



LE MONDE DEMOLAY

Louisiana State
DeMolay Association
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Baton Rouge, we have a Newsletter

NEW NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the first edition of "Le Monde DeMolai", (DeMolay World) the newsletter of the Louisiana State DeMolay Association. The name was chosen to honor the connection between French Louisiana and DeMolay, who was burned at the stake in Paris 700 years ago this month.

This will be a team effort on behalf of the State Officers, the State Advisors and you, the members.

AWARDS

Dad Bob Craig

This is where I introduce us. I am Dad Bob Craig and assisting me is my bride, Mom Janet Craig. We are YOUR jurisdictional Awards Advisors. I am a Senior DeMolay from the jurisdiction of Texas and a Master Mason (Past Master) from University Lodge 1190 in Austin, Texas.

Our goal as the Jurisdictional Awards Advisors for Louisiana is to help you (and your Chapter) get the maximum benefit possible from the awards available through your membership in DeMolay. We will use this publication to hopefully guide you to web sites and additional information on various awards.

In 2014 Louisiana DeMolay will again offer a Chapter of the Year Award. While the Jurisdictional Staff and your Executive Officer, Dad Auck are still working out the details – the DeMolay Awards mentioned below WILL count for points in the 2014 Chapter of the Year contest.

Initially, we want to focus on three awards: Past Master Councilor Meritorious Service Award (always called PMC-MSA because the other name is too long), Representative DeMolay Awards (called the RD Award) and the Leadership Correspondence Course (called the LCC).

If you are a Master Councilor or aspire to be a Master Councilor in the future, you need to look at the PMC-MSA and start planning your term

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Kyles Corner

I would like to say that this year is about change. I want to fix the bond between Monroe and Shreveport. I want the boys from Monroe going to Shreveport and visa versa I am aware that Shreveport had a prospect party on Saturday the 22. I would like to plan a prospect party for the 4th Saturday in March, **but we need guys to come.** Now for dates. Conclave is in the summer but I have no date or location. We will be having Old South Tournament in Savannah Georgia April 4-6

Kyle

Why Ritual?

Ritual from the Oxford Dictionary

- 1 a religious or solemn ceremony consisting of a series of actions performed according to a prescribed order: the ancient rituals of Christian worship, the role of ritual in religion
- 1.1 the prescribed order of performing a ceremony, especially one characteristic of a particular religion or church.
- 1.2 a series of actions or type of behavior regularly and invariably followed by someone: her visits to Joy became a ritual

In DeMolay we use the first two definitions to try and achieve the third. This is not to say that DeMolay is a Religion, but rather that through prescribed ceremonies, that consists of specific words, actions, movements, signs and obligations, we hope to instruct young men in the ways of self improvement to become more noble and valuable members of society. The Ritualistic presentation of these lessons is meant to impress the candidate with the high esteem in which the Organization holds its teachings. By having the members perform the ceremonies from memory, the aim is to have the lessons engrained into their consciousness, and ultimately make them part of the individual's ritual of daily living.

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Awards - continued

Achieving the award is not difficult if you plan ahead. You must accomplish certain goals during your term as MC. So, if you are a Junior or Senior Councilor in your Chapter, talk with your Chapter Advisor and *start planning*. More to follow on this award. For now, let Dad Auck know now if you are working toward this award.

Every DeMolay, whether you aspire to be the Master Councilor or not, should complete both the LCC and the RD. The LCC is an online course available at www.demolayleaders.org and through DeMolay International by mail for those without online access. The LCC consists of 5 lessons which can be worked on individually or as a Chapter activity. The LCC is a very good thing for everyone associated with the Chapter to do. There is a cost involved, but any active DeMolay who completes the LCC in 2014 will have the course fees reimbursed by LA DeMolay. Send a copy of the completion certificate (or your Chapter Advisors confirmation) with the amount paid to Dad Craig at the address below.

More on RD and PMC-MSA in the next article.

How to contact us: Best is by email. rmcraig@airmail.net I read email almost daily and will try and respond to any Awards related question or issue very quickly. Be sure and put something in the email subject line, otherwise the spam filter trashes it. I urge you to include your Chapter Advisor's email address whenever you send me email. They like to know what you are doing. Phone is 210-233-8316 (if you get the answering machine, leave a detailed message if you want a callback).

Mailing address: PO Box 760789,
San Antonio, TX 78245-0789

LCC Now Available On Line

DeMolays, Parents and Friends

All are encouraged to learn more about Demolay through the "new" online program from DeMolay International.

