

WWW.LAKEFREDERICKTRAVELCLUB.COM

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

2022 Committee

George Darnell
President

Doc Holladay
Vice President

Pam Toliver
Secretary

Gary McDowell
Treasurer

Chris Oxford
Membership Coordinator

Peggy Sabato
Newsletter Coordinator

TBD
Website Manager

Judy Bogner
Member at Large

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Meeting
Monday, November 14, 2022
Rachel's Kitchen
11:30 a.m.
Potluck
Please Bring a Dish to Share!

November 2022 ISSUE

Message from the President, George Darnell

Michelle and I are sorry we missed the Potomac Eagle train ride on October 24. Michelle had a cough and I have been having pain in my legs. I started physical therapy on November 4. We had to cancel our cruise of the Chesapeake this month. Hopefully we can reschedule for next Spring.

I was pleased to see that we had beautiful weather and both busses arrived to take our group to the train. Gary McDowell and Chris Oxford did a wonderful job leading the trip. Many thanks to Chris, her husband Mac, and John Toliver for collaborating on the trip report. It was great to see so many people enjoying one of our trips after some recent disappointing cancellations.

By now everyone should have been reimbursed for any Zenith trips that were cancelled. If not, let me know. Zenith has a few more trips available on their website for the rest of the year. I included them in the list of club trips for the remainder of the year. Check them out.

Christmas at Union Station in DC on December 16 is still a work in progress. I am leaning toward taking the VRE commuter train round-trip from Manassas. Union Station is beautifully decorated during the Christmas season with many shops and restaurants to visit. It is right out of a 1940's movie. Estimated round trip travel cost from the lodge is \$60. Let me know if you are interested or would like to help with planning.

If anyone wants to share their adventures send us a report for the newsletter, or just share it with us at our lunch meetings.

Don't miss our November 14th Thanksgiving season lunch meeting. Bring your favorite dish and travel stories to share.

Save this newsletter and visit our website for information on our trips.

See you around campus,
George

Trip on the Potomac Eagle

October 24, 2022

By Chris Oxford



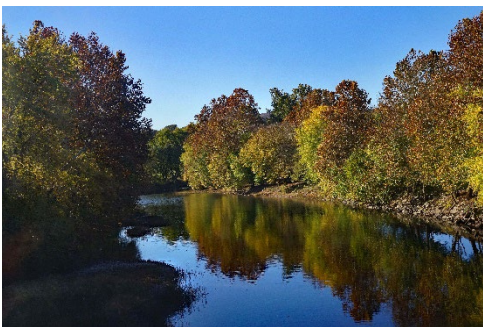
October 24th was the perfect day for the Lake Frederick Travel Club's trip on the Potomac Eagle – bright blue sky, lovely seasonal temperatures, and just a slight breeze. Two small buses left the Lodge mid-morning for our trip through wild, wonderful, West Virginia to the Wappocomo Station in Romney. Ninety minutes later, after driving through several small WV towns and enjoying the changing leaves, we arrived in Romney and the Potomac Eagle station. We had a short amount of time to stretch our legs before

being directed to line up for boarding, a reasonably quick and efficient process.

The Potomac Eagle is part of the South Branch Valley Railroad, and travels along the South Branch of the Potomac River, using restored vintage rail cars and engines. Our train was pulled by vintage B&O Railroad diesel engines, one at the front and one at the rear, which I found particularly interesting because my mother worked for the railroad in their main headquarters in Baltimore up until I was born.



Our group was seated together in one of several dining cars on the train at tables for either two or four people. The train left the station promptly at 1:00 p.m. An explanation of the sights along the route began immediately with discussions of various homesteads along the route, some dating to long before the Civil War. While waiting for our meal to be served, we were able to enjoy the changing leaves and gorgeous scenery along our route. Much of the route runs along the South Branch River with its abundance of wildlife and gorgeous views of open land.



American Bald Eagles, our National Bird (Although the story may be apocryphal, thank goodness Ben Franklin was not successful in making the turkey our national symbol!), nest in the trees along banks of the South Branch River. The river's clean water and tall trees



make for the perfect environment for these majestic birds. We were privileged to spot several nests and see them diving in the river for their meals. The moving train made it difficult to get any good photographs of the eagles.

A few people chose to go to the Observation and Gondola cars for a better view, while the rest of us chose to enjoy the scenery from our tables as we ate.

At Sycamore Bridge, the train began its return trip, returning to the station along the same route we had come. On the way back, we were fortunate to see another eagle or two and enjoy more of autumn's magnificent display. Promptly at 4 p.m., the train returned to Wappocomo Station, after which we re-boarded our buses for the trip back to Lake Frederick and arrived back to the Lodge at 6 p.m., after an enjoyable day.



Trip Planned for 2022

- 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.shenandoahitours.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.shenandoahitours.com/>
- Dec 7-- Illuminated Christmas Bus Tour; \$95 each by Nov 5. <www.zenithgrouptravel.com>
- Dec 16 — Christmas at Union Station in DC by train R/T from Manassas (in planning)
- Dec 18 -- "It's a Wonderful Life" Dinner Theater in Columbia, MD R/T Motor Coach, \$199 pp by Nov 17. <www.zenithgrouptravel.com>

Please note: Shenandoah Tours fill quickly; make reservations early! They will pick up in Lake Frederick for ten travelers.

Zenith Group will pick up in Lake Frederick on request.