Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy

Presents
"A Successful Failure"

Fifth Annual
James R. Thompson
Leadership Lecture
October 16, 1995
2:00 p.m.

featuring James A. Lovell
James Arthur Lovell, Jr., was born on March 25, 1928, in Cleveland, Ohio. Lovell attended the University of Wisconsin for two years and then entered the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis. In 1952 he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree.

Following graduation from Annapolis, Lovell received flight training and served at a number of Navy stations until entering the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School at Patuxent River, Maryland, in 1958. He was serving as a safety engineer for Fighter Squadron 101 at the Naval Air Station in Oceana, Virginia, when he was selected by NASA in September 1962.

Lovell was the first astronaut to make four space flights. In 1965 he was the pilot of Gemini 7. On this mission he spent fourteen days in space, which was a record at the time. Then, in 1968, Lovell became the command module pilot of Apollo 8, man's first flight around the moon.

In August 1969 Lovell was asked if he and his crew could be ready in eight months to fly Apollo 13. Lovell agreed and was given the assignment. Apollo 13 began as a planned lunar landing that was aborted due to an explosion in the service module mid-flight that drained away oxygen and power. Lovell and fellow astronauts John Swigert and Fred Haise were able to return safely to Earth. The tale of how the cockpit and ground crews were able to avert disaster is told in Lovell's book, *Lost Moon*.

Following Apollo 13, Lovell requested a leave from NASA to attend Harvard. In May 1971 he was named deputy director for science and applications at the Johnson Space Center. In March of 1973, he retired from the Navy as a Captain and resigned from NASA to join Bay-Houston Towing, a diversified company. In 1977 Lovell left Bay-Houston to become president of Fisk Telephone Systems in Houston and in 1981 he became group vice-president with Centel Corporation.

Today Lovell is the president of Lovell Communications in Lake Forest and remains involved with the President's Council on Physical Fitness.
Program

Welcome and Recognition of Guests .......................................................... Sindhu K. Revuluri
President, Student Council
Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy

Stephanie Pace Marshall, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy

Introduction of Speaker ................................................................. Robert H. Malott
Chairman of the Executive Committee
FMC Corporation

James R. Thompson Leadership Lecture ................................... James A. Lovell
“A Successful Failure”
The Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy is an educational laboratory for designing and testing innovative programs and methods to share with other teachers and schools in Illinois and beyond—programs and methods to transform mathematics and science teaching and learning. Included in the laboratory is the state's three-year public residential educational program for 650 Illinois students (grades 10-12) talented in mathematics and science. The Academy's academic building includes state-of-the-art science, mathematics, computer, instructional technology and video production laboratories, an inventors' workshop and a telecommunications classroom.

The James R. Thompson Leadership Lecture Series was established in 1990 following a gift to the IMSA Fund for Advancement of Education. The donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, chose to honor Mr. Thompson for his service as governor of Illinois (1977-1991) and his leadership in establishing the Academy. As governor, Mr. Thompson established task forces, evaluated recommendations, proposed legislation and successfully urged passage of the Education Reform Act of 1985 which included creation of the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy.

In December, 1989, the Academy was formally dedicated to the people of Illinois in honor of Mr. Thompson and Dr. Leon M. Lederman. Mr. Thompson, an honorary member of IMSA's charter class, serves as chairman of the IMSA Fund board of directors.