

MINUTES
ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
January 3, 2013

President Harper convened the January meeting of the Athenaeum Society at the Holiday Inn, Hopkinsville.

Roll was called, and thirty members were present. Minutes of the December meeting were read and approved. The financial report was made. The total in the checking account was \$2298.45

Excuses for previous absences were given by John Soyars, Frank Nash, Jim Adams, Marvin Denison, Russ Guffey, William Turner, James Adams, Chris Gilkey, Jason Powell, Terry Fuqua, and Wynn Radford.

President Harper read a tribute to Jim Love.

Membership committee nominated Dave Griffith, and he will be voted on in February.

President Harper announced that Matt Frerichs, John Atkins, and Wayne Goolsby had accepted our invitation and are our three newest members.

Papers were presented by Wendell Lynch, a member since 2001 and #19 in seniority and Lindsey Adams, a member since 2012 and #35 in seniority.

In "Truman and the Bomb," Wendell Lynch detailed the life of President Harry S. Truman. Truman's ascension to the presidency was perhaps the least likely in the history of this country. His family was not wealthy; he had only limited education; his business ventures were failures; his first term in the U.s. Senate was not impressive, and yet ascend he did. Shortly after Truman became President, Germany surrendered, leaving only Japan to conquer. On August 6, 1945, at President Truman's order, the atomic bomb was dropped over Hiroshima. One August 14th, Japan surrendered.

In "Discrete Infinity," Lindsey Adams analyses the origin and evolution of oral communication. Language must have rules and structure. There are numerous theories as to when man first communicated and many on the ability or inability of other animals to do so. Man at some point developed the cognitive ability to construct and process data in his mind. This is known as "discrete infinity."

Comments were made by William Turner, Jim Coursey, Marvin Denison, Terry Fuqua, John Soyars, and John Freer.

Presenters for the February meeting will be Ken Dougherty and Danny Gilkey.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Cavanah, Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES
ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
February 7, 2013

President Harper convened the February meeting of the Athenaeum Society at the Holiday Inn, Hopkinsville.

Roll was called, and thirty-one members were present. Minutes of the January meeting were read and approved. The financial report was made. The total in the checking account was \$2245.01

Excuses for previous absences were given by Robert Sivley, Ken Dougherty, Peter Nicolos, Hal King, and James Selbe.

Members voted to extend an invitation for membership to Dave Griffith.

The membership committee nominated Steve DeMoss, and he will be voted on in March.

Papers were presented by Dr. H. Kendrick Dougherty, a member since 2001 and #21 in seniority and Danny M. Gilkey, a member since 2009 and #30 in seniority.

In "Coffee Talk," Ken Dougherty states that civilization has produced only three important non-alcoholic beverages – the extract of the tea plant, the extract of the cocoa bean, and the extract of the coffee bean. He chose to write about the coffee bean while taking "dibs" on the other two for papers in 2015 and 2017. Coffee has universal appeal and is enjoyed not only because of its taste, but also because of the increased efficiency it produces. The coffee plant is believed to have originated in Ethiopia around 858 AD. Others believe the time and place may have been the Arabian Peninsula around 575 AD. Wherever it was discovered, it spread quickly. By the 1600's, coffeehouses were opened in Europe. In the late 1800's, companies in the United States began packaging ground, roasted coffee. Today when we think coffee, we think Starbucks. In every one of the 20,000 Starbuck coffeehouses, you can get an Iced Caramel Mocha Macchiato Skinny Latte Frappucino, but you can't get Cowboy Coffee.

Danny Gilkey wrote "The Answer Is: Who was Leon Czolgosz?" with two purposes in mind. He wanted to provide historical context and to examine what prompted Leon Czolgosz's assassination of President William McKinley on September 6, 1901. Czolgosz was born in Detroit in 1873. The family was poor. He lost his mother at twelve. He probably had no more than five years of formal education, but was an avid reader. He was quiet and shy. Leon spent several years working in factories for little money. He read anything that would help him understand the inequality of the American economic system. Some believe that Leon either became or wished to become an anarchist. He definitely attempted to become closer to known anarchists. On September 3, Leon purchased a gun. On September 6th, he shot the President twice after standing in line to shake his hand. On September 14, McKinley died. Speculation as to Leon's motive was rampant and probably mostly inaccurate. He would not cooperate and signed only one statement that said, "I killed President McKinley because I done my duty. I don't believe in one man having so much service and another man having none." The prosecution ruled out insanity, and the defense concurred. Everyone wanted to blame anarchistic beliefs. However, the prosecution's star witness, James Quakenbush, testified that Leon claimed the shooting was "the result of

his own individual theorizing and reflection." Philip Roth may have accurately labeled people like Czolgosz with the term "berserk." Berserk is not the same as insanity but describes "One whose actions are recklessly defiant."

