



THE STANDARD

September 2025

The Monthly Newsletter for Pilgrim Chapter - DeMolay



FROM THE EAST



Hey everybody! Just want to remind you all that the first meeting of this term is around the corner. I would like to highly encourage everyone to have minimal book usage if possible for this meeting. I also want to remind you all to invite you teachers out to this event because we are observing Educational Day during this meeting. Our Educational Day event is an important one because it shows how important teachers and public schools are for our country. We will have dinner with our teachers and demonstrate some ritual including the History Lecture and the Ceremony of Light. Because of this, we will be having **two ritual practices** on the third and the ninth of September. I hope that you all can make it out!



At 5PM on Stated Meeting days, we hold a Chapter dinner. This is a good time for the guys to sit together and relax a bit before the formality of the meeting.

We are looking for assistance in regard to the dinners that are before the meeting. If you would like to contribute, please click on [THIS LINK](#) or scan the QR code below to sign up.



Dad's Corner

Pilgrim Chapter's Month of Adventure and Achievement

This month was a busy one for Pilgrim Chapter, as our members spent back-to-back weekends away from home, taking part in activities that combined fellowship, leadership development, and personal growth.

The month began at KeyMan Conference at the Masonic Villages in Elizabethtown. Members enjoyed a wide range of games, sports, and leadership workshops throughout the week. This year, we introduced a new expectation for attendees: all members were required to learn their DeMolay Obligations. We are proud to report that three of our members successfully accomplished this important milestone, while another attendee had already previously earned his obligation. This commitment reflects our chapter's dedication to ritual excellence and personal responsibility.

Following KeyMan, our members packed their bags once more and traveled to Camp Nawakwa in Biglerville for a weekend retreat. The days were filled with sports, obstacle courses, leadership sessions, and meaningful time spent working on their Representative DeMolay documents. Members also dedicated time to ritual work, strengthening one of the core pillars of our organization.

A special highlight of the weekend was the outstanding achievement of Brother Ian, who became the first member of Pilgrim Chapter to earn full certification in the entirety of the Stated Meeting Ritual. This accomplishment represents a significant milestone for both him and the Chapter, and we hope it inspires others to follow his example.

With leadership workshops, ritual proficiency, and countless memories made, this month showcased the energy, dedication, and growth of Pilgrim Chapter. We look forward to building on these experiences as we continue to develop young men into leaders of character.

PILGRIM CHAPTER

100 YEARS
Of DeMolay in Harrisburg, PA

Pilgrim Chapter is sponsored by:

- Pilgrim Commandery No. 11
- Perseverance Lodge No. 21



Fundraising Committee Report

Hello everyone!

We have a couple of fundraisers that will take place over the next few months, and I just wanted to take this chance to tell you about them. Our first is the upcoming Dutch County Pretzel fundraiser, starting September 14 and ending September 28, with the pickup date being October 26. The prices range from \$7-\$16, and all funds will be going straight to the individual accounts of the members, so it is a good chance to build back money for other fun events during the term. You can find the order form here: [Dutch County Pretzels order form](#) (Link is also on BAND).



Soft Pretzels



We also have our dime toss at the upcoming Pumpkin Fest at Addams-Ricci park, on Saturday, October 11 from 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM, and Sunday, October 12, from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM. To sign up, go to this link: [Pumpkin fest sign-ups](#) (Again, also on BAND).



I hope to see as many members as possible come out, as this is going to be an all-hands-on-deck event.



Merit Bars may be awarded to DeMolays to recognize their achievements in various phases of Chapter activity with additional bars available for outside activities.

There are 22 categories of Merit Bars that members can earn, with each category having five colors designating the number of times a DeMolay has received an award in that category.

The color designation for the number of times a merit bar is earned is as follows:



This month we will look at the following Merit Bars: **Fundraising, Merit, Religion and Visitation.**



The **Fundraising Merit Bar** is awarded to a DeMolay for working on at least three different fund-raising projects for the Chapter, for a total of twenty hours, without direct financial remuneration to himself.



The **Merit Merit Bar** is awarded for contributing twenty hours of service to DeMolay in an area not covered by another bar, with no financial remuneration to either individual or the Chapter.



The **Religion Merit Bar** is awarded for attending at least thirty regular weekly religious services per year.



The **Visitation Merit Bar** is awarded for six visitations at regular Chapter meetings of a Chapter or Manor other than his own, or a total traveled distance of 150 miles (one way).

Scan the QR code below or click on [THIS LINK](#) to be taken to the Merit Bar Record form. Print out this form, and during the term keep track of which Merit Bars you have earned. Turn this form into the Chapter Advisor **NO LATER THAN December 1st** so that the Merit Bars can be ordered in time for the January installation.





Membership Committee Report

Hey everyone, This is Landon, your Junior Councilor, here to remind everyone that [airsoft](#) is coming up soon. Airsoft is typically one of our more successful events so be sure to bring as many prospects as you can gather. Whether you know them well or not, just invite them out.



