



SPECIAL JAMES MADISON EDITION

Mar 16, 2022
Chicago's Pizza, Wednesdays

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ROTARY CLUB OF PLAINFIELD

www.plainfieldrotary.org

James Madison

March 16, 1751 - June 28, 1836

Father of the Constitution



James Madison, Jr., Fourth President of the United States, was born on this date in 1751 in Port Conway, VA. He received an A.B. degree from the College of New Jersey (now Princeton) in 1771. Madison held periodic seats in Virginia's House of Delegates from 1776-1788. He also represented Virginia in the Constitutional Convention of 1787. It was in this Convention that he would make his most indelible mark on our nation, and perhaps on the world. Madison came to the Convention well prepared. In April, 1787 he had authored an essay titled "Vices of the Political System of the United States" highlighting the faults of the Articles of Confederation, and outlining the main topics that the Convention should address. His early arrival at that Convention allowed him to collaborate with

his fellow Virginian, Edmund Randolph, in creating a series of proposals, to become known as the Virginia Plan. This plan would scrap the Articles for a stronger national government and served as the basis for the new Constitution.

Throughout that Philadelphia summer, debate and compromise would produce what we now know as the U.S. Constitution. Although William Jackson was chosen as the Convention's Secretary, James Madison took copious notes of the proceedings that have served as the most thorough and accurate record of what took place during that summer. He does not earn the deserved title "Father of the Constitution" for note taking though. Madison's preparation for the event, his knowledge and understanding of history and of human nature, and his explicit and implicit guidance of the debates were very powerful forces in bringing about an agreement for a new form of government. In the first week of the Convention, Madison himself says the following: "The judiciary ought to be introduced in the business of legislation. They will protect their department and, united with the executive, make its negatives more strong. There is weight in the objections to this measure, but a check on the legislature is necessary. Experience proves it to be so and teaches us that what has been thought a calumny on a republican government is nevertheless true... We must therefore introduce in our system provisions against the measures of an interested majority. A check is not only necessary to protect the executive power, but the minority in the legislature." We see here the principle of Checks and Balances. Madison specifically addresses these in his Federalist 51, one of 85 essays he joined Alexander Hamilton and John Jay in authoring for New York newspapers that became known as the Federalist Papers. These papers were written to explain the proposed Constitution to New Yorkers and persuade them to support its ratification. Thomas Jefferson described them as "the best commentary on the principles of government, which ever was written."

Although Madison did not originally believe a list of protected rights was necessary, as a member of the first U.S. House of Representatives, he led the effort to add a Bill of Rights to the Constitution, which was ratified in December, 1791.

Later on, in 1794, he was introduced to Dolley Payne Todd by Aaron Burr and married her the same year. Madison served as Jefferson's Secretary of State, and succeeded him as President in 1809. After Jefferson's death in 1826, Madison became Rector of the University of Virginia. He served in that post until 1834.

A lifetime of accomplishments for a man who stood 5'4"...

Charlie's \$2 Worth

BY JAMES MADISON...

"The people are the only legitimate fountain of power, and it is from them that the constitutional charter, under which the several branches of government hold their power, is derived." - Federalist #49

"In [one] sense, a man's land, or merchandise, or money is called his property. In [another] sense, a man has a property in his opinions and the free communication of them. He has a property of peculiar value in his religious opinions, and in the profession and practice dictated by them. He has a property very dear to him in the safety and liberty of his person. He has an equal property in the free use of his faculties and free choice of the objects on which to employ them. In a word, as a man is said to have a right to his property, he may be equally said to have a property in his rights."
- "On Property" March 29, 1792

"A popular Government, without popular information, or the means of acquiring it, is but a Prologue to a Farce or a Tragedy; or, perhaps both. Knowledge will forever govern ignorance: And a people who mean to be their own Governors, must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives."
- letter to W.T. Barry, Aug 4, 1822

Upcoming Speakers/Events

- Mar 16 - Sherry Sichting - Tina Lear, Trust Officer at NSSB
- Mar 23 - Montie Manning - Reann Poray, Plainfield history
- Mar 30 - Ryan Rash - Helee Adkins, Hendricks Cty Senior Center
- Apr 6 - Dave Williams - Brent Bangle, Plainfield Parks Dir.
- Apr 13 - Board Meeting/Classifications/Rotary update
- Apr 20 - John Baer
- Apr 27 - Imagination Lab volunteer day & lunch
- May 4 - Jim Beebe
- May 11 - Board Meeting/Classifications/Rotary update

