Dear Florida DeMolay family,

Again, I join you in the hope that you are following the recommended safety and quarantine procedures to protect you and each other, and distanced, distancing yourself from others and minimizing your risk of exposure to COVID-19.

The members of our Executive Staff and I have had the extreme pleasure to “meet” (virtually) with several Chapters once all this began – individually and collectively. I continue to be wowed by the entire DeMolay family, our DeMolay members and Advisors who all mentioned Dad in our Tuesday Order of DeMolay.

Each of you are truly awesome.

Many DeMolay entities have also begun to hold regular sessions related to DeMolay education. For example, Florida International hosts a “via Live Webinars” each Wednesday evening at 8 pm (Eastern), and Florida’s own JBU Program hosts a Thursday 8 pm session each Thursday evening at 7:30 pm (Central). You are all very respectful and on time. I am pleased to report that South Miami Chapter has been declared as reactivated, with a new Advisory Council appointed. It’s the process of translating the administrative processes to the new Advisors, and which begin their time and/or recruitment as soon as we are wise.

We continue to review and interpret the restrictions and limitations imposed on by state, national, state and local government. As you are aware, we have a grand Master stay-at-home order through the end of April, which will remain in effect for several weeks and fall to specific purposes, such as for physical fitness. Additionally, our Grand Master of Masons has ordered a moratorium on in-person meetings through May 4th. We will continue to update as necessary, based on the intel we receive from the Governor who is the leader of our Executive Staff, which employs only the ritualistic prayers. I relay Dad Whitaker’s approval, leaving it to the individual Chapters’ discretion to adhere, or not,

We also draw your attention to the recently adopted changes to the Athletics Merit Bar which our Executive Officers and Masters Councilors have had to make. As you know the Merit Bar qualifications as outlined in the Bylaws, Rules & Regulations. Should a DeMolay be overzealous, and exceed the goal, each time the member participates, he/she will receive credit for an “Athletics Merit Bar” – the equivalent of six game competitions. As noted, if a DeMolay meets the established goal each week, it shall count for one of the six game competitions originally prescribed in the Appendix of the Bylaws, Rules & Regulations of DeMolay International.

Each of you are required to faithfully record and report your activity to achieve this qualification. This is an opportunity to participate in the annual FL DeMolay athletics Merit Bar. I would rather keep the business of the Chapter be thorough and uninterrupted, than have the efficiencies and effectiveness of these discussions be minimized by the inclusion of ritualistic ceremony. I relay Dad Whitaker’s approval, leaving it to the individual Chapters’ discretion to adhere, or not.

I am pleased to report that South Miami Chapter has been declared as reactivated, with a new Advisory Council appointed. We’re in the process of transitioning the administrative processes to the new Advisors, and which begin their time and/or recruitment as soon as we are wise.

I have included a PDF document of the Merit Bar requirements adopted by DeMolay International for your information.

During our quarantined period of quarantine, the requirement for the Athletic Merit Bar within the Jurisdiction of Florida is hereby amended to read as follows:

A. Athletics – For participating in a Chapter or Manor’s athletic program.
   The Master Councilor shall select a week goal for the DeMolay’s athletics performance, subject to the limitations imposed by the governing authorities. To achieve the goal, the DeMolay or Squire must adhere to the following:
   1) While Chapter Master Councilors are encouraged to do what they can to maximize normally during this period of downtime, thinking of new and innovative ways to meet the benchmarks of the current term, all PMC-MSA requirements regarding fund-raisers are hereby waived for Florida DeMolays (for the term only). With heightened levels of unemployment and the current economic crises, it is unreasonable and irresponsible to impose our Chapter’s rules – seek funding!!
   2) Dad Whitaker has, however, authorized Chapters to utilize the Opening and Closing ritualistic ceremonies by virtual means. I relay Dad Whitaker’s approval, leaving it to the individual Chapters’ discretion to adhere, or not.
   3) Dad Whitaker has, however, authorized Chapters to utilize the Opening and Closing ritualistic ceremonies by virtual means. I relay Dad Whitaker’s approval, leaving it to the individual Chapters’ discretion to adhere, or not. If a Chapter has more time limits, I would rather the business of the Chapter be thorough and uninterrupted, than have the efficiency and effectiveness of these discussions be minimized by the inclusion of ritualistic ceremony. Again, I am pleased to report (and recommend) the weekly meeting agenda organized by your Executive Officers which empowers you to develop a meaningful meeting.

Chapter leaders are reminded of the importance of meeting DeMolay activity during the coming weeks. We have included a PDF document of the Merit Bar requirements adopted by DeMolay International for your information.

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Dad R. Jordan “Jody” Meguyar
Executive Officer for the Florida Jurisdiction
Active Member of the International Supreme Council

Consistent with the Merit Bar qualifications as outlined in the Rules, Regulations & Bylaws, and by taking an approach for virtual participation for Chapter meetings and events and other official activities, I welcome and anticipate an increase in Merit Bar awards, particularly in the following categories: Correspondence Courses, Athletics, Violation, Club Service, Masonic Attendance, Religion, Affairs, Scholarship, and Technology.

To each of you, I ask that you please be mindful of our crucial responsibility to heed all warnings and limitations imposed upon us. We will come through this phase of our existence with a stronger, more unified, and dedicated fraternity, and I am overjoyed to hear you all for you all continue to do so promote our Order and its mission.

Fraternally yours,

Thank you for all you continue to do to promote our Order and its mission.

Best wishes,

Please see our full list at