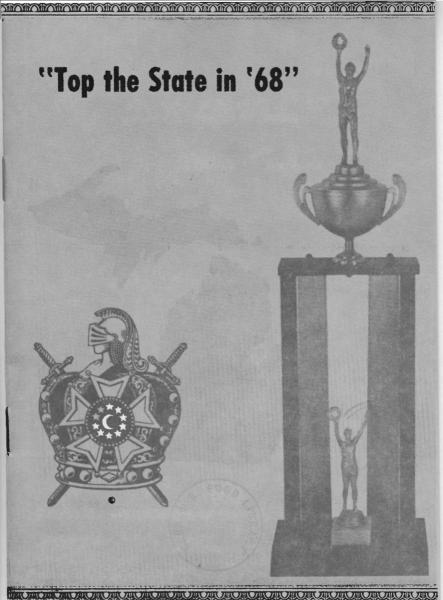
The original documents are located in Box D25, folder "State Conference of the Order of DeMolay Upon Receiving the Legion of Honor Award, Grand Rapids, MI, September 7, 1968" of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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Here's Your Honor Membership Card This new permanent-type DeMolay honor membership card is sent to you THE INTERNATIONAL SUPREME COUNCIL with the best wishes of the International **ORDER OF DE MOLAY** Supreme Council. Your past selection and membership in this distinctive group is proof enough that our faith in your continued devotion to DeMolay is wellfounded to the extent that we can forward you a non-expiring card. May you ever carry it with pleasure to your-**GERALD** R. FORD self and honor to DeMolay. HAS HAD CONFERRED UPON HIM THE Fraternally yours, HONORARY LEGION OF HONOR From m. Danuane FOR MERITORIOUS AND UNUSUAL SERVICE IN BEHALF OF THE ORDER OF DE MOLAY GRAND SECRETAR M. Daumter



"All growth depends upon activity. There is no development physically or intellectually without effort, and effort means work. Work is not a curse; it is the prerogative of intelligence, the only means to manhood, and the measure of civilization."

-Calvin Coolidge

WELCOME

On behalf of Michigan State Chapter, Order of DeMolay, we welcome you most cordially to another annual DeMolay State Conference. Clifford C. Reeves Chapter and the members, with the capable and effective leadership of our General Chairman, Dan MacDonell and Conference Coordinators Dad David Fulmer and Dad Edsel Weitala, have been laboring hard and long to make this State Conference one we will never forget.

We are very happy that we could come back to Grand Rapids and for the commodious facilities which have been arranged for us. When many Jurisdictions are abolishing State meetings, we are fortunate to be able to continue our efforts to inspire and to be of service to all our ninety-seven Chapters. With your enthusiastic understanding of the problems that face youth today, the proper decorum for such an assemblage and plain good old common sense, we will be able to maintain the level we have attained in previous years.

Admission to all meetings will be by badge and tickets provided in your registration envelope. To those Sessions open only to DeMolays and Master Masons, you may be asked to show a current dues card. Tickets for the Honors Breakfast must be purchased at the registration table prior to the Annual Banquet on Saturday night.

DeMolay can only grow in numbers and effectiveness when we have the unified efforts of all parts of the program. Enjoy the inspiration and fellowship of your Brothers and go home to your Chapter with a renewed dedication and the desire to do all in your power to make your Chapter a real credit to the community and to DeMolay in Michigan.

Fraternally and sincerely,

DUWAIN M. HUNT State Master Councilor JACK H. MYERS Executive Officer in Michigan

DENNIS R. WILLIAMSON, Director of Activities

-1-

This 1968 De Molay State Conference is Dedicated Jo "Mom" and "Dad" Koch





"DAD" ALBERT P. RUERAT Grand Master International Supreme Council Order of DeMolay

"DAD" HAROLD F. KOCH Active member of the International Supreme Council Order of DeMolay and "MOM" MILDRED KOCH -2-

- 3 -



RODERICK S. COY International Master Councilor Order of DeMolay

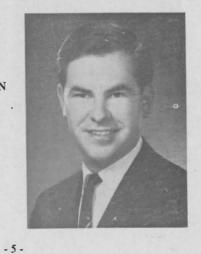
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JACK H. MYERS Executive Officer in Michigan Deputy in International Supreme Council

DENNIS R. WILLIAMSON Director of Activities DeMolay Foundation of Michigan, Inc.





WILBUR M. BRUCKER Active Member I.S.C.

- 6 -



RICHARD H. BROWN Active Member I.S.C.



DONALD D. BOUDEMAN Honorary Member I.S.C.



