



## **DeMolay Obligatory Days and Ideas on how to observe them.**

**Obligatory Days are fixed as special ceremonial days and their observance is obligatory for all members of DeMolay unless prevented by unavoidable circumstances.**

### **The Seven Obligatory Days**

**Patriots' Day  
Devotional Day  
Parents' Day  
My Government Day  
Frank S. Land Memorial Day  
Day of Comfort  
Educational Day**

### **Patriots' Day**

On a day convenient to the Chapter during the month of February, each Chapter should arrange a special Patriots' Day meeting featuring the nation's great patriotic events and the great patriots who participated in them. The Standard Bearer usually directs this observance.

Events on this day can include:

- Presenting a flag that has flown over the capitol building, to a library, school, city or country governmental body, Masonic Lodge, Scottish Rite, or Shrine.
- Sponsor a patriotic speech competition, complete with prizes, of only DeMolays or open it to all young people.
- Attend a firework display together as a chapter.
- Put flags at patriotic memorial sites or on the graves of veterans.
- Pay tribute to living veterans.
- Sell flags for lawn display.
- Have a patriotic speaker at a chapter function.
- Contact your local veterans club and find out what you can do to help.
- Sponsor a member of the Armed Forces and send snail mail, pictures, or a care package to them.

### **Devotional Day**

On a day during the week that includes March 18, it is the duty of Chapter members to attend church or synagogue/temple as a group at which a special service has been arranged. The religious beliefs and creed of each DeMolay are his own, and he is encouraged to be a devout follower of its teachings. Observance of this day allows for an opportunity to publicly show our reverence for those personal beliefs.

Events on this day can include:

- Reading scripture.
- Playing the organ/piano.
- Singing a hymn.
- Purchasing altar flowers.
- Giving a flower to each lady present.
- Providing the refreshments for the social time following a religious service
- Assist in your local Sunday School class.
- Perform the Flower Talk at your local church service.
- Honor a local Clergy member for their service to the community.
- Donate a DeMolay Bible to each member's family.

### **Parents' Day**

Because the home and love of parents is essential to building good citizens, DeMolays should give special emphasis to Parents' Day, which is observed on a day between May 1 and Jun 21. The observance of Parents' Day is often under the direction of the Preceptors.

- Have a Special meeting honoring parents.
- Have a appreciation dinner.
- Perform the Flower Talk
- Prepare Mother's/Father's Day cards before or after a meeting to be sent home with the members.
- Host/Sponsor a Mother and Son activity.
- Host/Sponsor a Father and Son activity.
- Send flowers or balloons to parents at their work place on behalf of their son and the chapter.

### **My Government Day**

Observed during the month of July, My Government Day is designed to explain the government of the country, state, province or community in which the Chapter is located. The Orator and the Marshal may oversee the plans.

Events on this day can include:

- Present a flag to the city, school, or library. Obtaining one that has flown over the local government building adds special meaning to the presentation.
- March in a Parade, using as many chapter members as possible.
- Visit your Capitol or City Hall.
- Hold the observance at a patriotic statue in a park.
- Honor your Mayor/Governor with a presentation or award.
- Shadow your local public officials for a day.
- Obtain a proclamation declaring DeMolay Month/Day/Week.

### **Frank S. Land Memorial Day**

Schedule a convenient day near November 8, the day on which our founder died, to memorialize and pay tribute to Frank S. Land, Founder of the Order of DeMolay. On this day, Chapters are encouraged to carry out special fund-raising effort and donate the proceeds to a DeMolay charity.

Events on this day can include:

- Present a copy of the book "Hi Dad" to a local public or school library.
- Honor a special "Dad" (a father) in the community for displaying qualities of Frank S. Land. This could also be a foster dad or a "Big Brother".
- Have each member present a "Thank you" certificate to a father figure.
- Honor your Advisors for their work with the chapter.
- Plan a special trip to the Gravesite of "Dad" Land and to his office at the Service and Leadership Center.

### **Day of Comfort**

This special day should be held on a day convenient to the Chapter between November 15 and December 31. On DeMolay's Day of Comfort, every member of DeMolay should make an effort to visit the sick and carry words of comfort to those who are confined. The Almoner may be responsible for planning this observance.

Events on this day can include:

- Visit Patients in homes or hospitals. Take something to give out. It does not have to be something major - a flower or a small toy.
- Collect food and or volunteer for the needy, a local community kitchen, food pantry or food bank.
- Volunteer at a day care or custodial care center.
- Sponsor a local needy family.
- Distribute food, clean blankets, coats, warm socks, clothing to a shelter for the homeless.
- Sponsor a bingo or a party at a center for confined elders or youth.

### **Educational Day**

On Educational Day, a day convenient to the Chapter, it is the duty of each Chapter to arrange a program emphasizing the value of an education and the fact that we see the public schools as a bulwark of our liberty. The Junior and Senior Stewards may be assigned to make the plans for this day.

Events on this day can include:

- Have each chapter member present a token of appreciation to a favorite teacher.
- Present a Certificate of Appreciation to an outstanding teacher.
- Select a city/county wide "Teacher of the Year".
- Have a member give a speech on supporting public education.
- Have an educator give a talk on becoming a teacher.
- Become teaching assistants for a day at a local day care center.
- Host a Dinner of appreciation for a outstanding teacher.
- Have chapter members research their future career goals together and present them to one another.
- Attend a local Career Day Seminar.