

THE MERIDIAN SUN



An Official Publication of Florida State DeMolay

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September 2017 Edition



August Installations

Installation season got going immediately after Conclave, and our new Chapter Officers are off to a great start. Installation month is a special time of year when Chapters change from one leader to another and the Order continues to grow it's leadership across the State. Florida is proud of all our Chapters and wishes continued success and growth. Keep leading the charge for DeMolay! Congratulations and best wishes to the following Chapters:

- Edward K. Walker
- Anclote
- Oleeta-West Dade
- George Ulee Lord
- Lake Sumter

First Coast
Paul Revere
John Wayne
Walter Fishback
Marion
Escambia
Bahia

Upcoming Installations

September 2

Dale Chapman Chapter - Lunch at 12PM with installation to follow
720 N Apache Cir., Deltona, FL 32725

September 9

South Seminole Chapter - 7PM
122 Triplett Lake Dr., Casselberry, FL 32707

State Degrees and 2017 Honors Presentation

Saturday, October 14, 2017 Florida DeMolay will perform the Initiatory Degree and DeMolay Degree, followed by the Degree of Chevalier and Legion of Honor Investiture.

12PM - Initiatory and DeMolay Degrees

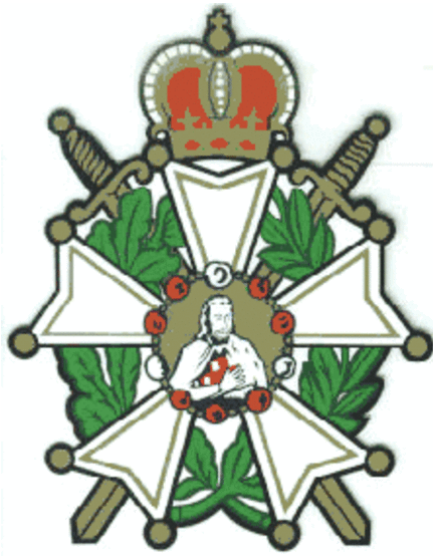
2:30PM - Chevalier Degree and Legion of Honor Investiture

Location: Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center
5500 Memorial Hwy, Tampa, FL 33634 (Map and Directions)



Knighthood Cotillion 2017

Col. James "Nick" Rowe Priory, Order of Knighthood would like to invite you to our most exciting event, Knighthood Cotillion, on October 14th. The Cotillion



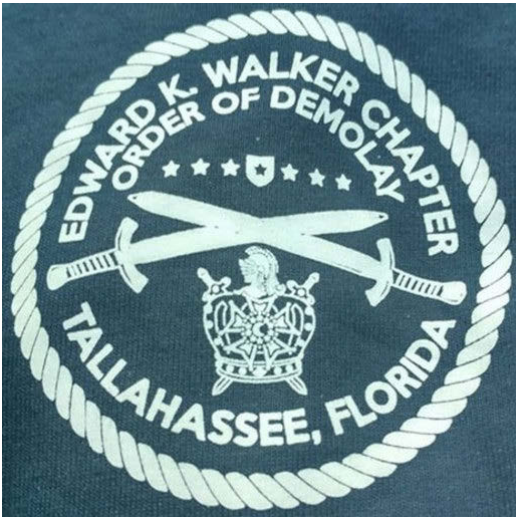
Ball will begin at 5:30 PM. The attire will be Medieval or Formal (coat and tie). There will be a prize for the best costume, so prepare now for your costume. More information will be brought to you by the Col. James "Nick" Rowe Priory, Order of Knighthood Facebook page. If you have yet to Like the page, then feel free to do so! Also, if any and all Active Sir Knights are reading this, please contact your Illustrious Knight Commander, he has a question for you. Please come out and Celebrate with all of us on this enormous day for Florida DeMolay and Knighthood.