DUWAIN M. HUNT State Master Councilor

-7-

1967-68 STATE OFFICERS

State Master Councilor Duwain M. Hunt
State Master Councilor
Deputy State Master Councilor Richard L. Kuhn
State Senior Councilor Gerry E. Smith
State Junior Councilor Rodney Drummond
Treasurer Tim Wilson
Scribe Leon Stockwell
Deputy State Master Councilor Gerry E. Smith State Senior Councilor Gerry E. Smith State Junior Councilor Rodney Drummond Treasurer Tim Wilson Scribe Leon Stockwell Marshal S. Davis Hayward Jr. Chaplein David Brown
Cheplein David Brown
Chaptani
Chaplain David Brown Senior Deacon Gerry Scarborough
Junior Deacon
Senior Steward Allison Bryant
Junior Steward Douglas Wolf
Junior Steward
Sam Rush
Gordon Mapley
Douglas Voshell
Garv DuVan
Gordon Mapley Douglas Voshell Gary DuVan Don Trumbull
Almoner
Orator Louis E. Traycik
Standard Baanan
Standard Bearer Paul Yoder Sentinel Henry Iversen
Organist
Soloist David Bramigk
Preceptors 1 2 3 3 4 4 4 4 5 5 5 5 6 1 5 6 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
1 Clark namner
2 Kenneth Young
3 Randal Harwood
4 Tim Donahue
5 Rick Moorenouse
6 Bruce Nowacek
7 Mark Wall
Flag Bearers
Michigan Dale Thomas
DeMolay
Christian Larry Carver
Zion John Skinner
ZionJohn Skinner Aides in East
Paul Sherman Jack Wade
William Doty Nels Ebbesen
- 10 -

MICHIGAN STATE CHAPTER ADVISORY COUNCIL

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Master Councilor	Jack Wade
Senior Councilor	Mike Damtize
Junior Councilor Le	on Stockwell
Chaplain	Vern Hall
Marshal H	
Senior Deacon Br	uce Williams

DeMOLAY DEGREE

Master Inquistor	Terry Basom
Senior Inquistor	Henry Iversen
Junior Inquistor	
Jacques DeMolay	Tim Donahue
Marshal	Tim Wilson
Senior Guard	. Paul Yoder
Guy of Auvergne.	Rick Moorehouse
Godfrey de Goneville	Gordon Mapley
Hughes de Peralde	Vern Hall
Lord Constable	Rex Algate
Hunch Back	Bobby Garland
Guards	Dale Thomas
	Tom Wiseman
	Larry Carver
	John Skinner

1968-1969 ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Executive Officer		
Jack H. Myers	Office	313-832-3838
500 Temple Avenue		313-356-2121
Detroit, Michigan 48201	Home	313-357-2883
Director of Activities		
DeMolay Foundation		
Dennis R. Williamson	Office	313-832-3838
500 Temple Avenue	Home	313-261-6392
Detroit, Michigan 48201		

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4.	Edwin E. Strutz	517-752-4174
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5B.	Robert E. Burgan 11001 Clinton River Road, Utica 48087	313-731-7043
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- 13 -

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- Knighthood Charles W. Barr II 517-332-2177 1124 Sabron Road, East Lansing 48823
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- Athletics William Rowles 313-282-3092 1467 17th Street, Wyandotte 48192
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- R. D. Larry M. Dillon 616-962-7015 359 29th Street, Battle Creek 49015
- Extension Roy L. McCandless 313-425-8173 14015 Hubbard, Livonia 48154
- MDN Editor Don J. Williams 313-728-8796 35260 Westland Estate Drive, Apt. D 310, Westland 48185
- PR & 50th James T. Smith 313-545-6746 3448 Oakshire, Berkley 48073
- Mothers'Donna J. Smith313-545-6746Clubs3448 Oakshire, Berkley 48073

LADIES' PROGRAM

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1968

8:00	P.M.	Coffee	Hour — Room	322
10:30	P.M.	Punch	Party - Open	House —
		Bal	Iroom, Pantling	d Hotel

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1968

Saturday Afternoon Session - Civic Auditorium

1:15 P.M. Prelude 1:30 P.M. Call to Order — Larry M. Dillon, P.S.M.C. 6:00 P.M. Annual Banquet Exhibition Hall, Civic Auditorium

Saturday Evening Session — Civic Auditorium

7:45 P.M. Prelude 8:00 P.M. Call to Order — James A. Pankas

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1968

- 8:15 A.M. Prelude
- 8:30 A.M. Call to Order James K. Smith, P. D. S. M. C. Chapel Service Installation of Officers Presentations
- All Sessions beginning with Saturday afternoon are public ceremonies and we hope our ladies and their friends will attend.

PROGRAM

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1968

Civic Auditorium

6:45 P.M. Prelude

7:00 P.M. Solo

Call to Order - Roderick S. Coy, P. S. M. C. Entrance of Pages, Special Escorts, and Escorts Entrance of State Officers Ritualistic Opening DeMolay and Masonic Introductions Initiatory Degree — State Officers Presentation of Chapter Outstanding DeMolays who will be seated in the special section of the main floor.

- Calling off the evening session. Open House Punch Party in the Hotel Ballroom 10:30 P.M. to meet distinguished guests and District Sweethearts.
- 11:30 P.M. Caucus for all voting delegates. Mandatory for all who are entitled to vote on Saturday morning. Kent State Room.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1968

8:15 A.M. Prelude

8:30 A.M. Call to Order - Robert A. Koch, P. S. M. C. **Entrance of State Officers** Opening on the DeMolay Degree DeMolay Degree — State Officers **Business Session Report of State Master Councilor Committee Reports** Business **Election of State Councilors Closing Session**

