



U.S. CONSTITUTION SPECIAL EDITION

Sep 21, 2022
Chicago's Pizza, Wednesdays

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DIANE BURKS BRAD DUBOIS MAX HANK

ROTARY CLUB OF PLAINFIELD

www.plainfieldrotary.org

Program Update - Sep 14, 2022

Dani Smith

Program Director—Leadership Hendricks County



Last week, Dani Smith, the Program Director for Leadership Hendricks County (LHC), spoke to our club about this long-standing program and its many benefits to our communities. LHC is a not-for-profit group created in August 1992 to give selected groups of citizens the background and inside information they need to take on effective roles of leadership in the Hendricks County community.

The concept of a broad-based community leadership development program in Hendricks County was brought about by the efforts of the Agriculture Advisory Council of Purdue's Hendricks County Cooperative Extension Service as they began to develop a training program for the agriculture community. In their research, the need to develop a broader base of community leadership opportunities emerged. In January 1993, the first class of Leadership Hendricks County was selected to participate in a series of day-long seminars and programs developed to enhance their leadership skills and knowledge of Hendricks County's growing needs and opportunities. In April of that year, LHC became incorporated with a 501(C)(3) classification.

Leadership Hendricks County offers its flagship Adult Program, a Youth LHC program to local high school sophomores, and a standalone Leadership Development Series. Since its inception, it has produced more than 700 Adult Program graduates, and about the same number from its Youth Program. LHC has continued to educate groups of local leaders to be more acutely attuned to the county's problems, needs, opportunities and resources. Program graduates bring the community sharper leadership skills, energies focused on solving specific problems, and a network of associates with the talents and abilities to create a blueprint for Hendricks County's future. You will find its graduates in positions of influence and leadership all over the county, including several of your fellow Plainfield Rotarians. If you have not yet participated in the Adult Program, applications for the 2023 program will open October 1st. Apply - you will not regret it!

Charlie's \$2 Worth

ON THE CONSTITUTION...

"We have no Government armed with Power capable of contending with human Passions unbridled by morality and Religion. Avarice, Ambition Revenge or Galantry, would break the strongest Cords of our Constitution as a Whale goes through a Net. Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious People. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."
- John Adams

"If it be asked, What is the most sacred duty and the greatest source of our security in a Republic? The answer would be, An inviolable respect for the Constitution and Laws - the first growing out of the last. ... A sacred respect for the constitutional law is the vital principle, the sustaining energy of a free government."
- Alexander Hamilton

"The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the federal government are few and defined. Those which are to remain in the State governments are numerous and indefinite."
- James Madison

"The Constitution has sheltered us from those who would destroy freedom, but the fortress is incredibly fragile because it is only as strong as our devotion and allegiance."
- Janice Rogers Brown

"Conceived in Grecian thought, strengthened by Christian morality, and stamped indelibly into American political philosophy, the right of the individual against the State is the keystone of our Constitution."
- John F. Kennedy

"In questions of power, let no more be said of confidence in man, but bind him down from mischief by the chains of the Constitution."
- Thomas Jefferson

Upcoming Speakers/Events

Sep 21 - NO REGULAR MEETING, Board meeting ONLY
Sep 28 - Sherry Sighting
Oct 5 - Rocky Turner
Oct 12 - David Williams
Oct 19 - Susan Ament
Oct 19 - Plainfield Schools Teachers of the Year presentation ceremony at Friendship Gardens at 4:15 p.m.
Oct 26 - John Baer
Nov 2 - Jim Beebe
Nov 9 - Joe Bennett
Nov 16 - NO REGULAR MEETING, Board meeting ONLY
Nov 23 - NO MEETING - THANKSGIVING EVE

Club Meeting Attendance

Plainfield (3417)

Monthly Attendance Detail

August 01, 2022 through August 31, 2022

Member Name	Aug 3 2022	Aug 10 2022	Aug 17 2022	Aug 24 2022	Aug 31 2022	%
Ament, Susan Beth			Yes	Yes		40
Baer, Janet S	Yes				Yes	40
Baer, John M	Yes				Yes	40
Balzano, Candace						0
Beebe, Jim	Yes	Yes	Yes			60
Bennett, Joseph D			Yes	Yes	Yes	60
Booher, Tom						0
Burks, Diane Arnold	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		100
Carter, Royce	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	80
Culp, Brian N	Yes		Yes	Yes		60
DuBois, Brad					Yes	20
Emerson, Donnie		Yes		Yes		40
Hank, Max C	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	100
Kinnamon, Daniel L			Yes	Yes	Yes	60
Klinger, Andrew			Yes			20
Lewis, Selina J	Yes			Yes		40
Olinger, Scott				Yes	Yes	40
Poray, Reann		Yes	Yes		Yes	60
Rash, Ryan Allen		Yes				20
Sichting, Sherry D	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	80
Turner, Dean F Jr.	Yes	Yes				40
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.

