

WWW.LAKEFREDERICKTRAVELCLUB.COM

MEETS THE 2ND MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH FROM 11:45 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. IN RACHEL'S KITCHEN

## 2023 Committee

George Darnell  
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Doc Holladay  
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Margy Nolan  
*Communications Coordinator*

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Chris Oxford  
*Membership Coordinator*

Peggy Sabato  
*Newsletter Coordinator*

Pam Toliver  
*Website Manager*

Judy Bogner  
*Member at Large*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Meeting  
Monday, May 8, 2023  
Rachel's Kitchen  
11:45 a.m.  
Bring a dish to share!

## May 2023 ISSUE

### President's Message

April was a light month for the Club, but in May and June our travel picks up. We have some exciting trips planned, and some may seem a little expensive. The cost of transportation is driving the cost of our trips up. For example, the cost of a 48-passenger bus is \$1,800 a day. The cost of a 20- or 28-passenger mini-bus is \$90 per hour. And the cost of a 14-passenger van is \$750-800 per day. That makes the minimum cost of a 8-hour trip for 10 people about \$75 for transportation alone. One solution is larger groups or carpooling. But that doesn't work well for wine tours or other trips with alcohol . . . I'm open to suggestions.

I really appreciate the work that Sam Kern, Rick Turner, and Corinne Osius have done in planning our trips for May and June. Register early so we can confirm our transportation. You may notice that we have added a "Ladies Only" Wine Tour in the Charlottesville area and "Gentlemen only" Brewery Tour. We need some folks to help us plan those trips. In fact, we need help with any trip on the calendar labeled "TBD." And one of our members would like to know if there is interest in a carpool trip to the Josephine School Museum in Berryville. If so, please let us know and we will add it to the schedule. Look for more information about the museum later in this newsletter.

Michelle and I enjoyed our tour of the Chesapeake Bay on American Cruise Line over Easter. You can read our trip report in this newsletter. We are looking forward to the Potomac River Dinner Cruised in June.

For the future, Rick Turner is working on a tour of the Manassas Battlefields. Mike Ericksen will be the lead for our tour of Harpers Ferry. Rich Karis is planning our Oktoberfest Trip. Our founding president, Judy Bogner, is working on our Christmas in

Williamsburg trip. And, by member request, we added Noah's Ark and Creation Museum in Kentucky to our trips. Please review our schedule of trips and the cutoff dates for registration.

Our potluck luncheon is on May 8<sup>th</sup> in Rachel's Kitchen. Don't enter before 11:45 to give the Ladies of the Lake time to finish their meeting.

See you around campus and on our trips,

George Darnell

703-850-2132

[darnellgd@hotmail.com](mailto:darnellgd@hotmail.com)

## Chesapeake Bay Cruise Trip Report April 4, 2023 by George Darnell

George and Michelle Darnell took their first small ship cruise of the U.S. in April with American Cruise Line on the Chesapeake Bay. On Tuesday, April 4, we drove to Baltimore to start our adventure. We stayed overnight in the Holiday Inn Express Downtown because they had a special rate for cruises. We could leave our car in a locked garage, and they would drive us to and from the dock. The ship docked in the McCormick and Schmick's Restaurant Plaza. The greeters took our luggage to our room while we waited to check in.



Our cruise director indicated some points of interest, like Fort McHenry and the Domino Sugar Plant as we sailed out of Baltimore Harbor and under the Chesapeake Bay Bridge. On Thursday morning we found ourselves docked in Portsmouth next to the paddlewheel ferry to Norfolk. The cruise offered many excursions in the area, and we selected a few that would not require much walking: the Virginia Beach Aquarium, and the Chrysler Museum (Michelle was fascinated with the glass collection.) and MacArthur Memorial in Norfolk. American Cruise Line has its own fleet of tour busses using local drivers and tour guides.

