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The Masonic youth orders of DeMolay, Job's Daughters, and Rainbow for Girls provide a safe place for young people to build leadership skills, form friendships, and learn fraternal values. Perhaps most important of all, youth orders provide long-term, consistent access to mentors. Here, youth leaders and adult advisors share how this experience has shaped them. In sum? Having a mentor can mean the difference between success and failure. Being one can mean a new outlook on life.



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Russell E. Charvonia, Grand Master



# REPAIRING THE WORLD

I find it interesting that our three Masonic youth orders were all founded as World War I came to an end (DeMolay, 1919; Job's Daughters, 1920; Rainbow for Girls, 1922). While we can't put ourselves in the exact mindset of those times, we can surmise that our Masonic brethren felt an obligation to begin repairing the world for our young people. They truly believed that they had just survived "the war to end all wars," and they wanted to ensure that future generations would never again experience such hatred and bloodshed.

While we may not be experiencing such a globally defining event today, we are reaching a societal tipping point. As technological advances make our world grow smaller, it has become easier to berate those whose opinions and attitudes differ from our own, seemingly without repercussion. But there is, of course, a cost: We are at risk of losing our sense of community. And despite social changes, our children still yearn for positive role models and genuine, face-to-face interactions.

Our youth orders help children cultivate the skills and attitudes needed to become well-rounded, compassionate, competent citizens. They demonstrate healthy relationships between girls and boys and adults and children, while teaching young people to be good leaders and supporters. They offer joy and friendships. There are few, if any, other realms where today's youth can gain these important lessons within a "safety net." Masonry offers a caring environment, helping children to experience and enjoy success, while learning from times when they might miss the mark.

In November, we had the privilege of rededicating DeMolay Drive, which leads up to our magnificent Masonic Home in Union City. It was truly beautiful to watch our young people interact with the residents of our Home, demonstrating how much one generation has to gain from another. Generations come together within our lodges as well, and we have much to learn from each other, too. There is no better "classroom" for young people than to see us treat each other with respect, dignity, and true acceptance.

Working with our Masonic youth orders affords each of us the opportunity to mentor the next generation of our fraternal family. Every action they observe in us, deliberate or inadvertent, is an example to them. Let us embrace our role as exemplars, to instill the Masonic values we hold so dear. I firmly believe that our next generation has something special to offer to society: their sincere concern and compassion for our world. While we demonstrate tolerance, acceptance, and appreciation of others, we can learn the same from them.

One of the best ways to repair the world is by investing our time and energy in our young people. When we do so, the return on our investment is immeasurable, and we'll surely see the positive returns as we prepare to hand society over to the next generation. ✧

# MENTORING - THEN AND NOW

## THE PRACTICE OF MENTORING WITHIN THE LODGE WALLS - AND OUTSIDE THEM - IS TIED TO OUR ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE

*By John L. Cooper III, Past Grand Master*

Mentoring young people is a tremendous privilege that we have as Masons, and supporting our Masonic youth orders is important both to the children we mentor and to us. We know that our three youth orders, DeMolay (1919), Job's Daughters (1920), and Rainbow for Girls (1922) are quickly approaching the century mark as a part of the family of Freemasonry. But did you also know that Freemasonry's association with young people started long before the founding of these three orders? Here is the story.

### ***Learning to listen and to respect***

In the Middle Ages in Europe, it was the custom for boys to work as apprentices to master craftsmen to learn a trade. In the case of operative stonemasons, the trade was the shaping of stones to be used for building castles, churches, and cathedrals. Of all the trades, it was one of the most difficult and exacting, and we know that our stonemason ancestors took their responsibilities to train these young men very seriously.

A boy was "apprenticed" to a master stonemason around age 7, but it would be a long time before he was trusted to begin the serious work of shaping blocks of stone. In the beginning, his duties were those of a servant in the household of the master stonemason. He was responsible for all the menial duties which such status implied: bringing in firewood, cleaning the workshop, sharpening the stonemason's tools, and generally doing anything that he was physically old enough to do.

But these formative years had value. Through them, the apprentice learned many things before he ever touched a piece of stone. His first lesson was to obey the master stonemason – a

valuable skill, because working with stone can be a very dangerous business. Before he could be trusted with the job of learning to work a piece of stone, the apprentice had to demonstrate that he could listen and follow instructions. It must have been as difficult then as it is now for a young person to learn to obey the instructions he is given, but – as the apprentice would later learn – his life, and that of his fellow craftsmen, might depend upon the master craftsman's orders.

At age 14, the young man was formally admitted as an apprentice of the lodge – a true apprentice, who was ready to be taught how to properly work a piece of stone. He was "entered" upon the rolls of the lodge, and thus became an "entered apprentice" stonemason. He would remain that for another seven years until he could be advanced to the status of a "fellow of the craft," at age 21.

During these crucial years, the master stonemason and the "fellows of the craft" were engaged in mentoring the "entered apprentice" stonemasons, who each year developed in strength and knowledge as they grew to manhood. This mentoring involved much more than teaching an apprentice how to properly work a stone or to set a stone in a wall or an arch. It involved communicating an understanding of how to respect the work of others, and how to get along with peers and superiors.

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*Continued on page 5*

MASONIC EDUCATION



### ***Early lessons, lifelong respect***

These early lessons, both for stonemasons and Freemasons, carry a lasting impact. They are so important that they are echoed today in the Installation Ceremony for the master of a Masonic lodge. As he is installed, the master is asked certain questions which he learned, or should have learned, in the days while he was still an Entered Apprentice Mason:

*You agree to be a good man and true, and strictly to obey the moral law.*

*You agree to pay a proper respect to the civil magistrate, to work diligently and act honorably by all men.*

*You agree to hold in veneration the original rulers and patrons of the Order of Masonry, and their regular successors, supreme and subordinate, according to their stations, and to submit to the awards and resolutions of your Brethren, when convened, in every case consistent with the Constitutions of the Order.*

These questions are not so much directed to the worshipful master who is about to be installed as the leader of his lodge, as they serve as a reminder of his days as an Entered Apprentice Mason, when he first learned the importance of *doing the right things* as well as *doing things right*.

As the worshipful master, our newly installed brother is expected to be the “master teacher” of his lodge. And, as a Mason, he is still expected to exhibit those fundamentals

of good character that will enable him to exercise his other skills to the best of his ability. He learned these skills as an Entered Apprentice Mason, or his brethren would never have chosen him to be the master of his lodge. And, he learned those important lessons from those who were his mentors.

### ***Looking forward and inward***

Mentoring young people, then as now, is a tremendous responsibility. It means that our lives must be lived so that those who learn from us learn the *right* lessons. For our stonemason forefathers, mentoring apprentices to become fellows of the craft, and even master stonemasons, involved much more than just teaching men how to work stone: It taught them how to shape their lives so that they would become, in time, good stonemasons and good men.

We still participate in this process as we mentor our Masonic youth today. We strive to live lives that are examples of good adults, and we teach them the values that have helped us become the successful Masons that we are.

