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MEETS THE 2ND MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH FROM 11:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. IN RACHEL'S KITCHEN

2021 Committee

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Membership Coordinator

Peggy Sabato
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TBD
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Judy Bogner
Member at Large

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Meeting
Monday, April 11, 2022
Rachel's Kitchen
11:30 a.m.

Potluck
Please Bring a Dish to Share!



April 2022 ISSUE

Message from the President, George Darnell

It was great to see a large turnout at our March 14 meeting to welcome our new travel partners, Zenith Associates. They are helping us with four tours: Apple Blossom Parade; Vint Hill Farms Station; Exploring Richmond; and Falling Waters. (See included flyers.) Zenith is also working on a fifth tour: Exploring the West Virginia Panhandle with an overnight at the Bavarian Inn. Get your reservations in early if you are interested.

I saw a few of you at the Shenandoah Tours Open House at the Museum of Shenandoah Valley on March 27th. They offer great trips and we have included a few in our schedule. Register early because their trips also fill up very quickly.

In March we had two small but enjoyable tours: March 17 Pub Crawl and March 23 Kernstown Battlefield and Museum of the Shenandoah Valley tour. Check out the trip reports in this newsletter.

Don't miss our April 11 meeting when John Toliver will teach us how to take better pictures with our mobile phones. Save this newsletter and visit our website for information on our trips. See you around campus,

St. Patrick's Day Pub Crawl, On the Walking Mall, By George Darnell March 17, 2022

On March 17 a small group of seven intrepid Travel Club members made their way via motor coach to the pedestrian mall in historic Winchester for a much-anticipated pub crawl, despite the possibility of a wee bit of rain, and a smattering of blarney on the horizon. Some of the group claimed Irish ancestry, but it didn't matter because for "celebratin" the day, we all claimed the spirit of the Irish.

First, there was Ellie's Irish Pub, where the arrival of Irish Pipers was expected. Lunch was served to the group; some ordered Fish and Chips, and others enjoyed Bangers and Mash. A round or two of beer and other libations was enjoyed, along with the sound of bagpipes playing traditional music. This was a great pub to visit!

Our group then hoofed it up to the Union Jack Pub where some of us ordered more beverages....and a couple of desserts. The place was unusually quiet, so about 3 p.m. the group moved on to Willie Sutton's Saloon. More libations were enjoyed with more relaxed conversation as the group took in the "decor", including bank vaults, photos of the infamous bank robber, and a massive bar. Sutton was the Gentleman bank robber who had a 40-year robbery career, stealing an estimated \$2 million. Our final stop for the day was at the Cork Street Tavern where the Irish celebration continued, before boarding our Cowboy Coach for the short drive back to Trilogy. Surely, after we left, during the rest of the evening the Irish in all came out and the pubs became crowded and raucously celebratory.

"May the road rise up to meet you and may you have craic and slainte!" (fun and good health)

Kernstown Battlefield & MSV Tours

March 23, 2022

By Jack and Patti Koob

March 23, 2022, was supposed to be a very rainy day, but it turned out to be rather cold, with the wind and the light rain. We had six travelers on the coach, but when we arrived at the battlefield visitor's center we were



greeted by John Hess as though we were a much larger group. First, we entered a conference room where the day's activity was explained to us. There were doughnuts and water available as well. When we left the conference room, we climbed to the top of Pritchard's Hill. It was not a very steep climb, but it was up hill, so no one was running up the hill. The hill is about 90 feet higher than the visitor's center, and with a great view despite the inclement weather.

We were there on the 160th anniversary of the First Battle of Kernstown. I don't know what the weather was like on the actual day of the battle, but I

bet it warmed up a bit during the battle for this hill. During the first battle of Kernstown in 1862, Union troops traveled with 16 cannons down the main road, which was the only paved road in the Shenandoah Valley at the time. Today we know it as Route 11. This paved road was used by the Union Army and enabled them to gain position on Pritchard's Hill. Stonewall Jackson moved his artillery to the west on a hill slightly higher than that of the Union army. A battle commenced and it wasn't ended until Jackson ran out of ammo and a "Rebel Rout" ensued. There was another battle here in 1864 known as the "Second Battle of Kernstown." This battle was discussed in detail by John Hess. The South won the second battle.