Cotillion 2017 Invitaiton and Ad Form

Sarasota Chapter Open House

On Saturday, August 26th, Sarasota Chapter hosted an Open House in order to kickstart the rebirth of their Chapter. It was very successful with many people in attendance. Active members and Advisors from both Manatee County and Anclote, and Advisors from Paul Revere were there to show support. Also in attendance were Squire prospects for Florida at Large, who will join as a seed to kick off a possible new Manor south of the Bridge. Dad Rusty Glendenning gave a history of Sarasota Chapter, which includes a world record time for consecutive hours of 8-ball played! Bro. Dylan B. gave the Flower Talk to show what DeMolay is really all about. A great outing and a great way to show support for the Good of the Order!





Edward K. Walker Chapter and South Seminole Chapter Initiate New Members

Edward K. Walker Chapter initiated 5 new members on August 19, 2017. This was their FIRST initiation since they were reinstated earlier this year. Welcome Vance O., Jackson O., Scott S., Ian R. and Daniel Z.! Both degrees were performed, and both of the other two chapters in District 1 came to witness and help with the initiation. After the initiation there was a short reception where everyone was able to get to know their new brothers a little better and socialize.

South Seminole initiated 1 new member on August 25, 2017. Welcome Chandler D.! District 3 came out in support of South Seminole with help from Bahia and Lake Sumter Chapters. It was great to see both Degrees performed well, and brothers helping brothers.

Membership Statistics - YTD August 2017

Chapter	Majorities 2017	New Members 2017	Growth
Anclote	1	7	6
Bahia	10	2	-8
C. Allen Pattison	0	2	2
Dale Chapman	4	3	-1
Edward K Walker	1	9	8
Escambia	4	3	-1
First Coast	9	5	-4
Florida at Large	2	0	-2
George Ulee Lord	1	1	0
Greater Titusville	1	0	-1
Gulf Coast	1	0	-1

Hurbert	1	1	0
John G Allen	5	0	-5
John L Hamilton	0	0	0
John Wayne	1	0	-1
Jupiter – Tequesta	7	0	-7
L.E.A.D.E.R.S.H.I.P.	0	6	6
Lake Sumter	1	1	0
Manatee County	0	0	0
Marion	6	3	-3
Oleeta West Dade	5	6	1
Paul Revere	5	2	-3
Polk County	0	0	0
Sarasota	4	0	-4
South Miami	3	0	-3
South Seminole	4	2	-2
Walter Fishback	1	4	3
Westside	0	4	4
TOTALS	77	61	-16



Shriner's Kid Kechi on Americas Got Talent

Kechi Okwuchi, 27 is now year old, and she is a Shriners Kid from Galveston Shriners Hospital. She was on a plane coming home from boarding school with 109 people on board, including 60 other students from her school. Tragically the plane went down and killed 107 on this flight in 2005. She was one of two survivors and she was burned over 65% of her body. Her family moved to Texas in 2007 and she started at Shriners Children's Hospital in Galveston, TX. Kechi has had more than 100 surgeries and countless hours of physical therapy. She had a hard time dealing with everything that had happened to her, and singing helped her. When she was wrapped in gauze from head to toe and could not move, all she could do is sing. While at Shriners Hospital she said "my happiest place was the music room". Her very first time singing on a stage was at Shriners. Kechi looks back at what has happened to her and says "What happened to me was horrible, but I refuse to let it define me. Instead, I draw strength from it". Kechi has graduated from the University of St. Thomas in 2015 in Economics, she also gave

her commencement ceremony. She can be found sharing her music on Americas Got Talent on NBC.

This year the State Master Councilor's Charity is the Shriners Hospital for Children Tampa. We will be collecting items and delivering them two times this year and will be selling a pin with all the profits to go to Shriners Hospital for Children Tampa.

[Watch CBS Interview](#)

[Donation Wish List](#)

State Calendar

The Florida DeMolay State Calendar can be found on the home page of our website.

If you have an event that you want the whole State to know about, send the information to: calendar@fldemolay.com and we'll get it added for you.

You can quickly access the calendar by entering: <http://calendar.fldemolay.org> in to any internet browser.



This is the official newsletter of **Florida DeMolay**.

This newsletter acknowledges authority and yields allegiance to **DeMolay International**, of which Frank S. Land was the Founder.

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