

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
Thursday, January 7th, 1993**

After dinner at the Convention Center, the meeting was called to order by President Baker. The roll was called, and thirty-one members were present. Excused absences were requested by and granted to: Tom Westerfield, Marvin Denison, Duard Thurman, Marshall Butler, Jim Love, Kenneth Cayce, George Byars, Bill Engler, and Mark Lovely. Minutes of the December meeting were read and approved.

A report was made by Bob Sivley concerning the work of his committee that was set up to find and organize old Athenaeum papers. The members of the committee are still working on the project. Problems were discussed concerning the storage and display of papers. William Rowlett made a motion to buy binders, but the motion died for lack of a second.

President Baker then called for the stated program:

Brooks Major is lefthanded and he doesn't care who knows it. In fact, in "The Sinister Connection," he tells anyone who will listen of the sheer torture that lefthanders (also known as "right-brained persons") must endure. He tells of high accident rates and short life expectancy and even proposes a six point Action Plan designed to improve the lot of the Southpaw. The real heart of the paper is not discovered, however, until the last point of his plan is related. Even Mr. Major calls point six, "Federal Grants," the key. It makes one wonder if an out-of-work college professor, theologian could be found to administer the funds and if so, after expenses, just how much money would be left (uh, right)?

In an untitled paper, D.D. Cayce, III, explored the world of plants. But this exploration was much more than a botanical view of life cycle and composition. This was an acceptance of plants as beings along with proof of that theory. Several experiments were noted to prove the capacity of plants for reacting to outside stimuli such as music, kindness, cruelty, and touch. Mr. Cayce also related stories of people who were able to hear communications from plants. With a heightened awareness of our own spirituality, each individual would be capable of similar communication and this enhancement of our spirituality would also help us to know more about God and man.

Following a break, comments were made by seventeen members, and each author presented his rebuttal.

The secretary then announced the program for the February meeting:

Franklin A. Nash, Jr.
Mike G. Herndon

Respectfully submitted,



Dave Cavanah/Mike Herndon
Secretary/Treasurer

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
Thursday, February 4th, 1933**

Twenty-three members were present when the meeting was called to order by William Turner, who presided in the absence of the president and vice-president. Excused absences were granted to Bobby Freeman, Charles Tilley, and Dave Cavanah. Minutes of the January meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Turner then called for the stated program:

Franklin A. Nash, Jr., obviously loves Mexico. He displayed obvious delight in recounting highlights of his "three long and several brief trips" into the country. In "Memorable Moments of Mexico," Dr. Nash presented a brief overview of Mexican history followed by an account of each of his three major sojourns. Each trip presented both trial and triumph. Sometimes the accommodations were less than adequate, but this was always offset by beautiful scenery, treasures from local markets, and wonderful memories.

In "What's in a Name?," Mike Herndon advanced "name dropping" to a science. He traced the derivation of some names and pointed out the significance that names may have in a person's success or failure. Mr. Herndon even traced origins of the surnames of some of the Athenaeum members. Some of these were derived from place names, occupations, or physical characteristics of ancestors.

After a break, comments were made by members, and the authors offered a rebuttal.

The secretary then announced the program for the March meeting:

George W. Engler
Logan Askew

Respectfully submitted,



Dave Cavanah/Mike Herndon
Secretary/Treasurer

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
Thursday, March 4, 1993**

Twenty-seven members were present as the meeting was opened by Vice-president James Adams. Excuses were requested by George Engler, William Bell, Marvin Denison, Wendell Rorie, James Adams and Charles Tilley. Minutes of the February meeting were read and approved.

Vice-president Adams appointed a committee to research prospective sites for the open meeting. Wendell Rorie, David Riley and Dave Cavanah were named to the committee. They will report their findings in April.

Vice-president Adams then called for the stated program:

In "Bumbles, Fumbles, and Stumbles," George W. Engler presented a view of life that we have each seen far too often. That view finds us messing up, fowling up, and generally making a fool of ourselves. Mr. Engler was kind enough not to use us as examples of these misfortunes. Instead he used such notables as Gerald Ford and Willie Shoemaker. A look at their bumbles assured us that things don't always work out -- even for the president.

Logan Askew presented his initial paper to the society. In "Roe V. Wade: Then and Now," the author examined the issue of abortion and Supreme Court decisions regarding the subject. Roe v. Wade was decided in January, 1973, and has met considerable criticism and several legal challenges in the last 20 years. During that period the court has clarified such points as consent forms, waiting periods, use of public funds, and availability of abortions to underage women. Now the court is quite fragmented on the issue and while Roe v. Wade is still the law of the land, it has been weakened by recent decisions and faces more stern challenges.