After two days in Portsmouth, we sailed overnight up the York River to explore Jamestown, Williamsburg, and Yorktown on Saturday and Sunday. Our cruise director filled us in on the history of the area and the importance of these towns in the establishment of the USA. He was also an ordained minister and led us in an Easter morning service. We had visited the area many times with our family. So, we skipped the excursions except for a trip to the Yorktown Visitor's Center.



Another overnight sail brought us up the Potomac to Washington, where we docked near the Rappahannock Oyster Baron on Maine Ave SW, site of the Travel Club's lunch during our Cherry Blossom Walking Tour.

Unfortunately for folks hoping to see the Cherry Blossom, they were gone. But several other tours of the DC area, including Mount Vernon, kept us occupied during the two days in dock. We sailed out of DC under the Woodrow Wilson Bridge and watched the sunset over Quantico Marine Corps Base.







We docked in Cambridge, MD, for supplies and a few tours around this historic fisherman's town before heading to picturesque St. Michel's, MD. Walking excursions were the order of the day here, with a restored fishing village, antique car museum, and loads of local shops and restaurants to keep weekend visitors busy. It's near the bay bridge and would be ideal for a day or overnight trip for our members.



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Historic Annapolis, home of the U.S. Naval Academy, before returning to Baltimore. We took an excursion Severn River at its mouth on the bay and then a bus tour Annapolis. In between, we had a delightful lunch at a

was our last stop cruise around the around dockside



restaurant and watched the cars from our open balcony table trying to find a parking spot near the plaza. As we left Annapolis, we saw why it is called the sailboat capital of the U.S. There were sailboats of every size and color dancing around our five-deck cruise ship.

We arrived back in Baltimore Harbor in time for our last dinner with the friends we met on the cruise, two "Red Hat" widows from Arizona, and a senior couple from Iowa. They had been on several other American Cruise Line vacations and recommended them highly. We

docked on Saturday morning and said our goodbyes after breakfast before disembarking. A crew member waited with us in the plaza until our driver from Holiday Inn picked us up and took us to our car for our drive back to Lake Frederick.

Everything American Cruise Lines says in their brochures and on their website is true. They offer first-class all-inclusive cruises of America. Our neighbors, Dale, and Suzanne Davis, who have taken more cruises than we have, agree. We have booked the Music Cities Cruise from Memphis to Nashville in October 2024 for our 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. But we are glad to be home in Lake Frederick.



## **Trips Planned for 2023**

- May 6—Apple Blossom Parade; reserved seat on parade route plus R/T shuttle \$50
- May 12—Winchester Battlefields \$40
- May 27—Jun 1—Bermuda Cruise w/Greg on Royal Caribbean from NJ; \$552 pp inside cabin by Feb 1; carpool R/T NJ; Contact Gregory Payonk [gpayonk@gmail.com](mailto:gpayonk@gmail.com)
- Jun 16—Culpeper/Montpelier Wine Tour \$110
- Jun 22—Potomac River Dinner Cruise \$195
- Jul 7-8—Moses & Dear Soldier in Lancaster, PA; 2 days/1 night/3 meals; \$459 pp dbl, \$538 sgl, R/T coach; \$100 dep by Jun 7- Contact <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Jul 28—Gentlemen Only Brewery Tour TBD
- Aug 18—Manassas National Battlefield Park Tour & Bull Run Winery Tour TBD
- Aug 25—Charlottesville Area Ladies Only Wine Tour TBD
- Sep 16—Harpers Ferry, WV Tour TBD
- Sep 24-Oct 1—Globus Iceland Tour w/Greg; 8 days/ 7 nights/ bkfst & dnr daily; R/T air from Dulles; \$4,536 pp w/\$500 deposit by Jun 1; R/T carpool to Dulles; Contact Gregory Payonk [gpayonk@gmail.com](mailto:gpayonk@gmail.com)
- Sep 25-28—Niagara Falls; 4 days/ 3 nights/ 4 meals; \$769 pp dbl, \$979 sgl, R/T coach, \$100 dep by Apr 1 - Contact <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Sep 27-30—Noah's Ark & Creation Museum in KY; 4 days/ 3 nights/ 3 meals; \$759 pp dbl, \$1009 sgl, R/T coach, \$100 dep by Aug 1 - Contact <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Sep 29—Oktoberfest Brewery Tour TBD
- Oct 12-14—Colors of Autumn: Falling-water, Pittsburgh tour & river cruise, Potomac Eagle train ride; 3 days/ 2 nights/ 6 meals; \$839 pp dbl, \$1039 sgl, R/T Coach; \$100 dep by Aug 1 - contact <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Oct 23—Camp Rapidan Tour by NPS TBD
- Nov 16—Night at Charles Town Races TBD
- Nov 28-30—Longwood Gardens/Miracle of Christmas in PA; 3 days, 2 nights, 4 meals; \$769 pp dbl, \$899; \$100 dep by Sep 15, R/ Coach - contact <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Dec 16 - Wreaths Across American in Winchester National Cemetery
- Dec 10-13—Christmas in Williamsburg TBD

