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

2023 Committee

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Communications Coordinator

Gary McDowell
Treasurer

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Judy Bogner
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July 2023 ISSUE

President's Message

Well, here we are in the busy travel month of July already! I hope you enjoyed the Independence Day celebrations here in our community and with family and friends. I marched in the Rachel Carson parade in the morning of the 4th and Michelle and I enjoyed celebrating with neighbors on the Lakeside Lawn in the afternoon. What a great place to live!

In June we carpooled to Berryville for a visit to the Josephine School Museum, led by Chris Oxford. Read her report in this newsletter. They are having a 20th Anniversary Open House on July 15th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. if you missed this trip. Then we toured Montpelier and the Culpeper area with Corinne and John Osius. Finally, we took a Potomac River Dinner Cruise with George and Michelle Darnell. Read the trip reports in this newsletter.

For July we are trying something new: separate trips for men and women. The Ladies Only Winery Tour in August was so popular that it sold out quickly. So, we added a second trip in July that is also almost sold out on MTL. The Gentlemen's Brewery Tour registration on MTL still has room. But remember: your registration is not complete until we have your check. We are trying to get the word out on our trips to our members as many ways as we can, including posting them as Bulletins and MTL Events for registration. That gives us a quick read on how much interest there is in a trip. But until our treasurer, Gary McDowell, has your check in hand you are not registered.

Speaking of Gary, he prepared a financial report of club activities for the first six months of 2023 that we included in this newsletter. Some of you may be concerned about the increased fees for our trips and where the money is going. I share your concern. The increased cost of transportation is making our trips more expensive for all of us. Rest assured: No One Travels For Free. Organizers of trips pay the same registration as everyone else.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Meeting
Monday, July 10, 2023
Rachel's Kitchen
11:45 a.m.
Please bring a dish to share.

Beginning Balance	YTD Expenses	YTD Deposits	Ending Balance	YTD Profit/Loss
January 1, 2023*			June 29, 2023	
\$5,141.58	\$9,133.78	\$8,741.00	\$4,748.80	(\$392.78)
Trip/ Event	Expenses	Deposits		Profit /Loss
February Lunch	\$931.87	\$492.00		(\$439.87)
Valentines Day	\$1,179.15	\$999.00		(\$180.15)
Cherry Blossom	\$1,570.60	\$1,845.00		\$274.40
Third Winchester	\$850.00	\$920.00		\$70.00
River Cruise	\$3,280.00	\$3,055.00		(\$225.00)
Montpelier Wine	\$1,292.00	\$1,430.00		\$138.00
Go Daddy website	\$30.16			(\$30.16)

*Over the lifetime of the Lake Frederick Travel Club, we have received donations, had a couple of fundraisers, sold nametags, and sold gift certificates to build a cushion of cash for starting a website and taking care of incidental expenses. As a result, we established working capital to meet the needs of the club. We do not make a profit on trips and no one gets a free trip nor do we pay for speakers. Everyone is a volunteer.

Virginia Rides bus company charges us \$90 per hour for a 28-passenger bus, like we used for our Winchester Battlefield Tour, plus two additional hours for their trip to the lodge and back to their headquarters in Purcellville. Shenandoah Tours, who now own the Classy Cowboy Vans operated by Gary and Lynda Clark before Gary's death in 2022, charges \$750 per day for a 12- or 14-passenger van and \$850 for a 20-passenger van. The new owner, who was a driver for Gary, told me that Gary was losing money on us with his low per-person fees. For short trips, like the Apple Blossom Parade, we can sometimes use our neighbor Tony's 12-passenger commuter van if he is in town and if we pay him cash.

Having to make advance payments for reservations on some of our trips, like the Montpelier tour and the Potomac cruise, causes us to have earlier registration cutoffs to ensure our members have a ticket. I usually put these fees on my credit card and Gary reimburses me after the trip. If you have any questions about our club's finances, or suggestions for lowering our costs, please contact me or Gary.

Please check our Travel Calendar in this newsletter. Shenandoah Tours, that we use for overnight trips, informed me that some of their trips are sold out and others are almost full. They will be sending me an advance copy of their 2024 schedule that we can incorporate in our schedule. As always, if you have any ideas for trips, especially if you can help with planning, please let me know.

Michelle and I are signed up for an American Cruise Line paddle wheeler trip from Memphis to Nashville for our 65th anniversary in October 2024. Let us know if you would like to join us and we may be able to get a group discount.

Don't miss our potluck luncheon this month on July 10 at 11:45 a.m.. Bring a neighbor and introduce them to us. That's it for this month. Safe travels and see you around campus.