12:00	Noon	Luncheon for the 1968-1969 State Board of Representatives. Kent State Room.
1:00	P.M.	State Mothers' Club Presentation
1:30	P.M.	State Oratorical Contest Place to be announced.
1:30	P.M.	Civic Auditorium Prelude Solo Call to Order — Larry M. Dillon, P. S. M. C. Entrance of State Officers Majority Service, State Officers
		All certificates and cards for the Majority Service should be given to the registration desk before 1:00 P.M. on Saturday. Legion of Honor Degree Cross of Honor Presentations Topper Award Presentations Presentation of Other Awards
6:00	P.M.	Annual Banquet — Civic Auditorium All members and guests are asked to stay seated at the tables until the conclusion of the program in the dining room.
		Invocation Introductions and Greetings Presentation of the winner of the State Oratorical Contest
		Presentation of awards to the District Outstanding DeMolays
0 00		Other Appropriate Presentations
8:00	P.M.	Civic Auditorium Prelude Call to Order — James A. Pankas Entrance of Pages, Special Escorts, and Escorts
		Entrance of Fages, Special Escorts, and Escorts Entrance of State Officers Introduction of Distinguished Guests who have not previously been introduced. Chevalier Degree
		Top the State in '68 Presentations State Sweetheart Pageant
		Bowl of Tribute

- 16 -

Calling off of evening session.

11:30 P.M. Meeting of all Fall Term Councilors with the 1968-1969 S.M.C. East Vandenburg Room.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1968

7:00 A.M. Honors Breakfast for Legionnaires, Chevaliers, Cross of Honor men, Honor Key men, holders of the Fidelity Cross, R.D.'s, and holders of P.M.C. — M.S.A. Continental Room.

- 8:15 A.M. Civic Auditorium
- 8:30 A.M. Call to Order, James K. Smith, P.D.S.M.C. Annual Chapel Service

THE CHAPEL SERVICE

Hymn — "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

1. A mighty fortress is our God A trusty shield and weapon He helps us free from every need That hath us now o'ertaken The old evil foe Now means deadly woe; Deep guilt and great might Are His dread arms in flight; On earth is not His equal. 2. Tho' devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us, We tremble not, we fear no ill,

They shall not overpow'r us. This world's prince may still Scowl fierce as he will, He can harm us none. He's judged; the deed is done; One little word can fell him.

3.

The word the still shall let remain Nor any thanks have for it: He's by our side upon the plain With His good gifts and spirit. And take they our life, Good, fame, child and wife, Let these all be gone, They yet have nothing won; The kingdom ours remaineth. Scripture and Prayer

Meditation

Hymn — "Faith of Our Fathers"

Faith of our fathers, living still In spite of dungeon, fire and sword, O how our hearts beat high with joy Whene'er we hear that glorious word. Faith of our fathers, holy faith We will be true to Thee till death.

Faith of our fathers, we will strive To win all nations unto Thee, And thru the truth that comes from God Mankind shall then be truly free Faith of our fathers, holy faith We will be true to Thee till death.

Faith of our fathers, we will love Both friend and foe in all our strife. And preach Thee, too, as love knows how By kindly words and virtuous life. Faith of our fathers, holy faith We will be true to Thee till death. Amen

Benediction

Retiring of the 1967-1968 State Officers

Preparation of the Chapter Room for Installation

Oration by the winner of the State Oratorical Contest

Entrance of the retiring State Master Councilor

Entrance of the Installing Staff

Entrance of the 1968-1969 State Officers

Installation

- Installing Officer Harold F. Koch, R.D., Chev., LOH, P.G.P., Active Member of I.S.C.
- Assisting in the East Larry M. Dillon, P.M.C., R.D., P.I.K.C., P.D.M.C., P.S.M.C., Ralph Dawson, R.D. Dir.
- Installing S.C. Morely Frech Jr., P.M.C., R.D., S.M.C. of Maryland
- Installing J.C. Dennis R. Williamson, P.M.C., Chev., LOH, Director of Activities for the DeMolay Foundation of Michigan Inc.
- Installing Marshal Don J. Williams, P.M.C., R.D., Chev., P.S.S.C., Director of Michigan DeMolay News
- Installing Chaplain—Robert A. Koch, P.M.C., R.D., Chev., Ralph Dawson, P.S.M.C., Dad Advisor of Architect
- Installing Senior Deacon—Richard J. Kline, P.M.C., R.D., Chev., LOH, District Governor of District No. 8
- Installing Organist Ted McDonald, P.M.C., R.D., Chev., P.S.O.
- Installing Soloist—Mrs. Dixie Pruess, Past District Sweetheart of 7B
- Presentation of Gavel Jack H. Myers, Deputy of International Supreme Council, Executive Officer for Jurisdiction of Michigan

Presentation of the new State Sweetheart

Presentation of the Ralph Dawson Trophy

Presentation of the Harold F. Koch Class

(All who have received the Initiatory and/or the DeMolay Degree at this conference please be seated in the special section on the main floor previous to the installation.)

