**Wednesday, October 21, 2020, 12:00 NOON: TURFA TALK, Webex Live Discussion - “SOLVING THE MYSTERY.”**


The Shroud of Turin is not the burial cloth of Jesus, but rather a photograph-like body print of a medieval Frenchman, created by a brilliant artist around 1350, at the height of the Black Death. The shroud was likely gifted by King John II to Geoffroi de Charny, the most renowned knight of the Middle Ages, who died in battle shortly thereafter, while saving the king’s life. Though intended as nothing more than a devotional textile for Geoffroi’s newly-built church in the French hamlet of Lirey, the shroud was soon misrepresented. Miracles were faked, money was made, and before long the Holy Shroud became the center of speculation and controversy.

This live virtual event is co-sponsored by the Towson University Retired Faculty Association, the Osher Institute for Lifelong Learning at Towson University, and the Towson University Alumni Association.

**About the author**

**Dr. Gary Vikan** retired as the Director and Head Curator of the Walters Art Museum. During his career, he also served as a senior associate at Harvard’s Center for Byzantine Studies at Dumbarton Oaks and was appointed by President Clinton to his Cultural Property Advisory Committee. He was knighted by the French Minister of Culture in the Order of Arts and Letters. He received his BA from Carlton College and his PhD from Princeton University.

**Register here**

**Tuesday, October 13, 2020, from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM, 2020: Two Webex TURFA Talks**

From 2:00 PM to 2:30 PM, Dr. Tom Maronick, retired from TU’s Department of Marketing, will give a presentation titled “Deceptive Advertising: The Dark Side of Marketing.”

Tom Maronick will include examples of misleading and/or deceptive claims made on packages and/or advertisements for familiar products from companies such as Wrigley, Walmart, and Gerber. Tom served as the Director of Impact Evaluation in the Bureau of Consumer Protection (BCP) at the Federal Trade Commission for sixteen years, putting to use both his doctorate in Marketing and his J.D. degree. He has also served as an expert-witness in marketing and advertising matters over the past twenty years.

From 2:30 PM to 3:00 PM, Paul Arnest will talk about “The Cloud,” answering questions such as, *What is “the cloud”? Is there only one “Cloud”? Is it something*
Both sessions will include times for questions and answers.

**Note:** There is no need to register for this event. TURFA President, Ron Matlon, will send the link out to all TURFA members a few days before the event.

**Friday, October 9, 2020, at 1:00 PM: TURFA Monthly Spotlight on . . . Osher Institute for Lifelong Learning, with Tracy Jacobs**

This Webex live discussion is the first in a series of monthly “TURFA Spotlight on . . .” events. Featuring speakers from various TU offices and departments, each informational session will be held on the second Friday of the month from 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM, giving TURFA members a chance to learn more about the parts that work together to create the Towson University community. To that end, each session will allot time for questions from participants.

This month: Tracy Jacobs, Director of the Osher Institute for Lifelong Learning at Towson University, will give us insight into how Osher and TU got together and what benefits accrue to TURFA members. Hint: The benefits are significant!

Ms. Jacobs will also entice us with information about the classes and other programs available to Osher members.

FYI: The Osher discount for TURFA members more than compensates for TURFA dues.

**Register Here**

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**Friday, September 25, 2020, at 1:00 PM: Zoom Non-fiction Book Group Discussion - Anthony DePalma’s new book, The Cubans: Ordinary Lives in Extraordinary Times.**

DePalma is a seasoned journalist who has published other books and numerous articles, having worked for the NYT and other publications for over 20 years. This book is his attempt to present the Cuba most people don’t see - the Cuba of contemporary everyday life - through the lives of a set of featured people.

If you’re interested in reading and discussing this book with our group of six, please send your email address to Jo-Ann Pilardi, Coordinator, at j*pilardi@towson.edu. You will receive a link to the Zoom meeting.

**NOTE: In late October, the book group will discuss a book very much in the news: Isabel Wilkerson’s Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents, a study of American racism**
that is being called "an instant American classic" (NYT) and seen as essential reading by numerous critical sources. The date and time are TBA. Check back later for date and time details. Meanwhile, start reading!

Wednesday, September 23, 2020, at 12:00 NOON: Webex Live Panel Discussion, Part Two – “Where We Were, Where We Are, Where We’re Going.”

Join us to look at the civil rights history in Baltimore — from the last century to Freddie Gray, *Black Lives Matter*, and beyond. C. Fraser Smith, author and retired senior news analyst, and TU professor Donn Worqs will lead the conversation.

This live virtual event is co-sponsored by the Towson University Retired Faculty Association, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Towson University, and the Towson University Alumni Association.

*Click on this link to register:* [About the Panelists]

**Fraser Smith** is a retired columnist and editorial writer for the *Baltimore Sun* and served as a political analyst for Baltimore’s National Public Radio station, WYPR. He is the recipient of numerous journalism awards and author of *Here Lies Jim Crow: Civil Rights in Maryland.*

**Donn Worqs, Ph.D.,** is a professor at Towson University in the department of political science. His areas of study include American politics, urban politics, African American studies and politics, and community development. He has authored numerous articles for publication, as well as papers, reports, and presentations.

**Tuesday, August 25, 12:30 p.m., 2020: Webex Live Panel Discussion, Part One – “Where We Were, Where We Are, Where We’re Going.”**

Join us to look at the civil rights history in Baltimore — from the last century to Freddie Gray, *Black Lives Matter*, and beyond. C. Fraser Smith, author and retired senior news analyst, and TU professor Donn Worqs, will lead the conversation.