George Darnell
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Montpelier, Culpeper, & Wineries Tour

by George Darnell

June 16, 2023



Thirteen adventurous travelers: Laura Ayres; George & Michelle Darnell; Wendy Delaney; Barbara Dooner; Philip & Dana Kelly; John & Corinne Osius; Roger & Sandra Shaver; and Evelyn Walsh, boarded a Shenandoah Tours bus at 8:00 a.m. and headed for the colonial Virginia Piedmont. We took I-66 and Rt. 17 to Rt 29 in Culpeper and then headed down Rt. 15 toward Orange. It is easy to forget how much of Virginia is still rural farm country. After passing through Orange, VA, it was a short drive to Montpelier, the home of President James Madison and his wife Dolly, who set the standard for First Ladies, perhaps until Jacqueline Kennedy.



Montpelier has a modern visitors center with gift shop, books, restaurants, and restrooms to enhance your visit. We collected our senior tour tickets and walked a short distance to the mansion for our guided tour. Our guide was an American studies teacher and filled us in on the history of the house, family, and the early days of the republic. When Dolly died, she received a grand funeral as the last person to have known the founding fathers personally. She had to sell the estate before her death to pay mounting debts. It is currently owned by a foundation to preserve its history.

We will not spoil your visit by telling you too much, except to say that Montpelier was a working tobacco plantation that used slaves. James and

Dolly hosted many people you would recognize from your history books.

From Montpelier we backtracked to Culpeper, passing a railroad station that had been converted to a post office. We arrived a little later than expected at "It's About Thyme" Greek restaurant in Culpeper. Our driver, Steve, was able to let us off near the entrance and we were seated immediately, thanks to Corinne's reservation. The menu and service were delightful, and we enjoyed our food and conversations. This is a popular place. If you plan to visit, make reservations. Steve was able to pick us up at the door and we were on our way to the first wine stop.





For this trip we picked two wineries that were off the beaten path. Old House is about 15 minutes from Culpeper in farm country. It has a large seating area in a rustic setting, with wine and beer tastings during the week and adds a distillery on weekends. We were able to select our wine or beer flights at the same long counter. Some of us chose wine, others chose beer. No one was disappointed.

Our last stop, Mountain Run Winery, was even more remote and rustic. We selected our wines and then enjoyed them and more conversation around a large round table in an open-air barn. Despite its remoteness, it seemed to be a popular place because the lawn was set up for a wedding the next day.

Finally, we boarded our bus and Steve drove us back to the lodge where we tipped him, said our goodbyes, and headed to our homes. It was a pleasant day.

Josephine School Museum Trip Report

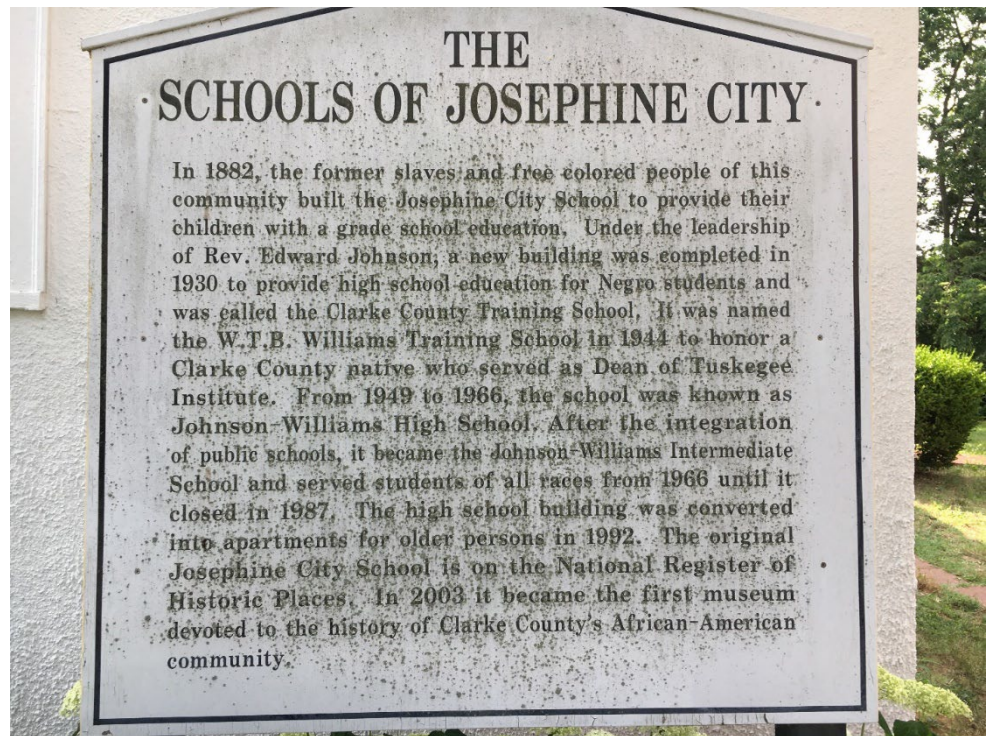
by Chris Oxford

June 19, 2023

On Monday, June 19th, Juneteenth, sixteen of us visited the Josephine School Museum in Berryville. This museum, tucked away on a side street off South Church Street, was originally the schoolhouse for the children of freed slaves who established Josephine City. It sits next to the Johnson-Williams Senior Apartments, converted from the Clarke County Training School, a high school for Clarke's Black students.

