



Newsletter

WWW.LAKEFREDERICKTRAVELCLUB.COM

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

2026 Committee

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MAY 2026 ISSUE

President's Message

Welcome to May!

May is full of celebrations of Spring, from May Day on the First, to Memorial Day on the last Monday, with the all-important Mother's Day in between. And we also honor our nurses, teachers, and military this month. Does anyone remember the Maypole dances and Russian Military parades on May Day?

April Trips

Our first trip in April was our Spring Wine Tour on April 17. Bill Johnson led this successful trip. Read his report in this newsletter. Our two-day Blue Ridge Spring Odysseys on April 30 – May 1 should be over by the time you read this. We will try to include a trip report in our June newsletter.

May Trip

Sam Kerns and Rick Turner will be leading a tour of Fisher's Hill and Cedar Creek Battlefields on May 15, 2026. Registration for this trip is closed. John Toliver will be taking photos and writing the trip report.

June Trips

Bill Johnson will be leading a trip to Monticello, Michie Tavern, and Blue Quartz Winery on June 4, 2026. This trip is almost full. Bill is also working on a repeat of our pre-Covid Frontier Heritage Tour in June. See the announcement in our June Newsletter.

Cruising for Senior Adults

Sam Kerns found a YouTube video that describes various cruise lines and rates them from worst to best for senior travelers. Type this into your search bar: **Which Cruise Line to Choose**

in 2026 – RANKED WORST TO BEST! Cruise lines also made some changes in 2026 that could spoil a trip for senior travelers. Watch this YouTube video: [Cruise Video](#) or just type "Cruising for Seniors in 2026" in your search bar. Michelle and I enjoyed Princess cruises to Alaska, the Caribbean, the Mediterranean, and the Baltic before moving to Lake Frederick.

If you want to go first class register to attend a Free Luxury Cruise Information Event – Discover Crystal Cruises scheduled: **Wednesday, May 6 at 3p.m.** The meeting will be held in the Skyline Room. RSVPs were requested by Monday, April 27, but there may be a few spots available. If you are interested in attending, please email elizabeth.korns@verizon.net. Details and invitation follow on next page:

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Meeting
May 11, 2026
Rachel's Kitchen
11:30 a.m.

Curious about sailing in style? Join us in the Skyline Room at the Shenandoah Lodge in Lake Frederick for drinks & light bites to learn what makes Crystal Cruises one of the most sought-after cruise experiences in the world. Join new & old friends, and meet Margaret Thwaites, Southeast Sales Director for Crystal Cruises. At this event, you'll learn:

- What's included on a Crystal cruise (dining, service, amenities, entertainment, enrichment classes)
- Popular destinations & itineraries and shore excursions
- What differentiates Crystal from other cruise lines
- How to plan your own luxury getaway

Perfect for:

- Solo travelers looking for the perfect vacation
- Couples planning a future trip
- Travelers looking for a more upscale experience

Trip Ideas for 2026 Updated

We try to project our trips for the year on our Trip Ideas page to help you plan. Trip details or cancellations will be included in newsletters throughout the year. See our Trip Ideas for 2026 in this issue. If you have any suggestions, especially if you can help in the planning, please send them to me with as much information as you can. We will include Sam Kerns Pennsylvania Disasters and Railroads overnight trip on October 13 and 14 using a Varsity motor coach. Watch for future details.

Shenandoah Tours

We will return to using Shenandoah Tours for some of our trips. See the selection of trips that Doc Holiday made in this issue.

Registering for Travel Club Trips

If you have any trouble registering for our trips the Lodge Concierge should be able to help you. This includes club members who are not MTL members and family and friends travelling with a club member. Or send me an email with questions. We don't post our trips on MTL Events for registration until they have been announced in our newsletter. Your registration is not confirmed until our treasurer has your check.

Note from our Treasurer, Nanci Bowers

Please: Make Checks Payable to: **"Lake Frederick Travel Club"** and make sure your check is signed. I will send you an email confirming receipt of your check. If you have questions or need to cancel your trip participation, please contact me at bowers647@verizon.net. **A special Note:** I will be away May 3 - 25, 2026. Please contact George Darnell if you have questions regarding your trip status. Thank you!

Website Manager Needed

Pam Toliver has done an amazing job of designing and maintaining our club website since our founding by Judy Bogner. It contains all our newsletters and serves as our club's historical archive. Pam's family obligations prevent her from continuing in this role. If you have basic computer skills Pam can train you to take over our website. Please contact Pam or me if you can help.

May 11 Meeting

Join us for our May 11 lunch meeting in Rachel's Kitchen from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. No agenda; just good food and conversation. Don't forget your dish to share. See you around campus and at our monthly meeting.