But it didn't start for us in 1919, or 1920, or 1922. We have been doing it for a very long time. ✧

# A GATHERING OF RUBIES

## FRANK SHERMAN LAND AND THE ORDER OF DEMOLAY

*By Guillermo De Los Reyes and Paul Rich*

### ***A fortuitous encounter***

One of the earliest mentions of the word “mentor” is in a Greek myth of Odysseus preparing to leave for the Trojan War. As he leaves, Odysseus entrusts his young son, Telemachus, to his old friend and confidant, Mentor, hoping he will be well cared-for. Centuries later in 1699, Mentor’s legend grew when the French novel, “The Adventures of Telemachus,” was published by François Fénelon, the Archbishop of Cambrai. The novel recounted the educational travels of Telemachus and Mentor, who imparted great wisdom to the young boy in his father’s absence.

In Kansas City, Missouri in 1919, something rather similar happened when a young Freemason named Frank Sherman Land met a 16-year-old boy named Louis Lower. Land was a member of Ivanhoe Lodge No. 446, to which Lower’s father also belonged. When the elder Lower passed away, the master of Ivanhoe Lodge sought part-time employment for the boy to help him support his family and to cover his own educational expenses. Land stepped in to offer him a job, and they soon became close friends.

Land himself was precocious and ambitious, even as a boy. He started a Sunday

school class for younger children in the basement of his home when he was only 10 years old. Early on, he joined all the bodies of the York and Scottish Rites, as well as the Shrine. At the time he met Lower, Land was an active commander in the ritual presentations of the 30th degree, DeMolay Council of Kadosh, and part of the Scottish Rite.

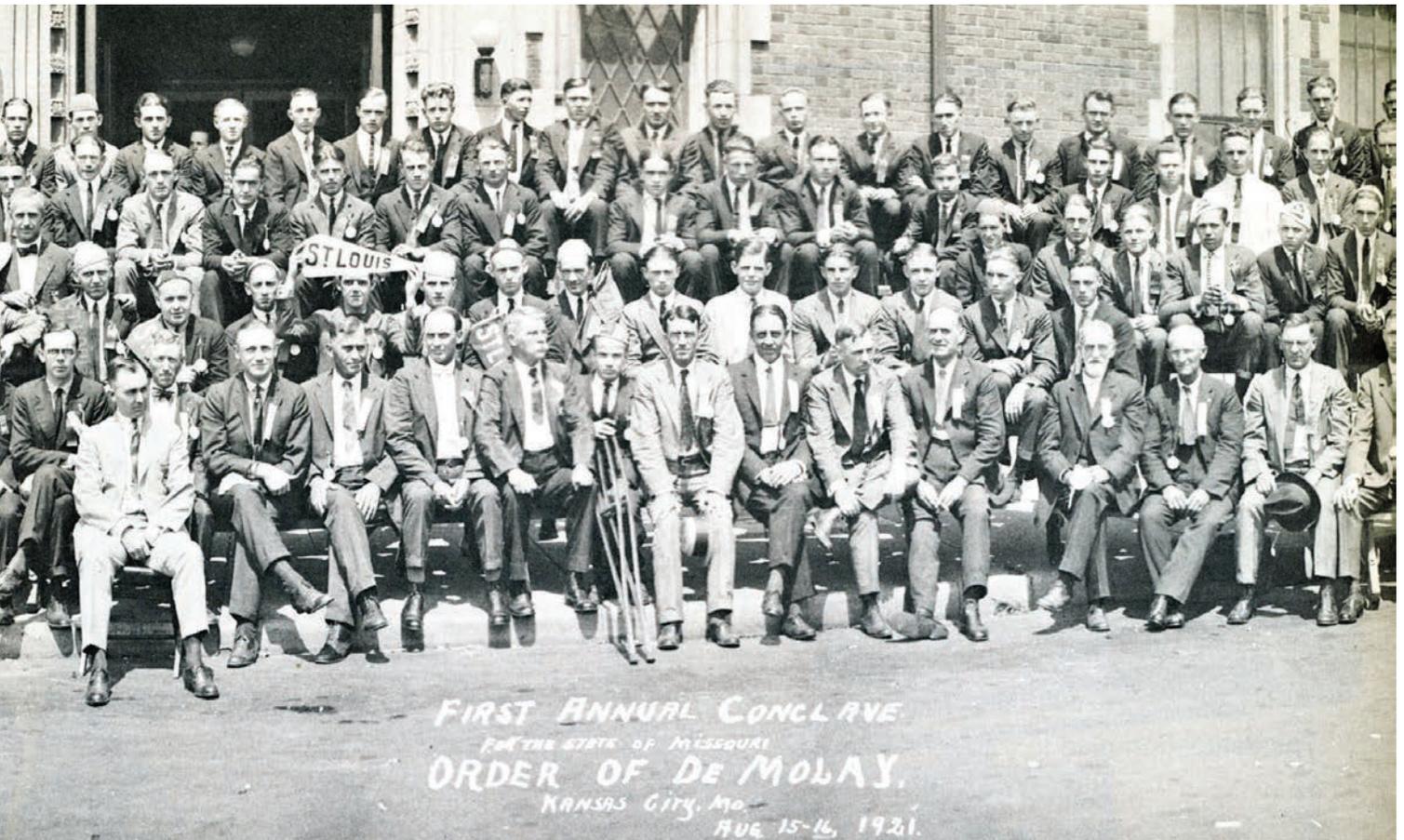
When Lower mentioned that he and some of his young friends sought a place to meet to establish a new club, Land suggested that they meet at the Masonic temple. So, when the boys began to develop a name and structure for this club, it was inspired by their curiosity about the temple, the Masons, and Land’s Masonic activities – particularly the idea of chivalry and the stories around the Scottish Rite’s Kadosh tradition. The story of Jacques DeMolay became the central theme of the club, and inspired its name.

### ***Engagement by example***

From the beginning, Land established a precedent that DeMolay adult advisors provided support, but support in the background. He encouraged the boys to develop leadership skills and to operate as independently from the adult advisors as possible. He believed that learning to plan their own events and to practice public speaking were skills that would serve them well – and many others who heard of this approach agreed. The club’s popularity grew. By the 1920s, it had grown to 100,000 members in chapters throughout the United States; now there are more than 1,000 chapters worldwide.

Today, DeMolay continues to prepare young men to lead successful, happy, and productive lives. The organization believes in combining ethical principles with practical, hands-on





FIRST ANNUAL CONCLAVE FOR THE STATE OF MISSOURI, ORDER OF DEMOLAY, KANSAS CITY, MO., AUGUST 15-16, 1921.

experience – through a fun, accessible approach that builds important bonds of friendship. Its main goals are to form members who are engaged in civic awareness, as well as personal and social responsibility, and to promote the development of leadership skills. DeMolay also cultivates great orators and public speakers, a skill that young adults can put into practice in their schools and then professional careers. The ideal to contribute to the formation and promotion of better men is embedded in DeMolay’s philosophy and it has been put in practice throughout the years.