Our group left the hill for a look at the artillery shed to see displays of cannons, uniforms, and a huge wall painting of the battle with the Pritchard house in the background seen through the smoke of the battle. This is a rather shocking view of a battle fought hand to hand, as well as, with "modern weapons" and swords. Afterwards we entered the visitor's center which serves as a museum as well as a store selling T-shirts and hats, etc., also as a lending library of civil war books.



We then toured the Pritchard House. As we moved from room to room, there was quite a lot of speculation about the use of each room. The third floor is "off limits" because it is not yet ready for visitors – or maybe it's that supposed ghost that inhabits the third floor. Thanks to John Hess for his knowledge on the civil war and his very pleasant treatment of our group.

Our group traveled to Macado's restaurant in old town Winchester for an excellent meal at a very reasonable cost. The last stop of the day was the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley in Winchester. Because of the light rain, we stayed inside the museum and saw very interesting exhibits of life in this area. I didn't realize that the very modern stove in my boyhood house was like the "old" stove in the museum. So much for feeling like a modern man when my memories are beginning to look rather antiquated. I believe that a good time was had by all at each of the venues we had visited that day. I know that I look forward to going to the same places again – when it is a little dryer and warmer.

Calendar of Trips Planned for 2022

- Apr 30—Apple Blossom Parade; reserved seat on parade route plus R/T shuttle \$60
- May 14-19—Royal Caribbean 5-day Cruise from Baltimore to Bermuda; 6 days/ 5 nights; only inside cabins from \$389 pp double <royalcaribbean.com> plus R/T shuttle
- Jun 3—Vint Hills Farm for Cold War Museum, Brewery, Winery, and Lunch \$139 all inclusive
- Jun 5-8—Niagara Falls Moments to Remember; 4 days/3 nights; \$719 pp double, \$929 single, R/T coach - Contact <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Jun 28-30—Exploring Richmond; 3 days; 2 nights; \$928 pp dbl, \$1,453 sgl
- Jul 19-21—Great Smoky Mountain Memories: Dollywood, Titanic Museum & Hatfield & McCoy Dinner Feud; 3 days/2 nights; \$659 pp double, \$889 single R/T coach - Contact <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Aug 1-13—The Best of Alaska: Klondike, Denali & Glacier Bay Cruise & Train Tour; 13 days/12 nights; from \$4742 plus airfare (TBA) - Contact <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Aug 18 — Gettysburg Tour TBA
- Aug 26 — Wine Tour TBA
- Sep 15-16 — WV Panhandle Tour with overnight at the Bavarian Inn, Shepherdstown TBA
- Sep 29— Oktoberfest Brewery Tour TBA
- Oct 5-11—Iceland Land Tour R/T Dulles; 7 days/6 nights/7 meals; \$3999 pp double/ \$4850 single incl airfare— Contact <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Oct 19-21-- Wonders of WV: Hawks Nest State Park & New River Gorge; 3 days/ 2 nights/ 5 meals/ RT Coach; \$609 pp double; \$809 single - Contact <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Oct 27--Fallingwater Tour: R/T transportation, guided tour, grounds access, and bagged lunch incl. \$195
- Nov 3-14—11-day American Cruise Lines Chesapeake Bay American Revolution Cruise R/T Baltimore; from \$5,110 pp dbl plus R/T shuttle <https://www.americancruiselines.com/> on sale now
- Nov 25-28—A Country Christmas at Opryland Hotel, Nashville; 4 days/3 nights/2 meals; \$1169 pp double, \$1579 single, R/T coach - Contact <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Nov 29-30 — Candlelight Christmas at Biltmore Estate & Grove Park Inn; 2 days/1 night/2 meals; \$529 pp double/\$609 single; R/T motor coach - Contact <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Dec 4-7—Christmas at the Greenbrier by Amtrak R/T Manassas; \$1597 per couple
- Dec 9 — Christmas at Union Station in DC by MARC train R/T from Charles Town



Apple Blossom Parade



• **Seats on Parade Route** •

The Zenith Group will reserve chairs along the parade route and provide transportation to and from

The Grand Feature Parade

Date:

Saturday, April 30th 2022

Time:

11:30am - 4:00pm

Price Per Ticket:

\$60

Capacity:

10 - 14 Participants



11:30am: Meet motor coach at designated pick-up location

12:15pm: arrive downtown and get settled into seats

1:15pm - 4:00pm: Parade

4:30: Depart



PLEASE RSVP BY 4/16/22

Phone: 540-974-7992

Email: Caroline@thezenithgrp.com

Vint Hill Farms

Date: 6/03/22

Tour Itinerary

Featuring Cold War Museum, Vint Hill Craft Winery, & Old Bust Head Brewing Company