Following a break, comments were made by several members, and each author presented his rebuttal.

The secretary then announced the program for April:

David C. Riley
Bobby H. Freeman

The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Cavanah

Dave Cavanah, Secretary/Treasurer

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 1993**

Twenty members were present as the meeting was opened by Vice-President James Adams. Excuses were requested and granted by Robert B. Sivley, Thomas W. Westerfield, Robert M. Fairleigh III, Kenneth O. Cayce Jr., Edward H. Higgins III, And Paul D. Guffey. Minutes of the March meeting were read and approved.

Vice-President Adams asked David L. Riley to report the findings of the Open Meeting Committee. There were two proposals for the May, 1993 Open Meeting. They were: The Holiday Inn at \$12.50 a plate. and Fairgrounds Catering, also at \$12.50 a plate. After brief discussion a motion was made by William T. Turner to hold the Open Meeting at the Fairgrounds with Fairgrounds Catering providing the meal. The motion was seconded by Robert M. Fairleigh III, and passed without opposition.

Vice-President Adams appointed a Nominating Committee for the 1993 -1994 officers. William T. Turner, Edward H. Higgins, and Paul D. Guffey were named to the committee. They will report their nominations to the May Open Meeting.

Vice-President Adams then called for the stated program.

"Death Comes in the Desert" was presented by David L. Riley.

"Regulation Strangling The Banking Industry" by Bobby H. Freeman. (Mr. Freeman was called out of town unexpectedly. His paper was presented by Paul D. Guffey)

Following a 10 minute break, comments were made by 11 members. Rebuttals were presented by one author and one reader.

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

George S. Boone
William M. Rowlett

The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward H. Higgins
Acting Secretary

MINUTES OF THE OPEN MEETING
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
Thursday, May 6, 1993

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Baker at 7:00 p.m. President Baker greeted the eighty-five members and guests who gathered at the Convention Center. After dinner and the introduction of members and guests, the business portion of the meeting was suspended and the secretary called for the first paper.

In "The Genesis of the Kentucky Encyclopedia," George Boone related the details of the planning, financing, completion, and success of that great historical work. Initial meetings were held a decade ago as Dr. Raymond Betts invited a group of interested people to the University of Kentucky. During the next few years, many individuals, corporations, and government agencies made important contributions in an effort to keep the dream alive. The project was completed in time to present the first copy to Governor Jones on June 1, 1992, the 200th anniversary of Kentucky's statehood. Mr. Boone concluded with a marvelous poem written by Joy Bale Boone.

Churnhead Brumley, Whispering Bob, Ski-head, Goat-eye, Ty, Tooter H, Shotgun B. and Slugger Farris were all friends of Steamy-er-William Rowlett. All of these individuals and many more were fondly remembered in "Nicknames, Appellations, and Sobriquets." The setting providing this vast array of nicknames was Calloway County during the formative years of Dr. Rowlett (to be more specific, Murray, Kentucky, around the turn of the century). There were 3700 people in Murray at that time and only those who had been obscured by the whirlwind pace of the metropolis failed to have nicknames. The rest won their titles through accomplishments, looks, attitudes, heredity, or major events in their lives. Dr. Rowlett did stat that he hoped hearing about his early life would help us enjoy remembering our own upbringing. His attempt was successful.

After a short break, comments were made by members and guests and the authors were given an opportunity for rebuttals.

The meeting was then closed by President Baker.

Respectfully submitted,



Dave Cavanah
Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
Thursday, September 2, 1993

The 93rd annual program of The Athenaeum Society began when President Jim Adams called the Sept. 2 meeting to order at 7 p.m., with 20 members present. Excuses for prior absences were requested by several members and granted with the usual reluctance. Disappointment was expressed at the continually high absentee rate. Two guests of Dr. William M. Rowlett were introduced.

The resignation of Marshall Butler for health reasons was formally accepted with regret. A motion by Dr. Brooks Major that Mr. Butler be extended the offer of honorary membership passed unanimously, with the secretary expressly directed to inform the honoree that no monetary obligation was involved.

The return of honorary member Leslie B. Crane to this community was noted. A motion by Tom Westerfield, which was adopted unanimously, directed the secretary to issue Mr. Crane an open invitation to meetings and to offer transportation, if needed.