### ***Building great men***

Many notable American leaders have emerged from Land and Lower’s club. Former President Bill Clinton, who became an active DeMolay in high school, writes about his experience that, “I enjoyed the camaraderie, memorizing all the parts of the rituals, moving up the

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FRANK SHERMAN LAND (L) AND LOUIS LOWER (R) ENVISIONED DEMOLAY AS AN ORGANIZATION THAT WOULD PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF LEADERSHIP SKILLS WHILE ENGAGING MEMBERS IN CIVIC AWARENESS AND PERSONAL AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.

offices to be master councilor of my local chapter, and going to the state conventions, with their vigorous politics...”

There are other presidential connections, as well: Brothers Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry S. Truman, and Gerald R. Ford accepted the distinction of honorary grand master of DeMolay. And, there are many more well known, successful DeMolays, including: Walt Disney, John Wayne, Walter Cronkite, football Hall-of-Famer Fran Tarkenton, legendary Nebraska football coach Tom Osborne, news anchor David Goodnow, and many others. All of these distinguished members have given testimony of the important benefits gained from their involvement in DeMolay.

## ***A mentor’s legacy***

Land believed in leading by example. He was the potentate of the Imperial Shrine, a distinguished president of the Kansas City School Board, and, perhaps most importantly, the tireless mentor to what became by the time of his death a veritable army of three million DeMolay boys.

Freemasonry has been connected to the idea of mentorship for many centuries. The first degree of Freemasonry links the craft to the same medieval period as the DeMolay ritual. It was a time when the shortest road to a productive life was to find a master craftsman who would play the role of senior friend and instructor.

The concept of mentorship is so important within DeMolay that it is incorporated within its insignia. Originally, Land envisioned the insignia with a heraldic shield

surrounded by 10 pearls. The pearls represented the 10 founding members of the club – nine boys and their advisor. As each died, the pearl was changed to a ruby, which symbolized wisdom, the ability to make good decisions, and love. Now there are of course 10 rubies on the insignia, and Land’s movement continues to reach boys – and their adult mentors – the world over. ❖

*Editor’s note: Guillermo De Los Reyes, Ph.D., is associate professor of Latin American culture and literature and associate director of the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Program at the University of Houston. Paul Rich, Ph.D., is senior professor of international relations and history at the University of the Americas, Puebla, Mexico; a visiting fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University; and president of the Policy Studies Organization. De Los Reyes and Rich have collaborated in numerous historical research studies regarding the history of Latin American Freemasonry.*

# WITH HERITAGE, A CONNECTION

## IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA, DEVOTION TO FRATERNITY SPANS GENERATIONS

*By Michelle Simone*

### **A chance introduction**

Gary Quintrell was riding through the Northern California countryside with his girlfriend, Heidi, and her parents. Heidi had been elected honored queen of Job's Daughters Bethel No. 3 in Arcata and Gary was tagging along for support. They'd only recently started dating, so he was just getting to know her – and still wrapping his head around her family's interest in Freemasonry.

As they rounded a corner, they heard a loud pop and their towed RV fishtailed right. Heidi's father pulled over and, as they suspected, a tire had burst. Gary watched from a distance as Heidi's father knocked on a nearby door to ask to borrow a phone. Moments later, the stranger's door swung open; the two men shook hands.

In that moment, Gary saw first-hand how Masonry connects would-be strangers in a short time. "Something changed very quickly," Gary recalls. "In just a few minutes, they were practically friends. It was amazing to watch. I wanted to be part of that."

Encouraged by Heidi's parents, Gary asked Howard Kirkpatrick, past grand master and past master of Reading Lodge No. 254, how to join. "I was raised to hang around good people," Gary says. "From the moment I began meeting Masons, I could see our values fuse. And, I looked up to them."

### **Raised in Masonry**

The years flew by. Gary and Heidi graduated from college, married, got jobs, and started a family. At Reading Lodge, Gary was raised as a Master Mason, moved through the officer line, was elected lodge master, and became an inspector. Life was

busy. Yet despite their commitments to each other, their two daughters, and their careers, Freemasonry remained a constant. For Heidi, who joined Job's Daughters at 11, it was a way of life. And for Gary, who by that time had learned that his great-grandfather had been a Mason, too, it was a place to belong.

As the Quintrells' daughters grew older, the importance of good role models deepened. Gary volunteered to coach the girls' sports teams and Heidi became a Girl Scout troop leader (the troop would later vote Gary "Dad of the Year" for his involvement, too). Once the girls were old enough, encouraging them to join Job's Daughters felt natural. And, becoming mentors at the local bethel just made sense to Gary and Heidi.

"We never wanted to be the parents on the sidelines," Gary says. So, they stepped in.

"I learned so much in Job's Daughters," explains Heidi, now a chemical engineer. "Some skills – like organizing meetings, public speaking, and connecting with people – I didn't even realize I was learning at the time. I was just focused on having fun. But looking back now, I can tell that Job's Daughters made a huge difference. I wanted my daughters to benefit as well."

She is quick to add that their family is not the only active one. "Our family is active, but we are not a 'family-run bethel.' Our bethel has succeeded because all the mentors and girls are a team. We're lucky our community really gives all our girls the best possible experience."

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### ***Being there***

According to the Quintrells, the seemingly simplest things – being present, interested, and trustworthy – matter most as a mentor.

“So many kids today don’t have anyone in their lives who really listens to them and who they can trust,” Gary explains. “I’ve learned that asking ‘How’s your day?’ or ‘How was school?’ gives the girls an opportunity to open up about something they need help dealing with or a chance to celebrate an accomplishment. It’s a great moment when you see a kid light up and you know you’ve asked the right question.”

He believes that one of youth mentors’ most important roles is to teach the lesson of valuing oneself. “We want to assume that every child knows how she should be treated, but many don’t,” he says. “If we don’t demonstrate respect, how will these girls ever learn to ask for it?”

Heidi agrees, and sees this as a key factor in lodge members’ participation with girls’ youth orders, in particular. “Especially for those girls going through the ‘hard stuff,’ having a male role model who demonstrates how to properly treat women is very important.”

### ***The gift of giving back***

While the Quintrells’ daughters were their primary reason for becoming Job’s Daughters mentors, there is a benefit for them, as well: They’re learning alongside the girls they mentor.

Gary has found that working with the bethel helps him be a better leader within his lodge. “One of the biggest lessons I’ve



learned from working with the girls is to say ‘thank you,’” he explains. “It sounds like a small thing, but recognizing someone’s efforts goes a long way. We expect a lot from our girls in Job’s Daughters, and our lodge members – especially the officers. Yet it’s easy to forget that everyone involved is a volunteer, and we all have busy lives outside these organizations.”

Another lesson: Patience. “Not every girl can jump right in,” says Heidi. “There’s a fine line between encouraging a girl to reach her potential and pushing her too far.”



AT JOB'S DAUGHTERS BETHEL NO. 3 IN ARCATA, ADULT LEADERS GARY AND HEIDI QUINTRELL STRIVE TO SHARE MASONIC VALUES, SELF-WORTH, AND FUN - GIVING THE GIRLS THEY MENTOR THE BEST POSSIBLE EXPERIENCE.

