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Volume No. 1

March 2023

DeMOLAY PHILIPPINES



104
Years

Hon. Edward Y. Chua
Chev. COH, LOH, DGC, GMCK
Grand Master
Supreme Council Order of DeMolay

Why Join?



Why join DeMolay?

You no doubt have many interests, from social events, to hobbies, to sports. Whatever it is that you like to do, DeMolay has it, or can provide it. As a member of a DeMolay chapter, you will have an opportunity to plan your own activities and as a result, you can count on plenty of good times in DeMolay! You will also have chances for special trips, leadership camps, sports competitions, ritual competitions, and will make new friends through your association with DeMolay.

Who's in DeMolay?

Lots of fellows, many of whom you already know, who a few months ago were making the same decision on joining. Many young men started the road to success through the influence and development of his personal abilities in a DeMolay chapter. Senior DeMolays are found as successful leaders in all walks of life. People like Walt Disney, former U.S. President Bill Clinton, Mark William Calaway aka The Undertaker, Former Philippine Vice President Jejomar Binay, Eraserheads frontman Ely Buendia, singer Luke Mijares, and former Armed Forces of the Philippines Chief of Staffs General Noel Clement and Lt. Gen. Bartolome Vicente Bacarro and the youngest Provincial Governor Datu Pax Ali Mangundadatu were all DeMolays. As a DeMolay member, you instantaneously acquire thousands of "Brother DeMolays" in every region and more than twenty countries all over the world. You also acquire a common tie with millions of Senior DeMolays located throughout the world. There is a new tomorrow... with DeMolay today!

Who may join?

DeMolay is an organization for young men that is run by its own members. Through the members planning their own activities, they not only share and have a great time but also learn to develop their leadership abilities and skills.

Who sponsors DeMolay?

A DeMolay chapter is sponsored by a recognized group of Masons in a community. Masonry is the oldest men's fraternal organization in the world. Such sponsorship enables DeMolay to have dedicated adult leadership and the use of Masonic buildings to house DeMolay activities.

What is the initiation like?

The initiation is of complete serious nature. There are two degrees, both solemnly presented by young men like yourself. There should be no fear of horseplay or embarrassment. DeMolay implements a strong stand against hazing and has reiterated and strengthened its Anti-Hazing Policy. DeMolay supports the Anti-Hazing Act of 2018 or R.A. No. 11053. Hazing has no place in DeMolay.

What kind of activities are there?

Whatever your interests, you are likely to find activities in DeMolay that suits your taste. Basketball, civic work, charitable projects, and many other similar programs will be found in a DeMolay chapter

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT DEMOLAY, PLEASE VISIT:
The Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay of the Republic of the Philippines
Philippine DeMolay Youth Center
1440 San Marcelino Street, Ermita, Manila
demolay.ph



SUPREME COUNCIL, ORDER OF DEMOLAY REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

Philippine DeMolay Youth Center
Ermita, Manila, Philippines

MESSAGE

Resilience is a character that defines the knight for despite the odds, he marches on and faces with valor whatever life throws at him. His victory lies not in the defeat of the enemy but in how he conquers his inner fears and doubts. The Order of DeMolay is at the forefront of developing future leaders today with adaptability and strength as its reliable tools in shaping the character of its members.

The general thrust of our honorable Fraternity is to fight with such moral courage and enthusiasm every influence that would seek to destroy freedom in all its forms. Among others, we hold sacred our religious freedom and political liberty. It is therefore our duty as DeMolays to ensure the free practice of worship of every individual and to secure the right of each citizen to voice out their views on matters political in nature. Our Order is in possession of a strong voice for human dignity, justice, values, and civic responsibility. As an active training ground for the young, we provide opportunities to lead a more rewarding life that is committed to human progress. One's freedom of intellectual pursuits is also zealously guarded by DeMolay and has always played a critical role in the exploration of benevolent lessons on how to live life to the fullest. These are all part of the great responsibilities we hold for the benefit of the Filipino and the world at large.



However, it is expected that to attain all these, certain prerequisites must be present among our ranks. We can never overemphasize the need for us to work together and to move together to achieve our goals and visions in DeMolay and life in general. The practice of Charity and Brotherly Love must always be our guiding stars, ever supported by the seven cardinal virtues of a DeMolay. Let Filial Love support all our sincere interactions with the Brethren and the Reverence for Sacred Things define the boundaries of our freedoms with respect to others' liberties. May Courtesy continue to teach us that as decent human beings, we are put on this planet to watch over the welfare of each other and not to destroy whatever opposes our views. Comradeship is the medium by which we move with harmony despite differences in opinions and customs while Fidelity aims to enhance the positive consequences of loyalty to a Supreme Being, our family, friends, and Brothers. Allow Cleanness to be the standard of all your thoughts, words, and deeds for a clean conscience expressed by pure utterances and acts of loving kindness are the keys to a peaceful existence. Finally, let Patriotism burn eternally in your hearts for it is through a true love of one's country can the plight of its people be lifted from the struggles of daily life and their stations improved.

Additionally, chivalric virtues such as piety, honor, valor, chastity, and loyalty must remain the watchwords within each one of us. They mold the Brother into the ideal member of our Order. These precepts, when developed, encourages young DeMolays to become better sons, citizens, and future leaders who would set the standards for a generation or more.

Now that the world is approaching the optimism of healing times, we are grateful that our resilience has stood the tests of crises upon crises. Like knights of olden times, we choose to march on in pursuit of our mandate to gather young men to make them the best version of themselves. These future leaders are agents who strengthen service and fellowship. They are forever DeMolays who move and labor with the virtues of a true knight and the heart of a brave commander.

Au Beauseant!

For God. For Country. For DeMolay.

