



Our Grand Master has very publicly involved our youth in his theme for 2013: Jobs Daughters, Rainbow for girls and DeMolay for young men. Indeed, Masonry's Youth is the future of our Craft as well as a sound and stable foundation for society in the future. DeMolay is an organization dedicated to preparing young men to lead successful, happy, and productive lives. Basing its approach on timeless principles and practical, hands-on experience, DeMolay opens doors for young men aged 12 to 21 by developing the civic awareness, personal responsibility and leadership skills so critical in our world today. DeMolay combines this serious mission with a fun approach that builds important bonds of friendship among its members in more than 1,000 chapters worldwide.



**Frank S. Land**

The Order of DeMolay was founded in 1919, in Kansas City, Missouri, by a young man named Frank S. Land. Land was a community leader who, at the age of 28, already had a successful business career as a restaurateur behind him.

Once a DeMolay reaches his majority, he becomes a Senior DeMolay. Famous alumni include Walt Disney, John Wayne, Walter Cronkite, football Hall-of-Famer Fran Tarkenton, legendary Nebraska football coach Tom Osborne, Astronaut Neil Armstrong, Sportscaster Red Barber, Cartoon voice artist Mel Blanc, Country singer Roy Clark, Actors Ernest Bourgnine and Gary Collins, CNN news anchor David Goodnow, and legendary broadcaster Paul Harvey to name just a few. Each has spoken eloquently of the life-changing benefit gained from their involvement in DeMolay.



**Jacques DeMolay**

Jacques DeMolay was the 23rd and last Grand Master of the Knights Templar, leading the Order from April of 1292 until it was dissolved by order of Pope Clement V in 1307. Jacques DeMolay's goal as Grand Master was to reform the Order, and adjust it to the situation in the Holy Land during the waning days of the Crusades. As European support for the Crusades had dwindled, other forces were at work which sought to disband the Order and claim the wealth of the Templars as their own. King Philip IV of France, deeply in debt to the Templars, had DeMolay and many other French Templars arrested in 1307 and tortured into making false confessions. But DeMolay, the Grand Master, would not concede one point to his accusers, and for almost seven years withstood all torture and punishment, fighting as best he could to save his Order. Confined to unbearable prisons and vile dungeons, he remained true to his comrades, to God, and to his Order, until he made the supreme sacrifice. Philip had him slowly burned upon a scaffold on an island in the River Seine in Paris, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 1314. The sudden end of both the centuries-old order of Templars, and the dramatic execution of its last leader, turned DeMolay into a legendary figure.



DeMolay emblem

The DeMolay emblem was created by Frank Land with symbolism in mind. Every part of the official DeMolay emblem has its significance to its members. The emblem you see here has remained unchanged since the 1940s.

**The crown** is symbolic of the preciousness of youth.

**The Pearls and Rubies and the Crown** honor the founder Frank S. Land, and the nine young men whose ties of friendship drew them together in the formation of the Order of DeMolay. The pearls represent those of the original 10 (the founder and original nine DeMolays) who are living. A pearl turns to a ruby as the founder and each one of the original nine DeMolays goes to his heavenly reward. Since the last original member has passed to the other side, the emblem is completely adorned with rubies.

**The Helmet** is emblematic of chivalry, without which there can be no fineness of character.

**The Crescent** is a sign of secrecy and constantly reminds DeMolay of their duty not to reveal the secrets of the Order, nor to betray the confidence of a friend.

**The Five-Armed White Cross** symbolizes the purity of intentions to always remember the motto of the Order: "No DeMolay shall fail as a citizen, as a leader, or as a man."

**The Crossed Swords** denote justice, fortitude and mercy. They symbolize the unceasing warfare of DeMolay against arrogance, despotism and intolerance.

**The Stars** surrounding the Crescent are symbolic of hope, and should always remind us of those obligations and duties that one DeMolay Brother owes to another.

Is DeMolay a religious organization? No, but among the requirements for membership in DeMolay is the belief in a Supreme Being, but not one of any particular doctrine, sect, or denomination. A young man's religious convictions are his own. Just as in the Blue Lodge, DeMolay does not involve itself in religious discussions. It merely recognizes the importance of faith in the lives of young men.

The Order of DeMolay uses ritual and symbolism to imprint wise and serious truths on the hearts and minds of young men. The words were crafted like a fine painting, all working in concert to impress the ideals of fidelity and toleration in a manner solemn and yet, understandable, to most youths. DeMolay has several cardinal virtues, which are the sole structure of what they follow. These cardinal virtues are: filial love (love between parent and child), reverence for sacred things, courtesy, comradeship, fidelity, cleanliness and patriotism.

Virginia DeMolay presently has 14 active chapters across the Commonwealth with about 400 members.



<http://www.vademolay.org/>



*...Another nugget from the quarry:*

Douglas M Messimer, PM Tuckahoe Lodge 347 3/13  
50 year Senior DeMolay