

Blue Ridge Torch Club of Leesburg
September 10, 2016
Volume X, No.1



Presentation for September 20, 2016

Torch Club: "Desegregation in Loudoun County"

Speaker: Murray Bradley

Murray will lead us through the history of desegregation in Loudoun County. From Brown vs. Board of Education before the Supreme Court, "massive resistance" led by Senator Harry F. Byrd, Sr., of Virginia, to the use of federal troops and federalized National Guard forces, when necessary, particularly in southern states, Murray provides a rich background to the forces and events in Loudoun County. Not only were schools desegregated but other municipal agencies were also affected: libraries, swimming pools, and town-sponsored baseball teams. Finally, Governor Linwood Holton's desegregation efforts throughout Virginia are discussed.

President's Notes

Welcome to a new year for the Blue Ridge Torch Club. I hope you all have been as eager as I have been for our monthly Torch meetings to get started. Eva Leavitt, our Vice President and Program Chair has put together an amazing program of presentations for the coming year (see below); Beth Schlabach, our Secretary and Newsletter Publisher is up and running with all the information we need to make the year a success; Dave Thomas is continuing to keep our finances in order, collect our money and pay our bills; and Gini Laughlin continues her great job of keeping track of who is attending, what we're eating and menu planning.

Two notes about our meetings. Please remember that at all of our meetings we have a "book exchange" where we get to bring and donate a book that we have finished and pick up a book that piques our curiosity. Someday we'll figure out how to do this for audio books, but until then, exchanging real books will work just fine. Also, our meetings begin at 6:00 with 30-45 minutes of socializing. Please take advantage

of this time; it's a great time for getting to know other Torch members (you're really a fascinating group of people).

Vice President's Notes

Our program for this year is as follows (it is, of course, subject to change, but this is the plan):

<u>Date</u>	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Title</u>
September 20, 2016	Murray Bradley	Desegregation in Loudoun County
October 18, 2016	Jack Miller	Epigenetics
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, South Carolina
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.

Dues and Dinner Payment

Dave Thomas, Treasurer, will be emailing members the customary billing for IATC dues and Fall 2016 dinners. Fortunately, we are able to maintain the dinner cost at \$32, the same as last year. Look for your email around September 12, in time to pay by mail or at the meeting, as you wish.

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, gininix.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

Page and Murry Bradley were our delegates from the Blue Ridge Leesburg Torch Club to the International Association of Torch Clubs Convention this June in Columbus, Ohio. The convention brings together members from Torch Clubs around the US and Canada to learn and to have fun. They attended Torch paper presentations, workshops focused on club development, business meetings and some good tours of the area. They will talk about the convention at our September meeting and give us some tips on how to strengthen our club.

Anne H. Thomas, IATC, Director Region 3