And finally, Heidi adds, being a mentor is endlessly rewarding. "It's so gratifying to watch the girls accomplish something. It's amazing what they can do. So many of them have serious issues that they're dealing with – school struggles, family drama, and more – and those things take a big toll. But when the girls come to bethel, they know that they're part of something special; that we're here for them. We give them that experience."

Gary agrees. "You don't need to be on a council to be and feel appreciated," he says. "Just show up, be there for them, and make an effort to recognize their accomplishments. It really matters." ♦

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MENTOR'S

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WAY



By Laura Normand



**“I’VE LEARNED HOW TO BE  
A MENTOR FROM WATCHING  
THOSE WHOM I CONSIDER  
TO BE AMAZING MENTORS.”**

**- Eliseo Paniagua**

A few years ago, Gared Hassel found himself at a crossroads. He wanted to run for a leadership position in his youth order, but he was nervous. Would it be the right use of his time? Did he have what it took? He turned to an older member for guidance.

“He told me, ‘You may only get this chance once, you should take it,’” Hassel recalls. “He said, ‘This is your time to shine.’ And he told me that he would be there to help along the way.”

Hassel went on to run for and win the office of master councilor in his local DeMolay chapter. Then last year, at age 21, he served as master councilor for all of Northern California DeMolay.

Hundreds of young men in his jurisdiction began to look to him for inspiration and advice. At one event, a 13-year-old DeMolay named Brennan got up the nerve to ask Hassel how he’d been so successful. Hassel recognized the question inside the question, and saw his chance to shape the boy’s future. He told Brennan the same thing his mentor had told him.

“I said that I was just a normal guy. But that any time I was given an opportunity, I took it,” Hassel says, “and that he should, too.”

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**FOR THE TENDER AGES OF 10 TO 21, THE FEELING OF BEING CARED ABOUT AND VALUED CAN PUT A NEW LENS ON LIFE.**

## WELCOME TO THE FAMILY

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Virtually every step of a child’s development is shaped by interpersonal relationships. We all know how influential a parent figure can be. But if a young person is lucky, there is at least one mentor in the picture, too: a trusted confidant; a source of advice and support. This could be another family member, an adult outside the family, or even – as in the case of Hassel – another young person. The details aren’t important. What matters is a mentor’s presence in a child’s life.

In the reams of research into developmental psychology, there is a special place for the mentor. In a 2014 report by MENTOR, a center for evidence-based mentoring run by the University of Massachusetts, researchers found that young people with mentors set higher educational goals and are more likely to attend college. They’re more likely to engage in beneficial activities such as clubs and sports, and to lead, volunteer, and be mentors themselves. The presence or absence of a consistent, caring mentor, according to the report, “could mean the difference between a young person thriving as a student or dropping out, contributing as a citizen or engaging in unproductive behavior, pursuing one’s dreams or disengaging from society.”

For tens of thousands of youths worldwide, the Masonic youth orders – DeMolay International (for boys), the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, and Job’s Daughters International – are a source of consistent, long-term mentorship. They also

serve as a sort of farm team for these young people to become mentors themselves.

The history, membership requirements, and structure of the three Masonic youth orders vary slightly, but the missions are largely the same. The orders exist to build leadership skills, foster friendships, and instill fraternal values in young people. Meeting several times a month for social, service, and organizational purposes, youth order members, ages 10 to 21, log hundreds of hours together over the course of a year. They become a family. Here, a shy 10-year-old emerges as an accomplished public speaker. A rabble-rouser transforms into a leader. A once-lost kid starts to envision, and pursue, a different path.

All of this is made possible by the guidance of mentors. Trusted adult advisors help oversee the business of the local groups (called chapters, assemblies, and bethels, depending on the order). But more importantly, they are there for the moments in between official business. From being a sounding board to sharing life experiences, they help these young people navigate the transition into adulthood.

Throughout his year as NorCal DeMolay’s master councilor, Hassel was expected to speak to large crowds, set jurisdiction-wide budgets, plan major events, and for many intents and purposes, run a corporation. Understandably, he often felt overwhelmed by all of his responsibilities. But he never felt alone.

“My jurisdictional advisor is a big guy – loud, former Navy, really tough. I’ve bawled my eyes out in front of him,” Hassel says. “I’d go to him when I was broken down. Every time, he picked me up and said, ‘You’ve got one more fight in you, kid. Show me what you can do.’ He told me to go after what I want.”

Renowned child psychologist John Bowlby observed that humans seem “happiest and able to deploy their talents to best advantage when they are confident that, standing behind them, there are one or more trusted persons who will come to their aid should difficulties arise.” Hassel knows this firsthand. So do most young members of the Masonic youth orders.

## SOMEWHERE TO BELONG, AND SOMEONE TO TRUST



After all, for the tender ages of 10 to 21, the feeling of being cared about and valued can put a new lens on life.

“Young people are going to look to belong somewhere,” says Terry Peters, adult advisor and assistant executive officer of NorCal DeMolay. “They can be part of something that’s good, like DeMolay or Job’s or Rainbow, or they can be a part of something harmful, something that could lead them into a completely different life.”

Eliseo Paniagua, a past youth member of DeMolay who’s now an adult advisor, echoes this. “There’s always a point in a young man’s life, whether it’s dating, or things happening at school, when he’s faced with choices that can result in problems,” he says. “Some experience that when they’re super young, others experience it when they’re a lot older. Those are the times when they need to come to DeMolay and talk to their friends and advisors. That’s when they need a mentor to step in.”

When he was a youth member, Paniagua served as master councilor of NorCal DeMolay. As a current chapter “dad,” he is an advisor to Modesto DeMolays – so he has been on both sides of the mentor-mentee relationship.

“I’ve learned how to be a mentor from watching those whom I consider to be amazing mentors,” Paniagua says. “I want the kids to trust in me, to confide in me. First, you have to figure out what it is that they like. Let them talk about it. If you can contribute, contribute. If not, just listen. If you do it right, these kids will open up to you.”

A conversation that seems to be about video games or sports can signal something much deeper to a young person. “We have members coming in from broken families, boys from poverty-stricken homes,” Paniagua says. “It’s about making them feel like: Here that doesn’t matter. Here, we’re a family. If you’re struggling, then guess what? We’re here to help you.”

*Continued next page*

## A Leader’s Legacy

For nearly all men who have participated in DeMolay within California throughout the past few decades, one mentor has been a solid constant: Tom Moberly. A past state outstanding DeMolay in Michigan and recently retired executive director of Northern California DeMolay, Moberly has devoted his life and career to DeMolay. He has spent even more time within the organization than Frank S. Land, the organization’s founder.

“Tom lives and breathes DeMolay ideals,” explains Past Grand Treasurer Glenn Woody. “He is an outstanding example for all around him, particularly the young men.”

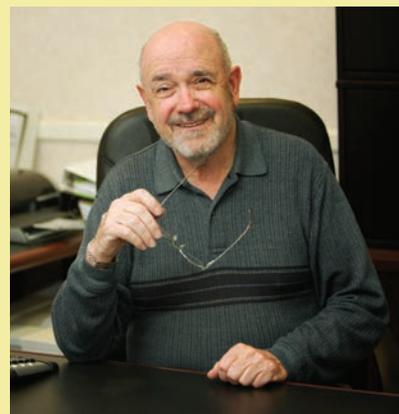
David Killmer of Roseville Lodge No. 222 explains that one of the most remarkable things about Moberly is his ability to connect with everyone.

“It’s amazing how many people Tom knows,” he says. “But knowing him, those relationships make sense. He has a unique ability to find something special about each individual person, and to recognize and remember that. From the first moment we met, I knew we would be lifelong friends.”

Woody also praises Moberly’s unique ability to bridge generations and make connections. “Tom maintains the position of advisor when DeMolays are young, then accepts them as equals when they become adults.”

“Tom is truly amazing,” agrees Killmer. “What he’s done, unselfishly, for so many people – he’s really a hero in many ways.”

As Tom Moberly retires, his legacy, like Frank S. Land’s, will live on in the spirit of the DeMolay organization for which he has worked so tirelessly.



**TOM MOBERLY HAS BUILT A LASTING LEGACY WITHIN DEMOLAY.**



**A MENTOR IS THERE TO RECOGNIZE THE UNIQUE POTENTIAL IN EACH YOUNG PERSON.**

## Ways to Get Involved

If you're interested in getting involved with DeMolay, Job's Daughters, or Rainbow for Girls, start with your local chapter, bethel, or assembly, or call or email the jurisdiction office. Visit [masons4youth.org](http://masons4youth.org) for contact information.

Even with limited time, you can volunteer: help decorate for dances, chaperone events, volunteer at fundraisers, administer awards programs, coach sports tournaments, run websites, create yearbooks, and teach ritual.

"Assess your skills," says Terry Peters, assistant executive officer of Northern California DeMolay. "Maybe you help a few kids write articles. Maybe you use your desktop skills to help them pull together a newsletter. Maybe you offer some occupational mentorship, just sitting down and telling kids about your job."

"These kids will teach you, too," says Peters. "It's fun to see through their eyes. You'll learn from their enthusiasm and their openness to new experiences and ideas."

"In mentoring," he explains, "sometimes you get mentored."

### IGNITING POTENTIAL



But a mentor's prerogative isn't just to keep kids on the straight and narrow. Inside the youth orders and elsewhere, a mentor is there to recognize the unique potential in each young person, and help him or her elevate personal expectations and goals to meet it.

"I joined DeMolay very late – I was 17 or 18," Paniagua says. "My chapter advisor saw things in me that I did not see. He saw that I could become master councilor of the chapter. Another advisor came in, and he saw my potential to be master councilor of the jurisdiction. I thought I'd joined too late, that I'd missed too many

opportunities. But they were right; I did become master councilor of Northern California. It was because of my advisors and what they saw in me."

"The youth orders empower kids to truly be who they are," he says. "Everyone's a small flame when they first join. The more they put into it, the more their flame, their passion, and their personality grow."

As it turned out, his own youth order experience ignited a spark for Masonry. Paniagua applied to Morning Star Lodge No. 19 in Stockton roughly four years ago, at the age of 20, while he was still an active DeMolay. His time in the youth order had primed him for leadership: Three months after being raised to Master Mason, he joined the officer line. Today, he is junior deacon.

"Always a mentor, always a mentee," Paniagua laughs. "In lodge, as an officer, I sometimes feel I don't know anything yet. There are times when I end up with a wall in front of me, and I have to find mentors in lodge to help me get over that wall. Then I'm a mentor for these boys in DeMolay, but it's my first time as a chapter advisor, so I'm looking to my own mentors to talk me through that."

### PAYING IT FORWARD



Of course, although this is Paniagua's first year as a DeMolay dad, he gained plenty of mentoring experience back in his own days as a member. In all three Masonic youth orders, adult advisors step back as much as possible, encouraging the youth to run their own chapter, bethel, or assembly. This approach empowers the youth. As they rise to the challenge of running their own organization, they gain skills, confidence, and a sense of pride. They also tend to step up and mentor each other.

"Every brother is teaching or guiding in some sense, passing on what they have learned through their experiences," says Ryan Tondares, SoCal DeMolay's master councilor. When Tondares was a new member, an older DeMolay took him on as a mentee, letting Tondares tag along on official travels.



**A CONVERSATION THAT SEEMS TO BE ABOUT VIDEO GAMES OR SPORTS CAN SIGNAL SOMETHING MUCH DEEPER TO A YOUNG PERSON.**

“I learned from watching him,” says Tondares. “He really inspired me to be a better DeMolay and make more out of what I did.” As master councilor himself, Tondares has paid this forward, taking a promising younger DeMolay under his wing. “I watch over him, and help him look at his decisions and how his actions affect the group which follows him,” says Tondares.

In all three youth orders, from the local to the international level, this sort of thing happens every day. If a chapter, betel, or assembly is planning an event, older members will help younger members brainstorm ideas, then keep tabs on their progress on assignments with texts and phone calls. Perhaps the most important thing that older members offer is something they still look for from their own mentors: encouragement.

Lauren Hicks currently holds the highest youth office in the California jurisdiction of Rainbow for Girls, grand worthy advisor. “Before and during the first few months of this year, I was not a confident speaker,” she says. “But my mentors supported and believed in me even when I didn’t always believe in myself.” Eventually, she says, “I gained the confidence they saw in me.”

At a recent assembly visit, she saw a chance to return the favor. She was so impressed by a young girl’s memory work that after the event, she took the girl aside to encourage her to pursue a leadership path. “It’s an amazing feeling to be looked up to,” Hicks says. “And it is so rewarding to be able to help the girls gain confidence and leadership skills.”

**FIRST, FOR THE YOUTH; THEN, FOR THE WORLD**



“A youth order gives kids the ability to stretch, to understand that it’s okay to fail if you can learn from it,” says Peters, NorCal DeMolay’s assistant executive officer. “It forces them to talk with adults, and to communicate and relate to their peers. Young people right now relate well to their computers, but they don’t necessarily relate well in person. A youth order is a great opportunity to build socialization skills. It exposes them to experiences that they might not have on their own.”

It’s also, from Peters’ perspective, a way to help shape the future.



**SHARE ON INSTAGRAM**

Do you have a great mentor/mentee relationship in your life? If so, snap a picture of you and your mentor or mentee, share it on Instagram or Facebook, and tag #MasonicMentor. We’ll share your photos on our website and social media. See you online!

“I think our world is desperate for good leaders,” he says. “I turn on the news, and it’s discouraging. I think, how can I change this, not just grumble about it? How can I make a difference? Working with the youth is a way for me to do that. They’ll grow into adults with character and integrity, leaders who want to make a difference in the world.”

Brian Godsave is past associate grand guardian for California Job’s Daughters, as well as a local advisor. He’s watched youth members grow from shy 10-year-olds into compassionate, confident young women. “To watch them grow, to see them start in the lowest role and then take the lead, it’s humbling,” he says. “These kids are great, and they’re who tomorrow’s leaders will be. I firmly believe that one of these young people could be the president of the United States someday, because of what they’re taught in the youth orders.”