Secondly, we have a [cemetery cleanup](#) the same day. Members who attend the cleanup get 50% of the price off for Airsoft. Again, be sure to invite out as many prospects as possible. This is Landon, your Junior Councilor, and I will see you all at airsoft



Cemetery Clean Up

Date: 9/13/2025

Time:

Meet @ 9:00 AM

Work 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Location: Midland

Cemetery

206 Kelker St

Harrisburg, PA 17113



Brotherhood Airsoft

Date: 9/13/2025

Time: 2:00 PM

Location: Outdoor Xtreme

Linglestown 1 Iru Ln

Harrisburg, PA 17112



Join us on **10/25/2025** for
"A Day in Gettysburg"



Self-Guided Gettysburg Battlefield Tour

Corn Maze



RSVP BY:
10/05/2025



★ ★ ★ ★ ★
DEMOLAY
PENNSYLVANIA

FOOTBALL WEEKEND

OCTOBER 17-19

RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 14TH



From August 14th-17th, several young men from Pilgrim Chapter attended the Leadership Retreat at Camp Nawakwa. In addition to taking advantage of the activities available at the camp (such as hiking and Gaga Ball), they also took advantage of the time to work on their ritual.

The members had the chance to demonstrate their proficiency in the ritual for various officer roles. A member is "certified" in that role if they can successfully perform the appropriate ritual.

Here is a breakdown, by role, of member certification during the retreat:

Meeting Ritual:

- Master Councilor: 2 members
- Senior Councilor: 2 members
- Junior Councilor: 1 member
- Senior Deacon: 2 members
- Junior Deacon: 2 members
- Senior Steward: 2 members
- Junior Steward: 2 members
- Chaplain: 1 member
- Marshal: 2 members

DeMolay Degree:

- Geoffrey de Charney: 1 member
- Lord Constable: 1 member

In addition to obtaining certification in the ritual, several members began their Representative DeMolay paperwork. The Representative DeMolay award is the highest self-achievement award a DeMolay can earn.

Pilgrim Chapter extends heartfelt gratitude to Dave Gerstenlauer for his personal contribution to this event. Your support truly makes a difference!





UPCOMING EVENTS

SEP 6

MATOC

Patton Campus
1244 Bainbridge Road
Elizabethtown, PA 17022

Event
Information:



Event
Information:



Cemetery Cleanup

Midland Cemetery
206 Kelker Street
Harrisburg, PA 17113

SEP 13

SEP 13

Airsoft

Outdoor Xtreme
1 Iru Lane
Harrisburg, PA 17112

Event
Information:



Event
Information:



Stated Meeting

Consistory
2701 N 3rd St
Harrisburg, PA 17110

SEP 14

SEP 28

Stated Meeting

Consistory
2701 N 3rd St
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Event
Information:



4PM: Practice
5PM: Dinner
6PM: Meeting

KEEP ON YOUR RADAR

OCT 11-12

Pumpkin Fest

Adams-Ricci Park
100 E Penn Dr
Enola, PA 17025

Event
Information:



If viewing on mobile/computer, press/click on the even to visit the page the QR code points to.

September
3rd



7PM - 9PM

PRACTICE

We will be "hitting the ground running" as we start the term with the observation of Educational Day. This iteration will be different than what we are used to as the members will be inviting their favorite teachers to attend. With that in mind, we should take every chance to make sure our ritual is sharp. Haven't been to a meeting in a while? This is the perfect time to brush up. In a new position? This is the time to run through the ritual and get it right. Certified in the ritual you need to know, and deliver it perfectly? You should still come so the team can function as a whole. Sign up on BAND to verify your attendance.

September
9th



7PM - 9PM

LAST CALL FOR BANQUET TICKETS!



ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

Join Pilgrim Chapter for a banquet celebrating a **Century of DeMolay in Harrisburg, PA!**

Anyone interested in attending can request a Ticket Reservation Form by emailing pilgrimdemolaypa@gmail.com

Event Details

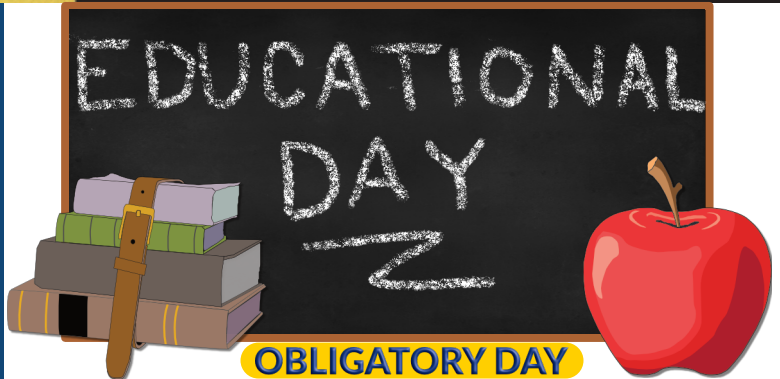
- Date: September 28th, 2025.
- Location: Scottish Rite Cathedral, 2701 N. Third St., Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110
- Social Time: Starting at 4:00 PM.
- Dinner: Served promptly at 5:30 PM.
- Cost Per Seat: \$35.00/Individual OR \$60.00/Couple
- Deadline For Seating: 9/12/2025

BINGO DeMOLAY BINGO FUNDRAISER

DECEMBER 14, 2025

2:00 – 4:00 PM

**SEVERAL BASKET PRIZES
& OTHER SMALLER GAMES**



We will be holding our Educational Day program on September 14th. Please invite your favorite teachers out to his event.

"Dad" Winters created a flyer that you can use as an invitation. It can be found on BAND [HERE](#), or scan the QR code below.



Chapter Advisor

Hunter Winters
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Newsletter Submissions

Jon Nalepka
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Keep up to date in the BAND app:

