

# INDIANA ★ ★ ★ ★ DeMOLAY DIGEST

Official publication of the Order of DeMolay in Indiana

Vol. 50

January, 2014

No. 2

## Happy New Year!

Happy New Years from Indiana DeMolay!!! Hope that your holidays were pleasant and that you got to spend this wonderful season with your families.

Now that everyone is beginning to return to school and work after this time off, it is important that we look at our goals for the next year. All of us have new years resolutions, whether they be to lose twenty pounds or to do more with your DeMolay chapter. Either way it is important, for whatever goal, that you stick with it to the best of your ability. You can do it!

**“Nothing can stop the man with the right mental attitude from achieving his goal; nothing on earth can help the man with the wrong mental attitude”**

- Thomas Jefferson



West Newton chapter broomball state champs with Sunny Atwal SMC and Jackie Baber SSH.

## Broomball Tournament

There was some intense competition during last month's Indiana's State Broomball Tournament at Perry Park ice rink in Indianapolis. We had a total of six teams compete from several chapters around the state. Most notably was Carmel chapter, competing for the first time since their revival. Other chapters included: Farrell A. Patrick, J. McLean Moulder, Joseph A. Batchelor, Speedway, West Newton and Yorkrite.

Coming in first was West Newton chapter that played great. They were followed by Speedway chapter finishing second, and Farrell A. Patrick chapter who placed third. Congratulations to all who competed. It was a great day for Indiana DeMolay.



### Indiana Knighthood

The Order of DeMolay is an organization full of hard working and dedicated young men. It is fitting therefore that many great programs and ideas rise from such a group of talented individuals. This being said, the latest and greatest to come to Indiana DeMolay is the revival of one DeMolays appendant organizations. That of which I speak, is the Indiana Priory, most commonly known as Knighthood.



The official name of The Order of Knighthood is the Chivalric Knights of the Holy Order of the Follow Soldiers of Jacques DeMolay. It is not an honorary degree or award, but a working body whose purpose is to extend fellowship and serve the Order of DeMolay. Priory thrived in Indiana from the 50's and later in the 80's. However, over the years there was a lack of participation which lead to the eventual closing of the priories. Its revival has been in the works since PSMC James A.M.R. Gordan. It was then spearheaded by PSMC Nathan Bryant and the rest is history.

The revival of this program offers us so many opportunities to do great in Indiana. The idea behind priory is focused on preparing its members more thoroughly for manhood, college, jobs, and so much more. However, most importantly, it will push its members to be active in the chapters throughout Indiana and push them towards greatness.

The qualifications for Knighthood are to be 17 years of age or older. Candidates must possess the Founders Award, Representative DeMolay Award, and have completed all five of the Leadership Correspondence Course lessons. They must be willing to travel long distances to the quarterly meetings, and be an active part in the function and growth of Priory. This program asks for the finest of each and every member. If interested in joining please contact me at [Centralbearjn@gmail.com](mailto:Centralbearjn@gmail.com)

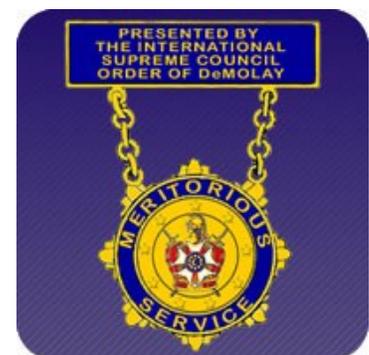
-Jeremy Nelson, PSMC

### Importance of the PMC-MSA

The PMC-MSA is one of the most underutilized components of building a successful chapter. The reason the PMC-MSA is so valuable for a chapter is that it asks you to build your chapter in all areas. It asks you to focus on areas like obligatory days, term planning, and Masonic Service which sometimes get overlooked. It asks the Master Councilor to take responsibility to make sure that every one of his officers memorizes their ritual part.

When you build your chapter along the lines of the PMC-MSA you give your chapter the best chance to be successful. Chapters who have historically built around the PMC-MSA have been extremely successful. If you look at the chapters who are usually in the running for Chapter of the Year, year in and year out, they pursue the PMC-MSA. Attempting to achieve the PMC-MSA is very beneficial to your chapter, because it provides a blueprint for how to build your chapter.

-Jake Vermeulen,  
PMC Speedway Chapter





“Dad” Kurt Faulkner, PSMC

### **Kurt Faulkner Memorial Class**

The Kurt Faulkner Class is an initiation for an important figure of Indiana DeMolay. “Dad” Faulkner was a Past State Master Councilor as well as an advisor for Indianapolis chapter. He was the son of C. C. “Buddy” Faulkner who was sent by Frank S. Land to oversee the health of Indiana DeMolay when the organization was first starting off in Indiana. Indiana DeMolay is having this initiation so that we can honor “Dad” Faulkner for all of the wonderful things he did for Indiana DeMolay. We are hoping every chapter can attend this class with as many candidates possible.

The degrees will be held at the Scottish Rite Temple in Indianapolis on Saturday, January 18th. Registration for candidates will begin at 1 PM and the degrees will start at 2 PM. Hope to see everyone there.

### **Message from the EO**

First of all, I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and everyone a Happy New Year! This is always a good opportunity to reflect back upon the year just completed and look forward to what lies ahead in the upcoming year.

