

## Minutes of the Athenaeum Society —January 2, 2003—

The January 2, 2003 meeting of the Athenaeum Society convened at the Holiday Inn with an opening prayer by J. Brooks Major.

Following dinner, President Hal King called the meeting to order at 7:05.

The secretary called the roll which indicated that 31 of 39 members were present. This was the highest attendance of the season. Minutes of the December meeting were read and approved. Excuses of past absences were presented and accepted.

Peter Nicolos made a motion that Athenaeum dues be increased to meet the rising cost of meals, postage and operation expenses. The motion was seconded and following a brief discussion the members voted to increase the annual dues from \$62.00 to \$80.00 beginning in September 2003.

The secretary announced that a letter of invitation had been sent to a prospective member but there has been no reply.

Papers were presented by Jim Adams and Marlin Anderson.

**Mr. Adams's paper was titled "A New Facility For A New Century: The Story Of The Christian County Justice Center".** Mr. Adams presented an interesting story behind the story of the inception and planning of the Justice Center. Certainly this is a paper to be preserved for Christian County history.

**Mr. Anderson's paper was titled "Justice and Only Justice: The Palestinian-Israeli Conflict From The Palestinian Viewpoint."** This is a case where one might think the title of the paper says it all. Mr. Anderson's paper was interesting, informative, historical and thought provoking. This was a serious paper that obviously made an impact on many people.

The comment session began at 8:28, the rebuttal session at 8:38. The meeting adjourned at 8:58.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hal King,  
Secretary-Treasurer

## Minutes of the Athenaeum Society —February 6, 2003—

The February 6, 2003, meeting of the Athenaeum Society convened at the Holiday Inn with an opening prayer by Tom Westerfield.

Following dinner, President Hal King called the meeting to order at 7:05.

The secretary called the roll which indicated that 29 of 40 members were present. Minutes of the December meeting were read and approved. Excuses of past absences were presented and accepted. And, the newest member, Scott Kasierski was welcomed. Mr. Kasierski brings us to a full complement of 40 members.

Papers were presented by Charles Tilley and Paul Guffey.

**Mr. Tilley's paper was titled "Limerick or Schlimerick or Was It the Antipesto That Made Me Sick."** Mr. Tilley entertained us with a tongue in cheek background of limericks

**Mr. Guffey's paper was titled "For It Is Written: The First Shall Be The Last."** While some members may have thought Mr. Guffey's paper was a bit strange, he, in fact, used opening lines from various works of literature and tied them together, although the knot may have seemed a bit loose. He even provided a sheet of the book titles and authors for members to match.

The comment session began at 8:10, with several members inspired to make their comments in limerick fashion. The rebuttal session at 8:20. The meeting adjourned at 8:28.

*a bit early  
but not too late  
to get here to inform matter  
& that's how we write*  
*Dick Harpe*

Respectfully Submitted,

Hal King,  
Secretary-Treasurer

## Minutes of the Athenaeum Society —March 6, 2003—

The March 6, 2003, meeting of the Athenaeum Society convened at the Holiday Inn with an opening prayer by Marvin Denison.

Following dinner, President Hal King called the meeting to order at 7:05.

The secretary called the roll which indicated that 28 of 40 members plus two guests were present. Minutes of the February meeting were read and approved. Excuses of past absences were presented and accepted.

Papers were presented by William Rowlett and Frank Nash.

**Dr. Rowlett's paper was titled "The Royal Flying Doctors of Australia."** Dr. Rowlett presented a history of the medical service provided to the people of a great expanse of land of the Australian continent from the days of early settlement, primitive communication and travel to today's modern resources. While today's instant communications and rapid air transportation makes things much easier Australia remains a sparsely settled land and still requires unusual services by many dedicated physicians, flyers and neighbors.

**Dr. Nash's paper was titled "A Frozen Phoenix."** Dr. Nash presented the story of a flight of United States Army Air Force squadron of B-17s and P-38s enroute to Europe in 1942 during World War II, that went off course and made an emergency landing on a Greenland icecap. The crewmen were rescued but the planes remained on the barren icecap. Over many years efforts by several different parties attempted to retrieve one or more of the planes which had eventually become entombed by a 268 foot ice coffin. Finally, in 1992, a group of determined men successfully recovered one P-38, piece by piece, and moved it to Middlesboro, Kentucky. There, they painstakingly reassembled it and named it Glacier Girl. After 50 years of frozen confinement and ten years of reconstruction, Glacier Girl made a successful flight witnessed by more than 25,000 people in March of this year.

