



**Mar 19, 2025**

**Brew Link Brewpub, Wednesdays**

**FELLOWSHIP, SERVICE,  
PURPOSE, IMPACT, GROWTH**

**PRESIDENT – BRIAN CULP  
PAST PRESIDENT – DANIEL KINNAMON  
PRESIDENT ELECT – SUSAN AMENT  
VICE PRESIDENT – MAX HANK  
SECRETARY – JOHN BAER  
TREASURER – JOE BENNETT  
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS – SUSAN AMENT  
BOARD MEMBERS:  
DIANE BURKS ROYCE CARTER  
SHERRY SICHTING**

# ROTARY CLUB OF PLAINFIELD

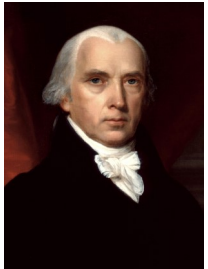
[www.plainfieldrotary.org](http://www.plainfieldrotary.org)

## **James Madison**

**March 16, 1751 - June 28, 1836**

**Father of the Constitution**

**Fourth President of the United States**



This past Sunday, March 16th, we remembered the birthdate of James Madison. With the assistance of History.com, here are some interesting facts about our fourth president:

**He was America's smallest president - 5'4"** and typically weighing around 100 lbs.

**He really was the Father of the Constitution** - Madison arrived 11 days early for the Constitutional Convention, presented his Virginia plan of checks and balances as the foundation of the Constitution, and then worked tirelessly to get the Constitution ratified, in part by authoring a number of the Federalist Papers. He kept meticulous notes on the Convention's proceedings which were later published, providing invaluable detail for future generations on how this great document came about. Toward the end of his life, Madison said the Constitution "ought to be regarded as the work of many heads and many hands."

**He was Princeton University's first graduate student** - he blazed through the four-year course in only two years. Though a natural scholar, Madison was still unsure of what career path to take after graduating, so he remained at Princeton for another year and studied Hebrew and other subjects under the direction of the school's president and Declaration of Independence signer, John Witherspoon. While Madison wasn't awarded an advanced degree, the University now considers him its original graduate student.

**He had a longstanding rivalry with Patrick Henry** - the two clashed over the separation of church and state while serving in the Virginia House of Delegates, and Henry later became one of the most outspoken leaders of the Anti-Federalist faction that opposed Madison's efforts to ratify the Constitution.

**He was initially opposed to the Bill of Rights** - he originally thought the amendments were unnecessary and potentially harmful. Like many Federalists, he believed the Constitution's separation of powers adequately protected personal freedoms, and he worried that any rights not explicitly enshrined would be easily infringed. Madison only changed his mind after concluding that the lack of a Bill of Rights would be a major stumbling block in getting the Constitution ratified. He also came to believe that the amendments might ingrain certain freedoms into the national consciousness and "be a good ground for an appeal" whenever the government overstepped its bounds.

**Both of Madison's vice presidents died in office** - his original VP George Clinton died in 1812, and Clinton's successor Elbridge Gerry later suffered a fatal hemorrhage in 1814, just a year and a half after taking office. Having lost two vice presidents in less than three years, Madison finished his second term without a recognized number two.

**He declined an offer to prolong his life until July 4** - when the 85-year-old was on his deathbed in the summer of 1836, his doctor suggested that he take stimulants to keep him alive until July 4, the same historic date that Jefferson, John Adams and James Monroe had all perished. Madison turned down the offer, however, and instead died on June 28. He was the last surviving signer of the Constitution.

## **Charlie's \$2 Worth**

### **QUOTES FROM JAMES MADISON...**

*"A well-regulated militia, composed of the body of the people, trained in arms, is the best natural defense of a free country."*

*"I believe there are more instances of the abridgement of freedom of the people by gradual and silent encroachments by those in power than by violent and sudden usurpation."*

*"What is government itself but the greatest of all reflections on human nature? If men were angels, no government would be necessary. If angels were to govern men, neither external nor internal controls on government would be necessary. In framing a government which is to be administered by men over men, the great difficulty lies in this: you must first enable the government to control the governed; and in the next place oblige it to control itself."*

*"It will be of little avail to the people that the laws are made by men of their own choice if the laws be so voluminous that they cannot be read, or so incoherent that they cannot be understood."*

*"Learned Institutions ought to be favorite objects with every free people. They throw that light over the public mind, which is the best security against crafty and dangerous encroachments on the public liberty."*

*"As a man is said to have a right to his property, he may be equally said to have a property in his rights."*

