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MEETS EVERY MONTH THE 2ND MONDAY AT 11:30 A.M. IN RACHEL'S KITCHEN

## 2019 Committee

Judy Bogner  
*President*

George Darnell  
*Vice President*

John Butler  
*Secretary*

Allison Thomas  
*Treasurer*

Charlotte Morris  
*Membership Coordinator*

Pamela Toliver  
*Newsletter Coordinator*

Pamela Toliver  
*Website Manager*

Blake Adams  
*Member at Large*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Meeting  
Monday, January 13  
Rachel's Kitchen  
11:30 a.m.

**Potluck**  
**Please Bring a Dish to Share!**

## JANUARY 2020 ISSUE

### Colonial Williamsburg by Herb & Kathleen Laflamme

December 9-11, 2019

Our Williamsburg Christmas trip was a fun-packed, jolly holiday that started with a wine tasting visit and delicious lunch at the Upper Shirley Winery along the James River for all 26 Travel Club Members. Later that afternoon and into the evening, our travels shifted to visiting three Plantations. The first was the Shirley Plantation which dates back to 1613. It is still occupied by descendants of the Carter family. We then visited the Berkely Plantation which was twice abandoned for 88 years and is now privately owned. Lastly, we traveled to Charles City and visited the Edgewood Plantation. The Edgewood Plantation owners are collectors of vintage antiques. Our next stop was the Woodlands Hotel in Williamsburg, our lodging for the next two nights.



We started the second day by visiting Colonial Williamsburg – cheerfully decked out for the period Christmas holidays. There was all of the traditional Colonial historic activities and crafts, accompanied frequently by holiday music and cheer. Several in our group did some Christmas shopping at Merchant's Square as well as in period Colonial shops.

Later that afternoon, our Travel Club Group shifted gears and headed to the fabulously beautiful, festive Busch

Gardens Christmas Town! Several of us had been here previously, but each year it has grown bigger and more colorful with more exciting things to see and do than any of us could imagine!

Each visitor had a choice of what country's motif and cuisine to visit. There were

extremely entertaining stage shows; for example, at the England Theater, Ebenezer Scrooge literally flew above the stage whilst visiting Christmas past, present and future. In the German Festhaus show, diners were entertained as performers sang and danced to traditional Christmas carols. Also, there were



rides that enabled great viewing of extremely colorful Christmas Holiday light shows. One was the beautiful Laser Light show outside the Festhaus, which was a gigantic Christmas Tree and forest dynamically lit and fully synchronized to cheerful Christmas music.



On the morning of the third day, we journeyed again to nearby Colonial Williamsburg where we had some leisure time for visiting shops and buying those last-minute Christmas gifts. The entire group met for a scheduled lunch at Chowning's Tavern, a very popular restaurant in the historic area. The food and drink were delicious, and it was a memorable and festive way to close out our visit. A very fun and exciting visit for all – can't wait 'til next time!



## Winery at Bull Run and Festival of Lights

by George Darnell

Despite snow in the morning and rain in the afternoon, 25 travelers left the lodge in two vans on December 16, 2019, on our way to the Festival of Lights. We arrived at the Winery at Bull Run next to Manassas National Battlefield Park about 5:00 p.m. We were surprised to find the tasting room fairly crowded on such a rainy Monday night. The staff had an area reserved for us downstairs adjacent to the wine casks. After sampling wines at the tasting bar, we bought glasses and bottles of wine to take downstairs with bread, cheese, meats, and other snacks.

After fortifying ourselves at the winery, we headed North on Rt. 29 and then down a dark two-lane road to Bull Run Regional Park. Our driver paid our entrance fee and we drove through a 2.5-mile fairyland of lights on both sides of the road. Some of us were able to get a few good picture shots from the van as we drove along. The drive ended at Santa's Village, complete with a Ferris wheel. Unfortunately, the village was dark because of the weather. But that didn't stop some of our travelers from visiting the shops to buy hot chocolate and cider as well as marshmallows for toasting over a fire pit.

Finally, we boarded our vans and our drivers found their way back to I-66 for the drive home. We arrived back at a dark and locked lodge about 9:30 p.m., thanked our drivers, said our good-byes, and headed home. Many thanks to the following neighbors for joining us on this trip and sharing their photos with us:



Robert & Joyce Watson.

