

Minutes of the Athenaeum Society

—January 4, 2001—

The Athenaeum Society met for the fifth meeting of the season on January 4, 2001 at the Holiday Inn. The meeting began with a prayer by J. Brooks Major. Following dinner, President Marvin Denison called the meeting to order. Roll call indicated 22 members present for an attendance of 56%. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Society welcomed new member Marlin Anderson into membership.
~~We now have one membership available.~~

Papers were presented by Paul D. Guffey and Robert Harper.

Mr. Guffey's paper was titled, "Divine Wind, The Century's Most Unheralded Blow Job or Eat Your Heart Out, Monica: This Is Louise."

The paper concerned how typhoons have aided Japan in thwarting enemy invasions, even dating back to the year 1281. Mr. Guffey told of the Allies immense plans for the invasion of the Japanese homeland during World War II and how a typhoon devastated the huge build-up of ships, supplies and personnel at Okinawa in October 1944. This eventually led to the use of the atomic bomb to bring an end to the war.

Mr. Harper's paper was titled, "TRAMP, Theodore Roosevelt Augustus Major Poston". The paper, Mr. Harper's first, concerned the life of black journalist Theodore Poston, his life growing up in Hopkinsville, his later experiences in education, travel and journalism.

It is proper to say that most members, probably all members, thoroughly enjoyed both papers.

The **comment session** began at 8:07 and brought remarks from several members followed by a brief **rebuttal session**, which began at 8:27 followed by adjournment at 8:37.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hal King,
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes of the Athenaeum Society

—February 1, 2001—

The Athenaeum Society met for the sixth meeting of the season on February 1, 2001 at the Holiday Inn. The meeting began with a prayer by Tom Westerfield. Following dinner, President Marvin Denison called the meeting to order. Roll call indicated 29 members present for an attendance of 76%. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

President Denison read a letter of resignation from Dan Kemp; the resignation was accepted with regret. That leaves two vacancies for membership. The membership committee tentatively indicated that they would have recommendations for membership at the March meeting.

Papers were presented by William Rowlett and Charles Tilley.

Dr. Rowlett's paper was titled, "The Shootout That Didn't Happen." The paper concerned a 1916 murder case in Calloway County in which the trial of the accused was moved to Christian County because of the fiery emotions of Calloway County citizens. Dr. Rowlett's well researched paper included a cast of historical figures in both Calloway and Christian County government and politics.

Mr. Tilley's paper was titled, "The Days of Kool-aid and Dandelions". The paper was a humorous and nostalgic trip down Mr. Tilley's childhood in the 1940's and 50's. The theme of the paper centered on the fact that Mr. Tilley was not only fortunate to have grown up in that era but also that it was in Hopkinsville. The paper was greeted with mock scorn by some members (who were probably jealous of what they had missed) and greeted with warm enthusiasm by others.

It is proper to say that most members, probably all members, thoroughly enjoyed both papers.

It is also noted that the membership seemed to be in exceptionally good humor this evening.

The **comment session** began at 8:22 and brought remarks from several members followed by a **rebuttal session**, which began at 8:44 followed by adjournment at 8:58.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hal King,
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes of the Athenaeum Society

—March 1, 2001—

The Athenaeum Society met for the seventh meeting of the season on March 1, 2001 at the Holiday Inn. The meeting began with a prayer by Robert Harper. Following dinner, President Marvin Denison called the meeting to order. Roll call indicated 22 members present for an attendance of 57%. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The membership nominating committee presented two names for members to consider. Each received favorable comments and will be voted on at the April meeting. The Secretary was directed to write letters to two members reminding them of their lack of attendance and expressing concerns that the members have been missed and that it would be appreciated if said members would grace us with their presence. The letters were written the following day, Friday, March 2.

There was much humorous and spirited discussion about just what “out of town” means and whether “being out of town” is a valid excuse for missing a meeting. In the end there was no valid conclusion.

Papers were presented by Frank Nash and Jim Adams.

