

The Bulletin

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March, 2022
fredtorch.org

The Torch Club of Frederick, Maryland



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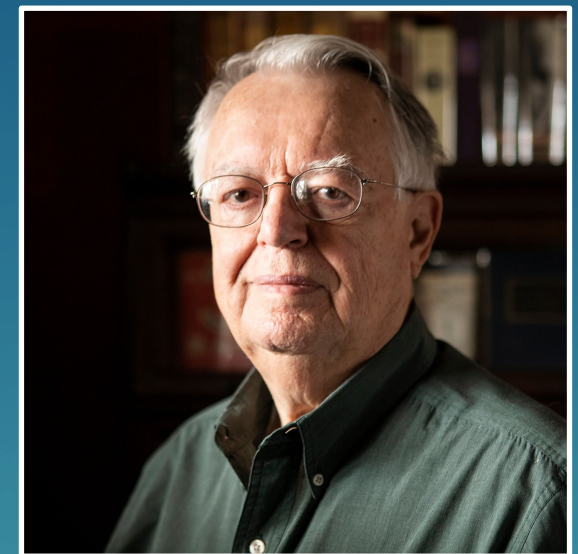


Next Presentation

March 28, 2022

Bill Heath will give us a reading from several of his poetry works

After a brief introduction to “free verse” and the art of poetry, Bill will read a series of autobiographical poems set in Ohio and elsewhere in the United States, which are included in *Steel Valley Elegy*, as well as some poems about various aspects of American life; then he will read some poems based on his two years as a Fulbright Professor at the University of Seville, others set in Barcelona with his wife Roser, a Catalan novelist, and finally a few poems depicting other parts of the world, which are included in another manuscript, *Going Places*. Many of his poems tell a story, rely on evocative imagery, and tap into the rich music of the American language.



This Month's Presenter

Bill Heath

Bill was born in Youngstown, Ohio, and grew up in nearby Poland, Ohio. He attended Hiram College and has a Ph.D. in American Studies from Case Western Reserve University. He taught American literature and creative writing at Kenyon, Transylvania, Vassar, the University of Seville, and Mt. St. Mary's University, where the William Heath Award is given annually to the best student writer.

He authored the novels *The Children Bob Moses Led* (Hackney Literary Award winner), *Blacksnake's Path*, and *Devil Dancer*; two books of poetry, *The Walking Man* and *Steel Valley Elegy*; two chapbooks, *Night Moves in Ohio* and *Leaving Seville*; *William Wells and the Struggle for the Old Northwest* (Spur Award winner); and an interview collection, *Conversations with Robert Stone*. Bill has published more than twenty scholarly essays and several hundred poems. He and his wife Roser, February's presenter, have lived in Frederick since 1981. Visit williamheathbooks.com for more.

Most Recent Presentation

Roser Caminals-Heath on "The American Seduction"

After a good primer on Spain's interesting Catalonia region, of which she is a native, and its unique language, Roser spoke to us on her latest book, *The American Seduction*, and gave us a reading from it.

Describing her book as a hybrid of travel diary, unconventional memoir, and cultural essay, *American Seduction* is the culmination Roser's experiences and anecdotes from thirty-eight years of wandering the United States coast to coast, zeroing in on everyday American life, places, eccentric people, and distinctive voices.

This does sound like one more intriguing American road book. Roser says that its intended effect is to intrigue, provoke, and amuse. We'll get to see for ourselves as she very generously gave us a stack of *American Seduction* to take home. Thanks, Roser.

Dinner Sign-up

Attending or not, please let Reservations Chair John Hewetson know and, if you plan to attend, your seating requests and the names of your guests. Please respond to John at torchreservations@gmail.com with “Torch” in the subject line of your email, or call John at 301.663.8130.

Sign-up Deadline— Preferably five days before the dinner but later OK

Cost— \$35 per person (also payable if a signed-up no-show)

Cancellations— Email the address above before the day of the dinner.

Frederick Torch Dinner Meetings

Welcome back to in-person meetings when permitted. Zoom meetings may be required when county or state pandemic restrictions limit in-person attendance.

After careful consideration, your club board decided to resume in-person meetings for the 2021-22 Torch year while continuing to keep close watch on national and local Covid situations including the Omicron variant spread. The board feels that Ceresville Mansion's pandemic policies and practices are sufficient.

As ordinary consideration of others, dinner attendees must be fully vaccinated. Please bring your proof of vaccination with you to dinner meetings and consider getting your Covid booster shot.

Need a Lift?



Membership Chair Frank Sledge invites you to get in touch with him and he will do his best to arrange your transportation to and from club dinners.

Reach Frank at f.sledge@comcast.net or at 301.980.2019.

New Members



At our next dinner, be sure to welcome new members: **Dedra and John Salitrik, Roser and Bill Heath, Tes Kifle, Angeline Gaffigan, Ed Seidewitz, Deborah Baker, and Margaret and Michael Procaro.**

As one of the largest of Torch International's 60+ clubs, our success relies on strong recruiting. We are always recruiting so please invite your acquaintances who enjoy stimulating company and fascinating presentations to attend a fine club dinner or two and then to join.

Club Membership Chair Frank Sledge is here to help. You can reach Frank at f.sledge@comcast.net or at 301.980.2019. For additional information and to download the club membership application, visit the website at fredtorch.org.

2021-22 Presentations

September - December

Many thanks to last year's Program Chair Ed Montgomery for lining up the following presentations for the 2021-22 Torch year.

September 27, 2021

Dorothy Bonett on “China’s First Female Architect: Lin Huiyin”

October 18, 2021-

Syl Schieber on “Need for Police Reform Regarding Sex Crime Investigations and Responses”

November 15, 2021

Pete Michael on “1704: Western Maryland’s First Explorer Arrives”

December 20, 2021

Tom Gill on “The Supreme Court and the Bill of Rights”

2021-22 Presentations

January - May

January 24, 2022

John Menke on "The Secret Lives of a Physicist as Told by His Bookshelves"

February 28, 2022

Roser Caminals-Heath on "The American Seduction"

March 28, 2022

Bill Heath in a reading from his new book of poetry

April 25, 2022

Ed Seidewitz on "Einstein's Greatest Equation (No, not $E = mc^2$!)"

May 16, 2022

John Clarke on "An Absurdly Short History on the 'Art' of Solving Equations"

2021-22 Board of Directors

Welcome

President Tom Gill and the club's board of directors trust that you will enjoy this Torch year's interesting programs. The following members are serving as your 2021-22 board of directors.

President	Thomas Gill
Vice President	John Hewetson
Secretary	Peter Michael
Treasurer	Claire Kondig
Assistant Treasurer	John Kondig
Presentation Support	John Menke
Reservations Chair	John Hewetson
Membership Chair	Frank Sledge
Program Chair	Angeline Gaffigan
Website Editor	Meg Menke

Club Archives

Torch Club of Frederick *Bulletin*

Past issues beginning with October 2017 are archived and may be viewed, downloaded or printed [here](#).



2021-22 Program and Member Roster

The *2021-22 Program* and the club's *Member Roster* are updated regularly. View, download or print [here](#).



The Newly Updated Club Website

Board meeting minutes, past presentations and more may be reached at the club website [here](#).



Member Survey

Survey results may be viewed, downloaded or printed [here](#).