Jamie & Regina Walker; Michael & Margaret Gooden; Nancy Brown; Judy Gogats; John & Pam Toliver; Dave & Martha Heggestad; Dave & Sue Winfield; Mark & Barb Rawlings; Stephanie Pendleton; Paul & Lou Ann Bozzo; George & Michelle Darnell; Harry & Marian Romano; Philip & Dana Kelly;







Dear Editor,

Judy arranged a great trip to historic Williamsburg! The trip planning included every detail from the transportation arrangements to a private luncheon at Chowning's Tavern in old town. On the first day, we were kept busy with winetasting and lunch at Upper Shirley Vineyards followed by visits to three historic sites. The next day we were able to spend the day roaming around historic Williamsburg and Busch Gardens. The guides at Williamsburg were all dressed in period costumes and were friendly and knowledgeable. On the last day, we were treated to a fantastic lunch at Josiah Chowning's Tavern. I still can't believe that Judy was able to arrange a private room for us at Chowning's! Great job Judy!!

Joseph Revelli

My wife and I had the pleasure of joining your December outing for High Tea at Historic Rosemont Manor. We live in Winchester and are not members of your travel club but are close friends with your Judy Bogner. What a fun experience we had!!! Your club members were all so friendly and welcoming. The Manor House was beautifully decorated by Michael and his team. The very informative talk he gave on its history was a surprise and extremely well done! The High Tea very good and professionally served by the staff. Congrats to all those at Rosemont for making our visit a truly unique Christmas experience. Hope we have the opportunity to join your travel club again-what a fun group!

Chuck & JoAnn Phares

#### Our Travel Club Meetings

Our Travel Club Potluck luncheon meetings are the second Monday of the month in Rachel's Kitchen from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Bring an entree, salad, dessert, vegetable or whatever you would like to share with fellow travelers and join us for lunch. It is a very casual atmosphere, and we all have a good time sharing travel adventures or just sharing life experiences. This is a good opportunity to share ideas for trips, and we sometimes have local guest speakers to talk with us about interesting local attractions or history.

The next meeting will be January 13th. Hope to see you there.

#### Christmas High Tea at Rosemont Manor December 19, 2019

by Judy Bogner



The Christmas High Tea at Rosemont Manor on December 19, 2019, was beautiful. The Manor was decorated with gorgeous Christmas trees and garland, and high tea was delicious. It was a wonderful afternoon and all 25 of us were happy to be there and experience the Manor all decked out for Christmas. It took a month to decorate and that effort was

appreciated by all of us. The decorations will be up until after January 6<sup>th</sup>, so if you get an opportunity, you might want to stop in and take a peek. All of their High Teas are filled



until after New Year, but just being in the lobby and looking around is fun.



# UPCOMING Cruises



## 7-Day Caribbean Cruise February 12-19, 2020 From \$399 per person

Jamaica, Key West, Grand Cayman, and Bahamas

**Call Jaime at Holland American Cruise Lines to book your room. 800-355-3017 ext. 29344**

What a perfect way to break up the cold winter months with some warm sunshine, aqua waters, white sands of the Caribbean and funky Key West Florida. We will leave from Dulles Airport with a direct flight to Ft Lauderdale where we will board our Holland America cruise ship for 7 days of sunshine and fun. Here is the itinerary:

Date	Location	Time
Feb 12	Fort Lauderdale, FL	Depart 5:00 p.m.
Feb 13	Key West, Florida	8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Feb 14	At Sea	
Feb 15	Georgetown, Cayman Islands	8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Feb 16	Ocho Rios, Jamaica	8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Feb 17	At Sea	
Feb 18	Half Moon Cay, Bahamas	8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Feb 19	Fort Lauderdale, Florida	7:00 a.m.

This trip is the perfect getaway trip, easy and affordable. The prices for an inside cabin start at just \$399 a person and ocean view start at \$529 pp, with port charges and tax at \$187pp. United has an easy direct flight at about \$340 round trip.



## 8-Day Alaska Cruise September 6-13, 2020

**Call Jaime at Holland American Cruise Lines to book your room. 800-355-3017 ext. 29344**

Wow! Let's go north to finish the summer in the beauty of Alaska! The itinerary for this cruise takes you further north than many of the cruises. If you have yet to visit our 49<sup>th</sup> state, this is your chance! Here is the itinerary:

Sep 6	Seattle, Washington, & Puget Sound	4:00 p.m.
Sep 7	At Sea	
Sep 8	Scenic Cruising Stephens Passage	
Sep 8	Juneau, Alaska	1:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.
Sep 9	Hubbard Glacier	2:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m.
Sep 10	Sitka, Alaska	8:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.
Sep 11	Ketchikan, Alaska	7:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.
Sep 12	Victoria, British Columbia, Canada	6:00 p.m.-11:30 p.m.
Sep 13	Seattle, Washington	7:00 a.m.