Mr. Nash’s paper was titled, “From Whence Cometh That Song?” The paper concerned facts about the origin of several well known songs, some dating back two hundred years or more. Much attention was given to the words and meaning of the Australian song, “Waltzing Matilda”. It appears that few people outside of Australians really understand what the song is all about. But, it has a nice lilt to it so people recognize it and like it even though they do not understand it. This informative and entertaining paper was well received by members.

Mr. Adam’s paper was titled, “Tales From The Disputed Area ”. The paper was a recounting of the confusion and conflict between the two local school systems of the time, the 1960’s, of setting school boundaries and deciding where students would attend class. Decisions were made that caused many students to endure long bus rides to distant schools when they could have merely walked to nearby schools or would at least have had much shorter bus rides.

The **comment session** began at 8:35 and brought remarks from several members followed by a **rebuttal session**, which began at 9:08 followed by adjournment at 9:18

Respectfully Submitted,

Hal King,
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes of the Athenaeum Society —April 5, 2001—

The Athenaeum Society met for the eighth meeting of the season on April 5, 2001 at the Holiday Inn. The meeting began at 6:37 P.M. with a prayer by David Riley. Following dinner, President Marvin Denison called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Roll call indicated 25 members present for an attendance of 67%. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The membership accepted the letter of resignation of Edwin White. The Society also voted on and approved two people for membership. The secretary wrote letters of invitation the following day, Friday, April 6. The Society also approved a new slate of officers for the year 2001-2002. They are David Riley as President and Hal King as Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer.

Papers were presented by D.D. Cayce and J. Nicholas Terhune.

Mr. Cayce's paper was titled, "Cayce-Yost, Gone But Not Forgotten" The paper concerned the founding of one of Hopkinsville's most popular stores, the changes in people and merchandise over the years until the store closed in 1993. This informative and entertaining paper was well received by members.

Dr. Terhune's paper was titled, "An Inidental, Anecdotal, Prejudicial Attempt at a History of Medicine in Christian County." The paper concerned the history of medicine and its doctors, in Christian County, since 1850. this well written and well delivered paper offered many insights and interesting stories about many of the doctors known and remembered by many members of the Society.

Each paper stirred memories of Society members and was well received. Following a short break the comment session began at 8:38 and rebuttal began at 9:15. The meeting concluded at 9:27.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hal King,
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes of the Athenaeum Society —May 3, 2001—

The Athenaeum Society met for the ninth meeting of the season on May 3, 2001 at the Holiday Inn. This was the annual "open" meeting for guests of membes. Twenty-two members and twenty-seven guests attended.

Following dinner, President Marvin Denison called the meeting to order.

Papers were presented by David Cavanah and David Riley.

Mr. Cavanah's paper was titled, "Don't Forget to Number Page One" The paper concerned anecdotes and results of seeking advice and getting advice whether seeking it or not. This was a combination of humor and serious thought....perhaps more humor.

Mr. Riley's paper was titled Days of Thunder, Nights of Fear: Kentucky, Hopkinsville and the Ohio River Flood of 1937". The paper concerned the great flood of 1937, its effects on the region, communities and people and how people responded by helping others.

Each paper was well received.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hal King,
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes of the Athenaeum Society

—September 6, 2001—

The Athenaeum Society met for the first meeting of the season on September 6, 2001 at the Holiday Inn. The meeting began with a prayer by Edward Higgins. Following dinner, President David Riley called the meeting to order. Roll call indicated 29 members present (out of 37) for an attendance of 78%. Minutes of the previous meetings, April and May, were read and approved.

The Society welcomed two new members, Wendell Lynch and Peter Nicolos. At present there are three memberships available. The membership committee presented one person for consideration, to be voted on at the October meeting. It is hoped that two other nominations may be made at that time.

The idea of printing a special 100th anniversary membership edition was mentioned and members will be asked to vote on that at the October meeting

Papers were presented by the two senior members of the Society, Richard Brasher, a member since 1957, and George Boone, a member since 1958.

Mr. Brasher's paper was titled "Extraterrestrial Life". The paper concerned the exploration of space, how earth and life on earth may have evolved, the possibility of intelligent life on other planets. He concluded that earth is really a very special place, that man really is the measure of all things and that we may well be alone in this vast universe.

