

The Frederick Torch *Bulletin*

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fredtorch.org

The Torch Club of Frederick, Maryland



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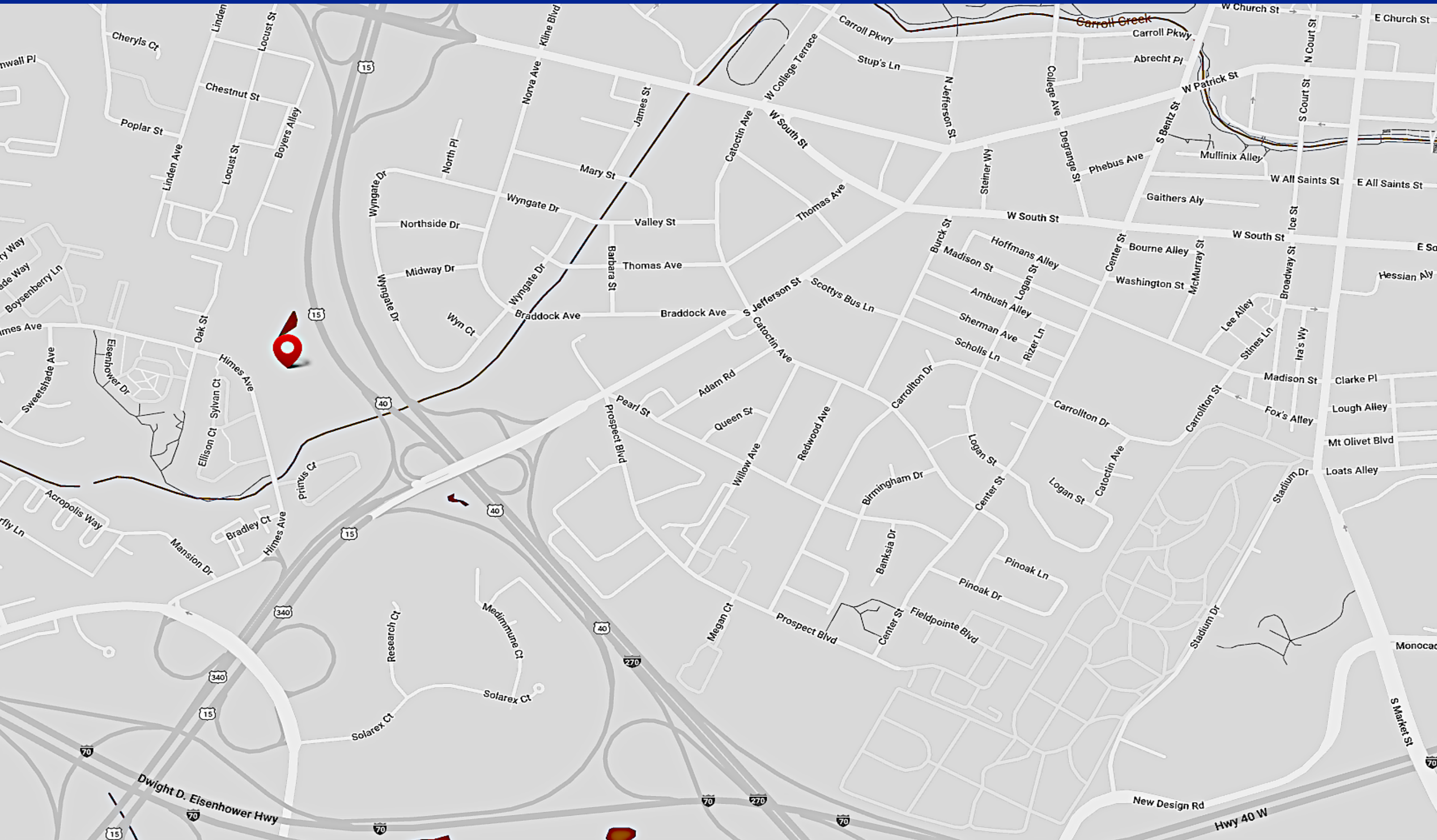


Frederick Torch Club Lunch Meetings at Dutch's Daughter

As expected consideration of others, lunch attendees must be fully vaccinated and boosted, which also applies to guests and new members. Zoom meetings may be required when county or state pandemic warnings limit in-person attendance.

