

Delaware Valley Chapter

Articles From

- Chris L.
- Eric B.
- Riley S.
- Richard L.
- Clayton S.
- Ian S.
- Brian V.
- Dad Marren
- Dad Stoneking

Letter from Dad Marren

My brothers; Congratulations to our 2 new members Brian and Ryan, welcome aboard. It gives me a lot of pride and pleasure as chapter Dad to see that Del-Val Chapter is in possession of the traveling trophy. A special thanks goes out to the Stoneking family as Dad Stoneking put in the time and miles on his car to make this happen. It could not be done without the dedication of the DeMolay members, A job well done. A good turnout by Del-Val at the bowling tournament, but we did more damage to the pizza and soda than to the pins on the lanes. I think all there had a blast. The chapters ritual evaluation is January 22nd, whatever happens I want our DeMolay' to know we might be a young and inexperienced chapter right now but you guys have practiced your hearts out and I am proud to be the Chapter Dad at Del-Val Chapter. For Country, for Honor, for DeMolay, Dad Marren

Letter from the Master Councilor

Guys, This is my last article as Master Councilor and it has been a great experience working with you guys. I remember when I was SC and we couldn't even open a meeting. But then, with the help and hard work of the guys in the chapter, we brought back the previous luster of the chapter. I could always count on Riley to help me out and we've been through a lot. (from getting beat up at convention, being honorary State officers and LTC). So, I feel really confident leaving Riley to lead you guys. I know he will do well and keep up the chapters success. It has been a privilege to work with every one and I hope you all have the opportunity to be MC and work with such great guys. Fraternally, Chris L.

Letter from the Senior Councilor

Hey guys! Sorry about last month's article that I missed. This, being my last article as a councilor for Del-Val is bound to be short and descriptive. I would just like to issue a thanks to all the guys for putting up with me for the past few months while everyone else got used to their chairs and all the guys in the chapter got a better feeling of what DeMolay was all about. Now as Riley begins to step up into the MC chair and Chris steps down I am confident our chapter will become not only the best in D3, but the best in all of NJ DeMolay. You all will, however, get to keep hearing from me, hopefully from not only the Scribe Desk, but from being but from being your D3MC. I wish Riley the best of luck and would like to congratulate Chris on the best term I have seen in a long time as MC. Remember guys, I am here for guidance as a PMC and as a State Officer, so if you need anything or someone to talk to I am here for you all. Thanks for putting up with me. Respectfully Submitted,
Brother Eric B., PMC Del- Val

Letter From the Junior Councilor

Hey guys! Well, this is my last article as Junior Councilor, and hopefully if all goes well I will be writing the Master Councilors letter next month. We have had a great term with Chris, and I have put together what I hope will be an equally excellent term plan. I have learned a lot as Junior Councilor and feel I am ready to move up in our chapter room. I look forward to an exciting and challenging term as Master Councilor if elected. If there is anything I can do to make your DeMolay experience in the chapter better, please do not hesitate to ask. Fraternally, Riley S.



As of January 18th, Del-Val is in 3rd place for COTY with 1500 points. While this does not include all of the points we have earned to date (2250), the front running Chapter, Ethan Allen, has a significant lead at 3300 points. The key to their lead is 1200 points for public relations. One thing we can do to close the gap is LCC's. It looks like the online web site is back up and running so anyone who has not yet earned their Lamp of Knowledge should point their web browser to <http://www.njdemolay.org/lcc/>. Every LCC lesson completed by each member is worth 100 points, plus a bonus 100 points if you complete all five. That's 600 points that each of you can contribute toward our Chapter winning COTY! By Dad Stoneking

This is YOUR Chapter Newsletter Send in whatever article you want To Chris L.

Letters of Intent Received

Riley S. for Master Councilor
Ian S. for Senior Councilor
Matthew W. for Junior councilor

DAD's Den

Well, after a quite December the new year is upon us and there has been a flurry of DeMolay activity. At the State level we have had the first Degree class of the year, the first athletic event with Bowling, and several SMCOV's. Capital had an awards night and Clifton and Mo-Town had installation of officers. Del-Val Chapter has observed Patriots day, and had a fun night out watching the Trenton Devils hockey team. There are lots more activities coming up, including Winterfest in February, and I hope all of you will participate in as many of them as possible. DeMolay has a lot to offer, and you get more out of it by putting more into it.

