



TORCH CLUB OF FREDERICK

Volume 23, Number 8, April 2017

Web site: fredtorch.org

Notice of Next Torch Club Meeting

Monday, April 24th

Deadline for Meeting Reservations and Cancellations

Wednesday, April 19th

Looking Back to the March Meeting Highlights

Torch Officers for 2017-2018

The nominating committee, Norine Haas, Jacqueline Allen and Vicki Glen, proposed the following officers for next year. They were approved by the members present.

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| President | Candy Greenway |
| Vice President and Reservations | John Menke |
| Secretary | Kate Bird |
| Directory | Sonja Rasmussen |
| Treasurer | Claire Kondig |
| Assistant Treasurer | John Kondig |
| Program Chair | Jack Topchik |
| Membership | Toni Clarke |
| Website and PowerPoint help | Minh Tran |

New Member

Claire Kondig introduced a new member.

Laura Hart has a Master of Science degree from McDaniel College, Westminster, MD, and is now partially retired from a career as a teacher and school principal. Her interests include reading, travelling and ballroom dancing. She is Co-Vice-President of the New Friends of Frederick Club.

The Paper

Karl Friedl gave his paper titled

“What Food Tells Us about a Culture”

Humans are an exploratory species that thrive in an environment filled with new and unusual experiences. This includes food experiences. A varied diet is an important aspect of health, but how the ingredients are prepared, presented, and consumed also enriches our environment and is important to brain health. There are many different food practices solutions to the common human problem of a balanced and varied diet, and regional specificity has been surprisingly resistant to globalization forces. Even the worldwide spread of food brands (e.g., KFC, Starbucks) or food types (e.g., pizza) have to be modified to gain regional acceptance. Well preserved regional food practices both influence and reflect cultural traits which have been established by factors such as geography, genetics, local resources, and beliefs. These practices provide cultural insights and contrasts such as melting pot diversity or rigorously retained traditions; highly regimented or unrestrained societies; and stoic attitudes that have been shaped by harsh environments and basic survival needs. The preservation of this wide range of diverse food practices is also reinforced by early food imprinting and traditions. This highlights the fact that humans are born with some common protective dislikes that help us to avoid eating spoiled or toxic substances, but we are born with fewer common likes and these tend to be shaped within our cultures. This preserved diversity of food practices ensures that humans can be stimulated and enriched by exploratory forays into a seemingly endless variety of experiences in food flavor and context, and this is good for the brain.

Members are sure to recall the visuals comprising extraordinarily brightly colored montages of culinary delights, seemingly from the whole world.

Make your reservations for April 24th

This is a month with assigned table seating.

The cost of dinner is \$25 per person. The deadline for reservations and cancellations for the April meeting is Wednesday, April 19th.

April 24th is a special meeting open to Torch Region 3 clubs and at least 12 visitors are expected from other clubs. There is a limit on numbers, and Frederick members (sorry only regular guests) are strongly encouraged to reserve their places as soon as they can.

**Please make (or cancel) dinner reservations through
Vice-president John Menke only**

E-mail John at JohnTorch@menkescientific.com and type Torch Reservations in the subject line. Include the number of reservations and the first and last names of any guests.

Please tell John if you will be coming to the 3:00 pm pre-meeting. (This is primarily but not exclusively for club officers.)

Please tell John if you'd like special seating.

Please also tell John if you WILL NOT ATTEND.

John would prefer to hear from you by e-mail, but you can also reach him at 301-407-2224. If he is not at home and therefore does not answer your phone call, please leave a voice-mail message to tell him all the information requested:

- ✓ Name(s) of members and any guests
- ✓ Coming or not coming to the meeting and pre-meeting
- ✓ Any special requests for seating.

Dinner Cancellation Policy

When necessary, please cancel any dinner reservations through Vice-president John Menke. Call 301-407-2224 or e-mail

JohnTorch@menkescientific.com to discuss the circumstances with him if the cancellation occurs after the reservation deadline. Members who make reservations but do not attend are still expected to pay \$25. **Should an emergency or last-minute situation occur that prevents attendance at the meeting, please contact Vice-President John Menke** Call 301-407-2224 or e-mail JohnTorch@menkescientific.com as soon after the meeting as possible.