## Deposit Information

We want to ensure that everyone who wants to be included on a trip gets to go, and because I forget who wishes to be included in each trip, the best way to achieve an accurate count is for you to drop off a deposit for the trips you are interested in with the Concierge at the Lodge.

Allison Thomas is our Treasurer, and she does an excellent job of gathering your deposit checks and creating a list of participants for each trip. George and I get our participant information from Allison, and we are able to keep an accurate count. We strive for excellence in every aspect of our trips and that is only possible with a great team. We work together to offer you the best trips we can—trips that are worth the effort because we all have such fun travel adventures with the Travel Club.

**The Deposit for George's one day trips will be \$30 per person and \$50 per person for my multi day trips. This deposit will save a place for you on the trip you want to take, and you will then receive updated information such as final payment dates, etc. The deposits for the Caribbean and Alaskan Cruises will be paid directly to Holland America.**

# Calendar of Trips for 2020

- Jan 20—Skyline & Luray Caverns w/Lunch at Front Royal Brewery: \$77 for admissions & transportation; Lunch not included (minimum of 8; maximum of 26) by George
- Feb 12-19—Caribbean Cruise: Holland America cruise to Jamaica, Grand Cayman, Key West and Bahamas. From \$398 per person plus Port charges & tax, departing from Ft. Lauderdale FL, by Judy
- Mar 18—Museum of the Shenandoah Valley & Shenandoah Civil War Museum with lunch at Brubaker's Irish Pub on the Walking Mall: \$35 for admissions & transportation; lunch not included (minimum of 8; maximum of 26) by George
- May 15—Battles of Kernstown w/Lunch at Carrabba's: \$40 for admission & transportation; Lunch not included (minimum of 8; maximum of 26) by George
- May—Historic Winchester: This trip was very well received, and we have constant requests to do this trip for the people who were not here yet or missed it the first time. The day and price will be announced by Judy
- Jun 26—Charles Town for Skyline Terrace dining and evening at the horse races: \$35 for transportation only (minimum of 8; maximum of 26) by George
- Jul 20—Vint Hill for Cold War Museum, Winery, Brewery and lunch at the Covert Café: \$35 for museum donation & transportation; lunch and tastings not included (minimum of 8; maximum of 14) by George
- Aug 17—Jefferson's Monticello: \$60 for transportation & Day Pass; lunch not included (minimum of 8; maximum of 14) by George
- Sept 5-12—Alaska Cruise: Holland America cruise to Ketchikan, Juneau, Skagway, Stephens Passage, Hubbard Glacier and Sitka. From \$694 per person inside cabin plus port charges & taxes. Departing from Seattle by Judy
- Sep 17—Antietam National Battlefield and Shepherdstown: \$30 for transportation; no admission fees; Lunch at Bavarian Inn in Shepherdstown not included (minimum of 8; maximum of 26) by George
- Sep 29-Oct 2—Niagara Falls, 3 nights, \$799 pp by Judy
- Oct 5—Little Washington and Sperryville for wine, beer, spirits, shops, and dinner at Griffin Tavern in Flint Hill: \$30 for transportation; shopping, tastings, and dinner not included (minimum of 8; maximum of 14) by George
- Oct 22—Durbin & Greenbrier, WV, Bald Knob 4.5 Hour Train Ride w/bag lunch: \$100 for transportation & train ride (long day) (minimum of 8; maximum of 26) by George
- Nov 27-30—A Country Christmas at Opryland Hotel, Nashville, TN: 3 nights, from \$1,059 pp by Judy
- Dec 1-2—Candlelight Christmas at Biltmore Estate & Grove Park Inn. 1 night \$479 pp by Judy
- Dec 15—Christmas in Longwood Gardens, PA: \$70 for admission & transportation; meals not included (long day) (minimum of 8; maximum of 14) by George

**NOTE: There will be details for each trip in the Newsletters and Flyers for each trip after January. Each trip is marked with a "by George" or "by Judy." You may email the coordinator for each trip for more information.**



# More Info about a Few Trips

## Niagara Falls "Moments to Remember" Sept. 29 - Oct. 2, 2020

4 Days / 3 Nights  
5 Meals

### Price per person:

Twin/Double \$739

Single \$959

Deposit: \$50.00 Per Person

Final Payment is due on or before August 29, 2020

Optional Trip Cancellation/Interruption Protection \$58 per person.

