities. Remember, this is the way we raise our money to give our charities and without your help this would not be possible. I want to thank everybody that helped and I want to especially thank some of the new brothers that came out and helped us. I am looking forward to our degree later on this month. Remember, we practice every Tuesday night that's what makes us so good. Remember when we stick together as Brothers that's what makes us Swartsel strong. I'm looking forward to our hundredth anniversary coming up.

Fraternally,

Brother Big Joe Chic

## **From the Junior Warden: Brother Thomas Overman**

Menus for upcoming meetings:

2/6/25 - Joe Chic's homemade sauce, Italian sausage and meatballs with spaghetti, salad, bread, dessert, ice tea and lemonade

2/20/25 – Shepard's pie, salad, dessert, ice tea and lemonade

The kitchen received several nice comments from the Brothers on the meal served at the District Deputy Grand Master's official visit. The District Deputy even mentioned how good it was during his comments to the Craft. I want to thank our Stewards, Kyle Jesso and Jose Labasbas along with Joe Chic, Denis Monefeldt and Dickey Davis for all their help in preparing the meal. A special thanks goes out to our Betty Crocker, Brother Jack Jones for making an excellent dessert.

Fraternally,

Brother Thomas Overman

## **From the Senior Deacon: Brother Jack Jones**

My Brothers, I am honored and excited to fully execute my duties as your Senior Deacon (SD) for 2025. I thank Worshipful Master, Br. Alan A. Jenkins, for having confidence in my abilities to fulfill the responsibilities of this important position in our Lodge. As the SD, I have the pleasure of assisting the Worshipful Master (WM) as he may direct, mentoring Junior Officers, Leading the “Budling Committee” (Committee on Lodge Property) and oversight of all candidates / degree processes - ensuring a continuance of J.F. Swartsel’s level of excellence in our degree ceremonies.

Two items to keep you informed: 1) *Degree Work* - We have four (4) Brothers that will be prepared to Pass to the Degree of Fellow Craft in the near-term, with a target for the Degree Ceremony mid-to-late February, 2025. The WM and the Degree Team encourage you to attend our 1-hour weekly practices held @251 on most Tuesday nights @6:30 throughout the calendar year. When you attend (and we hope that you do), you will learn, laugh, and possibly cry with our “degree tool sharpening” activities. You may observe, participate as a candidate, a conductor, or even an officer depending on team needs. It’s fun and we always have some snacks, desserts and brotherhood! 2) *Building Committee* - The WM has directed me to source and oversee the procurement and installation of a new set of doors for the Lodge. In my search, under direction of the WM and Secretary W. Lambert, Sr., we are diligently moving forward with a set of beautiful Cedar-Walnut paneled double doors. Stay tuned for renditions and pictures of this Lodge improvement project, which is posted for your preview, on the west-wall TV monitor in Fellowship Hall (Chow Room).

*\* of note: I am a purely a Speculative Mason; W. Lambert, Sr. is an Operative Mason!*

I look forward to serving and seeing each of you in the Lodge, not only at our scheduled meetings, but also during the many activities of the J.F. Swartsel Brotherhood

Fraternally,

Brother Jack Jones

## **2025 Budget**

Please review the attached budget. We will be discussing and voting on it at the first meeting in February. There are a couple of new items for 2025. We are adding a DeMolay Chapter and there will be costs associated with that. We took our best guess. We also put in \$10K for our 100 year celebration.

J.F. Swartsel Lodge No. 251			
Profit and Loss			
January - December 2024			
	Jan - Dec 2023 (PY)	Jan - Dec 2024	2025
<b>Income</b>			
4004 2022 Membership Dues	290.00		-
4005 4005 2023 Membership Dues	22,603.50	155.00	-
4006 2024 Membership Dues		26,512.70	26,000.00
4020 Building rent income	300.00	300.00	-
4040 Other lodge donations	100.00	530.00	500.00
4060 Ciphers (Red Book) sold	45.00	120.00	45.00
4070 Monitors Sold		60.00	45.00
4075 Floorwork Books Sold	15.00		45.00
4080 Fish Fry	8,498.00	7,330.03	7,200.00
4090 Charity Basket Donations	2,314.00	1,710.00	1,500.00
4099 misc lodge income	7.00	50.00	-
4110 E A Degree Fees	700.00	1,438.62	1,500.00
4120 F C Degree Fees	400.00	200.00	500.00
4125 MM Degree Fee	500.00	560.00	500.00
4140 Bank interest received	5.63	7.06	8.00
4200 Election Board Rental Fee	300.00		-
4201 Poll Worker Income	1,840.00	6,773.58	-
4250 Perpetual Membership Income	6,418.08	9,959.12	10,000.00
4280 Income from Eastern Star	820.00	1,095.00	1,020.00
4281 Income From Holyrood Rental	5,000.00		-
4290 Back ground Check Income	105.00	75.00	75.00
100 Year Anniversary Coin Sales			3,000.00
4604 Cash Income from Lodge Merger	8,868.48	2,003.36	-
Cash From Investments	0.00	0.00	27,447.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$59,129.69</b>	<b>\$58,879.47</b>	<b>\$ 79,385.00</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>\$59,129.69</b>	<b>\$58,879.47</b>	<b>\$ 79,385.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
6000 Fish Fry Expense	4,523.59	4,013.98	3,960.00
6050 Lodge Electricity	6,290.88	2,696.17	3,600.00
6060 Lodge Yard Maintenance		871.91	500.00
6061 Lodge Building Maintenance	1,963.63	3,256.43	1,500.00
6070 Lodge Building and Capital Expense	141.67	3,210.64	1,500.00
6080 Lodge Water/Sewer	173.15	509.20	500.00
6091 Lodge Taxes	1,206.55	1,059.89	1,000.00
6110 Sales Tax Paid	300.30		300.00

