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

2024 Committee

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President

Doc Holladay
Vice President

Gary McDowell
Treasurer

Chris Oxford
Membership Coordinator

Pam Toliver
Communications Coordinator

Dan Mortland
Program Director

Greg Payonk
Cruise & Foreign Travel

Bill Johnson
Domestic & Foreign Travel

January 2024 ISSUE

President's Message

Happy New (Travel) Year! I hope everyone enjoyed a festive and joyous holiday with family and friends. One of our daughters and her family took Michelle and me out to dinner on Christmas Eve and then we all went to St. Bridget's in Berryville for the Christmas Vigil Mass, complete with singing Silent Night with the lights out holding lighted candles. It was a blessed evening. Most of our children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren had Christmas-New Year's dinner at our home. They cooked and brought the food to make it easier for Michelle. We are truly blessed.

December was a great month for the Travel Club! We started with our member appreciation holiday party in Rachel's Kitchen. An overflow group of friends enjoyed the food from Martin's and the wine and beer from the club. Many thanks to our Board members who helped plan and execute what I hope will become an annual event.

Dan and Cheryl Mortland gave us a Global Entry presentation to make foreign travel easier for our members. This sparked a lively discussion of travel tips and experiences among those present. A copy of Dan and Cheryl's handout is included in this newsletter. We are thankful that they made it home safely from their aborted trip to Israel during the current crisis.

Later in December, we participated in the Wreaths Across Ceremony at Winchester National Cemetery thanks to the initiative of our member Peggy Sabatao. We ended the month with a spectacular trip to Washington to see the Christmas lights. Read the trip reports for these events in this newsletter.

We made some adjustments in our 2024 travel plan. The trips we had planned for January are more suited to warmer weather. So, we scheduled craft beer and wine tours for January. See the announcements in this newsletter. Some of the trips are still ideas and not plans. Watch our newsletter and MTL Events for announced trips. Remember: registration is a two-step process: register on MTL Events and drop off a Travel Club check with the concierge. You are not registered until Gary has your check. Remember:

Shenandoah Tours trips fill up early. Make your reservations at least six months in advance.

We are hoping to have a catered wine and cheese party for our February meeting in Rachel's Kitchen to celebrate Mardi Gras and Valentine's Day. It will be by registration only. But for January, we will have our usual potluck lunch meeting in Rachel's Kitchen on the second Monday, January 8. We will have a surprise guest speaker. Bring that favorite holiday dish and we can extend the holiday celebration into the new year.

George Darnell, President
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703-850-2132

Happy
New Year!

Wreaths Across America: Winchester National Cemetery December 16, 2023, by George Darnell



Thanks to Peggy Sabato's initiative, the Travel Club joined several groups in Lake Frederick, including the Veterans Association, in sponsoring "Wreaths Across America" in Winchester National Cemetery on Saturday, December 16. Ten members who sponsored wreaths, rode the bus to the cemetery where they were joined by other members who travelled by car.

We arrived about 11:00 and got off the bus to wait in line for wreaths at the cemetery headquarters. We chatted with our friends and watched the line grow on the sidewalk around the cemetery. As we waited, Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Cadets passed out pamphlets with instructions on how to lay the wreaths. CAP is a USAF Auxiliary that assists in search and rescue efforts

for missing and crashed aircraft. Teen age cadets learn military discipline, wear uniforms, participate in drills and training exercises, and attend summer camps on military bases. For the Winchester ceremony the CAP has a lead role organizing the ceremony, passing out wreaths, and posting and retrieving the National Colors.

At 11:30 the gates opened, and wreaths were passed out one at a time to the waiting volunteers. We were free to pick any grave, place the wreath against the headstone, stand back, and read the name of the veteran. Most of the graves are Union troops who died in the Third Battle of Winchester during the Civil War. That makes some of the names hard to read.



At noon they paused the wreath laying for a brief ceremony honoring the deceased veterans. The CAP Cadets posted and retrieved the colors for the ceremony. Afterwards, the wreath laying continued until the wreaths were exhausted. I think we covered about half the graves. The folks from Lake Frederick gathered near a tall monument for a group photo,

Afterwards, we boarded our bus for Piccadilly Public House on the corner of Piccadilly and Kent Streets for lunch. Others from Lake Frederick Car-pooled to 50-50 Tap House on Cork Street for lunch. We were back in Lake Frederick by 3:00.