- **10:30am:** Meet your *private* motor coach at your designated pick-up spot to depart for **Vint Hill Farms** in Warrenton, Va.
- **11:30am:** Arrive at the **Cold War Museum**. Founded in 1966, this museum works to preserve Cold War History, honor our veterans, and educate future generations about the Cold War. The museum is even built on land that was once used for a *former Top Secret Army Intelligence Base* during WWII and the Cold War.
- **12:45pm:** Walk right across the street to **Covert Cafe**, where your group will be treated to a ***personal lunch buffet***, with sandwiches, sides, and beverages included!
- **2:00pm:** Walk over to **Vint Hill Craft Winery**. With a *100-barrel capacity*, this winery produces *many varietals* so there is something for everyone to try. Here, your group will be treated to an ***educational tasting*** of 6 of their wines. Feel free to enjoy your wine in their *upstairs bar*, their downstairs “*War Lounge*,” or their *Wineyard* which features picnic tables, fire pits, and lawn games.
- **3:15pm:** Head on over to **Old Bust Head Brewing Co.** located in the parking lot next to the winery. With *award-winning ales* and *48 taps*, this brewery aims to bring people together in good spirits while also being environmentally-friendly. Here, your group will receive a ***private-guided tour*** of the brewery and a ***tasting flight of 4 beers*** of your choice!
- **4:30pm:** Meet back with your motor coach to depart Vint Hill Farms.
- **5:30pm:** Arrive back at designated pick-up spot.

Price: \$139 per person

*** Priced for 14 people (Maximum)**

Minimum Guests: 10 (\$150 per person)

RESERVATION DEADLINE: 5/15/22

Tour Inclusions: Transportation to/from Vint Hill Farms, Cold War Museum Admission, Lunch Buffet, Guided Wine Tasting, Beer Flight, Private Brewery Tour

Not Included: Gratuity

Experience Richmond

Tour Itinerary

6/28/22-6/30/22

Tuesday 6/28

- **1:30pm:** Meet your *private motor-coach* at designated pick-up location to travel to Virginia's state capitol, **Richmond**.
- **4:00pm:** Arrive at the **Jefferson Hotel** to check-in for your *two-night stay* in one of their **Premier King Suites**. This *luxurious hotel* provides guests an extraordinary travel experience in the *heart of downtown Richmond*.
- **5pm-7pm:** Take some time to enjoy dinner on your own at one of the many restaurants in the area. Some Restaurants in walking distance include:
 - **Lemaire** – The Jefferson's farm-to-table American cuisine restaurant
 - **Bar Solita** – Mediterranean kitchen with tapas
 - **Parterre** – Seasonal, locally sourced dishes
 - **Perly's** – Authentic Jewish Deli and Restaurant
- **7:30pm:** Meet your motor coach at The Jefferson Hotel to depart for **Richmond Riverfront Canal Cruises**.
- **7:45pm:** Arrive at **Richmond Riverfront Canal Cruises** for a private, historically narrated tour down the James River and Kanawha Canal on an *authentically styled, flat-bottomed boat*. Enjoy this *hour long boat ride* with a guide to tell you all about the centuries of Richmond's history.
- **9:00pm:** Meet back with your motor-coach to return to the hotel for the evening.

Wednesday 6/29

- **7am-9am:** Enjoy a *traditional Southern breakfast*, included in your hotel package, at the Jefferson's *farm-to-table* restaurant, **Lemaire**.
- **10:00am:** Meet your motor-coach at the hotel to depart for the day's excursions.
- **10:15am:** Arrive **The White House of the Confederacy**. Built in 1818, this *National Historic Landmark* served as the executive mansion for President Jefferson Davis. Here, your group will enjoy a *one-hour, guided tour* of the building, exploring the lives of the people who lived and worked here. After the tour, meet your motor-coach in front.
- **11:30am:** Arrive at the **Virginia State Capitol**. Built in 1788, this is the second oldest working state house in the US. Enjoy an *hour long, guided tour* of the building, which has been home to many important historical events in Virginia and the nation.
- **12:30pm:** Enjoy lunch on your own at one of the restaurants in walking distance to the Capitol and enjoy the views of the city.
Nearby restaurants include:
 - **Merriweather's at the Capitol** – American dining
 - **Maple Bourbon** – Simple Southern comfort food
 - **Native Plate** – Asian-inspired dishes
 - **Soul Taco** – Casual Mexican eatery
 - **Sub Central** – Sandwich shop

Wednesday 6/29 (cont.)