By trade, Godsave is an emergency medical services supervisor. “In my work, I see kids who overdose, kids using drugs, kids that deal in gangs,” he says. “When I’ve had a bad day, I look to the kids in the youth orders. They bring me out of the dumps. These are kids who are looking to succeed, wanting to do good.”

“It’s changed my life,” he says, “there’s no question about it. It gives me hope for the future.” ♦

# FACE FIRST – BUT TECHNOLOGY, TOO

## IN A TRADITION OF PEER MENTORSHIP, THERE’S ROOM FOR MODERN TOOLS

By Laura Normand

When TJ Elliott ran for congress secretary of the Southern California Jurisdiction of DeMolay this term, his campaign message was blunt: Social media and technology are here to stay. We need to move forward with the times.

And they have. In fact, all three Masonic youth orders are increasingly turning to technology to aid day-to-day functions, from recruitment to administrative tasks. They’re turning to it for something a little more subtle, too: peer mentoring.

“Oftentimes,” says Elliott, “technology is the greatest tool we have to work one-on-one with the people who matter most: our brothers and sisters.”

International Order of the Rainbow for Girls

 InternationalOrderOfTheRainbowForGirls

DeMolay International

 @DeMolay

 DeMolay.International

### **Turn on the technology, turn up the values**

Elliott continues ticking off the ways that DeMolay, Rainbow for Girls, and Job’s Daughters leverage technology. “Using Facebook and Twitter, we can get the word out on events and upcoming meetings to keep people informed and involved,” he says. “With photo-sharing tools like Instagram and SnapChat, we can share experiences and achievements with the swipe of a finger.”

To varying degrees at local, state, and international levels, the three Masonic youth orders are putting technology into practice. In California and throughout the world, they use text, email, and social media to organize ritual teams and events. Officers use Skype to attend long-distance meetings. Chapters, Bethels, and assemblies create special social media pages and post YouTube videos about leadership camps, philanthropic projects, and alumni associations. Jurisdictions use social media to connect with neighbors, and the world. There is a “Region 8” Facebook page devoted to DeMolay in California, Idaho, Nevada, Washington, and Oregon. SoCal DeMolay uses a smartphone app that enables mass texting to every member and advisor in the jurisdiction. California Job’s Daughters runs

DeMolay na Depressão, Brazil

 DeMolayNaDepressao

Washington DeMolay

 @WaDeMolay

 WaDeMolay

 @WashingtonDeMolay

Massachusetts DeMolay

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 MADeMolay

 @MA\_DeMolay

Bahia DeMolay, Brazil

 @DeMolayBahia

 DeMolayBahia

Indiana DeMolay

 @IndianaDeMolay

 IndianaDeMolay

### Northern California DeMolay

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 NorCalDeMolay  
 @NorCalDeMolay

### Southern California DeMolay

 @SCJDeMolay  
 /groups/SouthernCaliforniaDeMolay  
 @SCJDeMolay

### DeMolay Brasil

 @DeMolayBrasil  
 DeMolayBrasil

### Kansas International Order of the Rainbow for Girls

 @KSRainbowGirls  
 KansasRainbowGirls

### Order of the Knights of Pythagoras, Pennsylvania Council #13

 KOPPA13

### Massachusetts International Order of the Rainbow for Girls

 @MassIORG

### Philippines International Order of the Rainbow for Girls

 PHRainbowGirls

### Washington Idaho International Order of the Rainbow for Girls

 @NWRainbow  
 WAIDIORG

### Virginia International Order of the Rainbow for Girls

 @VirginiaIORG

a “Newspaper” blog, [cajdnews.org](http://cajdnews.org), which solicits and shares bethel news statewide with the help of youth reporters.

Outside the youth orders, social media has earned a reputation as a platform for bullying, pettiness, and poor decisions among impulsive teenagers – but within the pages of the youth orders, you wouldn’t know it. This is a different online culture for young people. Lauren Hicks, grand worthy advisor of California Rainbow Girls, describes her jurisdiction’s Facebook page as a forum for “positive messages.” One of the recent posts asked followers, “What are you doing today to make someone happy?” Around the same time, the California Job’s Daughters page shared stories about upcoming community service projects. “This is going to be SOOOO Fun!!!” raved one commenter, responding to a post introducing the jurisdiction’s 2015 philanthropic project, Canine Companions for Independence. Internationally, the tone is the same. The DeMolay International Facebook page, which has nearly 90,000 “likes” from around the world, updates several times a day with news and praise for far-flung chapters, from Bolivia to Missouri.

These social media platforms are more than membership boons. They are learning opportunities. Within the leadership development and values-based framework of the youth orders, Masonic youth are learning how to wield technology in a socially responsible, productive way.

“When these youth go out into the workforce, they will be expected to know how to communicate electronically as well as use the Internet as a business resource,” says Amanda Pawneshing-Puddle, a past bethel guardian for Job’s Daughters and one of the editorial leaders of the California Job’s Daughters Newspaper blog. “We’re teaching youth members to use the Internet like the tool it is.”

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*Continued next page*

### DeMolay Bolivia

 DeMolayBolivia

### New York DeMolay

 @NewYorkDeMolay  
 @NYDeMolay

### California Job’s Daughters

 CaliforniaJobsDaughtersNews

### California International Order of the Rainbow for Girls

 CARainbowGirls

**Job's Daughters**  
Bethel #337, Orange CA  
@Bethel337Orange

**Job's Daughters Queensland**  
@JDIQLD

**Washington Job's Daughters**  
@jdi\_wa  
WAJobies

## ***New tools for mentors, plus one classic technique***

For today's Masonic youth, technology inserts itself on a smaller scale, too – one that's arguably more impactful than even the most fan-filled Facebook page. For many young members of Rainbow Girls, Job's Daughters, and DeMolay, social media and text message are important channels for relationship building and mentorship. Distance is no longer an obstacle: Peers can encourage and advise each other across the state, country, and even world. Young people may be busier than ever, but in their fleeting moments of free time, they can support each other. It only takes a few seconds to send an encouraging text.

In recent months, Elliott has been helping a younger DeMolay through a difficult time. "The best thing that this boy could use was a friend," Elliott says. "I was able to exchange thousands of text messages and phone calls with him, to help him realize that in our brotherhood, there is literally always someone to turn to. Even though we are young, we have all been through similar experiences and want to see each other succeed."

"The same is true for when I'm the one needing guidance," Elliott adds. "When I need help or someone to discuss an issue, or even just to have a good baseball or hockey debate, I know I can text my mentor and within minutes have a response."

For small, consistent gestures, and for the simple comfort of accessibility, technology certainly plays a part in modern mentorship. But it's worth noting that it's not the most significant part, according to California's youth leaders. When it comes to important matters, all said unequivocally that a personal conversation is best.

Gared Hassel, junior past master councilor of NorCal DeMolay, makes this distinction. "Social media is for quick messages and fun stuff. It isn't as personal," he says. "If another DeMolay is having trouble, I'll tell him to call right away. In person or phone calls are the best way to mentor."

Yes, the Masonic youth orders may use technology more and more with each passing day. But no matter how innovations change, the orders remain grounded in something timeless: values and friendship. These things can't take place with just a click and a swipe.