Upcoming Classifications

- Feb 9 - John Baer & Jan Baer
- Mar 9 - Candace Balzano & Max Hank
- Apr 13 - Diane Burks & Montie Manning
- May 11 - Sherry Sichting & Dave Williams
- Jun 8 - Daniel Kinnamon & Selina Lewis
- Jul 13 - Jim Beebe & Rocky Turner

Club Meeting Attendance

Plainfield (3417)

Monthly Attendance Detail

February 01, 2022 through February 28, 2022

Member Name	Feb 2 2022	Feb 9 2022	Feb 16 2022	Feb 23 2022	%
Baer, Janet S	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	100
Baer, John M	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	100
Balzano, Candace					0
Beebe, Jim	Yes			Yes	50
Bennett, Joseph D	Yes	Yes	Yes	M	100
Booher, Tom					0
Burks, Diane Arnold	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	100
Carter, Royce	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	100
Culp, Brian N	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	100
DuBois, Brad	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	100
Emerson, Donnie				Yes	25
Hank, Max C	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	100
Kinnamon, Daniel L				Yes	25
Klinger, Andrew	Yes				25
Lewis, Selina J					0
Olinger, Scott	Yes		Yes	Yes	75
Rash, Ryan Allen			Yes	Yes	50
Sichting, Sherry D	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	100
Sproull, Joanna					0
Turner, Dean F Jr.	Yes		Yes	Yes	75
Williams, David J					0

LEGEND: Y or Yes=Attended, X=Excused Absence, M=Make-Up



UPCOMING SPEAKER ASSIGNMENTS

Please carefully examine the schedule below and let Max Hank know who you have obtained as a speaker for your date.

Jan 5	Jan 1	Candace Balzano
Jan 19	Jan 15	Joe Bennett
Jan 26	Jan 22	Royce Carter
Feb 2	Jan 29	Brad DuBois
Feb 16	Jul 6	Donnie Emerson
Feb 23	Jul 20	Max Hank
Mar 2	Jul 27	Brian Culp
Mar 16	Aug 3	Dan Kinnamon
Mar 23	Aug 17	Andrew Klinger
Mar 30	Aug 24	Selina Lewis
Apr 6	Aug 31	Montie Manning
Apr 20	Sep 7	Scott Olinger
Apr 27	Sep 21	Ryan Rash
May 4	Sep 28	Sherry Sichting
May 18	Oct 5	Rocky Turner
May 25	Oct 19	David Williams

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

MARCH

(no Rotarian birthdays in March)

Andrew Jackson - Mar 15, 1767

James Madison - Mar 16, 1751

Grover Cleveland - Mar 18, 1837

John Tyler - Mar 29, 1790

Little Free Library Maintenance Schedule

Jan 26-Feb 1 Royce Carter

Feb 2-8 John & Jan Baer

Feb 9-15 Brad DuBois

Feb 16-22 Beth Shepperd

Feb 23-Mar 1 Joe Bennett

Mar 2-8 Brian Culp

Mar 9-15 Joe Bennett

Mar 16-22 Royce Carter

Mar 23-29 Max Hank

Please check supply, refill as needed.

Report any damage to Joe Bennett.

Books are available at the Library.

SPEED BUMP



What others had to say about James Madison:

"I beg the Favor of you to present my best Respects to our Friend Madison. He is one of the few Men, whom from a pretty thorough Acquaintance, I really esteem..."

- George Mason to Thomas Jefferson, Jan 10, 1791

"The friendship which has subsisted between us, now half a century, and the harmony of our political principles and pursuits, have been sources of constant happiness to me through that long period. And if I remove beyond the reach of attentions to the University [of Virginia], or beyond the bourne of life itself, as I soon must, it is a comfort to leave that institution under your care... It has also been a great solace to me, to believe that you are engaged in vindicating to posterity the course we have pursued for preserving to them, in all their purity, the blessings of self-government... To myself you have been a pillar of support through life. Take care of me when dead, and be assured that I shall leave with you my last affections."

- Thomas Jefferson to James Madison, Feb 17, 1826

"I entirely concur with you in your estimate of Mr. Madison—his private virtues, his extraordinary talents, his comprehensive and statesman-like views. To him and Hamilton I think we are mostly indebted for the Constitution of the United States, and in wisdom I have long been accustomed to place him before Jefferson. You and I know something more of each of them in trying times, than the common politicians of our day can possibly arrive at."

- Joseph Story to Ezekiel Bacon, April 30, 1842

4-Way Test

OF THE THINGS WE THINK, SAY AND DO

1. IS IT THE TRUTH?
2. IS IT FAIR TO ALL CONCERNED?
3. WILL IT BUILD GOODWILL AND BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. WILL IT BE BENEFICIAL TO ALL CONCERNED?
- (5. IS IT FUN?)