

Centennial Celebration Moments # 31

A National Fund-Raising Program

On February 21, 1940, Dad Land met with the Board of Directors of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association to ask for the privilege of presenting to the Masons of the country an heroic statue of George Washington to stand in Memorial Hall, the first place visitors would go to enter the building. A plate at the base would say that it was donated by the boys of the Order of DeMolay. The cost of a giant marble carving by the sculptor Bryan Baker was estimated to be \$40,000 (equal in buying power to \$704,350 in 2018.) Dad Land's concept was that every Chapter should raise \$80 (\$1408 in 2018) and that no money should be taken from a Chapter Treasury, but that a proper fundraiser in each Chapter could convince 80 people to give \$1.00 (\$17.61 in 2018.) Total membership in the order that year was 74,856 youth and 8,964 advisors. Additionally, the money raised was to be escrowed and held for 18-months. If the project could not be completed, according to Dad Land's plans, the monies would be returned to the Chapters. Further, NONE of the money raised was to be spent on plaques or donation keepsakes, so that ALL the money raised would go toward the project.

1. Do you think this was a good project for all DeMolays in the United States to support?
2. Do you think Dad Land's fundraising plan was a good idea?
3. If asked today, would you give \$17.61 to a project to raise funds for some kind of national effort? If so, what would appeal to you more: would it be something permanent, like a statue, or a charitable gift to support an important cause, consistent with our 7 cardinal virtues?

View the supporting images below



Executive Offices

The GRAND COUNCIL of the ORDER OF DE MOLAY

From the
GRAND COUNCIL STATUE FUND
COMMITTEE

1809-10 W. T. Waggoner Building
Fort Worth, Texas

September 18, 1945

Dear Sir and Brother:

A merciful God has blessed our country and its armed forces in victory. We feel certain your prayers of thanksgiving are joined with ours. Through four years of war the Order of DeMolay has maintained its high standard and progresses with new enthusiasm and vision. This has been accomplished through the co-operation and loyal support of every advisor and member of the Order. There is yet much work we must do to deserve this great victory.

We now have an opportunity to show the country our appreciation and convince them of the fineness of our purpose. We refer to the George Washington Memorial Statue Fund. This campaign already started must have the whole-hearted support of every one if it is to succeed. A great number of chapters have already sent in their quota of 25c per member which represents 100% subscription, but we are still short of our goal.

Will you see to it that your chapter participates in this magnificent undertaking so that we may ask President Harry Truman, our honorary Grand Master, to give this Statue to all the nation for DeMolay?

