

MINUTES
ATHENAEUM SOCIETY

8 JANUARY 2009

The January meeting of the Athenaeum Society convened at 6:30 PM at the Holiday Inn, Hopkinsville, Ky., and opened with prayer by member Ron Buck.

Following a typical hearty buffet dinner consisting of the usual mystery fare, President Freer called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Secretary Nicolos called the roll with 28 of 40 members acknowledging their presence.

Minutes of the December meeting and financial statement were read and approved.

President Freer called for absence excuses from the December meeting.

Members so identified offered various non-original lame reasons which were regrettably excused by a slim majority of the Society.

The evening's papers were presented by Harold B. King, Jr. a member since 1987, and number 17 in seniority, and Robert Y. Harper, a member since 2000, and number 25 in priority.

Mr. King's paper was titled "The Religious Affiliation and Beliefs of the Third United States President, Thomas Jefferson". This paper examined the religious beliefs ascribed to Jefferson thought his life. These included the most common in popularity in his era, Episcopalian, Anglican, Unitarian, and English Deist, although, as he stated later in life, he did not consider himself a member of any specific denomination or congregation. But, he did consider himself a deist and a follower of Jesus Christ, although that appears a contradiction to our understanding of both subjects. Whatever is thought of the complicated beliefs of this brilliant man, his accomplishments continue to guide America today.

Mr. Harper's paper was titled "CORIOLANUS" "Shakespeare on Management and Labor in Ancient Rome." This paper used Shakespeare's play set in Rome during a time of famine to illustrate the similarity of

opponents and proponents of ancient Roman politics and current negotiating strategies between modern day management and labor. General Motors Management and the United Auto Workers Union bosses may be well advised to obtain copies of this paper from Mr. Harper. That act and the previously obtained bailout money should serve them well if wisely followed.

Following a short comfort break, comments were entertained, followed by rebuttals, both of which were enjoyed by all remaining members.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter K. Nicolos

Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES

ATHENAEUM SOCIETY

5 FEBRUARY 2009

The February meeting of the Athenaeum Society convened at 6:30 PM at the Holiday Inn, Hopkinsville, Ky., and opened with prayer by Ron Buck.

Following a typical hearty buffet dinner consisting of usual mystery fare, President Freer called the meeting called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Secretary Nicolos called the roll with 32 of 40 members acknowledging their presence.

Minutes of the November meeting and financial statement were read and approved.

President Freer called for absence excuses from the December meeting.

All members so identified offered various non-original lame reasons. Regrettably, these non-original lame excuses were reluctantly approved.

The evening's papers were presented by George H. Byars, a member since 1987 and number 18 in seniority, and Charles Russell Guffey, a member since 2005 and number 33 in seniority.

Mr. Byar's paper was titled "The Comic Book Kids" This paper was a personal reflection on the effect comic books had during his formative years as an enthusiastic reader of those dime novels. Unfortunately this passion for comics was eventually quenched by their demise due to various attacks on their "supposed" contribution to anti social behavior, politically incorrect attitudes, glorification of crime accompanied by graphic illustrations of such, and if the truth be known, Senator Kefauver may have secretly harbored the opinion the comics were a Communist plot to corrupt the youth of America.

Mr. Guffey's paper was titled "Half-Pregnant, Half-Dead: How Mistakes, Misleading, Misinformation, Misquotes, Misunderstanding, Misinterpretations, and Mispronunciations Have Shaped the Half Truth World of Today." This paper examined common sayings, statements and

observations made every day by people from all walks of life that are taken to be accurate reflections of truth of origin about the subject stated or observed. Example: Common lore has it that "Nero fiddled while Rome Burned." Fact: The fiddle was not yet been invented during Nero's reign. Another example; French toast is not French in origin, but Italian. And on and on go the half truth and everyday assumptions of what we have grown to accept as fact. So, next time some one asks for "The whole nine yards,"* request they tell you the story behind the saying. You just might find someone instead who knows the whole-truth.

Following a short comfort break, comments were entertained, followed by rebuttals, both of which were enjoyed by all remaining members.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter K. Nicolos

Secretary/Treasurer

* "The Whole Nine Yards" See attached.

MINUTES

ATHENAEUM SOCIETY

5 MARCH 2009

The March meeting of the Athenaeum Society convened at 6:30 PM at the Holiday Inn, Hopkinsville, Ky.

Following a typical hearty buffet dinner consisting of fried chicken and the usual mystery meat, Vice-President White called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Secretary Nicolos called the roll with 28 of 40 members acknowledging their presence.

Minutes of the February meeting and financial statement were read and approved.

Vice-President White called for absence excuses from the February meeting.

All members so identified offered various non-original, deja-vu, lame excuses. Regrettably, they were approved, albeit by a slim majority.

