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

Welcome to a new program year for the Torch Club of Columbus, Ohio. The club will not resume its monthly in-person meetings and dinners until at least January 2021. Club members, however, will be able to gather through Zoom on their computers, tablets and smart phones to see Torch papers presented in October and November. More information on this digital connection will be published in the October edition of *The Torch Lighter* that will be distributed later this month. Here is the schedule of Torch papers:

- October 1, 2020: **“Lofty Aspirations, Humble Beginnings: The Early Years at OSU”** by Rai Goerler
- November 5, 2020: **“The Life and Career Evolution of a Professional Artist”** by Roy Lewicki
- 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 Travaglio
- 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

Torch Board acts on program and club dues for 2020-21

The Columbus Torch Club’s Board of Directors participated in a Zoom meeting on August 28 to discuss the programs and dues for 2020-21.

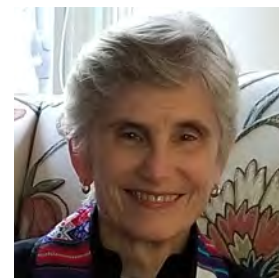
After extensive discussion, the board members agreed to postpone in-person meetings and dinners at the Faculty Club until at least January 2021. Club members will be encouraged to view the presentation of Torch papers at 7 p.m. on October 1 and November 5 using Zoom. The International Association of Torch Clubs has purchased a package from Zoom that will permit all clubs to use Zoom technology to meet remotely. More information on accessing Zoom will be published in the October edition of this newsletter distributed in late September.

The club will not meet in December. The board will discuss when to return to in-person meetings when the pandemic situation is clearer later this fall.

The board will ask members this fall to pay \$50 in dues to cover the club’s administrative costs and IATC dues. When the club is able to resume in-person meetings and dinners, board may seek an additional dues payment. Any such payment will include credit for the dinner meetings missed last April and May.

President's message: Acclimating to the virtual world

These days it seems that every conversation inevitably ends up with questions, comments, and expressions of concern with regard to the corona virus. And rightly so! Many thousands of lives lost! So many left bereft! People agonizing with threat and fear. Perhaps you or someone you know has been directly impacted by the pandemic through illness, job loss, financial distress, or even death. Indeed, one of our board members suffered through the disease himself and lost a loved one to it.



**Susan Warrenner
Smith**

When I was elected to be your president, I did not anticipate such drastic circumstances, but anticipated a stimulating year of conversation, presentations, fun, and breaking bread together at our beloved Faculty Club. Yet instead here I am having to acclimate to the virtual world, viewing everything from family to church to board meetings and Torch on a screen. Nonetheless I am anxious to tune in on Zoom to our first Torch meeting on October 1 and hear the first of what I anticipate to be a year of exceedingly interesting and provocative presentations. I hope you will set aside the time to tune in at 7:00 that evening. You won't regret it as we begin with our friend and colleague Rai Goerler offering up his knowledge and wisdom on the early years at OSU, its hopes, dreams, and aspirations. Then in November, we will hear from Roy Lewicki, sharing the story of his father's fascinating life as a professional artist with *Life* magazine.

In the meantime, this newsletter, as well as a formal letter from me via snail mail, will give you detailed information about board decisions on meetings, dues, assistance with Zoom, and how we will proceed in the coming months. It should arrive in your mailbox shortly.

Thinking of you all, sending cheers and blessings.

Two club members and two former members died in recent months

William F. "Will" Saam, 78, died July 18 at Kobacker House. He was a member of the Torch Club since 2014. Born in Butte, Montana, Will earned his Bachelor of Science degree from CalTech and his master's degree and doctorate in physics from the University of Illinois. Will joined the faculty of The Ohio State University's Physics Department in 1970. In 1996, he became department chair and remained in that position until retirement in 2008. He was a Fellow of the American Physical Society and American Association for the Advancement of Science. He is survived by his wife, Nora Hiland, and numerous children, step-children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. A celebration of his life was held July 22.

Jim Jones, 83, died of natural causes April 22 in Florida, where he and his wife Linda resided during the winter months. He was a Torch Club member since 1996. He worked in Ohio State's Athletics Department for 27 years and served as athletic director from 1987 until his retirement in 1994.

Jane Ware, 84, died April 12 in Columbus after a brief illness. She was a Torch Club member from 2001 to 2013. She was a freelance writer and author of several books on Ohio topics.

Peter Korda, 88, died March 9 in Columbus. Born in Budapest, he escaped to the West during the Hungarian Revolution of 1956. After moving to Columbus in 1960, he earned a Ph.D., joined the faculty at Ohio State and founded Korda/Nemeth Engineering. He is survived by his wife, Edith, four children and four grandchildren. He was a member of the Torch Club from 1990 to 2012.

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