

WHO WALK IN GREATNESS

A Patriotic Program

by
Hazel Moseley



Wetmore Declamation Bureau

**Box 2695
Sioux City, IA 51106**

**www.wetmoredeclamation.com
Email: speeches@wetmoredeclamation.com**

CAUTION: Wetmore Declamation Bureau material is protected by United States copyright law and conventions. None of our material may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means-electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, or any other-without prior permission. No trademark, copyright or other notice may be removed or changed. All rights reserved. Violators will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

WHO WALK IN GREATNESS
A Patriotic Program

Hazel Moseley

Copyright 1965 by the WETMORE DECLAMATION BUREAU, Sioux City, Iowa.

FIRST SPEAKER: There are months which seem more to have been born for greatness than others. One of these is February, with the birthdays of two revered Americans. Revered not only for the fact that they were our nation's Presidents, but for the men they were, and made of themselves.

It is good that Americans pause to remember them--their creeds, their courage, their honesty, their integrity. And it is good that we, as Americans, remember that fact--remember that once upon a time men fought and died--that we might live in freedom.

SECOND SPEAKER: Americans love statistics. Among one of these various research questings when thousands of people were polled, was the question: What do YOU find, as foreigners on American soil, to be the most astonishing thing--the most impressive? Then we sat back with our hands folded, picturing the answers: the tall skyscrapers of New York City, that land of steel and concrete, chrome and glass, the large factories with their smoke spiraling upward to the sky; the Grand Canyon; on and on went the images--

Yet when the answer came, it was simple and clear--clean-cut--and astonishing. It was not of these things. It was milk at the table and a newspaper on the front porch, facts which every day we accept and think nothing of.

THIRD SPEAKER: And why?--why? Because in their countries milk may be life itself when the pangs of hunger gnaw and grind and crush out breath; and a newspaper may slide into shoes which are ragged, and lacking in warmth.

So let us take time as Americans, as citizens and as future citizens, to remember our country and her contribution to the world; and love her with a warmth, pride and tenderness which lies hidden and cannot find voice. Let us give it that voice. Let the words be heard proudly; that each of us may hold his head high and face the future with more strength and courage; and let us remember these men who have given us greatness because they possessed it within.

FOURTH SPEAKER: It is for this reason that _____ High School is presenting this assembly--that you may hear the words--that you may know its music in song--and that you may feel its rhythm in band.

We open with the songs which make up America, songs which can reach the heart and leave a wistfulness, and the knowledge that our lives have become the better for hearing them. _____ is conducting the choir.

(The choir announces its own selections - Patriotic type.)

FOURTH SPEAKER: Thank you, _____ and students, for sharing that beauty of music. And now we turn to the words, and the two men we are honoring and remembering. _____ will try to find the words and give them meaning.

SECOND SPEAKER: Washington: It was the bleakness of winter and the crunch of snow--freezing feet wrapped in rags--It was a dull leaden sky, where a sun was hidden and the moon was barren of reflection. It was the stark gauntness of limbs gnarled against that leaden sky--grotesque fingers pointing everywhere--symbolizing the chaos of the lives of men who huddled under those branches.

FIRST SPEAKER: It was the cold steel, freezing to one's hands, and the muskets rusting where they had fallen from other hands no longer pulsing with life. It was the feeble wisps of smoke and the weird shadows patterned against the snow as though witches howled in glee and their unearthly cackles wafted upward with the flames.

--- END OF FREE PREVIEW ---