The comment session began at 8:35, the rebuttal session began at 8:48 and the meeting adjourned at 9:00.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hal King,  
Secretary-Treasurer

## Minutes of the Athenaeum Society — April 3, 2003 —

The April 3, 2003, meeting of the Athenaeum Society convened at the Holiday Inn with an opening prayer by Dr. William Rowlett.

Following dinner, President Hal King called the meeting to order at 7:15.

The secretary called the roll which indicated that 28 of 40 members were present. Minutes of the March meeting were read and approved. Excuses of past absences were presented and accepted.

Speaking for the The Nomination Committee, Dr. Robert Sivley, placed three names on the agenda for officers for the coming year. They are: David Cavanah as President; Paul D. Guffey as Vice-President; Robert Cope as Secretary-Treasurer. A nomination was made, seconded, and passed with unanimous voice vote.

The President reminded members of the date, time and place of the Open Meeting on May 1.

Papers were presented by David Riley and David Cavanah.

**David Riley's paper was titled "The Flight of the Western Eagle."** Mr. Riley presented what he termed "an inductive view of 1813 Hopkinsville" as interpreted through two issues of the weekly Hopkinsville newspaper, The Western Eagle, published in February of 1913. The news content and advertising gave insight as to the events of that time and leads us to believe that things were a bit more sophisticated than we might have thought. In addition to the news of that time, Mr. Riley also gave us insight as to the problems of the printing process.....the making of a press, acquisition of paper, inks and other materials. It seems that establishing a press and a newspaper at that time and in this area was quite an accomplishment.

**Mr. Cavanah's paper might have been titled "My Life As A Cowboy."** Mr. Cavanah presented a humorous and nostalgic paper of his early childhood days and the influence of the movie cowboys upon his life and the life of his boyhood chums. Mr. Cavanah brought laughter and evoked pleasant memories in most of the membership. Good heavens! Is it possible that we're all normal?

The comment session began at 8:23, the rebuttal session began at 8:47 and the meeting adjourned at 9:00.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hal King,  
Secretary-Treasurer

# Minutes

## Athenaeum Society

### September 4, 2003

The September 4, 2003 meeting of the Athenaeum Society convened at 6:30 P.M. at the Holiday Inn. An opening prayer was given by William Turner.

Following dinner of salad, green beans, mashed potatoes, corn, pinto beans, sauerkraut with weenies, roast beef, pasta shells with cheese, rolls and apple cobbler, President David Cavanah called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

The Secretary, Bob Cope, called the roll which indicated that 28 of 40 members were present. Minutes of the May 1, 2003 Open Meeting were not available, due to the death of Hal King's hard drive. Excuses of past absences were presented and accepted.

The Treasurers report was given by Bob Cope indicating that \$1,628.23 was in the bank account at the end of the 2002-2003 meeting year. After paying expenses and making deposits for this years dues, the account balance is \$3,282.62.

The President reminded those who had not done so, to pay their dues and to let the Secretary know of any address corrections. The January 2004 meeting was changed from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 8<sup>th</sup> due to the New Year's Holiday. The President appointed the following committees for the year:

<i>Membership Committee</i>	<i>Nominating Committee</i>	<i>Meeting Site Committee</i>	<i>Open Meeting Committee</i>
Charles Tilley	Robert Sivley	William Turner	President
Ken Dougherty	Peter Macdonald	Frank Nash	Vice-President
Scott Kasierski	Marvin Denison	Wynn Radford	Secretary

George Byars reported that George Boone remains in a nursing home in Elkton and as of last week was in good spirits and had his wits about him.

Papers were presented by Richard Brasher, member since 1957 and number one in seniority and Brooks Major, member since 1961 and number four in seniority.

Mr. Brasher's paper was titled "*The Detective Story*", although he admitted during the rebuttal session, that it could just as well been titled "*The Elephant Child*" because the paper had a gestation period of one year. The paper, although not mysterious, was an informative and interesting account of the history of the detective story, including an analysis of various author's plots and investigative techniques used by the characters. Some of the detective stories noted in the paper were The Hardy Boys books, Ellery Queen stories, Edgar Allen Poe (who wrote the first real detective story in 1842), Sherlock Holmes, Agatha Christie and Philo Vance. (7:20 - 7:50 P.M.)

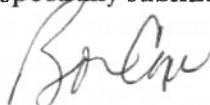
Mr. Major's paper was titled "*TVA - Born and Bred in the Brier Patch*". Equally as interesting, but not shocking, the paper described the establishment and history of the Tennessee Valley Authority from 1933 - 1939 and the "epic war over public verses private ownership of electric power". The paper identified the costs of public and private power and how this was used for competitive purposes. After the formation of the Rural Electrification Administration (REA), local public utility companies accepted loan offers, private companies did not, and power lines were rapidly extended to rural areas. The push by TVA into the region and the public verses private power company contests, was particularly unsettling to the presenter, having grown up in the rural brier patches of Christian County. (7:50 - 8:20 P.M.)

