

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
Thursday, January 5, 1989

Following the invocation by William T. Turner and dinner at the Log House Restaurant, the meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by President Sam H. Traugher. The roll call revealed thirty-one members present.

Requests for excused absences were presented by Sam H. Traugher, Bobby H. Freeman, Hal King, Peter C. Macdonald, Marvin D. Denison, Franklin A. Nash, Jr., and James G. Adams, Jr. These requests were approved although there was one dissenting vote.

Minutes of the December 1, 1988 meeting were read and approved with the notation of a need for one minor correction in a date quoted.

In response to the request made at last month's meeting that the members consider the possibilities of a change in meeting place, President Traugher pointed out that there is insufficient factual information available at this time concerning possible alternatives to make such a decision. He therefore appointed a committee chaired by Thomas W. Westerfield and including Robert C. Baker and Richard C. Brasher, to explore possible options for a meeting place for next year.

President Traugher then called for the stated program.

George M. Draper presented a paper entitled "Heat From An Oriental Sunrise - Secure the Doors, the Ronin Are Coming!" The author focused on the relative economic, industrial and educational growth of Japan and the threat that this is presenting to America as a world leader. As the statistics and trends were unfolded, it became obvious that Japan's desire for at least a share in world dominance did not end with World War II. World war tactics were replaced with an emphasis on industrial growth and development that is proving to be successful to an alarming degree. Some current and possible effects on our country, along with some of the problems with our efforts, were discussed, after which a few possible remedies were briefly presented. The paper was well researched, well presented, and was at the same time both frightening and challenging.

David Cavanah presented his first paper to the Society entitled "Where Have You Gone Opie Taylor?" With a view that was nostalgic yet contemporary in its intent, the author focused on the advantages of being raised and living in a small town, or better yet, a very small town. The focus of the paper was on

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real people and real events in the nearby community of Crofton, Kentucky, but mental images were formed in the minds of many of the listeners that took them back to their own hometowns and years gone by. Once again we were challenged to consider the price of growth in the name of progress and the concept of "bigger is better." The paper was well written and delightfully presented.


After a five minute break, seventeen of the members made extensive comments regarding the papers, demonstrating their appreciation and their interest in both topics. The comments were then followed by rebuttals from each of the authors.

The secretary announced the program for the February 2nd meeting:

Mike G. Herndon
Paul D Guffey

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Franklin A. Nash, Jr.
Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
Thursday, February 2, 1989

Dinner was served at the Log House Restaurant beginning at 6:30 p.m., after which the meeting was called to order at 7:28 p.m. by President Sam H. Traughber. The roll call revealed thirty members present.

Requests for excused absences were presented by Robert B. Sivley, George W. Engler, and George H. Byars, with these requests being approved.

Minutes of the January 5, 1989 meeting were read and approved. The Secretary then read a letter of resignation sent by Austin B. Carroll, indicating his regrets that business conflicts made this necessary. This now leaves the membership roster with one opening.

President Traughber then called for the stated program.

For his paper of the evening, Mike G. Herndon presented an original short story entitled "Romance Recalled, Memory Relived." The story focused on high school romance and friendships and later love triangles and was spiced with a little unanswered mystery. This brief story was well written and well presented and to the knowledge of the undersigned represents a new approach to Athenaeum papers. There have been many biographies, research papers, controversial opinion papers, travelogues with videos, and now an original short story.

Paul D. Guffey presented a history research paper entitled "The Political and Philosophical Relationship of Thomas Jefferson and James Madison." This well researched and documented paper discussed the political and personal philosophies of these two great presidents, their influences on each other and their contributions to the development of our nation. Their philosophies of mankind in general and their political views on many facets were highlighted. The paper closed with the notation that Jefferson and Madison gave us probably our most cherished statements of purpose - the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution - a faith and a hope.

Following a five minute break, nine of the members present commented on some of their views about these papers which were then followed by rebuttals from each of the authors.

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The secretary announced the program for the March 2nd meeting:

James G. Adams, Jr.
George W. Engler

The meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Franklin A. Nash, Jr.
Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ATHENAEUM SOCIETY

Thursday, March 2, 1989

Following the invocation by Edward H. Higgins, dinner was served at the Log House Restaurant at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Sam Traughber at 7:31 p.m. The roll call revealed 25 members present.

Requests for excused absences were presented by Marshall Butler, Tom Westerfield, and David Riley. A motion to accept these excuses was passed unanimously except for several groans.

Minutes of the February meeting were read by Robert Sivley, in the absence of Secretary Frank Nash, who was reported to be ill this evening.