**Please note: Shenandoah Tours fill quickly; make reservations early!**

## Trip Registration Deadlines for 2023

- May 5—Winchester Battlefields
- Jun 1—Globus Iceland Tour  
Gregory Payonk [gpayonk@gmail.com](mailto:gpayonk@gmail.com) -
- Jun 2—Potomac River Dinner Cruise
- Jun 7—Culpeper/Montpelier Wine Tour
- Jun 8—Moses & Dear Soldier  
<https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Aug 1—Colors of Autumn: Falling-water, Pittsburgh tour & river cruise, Potomac Eagle train ride <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Aug 1—Noah's Ark & Creation Museum in KY <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Aug 8—Manassas National Battlefield Park Tour & Brewery Lunch Tour
- Aug 16 — Charlottesville Area Wine Tour
- Sep 6—Harpers Ferry, WV Tour
- Sep 15—Longwood Gardens/Miracle of Christmas in PA  
<https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Sep 19— Oktoberfest Brewery Tour
- Oct 13—Camp Rapidan Tour by NPS
- Nov 6—Night at Charles Town Races
- Nov 10—Christmas in Williamsburg TBD
- Dec 1—Wreaths Across America in Winchester

## Josephine School Museum Dates TBD

If you are interested in a trip to the Josephine School Museum in Berryville, (<https://www.jschoolmuseum.org/>), please let me know.

It's a tiny gem of a museum . . . here's a bit of its history from its brochure:

*"The former slaves and free colored people of this community built the Josephine City School to provide their children with a grade school education. Under the leadership of Rev. Edward Johnson, a new building was completed in 1930 to provide high school education for Negro students and was called the Clarke County Training School. It was named the W.T.B. Williams Training School in 1944 to honor a Clarke County native who served as Dean of Tuskegee Institute. From 1949 to 1966, the school was known as Johnson-Williams High School. After the integration of public schools, it became the Johnson-Williams Intermediate School and served students of all races from 1966 until it closed in 1987. The high school building was converted into apartments for older people in 1992. The original Josephine City School was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 2003 it became the first museum devoted to the history of Clarke County's African American community."*

In addition to artifacts of the community, there is a timeline of events from the earliest days of Clarke County to the present. The museum is open on Sunday afternoons from 1-3 p.m. and by appointment. If there is enough interest, I will arrange a tour for us. This would be an easy carpool trip, just 11 miles down the road. Either before or after depending on the time spent at the museum, we could have a meal at one of the many restaurants in Berryville.

Please express your interest in this trip at the May potluck or contact me at [coxford1@aol.com](mailto:coxford1@aol.com). If there is sufficient interest, I'll set it up, probably for this summer.