Aug 3 Candace Balzano	Dec 14 Brad DuBois
Aug 10 Max Hank	Dec 21 Jan Baer
Aug 17 Andrew Klinger	Jan 4 Donnie Emerson
Aug 24 Selina Lewis	Jan 11 Max Hank
Aug 31 Montie Manning	Jan 25 Daniel Kinnamon
Sep 7 Scott Olinger	Feb 1 Andrew Klinger
Sep 14 Ryan Rash	Feb 8 Selina Lewis
Sep 28 Sherry Sichting	Feb 15 Scott Olinger
Oct 5 Rocky Turner	Feb 22 Ryan Rash
Oct 12 David Williams	Mar 1 Sherry Sichting
Oct 19 Susan Ament	Mar 8 Montie Manning
Oct 26 John Baer	Mar 22 Rocky Turner
Nov 2 Jim Beebe	Mar 29 David Williams
Nov 9 Joe Bennett	Apr 5 Susan Ament
Nov 30 Diane Burks	Apr 12 John Baer
Dec 7 Brian Culp	Apr 19 Candace Balzano

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
SEPTEMBER

Rocky Turner - Sep 19

Little Free Library Maintenance Schedule

Sep 14-27 John & Jan Baer
Sep 28-Oct 4 Brian Culp
Oct 5-11 Royce Carter
Oct 12-18 Joe Bennett
Oct 19-25 Max Hank
Oct 26-Nov 1 Sherry Sichting
Nov 2-8 Brad DuBois
Nov 9-15 Joe Bennett
Nov 16-22 Max Hank

Please check supply, refill as needed.
Report any damage to Joe Bennett.
Books are available at the Library.

SPEED BUMP



Committees and Chairs

Bulletin: Max Hank

Finance: Joe Bennett

Foundation: John Baer

Fundraising : Selina Lewis

Golf Outing: John Baer, Brad Dubois

Crew Car Wash: Sherry Sichting

Membership: Daniel Kinnamon

Orientation: John Baer & Diane Burks

Programs: Ryan Rash & Max Hank

PR & Website: John Baer

Quaker Day Parade & Picnic: TBD

Service Committees: Royce Carter

Literacy/LFL: Joe Bennett

Teacher of the Year: Max Hank

Youth: Diane Burks

Interact and RYLA: Diane Burks

Scholarships: Max Hank

Straight-A Salute: Sherry Sichting

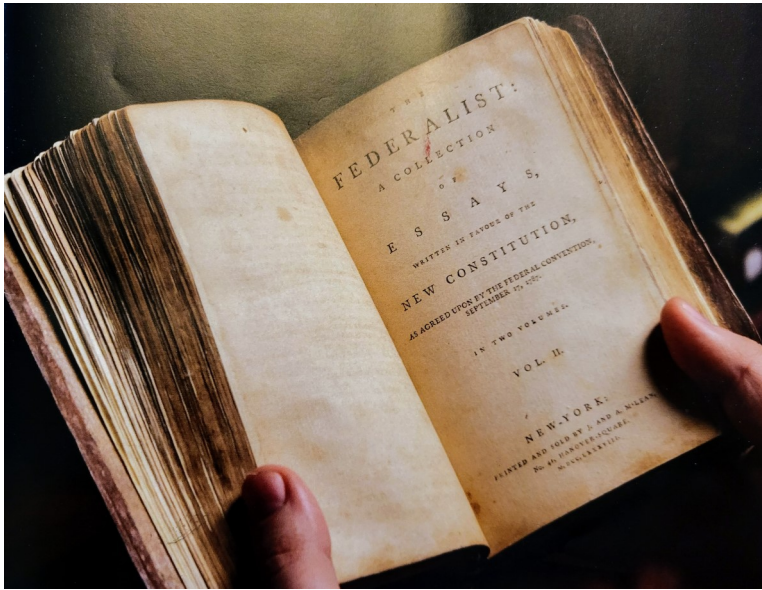
The Imagination & Idea Labs: Diane Burks

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?)**

The Constitution & The Federalist Papers



This past Saturday, September 17th, marked the 235th anniversary of our U.S. Constitution, the longest surviving written constitution in human history. The week of Sept 17-23 has been designated by Congress as Constitution Week every year. Congress also mandates that every school that receives Federal funding hold some sort of program about the Constitution this week. What will your children or grandchildren learn about this document?