Museum President Adeela Al-Khalili was our guide. She told us about the history of the Museum and led a discussion of racial history in this country and our area in particular. Many of us shared what we had learned about history in schools across the country. The commonality was that none of us learned much, if anything, about Black history or the contributions of Black people to the formation of the United States.

There was ample time to explore the Museum. The old-style school desks on display brought back memories of school days for some of us. An abundance of photographs of prominent Clarke County Black citizens grace the walls along with framed articles recounting important events in Black history. We've lived through vast changes in race relations in this country, but, it was agreed, there's still much ground to cover.



One of the stories Adeela shared with us was that of a Josephine City gentleman who sold vegetables to the White citizens of Winchester. He was trusted by both Blacks and Whites and was able to travel freely during the Civil War. One of his customers was a Quaker woman who shared with him the news of troop movements that she was able to glean from neighborhood conversations. This gentleman, whose name, unfortunately I have forgotten, was instrumental in passing on this information to Union troops.



She also talked about some of the Museum's other programs such as their Book Club and introduced us to some books written by local authors. I have enjoyed Juliet From Slavery to Inspiration by Jesse L. Russell that tells the story of the author's ancestor who fought for her freedom that had been promised by her owner but denied by his heirs. Many of the settings in the book still exist and can be seen when driving along Clarke's back roads.

Following our museum visit, a group of us went to Santorini Grill in Berryville, one of my favorite local restaurants, for lunch where some enjoyed authentic Greek dishes while others went for American sandwiches.

Potomac River Dinner Cruise

By George Darnell

June 22, 2023



Fourteen sophisticated senior travelers: Kenneth & Virginia Castor, George & Michelle Darnell, Pat & Kimberly Hackett, Timothy & Kathryn Hoffman, Richard & Eileen Karis, Dorothy Lutz & Joseph Revelli, and James & Regina Walker, braved the possible rain to board a Virginia Rides bus headed for DC. We left about 4:15 p.m. and started down I-66 toward Maine Ave along the DC wharf. Our driver, Kevin, used the express lanes to get us to our ship just a few minutes before the 6:00 p.m. boarding time. He was able to drop us off a few steps from the dock. Along the way, those of us who had worked in the DC area pointed out familiar places and expressed our relief at not facing those commutes anymore.

The crew escorted us to our reserved table next to the dance floor, between the DJ and the bar. Our waiter, Will, took our drink orders and explained our menu options as the ship pulled away from the dock. The rain was only a light sprinkle with a gentle breeze. We headed out of the Washington Channel downstream on the river. We passed Haines Point (Anyone from the DMV remember the submarine races that young couples watched on date nights? I do.) We also passed Fort McNair and the National War College (where I was in the 1985 graduating class) before moving into the main channel past Regan National Airport and the docks of Old Town Alexandria. On the other shore were the military and government installations in Anacostia.



Our dinners were served promptly and carefully. We enjoyed our meals and conversation as the ship continued down the Potomac. It passed under the massive Woodrow Wilson Bridge that connects Maryland and Virginia stretches of I-395. As the ship turned, we could see the giant Ferris Wheel in Potomac Harbor on the Maryland shore. About this, meal service, except for coffee and after dinner drinks, was over and the DJ opened the dance floor with some classic group stomping music. Michelle was not too happy sitting next to the loud dance floor. So, we retreated to an empty table in the stern. Other folks took the opportunity to walk the deck outside for clearer views of the skyline. In the distance we could see lightning in the direction of the mountains and we anticipated a rainy ride home.

The ship was back in dock just a little before 10:00 p.m. We disembarked after taking advantage of the classy restrooms on the lower deck. Our driver was waiting for us where he left us off. It took a while to get out of DC and we enjoyed the night lights of the Lincoln Memorial, Kennedy Center, and other buildings before reaching I-66 for home.

The ride home was uneventful, except for moderate rain, which we really needed. By the time we reached Lake Frederick it had slowed to a drizzle. That was a good thing because we forgot to bring a gate clicker with us. After a few of us tried various visitors gate codes it finally opened and almost closed before everyone was back on the bus. We finally pulled up to the lodge just before midnight, tipped Kevin, said our goodbyes, and headed home in our cars. It was a delightful evening in a beautiful capital city.