Flower Talk

Closing of the 1968 State Conference

PAGES

IN	THE EAST —	
	David A. Ash	
	Larry Betz	
	J. Tim Kiser Livingston County	
	Greg McDonald	
IN	THE WEST	
	Robert B. Webster Lansing	
	David RoodhousePort Huron	
IN	THE SOUTH —	
	Chuck Clark Grand Rapids	
	Billy MorganCenterline	
IN	THE NORTH —	
	Paul Surlock Palestine	
	John McLaughlin Lansing	

SPECIAL ESCORTS

Ben Ackerson	Ionia
John Anderson	Schoolcraft
David Bennett	
David Bower	
William Bramlet	Flint
William Burley	William E. Dunstan
Terry Champion	
Jon Čline	Mt. Pleasant
Ron Emerson	
Daniel Freiheit	
Lowell Gladd	Macomb
James Hamer	Roval Oak
Brian Hamilton	
Paul Johnides	
Brad Johnson	Horton-Clark
Gary Johnson	
Rodger Kellso	Horton-Clark
Brad Jackson	
Jack Lince	
Ronn McRae	
William Orgilvey	
Robert Orgilvey	
Fred Patriarche	Ann Arbor
Jack Penwarden	
Michael Pode	
	Lust Dell'OIL

Daniel Shoener Utica
James Sizeland Ann Arbor
Allen Silas
Jack Smith Dearborn
Gary Spaulding Shiawassee
Robert Thomas
Stephen Van Almen T. J. Collins
Gary Verheek Grand Rapids
D. John Watson Delta
Stewart Wasson Highland Park
Ralph Westbrook Ionia
Brian Young Plymouth
Gary Beck Redford
Rick Backus

.

ESCORTS

Robert Benedict
David Beyer Wenona
Gary Bishop Shiawassee
Juel Bjerke Utica
Lonnie Bone Pontiac
Robert Bordeaux Pontiac
Robert Branca Utica
Paul Chirich Flint
Darrell Credille Swartz Creek
Percy Dales Flint
James Darin Macomb
Craig Darling Shiawassee
Dennie Deloose East Detroit
James Dennis Plymouth
Patrick Dunn Port Huron
George Du Van Berkley
Bradley Farrant Dearborn
James Gerish Wenona
Raymond Goodman Dearborn
David Grim T. J. Collins
Dan Harrell Flint
Donald Haslett Dearborn
Mike Helmer Flint
Dennis Hibbs Berkley
H. Bruce Higgins Swartz Creek

William Jenkins	Flushing
Thomas Jensen	
Charles Judson	Charlie Gay
	Schooleneft
Cary Keblaitis	Schoolcraft
Richard Kraas	Charlie Gay
David Kirkwood	Swartz Creek
Steve Weinberger	Redford
Charles Lawhead	
James Lawhead	
Ronald Lincoln	
Robert Mackey	
Kevin Maslin	
Eddy Michalsko	
Vern Mitchell	Schoolcraft
Kevin Moore	Grand Rapids
Greg Olson	Delta
Kenneth Reeves	Highland Park
Bill Skinner	
Michael Smith	
John Tender	Monnoo
John Taylor	
David Tilton	
William Timmons	Livingston County
Timothy Tolin	Royal Oak
David White	
Peter White	Battle Creek
Robert Whitworth	
Thomas Williams	
Don Voung	Wm E Dunston
Ray Young	wm. E. Dunstan

- 22 -

1968 CHAPTER OUTSTANDING DeMOLAYS

Acacia
Alex Miller
Alma
Ann Arbor Terence E. Basom
Architect Phillip L. Gilliam
Battle Creek Gerald D. Storey
Belleville Jeffrey L. Stabnau
Berkley Peter Wardrope, Jr.
Bethel
Brotherhood
Cedar
Centerline David E. Kruse
Charlie Gay
Charlotte
Cherryland
Chippewa
Clark W. MacKenzie
Clifford C. Reeves Daniel D. MacDonell
Clio John E. Edwards
Coldwater Premier
Commerce
Davison
Dearborn
Delta Nels R. Ebbesen
Detroit 7ion
Durand Craig J. Yanson
East Detroit
East Lansing
Farmington Edward E. Boan
Fellowship
Ferndale David B. Kuxhaus
Findlater
Flat Rock
Flint Louis B. Traycik
Flushing Robert L. Plass
Four Square
Friendship
Garden City

George A. Shaw	
George Irving	
George Washington	
Glenn F Sanford	
Grand Blanc	David R. Hays
Grand Rapids	
Hazel Park	
Highland Park	. William H. Temple
Horton Clark	. James F. Benedix
Imlay City	
Ionia	Allison Brvant
Iron County	
Jackson	Edward W. Fisher
Lake Orion	
Lansing	Robert Hager
Lapeer County	
Lenawee	
Livingston County	James T. Kiser
Lola Valley Macomb	Raymond N. Abbey
Manistee	
Marshall	
Monroe	Kenneth R. Colpaert
Mosaic	
Mt. Pleasant	Jonathan G. Cline
Muskegon I	Richard J. Morehouse
Negaunee	
Newaygo County	
Niles	
Palestine	Larry A. Carver
Paw Paw	
Plymouth	Larry W. Cripps
Pontiac	. Gordon E. Mapley
Pontiac Port Huron	. Gary H. Lukovich
Redford	John A. Jackson
Reed City	
Rochester	
Roderick Hedlund	. Russell H. Willson
Romeo	
Royal Oak	Richard J. Webb
a	
Samaria Samuel Ward	Martin W. Barnes, II

- 25 -

Schoolcraft	John H. Skinner
Shiawassee	Charles M. Jennings
Straits	
Sudan	
Swartz Creek	Darrell A. Credille
Thomas J. Collins	Rodney G. Drummond
Trelum	
Tuscola	Dale R. Stephens
Utica	Rex D. Algate
Wayne	
Wenona	
White Lake	
William E. Dunstan	William J. Morris
William M. Perrett	
Wolverine	
Wyandotte	
Ypsilanti	
rpsnann	

