

Mission Statement

The Fellowship of Reason® is an open, benevolent, and vital rational moral community in which we celebrate our lives, our freedoms, and our philosophy of reason. We study ethics.

Celebration: What's the Point?

Members of the Fellowship of Reason® are not misanthropes. On the contrary we revere the achievements of humankind and individuals of character past and present. We venerate humanity because we understand and appreciate the effort required to create values, including one's own character. Values and character are necessary for a flourishing human life.

Celebration is the monthly activity of the Fellowship of Reason® in which we enact our admiration for human achievement. We celebrate the heroic achievements of mankind. We celebrate our members who bring those achievements to our attention in their own heroic acts of public performance.

The components of our Celebration include the following:

1. Welcome
2. Celebration of Freedom. Traditionally, we begin with a Celebration of Freedom because without freedom we could not even engage in the activity of Celebration. Man's fundamental means of survival is his rational faculty. The mind is an attribute of an individual. The mind functions best in a state of political freedom.
3. Celebration of Visitors and Each Other. Having friends and the potential of friends is a good thing. Not only is man the rational animal, he is also the social animal. Without other people with whom to relate, human life would be impossible and intolerable.

4. Celebratory Announcements. Life consists of countless events most of which are good. Recognizing these events, large and small, is vital to a conscious awareness of the fact of one's success and actual happiness.
5. Celebration of Heroes. In the broadest sense a hero is a human being who has achieved an important value. Everything that we value is directly or indirectly the product of heroic human achievement. Even a glorious sunset is a human achievement. In the absence of leisure (a human product of freedom, wealth, and character) the natural beauty of a sunset goes unappreciated.
6. Celebration of Literature. Among the creations of mankind are millions of works of literature. Fortunately, even a thousand years of life would be insufficient to enjoy man's bounteous achievement.
7. Celebration of Art and Music. While literature reaches us on an intellectual level, art activates our emotional capacities.
8. Celebration of Personal Mission. Crucial themes of our philosophy of reason are "Know thyself" and "Become who you are." Freedom *from* oppressive masters is useless unless one is free *for* some purpose. Since in freedom one has no master to define one's purpose, the most important project of each individual is to define his own life mission or missions in accordance with his own inner most values. We celebrate this fact of life as a free human being.
9. Celebration of Performance (skit). Dialog is a pedagogical tool different from prose or poetry. We can learn the lessons of human culture in several ways.
10. Celebration of Talent. We celebrate the courage, generosity, and talent of members as they perform various human inventions such as song, dance, and musical instruments.
11. Oratory. Ethics is the science of how one ought to live in order to flourish on earth. Individuals

are not born knowing how to live. We have to learn it from our culture. Once we become adults we can contribute to that body of moral knowledge ourselves. Even when we “know” the rules, the rules are not effective unless that are brought to conscious awareness. Oratory ritualistically brings the issues of morality to our attention during Celebration. The science of ethics is an enormous human achievement that we celebrate.

12. Closing Quotation

All of the components of Celebration are created by our members. The organization does not censor or preview performances. We rely upon the character of our members for the creation of content that is tasteful and consistent with our philosophy of reason.

Let's celebrate!

March Birthdays

Larry—March 3

Scott—March 4

Peter—March 22

April Birthdays

Theresa—April 3

Christopher—April 5

Toni—April 24

Louis—April 28

Celebration, April 6, 2003

Welcome—**Steve**
Celebration of Freedom—**David Z.**
Celebration of Visitors—
Celebration of Each Other—
Celebratory Announcements—
Celebration of Literature—**Leanna**
Celebration of History—**Ellen**
Celebration of Art—**Randy**
Celebration of Heroes—
Celebration of Personal Mission—
Celebration of Talent—**John**
Oratory—**Steve**
Announcements—
Closing Quotation—**Steve**

Philosophy Tapes

Philosophy tapes are played to a small private audience in the living room of a volunteer on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month. The next playing is at Sally's house on Tuesday, April 1, 2003, at 7:30 p.m. Free.

Invisible College

Dr. Glenn Magee is lecturing every Thursday night at 7:30 p.m. at Vera's Intellectual Salon. Price: \$60 per month. Call Vera at 404-577-7968 for more information.

Philosophy Café

Attend Steve Stoke's Philosophy Café at Border's in Buckhead on the second Wednesday of every month at 8 p.m. and at the Barnes and Noble Bookstore in Duluth on the third Wednesday of every month at 8 p.m.

FOR's Film Night

Members and friends of FOR, Inc. enjoy a monthly movie night at John's studio using his extraordinary equipment. FOR's next movie night is Saturday, March 29, 2003. Arrive at 6:30 p.m. Doors will be locked for safety! Movie starts at 7:15 p.m. Free.

FOR's Pub Night

Members and friends of FOR, Inc. meet on the 4th Wednesday of every month at Manuel's Tavern at 8 p.m. for adult beverages and adult conversation. FOR's next pub night is Wednesday, April 23, 2003, at 8 p.m.

FOR's Potluck dinner

Our next monthly potluck is Saturday, April 19, 2003, at 7 p.m. at Steve's house. Please remember to bring something good to eat or drink.

Celebration Schedule

- **Sunday, April 6, 2003**
 - Sunday, May 4, 2003
 - Sunday, June 1, 2003
 - Sunday, July 6, 2003
 - Sunday, August 3, 2003
 - Sunday, September 7, 2003
 - Sunday, October 5, 2003
 - Sunday, November 2, 2003
 - Sunday, December 7, 2003
 - Sunday, January 4, 2004
 - Sunday, February 1, 2004
 - Sunday, March 7, 2004
 - Sunday, April 4, 2004
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Membership Information:

FOR, Inc. has 42 members.

- Regular membership: \$35 per year if paid prior to October 31, 2003
- Contributing membership: \$70 per year if paid prior to October 31, 2003
- Lifetime membership: \$700 if paid prior to October 31, 2003

Contact information:

Visit us on the web at www.fellowshipofreason.com

To talk to somebody about FOR call Vera at 404-577-7968 or Martin at 770-471-9800 or Dan at 770-831-3010.

A subscription for 12 monthly issues of this newsletter is \$15 per year.

Fellowship of Reason, Inc. is a Georgia nonprofit corporation.

How can you help support the Fellowship of Reason, Inc., the world's first and only reason-based moral community?

If you would like to support our activities, including our building fund, please consider these opportunities:

1. Attend our activities
2. Bring donuts
3. Subscribe to our monthly newsletter
4. Perform at Celebration
5. Recruit a person of like-mind and values
6. Volunteer your home for a potluck or other activity
7. Become a regular member
8. Become a contributing member
9. Become a lifetime member
10. Donate cash, property, time, or expertise
11. Locate and help us apply for a public or private grant
12. Make a testamentary gift

Make checks payable to Fellowship of Reason, Inc. and mail them to 8188 Pembroke Terrace, Jonesboro, GA 30236-4179. Use PayPal on the web at www.fellowshipofreason.com

To make a Last Will and Testament with a gift to FOR, Inc. contact your attorney. If you live in Georgia, Martin L. Cowen III, Attorney at Law, without charge, will prepare and supervise the execution (inside the perimeter or within 10 miles outside of I-285) of a simple will with a minimum unrestricted testamentary gift to FOR, Inc. of \$1,000. Call 770-471-9800 for more information. This offer may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Mr. Cowen, a licensed Georgia attorney, and not FOR, Inc., is solely responsible for any legal services rendered by him with or without charge.

Sponsors

Members of FOR, Inc. are entitled to a 10% labor discount at AutoStop.

Thanks, Dan, from FOR, Inc.!
