

Minutes of the Athenaeum Society

—January 6, 2000—

The first meeting in the year 2000, of the Athanaeum Society on Thursday, January 6, at the Holiday Inn.

The meeting began with a prayer by _____.
Following dinner President Jim Love called the meeting to order.
Roll call indicated that 23 of 40 members were present for a 57% attendance.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.
Three new members were to be introduced but it seems as though only one, Bob Cope, was present

Papers were presented by Richard C. Brasher and J. Brooks Major.

Mr. Brasher's paper was titled "The First Millenial Event". Mr. Brasher investigated world conditions of a thousand years ago....animal and plant life, diseases and living conditions.

Mr. Major's paper was titled, "The P C Era". Mr. Major's paper concerned, not personal computers, but, Political Correctness and it's absurdities.

It is appropriate to say that members were treated to two enlightening papers that bridged the gap of centuries to present day.

Following a brief comfort break,
The **comment session** brought comments from several members followed by a brief **rebuttal session**, followed by adjournment.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hal King,
Secretary-Treasurer

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—February 3, 2000—

The Athenaeum Society met for the second meeting in the year 2000, on Thursday, February 3, at the Holiday Inn.

The meeting began with a prayer by Marvin Denison. Following dinner President Jim Love called the meeting to order. Roll call indicated that 28 of 40 members were present for a 70% attendance.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. There was no new business conducted.

Papers were presented by Mark Schweitzer and Ben Fletcher.

Mr. Schweitzer's paper was titled "The Art of Wine Snobbery". Mr. Schweitzer recounted the misadventures of the wine knowledge challenged. No Virginia Dare, no Manichevitz, no Boone's Farm, but the real hard truth of the pitfalls one may encounter without a knowledge of the liquid by-product of the grape. Mr. Schweitzer was kind enough to even furnish various bottles of wine to the membership, a treat for some, a puzzle for others. Some members who thought his paper was humorous. Actually, it was hilarious.

Mr. Fletcher's paper was titled, "Pilot Rock". Mr. Fletcher's paper had a harder edge and concerned the famous Christian-Todd County landmark. Then he took a downward turn in exploring Campbell Cave, Fleming Cave, the possibility of lost gold coins. Then, he became Mr. Keen, Tracer of Lost Persons in discussing various people of Hopkinsville.

It is appropriate to say that members were treated to two entertaining and enlightening papers.

Following a brief comfort break, The **comment session** brought comments from several members followed by a brief **rebuttal session**, followed by adjournment at 8:30.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hal King,
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes of the Athenaeum Society

—March 2, 2000—

The Athenaeum Society met for the third meeting in the year 2000, on Thursday, March 2, at the Holiday Inn.

The meeting began with a prayer by J. Brooks Major at 6:32 P.M. Following dinner President Jim Love called the meeting to order at 7:03. Roll call indicated that 28 of 40 members were present for a 70% attendance.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Members approved Holiday Inn as the site for the May open meeting. **Papers were presented by Lewis Spencer and Dan Kemp.**

Mr. Spencer's paper concerned the rise of violence and decline of moral values as influenced by the motion picture and television industry. He traced the beginning of the evil influence to the year 1951, thought by many to be the year that television began to make an impression on the country.

Mr. Kemp's paper was titled, "Arranged Marriages-Worth Taking a Second Look". Mr. Kemp discussed the traditions of Asian nations and other nations in **arranging** marriages compared to the tradition of so-called "love marriages" of Western nations. Statistics indicate that there is less divorce, less stress and better family structure and peace in arranged marriages. Thus, he says, kissing doesn't last but cooking does.

It is appropriate to say that members were treated to two entertaining and enlightening papers.

Following a brief comfort break, The **comment session** brought remarks from several members followed by a brief **rebuttal session**, followed by adjournment at 8:41.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hal King,
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes of the Athenaeum Society

—April 6, 2000—

The Athenaeum Society met for the fourth meeting in the year 2000, on Thursday, April 6, at the Holiday Inn.

The meeting began with a prayer by Frank Nash at 6:37 P.M. Following dinner Vice President Marvin Denison called the meeting to order at 7:04. Roll call indicated that 26 of 40 members were present for a 65% attendance.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Papers were presented by George Engler and Edward Higgins.

