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Presentation by Tom Costantiello on May 6 **“The Man Behind the Warren Buffett Curtain”**

Tom Costantiello will present his Torch paper, “The Man Behind the Warren Buffett Curtain,” to the Columbus Torch Club at its meeting on Thursday, May 6. The club will not meet in person, but Tom will deliver his paper over Zoom at 7 p.m.

Warren Buffett, 90, is chairman and CEO of Berkshire Hathaway and one of the greatest investors of all time. “If you had invested \$1,000 in Berkshire Hathaway in 1965, today you would have over \$22 million compared with \$208,000 from investing the same \$1,000 in the S&P 500,” Tom says. “Can anyone use Buffett’s principles to achieve a similar result? According to Buffett, he believes the answer is yes.”

Tom will identify Buffett’s early influences, a critical mentor and stock market formulas that contribute to his success. “Even if you know part of the Warren Buffett story, you’ll find other great trivia and stock market tips that you could apply in real life,” he says.

Biography of Tom Costantiello

Tom Costantiello joined the Columbus Torch Club in 2008 and served as president for the 2018-19 program year. His wife Cecelia joined the Torch Club in 2018.

Tom earned his bachelor’s degree in international studies from The Ohio State University. Starting his career in investments in 1993, he has 27 years of experience that spans a broad range of brokerage, wire house, stocks, bonds, financial planning and a broad range of investment product strategies. He is a Certified Financial Planner, Certified Tax Specialist and holds the Series 7, 6, 63, 66, and 24 licenses.

Tom and Cecelia reside in northwest Columbus with their 18-month-old daughter Julia Ellen, who they hope will be a future Torch member. Tom and Cecelia love wine and wine making, cooking, Southwest art, traveling, Disney and just sitting on their deck entertaining their friends.



Tom Costantiello

Zoom link to Columbus Torch Club's meeting on May 6

The Zoom link to the Columbus Torch Club's meeting on May 6 is the same one each month. The meeting will begin on Zoom at 7 p.m. Here is the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89961138689?pwd=alBrcEtrYVFrSUNNTXp1VTFabnhKdz09>

President's message: We've done it together this year

Everyone is exclaiming about the beauty and wonder of springtime. As I sit at my desk and look out the window, the scene is glorious. As I walk around the neighborhood, redbuds, magnolias, crabapples, and dogwoods along with all kinds of things poking their heads above the ground are food for the soul. For those of us who are Christian, Easter was a picture-perfect day, made to order. I am sure I am not telling you anything you have not noticed for yourself.



**Susan Warrener
Smith**

Our Columbus Torch Club has now been through all four seasons – spring, summer, fall, and winter – and has come out intact this springtime. Through the seasons we have been meeting, talking, and presenting papers in a whole new way, but learning valuable lessons as we have embraced the limitations of the past year. We have learned that we don't have to always "do it the way we always have done it." We have learned that streaming could be a wonderful addition even when we meet back in person. We have learned patience and fortitude as we have struggled to get up to speed with technology. We have realized more than ever how very much we mean to each other and how much we value being together, breaking bread together, and learning from each other. Perhaps, we appreciate more the richness of our club, which includes so many different interests, areas of expertise, and experiences.

As our program year concludes and as my term as your president nears an end, I want to express a personal thank you to everyone who presented this year, everyone who attended our meetings on Zoom, everyone who provided support and guidance to me as I convened the board, everyone who continued to financially support the club, and generally everyone who hung in there confident that, despite the obstacles, WE CAN DO THIS!

Wishing you all good health, happiness, and a magnificent summer.

Nominating Committee proposes Susan Tilgner as president elect

The Columbus Torch Club's Nominating Committee – composed of Violet Meek, Susan Warrener Smith and Nancy Wardwell – has submitted its report recommending officers for the 2021-22 program year. The election of officers will take place at the club's May meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor over Zoom.

Here is the full report:

Items requiring action by the members at the May meeting

The Nominating Committee is delighted to propose that the name of Susan Tilgner be submitted to the club membership as president elect. Her name and position are marked in **blue** in the table below.