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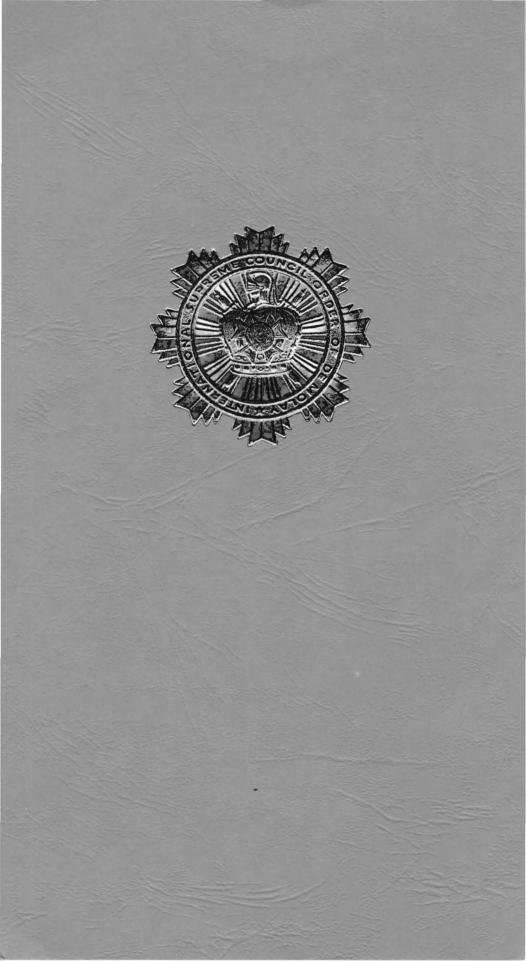
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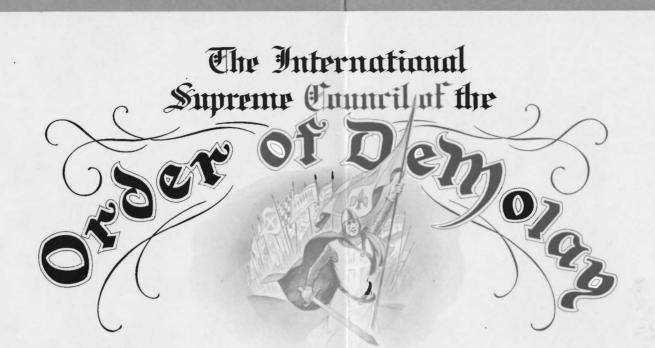
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	Mr. Allistair Dunn	Bay City Detroit Zion
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1958	Mr. Harvey M. Workman,	
1959	Mr. Wayne K. North	Marquette
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1966	Mr. Philip R. Pearce	East Lansing
1967	Mr. Roberick S. Coy	Shiawassee
1967	Mr. Roberick S. Coy *deceased	Shiawassee
	*deceased	
Н	deceased	DAWSON TROPHY
Н	deceased	DAWSON TROPHY
H	*deceased DLDERS OF THE RALPH Michigan's Outstanding	DAWSON TROPHY DeMolay Award)
HC 1953	*deceased DLDERS OF THE RALPH Michigan's Outstanding Richard A. Huebler	DAWSON TROPHY DeMolay Award) Plymouth
HC (1953 1954	*deceased DLDERS OF THE RALPH Michigan's Outstanding Richard A. Huebler Maxe A. Obermeyer, Jr.	DAWSON TROPHY DeMolay Award) Plymouth Ypsilanti
HC 1953 1954 1955	*deceased DLDERS OF THE RALPH Michigan's Outstanding Richard A. Huebler Maxe A. Obermeyer, Jr. Richard W. Lutey	DAWSON TROPHY DeMolay Award) Plymouth Ypsilanti Roderick Hedlund
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H(1953 1954 1955 1956 1956 1957	*deceased DLDERS OF THE RALPH Michigan's Outstanding Richard A. Huebler Maxe A. Obermeyer, Jr. Richard W. Lutey Douglas C. Fosth Edward C. Russell, Jr.	DAWSON TROPHY DeMolay Award) Plymouth Ypsilanti Roderick Hedlund Royal Oak Ferndale
H(1953 1954 1955 1956 1957 1958	*deceased DLDERS OF THE RALPH Michigan's Outstanding Richard A. Huebler Maxe A. Obermeyer, Jr. Richard W. Lutey Douglas C. Fosth Edward C. Russell, Jr. Wayne K. North	DAWSON TROPHY DeMolay Award) Plymouth Ypsilanti Roderick Hedlund Royal Oak Ferndale Fellowship
H(1953 1954 1955 1956 1957 1958 1959	*deceased DLDERS OF THE RALPH Michigan's Outstanding Richard A. Huebler Maxe A. Obermeyer, Jr. Richard W. Lutey Douglas C. Fosth Edward C. Russell, Jr. Wayne K. North William E. Ballard	DAWSON TROPHY DeMolay Award) Plymouth Ypsilanti Roderick Hedlund Royal Oak Ferndale Fellowship Flint
H(1953 1954 1955 1956 1957 1958 1959 1960	*deceased DLDERS OF THE RALPH Michigan's Outstanding Richard A. Huebler Maxe A. Obermeyer, Jr. Richard W. Lutey Douglas C. Fosth Edward C. Russell, Jr. Wayne K. North William E. Ballard Thomas W. Moberly	DAWSON TROPHY DeMolay Award) Plymouth Ypsilanti Roderick Hedlund Royal Oak Ferndale Fellowship Flint Ferndale
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HAMMOND ORGAN