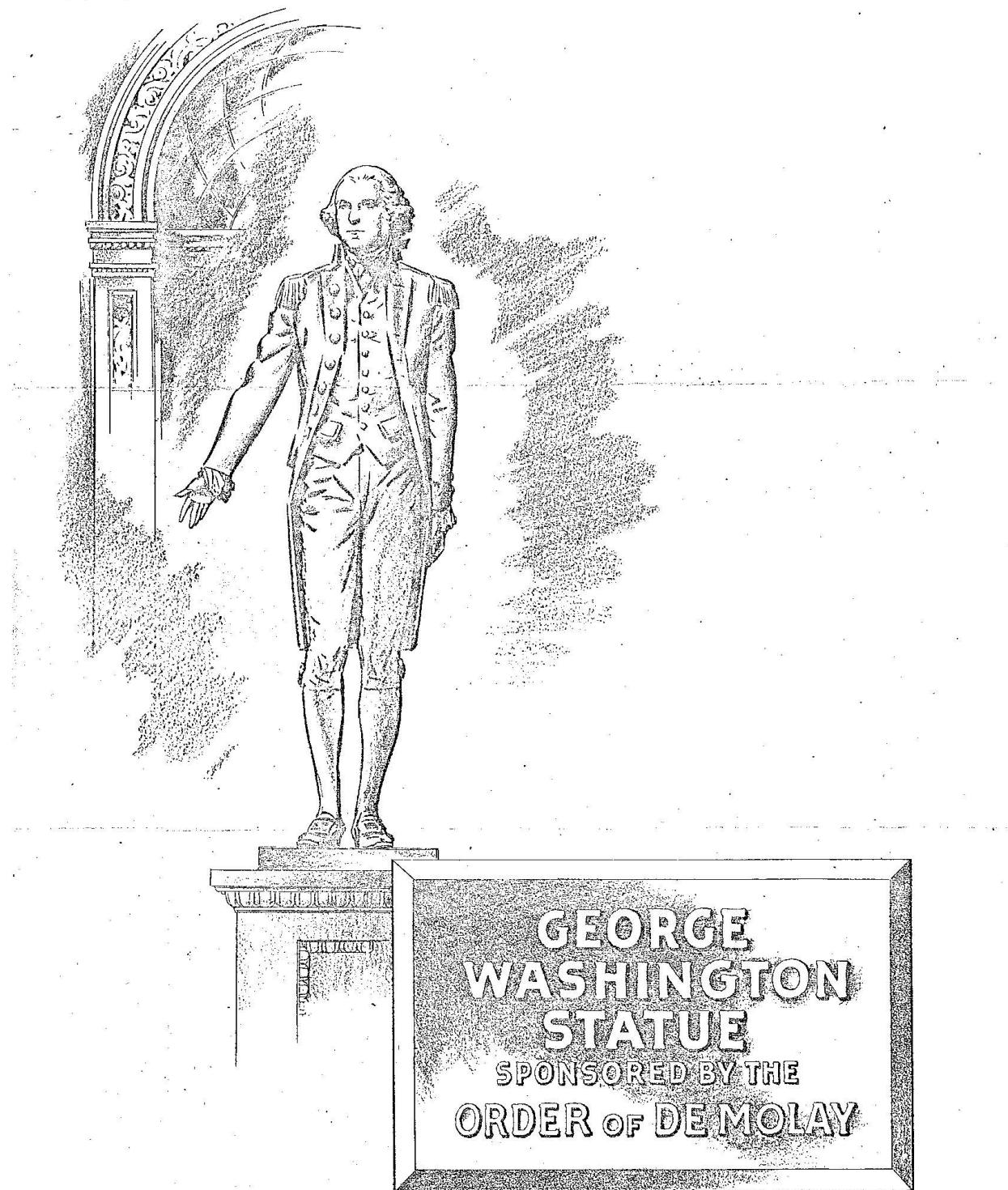
A circular from the Statue Fund Committee, with full explanation, is enclosed and additional copies will be furnished free on your request to the Grand Council offices in Kansas City, Missouri.

The far reaching efforts of this gesture will be enjoyed for many years to come and deserves the attention and assistance of every one in the Order of DeMolay. Every chapter is expected and urged to send in their contribution with their annual report by October 1, 1945.

Accept our sincere thanks for your co-operation.

Fraternally yours,
THE STATUE FUND COMMITTEE,

Malvern Marks, Chairman
George C. Bestick
Chandler C. Cohagen





Executive Offices

The GRAND COUNCIL of the ORDER OF DE MOLAY

From the
GRAND COUNCIL STATUE
COMMITTEE

ARMOUR AND WARWICK BOULEVARD
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

YOUR OPPORTUNITY AS A LOYAL DEMOLAY AND ADVISOR. Sometime ago the DeMolays of America were offered the greatest opportunity in the history of the Order to repay in a measure the recognition given them by the great Masonic Fraternity. Fortunately this opportunity still exists for all DeMolays of today. Briefly, this is the story. Today, overlooking the City of Washington, there stands in Alexandria, Virginia, perhaps the finest Masonic Temple in all of North America. It is the beautiful four million dollar George Washington Memorial Masonic Temple—all contributed by the Masons of America.