## **Upcoming Speakers/Events**

- Mar 19 - Donnie Emerson - John Mather, Indiana Dept of Corrections re: reentry efforts**
- Mar 26 - Dennis Reagle - Lindsey Ellison & Mark Eaker, Indiana Correctional Industries re: building job skills for reentry**
- Apr 2 - Max Hank - presentation on multiple Indy 500 winners**
- Apr 9 - Board meeting - all Club members welcome**
- Apr 16 - Scott Olinger**
- Apr 23 - Daniel Kinnamon - Rob Pritchard, Redemption Ranch K9 Rescue**
- Apr 30 - Susan Ament**
- May 7 - John Baer**

## Club Meeting Attendance

Plainfield (3417)

Monthly Attendance Detail

January 01, 2025 through January 31, 2025

Member Name	Jan 8 2025	Jan 15 2025	Jan 22 2025	Jan 29 2025	%
Ament, Susan Beth	Y	Y	Y	Y	100
Baer, Janet S	Y	Y	Y	Y	100
Baer, John M	Y	Y	Y	Y	100
Bell, Danielle Renee		Y	Y	Y	75
Bennett, Joseph D	Y	Y	Y	Y	100
Biehn, John-Paul E					0
Burks, Diane Arnold	Y	Y	Y	Y	100
Carter, Royce	Y	Y	Y	Y	100
Culp, Brian N	Y	Y	Y	Y	100
DuBois, Brad					0
Emerson, Donnie			Y		25
Graham, John	Y	Y			50
Hank, Max C	Y	Y	Y	Y	100
Kinnamon, Daniel L		Y		Y	50
Klinger, Andrew		Y			25
Olinger, Scott		Y	Y		50
Pies, Daniel Adam					0
Poray, Reann					0
Rash, Ryan Allen		Y			25
Reagle, Dennis J. Jr.			Y		25
Sichting, Sherry D	Y			Y	50
Turner, Dean F Jr.				Y	25
Wielenberg, Margaret		Y	Y	Y	75

## HAPPY FAMOUS HOOSIER BIRTHDAYS!

### MARCH

**Strother Martin - Mar 26, 1919**

**Wes Montgomery - Mar 6, 1923**

**Frank Borman - Mar 14, 1928**

**Steve McQueen - Mar 24, 1930**

**Howard Schnellenberger - Mar 16, 1934**

## Little Free Library Maintenance Schedule

Mar 12-18 - Royce Carter  
 Mar 19-25 - Joe Bennett  
 Mar 26-Apr 1 - Max Hank  
 Apr 2-8 - Brian Culp  
 Apr 9-15 - Diane Burks  
 Apr 16-22 - Susan Ament  
 Apr 23-29 - Brian Culp  
 Apr 30-May 6 - Joe Bennett  
 May 7-13 - TBD  
 Please check supply, refill as needed.  
 Report any damage to Joe Bennett.  
 Books are available at the Library.

SPEED BUMP



## UPCOMING SPEAKER ASSIGNMENTS

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

Nov 6	Joe Bennett	Jun 18	Daniel Pies
Nov 20	John Baer	Jun 25	John-Paul Biehn
Dec 4	Jan Baer	Jul 2	Rocky Turner
Dec 18	John-Paul Biehn	Jul 16	Jan Baer
Jan 15	Andrew Klinger	Jul 23	Andrew Klinger
Jan 22	Royce Carter	Jul 30	Royce Carter
Jan 29	Danielle Bell	Aug 6	Danielle Bell
Feb 5	Diane Burks	Aug 20	Dennis Reagle
Feb 19	Ryan Rash	Aug 27	Ryan Rash
Feb 26	Brad DuBois	Sep 3	Brad DuBois
Mar 5	Sherry Sichting	Sep 17	Sherry Sichting
Mar 19	Donnie Emerson	Sep 24	Donnie Emerson
Mar 26	Dennis Reagle	Oct 1	Diane Burks
Apr 2	Max Hank	Oct 15	Max Hank
Apr 16	Scott Olinger	Oct 22	Scott Olinger
Apr 23	Daniel Kinnamon	Oct 29	Daniel Kinnamon
Apr 30	Susan Ament	Nov 5	Brian Culp
May 7	John Baer	Nov 19	Reann Poray
May 21	Joe Bennett	Dec 3	Joe Bennett
May 28	John Graham	Dec 17	John Graham
Jun 4	Reann Poray	Jan 7	John Baer

## 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?)

(5. IS IT FUN?)

(5. IS IT FUN?)

(5. IS IT FUN?)