

# *The Bulletin*

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## The Torch Club of Frederick, Maryland

[fredtorch.org](http://fredtorch.org)



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# The International Association of Torch Clubs

The Torch Club of Frederick is one of nearly 50 in the United States and Canada. IATC was founded in 1924 in Minneapolis as a highly interactive organization in which members discuss stimulating presentations given by members and guest speakers.

Torch members are intellectually inquisitive with a broad range of experience in creating knowledge that respects diverse viewpoints.

Torch membership includes outstanding atmospheres in which to freely exchange ideas, enjoy comfortable club dining venues, and, most of all, experience close fellowship.

Learn more at the Torch International website.

<https://www.torch.org/>



## Lunch Meetings at Dutch's Daughter

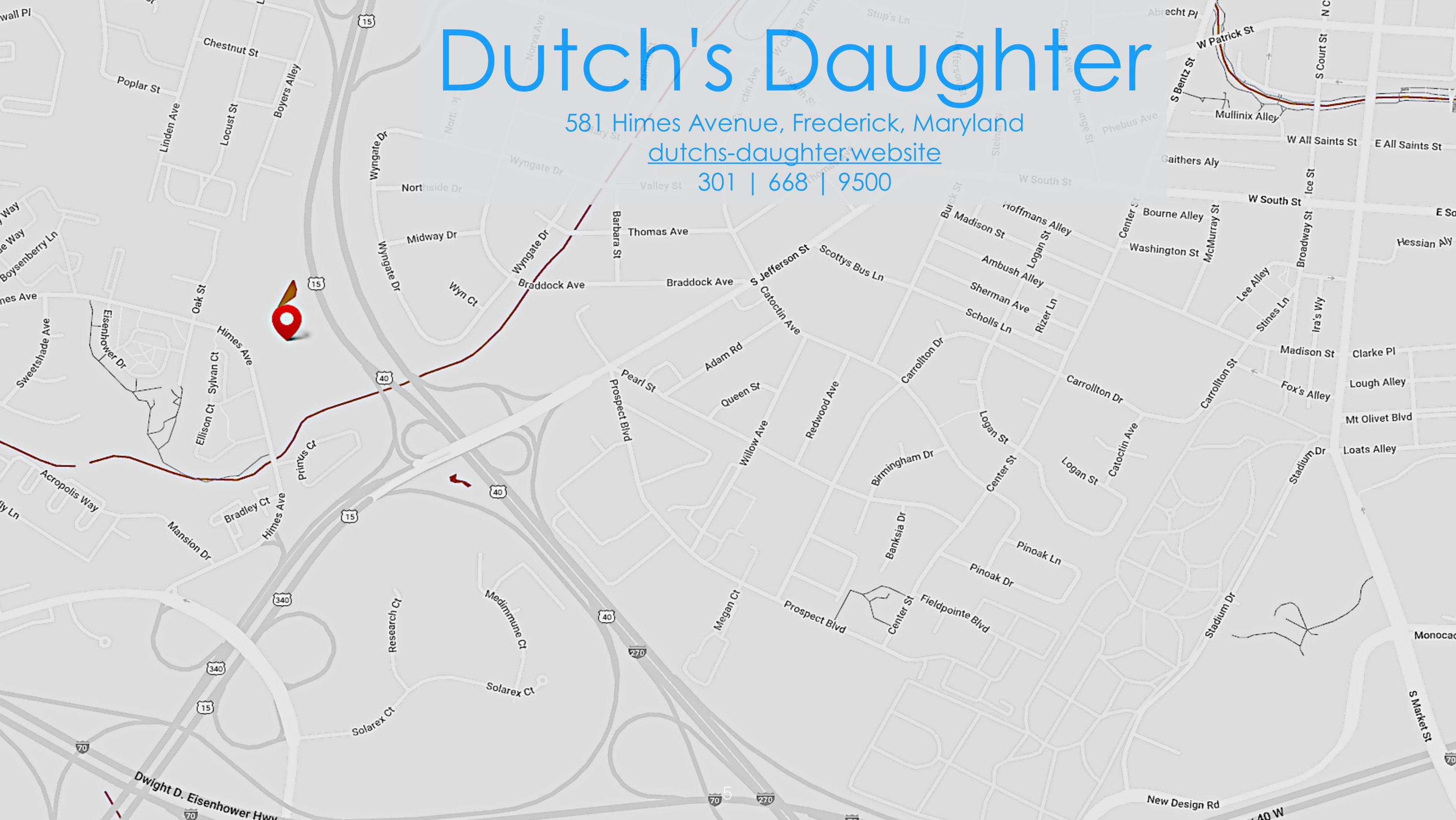
As expected consideration of others, lunch attendees must be fully vaccinated and boosted against Covid, which also applies to guests and new members. Zoom meetings may be required when county or state pandemic warnings limit in-person attendance.

# Dutch's Daughter

581 Himes Avenue, Frederick, Maryland

[dutchs-daughter.website](http://dutchs-daughter.website)

301 | 668 | 9500



# Next Presentation

Monday, March 23, 2026

## **Roseann Lester on "Challenges and Rewards of Life as a Violinist"**

This presentation by Frederick Torch member RoseAnn Lester will discuss the various challenges violinists deal with as they grow from beginner students to highly polished professional performers, as well as the rewards reaped from years of dedicated work. RoseAnn will cover topics such as physical challenges and injuries, the enormous investments of time and money, technical challenges of the instrument, performance difficulties, balancing family life, and why, in spite of all of this, violinists subject themselves to all of this willingly.