Mark Your Calendars – The Torch Club of Frederick meets at Ceresville Mansion on the fourth Monday of each month through May 2017. The May meeting is the last of this Torch year.

The usual meeting agenda is:

- 6:00 p.m. Arrival and social get-together, cash bar
- 6:45 p.m. Buffet dinner
- 7:40 p.m. Brief meeting followed by paper presentation and discussion
- 9:00 p.m. Meeting concludes

IATC Convention and Annual Meeting, June 14-18 in Kalamazoo, MI

Message from Anne Thomas:

Attached again with this newsletter (Torch at Kalamazoo) is the publicity on the **June 14-18th Torch Convention**. Yes, there really is a Kalamazoo, a great Torch Club is there and home to our IATC Exec Secretary Jim Coppinger. Leesburg is sending two delegates - not counting Dave and me. The reimbursement is now \$300.00 for delegates. We urge each club to send a delegate or two - let's get representation from each Torch Club! The conventions are a lot of fun with stimulating papers. You meet the MOST interesting people and have great field trips.

If you are reading this with web access the publicity is also available by Ctrl+Click on the link <http://torch2017.webs.com/>

After being at the convention Dave and Anne Thomas are traveling to the Michigan Upper Peninsula which they have never seen.

Torch Pogram 2016-2017

| Date | Speaker | Title |
|--------------|------------------------------|---|
| Sep 26, 2016 | Dick Menzer | Stepping in the Right Direction |
| Oct 24, 2016 | John Ricca | ISIS/ISIL: Overview and Assessment |
| Nov 28, 2016 | Ted Haas | The Doctors in the Third Reich Who Made a Deal with the Devil |
| Dec 19, 2016 | John George | Punch and Judy |
| Jan 23, 2017 | Jonathan James (JJ) Greenway | Are We There Yet? The Future of Commercial Air Travel |
| Feb 27, 2017 | Sylvester J. Schieber | The Underlying Economics Behind U.S. Income Dispersion since 1890 |
| Mar 27, 2017 | Karl Friedl | What Food Tells Us About a Culture |
| Apr 24, 2017 | Anne Thomas & Dave Thomas | Cuba's 50+ Year Marriage with Communism - For Better or for Worse |
| May 22, 2017 | T-Minh Tran | When Your Future Daughter-in-Law is Vietnamese |

Note to Presenters: The following members have volunteered to help set up Power Point slides for your talk if you so wish (in alphabetical order): Dr. Pat Allen ptallen@verizon.net, Candy Greenway candyog@comcast.net, and T-Minh Tran tmtrank@hotmail.com



Directory Update

Add:

Laura Hart
 Educator/Administrator
laurahart00@aol.com
 13203 Larson Court
 Mount Airy, MD 21771
 301-801-9631



Looking Ahead to the April Meeting

David and Anne Thomas, members of the Leesburg Blue Ridge Torch Club, will present the paper titled:

“Cuba’s 50+ Years of Marriage with Communism: For Better or For Worse”

Torch Tours went to Cuba in February, 2016. Club members from around the country joined up on a Road Scholar trip following the opening of Cuba to US citizens. Highlights: Bay of Pigs invasion site, propaganda billboards of Fidel Castro and Che Guevara, private restaurants called paladars and B&B’s, particulares, excellent musical performances, reopened US Embassy, friendly Cubans, visit with the famous baseball player Antonio Munoz who refused to defect to the US, refurbished hotels, and those famous old US cars repainted and repaired.

Remember the Book Exchange

Please remember to bring some books from your overweight shelves for the book exchange. There will again be a table available in the banquet room by the door from the ramp entrance. RULES: First step - just bring some books and put them on the table. If, at the BEGINNING of a meeting you have brought a book or books, you may take the same number as you brought. At the END of the meeting you may take any books that remain and if they are the ones you brought you must take them home.

Perhaps you will find a free treasure.

Respectfully submitted,

[John Clarke](#), Secretary.