The new Membership Committee of Edward H. Higgins, Wendell H. Rorie and James T. Killebrew was acknowledged, with President Adams noting the need to fill two vacancies. A proposal by Jim Love that any commanding general at Fort Campbell be automatically extended a membership died for lack of a formal motion.

President Adams then called for the stated program:

In "A Brief History of the Names of Selected Western Kentucky Counties," Dr. Thomas L. Riley presented biographical sketches of the namesakes of Muhlenberg, Caldwell, Todd, Trigg and Daviess counties. General John Peter Gabriel Muhlenberg, Captain William Caldwell, Colonel John Todd, Colonel Stephen Trigg and Joseph Hamilton Daveiss were all presented as brave and colorful heroes of the Revolution or Indian wars. All but Muhlenberg, who went on to a distinguished political career, were killed in battle. Dr. Riley wondered aloud why all the three states that named a county in Daveiss' honor retain the misspelled version of his name — DAVIESS instead of DAVEISS.

Apparently because of the failed energetic nature of the new administration in Washington, James H. Love, in his satiric paper, proposed reviving his earlier presidential aspirations under the banner of the "No Change" political party. And to bolster his chances of winning next time around, Mr. Love proposed to nominate as his vice president a fellow southerner (Jim hails from SOUTH Elgin, Ill.), Georgia humorist, author and newspaper columnist Lewis Grizzard. Mr. Love used excerpts from Grizzard's writings to underscore his innumerable qualifications to be vice

president, including the author's poignant side. He quoted Grizzard as writing: "I have eaten dinner with two presidents, sang on the stage with Larry Gatlin, shook hands with Bob Hope, been to New York City several times and Paris once, kissed the best-looking cheerleader in the history of the Atlanta Falcons square in the mouth and have played golf with Arnold Palmer. My life is complete." Mr. Love took issue, saying Grizzard's life won't be complete until they barnstorm together on behalf of the "No Change" Party.

Following a break, comments on the program were made by eight members and rebutted by the presenters.

The secretary then announced the program for October: Kenneth O. Cayce Jr. and Charles L. Tilley Jr.

The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Herndon

Mike Herndon, Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
Thursday, October 7, 1993

President Jim Adams called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. following the invocation by Dr. Thomas L. Riley. Minutes of the September meeting were read and approved.

Letters of acknowledgement were read from Marshall Butler on his selection for honorary membership and from honorary member Leslie B. Crane on the Society's standing invitation to attend Athenaeum meetings.

A letter was read from Robert C. Baker requesting a year's leave of absence. On a motion by Dr. Brooks Major, the leave was granted unanimously.

Excused absences were granted Edward H. Higgins III, Hal King, W. Gladstone Major, Robert B. Sivley, Peter C. Macdonald, George H. Byars, David Cavanah and Robert M. Fairleigh III. Duard N. Thurman expressed disappointment at the continued poor attendance. Twenty-four of the 37 active members and one honorary member were present.

President Adams then called for the stated program:

In a sequel to his last paper, Kenneth O. Cayce Jr. continued leading the Society on a biographical journey through Kentucky's governors — this time covering the 16 chief executives who served between 1859 and 1911. The verbal voyage from Beriah Magoffin to August Everett Wilson required 35 minutes. Mercifully, Mr. Cayce promised to conclude the expedition next time around, although several members noted that the current pace would bring him only to the mid-1960s. He declined their generous offers to give him their places on the program to help speed the process along.

Charles L. Tilley Jr. presented a critical review of sorts of the current edition of the noted Guinness Book of World Records, highlighting some of the oddball entries — for instance, the longest distance for heaving a grape. He punctuated his paper with his own brand of oddball humor, including the usual putrid proliferation of puns.

Following a break, nine members commented on the program, with the authors rebutting in kind.

The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Herndon
Mike Herndon, Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
Thursday, November 4, 1993

Following the invocation by Dr. Leslie Crane and dinner in the small room of the Convention Center, President Jim Adams called the meeting to order at approximately 7 p.m. Minutes of the October meeting were read and approved.

Despite the usual concoction of lame explanations, excused absences were granted Bobby H. Freeman, Franklin A. Nash Jr., Richard C. Brasher, Frank A. Yost, Paul D. Guffey and Wynn L. Radford III. Twenty-six active members and one honorary member were present. Col. Robert Clark of Fort Campbell attended as a guest of Mr. Guffey.

The Membership Committee, chaired by Edward H. Higgins III, submitted a nominee to be voted on at the November meeting.

President Adams then called for the stated program:

In a marked departure from the Athenaeum norm, Frank A. Yost and Wynn L. Radford III both delivered papers designed to ignite the intellect.