President Traughber called on Mike Herndon, Chairman of the Membership Committee, who stated that the committee had conferred concerning the one vacancy now in the Society, had reviewed the various persons whose names had been submitted for consideration, and were recommending one name to the Society. Charles Tilley spoke on behalf of the nominee urging his favorable approval. The vote will be taken at the April meeting.

President Traughber next called on Tom Westerfield, chairman of a committee to consider a new meeting place for the Society. Mr. Westerfield stated that the committee, consisting of Curtis Brashear, Bob Baker, and the chairman had agreed on several criteria for any new meeting place to be considered. These were that the meeting place not require that the members have to ascend stairs, and that it must be able to seat all members in one private room. The committee is reviewing the various eating places that might meet these criteria and will report next month.

President Traughber then called for the stated program.

Jim Adams presented a paper called "Git-tar Lessons or Lessons in the Key of Life" in which he recalled his junior and senior years at the University of Kentucky, in Lexington, as a member of Kapa-Alfa Fraternity, with particular attention to fond memories of Robert Francis Underwood, a black houseman known affectionately to all the KA members as "Git-tar." The description of happy memories of carefree college life were in contrast to the paper's sad ending with the death of the beloved black man. The writer observed that he had learned some very important lessons from Git-tar, namely, that one should judge people by their lives and words rather than their appearance and those who have graduated from the college of hard knocks can many times teach those who have higher educations about life itself.

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George W. Engler presented a paper called "Trust Bandits," in which he discussed the importance of the attachment process that should occur during the first and second year of life. He pointed out that some infants are at high risk for not forming such attachments, because of divorce, daycare, child abuse, or other neglectful family setting.

The writer reasoned that when these bonding needs are not met, that the result can be development of a psychopathic or antisocial personality, and went on to name some of the "trust bandits" such as serial murderer Theodore Bundy, the Libyan leader Muammar Gadhafi, and other well known anti-social persons. Expressing his belief that there is a rising tide of such unattached children, the speaker attributed this growing problem to the lack of bonding and failure of many people to develop effective parenting skills.

Various therapy approaches, such as one known as "rage reduction therapy" and "wilderness therapy," were described.

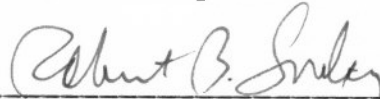
Following a brief intermission 12 members made comments, presenting varying degrees of positive support for the ideas presented, as well as some desperate attempts to find a basic similarity between the two papers.

The two presentors then ably defended their positions with able though relatively non-aggressive rebuttle.

The April 6 program was announced; Marshall Butler and J. Dudley Galloway.

The meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert B. Sivley, Ph.D.

RBS/lhj

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
Thursday, April 6, 1989

Dinner was served at the Log House Restaurant beginning at 6:30 p.m., after which the meeting was called to order at 7:23 p.m. by President Sam H. Traugher. The roll call revealed 26 members present.

Requests for excused absences were presented by Martin Standard, Franklin A. Nash, Jr., Prewitt Owen, Marvin D. Denison, W. Gladstone Major, and Bobby H. Freeman. All requests were approved.

Minutes of the March meeting were read and approved after one correction. The Membership Committee presented for vote the name of one person nominated last month with this vote being unfavorable. The Nominating Committee then placed before the members nominations for officers for the 1989-90 year which included Thomas W. Westerfield for President, Charles L. Tilley, Jr. for Vice-President, and Franklin A. Nash, Jr. for Secretary-Treasurer. A motion was made by Robert C. Baker that these nominations be accepted by acclamation, with the motion being seconded by ~~Charles L. Tilley, Jr.~~ and with favorable acceptance.

President Traugher then called for the stated program.

Marshall Butler presented a paper entitled "The Exhilarating Effect of Classical Music Upon Various People." The paper was filled with events from the author's career as a musician which demonstrated various persons' appreciation, or lack thereof, of classical music. The events which ranged from classes in the Hopkinsville Community College to numerous individual encounters from Hopkinsville to New York and London were pleasantly humorous but obviously at times mingled with frustration for the author.

In a paper entitled "The Natchez Trace," J. Dudley Galloway presented accounts of the interesting background through the present state of the Natchez Trace Parkway which is one of the units of the National Park System. Many events from its beginning as a crude trail through the forest to the now almost completed 450-mile paved parkway illustrated the fascinating history of this very important stretch of road leading from Natchez, Mississippi to Nashville, Tennessee.

Following a five minute break comments about the papers were presented by seven of the members present which were then followed by rebuttals from each of the authors.

