

Blue Ridge Torch Club  
August 15, 2015  
Volume IX, No. 1

### **Presentation for September 15, 2015**

Southwest Indian Art by Anne Miller and George Viener

Indians in the American Southwest have created a variety of art works, including such things as pottery, jewelry, Kachina dolls, reed baskets and woven rugs. At the next Blue Ridge Torch Club meeting George Viener will discuss Pueblo pottery and Anne Miller will discuss turquoise necklaces. Examples from their private collections will be available for viewing.

### **President's Message**

Welcome back to a new year of Torch dinners and talks. What is it about the way that some kinds of years commence in September? School years, fiscal years, Torch club years, Jewish years—they all begin as the days grow short and the summer heat relaxes its grip on us. For the Blue Ridge Torch Club (of Leesburg) it's a new year for our restaurant, most of our officers, and, of course, our speakers and their presentations. We have some new approaches in the works for our presentations, but more on that as the plans mature.

One new approach for the year will be the development of a small website for our club. If any member has experience in designing or managing a website and would like to get in on the ground floor, please let me know ([michael.leavitt@gmail.com](mailto:michael.leavitt@gmail.com)).

We're also about ready to set the price of our dinners for the year, and will have that information next month. I can say with confidence that it will be less than last year for a varied and sumptuous menu.

As the song says, see you in September

Mike Leavitt

## **From the Treasurer**

In early September, I will be sending member billings for annual dues and prepaid fall dinners. The expected reduction in dinner cost should be welcome to all.

Dave Thomas

## **Book Exchange**

Don't forget the book exchange! Torch Club members have wide interests and read many books. Are you ready to part with one of them? Bring a book with you to the next Torch Club meeting and put it on the table at the rear of the room. Feel free to take home a book with an intriguing title that someone else brought in. If the book you brought is not taken, take it home with you or leave it to be given to a library.

## **Upcoming Talks and Events**

With the exception of the holiday party in December, everyone is welcome to Torch Club meetings. Guests, as well as members, must let Anne Miller know you plan to come because she has to inform both Crossroads Restaurant and clubhouse staff how many are coming to the dinner and lecture by the Friday before each meeting. She can be reached at 703-858-3917 or [millerda52@gmail.com](mailto:millerda52@gmail.com).

## **Blue Ridge Torch Club Officers for 2014-2015**

President, Mike Leavitt, [michael.leavitt@gmail.com](mailto:michael.leavitt@gmail.com)

Vice President, Bert Schlabach, [bertschlabach@gmail.com](mailto:bertschlabach@gmail.com)

Secretary/Newsletter Editor, Beth Schlabach,  
[bethkschlabach@gmail.com](mailto:bethkschlabach@gmail.com)

Treasurer, Dave Thomas, [datmatdat@gmail.com](mailto:datmatdat@gmail.com)

Reservations chair, Anne Miller, [millerda52@gmail.com](mailto:millerda52@gmail.com)

## **Blue Ridge Torch Club Members**

Rose-Joan Barron, Ray Beery, Murray & Page Bradley, Joe Comtois, Joan & Lou D'Arienzo, Marge DeSimone, Nancy Downey, Audrey

Emley, Ann & Doug Foard, Dolores Heck, Shirley Laing, Gini Laughlin, Mike & Eva Leavitt, Dianne Lebonville, Jackie Meeks, Anne & Jack Miller, Louis Moses, Bill & Kathy Muncy, Peg Neustadt, Memory Porter, Ann Robinson, Dolores Rothwell, Don Satsky, Bert & Beth Schlabach, Gail Stanley, Janet Taliaferro, Kurt Teil, Anne & Dave Thomas, George Viener, Britt Wilford, Dona Wolf , and Anita Zatz

### **Greetings to Torch of Region 3:**

“Great Plains, Great Ideas” was the theme of our excellent annual convention held in Lincoln, Nebraska, June 24-28, 2015. May I add: “Great Time.” Located in America’s heart and food land, Nebraska makes us proud to be Americans. Our host was the Tom Carroll Lincoln Torch Club. The University of Nebraska and the state house are in Lincoln. The State House tower can be seen for miles and gives tribute to the Native Americans and the pioneers. Near Lincoln are the Strategic Air and Space Museum and a Midwestern wildlife safari park, which we visited. We met in groups to talk “great ideas,” we took several tours, heard and discussed excellent Torch papers including the Paxton Award paper: "*The Singularity: Technology & the Future of Humanism*" by Roger Hughes, a member of the Des Moines, IA Club. We toasted the President and the Queen.

### **Our Region 3 was honored:**

**Hagerstown** was congratulated for its energetic growth.

**Chambersburg** had two silver award winners: Dick Weller and Bill Morgan for outstanding service and contributions to their club.

**Westminster** received the award for Outstanding Club Region 3, 2015, in recognition of its hosting the Region 3 Conference in April, 2015.

### **Coming Up - Please join us:**

**Annual Convention June, 2016, Columbus, Ohio**

**Cuba Trip, Road Scholar, special Torch tour, Feb 12-21, 2016**

Anne Thomas, IATC, Director Region 3