You can click on the direct link on our site www.la-demolay.org to go to the LCC site for more information or to work on lesson 1-5

Why Ritual? - continued

Frank Marshal

Dad Land asked Frank Marshall, a lodge brother and Newspaper Man, to write a Ritual for the Order in 1919. His own personal account of the inspiration and unexpected results are available on the DeMolay Web site

(<http://www.demolay.org/aboutdemolay/author.php>). "I have often been asked, 'How did you happen to write the DeMolay ritual? The bare facts can be briefly stated. I wrote it because Frank S. Land asked me to do so and because Almighty God, whom I have thanked in my heart a thousand times, gave me the impulse to respond to the opportunity which the request involved.'" As we progress to the 15th edition of the Ritual, understand that the changes are designed to keep the text and movements current while preserving the historical meanings and lessons.

Ritual in DeMolay

Meanings

All ceremonies in DeMolay, secret or public, have a meaning or lesson to convey. The effectiveness of which is directly tied to how well that ceremony is performed. That does not mean that it has to be word perfect, but rather that it is given with sincerity and emotion to affect the desired response. Just reciting the words is not enough. The listener will have a better understanding and remember the message if he feels the speaker truly believes what he says. Perhaps this is best illustrated in the initiatory degree. The obligation is the central theme in joining the organization, but the true message is given by the seven preceptors. These parts are usually delivered by the youngest and least experienced members, but the meanings are the very core of what it is to be a DeMolay.

Buying In

When a young man joins DeMolay, we first ask him to say his obligations. This process brings understanding and forms a bond to the fraternity. In my home chapter, you were not allowed to vote until you "turned in your obligations". The night I gave my DeMolay degree obligation I was assigned to learn third preceptor. I remember well my father saying that I was responsible for memorizing the words but that we would work together on saying the part. Whenever we were alone, he would have me say the part and he would suggest phrasing and where to place pauses. At ritual practice we learned floor work and timing. The mighty lesson that I learned after giving my first performance in a degree came from the compliments I received from my new brothers.

Why Ritual? - continued from page 2

Being accepted by older young men is a strong bond for a fourteen year old new DeMolay.

Striving to Live up to the Ideal

Even in this modern time when the youth of today are not "Joiners", as they have been in the past, there still exist many organizations to which they can belong. What sets the Order of DeMolay apart from these others is RITUAL. We use Ritual degrees to join the order. We open and close our meetings with ritual to remind us of what we have promised to strive for. Our award ceremonies give us feedback on how we are doing at following our obligations. We even use Ritual when we leave the order to reinforce the lessons learned and the rewards for being true and faithful.

Adding DeMolay ritual to your Life Rituals

Many young men who embrace the ritualistic way of life will choose to seek out Masonic Lodges to Join. There they will find continued instruction on being a better man as they progress through more ritual. Even those who do not join masonry will have found that Ritual has given them a strong foundation on how to succeed in life. Not to mention the lifelong friends, sense of self worth, talents and traits they obtained along the journey. With over a million members and approaching 100 years of existence, the DeMolay Ritual has stood the test of time in impressing young men to lead upright and patriotic lives worthy of the commendation of all good men. More importantly, is the proof it provides, to the timelessness of living a life that is based on virtues.

Distinguished Service Award (DeMolay of the Year) Nominations Due

Nominations for the DeMolay Distinguished Service Award are due to Dad Auck by April 1. You must include a description of why you think the person nominated deserves the award. The purpose of this award is to recognise one DeMolay in a Jurisdiction for outstanding service to others, his home, school, church, community, Chapter and country.

DeMolay Month

From DeMolay International

ANNUAL DEMOLAY MONTH OBSERVANCE 2014

This March 2014, we celebrate the lore and ideas born out of Jacques DeMolay and the values he represents. We celebrate 95 years of DeMolay International. We celebrate the members, the advisors, and the support that makes DeMolay a source of pride.

700 years ago, this March, Jacques DeMolay was burned at the stake. The legend that marks his peril gave birth to an everlasting idea. This idea has turned into an organization that has influenced over 4,000,000 individuals. History rarely gives us people like Jacques DeMolay. Lets make this March a DeMolay Month for the ages.

Invest your time, talent, and energy by participating in the DeMolay Month Outstanding Chapter Program.

1. Organize a DeMolay Month planning Committee within your chapter and have that committee hold at least two meetings.
2. Have a Devotional Day Observance.
3. Design a membership campaign.
4. Have a proclamation for DeMolay Month signed by your Mayor, City Council, or Governor.
5. Hold a community service project or volunteer somewhere.
6. Have a special induction class! (of at least two members) Honor Dad Land, an Advisor, sponsoring body, community leaders, etc.
7. Hold an activity of your chapter's choice.
8. Create or update you Chapter's website or social media pages.
9. Get a press release or picture of an DeMolay event published in your local paper in March.
10. Have your chapter take part in a community-wide event or parade to highlight DeMolay in your area.
11. Create a DeMolay "commercial" advertising DeMolay and your Chapter and post it on your chapter's website and or YouTube.
12. Honor each of the 7 cardinal virtues with their own event/activity.
13. Design a membership brochure.
14. Hold an Alumni event.