Fraternally, Dad Stoneking

January-February Calendar

- 01/25 Deadline for Winterfest Forms
- 01/27 Chapter Masonic Home Visit 8:30AM
(Formal)
Burlington, NJ
- 02/08-10 Winterfest Weekend 6:00-7:30PM
Bordentown, NJ
- 02/12 Regular Meeting (Casual) 7:30PM
Election of Officers
Riverside, NJ
- 02/16 Del-Val Installation of Officers 7:30PM
(Formal)
Riverside, NJ

Mo-Town Installation

On January 12th, 2008 Mo-Town Chapter had their Installation of Officers, which had a wonderful turnout, including the Stoneking' from our chapter. Frank C. was installed as the Master Councilor. After the Installation, there was good food, and there was a chance for everyone to enjoy themselves and catch up with friends from other chapters. All in All, it was a great night. By Ian S.

DeMolay University

DeMolay University which was held on November 3rd 2007 was a lot of fun. It was held at the Central Valley of NJ. There were a lot of cool classes like fundraising and membership where you learned the half a watermelon herd of buffalo speech. Some other classes were how to become a state officers and event planning. Breakfast and lunch were served and they were delicious. After lunch you had the choice of playing ultimate Frisbee or DeMolay Jeopardy. During DeMolay Jeopardy our own Eric B. broke out in a dance which amused everyone. DeMolay University was a great success and I am glad I went. By Clayton S.



State Bowling

This past Sunday, Jan 13th, was a special event for DeMolay. We had a state bowling tournament. The event was held at Hamilton lanes in Hamilton N.J. Many chapters showed up including Clifton, Lincoln Park, and Capital just to name a few. All of the DeMolay' were divided into teams. That's when the fun began. We ate some delicious pizza, drank some soda, and bowled. We all bowled three games. Most of our chapter did pretty well. I bowled the high game of 149. In the end we all walked away with a really great time. By Brian V.

Lincoln Park SMCOV

This SMCOV was attended by two Del-Val members and an advisor, Ian S., DAD Stoneking, and myself, after making an almost two hour trek up to the north. We also saw members from Clifton and the entire State Line, including Auerbach, showing up in street clothes after having just landed from California. Lincoln Park has recently re-located to Pompton Lakes and our looking forward to growing the chapter in their new home. The program was enjoyable and we finished with cupcakes and soda, before the long journey home. By Riley S.

**Do you have something to put in the Chapter Newsletter
Send it in to Chris L. and see your name in print**

Big Del-Val welcome to our new members

Matt W.r, Brian V. and Ryan S.

Movie Night

On December 29th, 2007 our chapter went to the Regal Burlington theater to see National Treasure 2: book of secrets. Many people made it, with about a dozen DeMolays and senior DeMolays, as well as 2 prospects. The general consensus was that the movie was great, and the night was enjoyed by all. By Ian S.

Chapter Visitation to Capital Chapter

Since our normal meeting night would have been Christmas, we went as a chapter to Capital Chapter up in Pennington, NJ on Dec. 20. We had 6 DeMolay' and 2 Advisors. Me and Riley got to sit in the East for the meeting with their Master Councilor Jeff L. They did a great opening and closing (Ian helped out as JD) and they short ob'ed 2 new DeMolay (way to go Capital). Then we went down stairs and played games and ate Pizza and dessert. Great meeting, great games, great eats, GREAT NIGHT.

By Chris L.

Jacques DeMolay 23rd Grand Master of the Knights Templar



DCI

On Nov. 30th, the 3rd DeMolay District had a District Chapter of Instruction, in Freehold, NJ. As Christopher was unable to attend, I drove to Freehold and met Dad Stoneking, Riley and Ian. As an advisor, I never thought I would go to a DeMolay event and find what I found. How could anyone be allowed to do what they did. Chocolate Cheesecake Hershey kisses, how could they. We were all aghast at what we found in the candy dishes. I think that a District Chapter of instruction has merit and I feel that it is a work in progress. All who participated did a good job and should be commended. However more work is needed to make this an event for all DeMolay' (young and old) to learn from. By Dad LaBaw

Ethan Allen SMCOV

On January 16th, 2008, the Ethan Allen Chapter had their SMCOV. The Stonekings, along with one of the newest members Ryan S., drove a long way to get there, but it was worth it. The Gasorek brothers got their Representative DeMolay Award, and their Ritual was great. Afterwards, there was good food, soda, and then we had a long drive home. The night was a great success for Ethan Allen, and it was very worth the drive. By Ian S.

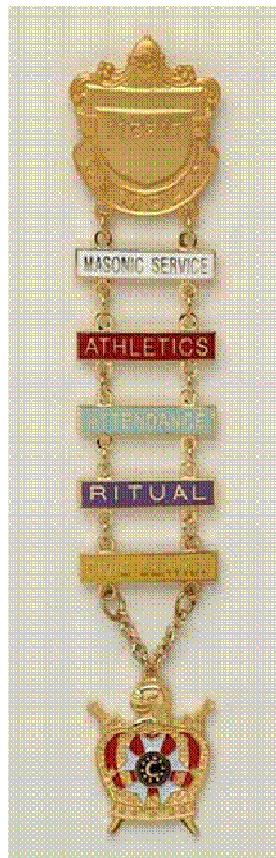
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Who was the first President of the United States?