Tour #20033



Amazing Niagara Falls, one of the great natural wonders of the world ... see it for yourself with Shenandoah Tours! Come and witness the majestic beauty and humbling power of the thundering waters of Niagara Falls. Get a "front row" seat overlooking these mighty falls whose roar is so powerful it can be heard for miles. Take a cruise to the base of the Falls, savor the panoramic view from atop Skylon Tower, enjoy a great Canadian show, and visit delightful Niagara-on-the-Lake. Niagara Falls - a land where wonders never cease - reserve your seat now!

### Day 1 - Tuesday - September 29

#### Depart USA

Welcome aboard! We're off to thundering Niagara Falls, one of Shenandoah Tours' favorite vacation spots. Journey north and by late afternoon we cross the border and enter the Canadian side of the Niagara River arriving in spectacular Niagara Falls, a natural wonder with exceptional beauty and awe. Horseshoe Falls creates a silver gray mist, complete with a rainbow, as six million cubic feet of water drops nearly 200 feet per minute. Our host hotel is the Country Inn & Suites. For our enjoyment there is a variety of shops, restaurants, and sightseeing attractions as well as Casino Niagara. A free evening for individual interests.

### Day 2 - Wednesday - September 30

#### Sightseeing Tour / Skylon Tower / Cruise to the Falls

Join our local guide for a morning sightseeing tour. We'll explore the area sights including the world famous Floral Clock, giant hydroelectric plants, Horticulture Center, Queen Victoria Park, and of course, the Falls! Lunch will be enjoyed in the Skylon Tower revolving dining room overlooking the falls. No visit to Niagara Falls would be complete without experiencing a thrilling cruise to view the thundering falls from river level. Tonight, see the Falls in colorful lights. (CB,L)

### Day 3 - Thursday - October 1

#### Niagara-on-the-Lake / Welland Canal

Explore 19th century Niagara-on-the-Lake, a beautiful village on Lake Ontario, at the mouth of the Niagara River. Worth a visit for its charm alone, it features historic shops and colonial homes with immaculate gardens. In addition, we'll stop at the Welland Canal Locks providing passage for cargo ships between Lakes Erie and Ontario. A free afternoon allows time for shopping and sightseeing. A special evening awaits at Oh Canada Eh, an award-winning musical and feast of Canadian food, fun, and folklore. (CB,D)

### Day 4 - Friday - October 2

#### Travel Home

Return home with fond memories of the power and beauty of this region. (CB)

### Valid Passport Required

#### TOUR INCLUDES:

- Niagara Falls Sightseeing Tour
- Lunch at the Skylon Tower
- Voyage to the Falls Boat Tour
- Visit to Niagara-on-the-Lake
- Welland Canal Locks
- Oh Canada Eh! Dinner Show
- Also included: Accommodations, Motorcoach Transportation, Shenandoah Tours Escort, & Luggage Handling.
- 5 Meals = 3CB, 1L, 1D



## A Country Christmas at Opryland Hotel November 27-30, 2020

**4 Days / 3 Nights  
2 Meals**

### Price per person:

Twin/Double \$1039

Single \$1429

Traditional Rooms

Twin/Double \$1149

Single \$1639

Atrium Rooms

Deposit: \$150.00 Per Person

Final Payment is due on or before September 21, 2020.

Optional Trip Cancellation/Interruption Protection \$112 per person. (Twin/Double), \$138 Single

Tour #20047



Get in the spirit of the holiday season at the fabulous Opryland Hotel in Nashville. Stroll through acres of lush indoor gardens and along winding pathways and waterfalls. See brilliant displays of holiday ornaments and huge, sparkling trees. It's truly a sight to behold as everywhere we look, Christmas is coming to life! Our days and evenings will be filled with wondrous holiday festivities. Highlights include a spectacular Christmas Dinner and Show, General Jackson luncheon cruise, Delta River Flatboat ride, ICE Exhibit, and the legendary Grand Ole Opry. This tour is one you don't want to miss!

### Day 1 - Friday - November 27

#### Travel to Nashville

All aboard!! We're on our way to Nashville for a three-night stay at the fantastic Opryland Hotel. We arrive at the hotel all decked out in its finest array just as dusk settles over the city. What a spectacular sight as over two million Christmas lights sparkle in the night. A free evening to enjoy the amenities of the hotel.