HON. EDWARD Y. CHUA
Chev. COH LOH DGC GMCK
Grand Master

GRAND LINE OFFICERS

2022-2024



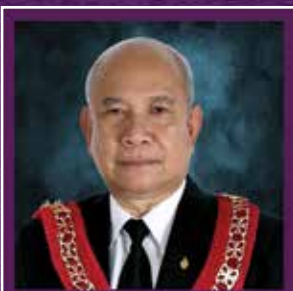
Leg. Raymund Joseph Ian O. Mendoza
LOH GMCK
Deputy Grand Master



Leg. Albert V. Manlulu
Chev. LOH COH GMCK
Grand Senior Councilor



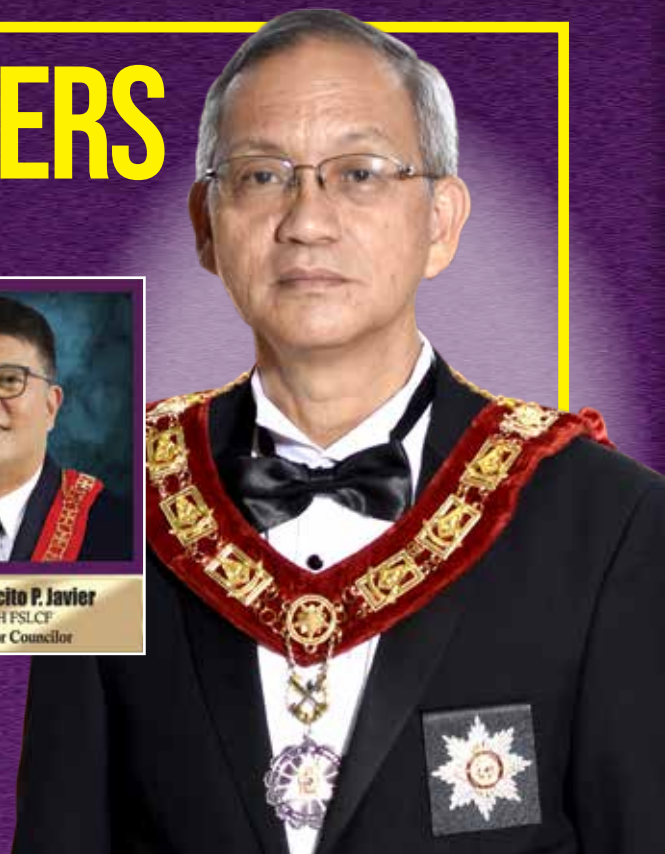
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Grand Secretary



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Grand Second Preceptor	Leg. Roy A. Echeverria, HLOH, FSLCF
Grand Third Preceptor	Leg. Jose Earl L. Navarro, Chev., LOH, GMCK
Grand Fourth Preceptor	Bro. Donnie P. Cordero, Chev., COH, FSLCF
Grand Fifth Preceptor	Bro. Sha Hariyal D. Otto, GMCK
Grand Sixth Preceptor	Bro. Martin Leon Anthony G. Bañez, Chev., FSLCF
Grand Seventh Preceptor	Bro. Kenneth Mark B. Tan, FSLCF
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Council of Elders	Hon. Rodel Riezl S.J. Reyes, Chev., LOH, DGC, GMCK, PGM-SCOD
Council of Elders	Hon. Victor Antonio T. Espejo, HLOH, COH, DGC, GMCK, PGM-SCOD
Council of Elders	Hon. Edison Abella, LOH, DGC, GMCK, PGM-SCOD
Council of Elders	Hon. Adriano B. Durano, III, Chev., LOH, DGC, GMCK, PGM-SCOD
Council of Elders	Hon. Van Cornelius D. Luspo, HLOH, DGC, HPGM-SCOD
Council of Elders	Hon. Albert K. Tan, Chev., LOH, DGC, GMCK, HPGM-SCOD
Council of Elders	Hon. Romeo P. Ramos, Chev., LOH, MCA, DGC, FSLCF, HPGM-SCOD
Council of Elders	MW Pacifico B. Aniag, LOH, DGC, HPGM-SCOD, PGM-GLP



HOW DEMOLAY MADE ME WHO I AM

Leg. Lt. Gen. Bartolome Vicente O. Bacarro (Ret.), JDCF, LOH



Being a newly retired officer affords me the luxury of hindsight and brings to the fore a sense of gratitude for those who shaped my life and made me the person I have become and what I have done over the last 56 years and a half years.

There is little doubt being a DeMolay contributed to who I am now. At the instance of my father, I joined the Brotherhood/Fraternity when I was still in elementary. I didn't really need any convincing: I was the grandson, son and nephew of Masons. I am a cousin of DeMolays. Essentially, I was active in DeMolay for only about four years. My participation in DeMolay activities slowly tapered off when I moved to Baguio for the last two years of high school. It essentially came to a halt when I entered the Philippine Military Academy in 1984. Looking back, those four years were enough to imbed the ethical framework that would govern my actions and decisions in the years to come. By word and deed, three generations of Masons and DeMolays had begun the process from my earliest years. Theirs was a subtle but unequivocal moral certitude in how one must conduct himself. The DeMolay in me never waned.

DeMolay's Seven Cardinal Virtues and Ethical Code articulated that unequivocal moral certitude. To a young boy, these tenets gave clarity and structure to the often-vague idealistic expectations my family had of me. True to their calling, my brother-mentors in DeMolay created an environment conducive to imbibing and remembering what it would take to live up to what was expected of me. They introduced us to social responsibility – that we have an obligation to others. The fellowship among DeMolays created an environment conducive to remembering the tenets of DeMolay and applying them to daily life. There were also opportunities for leadership. I rose to become chaplain of our Chapter.

I didn't realize it at that time, but being a DeMolay was not just belonging to an organization, a brotherhood, there was more to it: a commitment to a way of life, to excellence in service to God, country and people. This commitment was carried through when I entered the Academy. The moral uprightness that DeMolay tenets demand is echoed in the Cadet Honor Code. In a world where what is good and what is bad is relative, and where what is right and what is wrong is fluid, there is no room for equivocation in either Code. These Codes affirmed the legacy my grandfather, father, uncle and cousins gave me: that subtle but unequivocal moral certitude in how one must conduct himself in any circumstance. These Codes underpin any moral compass.

After I graduated from the Academy, I found that DeMolay's 7 Cardinal Virtues are specially apt and relevant for a military officer. By its very nature, life in the military requires courtesy, comradeship, fidelity, and patriotism. Without even one of these virtues, military men and women would not be able to accomplish their mission of serving their country and the people. When your life is on the line every single day, God is never far from your mind and one develops a deep and abiding reverence for sacred things. Your dependence on Him becomes absolute.

Filial love teeters you to those who matter most to you when you are assigned to places far away from your family. This became especially important when my father passed away in 1995. As the eldest child, I became the head of the family, the 'father' of my siblings, and notwithstanding the fact that I was and would not be an everyday presence in their lives. My mother, Teresita, was my rock. My wife, Boots, was my stay. They kept our home fires burning while I was away. They picked up the slack when I was not there to provide the guidance my siblings and children needed. Filial love has, indeed, been a two-way street.

