



THE OHIO DEMOLAY STAR

February 2020

-DIRECTORY-

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My Brothers, I hope that you are all having a great New Year and have begun the new decade on a good note. There are a few things to keep in mind: in 2020, Ohio DeMolay needs 70 members to reach positive growth. In the past two years, we have signed petitions for 100 members or more each year, so this is a very achievable goal if we work together. 100 new members would give us a net gain of at least 30 new brothers. Also, the new DI membership program, "The DeMolay Olympics", pits us against other jurisdictions in order to grow our organization around the world. We as a team need to work together to earn medals that will translate into points. The scoring system is according to the following: 1 point for bronze, 3 for silver, and 5 for gold. More information on how your chapter can earn Ohio medals can be found on Facebook and on the DeMolay International website. This year will continue to be exciting and action packed, as we have several state events coming up including the state ritual competition and the State Officers' reception. I hope that all of you are looking over your parts

and are ready to compete on the 15th. The day will begin at around 8:30am with registration. At 9am, we will have a brief competitor's meeting and the judges will have their meeting. I hope that you do your best and remember to have fun with it. Be confident in yourself and how you perform your ritual. If you do that, then you should count any outcome as a success. Later that night, we will have the State Officers' reception in Dayton down the road at the Antioch Shrine. There will be a short program to honor the State Officers followed by a dance. I hope to see many of you there. Registration for both of these events can be found on Facebook and on our website. If you have any questions, feel free to ask any State Officer and they can point you in the right direction. I hope you all have a great month.

~Ryan Cope, Ohio DeMolay State Master Councilor

The Experience That Made Me Love DeMolay

My first 'Ohio DeMolay Leaders of Excellence' weekend was an experience that I will never forget. I went the summer of 2014 when I was just installed as Junior Councilor of Denbrook chapter. While the lessons that we learned at camp were some of the most important things I have learned in my DeMolay career, the most important things that happened were between sessions. First was meeting everyone that was in my cabin. This was my first ever state event so when I found out that I wasn't going to be with my buddies from Denbrook I was worried. I quickly realized though, that it was going to be easy when I met my first Demolay friend from outside of my chapter: brother Tyler Onions from Upper Sandusky chapter. There was also an older guy who I looked up to in our cabin named Brother Sam Lunsford from Moundbuilders Chapter, as well as our cabin advisor, Dad Cohen from Groveport chapter, who would also affect my experience quite a bit. On the other side of the ODLE cabin was the veteran cabin which had a lot of guys that I would look up to, like brothers Rickey Samartino, Devin Smigle, Mitchell Smitty, Ryan Cope, and brother Brady Woodworth from my own chapter and more. Next, and the moment that I remember most clearly was when my eventual best friend Brady and I stayed up in the cabin common area working on my LCCs and right at midnight he had all the guys in both of our cabins surprise me by singing happy birthday to me. It was surprising to me that everyone knew it was my birthday and it made me feel that all these guys who I had just met cared about me, because we were brothers. The final part of my first ODLE that still sticks with me was when I saw the ceremony of light done by the advisors. The way that they do it is still so amazing to me, and when I saw a brother crying during it I was honestly confused, I didn't understand why, but ever since that time, I've cried at every ODLE during it. This experience changed my life and every ODLE I have been to since has further improved my DeMolay experience. I even have the banner from that year in my room in a spot that I can still see it every day.

~Trevor Cutts, State Scribe





Leadership / Honors / DeMolay Month

There are various areas where a DeMolay can gain leadership opportunities, which can help further in life. At the Chapter level is the Master Councilor, the District level finds the District President / Chairman, and at the State level, is the State Master Councilor. These young men are guided by what they want to have happen during their term of office as they plan activities and events socially, athletic wise and also helping to grow as a leader. This can be challenging in this age and time. To help, Grand Master of Masons of Ohio, Dad Keith Newton, also a Sr. DeMolay has requested the Grand Lodge of Ohio present a program designed for the Masonic Youth. This will involve Job's Daughters, Rainbow for Girls and DeMolay. It's being termed as Masonic Youth Leadership Day. It is being held on **Saturday, March 7 at the Aladdin Shrine, 1801 Gateway Circle, Grove City from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. The cost for this is \$10.00 to cover the cost of lunch** (Eventbrite will handle registration, so there will be a slight fee). Please watch for the registration to be opening soon and please plan to attend. There are several topics that will be covered to help the young men and women to grow their leadership skills. Be watching for registration coming very soon!