6145 Lodge Donations - McKitrick	1,000.00		1,000.00
6147 Recognition Award - Friendship Chapter		500.00	-
6148 Charitable Contributions		1,477.00	1,000.00
6149 Donations - Scottish Rite Foundation		1,000.00	1,000.00
6150 Purchase of Masonic Bibles		1,551.97	1,500.00
6201 GMOV	800.00	400.00	1,000.00
6220 Background check expenses	89.94	179.88	75.00
6230 Office Supplies and expenses	2,135.66	1,284.56	1,000.00
6240 Lodge Computer and Equipment Expenses		841.51	-
6250 Lodge Cleaning Supplies	28.64		-
6270 Lodge Kitchen Supplies	724.83	1,031.75	500.00
6271 Lodge Equipment Expense	52.43	159.43	-
6290 Non Meeting Lodge Food Purchases	1,099.89	1,352.81	1,000.00
6315 Fire/Security Alarm expense	1,668.71	3,453.64	2,000.00
6360 Property Insurance Expenses		3,671.65	3,600.00
6370 Liability Insurance Expenses	4,809.01	997.50	1,000.00
6390 Lodge Secretary Stipend	6,000.00	7,200.00	7,200.00
6400 Postage	286.00	257.34	250.00
6410 Lodge Pins / Wages and Other Accessories		410.00	-
6411 Internet Expense	2,911.80	2,431.43	2,500.00
6441 Grand Lodge Travel	4,864.84	4,948.93	5,000.00
6451 Grand Lodge Per Capita Expenses	6,742.50	9,745.89	10,000.00
6471 Advertising/Promotional	1,089.00	45.00	50.00
6481 Masonic Charitable Contributions	47.94	1,254.00	1,000.00
6491 Non Masonic Charitable Contributions	2,800.00	2,000.00	1,000.00
6501 Grand Lodge of Florida - LYPMGC	2,046.80	2,100.00	2,500.00
6511 Entertainment	125.00		-
6521 Other Grand Lodge Expenses	61.25		-
6602 Paid Scholarship Expense	1,000.00	1,000.00	4,000.00
6604 Lodge Costumes and Uniforms	265.98		-
6801 DeMolay Start Up		250.00	250.00
Demolay Escape			2,500.00
Demolay Meals			1,500.00
Demolay Travel			1,500.00
Demolay Paraphernalia			2,000.00
100 Year Anniversary Expense			10,000.00
6902 Florida Dept. of Agriculture	126.25	75.00	100.00
6951 Masonic Paraphernalia	548.40	1,400.39	500.00
Bank Charges & Fees		36.00	-
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$55,924.64</b>	<b>\$66,673.90</b>	<b>\$ 79,385.00</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>\$ 3,205.05</b>	<b>-\$ 7,794.43</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$ 3,205.05</b>	<b>-\$ 7,794.43</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>



## What have we been up to?

Installation of Officers. Congratulations to WM:. Jenkins and the entire 2025 Officer Line. We have great plans in the works for our 100th!



MLT and District School. I spy a DI



Post District School gathering



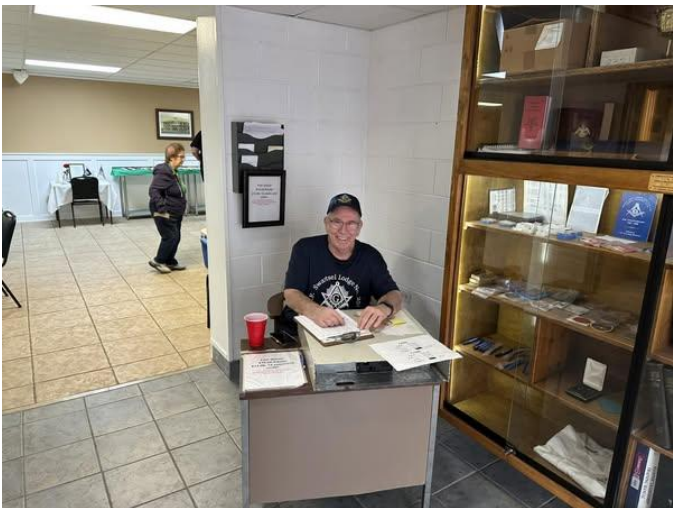
Last evening Swartsel held it's first meeting of the year with our 2025 Officer Line with the added treat of hosting our RWDDGM and his party. A fabulous meal was prepared by our SW and his amazing crew....and "I spy a DI" continues...



Congratulations to 2 of our EA's who demonstrated their proficiency before the DDGM and his party. Well done Brothers!



Another great Fish Fry at Swartsel! Thanks to everyone who came out to support our Lodge.





Another fun and informative night at the Master Mason Association meeting. Always a good time down at Egypt Temple. Thanks to all the Brothers from Swartsel who came out to support your Lodge!



Congratulations to the Brothers of Hillsborough Lodge No. 25! They celebrated their 175th year! It was a great night for Freemasonry in Hillsborough County.



# TRESTLEBOARD ADVERTISERS



"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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