DC Christmas Lights 2023 December 21, 2023



On December 21, 2023, 25 Lake Frederick Travelers gathered in the lodge for a group photo before boarding our Shenandoah Shuttle bus for Washington, DC. As we drove through the Virginia countryside and suburbs on I-66, all was going fine until our driver's navigation system decided to take us around the Capital Beltway to I-295. Fortunately, about the time we were passing Bolling AFB, our guide, Rebecca (Becca) called to check on our ETA at the U.S. Botanical Gardens to start our tour. Becca was able to direct our driver, Julie, to our drop off point, but we were about 30 minutes behind schedule. That gave us the opportunity to be treated to a splendid display of color on the Capitol West Front as it caught the rays of the setting sun.



Becca directed us to the front of the building, which was open until 8:00 p.m. on Thursdays during the 2023 Christmas Season and directed our driver to a safe location to wait for us before she told us where the restrooms and Christmas displays in the Gardens were. The Gardens were amazing, and the restrooms were clean and modern. Inside was like a tropical rain forest, a welcome change from the chilly evening outside. The Christmas feature was a replica of the National Mall, with all the buildings from the Capitol to the Washington Monument made from vegetation. Outside was a multi-level G-gauge model railroad with several trains chugging through tunnels and around small towns. It was huge and a delight to children of all ages. It reminded me of the train rides the club has taken.





All too soon, we gathered outside for the short walk to the Capitol Christmas Tree. Becca told us that the tree came from the Monongahela National Forest in West Virginia and is taller than the National Christmas Tree on the Ellipse behind the White House. After a group photo we boarded our bus for Union Station, the dream of President Cleveland to have a single magnificent station for all the railroads coming into Washington, DC. You can view a C-Span history of the station here [History of Union Station](#).



Julie parked the bus in the parking garage behind the station and we took the escalator to the Mezzanine Level shops and a second escalator down to the street level and the main hall. There Becca gave us a brief history of the station as we stood near the large Christmas Tree donated by Norway each year in commemoration of US aid during WWII. Then we made our way to many of the “food-court”-like shops for dinner on our own before boarding our bus to continue the tour.



On Pennsylvania Avenue we parked at the Canadian Embassy to get a close look at their Christmas Tree in the rotunda on the corner. The embassy is the largest and the closest one to the White House and Capitol Hill.



Then we were off to see the National Christmas Tree and the small state and territory trees surrounding it. The walk around the tree was crowded with holiday visitors stopping to get group photos and stop by the large manger scene in one corner. White House ornaments were on sale at a booth. After viewing the tree and taking our photos we returned to our bus which was parked two blocks away.



Becca directed Julie to the World War II Memorial on the Mall between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial. We took advantage of the large public restrooms and walked around the memorial taking pictures of the impressive fountains, which had not been turned off for winter yet.



Our last stop was the IWO Jima Memorial in Arlington overlooking the National Mall. It is an impressive sight on a clear winter night. On the way there we took a turn around Watergate and the Kennedy Center before crossing the Potomac River. In the distance we could see the lights of Georgetown and the spires of the National Cathedral,



We tipped our tour guide, Becca, and thanked her before dropping her off at the Roslyn Metro Station. Julie soon had our bus on I-66 for the ride home. Between Centreville and Manassas, we caught a glimpse of the Christmas Lights drive through Bull Run Regional Park. This is a great trip for grandchildren that end up in Santa's Village.

Shortly afterwards, we entered the dark zone between Haymarket and Front Royal that makes you realize just how far out in the country we are. The bright Christmas lights of the lodge were a welcome sight as we left our bus, tipped, and thanked Julie, and said our goodbyes. It was a good trip.