## Third Winchester Battlefield Tour May 12, 2023



Good News! Our Civil War enthusiasts, Sam Kerns and Rick Turner will be leading us on another battlefield tour. We have all heard how many times Winchester changed hands during the Civil War, and we have visited the battlefields of Cedar Creek and Kernstown, but we have never been to the site of the bloodiest battle, Third Winchester.

On Friday, May 12, 2023, Sam and Rick will act as our guides to the largest battle fought in the Shenandoah Valley during the Civil War. They will discuss the battle plus the role it played in the last Valley Campaign. They will clarify how it affected life in the valley and the important part it played in the war. There is even a street in Winchester named for the Confederate general. Do you know his name?

### Schedule:

- 8:45 a.m. Leave Lodge
- Stop #1 Third Winchester Visitors Center
- Stop #2 Middle Field of the Battle (approximate half mile flat leisure walk)
- Stop #3 Fort Collier Confederate Cemetery (may just drive through)
- Stop #4 Mount Hebron Cemetery Final Confederate battle line and gravesites (may have quarter mile walk depending on bus access on that day)
- Stop #5 Vibrissa Brewery of Winchester (5 minutes from cemetery)
- 2:30 p.m. Arrive Lodge

The minimum for this trip is 18 and maximum is 28. Registration is \$40 for transportation. Lunch and driver's tip are not included.

Please register on MTL Events and drop off your registration check made out to "Lake Frederick Travel Club" with your contact information and the date of the trip with the lodge concierge no later than May 4, 2023.

George Darnell  
(703-850-2132)  
[darnellgd@hotmail.com](mailto:darnellgd@hotmail.com)

## Montpelier, Culpeper, & Wineries Tour June 16, 2023

Our neighbor, Corinne Osius, has arranged a wonderful tour of the Virginia Piedmont for us. We will start with a guided tour of the Montpelier Estate of President James Madison. Then we will visit Culpeper for lunch at “It’s About Thyme,” and maybe have some time to browse local shops. We will wrap up the day with visits to colorful wineries in the area before heading home.



### Schedule:

- 8:00 a.m. Leave Lodge
- 9:40 a.m. Arrive at Montpelier (to arrive 20 minutes before the guided tour)
- 10:00 a.m. Tour estate
- 11:20 a.m. Leave for Culpeper
- 12:00 p.m. Arrive at “It’s About Thyme” for lunch
- 1:30 p.m. Head to Old House Winery and Brewery
- 1:45 p.m. Arrive at Old House for tastings of wine and beer
- 2:30 p.m. Head for Mountain Run Winery
- 2:45 p.m. Arrive Mountain Run Winery for tastings
- 3:45 p.m. Leave Mountain View
- 5:00 p.m. Arrive at Lodge

The minimum for this trip is 10 and maximum is 14.  
Registration is \$110 for transportation and guided tour of Montpelier.  
Lunch, tastings, and driver’s tip are not included.

Please register on MTL Events and drop off your registration check, payable to “Lake Frederick Travel Club,” with your contact information and the date of the trip, with the lodge concierge no later than June 6, 2023.

George Darnell  
(703-850-2132)  
[darnellgd@hotmail.com](mailto:darnellgd@hotmail.com)



## Potomac River Dinner Cruise June 22, 2023



The Washington, D.C. shoreline and skyline are awesome from the Potomac River, especially on a summer night. What better way to enjoy them than on a Potomac River dinner cruise. For this trip we will be cruising on the Odyssey while enjoying a three-course plated dinner and the music of a DJ. A cash bar is on board. Dress is smart/business casual (collared shirts-no jeans or shorts). We will take a van round trip from the lodge to the Maine Ave SW dock.