The evening's papers were presented by William M. Rowlett, a member since 1970, and # 5 in seniority, and James H. Love, a member since 1985 and # 13 in seniority.

Dr. Rowlett's paper was titled "Gone to the Dogs". This paper was a personal reflection on man's best friend and four of that number who graced his life. Buddy, Chi, Bailey and Stokely. It was reported that Buddy earned a degree in Economics taught by Dr. C.S. Lowery at Murray State while maintaining a straight A average. Chi, on the other hand attended Med School on a part time basis at Louisville, and was responsible for policing the Pre-Med students at the Phi Chi Medical Fraternity. He attended all the Frat House social functions and proved to be great party animal while supplying his wards with a steady supply of beer due to his unique ability to count rounds at the local Pub favored by the his boys. Bailey was a Colorado born, chocolate Lab who as a mountain climber of note was able to scale 10

of the 14,000 ft peaks in the Colorado Rockies while pulling his family along with him. He also delivered the Denver Post each morning for the reward of one dog biscuit. Stokley, a black and tan Beagle, adventurous to the bone, lived a life unlike the average household canine. A Lothario by nature and filled with a wanderlust that was not satisfied in any situation or location for very long, he disappeared one day never to be seen again. End of story.

Mr. Love's paper was titled "No, I'm not a draft dodger, or the saga of a civilian in uniform." This paper related the authors' adventure as a civilian facing the Selective Service Program of the 1960's better known as the Draft, and his life following his induction into the military. The Draft considered all eligible males that were somewhat randomly selected to serve their country by being drafted into the United States Army, or when allowed, to voluntarily enlist in one of the other services. To Mr. Love's good fortune the local Draft Board members included a man familiar with his childhood, and upon hearing that Mr. Love needed but a 7th year of College to complete his degree at Murray State, granted him "student deferment status for an additional year, with the promise that he would be hearing from them at that time. And true to their word, Mr. Love did indeed receive notice to report to the Armed Forces Induction Center in Chicago, Illinois on June 9th, 1969. His experience in the Army and serving in South Viet Nam is sometimes humorous, sometimes sad, but always educational and honest in its telling.

Following a short comfort break, comments were entertained, followed by rebuttals, both of which were enjoyed by all remaining members

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter K. Nicolos

Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES

ATHENAEUM SOCIETY

2 APRIL 2009

The April meeting of the Athenaeum Society convened at 6:30 PM at the Holiday Inn, Hopkinsville, Ky.

Following a typical hearty buffet dinner consisting of fried chicken and the usual mystery meat, President Freerr called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Secretary Nicolos called the roll with 30 of 40 members acknowledging their presence.

Minutes of the March meeting and financial statement were read and approved.

-President Freer called for absence excuses from the March meeting.

All members so identified offered various non-original, deja-vu, lame excuses. Regrettably, they were approved, albeit by a slim majority.

The evening's papers were presented by Kendrick Dougherty, a member since 2001, and # 29 in seniority, and Charales Maddux Jr., a member since 2005 and # 34 in seniority.

Mr. Dougherty's paper was titled "Ursa Major-The Big Dipper". This paper related the life of NBA Hall of Fame player Wilt, the Stilt Chamberlin. The player that pioneered and dominated the move of "dipping", the basketball into the basket from above thus also adding the nickname The Big Dipper.

Mr. Maddux's paper was titled "wtf!kwim?" This paper related the new and persuasive phenomenon known as "texting" as it applies to the practice of using a cell phone to deliver messages to the recipient by text rather than aural communication.

Following a short comfort break, comments were entertained, followed by rebuttals, both of which were enjoyed by all remaining members

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter K. Nicolos

Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES

ATHENAEUM SOCIETY

7 May 2009

The May Open meeting of the Athenaeum Society convened at 6:30 PM at Oakland Manor, Hopkinsville, Ky. Member Ron Buck gave the invocation.

Following an outstanding buffet prepared by Four Seasons Catering, President Freer called the meeting to order and welcomed each member and guest.

The normal procedures of the Secretary calling the roll, reading the minutes of the previous meeting and the financial report were not in play for the Open Meeting, as was the President's call for excuses for absences at the April meeting

The evening's papers were presented by Robert B Sivley, a member since 1970, and # 4 in seniority, and John C. Tilley., a member since 2002 and # 31 in seniority.

Mr. Sivley's paper was titled "The Decline and Fall... of Practically Everybody". This paper was a review of an 18th century book by Samuel Butler entitled "Erewhon"(which, incidentally , is "nowhere" spelled backward).The book attempts to describe ideal societies or to set forth predictions of what an ideal society might be like.

Mr. Tilley's paper was titled "The big Kahuna or life as an expectant father" He related in great humorous detail what life was like during the nine months of his wife's pregnancy.(fortunately, his recollections set forth were pre approved by her)

Following a short comfort break, comments were entertained, followed by rebuttals, both of which were enjoyed by members and guests.