The month of February is the time that Advisory Councils nominate worthy members for the Degree of Chevalier and Legion of Honor. These are honors for those that have distinguished themselves in the Chapter and beyond. **The deadline is March 1st.** The Advisory Councils can recommend brethren and Masons for these honors by contacting their respective District Governors before the deadline.

Now is the time to be planning for your Chapter membership growth and sharing with so many friends as DeMolay Week and DeMolay Month is coming up in March. How will your chapter and you be celebrating what it means to you to show your DeMolay spirit? Wearing DeMolay shirts, hoodies, and t-shirts can help start a conversation about why you joined and how your friends can become brothers in our Fraternity. Planning social events like a lock in, or holding a dance, or fun event can ensure your excitement to gain new members Sharing DeMolay with your community. There are so many opportunities to help the theme of Your State Master Councilor to "Lay the Foundation" and to go along with our DeMolay Grand Master's theme of "Carry the Flame". Your Chapter can benefit and so can DeMolay!

~Dad Jeff Rannebarger, Ohio DeMolay Executive Officer

I'm looking forward to the second half of this year and all of the memories we still have left to make before this term is done.

For those who have not seen it, we released the Ohio Membership Awards Program this last November. In order to qualify for this program, an active DeMolay would need to earn the Founder's Membership Award for signing five membership applications or the Blue Honor Key for signing ten membership applications by March 31st, 2020. All current active DeMolay who have already received the Blue Honor Key prior to this program also qualify. The special event that's the reward for OMAP will be held sometime in April. The Ohio DeMolay membership committee has a lot of programs planned for March, which is DeMolay Month, to end off OMAP. We're looking forward to an active month in March so be on the lookout for Ohio DeMolay's involvement on social media then. Thank you everyone for bringing in members so far this term and helping Ohio DeMolay grow.

~Josiah Clark, State Senior Deacon

Greetings Ohio DeMolay! One thing that drives our great organization is having great adult leaders that have given everything to DeMolay, yet they still hang around. We have been blessed with many Senior DeMolays that have taken on roles that are very time consuming. Aside from the 9 years they gave to DeMolay, they have gone above and beyond to make our order better. Just recently, Dad Brandon Mullen was appointed Chapter Advisor for Medina Chapter after reaching majority just a few years ago! Dad Martin Woodworth just finished his 10 year-tenure as Executive Officer! These are just a couple of the many examples. A lot of their contributions fly under the radar. So thank your advisors that are Senior DeMolays for everything they have done for DeMolay!

*~Corey Snodgrass,
State Junior Steward*





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Ohio Membership Awards Program

Any DeMolay who receives the Blue Honor Key or the Founder's Membership Award between April 1st, 2019 and March 31st, 2020 is eligible for a special event after March 31st at no cost provided by Ohio DeMolay.

From November 1st to December 31st, any DeMolay who first-line signs a petition for a new member will receive \$25 towards a state activity.



The best part about being the State Council Advisor for Ohio DeMolay is that it allows me to stay connected to this great organization in a very meaningful way. In my time in this role, I have worked with more than sixty State Officers. Some only served a year. Some served as Officers for many years. Some are Ryan Cope. Each of them has brought something different to the group, and I'm thankful for the opportunity I've had to get to know each of them. It really is enjoyable to watch each new corps of Officers figure out how they best work together as the year begins.

My own DeMolay career was largely unremarkable. I was initiated into Marietta Chapter in June of 1988. I first served as Third Preceptor, but did not attend meetings regularly, because my usual ride turned 21 shortly after I joined. Once I had my license, I started attending more meetings. I eventually became Master Councilor in 1991. We had some fantastic ritualists in my Chapter. My favorite part to do was always Orator and Master Inquisitor.