Mr. Engler's paper was titled, "A True Super Hero" concerned , primarily, the life and times of the immortal Superman. Superman landed on the American scene in 1938 and has been a fixture for law and order ever since. Mr. Engler related the evolving history of Superman's life, his associates and his enemies. He recounted the popularity of the "man of steel" in various forms of media such as comic books, newspaper comic strips, radio, television and motion pictures.

Mr. Higgin's paper was titled, "The New Madrid Earthquakes of 1811-1812 or A Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On". The title of his paper aptly describes the content. However, Mr. Higgins introductory remarks may long be remembered as a verbal ecdysis. With attention quickly gained, his paper then suffered an unexpected upheaval that found fault after fault.

Members responded with interest and relish. Thus, it is appropriate to say that members enjoyed two entertaining and enlightening papers.

Following a brief comfort break,

The **comment session** brought remarks from eleven members followed by a brief **rebuttal session**, followed by adjournment at 8:32.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hal King,
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes of the Athenaeum Society

—May 4, 2000—

The Athenaeum Society met for the annual May open meeting in the year 2000, on Thursday, May 4, at the Holiday Inn.

The meeting began with a prayer at 6:39 P.M.

Following dinner President Jim Love called the meeting to order. President Love presided in the absence of Secretary Hal King. While there is no record of roll-call it is estimated that 25 members and 37 guests were present for a total gathering of 62. The usual business activities were dispensed with and

Papers were presented by Peter C. Macdonald and Marvin Denison.

Mr. Macdonald's paper was titled, "My Fifteen Minutes", concerned his experiences with the people of the CBS Television program "60 Minutes", as it related to an investigation of violence at the Ft. Campbell military reservation.

Mr. Denison's paper was titled, "Peruna, etc: A Modern Medicine Show."

Mr. Denison related the popularity of various patent medicines over the years. Such popularity may have been due primarily to the extravagant curative claims of said medicines and, perhaps, the large percentage of alcohol contained therein.

Members responded with interest and relish. Thus, it is appropriate to say that members and guests enjoyed two entertaining and enlightening papers.

Following a brief comfort break,

The **comment session** brought remarks from several members followed by a brief **rebuttal session**, followed by adjournment at 9:15.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hal King,
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes of the Athenaeum Society

—September 7, 2000—

The Athenaeum Society met for the first meeting of the new season 2000-2001, on September 7, 2000, at the Holiday Inn.

The meeting began with a prayer by Brooks Major at 6:35 P.M.

Following dinner President Marvin Denison called the meeting to order.

Secretary Hal King called the roll. 25 of 39 members were present for 64% attendance.

The resignation of Bob Freeman was noted, leaving the Society with one membership to fill.

The esteemed membership committee was requested to begin a search of candidates.

Papers were presented by William Cramer and Hal King.

Mr. Cramer's paper was titled, "A Teenage Warrior in World War II", concerned his experiences as a bombardier, shot down while on a mission in World War II, and his subsequent experiences as prisoner of war. Mr. Cramer's capture, torture and internment by the enemy, his subsequent escape, and help from the Belgian underground.

Mr. King, who filled in for former member Bob Freeman, presented a paper concerning the importance of sound in one's life.

Following a brief comfort break,

The **comment session** brought remarks from several members

followed by a brief **rebuttal session**,

followed by adjournment at 9:05.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hal King,
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes of the Athenaeum Society

—October 5, 2000—

The Athenaeum Society met for the second meeting of the season on October 5, at the Holiday Inn. This unusual meeting deviated from the usual format because the Holiday Inn staff had forgotten about the meeting. However, the staff hurriedly set up the room. The meeting began with a prayer by John Freer at 6:45. Roll call indicated 29 of 39 members present for 74% attendance. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The membership committee is earnestly and diligently searching for candidates to fill the available membership slot.

At 6:57, while the staff was preparing the meal, the first paper was presented by Jim Love. **Mr. Love's paper was titled, "Three Dead By Noon, Where're We Gonna Eat".** The paper concerned a history of the Emergency Operations Center, how it operates and several anecdotes about various calls, some humorous, some not so humorous. The paper was informative and entertaining.