**Please note: there is an early deadline for registration to ensure the venue will have room for us.**

### Schedule:

- 4:00 p.m. Leave Lodge
- 6:00 p.m. Arrive at dock for boarding
- 7:00 p.m. Dinner and cruising
- 9:30 p.m. Deboard ship and head home
- 11:30 p.m. Arrive Lodge

The minimum for this trip is 14 and maximum is 28. Registration is \$195 for transportation and dinner cruise. Alcoholic beverages and driver's tip are not included. Please register early on MTL Events and drop off your registration check, payable to "Lake Frederick Travel Club," with your contact information and the date of the trip, with the lodge concierge no later than June 1, 2023. Menu choices will be provided when registration is confirmed.

George Darnell  
(703-850-2132)  
[darnellgd@hotmail.com](mailto:darnellgd@hotmail.com)

## **Iceland Tour - \$4,536\*/pp** **Sept. 24 – Oct. 1, 2023 (8 days)**

**INCLUDES:**

- Scheduled tours with expert local guides as outlined in itinerary.
- VIP sightseeing access to iconic sites.
- Includes full buffet breakfast and 3-course dinner daily.
- First class hotels.
- Tour transportation beginning day 2 to completion day 8.
- Roundtrip, nonstop Iceland Air (IAD – KEF, departing 9/23/2023 8:35 p.m.).
- Roundtrip transfers from KEF (Reykjavik airport) to downtown hotel (Hilton Reykjavik Nordica)

**NOT INCLUDED:**

- Roundtrip transfers from Lake Frederick to Dulles (available \$25 pp each way).
- Optional excursions at particular points on tour during scheduled free time will be made available for booking as tour date gets closer.
- Morning of arrival after Iceland airport transfers to hotel to drop bags (before 2 p.m. check-in), we will take 3 hrs. Viator Reykjavik sightseeing tour by minibus \$54

**WHAT NEXT:**

- \$500 non-refundable deposit (cancellations 90 days prior, deposit applied to a different Globus tour).
- Decide on purchase of Globus travel protection (\$299/pp) paid at time of deposit.
- Contact Leslie Dean 303.703.7769 or [ldean@globusfamily.com](mailto:ldean@globusfamily.com) Ask for discounts!!! \*Price quoted was based on airfare booking Nov 4, 2022 and may change based on airfare at time of your booking)
- I emailed passport info for each passenger (full name, number, birthdates, state of birth, issue and expiration date) and Leslie called me back to take credit card info for deposit. Or you could give all that info when she calls if you prefer.
- Do mention you are part of Lake Frederick Travel Club group and ask to be attached to reservation #859935 so your booking will count towards our group discount and rooms and dinner reservations will be booked together.

**OTHER INFO:**

- Depending on group size, we would get additional per person discounts. 8-12 \$100, 13-16 \$150, 17-24 \$200
- Final Payment due 7/26/2023.
- Northern lights peak periods are September and March (equinoxes).
- This is a small group tour with 24 people max.

Greg Payonk is travel lead for this trip.

201.323.2144 [gpayonk@gmail.com](mailto:gpayonk@gmail.com) 106 Witherod Court

## Hello Iceland Travelers - Update

We have all booked the Iceland airfare and RT local transfers through Globus.

After many emails with the Viator tour operator for the Reykjavik City tour, you will need to consider the following information whether or not to keep or cancel the Viator reservation:

- We arrive 6:30AM and have to deplane and collect luggage
- Then exit through customs/immigration (I was told this is zero time by another LF Iceland traveler)
- Find the Globus transfer vehicle 45min ride to downtown hotel

Assuming flight arrives on time (could be earlier too?), and baggage is expedient and transfers to downtown hotel are smooth (I contacted Globus rep about this and she reached out to transfer agent and was told once we load into van, it would depart immediately and direct to hotel), we should arrive before 8:30AM which is the latest hotel-pickup time the tour operator would agree to.

So the risk is we pay \$54 for the tour and lose this money because we are late and tour will not wait for us.

Viator cancellations are 24hrs prior full refund but we wouldn't know our timing till morning of the tour.

All this said, I'm going to keep my reservation and risk it because the alternative is we arrive very early in Reykjavic and have nothing to do all day and no other day available to see the city. However, I just wanted all my fellow travelers to understand the issues and make their own decision.