The President then presented the annual Hal King Twinky Award to those members with perfect meeting attendance during the previous year. They were: William Turner, Robert Sivley ,William Rowlett, Edward Higgins,

Charles Cavanah, Hollis White, Robert Ison, Peter Nicolos, and David Cavanah (Included was Wendell Rorie but was not in attendance)

The presenters for the next meeting in September at the Holiday Inn were announced by the Secretary. They are Franklin A. Nash and John H. Freer

The President adjourned the meeting after announcing that the table flowered centerpieces were to be taken by the member or guest whose Meeting program bore a small American flag attached to the back page.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter K. Nicolos
Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES

ATHENAEUM SOCIETY

3 September 2009

The September meeting of the Athenaeum Society convened at 6:30 PM at the Holiday Inn, Hopkinsville, Ky. Judge James Adams led in prayer.

Following a typical hearty buffet dinner consisting of very crispy fried chicken and a usual mystery meat, President White called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Secretary Nicolos called the roll with 26 of 40 members acknowledging their presence.

Minutes of the May Open meeting and the September financial statement were read and approved.

President White called for absence excuses from the May meeting.

All members so admitting to same, offered various non-originals, warmed over lame excuses with a few notable exceptions. Regrettably the former were also approved, along with the latter, albeit by a slim majority.

Wynn Radford, chairman of the nominating committee reported the committee had a nomination for membership to fill an expected vacancy. The nominee was identified and comments were heard from the members present. If the expected vacancy becomes reality, the nominee will be voted on during the October meeting.

The evening's papers were presented by Frank A. Nash, Jr., a member since 1979, and # 8 in seniority, and John H. Freer, a member since 1995 and # 23 in seniority.

Dr. Nash's paper was titled "The Final Military Battle of the Civil War", (or "Don't Mess With Texas" This paper related a little known chapter in the history of the Civil War between the Union and the Confederacy. It took place in southern Texas. Specifically, it reviewed the

last land battle of the War, the last shot fired in the War, the last soldier killed in the War, and the final official surrender of the War.

Dr. Freer's paper was titled "THE TRIUNE BRAIN". This paper explained the investigation by noted neurologist to categorize three areas, of the human brain in order to explain behavior .Specifically noted were; the reptilian, the limbic and the neo-cortex portions of the brain. Or as I would label, survival, emotion and thought. Fortunately, a somewhat working model of the brain was available, to wit, a golf wood, with head cover along with a football helmet, to enable we lay members of the society to fully understand and appreciate the working of the Triune Brain.

Following a short comfort break, comments were entertained, followed by rebuttals, both of which were enjoyed by all remaining members

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter K. Nicolos

Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES

ATHENAEUM SOCIETY

1 October 2009

The October meeting of the Athenaeum Society convened at 6:30 PM at the Holiday Inn, Hopkinsville, Ky. Dr. Terry Fuqua led in prayer.

Following a typical hearty buffet dinner consisting of very thin sliced mystery meat, President White called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Secretary Nicolos called the roll with 22 of 40 members acknowledging their presence.

Minutes of the September meeting and the September financial statement were read and approved.

President White called for absence excuses from the September meeting.

All members with a few notable exceptions offered various warmed over excuses. Regrettably approved.

Wynn Radford, chairman of the nominating committee reported the committee had a nomination for membership to fill a reported vacancy. The nominee was identified as James Coursey, and comments were heard from the members present. The vacancy was confirmed due to the resignation of member John Rittenhouse, as he has relocated away from Hopkinsville. President White directed a vote, which was taken and Mr. Coursey was confirmed. The Secretary will inform him by letter. Additional potential vacancies were identified and the nominating committee submitted two names for consideration. If the vacancies become reality, the nominees will be discussed and voted on during the November meeting.

The evening's papers were presented by Peter K. Nicolos, a member since 2001 #28 in seniority, and the Rev. Howard H. Willen, a member since 2005 # 35 in seniority.

Mr. Nicolos's paper was titled "THE ISRAELI-ARAB CONFLICT AS VIEWED BY ISRAELIS" The introduction of this paper led with brief

comments on potential subjects that had been considered such as Global Warming, Ethanol, and Capital Punishment. However, the primary subject presented the reasons for the current conflict as viewed by the historical perspective of the Jewish people and their promised land .The current condition between Israeli and Arab was contrasted by the Palestinian Arabs vow to destroy the nation of Israel and establish their own nation in its place, and as such, that position will not allow the resolution of this conflict in the foreseeable future through any conventional negotiation. Therefore, only the New Testament Book of Revelation contains the final and lasting word on the outcome.