Comments were made by James Coursey, Mitchell Kaye, John Atkins, Happy Higgins, John Freer, Duncan Cavanah, Robert Sivley, Peter Nicolos, Marvin Denison, and Terry Fuqua.

Presenters for the March meeting will be Russ Guffey and Whitney Westerfield.

Respectfully submitted,

Hal King + Terry Fuqua

Dave Cavanah
Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES
ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
March 7, 2013

President Harper convened the March meeting of the Athenaeum Society at the Holiday Inn, Hopkinsville.

Roll was called, and thirty members were present. Minutes of the February meeting were read and approved. The financial report was made. The total in the checking account was \$2015.12

Members voted to extend an invitation for membership to Steve DeMoss.

William Turner moved that a letter be sent to Jim Selbe expressing appreciation and support from the society. The motion was approved.

A motion was made that the letter be expanded to contain accomplishments of Dr. Selbe. The motion was approved.

A motion was made that the letter be sent to the president of the Kentucky Technical and community College System and to the Kentucky New Era. The motion was approved.

A motion was made to pay the Kentucky New Era to publish the letter if they would not carry free. The motion was approved. A copy of the letter written by President Harper is attached.

Papers were presented by Harold B. King, a member since 1987 and #11 in seniority and Dr. J. Terry Fuqua, a member since 2002 and #22 in seniority.

In 1928, there was 15 million tons of coal mined in Harland County and over 15,000 coal miners working in over 100 coal mines. These numbers are impressive, but even more amazing is the fact that the world's most outstanding coal came out of these mines. The Darby Seam #5 produced Great Heart Coal which was chosen to warm the men on Rear Admiral Richard Byrd's Antarctic expedition. This story of big coal, big money, and the Peabody Coal Company was presented to us by Hal King in "Kenvir Coal Warms the South Pole."

In 1947, a young man threw a stone into a cave and started the most important archeological, historical and religious discovery of the twentieth century. In "Dead Sea Scrolls," Dr. Terry Fuqua details the discovery, distribution, authentication, and value of this amazing find. Today we are able to see differences in Essenes, Pharisees, and Sadducees that would be less clear without the "scrolls." We are even able to compare these manuscripts with those known to have been used to construct our own Bible.

Presenters for the April meeting will be Russ Guffey and Whitney Westerfield.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Cavanah
Secretary/Treasurer

The Athenaeum Society
1904 S. Main St.
Hopkinsville, Ky. 42240

Kentucky New Era
1618 East Ninth St.
Hopkinsville, Ky. 42240

To the Editor, Kentucky New Era,

In light of the recent publicity surrounding the work of Jim Selbe, former president of Hopkinsville Community College, we, the members of the Hopkinsville Athenaeum Society, would like to express our appreciation for the work that our fellow member has done in this community. Not only was he instrumental in negotiating the details of the Rotary Scholars program, he also chaired the Rotary Auction one year to raise funds for that fine program. At the College, he promoted the HCC Gala as the college's major fundraiser and saw growth in enrollment during his tenure. We also admire his cooperative spirit, as seen through his work on countless committees in town, including on the Workforce Education and Development committee of the Chamber of Commerce, and his enthusiasm for efforts to improve the quality of life here in Hopkinsville, such as the Hoptown Hoppers.

The Athenaeum Society is composed of men who are interested in the liberal arts, the sciences, and the fine arts.

Sincerely,

Robert Y. Harper, President

MINUTES
ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
April 4, 2013

President Harper convened the April meeting of the Athenaeum Society at the Holiday Inn, Hopkinsville.

Roll was called, and thirty members were present. Minutes of the March meeting were read and approved. The financial report was made.

Excuses for previous absences were given by Edward Higgins, Whitney Westerfield, Jim Adams, Robert Ison, Wynn Radford, Duncan Cavanah, Dave Cavanah, and Hollis White.

Steve DeMoss was welcomed by President Harper. President Harper also announced the time and place for Open Meeting and that the Holiday Inn would be our meeting site for 2013-2014.

The Committee on Nominations (Hollis White, Russ Guffey, and Marvin Denison) nominated Wendell Lynch, Peter Nicolos, and Dave Cavanah for the offices of president, vice-president, and secretary/treasurer for 2013-2014.

Papers were presented by Charles Russell Guffey, a member since 2005 and #23 in seniority and Whitney H. Westerfield, a member since 2010 and #31 in seniority.