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Nominating Committee proposes Susan Tilgner as president elect

(Continued from page 2)

With equal pleasure, the committee moves that the names of Dorothy Driskell, Paul Niswander, Rai Goerler, and Christina Atzberger be sent to the membership for election to the Board of Directors as directors-at-large. Their names and positions are listed below in **red**.

As is our current custom, the person holding the title president elect in one year automatically moves to the position of president in the next year. Thus, we welcome Nancy Wardwell as our new president in the Torch year 2021-22. No further action is required.

Items requiring action by the Board of Directors – names marked in green

Two of our current directors-at-large have agreed to serve in other capacities next year. Diane Selby will become assistant secretary and David Lenz will serve as assistant treasurer. The occupants of those positions serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors, so no action by the club membership is required. The board need only confirm the action – although loud and thankful huzzahs might be appropriate.

In the past when an IATC regional director was also a member of the Torch Club of Columbus, that person served as an *ex officio* member of the Columbus Torch Board. In a return to that past practice, Liz Short, as IATC Region 5 director, will be an *ex officio* member with voice and vote. Again, only recognition of her service by the board is required – as well as great thanks for that service. (Also loud huzzahs, of course.)

The proposed slate of members of the Torch Board of Directors for the next year is as follows.

Title in 21/22	Name	Term Ends
Past President	Susan Smith	2022
President	Nancy Wardwell	2022
President Elect	Susan Tilgner	2022
Secretary	Thom Seelbach	Not set
Treasurer	Howard Gauthier	Not set
Assistant Secretary	Diane Selby (Fellowship)	Not set
Assistant Treasurer	David Lenz	Not set
Newsletter Editor	Stephen Sterrett	Not set
Region 5 Director	Elizabeth Short	Not set
Director-at-Large Membership	Dorothy Driskell	2023
Director-at-Large	Paul Niswander	2023
Director-at-Large	Rai Goerler	2022
Director-at-Large	Christina Atzberger	2022

Help needed with Torch Club's new website

Steve Sterrett, editor of *The Torch Lighter*, designed a website for the Torch Club and has made revisions to the website over the past month, including the addition of the last five years of monthly newsletters. He is seeking a club member willing to oversee and maintain the website. Steve will provide training. The website platform is relatively easy to learn and to use. Surprise your grandchildren by becoming an amateur web designer! The website is at <http://www.columbustorch.org>.

Schedule of Torch Club speakers and their papers for 2020-21

October 1, 2020: **“Lofty Aspirations, Humble Beginnings: The Early Years at OSU”** by Rai Goerler

November 5, 2020: **“I’m Available: The Life and Career of a Free Lance Illustrator”** by Roy Lewicki

December 3, 2020: **Social gathering** over Zoom.

January 7, 2021: **“What Columbus Invented and What It Didn’t”** by Joe Blundo

February 4, 2021: **“Islamic Spirituality: the Qu’ran, the Symbolism of Jesus, and the Poetry of Rumi”** by Fazeel Khan

March 4, 2021: **“The All-Volunteer Military: The Pros, the Cons, and the Alternatives”** by Greg Travalio

April 1, 2021: **“How Do Women and Men Differ in Their Work”** by Francille Firebaugh

May 6, 2021: **“The Man Behind Warren Buffett’s Curtain”** by Tom Costantiello

Board of Directors for Torch Club of Columbus, Ohio, for 2020-21

President – Susan Warrener Smith

President-elect – Nancy S. Wardwell

Immediate Past President – Violet I. Meek

Secretary – Thom Seelbach

Assistant Secretary – Deborah K. Stevens

Treasurer – Howard Gauthier

Assistant Treasurer – Susan Tilgner

Fellowship Chair – Nancy Wardwell

Membership Chair – Dorothy Driskell

Nominating Chair – Violet I. Meek

Newsletter Editor – Steve Sterrett

Director-at-Large Dorothy Driskell (2021)

Director-at-Large Elizabeth Short (2021)

Director-at-Large David Lenz (2022)

Director-at-Large Diane Selby (2022)

Region 5 Director Elizabeth Short