Share your stories and success with DeMolay International at pride@demolay.org. We would like to share your DeMolay Month celebrations with all of DeMolay International.

Whats on the Web

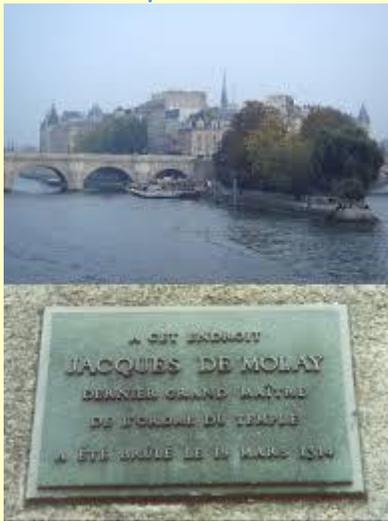
Dad Hagen, Director of Communications

After our productive Winter Workshop in Shreveport your website committee has been busy trying to incorporate new and inovative ideas. We have added a new link to the Online Leadership Corrospondence Course. This Course of five lessons is a great way for members, both new and old, their parents, family and friends, and Advisors to learn more about the Order of DeMolay

We have also been working dilligently toward the goal of publishing an online newsletter with more indepth information about things that are happening in the Jurisdiction of Louisiana.

It is hoped that this webpage will become the “goto” resource for all of your Louisiana DeMolay needs.

700th Since DeMolay was Burned at the Stake



Just a short walk from the Cathedral Notre Dame at the foot of Pont Neuf in Paris on the River Seine is this placque commerating the death of Jacques DeMolay.

It is important to remember this date because DeMolay in life and in death plays such a significant part in Masonry, particularly the Scottish and York Rites as well as the Order of DeMolay itself. Let us all hold March 18, 1314 as a sacred date.

Acknowledgement

This publications acknowledges and yields allegiance to DeMolay International of which Frank S. Land was the founder in 1919 and Nicholas Auck is Executive Officer for the Jurisdiction of Louisiana

Notes from the EO

By Nicholas Auck, Executive in Louisiana

Welcome to your newsletter, Le Monde DeMolai. With it comes a duty you have already assumed in your obligations. Specifically, to keep your brother’s informed of your accomplishments, thoughts and upcoming events. Not only will this newsletter be distributed to Louisiana DeMolay, it will be shared with other Jurisdictions as well as the Grand Lodge and other appendant organizations of Masonry.

Some of what I look forward to reading is your Chapter’s activities such as Installations, joint events with Rainbow and Masons, outings to paintball or the movies. Chapter meetings are the least fun of anything we do, but even they can be enjoyed. Business should include reports on what you have done, and upcoming events, and most of you are already including a meal out, joint meetings with Rainbows and sports. Keep these up and you’ll attract new members.

Some States try to have a membership program that involves a coat and tie meeting, invitations, formal meals and guest speakers. I’ve always felt that the best way to get new members is to invite your friends to take part in a fun event or two. After a few outings, you’ll know if they want to join and if they fit into your group. Don’t be afraid to invite 10 or 11 year olds to attend. Before you know it they will be eligible to attend, and if you get enough of them, you can start a squire’s club. Never forget, that we must each bring in two young men; one to replace us and one to grow the Chapter.

By now you should have your plans for DeMolay Month close to completion. This is our annual celebration of the founding of DeMolay in March 1919. This year is our 95th Anniversary of DeMolay and the celebration of the 700th anniversary of Jacques de Molay’s execution. Along with those two events, you should have a project for each of the seven obligatory days. For ideas on activities, check out the DeMolay Month planning guide at <http://www.demolay.org/resources/forms/>.

Finally, I hope you have begun selling ads for our Conclave Program. This is an excellent opportunity for you to cover your registration at Conclave and raise money for other activities. I highly recommend you ask relatives, business owners, masons and masonic organizations to buy an ad. For every ad you sell, ½ of the funds stay with the Chapter for your use. A full page ad costs \$100, half page is \$50, Quarter Page is \$25. If they would like to use a specific picture or logo, we can do that as well. Also, they will receive a copy of the program after Conclave (July 5-7, 2014) with a nice thank letter, so be sure you have their mailing address on the form.

In March and April, I will be traveling around the State and hope to see you soon. Until then, enjoy your DeMolay.

Dad Auck