

Blue Ridge Torch Club of Leesburg
October 13, 2016
Volume X, No.2



Presentation for October 18, 2016

"Epigenetics: How our genes are turned on or off: from fertilized egg to mature adult"

Speaker: Jack Miller, charter member, first Genome Study Section, NIH

Sequencing the human genome—the process of determining the order of the chemical building block “bases” that make up the DNA of the human chromosome—has shown that we have only 20,000 or so genes that actually make (code) proteins, and that these genes make up only 1-2 percent of our DNA. What does the rest of our DNA do? Much of it (20-40 percent) is involved in turning protein-coding genes on or off. The study of this phenomenon is called epigenetics, since it does not involve altering the sequence of bases in our protein-coding genes. Of particular interest is that environmental factors may modify the process of turning genes on or off.

Vice President’s Notes

Our program for this year is as follows. (It is, of course, subject to change.)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Title</u>
November 15, 2016	Nancy Downey	The Impact of Age-Segregated Communities
December 20, 2016	Holiday Dinner with book exchange	
January 17, 2017	Anne Thomas	Aspects of Charleston, SC
February 21, 2017	Susan Merk	A Walk in Loudoun County
March 21, 2017	Tehmi Jamaspian	Spring Equinox Celebrations
April 18, 2017	George Viener	Tobacconist Art
May 16, 2017	Irene Kelner	The Voice of America
June 20, 2017	Summer Party	

Reservations and Cancellations

Gini Laughlin receives reservations by phone or email: 703-729-2647 or gininix.laughlin@gmail.com. If you want a change in the listed entrée,

you should let Gini know when you make your reservation. If you need to cancel your reservation, please call Gini at least a day in advance of the scheduled event. Please do not call the restaurant to cancel. Reservations for this month should be made not later than Friday, October 14.

Treasurer's Notes

Thanks to the many members who have already paid for the Fall 2016 dues and dinners. If you missed the September dinner and meeting, please bring your check in October -- subtracting, if you wish, \$32 from the original billing.

Blue Ridge Torch Club Officers for 2016-2017

President, Mike Leavitt, michael.leavitt@gmail.com

Vice President, Eva Leavitt, eml@rocketmail.com

Secretary/Newsletter Editor, Beth Schlabach,
bethkschlabach@gmail.com

Treasurer, Dave Thomas, datmatdat@gmail.com

Reservations Chair, Gini Laughlin, ginix.laughlin@gmail.com

Blue Ridge Torch Club Members

Rose-Joan Barron, Ray Beery, Murray & Page Bradley, Joe Comtois, Kay Curley, Lou D'Arienzo, Marge DeSimone, Nancy Downey, Audrey Emley, Helen Falkenmeyer, Ann Gratz, Dolores Heck, Shirley Laing, Gini Laughlin, Mike & Eva Leavitt, Dianne Lebonville, Dan Lyons, Jackie Meeks, Susan Merk, Anne Miller, Jack Miller, Bill Muncy, Peg Neustadt, Bonnie & Stan Olenn, Memory Porter, Ann Robinson, Bert & Beth Schlabach, Marilyn Schwing, Marbeth Spreyer, Gail Stanley, Janet Taliaferro, Anne A. Thomas, Anne H. & Dave Thomas, George Viener, Ursula Wagman, Britt Wilford, Dona Wolf, and Anita Zatz

Region 3 News

Torch Tour: Costa Rica and the Panama Canal, "**Rainforest to Canal**"
An Exclusive Travel and Learning Experience for Torch Members,
Family and Friends, March 9 to 21, 2017, offered through Road Scholar.
Contact: Anne Thomas, Blue Ridge, email: annehthom@aol.com or
phone: 703-723-6492.

Anne H. Thomas, IATC, Director Region 3