### Day 2 - Saturday - November 28

#### ICE / General Jackson Showboat / Grand Ole Opry

A special day filled with wonder and amazement. Visit "ICE!," the awe-inspiring experience where more than 2 million pounds of ice come to life under the skillful hands of talented artisans. We'll watch ice sculptures being carved before our very eyes at the live carving zone. Next, we enjoy a wonderful luncheon cruise and holiday musical revue aboard the General Jackson Showboat. This evening, we attend the legendary Grand Ole Opry, a great opportunity to see and hear our favorite country music entertainers. (L)

### Day 3 - Sunday - November 29

#### Delta River Flatboat Ride / Christmas Dinner & Show

Our morning is free to enjoy the amenities of the hotel and to take a ride aboard the Delta River Flatboat, surrounded by the lush indoor gardens of this beautiful resort. See the 85 foot fountain, three waterfalls and, hopefully, "Danny," the 80 plus pound catfish that lives in the river! A special evening of dining and entertainment awaits at the Christmas Dinner and Show. Enjoy a traditional holiday meal including all the trimmings, followed by a spectacular Christmas show. (D)

### Day 4 - Monday - November 30

#### Travel Home

Filled with good tidings and holiday cheer, we bid farewell to Nashville and return home with wonderful memories of "A Country Christmas at Opryland Hotel." Please note: The tour itinerary is established by the Opryland Hotel and is subject to change.

#### TOUR INCLUDES:

- 3 Nights at Opryland Hotel
- Admission to ICE
- Lunch on the General Jackson Showboat
- Grand Ole Opry
- Services of a Shenandoah Tours Escort
- Delta River Flatboat Ride
- Christmas Dinner & Show



# Candlelight Christmas at Biltmore Estate & Gingerbread Houses at Grove Park Inn December 1-2, 2020

**2 Days / 1 Night  
2 Meals**

**Price per person:**  
Twin/Double \$479  
Single \$549

Deposit: \$50.00 Per Person

Final Payment is due on or before October 19, 2020

Optional Trip Cancellation/Interruption Protection \$39 per  
person (Twin), \$58 Single.

Tour #20040



Sugar and spice and everything nice! Come along and enjoy the most wonderful time of the year... the Biltmore Estate celebrates Christmas in grand style! Visit America's largest home all dressed in its finest array for the holiday season ... decorated trees, wreaths, bows, and poinsettias. An additional treasure is a visit to the Grove Park Inn to see the amazing display of gingerbread houses, and delight in these sugar-and-spice creations. Enjoy a special dinner at Biltmore Estate and a holiday buffet breakfast at historic Grove Park Inn. This is a one-of-a-kind holiday experience we'll never forget!

## Day 1 - Tuesday - December 1

### Travel to Asheville / Candlelight Tour - Biltmore Estate

Welcome to this Winter Wonderland Tour! Journey south to Asheville, North Carolina, and experience the finest of the holiday season! Accommodations await us in Asheville. As dusk settles over the city we're off to the magnificent Biltmore Estate for a fine holiday dinner and their annual Christmas Candlelight Tour. Enter the grounds where over 500 luminaries cast a warm glow. The best is yet to come ... a candlelight tour of this incredible estate, the 225-room French Renaissance chalet, home of George Vanderbilt. Crackling fires, glittering trees, and hundreds of candles glow throughout rooms richly decorated for an old-fashioned Victorian Christmas. This is an experience we'll long remember! (D)

## Day 2 - Wednesday - December 2

### Grove Park Inn / Gingerbread Houses / Travel Home

Today we'll visit the fabulous Grove Park Inn to see the amazing display of gingerbread houses. People from across the country create these culinary sugar and spice masterpieces for competition in this annual event. Enjoy an included breakfast in the Blue Ridge Dining Room and warm by the giant fireplaces in the grand lobby. Afterwards, return to the Biltmore Estate to visit the gardens, the winery, and Antler Hill Village filled with dining and shopping opportunities. By mid-afternoon we'll board our coach for the trip home, bringing with us cherished memories of this special holiday tour. (B)

### TOUR INCLUDES:

- Candlelight Tour of the Biltmore Estate
- Dinner at Deer Park Restaurant
- Gingerbread House display at the Grove Park Inn
- Breakfast at the Grove Park Inn
- Visit the Biltmore Winery
- Also included: Accommodations, Motorcoach Transportation, Shenandoah Tours Escort, & Luggage Handling.
- 2 Meals = 1B, 1D.