By the time my military service ended earlier this year, I had scaled the heights of every cadet's dream and served as Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Climbing up is never an easy task. Challenges are a part and parcel of rising from the ranks. How one faces and overcomes these tests defines who one is. It affirms one's steadfast adherence to one's core values. Ultimately, the dynamic interaction one has with challenges builds the strength of character that sustains one through life.

No matter what challenges one faces, the essence of the man is not diminished. Rather his quintessence acquires new dimensions that showcase just how strongly and how consistently he adheres to his moral compass within the restrictions it imposes on a man's options to address challenges he faces.

It has been said, 'consistency is the mother of authenticity.' Each challenge one overcomes unveils more of one's authentic self. Recognizing one's strengths and weaknesses has a way of making one more comfortable in his own skin. This creates an increased sense of wellbeing, adaptability and resiliency in dealing with stress, which in turn, makes one more confident, more creative and agile at work; able to grow and optimize performance and productivity. Downstream, in other realms of one's life, our family and the people within one's orbit benefit from a more ethical, empathetic and compassionate person.

This is one nugget of wisdom I take into the next chapter of my life. As I settle into my retirement, I credit DeMolay for being an integral part of the mold that made me into who I am now. I'd like to think that I have lived up to the DeMolay motto: "No DeMolay shall fail as a citizen, as a leader and as a man."

For God. For Country. For DeMolay.

Lt. Gen. Bartolome Vincente Bacarro (Ret.) is a member of Anchor Chapter in Paniqui, Tarlac. He is the 58th Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (CSAFP) from 2022 to 2023. In 1991, Brother Bob was awarded the AFP Medal of Valor, the highest military award for courage, for his actions against the New People's Army in Maconacon, Isabela. He was invested the DeMolay Active Legion of Honor in 2022, the highest honor bestowed upon by DeMolay for outstanding leadership in some field of endeavor.

MASONIC FAMILY CARES:

A RELIEF OPERATION FOR THE FAMILIES AFFECTED BY TYPHOON PAENG



Around midnight of October 29, 2022, tropical cyclone “Paeng” with international name Nalgae made landfall in the southern part of the Philippines hit parts of Maguindanao, Cotabato City, and other areas of Southwestern Mindanao. Heavy rains spawned by the typhoon flooded Cotabato City and at least five localities in the Province of Maguindanao, pushing the officials to order the suspension of work and classes and declare a state of calamity in the affected areas. Families were displaced due to landslides coming from Datu Odin Sinsuat Municipality and three other areas from Datu Blah Sinsuat Municipality.

Dionisio Gutierrez Sr Chapter No.15, Order of DeMolay, Cotabato City, headed by Master Councilor Gregorio E. Cordero III, Chev, LCC, FMA, BHK, LGLCF immediately initiated a text brigade to its members to extend help to those families who were victims of landslides. They mobilized their resources and reached out to their networks to extend assistance. There was never a second thought to help and the young men of the Chapter immediately responded to the call. Members collaborated with the respective local government units of each affected municipality as well as with different non-government organizations to ensure that the relief efforts were properly coordinated. The 6th CMO Battalion of the Philippine Army headed by Dad LTC Dennis Almorato also provided transport and security. In no less than twenty four hours, the Chapter was able to collect Php 114,700.00 in cash and in-kind donations. Essential supplies were immediately purchased. Moms from the Mothers’ Club donated articles of clothing, towels, and blankets for the affected families. A part of the Chapter’s membership was also affected but they never hesitated to help.

On October 31, 2022, two days after the onslaught of “Paeng”, the Chapter launched the Masonic Family Cares: A Relief Operation for the Families Affected by Typhoon Paeng that aimed to provide immediate assistance to the affected communities. Chapter members were among the first responders who went to Barangays Kusiong and Badak of Datu Odin Sinsuat Municipality which was hit the hardest by the typhoon. This initiative was able to provide relief assistance to 300 in distress families in the affected areas where most of them lost their loved ones due to landslides.

The relief efforts of Dionisio Gutierrez Sr. Chapter No. 15 in Maguindanao were a testament to their commitment to community service and volunteerism. Their efforts were able to make a significant impact on the lives of the affected communities, showing how DeMolay teaches its members to be dedicated in helping affected communities to recover from the disaster brought by the calamity and to restore smiles to each member of the family.

This activity was conducted with the guidance of their Chapter Advisory Council members namely Dad Reymond K. Tan, COH; Dad Arnold Jim Y. Chua, COH; and Dad Hemington H. Yap, LOH, FSLCF. Senior DeMolays from Cotabato DeMolay Alumni Chapter No. 22 headed by its President, Bro. Edgardo C. Padolina, JDCF also extended their hand. The usual support of the chapter’s sponsoring body, Kutang Bato Masonic Lodge No. 110, F. & A. M. and other Masonic Lodges in Cotabato City were extended to the young boys. The region’s Executive Officer Dad Gregorio B. Cordero Jr., LCC, LOH, FSLCF was there to guide and extend support as well.

FILIAL LOVE

Last February 19, 2023, the officers and members of Narra Chapter No. 42 paid a special tribute to their parents. The DeMolays went door to door in San Jose City, Nueva Ecija to give these parents flowers showing their love and appreciation. It has been a practice of Narra Chapter No. 42 to conduct an activity in honor of the first cardinal virtue, filial love. This activity was conducted to show appreciation, care and love to the parents of these DeMolays who continuously support them in their DeMolay journey.

This modest effort meant a lot to these young men and was heartwarming as they witnessed the smiles and bliss in the eyes of their parents particularly the mothers. A newly initiated member, Brother Deniel Orland says “I felt genuinely happy since it was my first time experiencing this kind of activity. I can already see their smiles as we approach them with flowers in our hands because they know all too well how much DeMolay teaches its members to love more his family.”

“I was surprised when a group of boys known as DeMolays came to my house and gave me flowers. I respect these young men’s compassion, especially to parents like us. I hope they’ll maintain the organization’s mission and obligations and continue to have a positive effect upon everyone, especially the youth.” says Mom Rosalie Jimenez.

This gesture upholds the first cardinal virtue of a DeMolay and it symbolizes the love between parent and child that existed before they were born. The sages named this love “agape,” love for no other reason than the sake of being. Narra DeMolays owe a debt of admiration to our intrepid parents for their unwavering love, for making us into the person we are today, for never giving up on us, and for always being there to guide and impart wisdom.

DeMolays must always remember that it doesn’t require a special occasion or a gift to show appreciation for the sacrifices and efforts their parents give. DeMolays are not only good sons, they are obedient sons. Make it a point to hug and kiss your parents. These are priceless moments that they will forever treasure.