George Darnell, President

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Spring Wine Tour April 17, 2026, Trip Report

By: Bill Johnson

It was a beautiful Spring Day as 16 hardy wine enthusiasts from Trilogy boarded a bus to visit three popular and award-winning Virginia wineries. We got off right on time but had barely got on the road when we determined we were not headed eastward toward the wineries but northward toward Maryland, but Suzanne quickly corrected our course with only a few minutes lost.

Our first stop was at Potomac Point Winery in Stafford, VA. The tasting room and adjacent restaurant resemble a charming Tuscan villa. Another slight hiccup occurred as we were not expected but as we arrived when it was quiet and we'd be departing before two other large groups were due, they obligingly accommodated us. Most of us sat on the patio with a glass or two of wine and some food while enjoying the pleasant weather, though a few opted to remain inside to do a tasting of Potomac Point's excellent European style wines.



After a very agreeable visit, we boarded the bus for our next stop, Effingham Manor located in Prince William County. To prevent another unexpected arrival, I called ahead and was assured we were expected, and that they had reserved several tables outside for our use. Again, we spread across the grounds and in the tasting rooms to enjoy their excellent wines. Several people wandered the grounds looking at the 19th century manor house (also a tasting room on weekends) and the koi pond.



Our last stop was at Morais Vineyards and Winery in Fauquier County. Morais is well known for its Portuguese style wines and their tasting room in the round easily brings back to mind similar facilities to be found throughout Portugal.



With everyone full of wine and in good spirits we boarded the bus for a short trip back to Lake Frederick, arriving just before 7:30. We thanked and tipped Suzanne, then said our goodbyes to each other after another successful Lake Frederick Travel Club Wine Tour.

TRIP IDEAS 2026, VERSION 11

MAY

- 15--Battles of Fisher's Hill & Cedar Creek

JUNE

- 4—Monticello, Michie Tavern Lunch, & Winery Tour
- 24--Frontier Heritage Tour

JULY

- 10--Summer Wine Tour
- 24--Trail Ride & Brewery Lunch

AUGUST

- 14--Harpers Ferry Tour

SEPTEMBER

- 16--Gettysburg Tour

OCTOBER

- 13-14--PA Disasters & Railroads Overnight Trip
- 30--Sperryville & Little Washington Tour

NOVEMBER

- 13--Fall Wine Tour

DECEMBER

- 12--Wreaths Across America
- 17--Candlelight Christmas at Mount Vernon

Calendar of Shenandoah Tours Trips for 2026, V9



May 5-7 – Celebrate Spring at the Biltmore and Grove Park Inn by motor coach. 3 Days/2 Nights/ 4 Meals; \$775 pp double/\$909 single; Deposit \$100 pp. (Page 6) Contact: https://www.shenandoahtours.com/	Nov 18-20 – Magical Smokey Mountain Christmas by motor coach. 3 Days/2 Nights/3 Meals; \$709 pp double/\$879 single; Deposit \$100 pp. (Page 42) Contact: https://www.shenandoahtours.com/
June 8-11 – Niagara Falls “Moments to Remember” by motor coach. 4 Days/3 Nights/ 4 Meals; \$1029 pp double/\$1419 single; Deposit \$100 pp. (Page 11) Contact: https://www.shenandoahtours.com/	Nov 27-30 – A Country Christmas at Opryland Hotel by motor coach. 4 Days/3 Nights/ 2 Meals; \$1499 pp double/\$1999 single; Deposit \$150 pp. (Page 43) Contact: https://www.shenandoahtours.com/
Sep 14-17 – Niagara Falls “Moments to Remember” by motor coach. 4 Days/3 Nights/ 4 Meals; \$1029 pp double/\$1419 single; Deposit \$100 pp. (Page 11) Contact: https://www.shenandoahtours.com/	Dec 1-3 – Candlelight Christmas at Biltmore Estate by motor coach. 3 Days/2 Nights/4 Meals; \$979 pp double/\$ 1099 single; Deposit \$100 pp. (Page 44) Contact: https://www.shenandoahtours.com/
Sep 23-29 – Iceland “Land of Fire and Ice.” 7 Days/6 Nights/7 Meals; \$4618 double/\$6377 single; Deposit \$699 pp. (Page 33) Contact: https://www.shenandoahtours.com/	Dec 8-10 – Virginia’s Festival of Lights by motor coach. 3 Days/2 Nights/4 Meals; \$819 pp double/\$999 single; Deposit \$100 pp. (Page 46) Contact: https://www.shenandoahtours.com/

NOTE: For Shenandoah motor coach tours, we need a minimum of 8 people for pick up in Lake Frederick. Otherwise, pick up is at Routes 522 & 50 in the Red Roof Inn parking lot.