In the grand entrance hall of this Temple, there has been reserved for the Order of DeMolay, a place for a large statue of George Washington, the Man and Mason, the Father of our Country. No other organization has been granted the privilege and honor of placing any such gift and memorial in this national Masonic Temple. Plans call for a heroic statue of Washington in bronze that will command and greet the eye of every visitor to this great Temple as he enters the shrine. The base of the statue will be inscribed so that all

may read the words to the effect that this statue is a tribute from the DeMolays of America in humble devotion to the memory of Washington and for all that he stood for; also, as their gift to the Free Masons of America who have sponsored the Order of DeMolay.

Our President, Harry S. Truman, is honorary Grand Master of DeMolay, and a member of the Grand Council. If you and I can complete this statue fund immediately, perhaps we can persuade him to officiate at the dedication ceremony. Every DeMolay and Mason would rejoice with us in having the President participate.

Just visualize this magnificent statue of Washington, and how it will impress the millions who visit it. We know you will want to be numbered with those who had a part in its completion. It will be your everlasting gift to DeMolay and you will forever be proud you participated in it.

Dad Land, our Founder, started this great memorial just before War was declared, and now your Grand Council deems this the opportune time to complete it. Delay might be too late. The plan is simple and every De-

Molay will be most anxious to share in it. All it takes for you and your Chapter to have a part in this great statue is to see to it that you and each member of your Chapter turn over to the Scribe, or the Advisor, the sum of Twenty-five cents per member. Only Twenty-five cents per member will complete the job. If you will give your quarter to the Chapter immediately and see to it that each and every member does likewise, then your Chapter will be one of more than 1,000 Chapters in America to receive a 100% Certificate from the Grand Council Office. Some day you might be one of the five or six million annual visitors to the Masonic Temple that overlooks the great City of Washington. Imagine the thrill you will experience when you enter the Temple and the first thing to greet your eyes is the statue which you and other DeMolays presented to the people and Masons of America.

As stated in the beginning, this work was started before the War and some money was paid in by a number of Chapters and DeMolays, but only about one-third of the funds necessary were collected. We must immediately complete the fund, or perhaps lose for-

ever the great opportunity presented to you and other DeMolays. We know we can depend on your loyalty and enthusiasm to complete the job now and to see to it that your Chapter is 100%. Let every Master Councilor, every DeMolay and Advisor see to it that his Chapter is included in the great list to be completed for this most outstanding of all Masonic monuments. Remember the Masonic Grand Lodges of 48 States and the District of Columbia own and operate this great Temple and their representatives hold their meetings there every year. This heroic statue will be a constant reminder to these distinguished Masons of how grateful we are for their recognition.

You are a loyal DeMolay. There are thousands of other DeMolays in every State of this great democracy who are going to help you and who are depending on you to do your part immediately. Let's each contribute his 25c now and see to it that his Chapter is in the procession of those who are on the honor roll. Will you be the first one in your Chapter? Thanks a million.

Yours for a greater DeMolay,

Harry W. Bundy

HARRY W. BUNDY, Grand Master and Member in Colorado

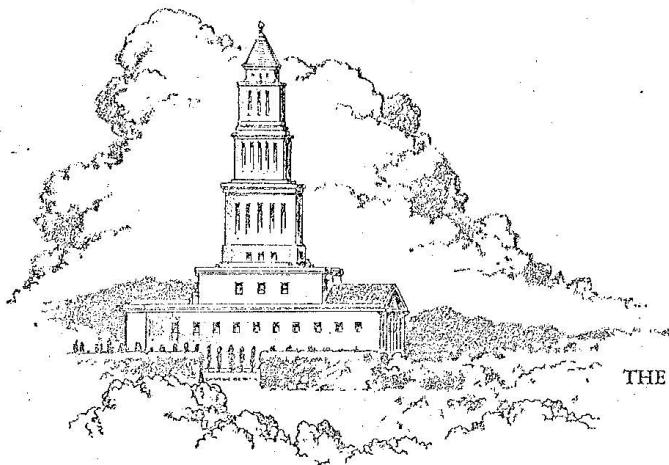
Frank S. Land
FRANK S. LAND, Founder and Secretary General