This article is contributed by DeMolays of Narra Chapter No. 42 from San Jose City, Nueva Ecija led by Brother Hubert Allan D. Pobre, Master Councilor; Brother James Rustan F. Patacsil, PMC; Brother Noel B. Martin Jr., Senior Deacon and Brother Joseph Raymund J. Gabasan, Scribe.





GM SELLARS

Makes Historic Visit to PH

Accompanied by DeMolay Philippines' Honorary Past Grand Master Dad Gregory L. Kimberling, DeMolay International Grand Master Jonathan R. Sellars and wife Mom Kellie made an official visit to the Philippines with stops in Davao City, Cebu City and Manila. They were joined by officers of the International DeMolay Congress led by Brother Cooper Crabtree, International Master Councilor and Brother Sebastian Pesquera, International Congress Secretary.

This marks the only second time that an incumbent Grand Master and incumbent International Master Councilor from DeMolay International have visited the DeMolay jurisdiction of the Philippines. Last time an International Master Councilor visited the Philippines was in 1985. In 2013, DeMolay International Grand Master Mike Salazar visited the Philippines and toured Chapters in the Northern and Southern Luzon.

Past Grand Master Dad Gregory L. Kimberling last visited the Philippines in 2019 as the official representative of DeMolay International in time for the DeMolay Centennial Celebration in the Philippines.

An installation, conferral of degrees and meeting with officers of the DeMolay Alumni Association of the Philippines officers were some of the activities that happened during the almost week-long visit. It was highlighted by attending the Special Session of the Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay of the Republic of the Philippines in Manila on March 19, 2023.

This marks another milestone in the strong relationship of DeMolay International and DeMolay Philippines headed by Honorable Grand Master Edward Y. Chua, further strengthening the alliances between two Supreme Councils. The visit proves that DeMolay is a brotherhood without borders.

**THE ROAD
BEGINS HERE**



Dad Gregory L. Kimberling
Past Grand Master
DeMolay International



Bro. Cooper Crabtree
International Master Councilor
International DeMolay Congress



Bro. Sebastian Pesquera
International Congress Secretary
International DeMolay Congress

Q&A with DeMolay International Grand Master Jonathan R. Sellars

1. DeMolay is one of the oldest organizations for young men in the world. In your own opinion, what makes DeMolay a step ahead among other youth organizations?

In my opinion, you don't see other organizations that are so concerned with the growth and well-being of its members. We truly care about our members and their success.

2. The Order of DeMolay was built on an idea about a glorious past of history of the Knights Templar. How important to you to hold onto our history and how do you see this shape the future of the Order of DeMolay?

I think Jacque DeMolay is a great figure and the lessons and teachings about him really resonate with the members. Our history is incredibly important and one of the things that has made DeMolay stand out from other youth groups. It's important to remember where we come from and work hard to adapt to the needs of young men today. Keeping this balance is important to our future success.

3. We've noticed that most forms are available online in the demolay.org website. How do you see DeMolay adapting to the digital age in making the services and opportunity of DeMolay closer to young men?

I think during the pandemic we were forced to communicate much more via digital platforms such as zoom and video conferencing. I think the youth of today understand and appreciate all aspects of the digital age. Staying educated and current in the digital arena is more important today than it's ever been.

4. The Order of DeMolay is rich in tradition and practice. Since 1919, the organization have recommended and awarded numerous honors and awards in the form of regalia. Among these DeMolay honors and awards, which is closest to you and why?

Probably the "Hats Off" award because it can be given to you by a youth. We have many awards in our organization and they all mean so much, but to receive a "Hats Off" award from a young man is truly something special and meaningful.

5. Since being elected as Grand Master of DeMolay International, Filipino DeMolays have been following your works including your travel to Canada, Brazil and in other European countries. How do you see DeMolay had evolved in these countries and how has it impacted in the development of their youth?

DeMolay is extremely strong in all of the countries we have visited. While they may do things a little differently than we do in the USA you can tell it has the same meaning to them, and the young men are very impressive in every country we've visited. The excitement and enthusiasm abroad is truly something special. The young men and the Advisors in these countries are working hard to see success now so they will continue to succeed in the future.

6. You have been a firm believer of the Order of DeMolay as prime mover in developing young boys into better sons, able leaders, and good citizens. What drives you to have this dedication in the Order of DeMolay?

I can site many reasons for my dedication, but seeing the personal growth of a young man and watching him in his journey to become a better person is always something that drives my dedication and commitment.

7. DeMolay in the Philippines have been growing even before the 100 years celebration. How do you see Filipino DeMolays move forward the dream of Dad Frank S. Land in making the Order of DeMolay available to all young men?

I think it's important to share DeMolay with as many young men as possible. This is the same everywhere. There are many different ways this can be done, but having strong programs in place, marketing those programs and making them available for young men is imperative to the success of Order.

8. DeMolay brotherhood is strong in the Philippines. How did you come up with the idea of visiting this country from the Far East? Would you mind sharing your story/stories?

I have watched DeMolay in the Philippines on Facebook and I've talked with Senior DeMolay from the Philippines. From what I see and hear, I wanted to personally witness what DeMolay is like in the Philippines, I want to meet the young men and Advisors and take part in what they love so much. It's important to me to be able to share with others what DeMolay is like around the world. It's important that brothers from all over understand just how big and well-loved our organization truly is.

9. DeMolay have produced numerous successful members and have made contributions in their own field. What is your message to our young members today in their pursuit to be successful?

Stay focused, work hard, be proud, stay true to yourself, be honest, real, kind to others and live DeMolay every day.

10. What is your message to Filipino DeMolays who continue to bring with them the dedication and passion of helping the Order of DeMolay?

This could be one of the most important and impactful things you do in your lifetime. DeMolay will be something you lean on throughout your life. The dedication, passion, and commitment that you have for DeMolay will not only benefit you, but will benefit the young men who follow you. The young men of DeMolay are definitely our future and our future leaders. Keep up the good work and I thank each and every one of you. I'm looking forward to meeting with you.