Trips Planned for 2023

v13

- Jul 21—Ladies Wine Tour #1 \$75
- Jul 28—Gentlemen's Brewery Tour \$75
- Aug 18—Manassas National Battlefield Park & Bull Run Winery Tour \$75
- Aug 25—Ladies Wine Tour #2 \$75
- Sep 16—Harpers Ferry, WV Tour TBD
- 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 – PLENTY OF ROOM 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 – SOLD OUT 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 9 – Wreaths Across American in Winchester National Cemetery
- Dec 10-13—Christmas in Williamsburg TBD

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

Also note: The cost of vans for day trips is now \$95/hour.

2023 Trip Registration Deadlines

- Jul 14—Ladies Wine Tour
- Jul 14—Gentlemen's Brewery Tour
- Aug 1—Noah's Ark & Creation Museum in KY <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Aug 4—Manassas National Battlefield Park Tour & Bull Run Winery
- Aug 10 —Ladies Wine Tour
- Sep 2—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

Ladies Wine Tour 1

July 21, 2023



Many thanks to our member and vineyard expert, Corinne Osius, for helping plan this trip. Why should the 20-somethings have all the fun visiting Virginia wineries and vineyards? Why not a group of 55+ ladies? For this trip we will visit three vineyards in the Virginia Piedmont. We thought about the Charlottesville area, but that would be too much time on the road and higher transportation costs. So, we picked three first-class wineries on the Routes 29/522 corridors for this outing: Prince Michel; Magnolia, and Rappahannock. Food is available at all three.

Schedule:

- 10:30 a.m. Leave Lodge
- 12:00 p.m. Arrive Prince Michel Vineyard & Winery near Madison, VA
- 1:30 p.m. Leave Prince Michel
- 2:15 p.m. Arrive Magnolia Vineyards
- 3:30 p.m. Leave Magnolia
- 4:00 p.m. Arrive Rappahannock Cellars
- 5:30 p.m. Leave Rappahannock
- 6:00 p.m. Arrive Lodge

The minimum for this trip is 10 and maximum is 14.

Registration is \$75 for transportation. 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 July 14, 2023

George Darnell (703-850-2132) darnellgd@hotmail.com

Gentlemen's Brewery Tour

July 28, 2023



Many thanks to our member and beer expert, Rich Karis, for doing the planning for this trip. We will visit three local breweries for the men who like beer. Our first stop will be 2 Silos Brewing Company in Manassas. It gets its name from the two farm silos that it repurposed. It is a favorite watering hole for the younger set on weekends. But seasoned beer lovers are also welcome.

Continuing the farm motif, our next stop will be The Farm Brewery at Broad Run, near Haymarket. They have a huge indoor and outdoor area to relax with your choice of beers. We may even find some horseshoe pits and corn hole stations to test our skills.

Our last stop will be close to home in Delaplane at Three Fox Vineyard and Brewery. They have a beautiful hilltop outdoor setting on Route 17 to wind down before we return home. If you have tasted enough beer, you can sample their fine wines.

Schedule:

- 10:30 a.m. Leave Lodge
- 11:45 a.m. Arrive 2 Silos
- 1:15 p.m. Leave 2 Silos
- 1:45 p.m. Arrive Broad Run
- 3:15 p.m. Leave Broad Run
- 4:45 p.m. Arrive Three Fox
- 5:45 p.m. Leave Three Fox
- 6:15 p.m. Arrive Lodge

The minimum for this trip is 12 and maximum is 20.

Registration is \$75 for transportation. 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 July 14, 2023

George Darnell (703-850-2132) darnellgd@hotmail.com

Manassas National Battlefield Park Tour

August 18, 2023



For this trip our member and Civil War expert, Rick Turner, will lead us on a tour of the Battlefields of First and Second Manassas. Spoiler alert: the Confederate States won both battles and Rick will tell us why and how.

Schedule:

- 8:00 a.m. Leave Lodge
- 9:00 a.m. Arrive at park to tour First Manassas Battle of July 21, 1861
- 9:00 a.m. Visit the Stone Bridge
- 9:30 a.m. Visit Sudley Church
- 10:00 a.m. Visit Henry House Hill (There are restrooms in Visitors Center)
- 11:00 a.m. Leave Park for lunch
- 11:30-12:30 p.m. Lunch at Golden Corral Buffet
- Return to park for Second Manassas Battle of Aug. 28-30, 1862
- 1:00 p.m. Visit Brawner Farm (restrooms at this stop)
- 2:00 p.m. Visit the Deep Cut
- 3:30 p.m. Visit New York Monuments / Longstreet's Assault
- 4:00 p.m. Visit Chinn Ridge
- 4:30 p.m. Leave Park
- 4:45 p.m. Visit the Winery at Bull Run
- 6:00 p.m. Leave Winery for home
- 7:00 p.m. Arrive Lodge

The minimum for this trip is 15 and maximum is 28.

Registration is \$75 for transportation. 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 August 4, 2023

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