# This Month's Presenter

## **Roseann Lester**

RoseAnn taught violin and viola at Hood College for 45 years before retiring in 2020. While there, she established the Hood College String Ensemble and for 30 years was Director of Hood's Preparatory Music program. She and her husband Noel Lester co-founded the Hood College Summer Music Festival, which has run for 35 seasons.

RoseAnn also performed extensively as a solo violinist, chamber musician, and orchestral player and recorded several CDs. Before coming to Hood, she served as concertmaster of the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Leon Fleisher, as substitute violinist for the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, and on the faculty of the Peabody Preparatory Music School and the Baltimore School for the Arts.

Roseann took her bachelor's and master's degrees in violin performance from the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore where she studied under world-renowned violinist Berl Senofsky on a full four-year scholarship.

RoseAnn is the mother of two and an avid reader and says that she enjoys walking, hiking, psychology, thanatology, and, of course, Torch Club.

# Lunch Sign-up

**A**ttending or not, please let Reservations Chair John Hewetson know and, if you plan to attend, your seating requests and the names of your guests. Please respond to John at [torchreservations@gmail.com](mailto:torchreservations@gmail.com) or call him at 301.663.8130.

*Sign-up Deadline*— Preferably one week before the lunch but later OK

*Cost*— \$30 per person (also payable if a signed-up no-show)

*Cancellations*— Email the address above before the day of the lunch.

# Most Recent Presentation

## **Major J. B. Blevins on "The History of the Salvation Army"**

Our scheduled presentations by Lois Jarman in January and Dorothy Bonett in February had to be cancelled because of weather. Both are being asked to present in Frederick Torch's 2026-27 season. The most recent presentation was by John Blevins in December.

Major Blevins first briefed us on today's Salvation Army with its worldwide membership of 1.65 million in 15,000 congregations. We then learned of the church's uniformed ranks and organization. The Salvation Army is the largest non-government provider of social services in the United States and one of the largest in the world.

We were interested to hear that after the Salvation Army was founded in London in 1865 and began operating in the United States in 1880, it came to Frederick in 1885, making the Frederick congregation one of the church's oldest in the country.

After his talk, Major Blevins entertained an extended question-and-answer session in which he adeptly discussed the Salvation Army's evolving positions on gender and LGBTQ+ inclusion.

# New Members



At our next lunch, be sure to welcome new club members **Mary Kippen** and her sister **Sara George**, **Pat** and **Tom Dorsz**, **Melanie Galloway**, **Diane Kantner**, **Deborah Ross**, **Ellen West**, **Stephen** and **Bobbie** Rideout, and our newest, **Karen Kapust**. As the second-largest of the 49 Torch clubs, our success relies on strong recruiting. Please invite your friends who enjoy stimulating company and fascinating presentations to attend a fine club lunch or two and then join.

Club Membership Chair Karl Bickel is here to help. You can get in touch with Karl at [KarlBickel@comcast.net](mailto:KarlBickel@comcast.net) or 301.639.9665.

For more information and to download the club membership application, visit the club website at [fredtorch.org](http://fredtorch.org).

# 2025-26 Presentations

September - December

*Many thanks to 2024-25 Program Committee co-chairs Norine Haas and Marguerite Wilson for arranging the 2025-26 program line-up.*



**September 22-** Marguerite Wilson on "Camp Ritchie During WWII: A Secret Training Camp for Intelligence Soldiers"

**October 27-** John George on "Charles Lutwidge Dodgson" popularly known by his pen name "Lewis Carroll"

**November 24-** Ellen West on "A Visit with Cosmonauts"

**December 15-** Major J. B. Blevins on "The History of the Salvation Army"

# 2025-26 Presentations

January - May

**January 26-** Dorothy Bonnett on "Circles of Women: A Discussion of Chinese Women's Lives"

**February 23-** Lois Jarman on "Art and the Brain"

**March 23-** Roseann Lester on "Challenges and Rewards of Life as a Violinist"

**April 27-** Annette Breiling on "Adding Friends Education to our Community"

**May 18-** Frederick County Executive Jessica Fitzwater on "The Role of the County Executive"

**June 22-** Annual Frederick Torch picnic

# 2025-26 Board of Directors

**P**resident Margaret Procario and the club's board of directors hope you enjoy this year's interesting programs. The following members are serving as your 2025-26 directors and committee chairs.

## *Elected Directors*

President	Margaret Procario
Vice President	John Hewetson
Secretary	Peter Michael
Treasurer	Claire Kondig

## *Appointed Committee Chairs*

Assistant Treasurer	John Kondig
Program Chair	Marguerite Wilson
Reservations Chair	John Hewetson
Membership Chair	Kark Bickel
Publications Chair	Peter Michael
Co-webmaster	Ed Seidewitz
Co-webmaster	Michael Procario
Presentation Support	Jeff Wilson

# Club Archives

## Torch Club of Frederick *Bulletin*

Past issues beginning with October 2017 are archived and may be viewed, downloaded or printed [here](#).



## 2025-26 Program and Member Roster

The *2025-26 Program* and the club's *Member Roster* are updated regularly. View, download or print [here](#).



## The Club Website

Upcoming and past presentations and more may be reached at the club website [here](#).



## Member Survey

Survey results may be viewed, downloaded or printed [here](#).