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**Friday, August 21, 2 p.m., 2020: Webex Event – Hobbies, Activities, and Pursuits**

We have hobbies, activities, and pursuits that many TURFA members would find interesting. Do you fly model airplanes, make furniture, paint or draw, create quilts or other fabric projects, restore old vehicles, etc.? The goal of this virtual meeting is to share your interesting adventures with your colleagues.

*Here is how this online event will work:*

Using their smart phones, presenters will take a short 5 to 10-minute video illustrating their hobbies/activities. From the desktop of their computers, presenters will share these videos with all who join in on WebEx. Hopefully this will allow for some Q and A with other members. Presenters can also be TURFA spouses.

If you wish to participate in this event, please email events coordinator Jim Paulsen at *jpauslens@towson.edu* by August 14, 2020. If you wish to be a presenter, please briefly describe what you wish to present to the group.

TURFA President Ron Matlon will email the code for all members to join this online session; he will email additional instructions to presenters. Presenters can also be TURFA spouses.

**August 13, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m., 2020: Zoom Non-fiction Book Club Discussion – *The Heart is a Shifting Sea***

In late July or thereabouts, the group will be discussing Elizabeth Flock’s study of relationships in India, *The Heart Is a Shifting Sea: Love and Marriage in Mumbai*. Time and date TBA. Most likely this will be a virtual meeting also.

Both books and authors are highly praised, and both are available in various formats. Check Amazon for more details, and then consider purchasing from an independent bookstore or from the publisher (check the websites).

We would love to have new people enter our virtual discussions. For instructions about joining these Zoom discussions, contact Jo-Ann Pilardi, Coordinator, at *j pilardi@towson.edu*. 
Friday, July 31, 2 p.m., 2020: Webex Event – Home Garden Sharing

This event will give members an opportunity to share their personal home gardens virtually. Cloistered in our homes for months now, some of us have probably spent more time in our gardens than in the past. Perhaps many are curious about what some of their fellow retirees have been doing in their gardens sporting vegetables, flowers, or both.

*Here is how this online event will work:*

Using their smart phones, presenters will take a short 5 to 10-minute video of their gardens. From the desktop of their computers, presenters will share these videos with all who join in on WebEx. Hopefully this will allow for some Q and A with other members. Presenters/participants can also be TURFA spouses.

If you wish to participate or present a video of your garden, email Jim Paulsen by July 24th at [jpaulsen@towson.edu](mailto:jpaulsen@towson.edu). TURFA President Ron Matlon will email the code for all members to join the session, and he will email additional instructions to presenters.

Thursday, June 25, 2020: Zoom Non-fiction Book Club Discussion – *A Woman of No Importance*

The TURFA non-fiction book group met via met Zoom from 2:00 to 4:00 on Thursday, June 25, to discuss *A Woman of No Importance* by Sonia Purnell. The book tells the story of the courageous Virginia Hall (“a Baltimore socialite”), head of an Allied spy network in Europe during World War II.

Friday, June 12, 2020: The Retired Faculty Spring Brunch

This year, the Provost’s Spring Brunch honoring the newly retired faculty will be held on June 12, from 9:30 a.m. to noon. TURFA Board elections will take place there and then.

Expect an invitation and more information in the mail.

Thursday, May 7, 2020: Redoubtable Dons’ Talk - “Language Revitalization through Music in Two Afro-descendant Communities of Latin America” (CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19 VIRUS)

**Thursday, April 23, 2020: Redoubtable Dons’ Talk - “Naturalization, Mexican Immigration, and U.S. Policy.” (CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19 VIRUS)**

Sunday, April 19, 2020: Gilbert and Sullivan’s *The Pirates of Penzance* (CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19 VIRUS)

**Friday, March 27, 2020: Panel Discussion – “Can the Art Survive in Baltimore?”**
Friday, March 13, 2020: Enoch Pratt Central Library Tour (Postponed)

TURFA is planning a tour of the newly-renovated Enoch Pratt Free Library, 400 Cathedral Street, in downtown Baltimore. The tour will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Participants may arrive at the library at 9:50 a.m. or meet at the Osher parking lot (7400 York Road) at 9:10 a.m. to join car pools to the library.

To sign up for this trip, please email Jim Paulsen at jpaulsen@towson.edu. Drivers will need time to drive to the Library and find suitable parking. Please inform Jim as to whether you can be a driver or need a ride.

Tuesday, March 5, 2020: Voices of Baltimore - Life Under Segregation.

Six people who attended segregated schools in Baltimore share their experiences both on film and in person. This event will take place at the West Village Commons, Ballroom A, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 pm. This event is jointly sponsored by the College of Education and Cook Library.

Friday, February 28, 2020: Hackerman House and Walters Museum

TURFA has booked a visit to Hackerman House, the newly renovated 19th century mansion that is affiliated with the Walters Museum. The Hackerman House and Walters Museum are located at 600 N. Charles Street in Baltimore. The visit is scheduled for Friday, February 28, 2020, at 11:00 a.m. Bob Hanson graciously has agreed to provide a guided tour of the House. After the guided tour, those who wish to do so can visit the Walters Museum. Admission to the House and Museum is free.

Please contact Janet DeLany by January 27, 2020, at jdelany@towson.edu or by text at 717 781 7101 if you are interested in the visit. Also, let her know if you are interested in carpooling- either need a ride or can provide a ride. To carpool, meet at 7400 York Road - Osher Lot -- by 10:15 a.m. Alternatively, meet at the Hackerman House at 10:55 a.m. Discounted parking is available at the parking lot at Centre and Cathedral Streets. Bring your parking pass to the reception desk at the museum to be validated. The Walters Cafe offers a light lunch - salads, sandwiches, wine, beer, and local products.