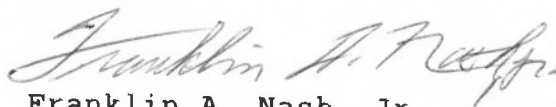
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The secretary then announced the program for the May Open Meeting:

J. Brooks Major
Thomas W. Westerfield

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Franklin A. Nash, Jr.
Secretary-Treasurer

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL OPEN MEETING
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
Thursday, May 4, 1989

The Annual Open Meeting was held at the Hopkinsville Golf and Country Club with thirty-one members and fifty-seven guests present.

Following the invocation by J. Brooks Major an excellent meal was served which was enjoyed along with pleasant fellowship.

As per usual custom, business matters were postponed and following a few introductory comments by President Sam H. Traughber the members present were asked to introduce their guests.

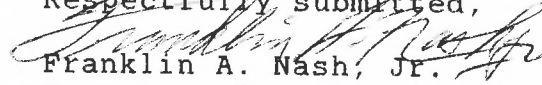
President Traughber then called for the stated program.

The first paper of the evening was presented by J. Brooks Major and was entitled "In Defense of the Second Amendment of the Constitution of the United States." At first the author had everyone rather concerned when it appeared that he was going to attempt to present a serious and profound paper about history and politics regarding the right to bear arms. However, the paper quickly evolved into a most delightful humorous, tongue-in-cheek account of many reasons why citizens should have the right to own a gun. The author's wit and literary skill proved to be a delight for those present.

Thomas W. Westerfield continued the delightful evening by presenting a paper entitled "How Would You Feel Being Led Around By The Nose?" This author's presentation was a well-balanced mixture of facts and pleasant humor about this all-important appendage to the upper part of the anatomy. A number of fascinating facts about and uses of the sense of smell were illustrated and even demonstrated to those present. The author should certainly be commended for his resourcefulness in this case since it isn't everyone ^{who can} see an object as simple as a bull ring and from that develop an Athenaeum paper!

All in all, these two papers resulted in a delightful evening -- a good shot right on the nose! Following the presentation of the papers comments were made by eleven members and guests, after which each of the authors gave a brief rebuttal. President Traughber then introduced the officers for the 1989-90 year, after which the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Franklin A. Nash, Jr.
Secretary-Treasurer

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY

Thursday, September 7, 1989

Following dinner served at the Log House Restaurant the meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by President Thomas W. Westerfield. The roll call revealed twenty-five members present. A request for excused absence was presented by James G. Adams, Jr. and was approved.

Minutes of both the April regular meeting and the May Open Meeting were read and both were approved. The secretary then read a letter from Prewitt Owen indicating his resignation from the Society. It was then moved by Franklin Nash and seconded by Charles Tilley that the Society regretfully accept this resignation and also that Mr. Owen be offered the status of honorary membership. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion and the secretary was instructed to send a letter regarding this offer to Prewitt Owen. The secretary then noted two changes in the program line-up as originally printed for the coming year. Frank A. Yost then introduced his guest, Mr. Neil Harper, who was welcomed by the membership.

President Westerfield called for a report from the Membership Committee chaired by Mike Herndon. It was noted that there are two vacancies in the membership at this time and the committee placed before the members the names of two persons for consideration with the indication that these would be voted on during the October meeting.

President Westerfield then called for the stated program.

In an untitled paper, Frank A. Yost presented a nostalgic walk down East Seventh Street of Hopkinsville during which he shared with listeners fascinating and historical facets of information about this street and some surrounding areas. The presentation focused primarily on the period from 1903 through 1969 and not only painted a picture of the development of many homes and other buildings and businesses during this period but also introduced many personalities and experiences of the residents of this fascinating street.

George H. Byars presented his first paper entitled "Do-Dah, Do-Dah." At first the author led the members to believe that the paper was to deal with an important research project in which the author participated while at the University of Louisville and which was to be related to the topic of compulsive gambling. However, the paper quickly deteriorated into a treatise on the

fine points of caring for and preparing the participants in the sport of chicken racing and it was noted that the subjects were specifically Southern Kentucky chickens. It is supposed that these particular chickens were chosen because of their noted superior running abilities, especially since Colonel Sanders came on the scene. The author's experience with the trials and tribulations of training the birds to run in the right direction and at the right time were shared in great detail. Relative to the question of whether or not this study yielded any useful information beyond providing the background for a delightful Athenaeum paper, the author's original research report surely must have ended with the traditional comment of "This project needs further study."

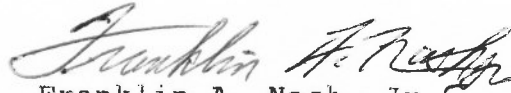
Following a five minute break comments on the papers were given by twelve of the members after which each author presented his rebuttal.

The secretary then announced the program for the October meeting:

Thomas L. Riley
Marvin D. Denison

The meeting adjourned at 9:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Franklin A. Nash, Jr.
Secretary/Treasurer