COURTESY OF GRINNELL'S - GRAND RAPIDS





GREETING Know ye that Brother

Gerald R. Ford

residing at Alexandria, Virginia and whose name is signed in the margin hereof, is an HONORARY member for life of the

DeMolay Legion of Honor

subject to the Evostitution and Statutes of The International Supreme Council of the Order of De Molay and has been duly invested with this degree mentitling him to be received, welcomed and honored as such everywhere.

> IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, un have hereunto set our hands and caused the seal of the Supreme Council to be affixed this third day of April, 1968.

Signature

albert P. Ruerat Grand Master

Next year--1969--is the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Order of DeMolay, dedicated to building better boys. More than 3 million boys have belonged to DeMolay during the history of the Order. Michigan is one jurisdiction of 70. There are 97 chapters

in Michigan, with nearly 6,000 members.

From 700 to 800 young men will be in attendance at

the State Conference in Grand Rapids. The banquet is scheduled for 6 pm., black tie. STATE CONFERENCE OF THE ORDER OF DEMOLAY, SATURDAY EVENING, SEPT. 6, 1968, CIVIC AUDITORIUM, GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. UPON RECEIVING THE ORDER OF DEMOLAY'S HONORARY LEGION OF HONOR AWARD.

DAD KOCH, EXECUTIVE OFFICER MYERS, OTHER DISTINGUISHED OFFICERS OF THE ORDER OF DEMOLAY, AND DEMOLAY MEMBERS:

I AM DEEPLY GRATEFUL FOR THE HONOR YOU HAVE BESTOWED UPON ME. I WILL CHERISH THIS MOMENT FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.

MOST OF ALL, IT SPEAKS TO ME OF THE SHINING IDEALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ORDER OF DEMOLAY AND THE FINE WORK THE SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE ORDER ARE DOING IN DEVELOPING IN OUR YOUNG DEMOLAY MEMBERS THE KIND OF CHARACTER WHICH HAS BUILT A GREAT NATION.

LET ME REMIND ALL AMERICANS TONIGHT THAT THEY LIVE IN THE MOST BLESSED LAND IN Inture THE UNIVERSE.

-2in These Trong I SPEAK OF THIS BECAUSE IT SEEMS THAT MANY AMERICANS NEED TO BE REMINDED. IMPERFECT AS WE ARE AS PEOPLE, THERE IS NO BETTER LAND IN ALL THE WORLD. THE QUESTION IS, WHY? HOW DID THIS Let me assume more COME ABOUT? IT DIDN'T JUST HAPPEN. THE STORY OF HOW AMERICA WAS BORN / AND HOW IT GREW TO GREATNESS IS ONE OF THE MOST FASCINATING ACCOUNTS EVER RECORDED. THE CHARACTERS IN THAT STORY RANK WITH THE MOST GALLANT AND COURAGEOUS MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE WALKED THE EARTH. THE STORY IS ONE OF ADVENTURE, SUFFERING, CONFLICT, DANGEROUS EXPLOITS, VICTORY OVER OVERWHELMING ODDS, DARING LEADERS, AND UNSELFISH DEVOTION TO A CAUSE AND TO A NATION.

IT IS THE STORY OF FREEDOM BOUGHT AND PAID FOR WITH THE BLOOD OF PATRIOTS AND SHAPED BY THEIR DEEDS--A SPIRIT OF FREEDOM THAT DREW FOR INSPIRATION ON AN UNSHAKABLE FAITH IN GOD AND AN INDIVIDUAL STRENGTH THAT MET THE MOST FEARSOME CHALLENGES.

TODAY WE NEED TO RETELL THE STORY OF AMERICA. WE NEED TO STAND AGAIN ON PLYMOUTH ROCK WITH THE PILGRIMS, VISIT VIRGINIA WITH CAPTAIN JOHN SMITH, / FIGHT THE FRENCH ON THE PLAINS OF ABRAHAM, JOIN WITH THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS IN DRAFTING THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, TRAVEL WITH GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON TO YORKTOWN TO ACCEPT LORD CORNWALLIS'S SURRENDER, SAIL WITH CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES, FIGHT ALONGSIDE ANDREW JACKSON IN THE WAR OF 1812, HEAR ABRAHAM LINCOLN DELIVER HIS GETTYSBURG ADDRESS, SLOG THROUGH THE MUD WITH AMERICAN DOUGHBOYS AS THEY BREAK THE HINDENBERG LINE IN 1918, STRUGGLE ALONGSIDE AMERICAN GI'S AS THEY FIGHT THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE IN WORLD WAR 2, RAISE THE AMERICAN FLAG ON MOUNT SURIBACHI.

I AM TERRIBLY PROUD OF EVERY MEMBER

OF THE ORDER OF DEMOLAY-BECAUSE I FEEL SURE THAT EVERY DEMOLAY MEMBER IS PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN.

