



THE STANDARD

March 2026

The Monthly Newsletter for Pilgrim Chapter - DeMolay



FROM THE EAST



Hello everyone!

I wanted to take this time to talk to you about our upcoming events outside of our normal Stated Meetings. Firstly, for this month, we have the Patriots Class in Reading on the Fourteenth. We will be leaving the consistory by 7:45AM that day, and hope to be home by around 7:00PM. If you wish to attend, you must actively participate in the degree conferral (see "Dad" Winters for available roles). Next, we will also need volunteers to help at concessions for the Zembo

Shrine circus on the Twentieth and Twenty-first. Also on the 21st, we will assist at the Blood Drive at the Consistory. On the 25th, we will visit the Riverside Chapter in York (the visit originally scheduled in January that had to be postponed due to snow). Our last events for the month are our trip to Escape Games in New Cumberland for an Escape Room on the 28th, after which we will go to get ice cream at Faye's Ice Cream Parlor, and our Devotional Day on the 29th, where we will attend a service at St. Paul's United Church Of Christ in Mechanicsburg.

Moving on to April, there are a few highlights- first of all being our Wildwood Cleanup and Geocaching trip. We plan to arrive around 9:40 on April 11th and help with a trash cleanup around the park. Afterwards, we plan to look for some of the many Geocaches hidden around Wildwood and also release our own travel bug "into the wild". Also in April, from the 18th to the 19th, will be our Lock-in. During the lock-in, we will be hosting two WWE 2K26 tournaments on PS5, one for a Singles Champion and another for a Tag Team Champion, and there will be belts for our newly crowned champions! At 7 PM, we will watch night one of WrestleMania 42, and afterwards we will have a NERF war. Invite all of your friends out to this event! For any Freemasons reading this column, if you know of anybody between the ages of 12 and 21 who would like to watch wrestling with a good group of young men, please bring them out!

To round this out, I'd like to talk finally about May. We have two main highlights for the month; firstly, we will be helping to clean the consistory on the 9th. It's a great time to spend with friends, and great for getting service hours as well! Additionally, we will be heading to Knoebel's on the 30th of the month, and members are strongly encouraged to invite a prospect.

Finally, I'd like to thank you all for making this a great term so far!



Upcoming Chapter VISITATION March 25th: Riverside

Pilgrim Chapter is sponsored by:

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



WRESTLEMANIA 42

Night 1 Watch Party and Lock-In: April 19th 2026

Also featuring WWE2K 26 Tournaments!

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!



work and play day recap



On February 7th, members of Pilgrim Chapter donated their time to make knot bracelet kits for Caitlin's Smiles, a nonprofit organization based in Harrisburg. The bracelet kits the guys made will be part of craft bags that will reach children in hospitals, clinics, emergency departments, and other medical offices throughout Pennsylvania and the surrounding states of Ohio, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, Virginia, and Washington, D.C.



Sometimes it takes a bad situation to inspire something amazing. This statement is true of the birth of Caitlin's Smiles. Cheryl Hornung's young daughter, Caitlin, was only four when she was diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor. What followed included years of surgeries, chemotherapy, stays in the intensive care unit, and at children's hospitals in four different states. Through it all, Caitlin had a backpack full of arts and crafts supplies and would keep a positive attitude by creating art.

Shortly before her eighth birthday, Caitlin lost her battle. Cheryl, who had already purchased birthday and Christmas gifts for Caitlin, asked if she could donate them to the children at Penn State Children's Hospital. Seeing the smiles on those children's faces inspired her to start Caitlin's Smiles, which supplies craft kits, art supplies, and gift bags to kids with chronic and life-threatening illnesses.

After lunch, several members took advantage of the event's "Earn a Discount" pricing to receive discounted admission to Urban Air for participating in the service project.





PILGRIM CHAPTER

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania



DeMolay in Harrisburg, PA - Pilgrim Chapter

For over 100 years the Pilgrim Chapter of the Order of DeMolay has been developing young men into leaders through our timeless values and programs. Follow our page to learn how to support and get involved!
■ Nonprofit organization

We Have A Facebook Page!

At the end of last month, Pilgrim Chapter started a new Facebook page!

You might be wondering why. Members of Pilgrim Chapter already get notifications from BAND for any last-minute updates, but the Advisory Council realized that people outside the Chapter who want to attend events might miss out. They chose to use a Facebook page as the Chapter's public face to make communication easier and help the Chapter reach more people.

This Facebook page won't replace BAND, since some event details will still only be shared there. The main goal of the Facebook page is to help the Chapter share updates with its followers. It also helps promote the Chapter, whether by sharing posts in local Masonic Facebook groups or by parents passing along information to their friends. So, the next time your friend asks, "What do you do in DeMolay?" you'll have an easy way to show off all the amazing things our Chapter does.

You can access the Facebook page by clicking on the logo or scanning the QR code below.



Board Game Night

On February 21, Pilgrim Chapter hosted a Board Game Night. The evening began with a few rounds of no-stakes Blackjack as everyone arrived. After that, the group switched to Apples to Apples, where the serious tone of Blackjack gave way to plenty of Dad Jokes, especially from "Dad" George and "Dad" Nalepka, along with lots of clever puns. For the last game, the jokes continued, and the competitive spirit returned with Munchkin, a card game inspired by Dungeons & Dragons but without the role-playing. There were lots of alliances and betrayals right up to the end of the night.





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: **Fine Arts, Health & Fitness, Installing, Masonic Attendance, Masonic Service and Priory.**



The **Fine Arts Merit Bar** is awarded for working in or on a musical group, with a minimum of three (3) performances or participating in a minimum of two (2) theatrical productions. These need not be DeMolay related.