MEMBERSHIP AND ENGAGEMENT

Leg. Ericson B. Atanacio, PMC, LCC, KT, FMA, BHK, PNMC, Chev., COH, LOH, GMCK
Jurisdictional Deputy Grand Master for Luzon

A Dad, a boy, and an idea gave birth to the DeMolay movement 104 years ago. The boy, Brother Louis Gordon Lower, a Masonic orphan was asked by Dad Frank Sherman Land, the founder of Order of DeMolay to invite his friends, and on February 19, 1919 Louis was able to invite 8 of his friends and introduced them to Dad Land. They are Ralph Sewell, Elmer V. Dorsey, Edmund Marshall, Jerome Jacobson, William W. Steinhilber, Ivan M. Bentley, Gorman A. McBride, and Clyde C. Stream, who would we all know as the nine original members of what was to become a great youth leadership organization, the Order of DeMolay.

DeMolay history tells us about how thirty-one boys, all from the same high school, came to the Scottish Rite Temple that night. Frank Land made each boy welcome and then explained briefly his ideas for a club. Land said, "This is your meeting. I will serve as an Advisor but it is your meeting. Why not proceed with an organization and elect a few officers. I will take charge until you have completed your election."

During the next few months, the group grew in numbers, activities, and interests. Then a fear came to some of them that they were growing into too large a Club. Someone suggested that a committee talk with Dad Land and endeavor to convince him that membership should be limited to 75. Land neither criticized nor admonished the committee at the time. In fact, they didn't know whether he agreed or disagreed with their suggestion. Later when the meeting was called to order, the chairman reported and moved that the membership of DeMolay be limited to 75. The motion quickly received a second and was unanimously adopted. It was then that Dad Land rose from the back of the room where he had been more or less out of sight for he wasn't the type to take the spotlight or the forefront in their meetings. He wanted them to conduct their own meetings.

As he came to the front of the room that night, he proceeded to tell them, and in no uncertain terms – how selfish and how inconsiderate they were. He told them that they were operating and thinking absolutely contrary to every idea that he had in mind for this organization. He reminded them that there were three other high schools in Kansas City which had young men who were just as capable, just as qualified, and just as upstanding as they were. In fact, he indicated he thought they were probably much, much better than what they thought they were. He said that if it was good for one boy, it must be good for all eligible boys. He reminded them that 'to become big, they must be big.' The motion to limit membership to 75 was rescinded. It was then that DeMolay was permitted to grow and develop.

And grow it did. DeMolay continued its growth, initiating new members and instituting new chapters in all states of the continental U.S.A. DeMolay then crossed the oceans, and the organization was developed in many foreign countries. Thousands upon thousands of young men have had their life enriched by the rescinding of the motion to limit the Order of DeMolay to just 75 members.

This story with its lesson must continuously reverberates throughout history and into the present and beyond.

Time and again, when good times come, we feel proud of our achievements both personal and collective. Then we proclaim the adage, quality over quantity, that advocates that we have to be very selective of who wanted to invite, initiate and call our brothers by just selecting a very chosen few. However, let us ask ourselves, what is the benchmark of those criteria and standards? Have we become that experts to screen boys between 17 and 21 years?

If we strongly believe in DeMolay as a relevant, effective and viable platform of youth development under the adult supervision of Freemasons as DeMolay Advisors, then it reminds me of this story of an expert craftsman in gemology. A rough diamond is intrinsically valuable but lacks the luster of appreciation of its hidden qualities of color, clarity, and carat which can only shine through if made with the proper cut, where the 4 C's of diamond will display its brilliance. That cut is not intrinsic with the rough diamond but can only be done and transformed under the expert hands and eyes of the gem craftsmen, which makes the cut diamond more valuable than ever. Comparing this to our young boys, who we look as rough gems, but possesses the character, competence and commitment but with the DeMolay taking the role of the gem craftsman, polished with the Cardinal Virtues, the whole 7 of them, can transform our young boys to be the fine and more precious young gentlemen with 4 C's of that makes them valuable as good sons, patriotic citizens and able leaders of our society. But if indeed we strongly believe that DeMolay is that great gem craftsmen of young boys development, then we can surmise that even an ordinary stone in the hands of an expert craftsmen can be transformed into something that we say is shining like a diamond, then we can therefore believe that DeMolay can transform even an ordinary boy into a fine young gentleman. With this story, we can evolve our belief system that instead of saying quality over quantity, we can now endeavor together to transform quantity into quality.

As DeMolays, we all did not start as great boys from our childhood, a lot of us started as timid and shy, with stage frights and

stammering, unsure when making decisions, worried about a lot of things, ignorant of some ways of organizational activities, afraid of failures and criticisms, lacks the confidence of contributing ideas and many other phenomena connected with being young. DeMolay provided us the opportunity and the platform to perform, to speak, to contribute ideas, to execute ideas, to lead, to organize, to communicate, to interact, to fail and to succeed without fear of criticisms. DeMolay gave us that chance to live life with courage and confidence and most importantly, to be relevant. We are transformed into organizers, planners, team players, leaders, communicators both oral and written, salesmen, bookkeepers, auditors, fund raisers and every possible skillful role as a result of actively participating in DeMolay programs and activities. DeMolay do not have a curriculum for doing this transformation, but it is the guided experience that gave each one of us the chance to try, to do, to fail, to succeed, and most importantly, to learn by doing.

Throughout the various history of each chapter, both here and abroad, the membership swings from low to high and back to low again and continuing its up and down cycle through the years. To claim that a specific year or couple of years are the golden years of the chapter is a self-proclaiming, self-serving, and selfish way describing history. Golden years may come several times equally as the low and challenging times. Both provides unique experiences to develop the young DeMolays throughout history. Bad times creates strong men. Strong men create good times. Good times creates weak men. Weak men create bad times. And the cycle continues. In DeMolay, we continuously create great men both in good and bad times.

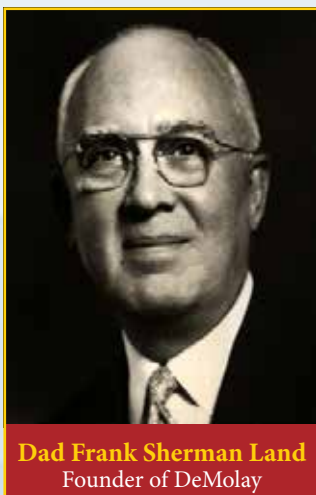
Membership also cycles through in these both times. An increase in the membership gives dynamism to the chapter, creating more programs and activities that excites, attracts and energizes the members. In their flurry of fun and exciting activities, membership takes the back burner, as time marches on and the members grows older towards majority, the chapter experiences a membership crash. Meetings can be barely done, without members, there are no planners, organizers and implementors of activities. Without activities, there are no excitements to attract members, ushering the chicken and egg situation of what needs to come first membership or activities? Activities pull members, but members create activities. How do we get out of this?