Your editor has been spending some retirement time learning more about the Constitution, including the debates within its Convention from May-Sept 1787, and the outstanding collection of articles written in 1787-88 explaining the proposed Constitution to the people of New York who would be voting on it. These 85 articles were written by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay under the pen name of Publius, and became collectively known as the Federalist Papers. George Washington said of these papers, “When the transient circumstances & fugitive performances which attended this crisis (ratifying the Constitution) shall have disappeared, that Work (The Federalist Papers) will merit the notice of posterity; because in it are candidly and

ably discussed the principles of freedom and the topics of government, which will be always interesting to mankind so long as they shall be connected in Civil Society.” Thomas Jefferson simply called the collected essays the “best commentary on the principles of government which ever was written.” This admiration of The Federalist Papers is not contained to 18th Century opinions. In 2011, the late Justice Antonin Scalia told a seminar organized by the Congressional Tea Party Caucus that each attendee should “get a copy of The Federalist Papers, read it, underline it and dog-ear it.” Legal scholars have dog-eared it too, writing more than 10,000 articles on these papers, providing our courts with ample fodder for justifying decisions from multiple sides of the political spectrum.

In completing the reading of all 85 papers this summer, this editor noticed certain words repeating themselves throughout the full set of documents. Virtue is mentioned 26 times; Moderation 32 times; Prudence 46 times; Faction 54 times; Passion 68 times; and Reason 138 times. Passion and Reason stand out because to some extent they are opposites. Dictionary.com lists these as definitions of passion: 1) any powerful or compelling emotion or feeling, as love or hate; 9) violent anger. The same source lists these as definitions of reason: 4) the mental powers concerned with forming conclusions, judgments, or inferences; 5) sound judgment, good sense; 8b) the power of intelligent and dispassionate thought, or of conduct influenced by such thought. So perhaps passion equates with feeling, while reason equates with thinking...

There are multiple instances within The Federalist Papers where Passion and Reason are directly contrasted. In Federalist #15, Hamilton writes “Why has government been instituted at all? Because the **passions** of men will not conform to the dictates of **reason** and justice, without constraint.” In Federalist #49, Madison says “it is the **reason**, alone, of the public, that ought to control and regulate the government. The **passions** ought to be controlled and regulated by the government.” Further in #49 regarding appealing to the People through additional Constitutional Conventions, Madison says “A reverence for the laws would be sufficiently inculcated by the voice of an enlightened **reason**.... The danger of disturbing the public tranquility by interesting too strongly the public **passions**, is a still more serious objection against a frequent reference of constitutional questions to the decision of the whole society.” In Federalist #55, which deals with the total number of Representatives in the House, Madison writes, “The truth is, that in all cases a certain number at least seems to be necessary to secure the benefits of free consultation and discussion, and to guard against too easy a combination for improper purposes; as, on the other hand, the number ought at most to be kept within a certain limit, in order to avoid the confusion and intemperance of a multitude. In all very numerous assemblies, of whatever character composed, **passion** never fails to wrest the sceptre from **reason**.” Madison says in Federalist #58, also on the topic of the size of the House of Representatives, “the more numerous an assembly may be, of whatever characters composed, the greater is known to be the ascendancy of **passion** over **reason**.” In Federalist #6, Hamilton takes on passion with the following, “Has it not, on the contrary, invariably been found that momentary **passions**, and immediate interest, have a more active and imperious control over human conduct than general or remote considerations of policy, utility or justice?”

There are thousands and thousands of conclusions that we can take from the almost 500 pages of The Federalist Papers. One is that for our republic to work, the people must permit the government to govern them (Consent of the Governed), then fashion that government such that it will control itself (Checks and Balances, i.e. the Constitution itself). Another that stands out to this writer is that the Framers of the Constitution believed that for our republican system of government to work best, if not to work at all, the people, and their representatives in the three branches of government, need to exercise reason over passion. To paraphrase Madison, passion divides mankind, inflames them with mutual animosity, and renders them more disposed to vex and oppress each other than to work for the common good.

So, should decisions be made by feeling or by thinking? How do you feel about this, or is it better said, what do you think about it?

Although they are written in 18th Century prose, and can be somewhat difficult to read, The Federalist Papers are well worth the time for anyone who is eager for a better understanding of our Constitution. And after a while, you may come to admire the writing style and vocabulary of Hamilton, Madison, and Jay, as I did - keep your dictionary handy... For the complete text of all 85 Papers, please see:

<https://guides.loc.gov/federalist-papers/full-text>