The **Health and Fitness Merit Bar** is awarded for completing one fitness goal, one nutritional goal, and for participating in at least one sports or fitness activity within a period of, and continuing for, one year. Goals are to be set by each individual with the approval of an Advisor.



The **Installing Merit Bar** is awarded for participating in three (3) Chapter Installation ceremonies as a member of the installing team.



The **Masonic Attendance Merit Bar** is awarded to an Active DeMolay who brings in three (3) different Master Masons in good standing to one or more DeMolay Chapter meetings. He may not be an Advisor of any Chapter or Jurisdiction. He must list each Mason and have the list confirmed by both the Master Councilor and the Chapter Advisor, limited to one bar per year.



The **Masonic Service Merit Bar** is awarded for participating in three (3) different Chapter Masonic Service projects with a minimum of ten (10) hours without financial remuneration to either individual or Chapter.

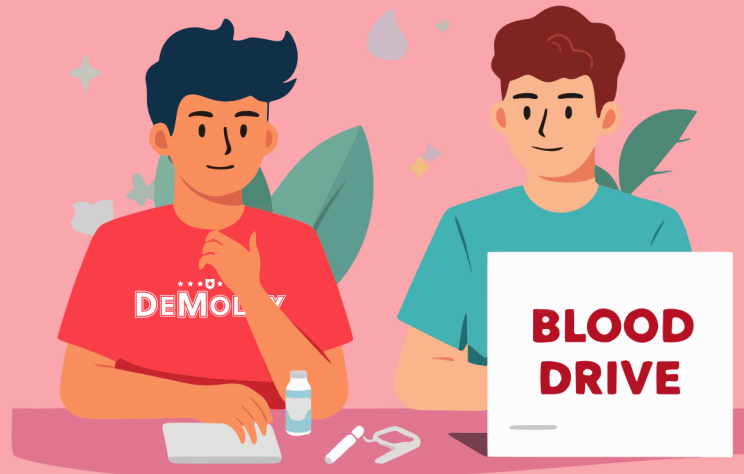


The **Priory Merit Bar** is awarded for being a Member in good standing of a Priory for a minimum of one year and attend two-thirds of the Priory functions. Priory must have held a minimum of six (6) activities other than regular meetings. The bar may be ordered by Priory Advisors.

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 June 1st** so that the Merit Bars can be ordered in time for the July installation.



Blood Drive Service Event



3/21/2026

Scottish Rite Consistory

We have been asked to help at the Blood Drive in March. When we come together to support the Blood Drive, we not only help save lives but also show our commitment to service. A strong turnout from us will help ensure this becomes a regular and highly anticipated event, opening more opportunities for all involved. Plus, your participation can be credited toward school-based volunteer requirements and the Masonic Service Merit Bar, so your service is recognized in more ways than one.



UPCOMING EVENTS

MAR 8

Please RSVP in BAND so we can get an accurate count for dinner.



Stated Meeting

Consistory
2701 N 3rd St
Harrisburg, PA 17110

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

Patriots Class

Reading Masonic Center
400 S 7th Ave
Reading, PA 19611

MAR 14

MAR 20-21



Zembo Circus Service Event

Zembo Shrine
2801 N 3rd St
Harrisburg, PA 17110



Blood Drive Service Event

Consistory
2701 N 3rd St
Harrisburg, PA 17110

MAR 21

We need as many people as possible for this event!

MAR 22

Please RSVP in BAND so we can get an accurate count for dinner.



Stated Meeting

Consistory
2701 N 3rd St
Harrisburg, PA 17110

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

Chapter Visit: Riverside Chapter

York Masonic Center
400 Masonic Dr
York, PA 17406

MAR 25

MAR 28

Escape Room
Escape Games
400 Market Street
Lemoyne, PA 17043

Ice Cream
Faye's
321 Bridge St.
New Cumberland, PA 17070

Event Information:
RSVP BY:
3/13/2026



Devotional Day

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
626 Williams Grove Rd
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

MAR 29

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

The Standard - March 2026



The "Masonic Penny Wars" FUNdraiser officially kicked off on January 11th at our Installation of Officers. This contest between the 2nd, 3rd and 19th Masonic Districts of Pennsylvania will run until May 31st.

Points are earned based on the donation amount converted into pennies (three quarters is 75 pennies [75 points], a \$10.00 bill is 1000 pennies [1000 points], etc.)

February was a quiet month due to a short-form meeting on February 8th (Super Bowl) and a canceled meeting on the 22nd. Advisors will start going out to Lodges in March, so we expect a shakeup in the leader board.

Here are the standings as of 2/28/2026:

| | | |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| LEADER | DISTRICT 3 | |
| 2ND PLACE | DISTRICT 2 | 85,500 POINTS BEHIND |
| 3RD PLACE | DISTRICT 19 | 100,000 POINTS BEHIND |

BROTHERLY SUPPORT



Ian is a member of the stage crew for the Cedar Cliff Productions presentation of The Music Man.

CEDAR CLIFF HIGH SCHOOL
proudly presents

MEREDITH WILLSON'S

THE MUSIC MAN



MARCH 12, 13, 14 AT 7 P.M. | MARCH 15 AT 2 P.M.

\$10 STUDENTS • \$15 ADULTS/AT THE DOOR
PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE AT
WWW.CEDARCLIFFPRODUCTIONS.COM

CEDARCLIFFPRODUCTIONS.COM  [CEDARCLIFFPRODUCTIONS](https://www.facebook.com/CEDARCLIFFPRODUCTIONS)



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Keep up to date with Pilgrim Chapter