To get out of this situation, sustainable chapters integrate a yearlong campaign for membership attraction, promotion, recruitment, education, and conferrals. This is normally the domain of responsibilities of the Junior Councilor. Once the new member is integrated into the chapter, the membership concerns end.

From this, the engagement of members begins. The Senior Councilor should be primarily responsible in this domain of responsibility. Members interest do vary and is diverse. Care should be exercised that activities planned are not just based on this is how we are doing it in the past, more so in the very distant past. And if it works in the past, it should continuously work today. Generations marches on and each generation are unique. Activities have be planned and organized that is attuned to the interest of the current members, with embedded mechanisms and strategy to egged the members to explore other activities to diversify their experiences and interests. While members must be consulted and engaged to participate in the planning and organizing, the Master Councilor have to skillful and decisive in navigating the direction of the chapter program and activities, realizing that he cannot please everyone at the same time. The valuable skill needed by the Master Councilor is a listening heart and a decisive mind.

Thus, we realize that membership and engagement, though related and connected are not the same. Each feed on each other. The more these feed on each other, the more sustainably dynamic the chapter becomes. The key to a thriving chapter is not membership, and it is not engagement. The key to a sustainably thriving chapter is membership and engagement anchored on the principle of FLS or Fun, Learn and Safe. Creating environment that is fun, where there are something to learn and where it is safe, both physically, socially and emotionally.

Let us nurture the seed planted 104 years ago. Together, let us fuel the continuous growth of DeMolays in the Philippines and contribute to its growth worldwide. This we do for God, for country and for DeMolay!



Dad Frank Sherman Land
Founder of DeMolay

**“My work must go on.
DeMolay must go on.”**



THE ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME

Brother Philip “Pipoy” M. Tolentino

We are all Brothers in the Order of DeMolay but some of us are lucky to have our biological brothers be our DeMolay brothers as well. As a new DeMolay before, I was always referred to as the little brother of my Kuya. I was a shy, timid little young boy who prefers to stay at home rather than go out and socialize. All these changed when I was introduced to the Order of DeMolay. With other members of the Order, activities that we planned and participated in, and the overall environment built around DeMolay, molded me to be confident, improve my public speaking and go out of the box, and humbly but confidently face the challenges of what life brings.

As someone who is in the tertiary level of learning, balancing my studies, school organizations and DeMolay is hard and challenging but I never thought of it as something I will never conquer. As students, we want to maintain high grades while not missing family and social time. Grab the opportunity, learn from it, soak in the experience and enjoy the journey. These, among other things, were taught to me by my Advisors in DeMolay. We won't be successful in DeMolay if we are not guided by experienced, patient, and kind DeMolay Advisors who share with us wisdom and encouragement. For as long as we are enjoying and learning from our work in the Order of DeMolay, we make our Advisors and parents happy and proud of us.

With all of these, it is always an opportunity to grow, learn and experience something greater. My father taught me to enjoy life but at the same time observe proper time management, focus and accomplish agenda one goal at a time.

Grab the opportunity as I grabbed the chance to be your Jurisdictional Master Councilor. We are still young and have so much to learn. Make the most out of your membership in the Order of DeMolay. Go beyond the four corners of our Chapter room and gather these experiences from the outside and use it as your asset in our life ahead. Create precious memories with your Brothers. Never stop learning, take on the challenges ahead and never say never. Fear of failure destroys more dreams than actual failure.

Brother Philip “Pipoy” M. Tolentino is a member of Ambrosio A. Flores Chapter No. 45. Currently in his 3rd year studying Information Systems at De La Salle University in Taft, Manila, Brother Pipoy is the incumbent Jurisdictional Master Councilor for Luzon of the DeMolay National Congress.



DEMOLAY BY THE NUMBERS

- 2** Being the second Knighthood priory in the Philippines, Juan K. Causing Priory was given the number 2 in the list of Priories in the Philippines. But did you know that this is the second name of the priory? Its original priory name is Lapulapu Priory. After Dad Juan K. Causing, a war hero who served as commander during World War II, died in 1985, it was decided to rename the priory in his honor.
- 4** There are 4 independent organizations that DeMolay International recognizes. These are the Supreme Councils in the Philippines, Australia, Canada, and Brazil (The Supreme Council of the Order of DeMolay for the Federative Republic of Brazil or SCODFRB). These are four bodies in fraternal relations with DeMolay International. Active DeMolays and adult leaders from these four bodies are entitled to visit Chapters and other appendant bodies chartered by the DeMolay International.
- 9** There are currently 9 Priories of the Order of Knighthood in the Philippines.
- 12** The minimum age requirement for a young man to be admitted into the Order of DeMolay is 12 years old.
- 16** There have been only 16 recipients of the Grand Master's Maltese Cross Award. Established in 1988 by the Founding Grand Master
- Dad Macario R. Ramos Sr.**, the award can only be presented to a selected few. The Grand Master's Maltese Cross is a way of expressing the profound gratitude of a Grand Master for the unselfish support and dedication to a laudable endeavor of love - that of helping in the development of the youth to become a better son, a good citizen, and able leaders of tomorrow.
- 23** The 23 leaves in the Chapter logo of Jose Abad Santos Chapter, the first DeMolay Chapter in the Far East, represents the first 23 DeMolays in the Philippines.
- 25** The minimum age requirement for a DeMolay to receive the DeMolay Active Legion of Honor is 25 years old. In an edict released on November 14, 2022, the Supreme Council may confer the LOH upon a Senior DeMolay who is twenty-five (25) years of age before January 15, for outstanding leadership in some field of endeavor, or for success in fraternal life, including adult service to the Order. It also notes that it shall not be given only for service on the Advisory Council.
- 69** Dad Frank S. Land died at the age of 69 on November 19, 1959. He was survived by his wife Nell, and although he left no children, he had in various ways earned the nickname by which he was known to over millions of DeMolay boys: “Dad.”
- 113** The total number of DeMolay Chapters in the Philippines as of March 2023 is 113.

GET INVOLVED!

Geraldine C. Calimlim



During my childhood, I used to wonder why there are often a lot of young men in our yard singing, laughing, and just having fun. This is when I was introduced to the Order of DeMolay. As a kid, it felt like I grew up with a lot of Kuyas, many of whom I honestly had already forgotten while some became my friends and continue to be up to this day. Majority of them went on with their careers. Most of them, I witnessed become successful individuals.