Russ Guffey presented "Guffey, Party of Six." In this presentation, he speculated as to who he would invite to a dinner party if he could invite anyone living or dead. Such notables as Issac Newton, George Washington, Buddha and Socrates failed to garner an invitation. The lucky five guests were Jesus, Leonardo daVinci, Albert Einstein, Plato, and Danny Guffey.

Were it not for the terrible accident that took his life, Tom Westerfield would have presented a paper in April. After his father's death, Whitney Westerfield asked to present in Tom's place. The title of his presentation was "A Silent Key," referencing Tom's love for ham radio. Whitney mentioned several papers that his dad presented to the society, but included portions of two. These two were special because they interested both father and son. In 2005, Tom presented "Nanotechnology" which depicted advances in science and technology which allowed computers (among other things) to be more powerful but much smaller. In 1991, Tom's paper posed the question "Who's Pulling the Strings?" The paper asked many questions and answered a few about the Trilateral Commission.

Comments were made by Wynn Radford, Bob Sivley, William Rowlett, Wnedell Lynch and Hollis White.

Presenters for the May meeting will be Jason B. Powell and James B. Coursey.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Cavanah
Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES
ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
May 2, 2013

President Harper convened the Open Meeting of the Athenaeum Society at Oakland Manor, Hopkinsville.

Twenty-eight members and fifty-two guests were present. President Harper explained that both members and guests would be invited to comment on the papers. He then asked members to introduce themselves and their guests.

Papers were presented by Jason B. Powell, a member since 2007 and #27 in seniority and James B. Coursey, a member since 2009 and #28 in seniority.

Jason Powell's paper "Better Things for Better Living" is the story of two families. Pierre DuPont came to America in 1799 and started producing and selling black powder. Jason tracked the company through the years until it became the giant corporation that we know today. The second family is Jason's own as both he and his dad have worked for DuPont. In fact, Jason is a self-proclaimed product of the great DuPont Company. He and his dad really have helped bring us "Better Things for Better Living Through the Miracle of Science."

James Coursey entertained members and guests with "Comedy is No Laughing Matter." The ancient Greeks called it "comedy," and it originated in their festivals. James started there and followed as comedy became more or perhaps less refined through the years. People given a mention not only included professional comedians, but playwrights, novelists, politicians and composers. A few of those were Will Somers, William Shakespeare, Jonathan Swift, Oscar Wilde, Abraham Lincoln, Charlie Chaplin, Fred Allen, Winston Churchill, Franklin Roosevelt, Tallulah Bankhead, Richard Pryor and Carroll O'Connor.

President Harper then presented the Hal King Twinkie Award to Wendell Rorie, William Rowlett, George Byars, Robert Harper, and Danny Gilkey. He thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Cavanah
Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES
ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
September 5, 2013

President Lynch convened the September meeting of the Athenaeum Society at the Holiday Inn, Hopkinsville.

Roll was called, and thirty-two members were present. Minutes of the April and May meetings were read and approved. The financial report was made.

William Turner moved that a letter be sent to Jim Selbe expressing appreciation and support from the society. The motion was approved.

Excuses for previous absences were given by Wendell Lynch, James Adams, Jim Adams and George Engler.

President Lynch announced that James Selbe had resigned last May.

Chris Gilkey informed the Society that David Griffith would not be able to attend the September meeting but would come in October.

Papers were presented by Edward H. Higgins, III, a member since 1984 and #8 in seniority and Peter K. Nicolas, a member since 2001 and #19 in seniority.

Mr. Higgins presented "Time of the Seasoning (Taking the History of the World With a Grain of Salt)." The paper tells why salt is important, where to find salt, how to mine salt, and who got wealthy and who went to war because of this valuable spice.

Mr. Nicolas' paper "The Palomares Nuclear Accident" tells of a refueling accident in January of 1966. The B-52 that was being refueled was carrying four thermonuclear bombs. The four bombs landed in the region of Palomares, Spain. Two of the bombs had detonated, leading to years of decontamination and a fresh look at our nuclear program.

Comments were made by Russ Guffey, Ken Dougherty, Terry Fuqua, Mitchell Kaye, Rob Harper and Chris Gilkey.

Presenters for the October meeting will be Wendell Rorie and Robert Harper.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Cavanah
Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES
ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
October 3, 2013

Vice-president Nicolos convened the October meeting of the Athenaeum Society at the Holiday Inn, Hopkinsville.

Roll was called, and twenty-one members were present. Minutes of the September meeting were read and approved. The financial report was made, and the bank account was reported to be \$2846.17.

Excuses for previous absences were given by James Coursey, John Soyars, George Byars, and David Griffith.

Vice-president Nicolos announced the resignation of Hal King.

David Griffith was introduced as a new member.

Papers were presented by Wnedell H. Rorie, a member since 1960 and #1 in seniority and Robert Y. Harper, a member since 2000 and #17 in seniority.