Rev. Willen's paper was titled "PUNISHMENT AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE" It presented an analysis of inmate incarceration and the pros and cons as to what extent continued incarceration led to positive behavior after release, or whether it contributed to recidivism. Based upon his personal experiences and interaction with inmates at a number of prisons in Kentucky, he concluded that a face to face display of genuine interest with compassion and caring proved to be more beneficial towards an inmate's behavior following release than the more prevalent line of ignoring and isolating the inmate.

Following a short comfort break, comments were entertained, followed by rebuttals, both of which could have been the basis for a third presentation of the evening.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter K. Nicolos

Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES

ATHENAEUM SOCIETY

5 November 2009

The November meeting of the Athenaeum Society convened at 6:30 PM at the Holiday Inn, Hopkinsville, Ky. Dr. William Rowlett led in prayer.

Following a typical hearty buffet dinner consisting of the usual fare, President White called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Secretary Nicolos called the roll with 31 of 38 members acknowledging their presence.

Minutes of the October meeting and the October financial statement were read and approved.

President White called for absence excuses from the October meeting.

All members offered various excuses, some original, some less so. but delivered with a straight face. With reservations, all were approved.

William Turner, member of the nominating committee reported the committee's two nominations for membership, Mr. James Adams and Mr. Danny Gillkey, had been identified and commented upon during the October meeting. Therefore, with the departures of Mark Schweizer and Ron Buck , a vote by members was in order to fill those vacancies. President White directed a vote, which was taken and Mr. Adams and Mr. Gillkey were unanimously accepted.. The Secretary will inform both by letter.

President White welcomed Mr. James Coursey to his first meeting as a new member of The Athenaeum Society.

The evening's papers were presented by Judge James G. Adams, Jr., a member since 1981, # 8 in seniority, and Wynn L. Radford, III, a member since 1984, # 11 in seniority.

Judge Adams paper was titled "A NEW IDEA IN THE BATTLE AGAINST CRIME: DRUG COURTS". It presented background for the

current system of treating drug offenders within in the justice system by establishing specific courts that would deal exclusively with their cases. The drug courts established in Hopkinsville and throughout the state of Kentucky were pioneers in this new idea for the on going battle against crime. Their success in decreasing the rate of repeat offenses is significant and has proven the courts value..

Mr. Radford's paper was titled "Beware of Quants in Brooks Brothers Suits". It presented the mathematical probability of each of four chosen groups of people, identified by specific characteristics, traits, education and tolerance for risk that would be successful in investing in various money making schemes. The bottom line is that more research into this complex subject is required in order to insure success while investing in simple wealth promising financial vehicles run by wannabe Bernie Madoff's Play Las Vegas or the lottery instead.

Following a short comfort break, comments were entertained, followed by rebuttals, both of which could have been the basis for a third presentation of the evening.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter K. Nicolos
Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES

ATHENAEUM SOCIETY

3 DECEMBER 2009

The December meeting of the Athenaeum Society convened at 6:30 PM at the Holiday Inn, Hopkinsville, Ky. Member Hal King led in prayer.

Following a typical buffet dinner consisting of the unusual fare consisting of two servings of mystery pork, President White called the meeting to order at 7:05PM.

Secretary Nicolos called the roll with 33 of 40 members acknowledging their presence, excluding the out of state guest that Charles Maduxx brought in from the hotel bar.

Minutes of the November meeting and the November financial statement were read and approved.

President White called for absence excuses from the November meeting.

Those who were absent offered various true to life variations of what they deemed more important than meeting with this distinguished assembly. Some excuses were original, some less so. With reservations, most were approved.

President White welcomed our two new members to the society, Mr. James G. Adams, III and Mr. Danny M Gilkey.

The evening's papers were presented by Judge Peter C. MacDonald., a member since 1985, # 12 in seniority, and Rev. Dr. William J. Watson, III, a member since 2005 # 35 in seniority.

Judge MacDonald's' paper was titled "Two Men, One Queen, One Grateful Nation, and Two Gifts. A Palace and a House" It presented the history of the Blenheim Palace and the Chartwell house, both located in the South of England The paper traced both from inception to their present status as properties of the National Trust, which maintains similar properties throughout the United Kingdom.. The two men were John Churchill later

known as the 1st Duke of Marlborough, and Winston Churchill. The Queen was Queen Ann. These three represent the driving force that made these two monuments possible

The Rev. Dr. Watson's paper was titled "He ain't heavy, he's my brother" or "What's the big deal anyway?" This paper examined the causes of weight gained by Americans over the past few decades. Although, there are various reasons, a prime cause appears to be attributed to consumption of corn in its various applications in food and drink products. Recommendations include healthy eating habits, smaller quantities, exercise and avoidance of fast food "supper sizing."

Following a short comfort break, comments were entertained, followed by rebuttals, a few of which represented a third presentation of the evening.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter K. Nicolos
Secretary/Treasurer