Trip Ideas for 2024, V3

- Jan 19—Winter 2024 Craft Beer Tour
- Jan 26—Winter 2024 Wine Tour
- Feb 12—Couples Wine and Cheese Party in Rachel's Kitchen
- Mar 1—Women's History Tour
- Mar 15—St. Patrick's Brewery Tour
- Mar 27—Cherry Blossom Walking Tour
- Apr 5—Antietam Battlefield Tour
- Apr 8—Shenandoah River Bluebell Walking Tour
- Apr 12-13—Lancaster/Daniel/Ragtime at Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre. Contact <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Apr 19—Ladies Wine Tour
- Apr 27—Apple Blossom Parade Watch Party
- May 10—Mosby Heritage Wine Tour
- May 22-25—Ark Encounter & Creation Museum in KY <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- May 23-31—Scandinavia Cruise
- Jun 7—Endless Caverns, New Market Civil War Museum, Harrisonburg Mennonite Center
- Jun 19-22—Kentucky's Backroads/Toyota Plant Tour <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Jun 23-25—Niagara Falls / Moments to Remember <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- July 10-12—Exploring the Northern Neck; Tides Inn for two nights.
- Jul 22-25—Hudson River Valley <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Aug 4-11—Canadian Rockies by Rail (fly in) <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Aug 23—Loudoun Wine Tour
- Sep 8-11—Niagara Falls/Ontario <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Sep 20-21—Lancaster/ Daniel/ Bird-in-the-Hand Theatre <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Sep 29— Gettysburg Battlefield Tour
- Oct 6-12—Autumn in New England – Rails & Sails <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Oct 9-20—American Cruise Lines Tennessee Rivers Paddlewheel Cruise
- Oct 25—Graves Mountain Fall Adventure
- Nov 13-15—Smoky Mountain Christmas <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Nov 29-Dec 2—A Country Christmas at Opryland Hotel, Nashville, TN <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Dec 3-4—Candlelight Christmas at the Biltmore <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Dec 8-13—Christmas in Charleston & Savannah r/t DC on AMTRAK Palmetto
- Dec 14—Wreaths Across America in Winchester

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Trip Registration Deadlines for 2024, V1

- Jan 9—Winter 2024 Craft Beer Tour
- Jan 16—Winter 2024 Wine Tour
- Jan 19—Kentucky's Backroads/Toyota Plant Tour <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Jan 23—Niagara Falls / Moments to Remember <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Feb 1—Scandinavia Cruise with Greg Payonk
- Feb 1—Lancaster/Daniel/Ragtime at Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre. Contact <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Feb 2—Couples Wine and Cheese Party in Rachel's Kitchen
- Feb 3—Ark Encounter & Creation Museum in KY <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Feb 19—Women's History Tour
- Feb 22—Hudson River Valley <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Mar 4—Canadian Rockies by Rail (fly in) <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Mar 5—St. Patrick's Brewery Tour
- Mar 8—Niagara Falls/Ontario <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Mar 17—Cherry Blossom Walking Tour
- Mar 20—Lancaster/ Daniel/ Bird-in-the-Hand Theatre <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Mar 25—Antietam Battlefield Tour
- Mar 29—Shenandoah River Bluebell Walking Tour
- Apr 6—Autumn in New England – Rails & Sails <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Apr 9—American Cruise Lines Tennessee Rivers Paddlewheel Cruise
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- May 1—Mosby Heritage Wine Tour
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- May 27—Endless Caverns, New Market Civil War Museum, Harrisonburg Mennonite Center
- May 29—A Country Christmas at Opryland Hotel, Nashville, TN <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Jun 8—Christmas in Charleston & Savannah r/t DC on AMTRAK Palmetto
- Jun 3—Candlelight Christmas at the Biltmore <https://www.shenandoahtours.com/>
- Jul 1—Exploring the Northern Neck; Tides Inn for two nights.
- Aug 13—Loudoun Wine Tour
- Sep 19—Gettysburg Battlefield Tour
- Oct 15—Graves Mountain Fall Adventure
- Nov 14—Wreaths Across America in Winchester

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Winter 2024 Craft Beer Tour January. 19, 2024



Why wait for summer to enjoy the many breweries in our area? Hanging out in a pub in winter is a fine European tradition that was brought to the Valley with the pioneers. For this trip we will continue that tradition with a visit to three excellent breweries in our area. First, we will visit the popular Bear Chase Brewery near Mount Weather. Our second stop will be Escutcheon Brewery in downtown Winchester. We will wrap up the tour in the Woodstock Brewhouse, a popular local hangout with food and music.