The comment session began at 8:30 P.M., hearing from Misters Sivley, Love, Anderson, Dennison, Turner, Harper, Schweizer, Higgins, C. Tilley and King. Rebuttals followed.

The presenters for the October 2 meeting were announced as Mr. Wynn Radford and Mr. Fred May.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Bob Cope  
Secretary/Treasurer

Minutes  
Athenaeum Society  
October 2, 2003

The October 2, 2003 meeting of the Athenaeum Society convened at 6:35 P.M. at the Holiday Inn. An opening prayer was given by Marvin Denison.

Following dinner of salad, green beans, mashed potatoes, lima beans, cabbage, roast beef, chicken & dumpling, rolls and cherry cobbler, President David Cavanah called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

The Secretary, Bob Cope, called the roll which indicated that 27 of 40 members were present. Minutes of the September 4, 2003 Meeting were read and approved. Excuses of past absences were presented and accepted.

The Treasurers report was given by Bob Cope indicating that \$3,501.37 was in the bank account.

Mr. Sivley reported that Bill Engler is recovering from by-pass surgery performed three weeks ago, and is doing fine.

President Cavanah announced that honorary member Marshall Butler will perform a piano recital this weekend.

Papers were presented by Wynn Radford, member since 1984 and number 15 in seniority and Fred May, member since 2002 and number 37 in seniority.

Mr. Radford's paper was titled "Epiphany in Aisle Number Three: Thoughts of a Wal-Mart Shopper...or... Why We Don't Let Dad Shop Anymore". The author details how he is overwhelmed with how complicated it can be shopping at Wal-Mart for a simple grocery item such as Roquefort salad dressing. He obviously does not get out of the house very often and reaches the conclusion that shopping is stressful for men and is women's work. The paper continues with the shopping habits and tastes of today's society as well as the Wal-Mart management style and the Hopkinsville Connection of Hopkinsville Milling, Flynn Enterprises, Kentucky Derby Hosiery, Trace Industries, Knight & Hale, Continental Mills and the produce of local Mennonite farmers to Wal-Mart. (7:12 - 7:45 P.M.)

Mr. May's paper was titled "Hot Peppers: The Ultimate Extreme Sport (Or, How a Middle Aged Gourmet Stomped a Gen-Xer)". The presenter successfully completed his maiden voyage opting for the "extreme" sport of hot pepper tasting over the more mundane sports of hang-gliding, paragliding, heli-skiing, ice climbing, bungee jumping, caving, surfing or scuba diving. The paper detailed the various species of chili peppers, the effect of capsicum's heat on the mouth and nose, and several featured website chili products including Mega Death, Ass Blaster and Mad Dog 357. The presentation concluded with a contest whereby the membership tasted "Dave's Gourmet Insanity Sauce", The Original

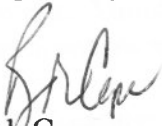
Hottest Sauce in the Universe. The contest started with three drops on a cracker and progressed until the last mouth not catching fire was the winner. Happy Higgins was declared the winner at ten drops and became the proud owner of a Chili T-shirt. (7:46 - 8:15 P.M.)

The comment session began at 8:28 P.M., hearing from Misters Fuqua, Schweizer, Love, Freer, Higgins, Kasierski, Nicolos, J. Tilley, Sivley and C. Tilley. Rebuttals followed.

The presenters for the November 6 meeting were announced as Mr. Wendell Rorie and Mr. Edward Higgins.

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Bob Cope  
Secretary/Treasurer



**Minutes**  
**Athenaeum Society**  
November 6, 2003

The November 6, 2003 meeting of the Athenaeum Society convened at 6:33 P.M. at the Holiday Inn. An opening prayer was given by Judge Jim Adams.

Following dinner of salad, turnip greens, mashed potatoes, yams, pinto beans, ham with pineapple, fried chicken, rolls and peach cobbler, President David Cavanah called the meeting to order at 7:07 P.M.

The Secretary, Bob Cope, called the roll which indicated that 28 of 40 members were present. Minutes of the October 2, 2003 Meeting were read and approved. Excuses of past absences were presented and accepted.

The Treasurers report was given by Bob Cope indicating that \$3,364.33 was in the bank account.

Bob Cope also reported that Hal King's wife had a stroke and was making a speedy recovery.

Papers were presented by Wendell Rorie member since 1960 and number 3 in seniority and Edward Higgins member since 1984 and number 14 in seniority.

