

THE TORCH CLUB OF FREDERICK, MARYLAND

fredtorch.org



Monthly Bulletin

Volume 28, Number 3

November 2021

Scroll



Frederick Torch Dinner Meetings

Welcome back.

In-person meetings have been resumed.
Sorry, no more Zoom as we have an attendance minimum to meet so be sure to join us.

After careful consideration, your club board decided to resume in-person meetings for the 2021-22 Torch year while continuing to stay abreast of the national and local Covid situations including the Covid delta variant outbreak now subsiding. The board also verified that Ceresville Mansion's pandemic policies and practices are safe.

Dinner attendees must be fully vaccinated. Please bring your proof of vaccination with you to dinner meetings and consider getting your Covid booster shot now available.

2021-22 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Welcome

President Tom Gill and the other members of the Torch Club of Frederick'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	Mary Redington
Secretary	Peter Michael
Treasurer	Claire Kondig
Assistant Treasurer	John Kondig
Presentation Support Chair	John Menke
Reservations Chair	John Hewetson
Membership Chair	Frank Sledge
Program Chair	Vacant
Website Editor	Meg Menke

NOW RECRUITING

The position of **Frederick Torch Club Program Chair** is open and recruitment is now underway. This is an enjoyable, low-pressure role offering a very useful club contribution. The Program Chair recruits speakers for the nine presentations of the following Torch year, 2022-23 in this case. Speakers may be club members or guests. Typically, lining up speakers occurs early in the preceding Torch year, the job is done, and the new crop of speakers is announced in June. For example, the 2022-23 line-up will be announced in June 2022.

Interested? Get in touch with club President Tom Gill at 301-694-5263 or thomasgillesq@comcast.net.



Remember to pay your annual dues if you haven't yet.

Send your check for \$60 per plus \$30 for each other household member to Claire Kondig at 416 Fairview Avenue, Frederick, Maryland 21701.

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 as we again meet at Ceresville Mansion.

You can reach Frank at f.sledge@comcast.net or at 301.980.2019.

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 soon at torchreservations@gmail.com (preferably) with “Torch” in the subject line of your email, or call him at 301.663.8130.

~ No click-through? Paste the email address into the “To” line of an email.~

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.

Book Exchange— To enjoy this pleasant club offering, put books you bring on the book table. You may take the same number as you brought. Before leaving, you may take any remaining books and must take yours.

NEXT PRESENTATION

NOVEMBER 15, 2021

Peter Michael on "1707: Western Maryland's First Explorer Arrives"

This illustrated talk will present Frantz Ludwig Michel who in 1707 opened exploration beyond America's eastern seaboard with his six-week trek through western Maryland and the Shenandoah Valley.

Michel was a Swiss nobleman who eschewed ease for a humanitarian life, founding four refugee colonies in America to resettle thousands fleeing religious persecution and war in Europe. Many of these made their way to Frederick County.

Career long, Michel fostered religious tolerance and advocated humane treatment of America's Indians. His refugee resettlement plan long outlived him, carried on after his death by his colleagues and later a son.

THIS MONTH'S PRESENTER

Peter Michael

Pete's presentation is based on his latest book tentatively entitled *First Explorer* due out in 2022. He grew up hearing of his immigrant ancestors but not of the family further back until about 15 years ago when genealogy websites introduced him to his fifth-great-grandfather, Frantz Ludwig Michel. The more Pete learned of Michel, the more intriguing the man became so now the book.

Early on, Pete worked for the Population Council and the UN where he formulated a novel method that allowed population programs to lower national growth rates faster.

He then enjoyed a 45-year career at Michael Strategic Analysis helping clients large and small figure out what products, services and markets to pursue or not.

Pete is delightfully married to Torch member Vicki Michael. He is a graduate of the University of Maryland and Berkeley, and completed a post-graduate fellowship at Princeton.



MOST RECENT PRESENTATION

OCTOBER 18, 2021

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

This might have been the most poignant Frederick Torch presentation ever and, in typical Syl style, was also one of the best composed. With plenty of hard data, we saw vivid vignettes of the miserable performance of American law enforcement in even beginning to take rape seriously. Only a sixth of reported rapes are even prosecuted with only a twelfth resulting in jail time. If a rape kit is even collected, chances are not far from 100% that nothing is ever done with it.

Excuses abound but it is hard to get around the root problem that many badge-wearers are, to understate it, not sympathetic about rape. So the question becomes, Why is that?

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 “1707: Western Maryland’s First Explorer Arrives”

December 20, 2021

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

2021-2022 PRESENTATIONS

JANUARY - MAY

January 24, 2022

Richard Potter on "Local Continuing Education Courses: Torch Members' Good Experiences"

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, it isn't $E = mc^2$!)"

May 16, 2022

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

NEW MEMBERS



At our next dinner, be sure to welcome newest members **Dedra and John Salitrik, Roser and Bill Heath, Angeline Gaffigan and Ed Seidewitz.**

As the largest of Torch International's more than 60 clubs, our success has relied in large part on strong recruiting. **We are always recruiting** so please do invite your acquaintances who enjoy stimulating company and fascinating presentations to attend a 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 club website at fredtorch.org.

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](#).