"The only way we are taught to look out for one another is through having had someone look out for us," says Elliott. "From there we learn to do it ourselves, and we continue that cycle onward." ✧

**Arizona Job's Daughters**  
@AZJobsDaughters  
AZJDI

**Virginia Job's Daughters**  
@vajobies  
VAJobies

**Pennsylvania Job's Daughters**  
@PAIOJD  
PAIOJD

**South Dakota Job's Daughters**  
@SDJobsDaughters  
SouthDakotaJobsDaughters

# Our Facebook fans share the most important lessons they learned as Masonic youth.



Helping others who are less fortunate. The handshake for life. I will do whatever it takes to help my fellow brothers, no questions asked. Honor and respect others. Fellowship. It comes from your heart.

Jim Oswood

That we are capable of amazing success when we work together.

Scott Mattson

## Character and integrity!

Raymond Merron

I was a PHQ for Bethel 200 and a sweetheart for East Bakersfield DeMolay. I learned how to get along with and be compassionate for a variety of people. I also learned through the deeper study of the life of Job that everyone (even the very most faithful people) experiences trials and that through perseverance and faith I will be rewarded in the end. It helps me get through difficult times!

Kendra Eklund

## Think twice before speaking once.

Ei Dren

The ability to inspire a team of people to a common goal, along with the deep understanding of belonging to an organization that's members set high standards for themselves and each other.

Kim Bailey

Patience, definitely. I also feel we learned how to work as a team and how to treat others. And it's true what they say about having friends who will last a lifetime.

Pam Kranig

Brotherhood, friendship, knowledge, and honor!

Alejandro Zamudio

As a DeMolay we were given a rose in ceremony and directed to give it to our mother. I did that and 45 years later I found it pressed into a book. Just like they said I would. Speechless.

Mike Wratch

Public speaking, time management, working with a budget, and helping in my community. The best thing is all of the sisters I had then and now. Now I get to help others grow and be the best they can be.

Miranda LaRue

Follow the Masons of California on Facebook



# LEADERSHIP BEGETS LEADERSHIP

## ONE LODGE'S ENGAGEMENT WITH YOUTH ORDERS FINDS GROWING SUCCESS

*By Jay Kinney*

Some lodges pride themselves on historic narratives, notable members, or ever-expanding size. But for Conejo Valley Lodge No. 807, nestled in Ventura County's Thousand Oaks, a wholehearted commitment to community involvement is members' most celebrated accomplishment. And while the lodge has supported programs from Child ID to the Special Olympics, one of its treasured activities ties closely to the fraternity: championing Masonic youth.

### ***Sharing a tradition***

The history of Job's Daughters Bethel No. 324 is intertwined with Conejo Valley Lodge's own. The bethel was established soon after the founding of the lodge in 1961, and it has been continuously active since. The present bethel guardian, Theresa Pollara, was a Job's Daughter at Temple City Bethel No. 179 and has proudly handed down the tradition within her family. This year, her eldest daughter is Bethel No. 324's honored queen, and her youngest was initiated in December 2014. "I had a wonderful time in Job's Daughters myself and encouraged my daughters to join," she says.

Now a senior deputy district attorney in Ventura, Pollara credits her experience within the youth orders for many of her professional accomplishments. "I was quite shy when I was young, but Job's Daughters gave me experience in public speaking and in learning poise," she explains. "Many of the skills I learned from my time in Job's Daughters have been very helpful in my present work as an attorney."

### ***Forging a new path***

While the lodge's engagement with Job's Daughters has been a steady journey, its sponsorship of the Order of DeMolay's Conejo Valley Chapter has been more of a roller coaster ride. Though in past decades the DeMolay chapter maintained a steady number of members, membership slowly began to dwindle until it nearly hit rock bottom. When Conejo Valley Lodge celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2011, only four active DeMolay members remained in the chapter.

Though the outlook was discouraging, current Junior Warden Frank Shapiro and brother Ira Mazer knew that the chapter could make a comeback. Both Shapiro and Mazer had grown up in DeMolay and they still felt a connection to the order. They wanted to help the chapter succeed, within the local community and the district lodges.

As the new chapter "dad," Mazer took a hands-on approach, hoping to build some momentum. "I got the chapter's kids in the car and we started visiting every other DeMolay chapter in the region," Mazer recalls. "By a stroke of luck, a couple of active DeMolay members moved into town from Sacramento and San Diego, and we grew from four to 14 pretty fast."

With the support of many lodges in the area, the chapter's next installation had 18 members present, and close to 450 guests. Mazer served as the chapter dad for three years, while Shapiro chaired the advisory council. Four years later, their efforts were formally acknowledged: The renewed chapter received its permanent charter in 2014.



AT CONEJO VALLEY LODGE NO. 807, LODGE LEADERS CELEBRATE THEIR INVOLVEMENT WITH MASONIC YOUTH.

Today, Brandon Lippincott is the resident Conejo Valley chapter dad. Lippincott learned about DeMolay soon after he joined Conejo Valley Lodge in 2011, at age 21. He immediately knew he'd like to get involved.

"When I was growing up, I had to learn through hard knocks from my older siblings," he explains. "I wish I had something like DeMolay as a better way to learn from others."

Lippincott served on the chapter's advisory council for two years before taking the leap to chapter dad in 2014. The experience has been a rewarding one. "What DeMolay has done for these young men is incredible," he says. "You can see it from just the evolution of their mental attitudes and how they present themselves."

### ***Striking a balance***

At Conejo Valley Lodge, adult advisors work to strike a balance between encouraging youth to act independently and stepping in with hard-earned advice. There has to be room for young men and women to make mistakes, from which they can learn, and to achieve success on their own.

"Mentorship can come out of either supporting from behind or leading in front," Mazer explains.

"We try to make our young people more confident in what they do," Shapiro adds. "We try not to get in their way or to take over."

Steve Cooley, who served as Bethel No. 324's associate guardian for many years, notes, "I really do not think that we 'mentor' them at all; rather, we endeavor to set good examples and assist as we can."

This strategy seems to be working. Both the Job's Daughters and DeMolay members express gratitude for the lodge's strong support. And, part of their orders' goals is to give back as they have received. In this way, "leadership may beget leadership" – and our Masonic youth orders may help assure our fraternity's future. ✧

# FACES OF MASONRY

## MEET DAVID KILLMER, MASTER MASON, DEMOLAY CHAPTER ADVISOR, PARAMEDIC AND FIREFIGHTER

*By Michelle Simone*

“One of the best things about being a Mason is that it really helps you discover your purpose,” says David Killmer, a Master Mason at Roseville Lodge No. 222. “Mine is working with youth.”

Killmer’s grandfather, father, and brother are Masons, and he grew up within the Santa Ana DeMolay chapter. When his family moved north, he became active in the Roseville chapter and Northern California DeMolay jurisdiction. Through DeMolay, he met many lifelong friends – including his wife, Karen. And, DeMolay’s ethos of service inspired his career as a firefighter and paramedic.