I remember DeMolays bringing their girlfriends to our home to introduce them to us. I also often see them show up at our house with pasalubong or gifts to wish our family, especially to my dad, a happy holiday – random items, chocolates, a bottle of liquor, food, and a bottle of liquor again. It seems like my dad is a best friend, a big brother and is almost like a second father to these DeMolays. It goes without saying that my dad must have done something right to be this special to them, I must say.

I have been asked many times what my father's secret is. Many ask why DeMolays love and treasure their relationship with my father. As I asked myself the same question repeatedly and tried looking for the right answer, I had a small moment of eureka when the book he used to read crossed my mind. I tried looking for a copy online and, lo and behold, I came across the DeMolay Leader's Resource Guide. I did not go through all the pages, but I think I already got the answer from the 6th page of the DLRG: "Your first duty as a member of DeMolay is to get involved!"

My father joined the Order at the tender age of thirteen. He has always been there for DeMolay and DeMolay has always been there for him. From the first time he first joined the organization to becoming their advisor, my father's involvement and passion stayed the same. I firmly believe that his calling was to train young boys to become men. I witnessed how he did his best to provide an opportunity for them to be better by nurturing them with abundance of love and care. I saw this in him and how it was replicated by the members he guided during their younger years.

The passion for the Order burns brighter each year and as

I continue to witness how hard he works, how unfailing his commitment is, how his network continues to expand and how dedicated he is in helping young men awaken the sleeping potential of greatness within them. I saw the same in the members who followed his lead. My father always likes to say, "I look good because I'm surrounded by good people." He doesn't "get involved" just because the leadership guide said. He cares about DeMolays and because of it, he was able to build a relationship beyond regions with different people – a fraternal bond that lasts a lifetime.

It takes blood, sweat, and tears to become a leader and to nurture another set of leaders. That is why as time goes by, I noticed that these DeMolays who randomly brought gifts at home, who were once singing in our front yard during a fun fellowship or have brought their ex-girlfriends before (who are now their wives, by the way) have become very successful in their chosen careers. Just like my father, even at their 30s, they are still actively giving back to the Order.

I am deeply fascinated by the involvement of my father in the Order of DeMolay but what impressed me most is the relationship that was built between him and the DeMolays. They have grown together through the years in continuing the guiding work of inspiring young men to be the next generation of community leaders.

I am proud of my father and the DeMolays who became successful in their own lives. At this point, I can say that getting involved in DeMolay allows a person to become a better version of themselves therefore making this world a better place to live in.

The author is from Dagupan City, Pangasinan. She is the granddaughter of Dad Camilo Calimlim, proponent of the Order of DeMolay in Pangasinan Province and recipient of the Grand Master's Maltese Cross Award (MCA) from Founding Grand Master Macario R. Ramos, Sr.

PERSEVERANCE, OPENNESS AND HUMILITY



Brother Vincent B. Figueroa

CPMC, PMC-MSA, PCJMC-M, RD, Chev., KT-EBON, LGLCF

National Master Councilor 2022-2024

DeMolay teaches us that change must come first from within. Before we can make great change in the world, it must always first start within ourselves.

I started my DeMolay journey at the age of 14 years old when I joined Koronadal Chapter in Koronadal City, South Cotabato. I was one of the youngest members in our batch. Back then, I learned that if no one would lead, then there would be no harmony. I took the leadership role and guide my batchmates until we received the Degrees of DeMolay. I continued serving my Chapter as the Charter Master Councilor for two years from 2017 to 2019. I took into myself to guide Koronadal Chapter after my term as Master Councilor. However, destiny has other plans.

I was elected as Jurisdictional Master Councilor for Mindanao which coincidentally was hosted by my chapter. Leading to my election, I was encouraged to dream big. I know I am still young and there is nothing to lose trying. At the age of 17, I was given

the honour to serve the Mindanao jurisdiction in which I was the youngest congress officer during the term of then National Master Councilor, Brother Datu Pax Ali S. Mangudadatu.

I realized that there were more to learn and to discover in my jurisdiction. As I look forward meeting more brethren, each one with his own story to tell, I experienced visiting chapters in my jurisdiction until the covid-19 pandemic happened. Everyone went to a standstill. With true DeMolay strategy, the National Congress was still able to pursue its projects through online activities. I was able to reach all Master Councilors of Mindanao and I realized that if I haven't even attempted to aspire for this position, I would not have known Dad Masons and Brother DeMolays, who taught me to do my best, in DeMolay and in life. After these experiences and learnings, I aspired to be the National Master Councilor. It was the 2022 National Conclave that my term as JMC for Mindanao ended and my term as National Master Councilor started.

As Master Councilor, I learned to bring the best in myself and work together because the chapter is designed to be successful because of its member and not by one member alone. As Jurisdictional Master Councilor, it taught me to appreciate and understand the different culture and tradition of each DeMolay chapter in my jurisdiction which makes them not different with each other but unique. And now, as the National Master Councilor, I consider every visit to a DeMolay chapter another opportunity to learn, to help, and to make a difference. Each visit is an opportunity for me to execute my duties and serve the brethren who reposed their trust in me when they elected me to the highest position in the National Congress.

DeMolay create experience and real-life situations for its member to experience and to learn. It is in this way that the organization create future leaders, built from trials and challenges one persevered. Allow me to share three significant teachings I learned in my journey as your National Master Councilor:

First, we will succeed but we will also fail. A Dad Mason once told me "Son, appreciate your success for you earned these but remember to savour your mistakes. Mistakes will not define you as a person but on how you translate failures to make yourself better. You must experience failures to become a good leader. Leadership is earned by trying and giving our all."

Second, a good leader is a good listener. Learn to listen. When you speak, you are only repeating what you already know but if you listen, then you might learn something new. Listen for you will never know whom God sent his message. Work in silence and let success speak for you.

Last but certainly not the least, be humble for what you have right now. Others may not have the same as what you have right now but everything in life is temporary. Make friends and not enemies.

In a continuously changing society, remember to try and do your best. There is nothing to lose, brethren. Listen for there is always something to gain in listening. Be humble because what we have right now are all temporary. Let us learn to try, to listen and be humble in everything we do in life for our time is only simply borrowed.



DeMolay

TRAVELING

By Alvin L. Llanderal

Travelling has always fascinated me. Since I was young, I have always enjoyed the idea of leaving the house to go to a place I've never been before. I had it in me I guess, wandering – that nomadic spirit. Leaving for another destination whether known or unknown was kind of liberating for me. There is this sense of freedom and independence exploring every facet of a new locale where no one knows your name. Although travelling takes us out of our comfort zone, it affords us the opportunity to recognize and savor new things like a wide-eyed kid, looking at his newest toy for the very first time.