APART FROM THE FACT THAT IT IS EXCITING, THERE IS A COMPELLING REASON TO TELL AGAIN AND AGAIN THE STORIES OF AMERICAN HEROISM AND SUFFERING. IT IS BECAUSE NOW--AS NEVER BEFORE--WE NEED A NEW BIRTH OF PATRIOTISM IN AMERICA.

WHAT IS PATRIOTISM? IS IT JUST AN AUTOMATIC SALUTE WHEN THE FLAG GOES BY, /A FLUTTERING OF THE HEART AND A LUMP IN THE THROAT WHEN THE COLORS ARE WHIPPED SMARTLY BY THE WIND?

IN 1864, WHEN AMERICA WAS TORN BY SECTIONAL HATRED AND STRIFE, ABRAHAM LINCOLN WROTE: "THE WORLD HAS NEVER HAD A GOOD DEFINITION OF THE WORD LIBERTY, AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, JUST NOW, ARE MUCH IN NEED OF ONE." TODAY AMERICA AGAIN FACES A CRISIS OF DOUBT

TO PARAPHRASE THE WORDS OF LINCOLN, "THE WORLD HAS NEVER HAD A GOOD DEFINITION OF THE WORD PATRIOTISM, AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, JUST NOW, ARE MUCH IN NEED OF ONE." IN MOST OF US THE SIGHT OF OUR FLAG EVOKES A WARM FEELING. IS THIS PATRIOTISM? NO, IT IS JUST A SYMPTOM OF IT. BUT IT POINTS TO THE REAL MEANING OF PATRIOTISM, THE ROOTS FROM WHICH IT SPRINGS -- LOVE OF COUNTRY, A BELIEF IN YOUR COUNTRY, A DEEP DEVOTION TO YOUR COUNTRY, AND A BELIEF IN YOURSELF AS PART OF YOUR COUNTRY.

PATRIOTISM IS THE FORCE THAT MAKES EVERY DECENT AMERICAN CITIZEN WANT TO LEAVE TO HIS CHILDREN AND TO HIS NEIGHBOR'S CHILDREN MORE OPPORTUNITY, MORE FREEDOM AND MORE SECURITY THAN HE HIMSELF ENJOYED. THAT'S REAL PATRIOTISM--LOVE OF COUNTRY. IS IT <u>OUR</u> COUNTRY, <u>RIGHT</u> OR <u>WRONG</u>? <u>YES</u>--BUT WE SHOULD NEVER BE SO BLIND THAT WE REFUSE TO SEE WHEN WE ARE WRONG AND THEN SEEK TO PUT MATTERS RIGHT.

WHAT IT ALL COMES DOWN TO IS THIS--WE ALL HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO STAND UP FOR AMERICA, A RESPONSIBILITY TO GIVE THE BEST WE HAVE TO MEET THE TERRIBLE PROBLEMS OUR NATION FACES TODAY.

DOES PATRIOTISM MEAN LOVE OF WAR? NONSENSE. AMERICANS HATE WAR. WE LOVE PEACE. WHENEVER WE HAVE GONE TO WAR, IT HAS BEEN IN DEFENSE OF FREEDOM. AND THE DEFENSE OF FREEDOM HAS ALWAYS BEEN PAINFUL, A CHALLENGE THAT DEMANDS A RESPONSE FROM ALL AMERICANS. RATRIOTIC AMERICANS KNOW THAT FREEDOM IS NOT ONLY A RIGHT BUT A RESPONSIBILITY. LINCOLN USED THE WORD RESPONSIBILITY ALMOST AS OFTEN AS HE USED THE WORD FREEDOM. HE ASKED WHO HAD PAID FOR HIS FREEDOM AND

WHAT THE PRICE? HE ASKED HOW FREEDOM COULD BE PRESERVED FOR AMERICANS AND ALL GOOD MEN EVERYWHERE.

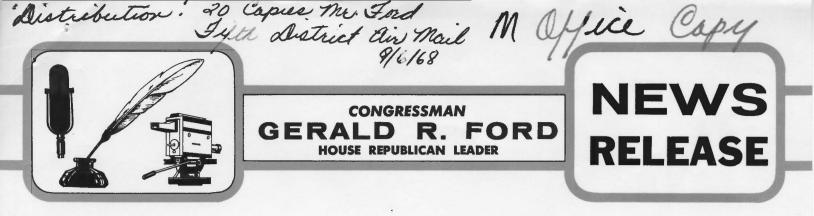
AMERICA NOW IS STUMBLING THROUGH THE DARKNESS OF HATRED AND DIVISIVENESS. OUR VALUES, OUR PRINCIPLES, AND OUR DETERMINATION TO SUCCEED AS A FREE AND DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE WILL GIVE US A TORCH TO LIGHT THE WAY.

AND WE <u>WILL</u> <u>SURVIVE</u> AND BECOME THE <u>STRONGER</u>--NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF <u>A PATRIOTISM</u> <u>THAT STANDS FOR LOVE OF COUNTRY</u>, BUT <u>A</u> <u>PATRIOTISM THAT STANDS FOR LOVE OF PEOPLE</u>. PERHAPS EACH GENERATION MUST,

THROUGH ITS OWN SUFFERING AND SACRIFICE, REDISCOVER THE MEANING OF FREEDOM AND LOVE OF COUNTRY.