At 7:19 the food was ready and the membership dined

At 7:55, **Hollis White presented the second paper, entitled, "Hydraulic Motors, The Hidden Giants"**. Mr. White's first Athenaeum paper was a computer assisted video presentation of how a hydraulic motor works. Mr. White recounted his family's interest in hydraulic motors and how it progressed into a family owned business. It was an entertaining and informative presentation. Some members, who professed to know little about hydraulic motors, claimed that they would leave the meeting with considerable more knowledge on the subject. Little did they realize that a test on the subject will given tonight.

Following a brief comfort break,
The **comment session** brought remarks from several members
followed by a brief **rebuttal session**,
followed by adjournment at 8:45.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hal King,
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes of the Athenaeum Society

—November 2, 2000—

The Athenaeum Society met for the third meeting of the season on November 2, at the Holiday Inn. President Marvin Denison called the meeting to order with a prayer by William Rowlett. Following dinner, the roll was called, showing 22 members present for an attendance of 56%. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The nominating committee presented the name of Marlin Anderson for membership. He will be voted on at the December meeting. Two memberships remain available.

The Society voted to have the Secretary proceed in working with the Hopkinsville-Christian County Library in housing Society papers and minutes in a safe repository.

Charles Tilley was appointed to head a committee of one, to investigate the disappearance of the dinner chicken that was, according to Mr. Tilley, meant to be on the menu of the October meeting.

Papers were presented by John Freer and Bob Cope.

Mr. Freer's paper was titled, "The Crops of Discovery: The Lewis and Clark Expedition 1803-1806". The paper concerned a review of the men, the times and attitudes of that era leading up to the famed Expedition. While some members later expressed fear that the team would never meet or even reach St. Louis, the paper was informative and interesting.

Mr. Cope's paper was titled, "From Put In to Put Out and Everything In Between" concerned white water boating. Mr. Cope presented members with a listing of basic white water boating vocabulary and then took us along on one of his white water trips in West Virginia. While it would be tempting to say that Mr. Cope's first paper was all wet, it certainly was not a wash, since it proved interesting and reined a shower of favorable responses from members.

The **comment session** began at 8:34 and brought remarks from several members followed by a brief **rebuttal session**, followed by adjournment at 8:55.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hal King,
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes of the Athenaeum Society

—December 7, 2000—

The Athenaeum Society met for the fourth meeting of the season on December 7, at the Holiday Inn. Vice-President David Riley called the meeting to order with a prayer by James Adams. Following dinner, the roll was called, showing 28 members present for an attendance of 71%. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Vice-President David Riley presided at the meeting in the absence of President Marvin Denison.

The Society voted to invite Marlin Anderson into membership. The Secretary wrote a letter of invitation to Mr. Anderson the following day, December 8.

Charles Tilley proved to be up to the task of his "one man committee" appointment and reported on the case of the missing chicken. His well researched report, although littered with fowl language elicited favorable cackles from members.

Papers were presented by Kenneth Cayce and Robert Ison.

Mr. Cayce's paper was titled, "Main Street". The paper concerned a review of the early appearance of Hopkinsville as regards streets, buildings and the type of businesses found in the general vicinity of Main Street Hopkinsville. He presented pictures of various buildings and described the changes and the people over the past several years. And, he predicted a bright future for the downtown area. A very interesting and entertaining paper.

Mr. Ison's paper was titled, "Perspective on Growing Up an Army Brat Versus Growing Up in a Small Town". The paper, Mr. Ison's first, concerned his life growing up in an army family and the constant travel brought on by new assignments every few years. He compared the difference between a nomadic life and the stability of living in one place with a strong friendship base. The paper proved interesting and entertaining and gave members an opportunity to learn more about Mr. Ison.

Members thoroughly enjoyed both papers.

The **comment session** began at 8:40 and brought remarks from several members followed by a brief **rebuttal session**, which began at 9:18 followed by adjournment at 9:28. Respectfully Submitted,

Hal King,
Secretary-Treasurer