- **2:30pm:** Take a five-minute walk with your group to **RVA on Wheels** and check-in for trolley tour.
- **2:45pm:** Your group will be treated to a ***two-hour, private trolley tour*** of **Hollywood Cemetery** with a *talented tour guide*. Established in 1847 on the Banks of the James River, this picturesque land spans *135 acres of valleys, hills, and stately trees*. The cemetery, featuring natural and architectural beauty, serves as the resting place for many prominent people, *including two US presidents*.
- **5:15pm:** Meet back with your motor-coach at the Virginia State Capitol.
- **5:30pm:** Arrive at **Hardywood Park Craft Brewery**. Operating in Richmond's *Historic German Brewing District*, this newly-renovated venue features *three bar locations*, an *outdoor beer garden*, and an *artisanal pizza kitchen* using local ingredients. Kick back and relax with your group and enjoy some beer and pizza. Their beer garden also includes corn hole and bocce ball for your enjoyment!
- **8:00pm:** Meet back with your motor-coach to return to the hotel for the evening.

Thursday 6/30

- **7am-10am:** Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. Take some time to pack your bags and checkout of the hotel.
- **11:00am:** Meet your motor coach in front of the Jefferson Hotel.
- **11:15am:** Arrive at **Maymont Mansion**, a *100-acre historic estate and park*. Here, your group will be treated to a ***guided tour of the mansion***, which takes you back in time to the *Victorian Era* while your tour guide leads you through the home of a prominent Southern couple from 1893-1925. Then, a horticulturalist will take you through a ***walking tour of the estates beautiful gardens***, featuring their formal *Italian Garden*, traditional *Japanese Garden*, fragrant *Herb Garden*, and the *Arboretum*.
- **1:30pm:** Meet back with your motor coach one last time to return home. A ***boxed-lunch*** provided by **Apple Spice Catering Co.** will be provided to each passenger on the bus to enjoy on the way home.
- **4:00pm:** Arrive back at designated pick-up location.

Pricing:

<u>25 People (MAX)</u>	<u>20 People</u>	<u>15 People (MIN)</u>
Double Room: \$928 Per Person	Double Room: \$1,005 Per Person	Double Room: \$1,131 Per Person
Single Room: \$1,453 Per Person	Single Room: \$1,530 Per Person	Single Room: \$1,657

Tour Inclusions: Transportation to/from all venues, 2 nights at Jefferson Hotel, Breakfast at hotel, Private Canal Tour, White House of Confederacy Guided Tour, VA State Capitol Guided Tour, Private Trolley Tour of Hollywood Cemetery, Maymont Mansion Tour, Maymont Garden Tour, Apple Spice Co. Boxed Lunch

Not Included: Gratuity for driver and tour guides

RESERVATION CUT OFF DATE: 5/20/22



visit FALLINGWATER



Date: 10/27/22

Designed in 1935 by architect Frank Lloyd Wright, Fallingwater is a widely acclaimed work of organic architecture in the Laurel Highlands in Fayette County, Pennsylvania. The native sandstone building sits over a waterfall and is surrounded by 5,100 acres of natural land, streams, and trails, creating a scenic coalition of art and nature. With original Wright-designed furniture still intact, this landmark was named the "best all-time work of American architecture."

Itinerary

- 8:00 am: Meet your motor coach at Lake Frederick or designated pick-up location.
- 11:00 am: Arrive at Fallingwater
- 11:30 am-12:30 pm: Private guided-tour of property and interior.
- 12:45pm-2:00pm: Enjoy bagged lunch provided by Fallingwater Cafe.
- 2:00pm-4:00pm: Free time to explore the area which includes gardens, trails, and iconic views.
- 4:30pm: Meet back with motor coach for departure
- 7:30 pm: Arrive back at designated pick-up location

Pricing:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| - 20 guests: \$195 each | Minimum Guests: 20 | Reservation Deadline: |
| - 25 guests: \$169 each | Maximum Guests: 55 | 9/25/22 |
| - 35 guests: \$140 each | | |

Includes: All transportation, private guided tour, grounds access, lunch