Wendell Rorie presented his 29th paper, entitled "A Paper on Papers." In his presentation, Wendell spoke not only about some of his papers, but also about papers he has heard (some good and some not so good). He also listed the nine meeting places where he has attended meetings. Many of us remember several of the papers detailed and also many of the former members that Wendell mentioned.

Robert Harper presented his third and last paper on Ted Poston, entitled "Tramping Through History -- The life of Theodore Roosevelt Augustus Major Poston." This edition starts in 1956 when the New York Post sent Poston to Montgomery to cover the bus boycott. Stops in Selma, Little Rock and Memphis followed. The Post sent Poston anywhere there was a story involving black Americans. On January 11, 1974, Poston died and was buried in Cave Spring Cemetery in Hopkinsville.

Comments were made by William Turner, John Atkins, Terry Fuqua, John Soyars, Robert Sivley, Duncan Cavanah, and Wynn Radford.

Presenters for the November meeting will be Frank Nash and Marvin Denison.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Cavanah
Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES
ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
November 7, 2013

President Lynch convened the November meeting of the Athenaeum Society at the Hopkinsville Holiday Inn.

Roll was called, and twenty-nine members were present. Minutes of the October meeting were read and approved. The financial report was made. We have \$2605.76 in the bank.

Excuses for previous absences were given by Wendell Lynch, Whitney Westerfield, Steve DeMoss, Bob Cope, John Freer, Frank Nash, Bob Ison, and Russ Guffey.

President Lynch announced the names of members who will serve on the Committee on Membership: James Coursey, Chris Gilkey, and John Soyars. James Coursey will be chairman of the committee.

President Lynch also appointed the Nominating Committee to consist of Russ Guffey, Hollis White, and George Byars with Russ Guffey serving as chairman.

Papers were presented by Franklin Nash, a member since 1979 and #5 in seniority and Marvin D. Denison, a member since 1986 and #10 in seniority.

In "Fancy Bloomers," Dr. Nash gave us a glimpse into his sunroom. As we heard about the very impressive orchids that he raises in that room, we also learned something of the history, geography, and value of these beautiful plants.

Mr. Denison presented "Better Warfare through Chemistry." War is savage and cruel, but through the ages, man has tried to reduce the toll on combatants and those who simply just get in the way. One of these efforts was a conference that was held in the Netherlands in 1899. This conference and many others that are attended by the best minds from countries all over the world have made progress, but much work still needs to be done.

Comments were made by Mitchell Kaye, Robert Sivley, Peter Nicolos, Robert Harper, Wynn Radford, Russ Guffey, Danny Gilkey, and Wendell Lynch.

Presenters for the January meeting will be John Freer and Duncan Cavanah.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Cavanah
Secretary/Treasurer

MINUTES
ATHENAEUM SOCIETY
December 5, 2013

President Lynch convened the December meeting of the Athenaeum Society at the Hopkinsville Holiday Inn.

Roll was called, and twenty-nine members were present. Minutes of the November meeting were read and approved. The financial report was made. We have \$2518.77 in the bank.

Excuses for previous absences were given by Lindsey Adams, Jim Adams, John Soyars, James Adams, Chris Gilkey, George Engler, Jason Powell, and Matt Frerichs.

Chris Gilkey, representing the Membership Committee, nominated two prospective new members. They will be voted on in January.

Papers were presented by Judge James G. Adams, Jr., a member since 1981 and #6 in seniority and Wayne Goolsby, a member since 2013 and #36 in seniority.

They are direct descendants of the gray wolf. They are all different, and we love each and every one of them. Judge Adams was talking about dogs when he wrote, "Are We Going to the Dogs or Beagles, Bassets, and Labs. What Would We do Without You?" He talked about dogs in general, but what he really wanted to tell us about were Nuisance, Lady, Snoopy, Droopy, Trigg, and Beauregard. They were all well-loved dogs in the Adams' family.

Wayne Goolsby presented "Coulda; Woulda; Shoulda" in which he described several scenarios that could have made big differences in the world or at least the lives of several people if they had gone some other way. What if Clay had won at least one of his bids for the Presidency? What if Robert Penn Warren had become a sailor, Reggie Jackson a Met, Cary Grand had starred in My Fair Lady, or Ronald Reagan been in From Here to Eternity? Sometimes we control our destiny, and other times it's just blind luck that determines our station in life.

Comments were made by Lindsey Adams, Jason Powell, James Adams, Edward Higgins, Robert Harper, William Rowlett, and Peter Nicolas.

Presenters for the January meeting will be John Freer and Duncan Cavanah.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Cavanah
Secretary/Treasurer