Seems like an easy question doesn't it? After all, most of us learned that Brother George Washington was the first president of the United States of America. Technically though, John Hanson, not Washington was the first president. Although in 1789 Washington became the first president of the U.S. under the U.S. Constitution that we live under today. The U.S. existed since 1776, thirteen years before Washington became president. For eight of those years, the U.S. was governed by the Articles of Confederation, which were adopted by Congress in 1777 and ratified by the states in 1781. When Congress met in 1781, it elected John Hanson its "President of the U.S. in Congress assembled." (1782-Elias Boudinot, 1783-Thomas Mifflin, 1784-Richard Henry Lee, 1785-John Hancock, 1786-Nathan Gorman, 1787-Arthur St. Clair and 1788-Cyrus Griffin). After the election, George Washington wrote Hanson to congratulate him on his "appointment to fill the most important Seat in the United States." Today, Hanson is rarely remembered because his position carried little power and because the system of government that elected him was quickly replaced. By Dad LaBaw

Beginning of Year Degrees 2008

This year our end of year degrees were held at the beginning of the year, but this did not stop Del-Val from bringing more members. It was held at Raritan Valley Chapter in Somerville, and we brought two new initiates, Brian V. and Ryan S. Overall NJ brought in about nine new members, a good start for this year. The ritual was good, and the DeMolay Degree was very well done. I want to take this opportunity to welcome Brian and Ryan who have already proven themselves to be active members of DeMolay both in our Chapter and around the State. By Riley S.



MERIT BARS

Merit bars are awarded for service in DeMolay activities, with the exception of Scholastics and Religion. The Advisory Council makes the final determination of whether a member has met the requirements for each bar.

Each Merit Bar is earned in five colors:
1st White 2nd Red 3rd Blue 4th Purple 5th Gold

The following are the category of Merit Bars:

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| *Athletics | *Attendance |
| *Civic Service | *Conclave |
| *Fine Art | *Fund-Raising |
| *Installing | *Journalism |
| *Correspondence course | *Masonic Attendance |
| *Masonic Service | *Membership |
| *Merit | *Priory |
| *Religion | *Scholastics |
| *Visitation | *Ritual |

To learn more about the requirements for each category, look in your DeMolay Resource Guide, or ask an advisor.

Caroling at the Masonic Home

On Dec. 18th, we went to the Masonic Home and met Dad Blew. I played my trumpet, my brother Christopher played his sax and Dad Blew played the trombone. My dad backed us up on the bells. We walked around to different spots at the home and played. Most of the songs we played sounded pretty good. The guests at the home seemed to enjoy it. They sang along and made requests. Next year we'll have more people there and practice the music ahead of time. By Richard L.

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Trenton Devils Hockey Game

On the 19th of January some members of Del-Val attended a Trenton Devils hockey game. Some of the members that attended were Brian V., Ryan S., the Stonekings, Chris L, And one prospect Dustin L. During the hockey game everyone enjoyed dancing and having a good time. There was a great turn out and a good time was had by all. By Clayton S.

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Installation Dinner

On December 21st Members of Del-Val helped the masons by serving food at their installation dinner. The members that showed up were Eric B., Matt W., Steve F., James F., Nick G., and the Stonekings. Just before the dinner the Worshipful Master Gave all the helping DeMolays Leather bound planners with the lodges symbol on it. During this event a lot got done and everyone had fun. By Clayton S.



1920's DeMolay Emblem

Del-Val SMCOV

On Nov. 27, Del-Val had their SMCOV. SMC Andrew Strucek came down with his state officers and put on a great program. We worked real hard on our ritual and I think we did a great job on our opening. We surprised Andrew with souvenirs from Culverts and our word of the day was "Better Butter Burger", which Andrew used in his closing talk about DeMolay. By Chris L.

Del-Val Holiday Party

At our last meeting before Christmas we sort of had a holiday party. We had all of the presents we got the children around the bottom of our Christmas tree. We made plans for our trip to the Masonic Home to do Christmas caroling and for our chapter visitation to Capital. We closed out the night with pizza and cookies. By Chris L.

Patriots Day Observance

At our last meeting we had our Patriots Day Obligatory observance. We had Dad Richard Glass USN Retired, as our guest speaker. He gave a great talk on the history of the Medal of Honor and had many stories to tell about the many recipients that he has met and talked to. By Richard L.