LET US, AT THIS TIME OF GREAT CRISIS FOR OUR NATION, SEEK THE REAL MEANING OF FREEDOM WITHIN OURSELVES. LET US EXPRESS, UNASHAMED, THE GREAT LOVE OF COUNTRY THAT BURNS WITHIN US. LET US LIVE OUR LIVES WITH COURAGE AND CONVICTION, FAITH IN FREEDOM, PASSION FOR JUSTICE AND DEVOTION TO DUTY. FOR THIS IS THE TRUE MEANING OF PATRIOTISM. AND THIS WILL BE THE SALVATION OF AMERICA. THANK YOU.

- END-



Remarks by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., Minority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives, before the State Conference of the Order of DeMolay, Saturday evening, Sept. 7, 1968, at the Civic Auditorium, Grand Rapids, Mich., upon receiving the Order of DeMolay's honorary Legion of Honor Award.

I am deeply grateful for the honor you have bestowed upon me. I will cherish this moment for the rest of my life.

Most of all, it speaks to me of the shining ideals and objectives of the Order of DeMolay and the fine work the senior members of the Order are doing in developing in our young DeMolay members the kind of character which has built a great nation.

Let me remind all Americans tonight that they live in the most blessed land in the universe.

I speak of this because it seems that many Americans need to be reminded. Imperfect as we are as people, there is no better land in all the world. The question is, why? How did this come about? It didn't just happen.

The story of how America was born and how it grew to greatness is one of the most fascinating accounts ever recorded. The characters in that story rank with the most gallant and courageous men and women who have ever walked the earth. The story is one of adventure, suffering, conflict, dangerous exploits, victory over overwhelming odds, daring leaders, and unselfish devotion to a cause and to a nation.

It is the story of freedom bought and paid for with the blood of patriots and shaped by their deeds--a spirit of freedom that drew for inspiration on an unshakable faith in God and an individual strength that met the most fearsome challenges.

Today we need to retell the story of America. We need to stand again on Plymouth Rock with the Pilgrims, visit Virginia with Captain John Smith, fight the French on the Plains of Abraham, join with the Continental Congress in drafting the Declaration of Independence, travel with General George Washington to Yorktown to accept Lord Cornwallis's surrender, sail with Captain John Paul Jones, fight alongside Andrew Jackson in the War of 1812, hear Abraham Lincoln deliver

(more)

his Gettysburg Address, slog through the mud with American doughboys as they break the Hindenberg Line in 1918, struggle alongside American GI's as they fight the Battle of the Bulge in World War 2, raise the American Flag on Mount Suribachi.

I am terribly proud of every member of the Order of DeMolay--because I feel sure that every DeMolay member is proud to be an American.

Apart from the fact that it is exciting, there is a compelling reason to tell again and again the stories of American heroism and suffering. It is because now--as never before--we need a new birth of patriotism in America.

What is patriotism? Is it just an automatic salute when The Flag goes by, a fluttering of the heart and a lump in the throat when The Colors are whipped smartly by the wind?

In 1864, when America was torn by sectional hatred and strife, Abraham Lincoln wrote: "The world has never had a good definition of the word liberty, and the American people, just now, are much in need of one."

Today America again faces a crisis of doubt and dissension.

To paraphrase the words of Lincoln, "the world has never had a good definition of the word patriotism, and the American people, just now, are much in need of one."

In most of us the sight of our Flag evokes a warm feeling. Is this patriotism? No, it is just a symptom of it. But it points to the real meaning of patriotism, the roots from which it springs--love of country, a belief in your country, a deep devotion to your country, and a belief in yourself as part of your country.

Patriotism is the force that makes every decent American citizen want to leave to his children and to his neighbor's children more opportunity, more freedom and more security than he himself enjoyed. That's real patriotism-love of country.

Is it <u>our</u> country, <u>right</u> or <u>wrong</u>? <u>Yes</u>--but we should never be so blind that we refuse to see when we are wrong and then seek to put matters right.

What it all comes down to is this--we all have a responsibility to stand up for America, a responsibility to give the best we have to meet the terrible problems our nation faces today.

Does patriotism mean love of war? Nonsense. Americans hate war. We <u>love</u> <u>peace</u>. Whenever we have gone to war, it has been in defense of freedom. And

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the defense of freedom has always been painful, a challenge that demands a response from all Americans.

Patriotic Americans know that freedom is not only a right but a responsibility.

Lincoln used the word responsibility almost as often as he used the word freedom. He asked who had paid for his freedom and what the price? He asked how freedom could be preserved for Americans and all good men everywhere.

America now is stumbling through the darkness of hatred and divisiveness.

Our values, our principles, and our determination to succeed as a free and democratic people will give us a torch to light the way.

And we will survive and become the stronger--not only because of <u>a</u> patriotism that stands for love of country, but <u>a patriotism that stands</u> for love of people.

Perhaps each generation must, through its own suffering and sacrifice, rediscover the meaning of freedom and love of country.

Let us, at this time of great crisis for our Nation, seek the real meaning of freedom within ourselves. Let us express, unashamed, the great love of country that burns within us. Let us live our lives with <u>courage and conviction</u>, <u>faith in freedom</u>, <u>passion for justice</u> and <u>devotion to duty</u>. For this is the <u>true</u> meaning of <u>patriotism</u>. And this will be the salvation of America.

Thank you.

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