Mr. Rorie's paper was titled "Ralph Waldo Emerson 'Sage of Concord'". The paper describes the life and prophecy of Ralph Waldo Emerson, a profound philosopher, whose imposing white marble statue presides over the common reading area of the Concord, Massachusetts public library. It is said that Emerson was "the authentic cultural voice of America" who outlined "the future of American science, philosophy, scholarship, poetry and even landscape design." (7:17 - 7:36 P.M.)

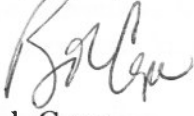
Mr. Higgins' paper was titled "Mountain Meadows Massacre". The paper depicted the Mormon movement and anti-United States beliefs and animosities in Utah in 1857. It just so happens that one of those killed was William R. Aden, who was the son of the authors Great-Great Uncle, Dr. Sidney Bennett Aden of Henry County, Tennessee. Mountain Meadows is a small expanse of meadow, lying about six miles southwest of Cedar City. It is a small narrow valley about one mile long and six miles wide. As the story goes, a large wagon train of emigrants was traveling through the Utah Territory and camped at Mountain Meadows. Later that night a large group of Indians, apparently provoked by some Mormons, (the massacre was not sanctioned by the Mormon Church) attacked the emigrants killing about 120 men, women and children. (7:37 - 8:04 P.M.)

The comment session began at 8:19 P.M., hearing from Misters Nash, May, Fuqua, Love and Harper. Rebuttals followed.

The presenters for the December 4 meeting were announced as Mr. Thomas Westerfield and Mr. D. D. Cayce.

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Bob Cope  
Secretary/Treasurer

# Minutes

## Athenaeum Society

### December 4, 2003

The December 4, 2003 meeting of the Athenaeum Society convened at 6.35 P.M. at the Holiday Inn. An opening prayer was given by Terry Fuqua.

Following dinner of salad, green beans, new potatoes, cabbage, black eyed peas, rice, fried chicken, rolls and banana pudding, President David Cavanah called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

The Secretary, Bob Cope, called the roll which indicated that 21 of 40 members were present. William Turner pointed out that this was the first meeting in recent history that there was only one attorney present. Minutes of the November 6, 2003 Meeting were read and approved. Excuses of past absences were presented and accepted.

The Treasurers report was given by Bob Cope indicating that \$3,153.33 was in the bank account.

Papers were presented by Thomas Westerfield member since 1973 and number 9 in seniority and D. D. Cayce member since 1991 and number 24 in seniority.

Mr. Westerfield's paper was titled "Worms In The Apple". The paper describes the state of the nation's education system and identifies some of the issues as possible causes for the failure. Lack of funding and reasonable salaries for teachers are issues. But also in the limelight, and the main focus of the paper is censorship of educational materials in which case the true meaning of a particular material is eradicated by censors who think the material is not fit for the reader. Perhaps Supreme Court Justice Louis D. Brandeis said it best by holding that "The greatest dangers to liberty lurk in insidious encroachment by men of zeal, well-meaning but without understanding". What is still to be determined is, Are we finding a worm in the education system, in which case we can take appropriate action, or have we only found half a worm, in which case we start to get a little sick and worried? (7:14 - 7:49 P.M.)

Mr. Cayce's paper was titled "Kentucky's Southern Border with Tennessee". The paper describes the history and basis, problems and disputes, of establishing the southern boundary of Kentucky in 1779. The survey party was headed up by Dr. Thomas Walker and Daniel Smith from Virginia and Richard Henderson and William B. Smith from North Carolina. Thus the line became known as the Walker Line of 36° 30'. There are some irregularities in the boundary. "Pot Neck" which is an area between the Cumberland and Tennessee Rivers that bulged up into Kentucky territory and taking years of negotiation to reach mutual agreement between the two states; an area in Simpson County Kentucky where the line makes a triangular dip Southward into Tennessee supposedly caused by iron in the soil causing the compass needle to dip South. But most noteworthy is the 2,500 square miles in a thin strip across most of the top of Tennessee, a latitude error

which pushed the line 12 miles too far North in a direct line or about 17 miles by way of the Tennessee River. Tennessee protested correcting the line as it would devastate 9 counties in Tennessee and would mean destroying county seats and courthouses. It would also mean that Clarksville would be in Kentucky. The line stands, but to this day there are deeds in the Christian County Courthouse calling for land south of the Cumberland River as being legally in the State of Kentucky. (7:50 - 8:09 P.M.)

The comment session began at 8:20 P.M., hearing from Mistery Sivley, Fuqua, C. Tilley, Radford, Rowlett and Harper. Rebuttals followed.

The presenters for the January 8, 2004 meeting were announced as Mr. Marvin Denison and Mr. Mark Schweizer.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Bob Cope  
Secretary/Treasurer