I also contacted a private tour operator but they did not write back (several weeks now). I asked Globus if they offer a city tour and they said they use Viator. If anyone has other ideas please circulate to the group.

<https://www.viator.com/tours/Reykjavik/Reykjavik-Sightseeing-Tour/d905-2970AH10>

## Colors of Autumn, Rails, & Riverboats

**October 12-14, 2023**

Tour # 23006 Cost of Tour - Per Person

Twin \$839 Single \$1079

3 DAYS \* 6 MEALS It's Autumn, and Mother Nature has put on her spectacular coat of many colors. Join Shenandoah Tours for the Autumn Serenade River Cruise in Pittsburgh, and a scenic rail excursion on the Potomac Eagle train in Romney, West Virginia. Rediscover the real America from the rivers and the rails. Visit Fallingwater, the famous home of Frank Lloyd Wright, cantilevered over a mountain waterfall. Don't delay...book today for this scenic journey!

- Day 1 - Thursday - October 12

Travel to Pennsylvania

Fallingwater / Arrive in Pittsburgh

All aboard for our scenic Autumn adventure. This morning we'll make our way into Pennsylvania's beautiful Laurel Highlands for a visit to Fallingwater, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. This architectural masterpiece was built over a waterfall and was used as a mountain retreat by the Edgar Kauffman family. It's a must-see attraction. Continue to Pittsburgh and check into the Drury Hotel for a two night stay. Tonight, enjoy a light dinner at the hotel with fellow travelers. (D)

- Day 2 - Friday - October 13

- Autumn Serenade River Cruise Pittsburgh Sightseeing Tour

- Ride on the Duquesne Incline

An exciting day awaits as we board the Gateway Clipper Autumn Serenade River Cruise. Sit back and rediscover the real America with her scenic vistas and spectacular foliage. Enjoy an included lunch and entertainment while gliding along the river. Afterwards join our local guide for a tour of Pittsburgh's highlights and take a ride on the Duquesne Incline to the top of Mount Washington for the Three Rivers view. Again, dinner is included at the hotel this evening. (B,L,D)

- Day 3 - Saturday - October 14

- Travel to West Virginia,

- Board the Potomac Eagle Train Excursion

- Travel Home

This morning we head to Romney, West Virginia, to board the Potomac Eagle Autumn Train. This train excursion takes us through narrow valleys and along the South Branch of the Potomac River, offering views of fall's brilliant colors that can only be enjoyed from the rails. Keep your camera ready for magnificent eagles that make their home here among the high valley walls. Later this afternoon, we'll board our coach and head for home bringing with us fond memories of our "Colors of Autumn" adventure. (B,



## Wreaths Across America – Saturday, December 16, 2023

<https://www.wreathsassamerica.org>



*Remember – Our Fallen U.S. Veterans*

*Honor – Those Who Serve*

*Teach – Your Children the Value of Freedom*

Each December on National Wreaths Across America Day, our mission to Remember, Honor and Teach is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at more than 3,700 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad.

**Wreath**-Laying Ceremonies at 3,000+ Participating Locations Nationwide. Your \$17 Sponsorship Places a Fresh Balsam **Wreath** on the Headstone of an **American** Hero. We remember their lives. Join us by sponsoring a veterans' wreath at a cemetery near you, volunteering or donating to a local sponsorship group.

WINCHESTER, VA 2023 SO FAR

120 Wreaths Sponsored  
2.2% to Goal 5,441 To Go!

We will be taking a group to the Winchester National Cemetery (VAWNCW) to participate in laying wreaths on Saturday December 16<sup>th</sup>. More information will follow. If you would like to purchase a wreath, go to the website listed above for more details and options. Please indicate that you would like your wreath to go to the Winchester, VA National Cemetery. Thank you so much for supporting Winchester National Cemetery and Wreaths Across America!