I was appointed as State Athletics Chairman for the '92-'93 year when Dad Alan Kiger was SMC. The next year I was State Junior Deacon, and finished my career as the State Marshal. The entire Officer corps that year spent a lot of time in Columbus at an apartment rented by our SMC and some others. Our travel schedule that year was at times insane. In one weekend alone, I put over a thousand miles on my car. I left Marietta on Friday afternoon and drove to Columbus, to Aurora for a meeting at Dad Krekus' house, back to Columbus to sleep, then to Bowling Green, on to David J. Nye, then to Euclid to crash at Mom Kita's house, then back to Columbus and back to Marietta on Sunday.

The one constant through all the years I've been involved has been the friendships formed. The sense of shared experience is a powerful tool that brings people together. I can easily pick up a conversation with one of my DeMolay friends that maybe I haven't seen in six months as though we'd spent the entire day together. No matter the size of the organization, no matter how many Chapters are active or how many DeMolays are attending events, those friendships continue to develop.

Our challenge today, both as Active DeMolays and as Advisors, is to do everything we can to ensure that this organization continues into the future, so that generations to follow have these same experiences and these same friendships.

~Dad Justin Lowe, State Council Advisor





The DeMolay Olympics

With the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo fast approaching, DeMolay International has created its own worldwide competition to unite the globe in brotherhood. The DeMolay Olympics will be an all-around membership recruitment program that encourages the growth of Chapters and Jurisdictions throughout DeMolay International.

Similar to last year's program, there will be prizes awarded to individuals for their efforts in membership recruitment. The prizes range from the Grand Master of DeMolay's lapel pin for bringing in two friends to a free trip to DeMolay International's annual session (Registration and Travel) for bringing in twenty friends. These are a small way for us to reward you for what you are doing to grow DeMolay. Think that bringing in twenty members is hard? Ask Brother Tyler Onions about the awesome prize he was able to earn for bringing in twenty of his friends. Congratulations again, Tyler!

A new part of our membership program this year will be rewarding Jurisdictions for the successes of their Chapters. Jurisdictions will earn medals based on three criteria.

- A bronze medal (1 point) will for every Chapter that submits their term plan and has it accepted by DeMolay International. To be accepted, they must submit their term plan and a detailed budget within 10 days to Membership@demolay.org. The term plan must include all of the obligatory days that fall within your term, a meeting at least once per month, a civic service event, a masonic service event, an athletic event, and a fundraiser.

- A silver medal (3 points) will for every Chapter that brings in at least five members throughout the year.

- A gold medal (5 points) will for every PMC-MSA that is earned throughout the year.

Further medals will be earned in our Triathlon program. These will be four-month-long programs to assist in pushing your jurisdictions to grow throughout the year.

- Swimming: Jurisdictions compete against others in their division based on membership percent growth.

- Biking: Regions will compete one-on-one against other regions on overall membership percent growth. The match-ups will be released before the competition begins.

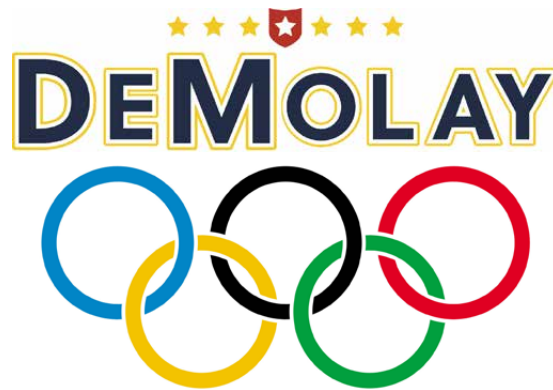
- Running: Jurisdictions compete against others in their Region on membership percent growth.

The medals earned throughout the year will be totaled up, and the Jurisdiction in every Region with the most points will win the DeMolay Olympics.

I hope you all are as excited about this program as I am. There are lots of ways to get involved with the DeMolay Olympics and be rewarded for your efforts as well. So be sure to Carry the Flame this year, share DeMolay, and bring home the gold for Ohio DeMolay.

Fraternally,

~B. Tyler Moyer, 53rd International Master Councilor



**Want to put an article, ad,
comic or joke in the paper?**

Email it to brother Cutts at
OhioDeMolayStateScribe@gmail.com



LAY THE FOUNDATION
2019-2020



The Ohio State Council acknowledges the authority of and yields allegiance to DeMolay International, of which Frank S. Land was the Founder.