As we reflect upon last year, I would like to concentrate on the events which took place last fall and involved our current International Master Councilor, Brother Bob Laing. As many of you will remember, Brother Laing was removed as IMC because of a video that was posted to his college roommate’s Facebook page. It is not my intent to determine whether the decision to remove him was correct, or whether you agree with the decision. The situation has been rectified, so let’s look at the bigger picture.

For years, DeMolay and other organizations have been talking about the dangers of any form of social media. Whether those dangers involved possible youth protection issues or other serious risks, we all felt like Facebook, MySpace and other websites could have a negative impact on our organization and its members.

Obviously, over time, we have all come to realize the benefits of these social media sites. They can be a good way to communicate with friends and chapter members and can provide a great way to spread information about upcoming events. If there is a lesson that can be learned from the issues surrounding Brother Laing, it is that there are still risks associated with things that we post to these sites. Whatever is posted can be recorded by others, print screened, or otherwise “lifted” off the social media site. Once you post something to the internet it takes on a life of its own that cannot be controlled. The effect on the future lives of our DeMolay for something done unwisely on the spur of the moment can be far more damaging than anyone can conceive. Colleges review all social media prior to admission. Scholarship committees often review social media before awarding scholarships. Future employers are constantly reviewing social media and the armed forces of our country most certainly do a thorough review of social media before accepting a young man into the services. This can haunt young men for years and damage their future.

Whether you are an Active DeMolay or an adult advisor, please keep this in mind the next time you get ready to post something that might be perceived in a negative light.



Sunny Atwal, SMC with Mark Genung, The Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in the State of Indiana

## Message from the SMC

It's a brand new year which means it's a new year for DeMolay membership growth! Many chapters will begin to have their installations starting in January stretching to late February so make sure you know of the upcoming ones so your chapter can make a visit. There are still six months left for the next Conclave, so no chapter is out of the Chapter of the Year race yet. There is still plenty of time left to plan activities, fundraisers, and bring in new members. Since it is a new year, it can be an opportunity to reshape your chapter. Take the opportunity to sit down with your advisors and brothers in order to figure out what you, as a chapter, would like to do differently this year.

## Ready for Leadership?

In our last article we said we would talk next about honing your qualities of leadership.

Looking around many DeMolay chapters, it is obvious there are a number of young men eminently qualified to be chapter officers. Yet, for some reason, these members do not see themselves emerging to be officers. Perhaps, they think the leaders of a DeMolay chapter are supposed to be the older members, or, those who have been members a longer period of time, or, participants in school clubs, on teams, the Boy Scouts, or, in church activities.

What does age or experience have to do with having the potential to be a great leader? It is not a determining or qualifying factor - age means nothing when it comes to leadership.

I've always admired the motivational words of Theodore Roosevelt, who became the youngest President of the United States, at the age of 42 – the youngest man to serve in that office. I think these words best sum up why no one should fear assuming a leadership role on any level:

***“It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again; because there is not effort without error and shortcomings; but who does actually strive to do the deed; who knows the great enthusiasm, the great devotion, who spends himself in a worthy cause, who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement and who at the worst, if he fails, at least he fails while daring greatly. So that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat.”***

*-Theodore Roosevelt, 26th President of the United States*

Then, what does make the biggest difference in choosing to take a leadership position? I believe it is the desire to get involved, to serve your chapter, to help the chapter rise to new heights in all aspects of what makes a DeMolay chapter great and a membership magnet to other young men.



### Ready for Leadership? (cont.)

Belgian, Eddy Merckx, whose given name was Edouard Louis Joseph, Baron Merckx, was a former professional road bicycle racer, considered to be the greatest pro-cyclist ever. Cyclist Merckx spoke of moments in a race when you need to consciously make a decision to “breakaway” from the pack and take the lead. Now, there is a risk in doing so. Do it too soon, and you tire and you will not win. Do it too late and you will never catch up. There is a “perfect time” to break away.

In terms of leadership for your DeMolay chapter, now may be the best time for you to “break away” from any self-doubts and take a leadership role in your chapter. For DeMolay and you – if you want to make difference – the time to do so is NOW – right now. This moment is the perfect time for you to decide to make that difference.

The glorious part is - every single person can play a role in making that difference. It starts with one member – YOU – making the decision to become a leader in your chapter.

Your leadership could mean an influx of new members and that will equal new ideas, new officers and new workers ultimately building a larger circle of influence in your community. That will equal better activities, more fun and greater success. And, it would all be possible because you decided to step forward and take a leadership position in your chapter.

What makes a leader? Why do people follow someone elected to lead them, to organize them, and form a team that accomplishes beyond their own beliefs? Scholars have written volumes on the definition of leadership. However, one of the greatest institutions to study leadership, the United States Military Academy at West Point, infers that altruistic leadership is the ultimate measure of what makes a leader. So, let me close with The West Point Cadet Maxim:

- Risk more than others think is safe.**
- Care more than others think is wise.**
- Dream more than others think is practical.**
- Expect more than others think is possible.**

The "motto" of the cadets at West Point military school

-Keith Klein, PGM



“Dad” Keith Klein, PGM

### Contributions

#### Contributors

- Jake Vermeulen
- Jeremy Nelson, PSMC
- Dad Keith Klein PGM

#### State Master Councilor

Sunny Atwal

#### Executive Officer

Dad Greg Chiles PGM

#### Editor

Darien Koons

**This publication acknowledges authority and yields allegiance to the International Supreme Council of the Order of DeMolay, of which Frank S. Land was founder.**