Mr. Yost transported us beyond the cruel Shakespearian world of a real king — "Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown" — to modern examples of Robert Louis Stevenson's view of a world "so full of a number of things," that ... "we should all be as happy as kings." In doing so, he challenged us to recognize scientific, medical and technological advances as positive counterpoints to the newsmaking negativism generated by the political problems confronting our modern-day kings. He cited, among other things, the development of fiber optics to improve communications; increased understanding of the way the brain controls our body in combating disease; the identification and training of microbes to convert useless or harmful substances into a beneficial form; the cloning of plants, animals and humans; in vitro fertilization; and telescopic advances that may allow us to observe the beginning of time. When modified to everyday application, this expanded knowledge promises to exert a strong influence on each of us as individuals and help make us as happy as kings.

Mr. Radford, meanwhile, explored the subject of intelligence itself, an exercise lost on more than a few in the audience, including this reporter. He questioned society's reluctance to accept intellectual inequality among people while readily admitting to athletic superiority. He cited evidence that East Asians are more intelligent than their American counterparts and that white Americans generally test higher than black Americans. Research also indicates that intelligence is proportional to brain size and correlates directly with professional attainment. He went on to explain the various ways intelligence is defined and measured, probing the age-old question of whether IQ tests are valid. Fortunately, none of the

members was singled for experimentation. It's a good thing because at least one had developed a splitting headache.

Following a break, eight members commented on the program, with the authors rebutting in kind.

The secretary announced the December program: Wendell H. Rorie; George H. Byars.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mike Herndon".

Mike Herndon, Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
Thursday, December 2, 1993

Following the invocation by Dr. Brooks Major and dinner in the small room of the Convention Center, President Jim Adams called the meeting to order at approximately 7 p.m. Minutes of the November meeting were read and approved.

Inexplicably, excused absences were granted William T. Turner, Dr. Brooks Major, Wendell H. Rorie, Peter C. Macdonald, George H. Byars and Hal King. Twenty-six active members and one honorary member were present. Robert Veatch attended as the guest of his son-in-law, President Adams.

Dr. Mark Schweizer, music director at First United Methodist Church, was to be extended an invitation to membership following an affirmative vote on his nomination. The Membership Committee then submitted a nominee to be voted on at the January meeting.

A letter from Paul K. Turner resigning his 24-year membership because of personal and business conflicts was read and formally accepted with regret.

President Adams then called for the stated program:

In a presentation that would have done Marlin Perkins proud, Wendell H. Rorie elevated his video extravaganzas from the mundane level of The Travel Channel to the rarified atmosphere of The Discovery Channel. He was inspired enough by his latest adventure to transform his usual vacation travelogue into a somewhat higher art form, the nature film. "Patagonia to the Galapagos" took us on a well-scripted film tour of two of the world's truly unique geographical, botanical and zoological wonders. The major attraction in Patagonia was the world's largest rookery of Magellanic penguins. But Mr. Rorie fittingly saved the real thrust of his film-making talents for the Galapagos, a string of largely uninhabited islands off the Ecuadorian coast that inspired Darwin's famous theory of evolution. He introduced us to the islands' fascinating variety of animals — including the famous Galapagos turtles — and to their seemingly infinite flora and fauna. His documentary was complete with film credits and acknowledgments. The only thing more entertaining might be the animals' version of the strange species that visited them.

In a paper entitled "Moms Who Love Their Babies to Death and the Dads Who Stand Behind Them," George Byars explored the little-known and mysterious child-abuse phenomena known as Munchausen by Proxy Syndrome. Munchausen Syndrome, named for a 1700s' German mercenary and raconteur who displayed those symptoms, is described as a psychiatric disorder whereby adults give dramatic and untruthful physical histories along with the presentation of seemingly acute illnesses that are ultimately found to be false. In Munchausen by Proxy, false symptoms are reported and systematically induced by a parent, usually a mother, on a child. The primary motivation of the parent involves his or her need to

maintain a relationship with the medical system. By-proxy sufferers often are intelligent, otherwise normal-acting adults who are considered ideal parents. But they are willing to go to any ends — including the slow murder of a son or daughter — to convince doctors of their child's perceived malady. Unfortunately, there is no effective remedy for the disorder beyond the child's surviving long enough to protect itself.

Following a break, four members commented on the program, with the authors rebutting in kind.

The secretary then announced the January program: Richard C. Brasher; David L. Riley.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Herndon

Mike Herndon, Secretary/Treasurer