I joined the Order of DeMolay because of the fraternal brotherhood and the sense of belongingness it offered, which was quite alluring when you were a 14-year-old teen and just getting started in high school. Belonging to a group, for me, was a reasonable imperative then. But it never dawned on me that joining DeMolay would open the world of travel to me. So, I was pleasantly surprised when I found out that there were a lot of options to go out and see the world in DeMolay. It was integrated in the programs of growth and development for all the members to endeavor and undertake. Chapter visitations – one can't earn their merit bars for this, without leaving the confines of their own local chapter. Conclaves, both jurisdictional and national – travel. Olympics and other sports fests – travel. Ritual and other competitions – travel. At a young age, DeMolay presents a platform to its young members to engage in and explore new adventures and share these consequential happenings to brethren and friends.

A little over a decade ago I started serving the DeMolay Alumni Association of the Philippines as its National Secretary. Aside from that primary job, I was also Installing Officer to numerous installations. It became my duty and responsibility to travel and visit Alumni Chapters far and wide. Like in previous situations, I must travel to fulfill a duty, to perform a job. Yet due to my passion to travel, as always, it never became a job for me, nor it became work to accomplish. As the popular saying goes, "when you love what you are doing, work becomes play". The chance to go to a new place and travel became a motivation to work and excel in the duties and responsibilities at hand.

What has it gained me? A lot. For one, it fed my quest for culinary adventures. Trying out local food and delicacies is one of my hobbies and it goes hand in hand with travelling to other places. From learning the difference between pansit cabagan and pansit batil patong to tasting for the first time pinikpikan and etag of Ifugaos in the Cordilleras in the North. From experiencing tiyula itum, khulma, satti, pastil, and knickerbocker in the South of the Philippines to the delicious dishes of Central Visayas such as sutokil and larang. Who would not love molo, batchoy soups together with chicken inasal in the Negros Provinces? My travels to different parts of Mindanao introduced me to beef stews like balbaoa and bulcachong, a dish soup made from Carabao meat. How could I forget the rare local exotic indigenous dishes made from insects, snakes, special mollusks, and other animals. Dishes borne out of the community's rich and diverse culinary and socio-anthropological culture and traditions.

Fellowship and drinks with beloved brethren have been a very integral part of my travel experience all throughout. Different alumni chapter offers vastly different fellowship experiences like the kinds of local wines they offer – wines made from coconut, rice, sugar cane and some from local fruit bearing trees.

From the north of the country down to the south, from the east to the west - I have been to numerous places, to visit chapters - I have stopped counting. I haven't been to everywhere, but it remains in my bucket list. When there are chapters yet to visited, the journey goes on.

Appreciations of fellowship experiences are subjective in nature. It depends on the opinion of the one that experiences them. My travels in DeMolay the past decade or so has given me a lot of valuable life lessons and knowledge. It has given me the opportunity to establish a network of life-long friends and brothers. It has afforded me the enviable opportunity to learn of the local chapter, community culture and relish what it could offer for my personal growth and development. My view of my world and how I genuinely appreciate who I currently am and what I have become, were due to these numerous travels I took and the adventures I braved. DeMolay has indeed brought me to the world of travel and travel made me a better person, just like DeMolay.

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT DEMOLAY

1. Since 1919, DeMolay has been sponsored by the Masonic Fraternity. It was a tradition and custom for professions and cities to have patron saints. San Francisco had St. Francis, carpenters have St. Joseph, St. Cecilia is for musicians, and Masons had St. John. Some had St. John the Baptist which is observed in June while others had St. John the Evangelist, observed on December 27. The Masonic Fraternity eventually went with both St. Johns. As tradition tells us, St. John was the youngest of the apostles and why he is usually depicted without a beard. Given this dual role as patron of Masonry and Patron of youth, he is depicted on the Guiled of the Leather Apron jewel of the Order of DeMolay, a nod to an advisor of the young men of DeMolay who exemplify the ideals and precepts of the Order of DeMolay in his daily life as well as his work with the young men in DeMolay.

2. In 1940, the Order of DeMolay undertook a fundraising project to donate a statue in the entrance hall of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. A plate at the base would say that it was donated by the boys of the Order of DeMolay. Donated by DeMolays across the world, U.S. President Harry S. Truman, an Honorary Grand Master of DeMolay International, was there to dedicate the impressive statue. He started his speech with "It is a great privilege to dedicate this inspiring statue of George Washington. This is the climax of many years of planning and effort. I congratulate particularly the Order of DeMolay, whose contributions have made this statue a reality."

3. In the Philippines, March 13th of every year is observed as a DeMolay Obligatory Day. On March 15, 1985, Founding Grand Master Dad Macario R. Ramos Sr. issued Edict No. 001 observing March 13th of each year as DeMolay Obligatory Day making it the 8th Obligatory Day of DeMolays. It shall be fittingly celebrated and observed by all DeMolay Chapters in the Philippines. Incidentally, this Obligatory Day falls during the celebration of the DeMolay Week.

4. The Philippine DeMolay Youth Center houses the main operations of the Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay of the Republic of the Philippines as well as its appendant organizations the Federated Mothers' Club, DeMolay Foundation, Grand Court of Chevaliers, Grand Preceptory of the Legion of Honor, and the Grand Priory of the Order of Knighthood. Separate office modules are also provided for the Order of the Rainbow for Girls and Job's Daughters International in the Philippines. The second level of the Center features the main ceremonial hall complete with an anteroom with lockers, and an Executive Chamber at the back of the East station that serves as waiting lounge for dignitaries.

5. Dad Macario R. Ramos Sr., whose name was not only a DeMolay Chapter now but also a Masonic Lodge, is the Founding Grand Master of the Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay of the Republic of the Philippines. "Dad Mac" is a World War II veteran with the rank of a Colonel and a survivor of the infamous Bataan Death March where approximately 75,000 American and Filipino soldiers were made to walk as forcible transfer from Bataan to Capas, Tarlac.

6. In 1996, Brother William Jefferson "Bill" Clinton, then United States President broke protocol and met with his DeMolay Brothers while attending the 1996 Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation in the Philippines. It was said that during a motorcade, Brother Bill Clinton saw young men carrying a streaming welcoming him in the Philippines and instructed his security he wants to meet those kids. Those kids are young members of the Order of DeMolay in the Philippines.

