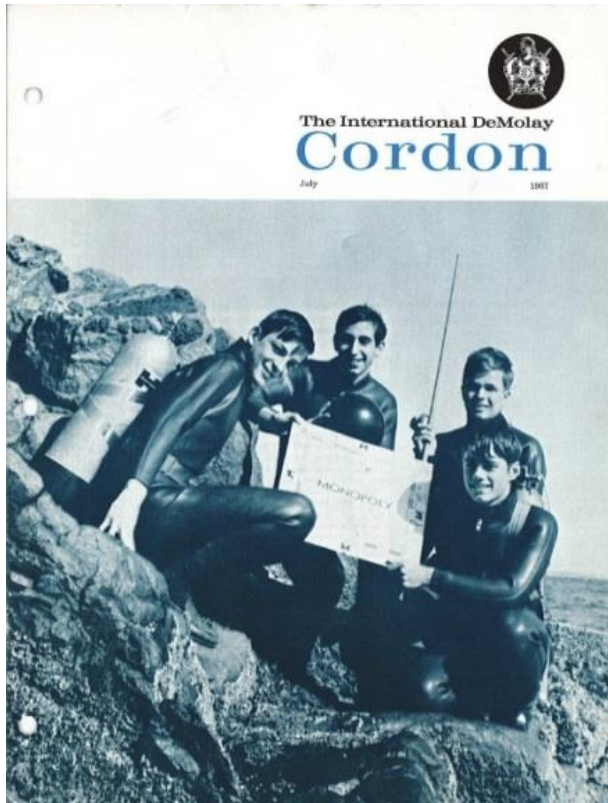


DeMolay Chapter Marathons

In the 1960's & 1970's DeMolay Chapters around the world competed in marathon activities to set world records, or at least, DeMolay records for the longest time doing a particular activity. Of course, the purpose was to get local TV, radio and newspaper coverage by holding the events in a public space.

At the beginning, there were no real rules or categories—just some crazy ideas and a lot of enthusiasm.

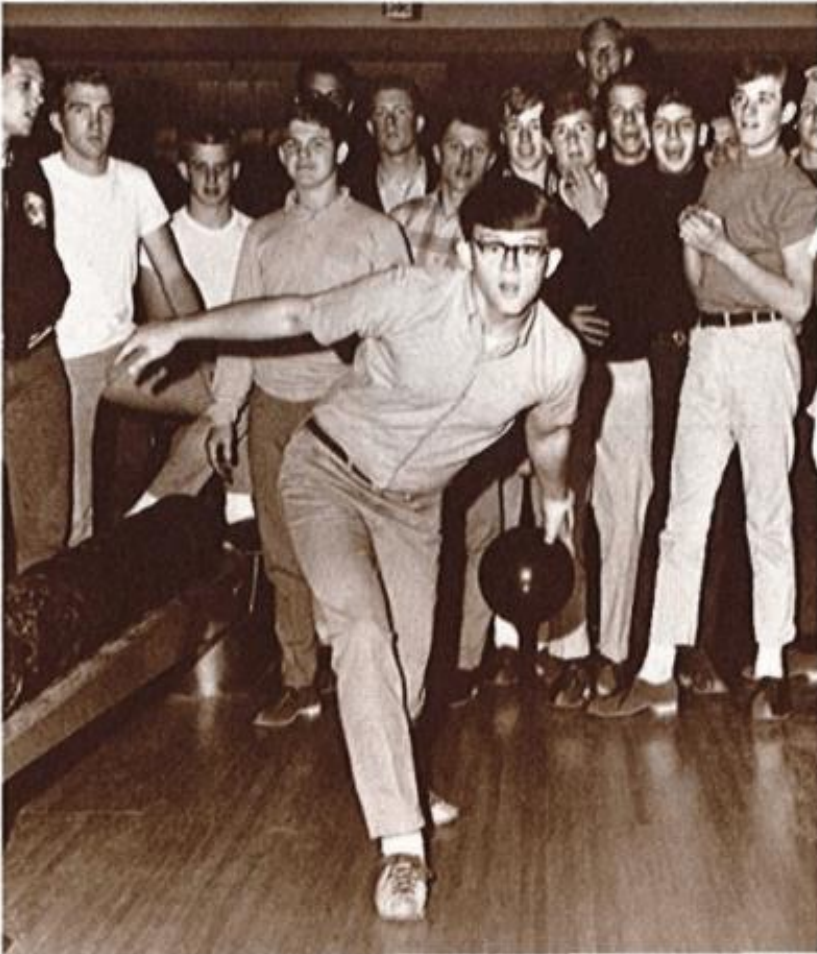
Bowling	Handball	Fishing	Diving	Card Games
Croquet	Water Skiing	Walking	Ping Pong	Pool
Relay	Softball	Football	Soccer	Golf
Scuba	Swimming	Ice Skating	Trampoline	
Weight Lifting	Water Basketball	Fencing	Pachinko	Whist



After a while, though, it was necessary to limit the events to specific categories: sports, civic service, card games and board or table-top games. (Exceptions: Monopoly and Car Wash)

Some of the more interesting games consisted of playing underwater Monopoly, and a Ham-a-thon where members of Cheyenne, WY chapter manned a Ham radio station for 24 hours, making contact with other Ham radio operators around the world to tell them about DeMolay.

MEMBERS OF Mill Valley, Calif., chapter (pictured below) broke the Bowling record with slightly more than 80 hours but nine days later Kenosha, Wisc., chapter came up with a mark of 102 hours.



The Cordon Magazine covered, and encouraged, these marathon activities to promote the Order, and published occasional record lists. Although not the final listing, the records are impressive. Like most "fads" the program died out for lack of interest in the late 1970's but it provided a lot of excitement for over 10 years.

MARATHON LEADERS New 1968 Rules

- Board and Table Top Games**
Aomori chapter, Misawa Air Base, Japan
Time: 98½ hrs.
- Card Games**
Wachusett chapter, Clinton, Mass.
Time: 208 hrs.
- Diving**
Osman chapter, Austin, Minn.
Time: 24 hrs.
- Fencing**
George Rogers Clark chapter, New Albany, Ind.
Time: 1 hr. 11 min.
- Football**
Winnipeg and East Kildonan chapters, Man., Can.
Time: 2 hrs. 25 min.
- Ice Skating**
Jamison chapter, Sioux City, Iowa
Time: 94 hrs.
- Trampoline**
Kenner, La., chapter
Time: 36 hrs.
- Water Basketball**
George Rogers Clark chapter, New Albany, Ind.
Time: 35 hrs. 40 min.
- Weight Lifting**
Grand Rapids, Mich., chapter
Time: 48 hrs.



MEMBERS OF Strathcona chapter, Winnipeg, Manitoba, did a little finger exercising after bowling for 72 hours, which unfortunately didn't stand up as a new record, even though it broke the old one.

1. Have you ever tried to set a record by doing something longer or better than anyone else?
2. Can you think of a unique event that you could do as a Chapter to get some local publicity?
3. Do you know of any charity marathons your Chapter could participate in to help raise funds for people in need?