Years later, Killmer decided to reignite Roseville chapter for his son. “I wanted him to experience what I had – to make connections, to truly grow. When he became master councilor in September, I explained that DeMolay was my gift to him. I’ve seen him grow leaps and bounds as a result.”

### ***In his own words:***

#### WHAT CHALLENGES DO TODAY’S YOUTH FACE?

Social pressures intensify with technology and how fast life is. It’s easy for the world to flash by without kids understanding that they’re a part of it and special. It’s important to show them that they each have value, something to bring to the table, and a voice.

#### WHAT MAKES DEMOLAY DIFFERENT?

It offers a true sense of belonging. Boys with different socioeconomic backgrounds, interests, and personalities all come together without cliques or judgment. They can say what’s on their mind, in front of everyone, and know that it’s a safe space. Many don’t have that opportunity at school, at home, or anywhere else.

#### WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES A GOOD MENTOR?

I really try to uphold the seven virtues of DeMolay in my daily life, because I know it’s not the words I say, but the actions I demonstrate that are really going to make an impact on the kids I mentor. In order to follow in your footsteps, they need to see that you really believe in what you’re talking about – that you’re acting the part. ✦



# BROTHERS FOR LIFE

## FOR MASONIC HOMES RESIDENTS, A LIFELONG CONNECTION TO FRATERNAL FAMILY BEGAN WITH GROWING UP IN DEMOLAY

*By Megan Brown*

Friendship. Camaraderie. Respect. These intangibles were certainly on the minds of Louis Lower and his eight friends as they gathered in a lodge room in Kansas City, Missouri in 1919. That night, they made a decision that would impact tens of thousands of fraternal families in the decades to come: They started a club.

Nearly a century later, DeMolay International has spread far beyond Kansas City, providing foundational skills and values to help young men reach their fullest potential. Members forge friendships with peers, are inspired by adult mentors, and make lasting memories. Simply put: DeMolay is family, a place to call home.

### ***A model of brotherhood***

“I always knew I would become a Mason,” Wallace Heglund says. He recalls growing up in Northern California during the Great Depression, when lazy holiday afternoons were punctuated by his uncles’ shared stories about World War I.

It wasn’t just wartime memories or shared bloodlines that brought them together though; they were also brothers in the craft. “I saw their Masonic regalia and knew the significance of it,” Heglund says. “I remember just having this sense that one day, I would also be a Mason.”

Masonry and its concordant bodies were seamlessly woven into the fabric of Heglund’s community and their impact was well known. Heglund remembers a young boy from his neighborhood who for years relied on crutches for walking. Each summer, the boy traveled to San Francisco for treatments at the

Shriners Hospital for Children. And each year, he got better and better.

“His family was quite poor; they lived in a small house on our alley,” Heglund explains. “But the Shriners were there for him and helped without asking for anything in return. They weren’t looking for publicity or personal gain. Even as a young man, this had a huge impact on me. It was really something.”

### ***A matter of respect***

Heglund’s own path to Masonry started with a Ford Model A and culminated in 1972 when he was raised a Master Mason at Three Pillars Lodge No. 613 (now Provident Three Pillars No. 609). DeMolay was the beginning.

“When I was in junior high, a friend of mine would pick me up in his family’s Ford Model A and off we’d go to the Scottish Rite Temple for our DeMolay meetings,” he reflects. “Of all the organizations available to young people at the time, DeMolay was truly the most respected by our community.”

That reputation took a powerful hold on Heglund, and he emphasizes that respect permeated the organization, as well. “We were like a family; there was mutual admiration amongst the young men and between us and the adults.”

Heglund recalls fond memories of an adult advisor affectionately nicknamed “Unc” – short for uncle. “To use today’s vernacular, he was just ‘cool.’ Every boy there respected him and his word.” And many, like Heglund, chose to follow in his footsteps, pursuing a life within Masonry.

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*Continued next page*

## ***Beyond words***

Michel Franceschini considers raising his son to Master Mason while he was the master of Siminoff Daylight Lodge No. 850 in Union City to be one of his fondest memories.

“Not a lot of people get to do that,” he notes. “It was really special.”

The road to that treasured memory started in the early 1950s, when his own father passed away while he was still a young boy. “My father was a Mason,” he explains. “So, some of his lodge brothers took me to DeMolay for the first time. It was the best thing that could have happened to me.”

Franceschini helped establish a new DeMolay chapter in Campbell, California. It was a big chapter, due in large part to its close proximity to Campbell High School. And as membership grew, so did Franceschini, who assumed greater and greater responsibility until he became master councilor in 1955.

“I was surrounded by a group of boys who would become my friends for life,” he says. “We had a lot of fun growing up together.” It was a bond of brotherhood and tradition.

One New Year’s Eve, Franceschini and his friends had no plans, so his mother offered to host a home-cooked meal. They had so much fun that they did it again the following year – and the next. More than 50

years later, nearby friends still gather for an annual new year’s dinner, now held at the Masonic Home at Union City.

In addition to fraternal friendships, Franceschini credits DeMolay for introducing him to the love of his life, Julianne – a Rainbow Girl and his wife of 50 years.

“Julie and I met when her brother expressed interest in joining DeMolay. I signed the petition,” Franceschini shares. “I asked her out on a date and we kind of knew immediately.”

## ***On to the next generation***

To share his enthusiasm for DeMolay, Franceschini served as a chapter advisor in Los Gatos. It is a role he recalls with great pride. “We had a lot of wonderful boys and we did our best to raise them well as members of DeMolay and as young men,” he notes.

This desire to pass the torch was prompted by a deep gratitude for the lessons he himself learned in DeMolay. “As I grew up, I realized what the other boys and the advisors had given to me. There aren’t words to express it.”

As an advisor, Franceschini received the Degree of Chevalier – the highest honor an active or senior DeMolay can achieve – as well as the Legion of Honor, which honors those members who have demonstrated a profound commitment to enriching the lives of the young men of DeMolay. Yet, he doesn’t consider himself a mentor per se. His focus was primarily on ensuring the young men were well cared for and that they had a positive experience. Becoming a role model happened almost accidentally.

Heglund agrees. “Being in DeMolay really meant something to us,” he says. “We weren’t there because we had to be. We were there because we really enjoyed it.” ❖



MASONIC HOMES RESIDENTS WALLACE HEGLUND (L) AND MICHEL FRANCESCINI (R) TREASURE THEIR FIRST MEMORIES OF MASONRY - THEIR YOUTH SPENT IN DEMOLAY.

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## Masonic Center for Youth and Families

Provides integrated psychological care for youth struggling with behavioral, academic, emotional or social difficulties.

- ▶ (877) 488-6293 | [information@mcyaf.org](mailto:information@mcyaf.org) | [mcyaf.org](http://mcyaf.org)



*Request a presentation on all services at your lodge meeting!*

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Adult leaders are critical to the overall success and survival of our youth orders. They rely on lodges and adult leaders for support and mentoring.



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masons 4 youth



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6 Funston Avenue, San Francisco, CA | (877)488-6293 | [mcyaf.org](http://mcyaf.org)



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YOUTH AND FAMILIES  
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