Dutch's Daughter

581 Himes Avenue, Frederick, Maryland
301 | 668 | 9500



Next Presentation

Monday, May 20, 2024

John Clarke on "My 1956 Solo Journey from Kenya to England by Motor-Scooter via the Nile"

John Clarke grew up in Kenya where his father worked as a British civil servant before Kenyan independence in 1963. After graduating from Prince of Wales High School in Nairobi with a Cambridge Overseas Higher School Certificate, it was time to enroll at the University of Bristol in England where he would take his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering with first class honors.

When confronted with the question of how to get from Nairobi to Bristol, the young John steered clear of airplanes or ships and instead, as a teen, drove his motorcycle all the way, an adventure which he describes as "highly educational."

Indeed. This should be quite a Torch presentation.

This Month's Presenter

John Clarke

John Clarke's scintillating CV includes stints at Rolls Royce Jet Engines, the British Scientific Civil Service, and Caterpillar Tractor where he developed the first rotary combustion engine. John holds 33 patents related to Diesel, rotary, and turbine engines. In retirement, he is deep into a project he describes as "an extension to solving equations."



John and the amazing Toni have been married 61 years. It is hard to know which of them is luckier. Several years ago, they finished converting a 200-year-old barn on their daughter's farm near Woodsboro into an energy-efficient home, replete with elevator, sauna, observatory, laboratory, utter charm, and great holiday brunches.

Lunch 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 or call him at 301.663.8130.

Sign-up Deadline— Preferably one week before the lunch but later OK

Cost— \$30 per person (also payable if a signed-up no-show)

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

Most Recent Presentation

Lynn Bernard on "Surprises and Coincidences: "A Survey of Religious Architecture"

Ms. Bernard, a former board member of the International Association of Torch Clubs, introduced us to some of the world's most impressive architectural works that happened to be houses of worship. Her presentation reviewed a half century of her travels across three continents, four American states and Washington, DC, and nine countries. Her talk examined ten belief systems that motivated societies and architects to build homes for deities, or to inspire divine states of consciousness. We heard her experiences of cross-cultural investigation of two and a half millennia of architectural and engineering advances, and her assessment beauty as an evangelical tool.

New Members



At our next lunch, be sure to welcome new club members **Gail Osburn, Jim Gordon, Lois Jarman, Annette Breiling, Richard Jones, Rita Molleur, Steve Stoyke, Phil Hoagland** and **Ellen West**.

As one of the largest of the 60+ Torch clubs, our success relies on strong recruiting. Our membership has now been rebuilt to very nearly our pre-Covid size. Please invite your friends who enjoy stimulating company and fascinating presentations to attend a fine club lunch or two and then join.

Club Membership Chair Toni Clarke is here to help. Reach Toni at toniclarke101@gmail.com or at 301.606.2694.

For more information and to download the club membership application, visit the website at fredtorch.org.

2023-24 Presentations

September - December

Many thanks to last year's Program Chair Norine Haas for lining up the following presentations for the 2023-24 Torch year.

September 25– John Fieseler on "From Dilapidated Cannery Warehouse to Visitor Center"

October 23– Jo Butler on "Trenton Makes, The World Takes"

November 27– Former State Senator Ron Young on "Reimagining Frederick Then and Now"

December 18– Mark Gaffigan on "What is the U.S. Government Accountability Office?"

2023-24 Presentations

January - May

January 22— John Menke on "Now you see it, now you don't: the upcoming solar eclipse April 8, 2024"

February 26— Margaret Procaro on "What You Don't Know About Arguments Could Fool You"

March 25— John George on "Hans Christian Andersen: His Life and Legacy"

April 22— Lynn Bernard on "Surprises and Coincidences: A Survey of Religious Architecture"

May 20— John Clarke on "My 1956 Solo Journey from Kenya to England by Motor-Scooter via the Nile"

2023-24 Board of Directors

Welcome

President Marguerite Wilson and the club's board of directors hope you enjoy this year's interesting programs. The following members are serving as your 2023-24 directors and committee chairs.

Elected Officers

President	Marguerite Wilson
Vice President	John Hewetson
Secretary	Peter Michael
Treasurer	Claire Kondig

Appointed Committee Chairs

Assistant Treasurer	John Kondig
Program Chair	Norine Haas
Reservations Chair	John Hewetson
Membership Chair	Toni Clarke
Transportation Chair	Frank Sledge
Webmaster	Ed Seidewitz
Presentation Support	Jeff Wilson

Club Archives

Torch Club of Frederick *Bulletin*

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



2023-24 Program and Member Roster

The *2023-24 Program* and the club's *Member Roster* are updated regularly. View, download or print [here](#).



The 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](#).