Mr. Boone's paper was titled "An Eyewitness to History." The paper concerned Mr. Boone's experiences as an officer in the United States Naval amphibious forces during World War II. He recounted the training for the invasion of France, the life and experiences of working with the British military and English civilians.

Each paper was well received.

Following a short break the comment session began at 8:20 and rebuttal began at 8:43. The meeting concluded at 8:51.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hal King,
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes of the Athenaeum Society —October 4, 2001—

The Athenaeum Society met for the second meeting of the season on October 4, 2001 at the Holiday Inn. The meeting began with a prayer by D.D. Cayce. Following dinner, President David Riley called the meeting to order. Roll call indicated 28 members present (out of 37) for an attendance of 75%. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Society voted to accept one new member and heard nominations for two more members. The Society also voted to have a special 100th anniversary booklet printed. Papers were presented by Tom Westerfield and Peter C. Macdonald.

Mr. Westerfield's paper was titled "Heroes or Fools, Nathan Bedford Forrest's Magnetism for Followers". The paper concerned the life and leadership of Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest during the Civil War and how he was able to attract troops to serve under his command.

Mr. Macdonald's paper was titled "Two Views of Germany." The paper concerned Mr. Macdonald's impression of Germany following two visits to that country....the first in 1969 and the second in 2001. He noted that many German citizens professed little or no knowledge of the many events and places that were prominent during the Nazi regime of the 1930's and 1940's. He also recounted some of the history making Nuremberg Trials and the men who faced that judgement.

Both papers were well received and lauded for their research and presentation.

The comment session began at 8:28, the rebuttal session began at 8:40 and the meeting adjourned at 8:55.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hal King,
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes of the Athenaeum Society —November 1, 2001—

The Athenaeum Society met for the third meeting of the season on November 1, 2001 at the Holiday Inn. The meeting began with a prayer by Jim Adams. Following dinner, President David Riley called the meeting to order. Roll call indicated 27 members present (out of 37) for an attendance of 72%. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Society voted to accept one new member and rejected one nominee. Papers were presented by Wynn Radford and Marlin Andeson.

Mr. Radford's paper was titled "Did John C. Latham Steal The Confederate Gold? " The paper concerned the mystery of the disappearance of gold bullion from the Confederate forces at the conclusion of the Civil War and the people who may have had an opportunity to appropriate it....or abscond with it, depending on your view.

Mr. Andersson's paper was titled "Man and His Universe." The paper concerned scientific and philosophic views of man's understanding of the universe through the centuries. Some views seemed far-out while others appeared to be in the proper orbit.

Both papers were well received and lauded for their research and presentation. There was some comment that it would be improper to criticize the papers since John C. Latham was a principal benefactor to the city of Hopkinsville and other members expressed celestial wonder.

The comment session began at 8:30, the rebuttal session began at 8:45 and the meeting adjourned at 8:50.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hal King,
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes of the Athenaeum Society

—December 6, 2001—

The Athenaeum Society met for the fourth meeting of the season on December 6, 2001 at the Holiday Inn. The meeting began with a prayer by D.D.Cayce. Following dinner, President David Riley called the meeting to order. Roll call indicated 23 members present (out of 38) for an attendance of 60%. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Society welcomed new member Dr. Ken Dougherty.

Papers were presented by Wendell Rorie and Edward Higgins.

Mr. Rorie's paper was titled "Doing the Zambezi". The paper was a video/narration presentation of Mr. Rorie's vacation to Africa. He related his observations of the people, the wildlife and the beauty of the country.

Mr. Higgin's paper was titled "Suggestions for Educational Improvements" The paper concerned the state of public education, problems in administration, teaching and learning and suggestions for improvement. A paper containing a lot of practical and sobering thought.

Both papers were well received and lauded for their research and thought.

The comment session began at 7:55, the rebuttal session began at 8:15 and the meeting adjourned at 8:36

Respectfully Submitted,

Hal King,
Secretary-Treasurer