Schedule:

- 11:15 Board bus
- 12:00 Arrive Bear Chase
- 1:30 Depart
- 2:00 Arrive Escutcheon
- 3:30 Depart
- 4:15 Arrive Woodstock Brewhouse
- 6:15 Depart
- 7:00 Arrive lodge

Minimum for this trip is 12 and maximum is 16.

Registration is \$60 for transportation only. Food, drinks, and driver tip are not included.

Please register on MTL 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 Noon Jan 9, 2024

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Winter 2024 Wine Tour January 26, 2024



What better way to spend a chilly winter day than with a glass of wine by the fireplace? And what better place to do that with friends than at a cozy Virginia Winery? For this trip we will visit three nearby wineries with fireplaces to sample their wines and hospitality. We will start with Cana Vineyard and Winery in Middleburg. From there we will travel to Barrel Oak Winery and Brewery in Delaplane. Our final stop will be the cozy, rustic Aspen Dale Winery at the Barn in Markham, one of our favorites,

Schedule:

- 11:15 Board bus
- 12:00 Arrive Cana Vineyard and Winery
- 1:30 Depart
- 2:00 Arrive Barrel Oak Winery and Brewery
- 3:30 Depart
- 4:00 Arrive Aspen Dale Winery
- 5:30 Depart
- 6:00 Arrive lodge

Minimum for this trip is 12 and maximum is 16.

Registration is **\$60** for transportation only. Food, drinks, and driver tip are not included. Please register on MTL 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 Noon January 16, 2024

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Global Entry Program

Presented by Dan and Cheryl Mortland

Global Entry Versus other TSA Programs

What are the programs available for Domestic and International Travelers?

- TSA Precheck
- Clear (Private Company)
- Nexus (Canada to US)
- Sentri (Mexico to US)
- **Global Entry**

TSA Precheck

1. Departures from domestic airports (expedited Boarding process)
2. No impact for inbound international travel
3. \$78.00 per person for 5 years

Clear

1. Travel departures (biometrics with boarding pass)
2. \$189.00 per year
3. Private company
4. No security inspection

Global Entry

1. Inbound international travel
2. Biometrics to expedited immigration and customs waiting time.
3. \$100.00 application fee for 5 years

Nexus

1. Travel between Canada and US
2. Primarily ground travel

Sentri

1. Travel between Mexico and US
2. Primarily ground travel

Global Entry Details

Global Entry is a U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) program that allows expedited clearance for pre-approved, low-risk travelers upon arrival in the United States. Members enter the United States by accessing the Global Entry processing technology at selected airports.

At airports, program members proceed to the Global Entry lanes where processing technology will be used to expedite the members by capturing a photo to verify their membership. Once the photo has been captured, the member will receive on-screen instructions and proceed to a CBP officer who will confirm that you have successfully completed the process.

Travelers must be pre-approved for the Global Entry program. All applicants undergo a rigorous background check and in-person interview before enrollment.

Benefits

- No processing lines
- No paperwork
- Access to expedited entry
- Available at major U.S. airports
- Reduced wait times

How to Apply for Global Entry

It's easy. Just follow these steps.

Before applying, make sure you are [eligible for Global Entry](#).

1. Create a Trusted Traveler Programs (TTP) account. Regardless of your age, you must have your own [Trusted Traveler Programs \(TTP\)](#) account. Website is [Official Trusted Traveler Program Website | Department of Homeland Security \(dhs.gov\)](#)
2. Log in to your TTP account and complete the application. A \$100 [non-refundable fee](#) is required with each completed application. Application processing time can take 4 – 6 months.
3. Schedule an interview at a Global Entry Enrollment Center
After accepting your completed application, CBP will conduct a review. If your application is conditionally approved, your TTP account will instruct you to schedule an interview at a [Global Entry Enrollment Center](#). Each applicant must schedule a separate interview.
4. Complete the application process
Bring your valid passport and one other form of identification, such as a driver's license or ID card, to the interview. If you are a lawful permanent resident, you must present your machine readable permanent resident card.