Grand Council Statue Fund Committee

CHANDLER C. COHAGEN, Past Grand Master and Member in Montana

GEORGE C. BESTICK, Member in Massachusetts

MALVERN MARKS, Member in Texas



THE GEORGE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL
MASONIC TEMPLE

SO THAT you may know how important and urgent this appeal is, we are writing hereon the names and addresses of all members of the Grand Council who endorsed this entire project while in attendance at the Grand Council meeting held in Kansas City, Missouri, on March 5, 1945. They represent nearly every state in the union.

This is a nation-wide movement for DeMolay and you are a loyal one. We know you will see to it that your Chapter is 100% for this memorial.

The funds for this statue are to be included in the Chapter's term report dated May 31, 1945, and sent to the Secretary General's office in Kansas City, Missouri. All monies collected after May 31st must be included in the Chapter's annual report of September 20, 1945. You and your Chapter can be one of the first in the entire country to go over the top if you will get busy and enthusiastic about this opportunity. Wouldn't it be magnificent and impressive to have the President of the United States give this statue for DeMolay?

If there are any further questions, or information, you want, please address your letter to the Statue Committee, c/o Malvern Marks, W. T. Waggoner Building, Fort Worth 2, Texas. You will receive a prompt reply.

We, the members of the Grand Council, enthusiastically approve the Statue Fund and ask your prompt support.

Harry W. Bundy, Grand Master, Member in Colorado
Chandler C. Cohagen, Past Grand Master, Member in Montana
Dr. William J. Kerr, Past Grand Master, Member in Oregon
John H. Glazier, Past Grand Master, Member in Missouri
George C. Beswick, Grand Council Member in Massachusetts
Lloyd B. Johnson, Grand Council Member in New Mexico
Percy A. Budd, Grand Council Member in Missouri (M.A.L.)
Lawrence H. Waites, Grand Council Member in Pennsylvania
William F. Quebec, Grand Council Member in Texas
Egil Steen, Grand Council Member in Maryland
B. J. McIrow, Grand Council Member in Michigan
Frank E. Burt, Grand Council Member in Indiana
Edward A. King, Grand Council Member in Pennsylvania (M.A.L.)
Andrew A. D. Rahn, Grand Council Member in Minnesota (M.A.L.)
Frank R. Pendleton, Grand Council Member in Nebraska
C. S. Armintrout, Grand Council Member in Iowa
Dr. Phillip J. Jones, Grand Council Member in Connecticut
Dr. F. Denton White, Grand Council Member in Minnesota
Dr. Theodore Freedman, Grand Council Member in Arkansas
W. A. Currie, Grand Council Member in Alabama
James E. Nugent, Grand Council Member in Missouri (M.A.L.)
Ray V. Denslow, Grand Council Member in Missouri (M.A.L.)
Dr. Claud F. Young, Grand Council Member in Kansas (M.A.L.)
Malvern Marks, Grand Council Member in Texas
Walter C. Ploeser, M. C. Grand Council Deputy in Missouri
George M. Saunders, Grand Council Deputy in Missouri
George H. Hammock, Grand Council Deputy in Texas
Calvin M. Keller, Grand Council Deputy in Missouri
Bryce B. Smith, Grand Council Member in Missouri (M.A.L.)
Frank J. Buckingham, Grand Council Member in Missouri (M.A.L.)
Frank S. Allison, Grand Council Deputy in Missouri
Albert J. McNally, Grand Council Deputy in Missouri
Frank S. Land, Founder and Secretary General, Missouri

ORGANIZE, ACT, WORK, AND COMPLETE IMMEDIATELY ALL NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS TO MAKE YOUR CHAPTER THE FIRST TO RECEIVE A 100% CERTIFICATE FROM THE GRAND COUNCIL'S OFFICE. TWENTY-FIVE CENTS PER MEMBER WILL DO THE JOB!