

WWW.LAKEFREDERICKTRAVELCLUB.COM

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

2023 Committee

George Darnell
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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Meeting
Monday, January 8, 2024
Rachel's Kitchen
11:30 a.m.
Please bring a dish to share.

December 2023 ISSUE

President's Message

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy Holidays to all our members! I hope everyone had a delightful and blessed Thanksgiving Holiday with family and friends.

November was a slow month for the Travel Club. We had to cancel our only trip, "A Night at the Charles Town Races," because we didn't reach our minimum registration. I hope some of you took advantage of one of the many holiday trips that Shenandoah Tours did in November. Michelle and I took their Longwood Gardens Christmas Lights Tour and met some travelers from Bridgewater Retirement Community. Fortunately, we had clear weather. They told us that it rained last year.

In December we have our Wreaths Across America Ceremony in the Winchester National Cemetery on December 16th. Fortunately, we reached our minimum for the bus, which the club is subsidizing to encourage our members to sponsor at least three wreaths. After the ceremony we will have lunch in Piccadilly Public House, a club favorite.

We are repeating our DC Christmas Lights Tour this year and expanding it to include the Christmas display at the U.S. Botanical Gardens, which is open late on Thursdays. This is an expensive trip because we must pay for a tour guide as well as the bus. Please register early for this trip so we can avoid cancelling it.

The potluck lunch meeting for December has been cancelled so we can have a member appreciation party for those who have travelled with the club this year. If you took one of our trips in the past twelve months and did not receive an invitation, please let me know immediately.

Please look over the trips we are planning for next year and mark your calendar for trips of interest. Remember, Shenandoah Tours trips fill up early. Make your reservations at least six months in advance.

We are happy to welcome Bill Johnson to our travel team. He will be helping us with our domestic and foreign trips. He is a retired travel agent and winery lover.

Michelle and I hope to see many of you at the holiday events in the lodge and wish you all the best for the holy holiday season.

Happy Holidays

Peace and blessings!

George Darnell, President
darnellgd@hotmail.com

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Trip Ideas for 2024, V2

- Jan 12—Endless Caverns, New Market Civil War Museum, Harrisonburg Mennonite Center
- Jan 26—Winter 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—Men's Brewery Tour
- June 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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Wreaths Across America: Winchester National Cemetery
Saturday, December 16, 2023; 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
\$15 for bus transportation

Thanks to Peggy Sabato's initiative, the Travel Club is joining several groups in Lake Frederick, including the Veterans Association, in sponsoring "Wreaths Across America" in Winchester National Cemetery on Saturday, December 16. Please sponsor at least three wreaths and we will provide bus transportation to the wreath laying ceremony.

Everyone loves to sponsor and lay wreaths at Arlington, but the smaller local National Cemeteries, like Winchester, are often overlooked. I hope you will join your neighbors and me in sponsoring at least three wreaths. The website and more information is in an MTL Bulletin along with how you can also support local organizations involved in the ceremony.

On MTL: [My Trilogy Life](#)

The Winchester site: [Winchester National Cemetery Site](#)

Please indicate that you would like your wreath to go to the Winchester, VA National Cemetery (VAWNCW). Thank you so much for supporting Winchester National Cemetery and Wreaths Across America!

December 16 Bus Schedule:

- 10:00 Bus leaves lodge
- 10:30 Arrive Winchester National Cemetery
- 11:00 Volunteers lay wreaths
- 12:00 Ceremony begins.
- 1:00 Board bus
- 1:15 Arrive Piccadilly Public House for lunch
- 2:30 Board bus
- 3:00 Arrive lodge.

Minimum for this trip is 10 and maximum is 22. Registration is \$15 for transportation.

Lunch and driver tip are not included. Please register on MTL Events 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 Dec 1, 2023.

George Darnell

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DC Christmas Lights Tour December 21, 2023



It is hard to find a more wonderful city for Christmas than nearby Washington, DC. For this holiday trip we will take a bus to the U.S. Botanical Gardens Christmas display and then the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree before going to Union Station for a walking tour of the decorations and dinner. Following dinner our tour guide will direct us around the city to see other lights, including the Canadian Embassy Christmas Tree, City Center decorations, and the National Christmas Tree behind the White House. We will get off the bus at some locations for a closer look on foot. Our tour guide has some surprises for us depending on how much time we spend at each site and traffic. Bring your camera and comfortable shoes. Pray for good weather.

Schedule:

- 2:00 p.m. Leave Lodge.
- 4:00 p.m. Arrive U.S. Botanical Gardens and Capitol grounds for guided tour.
- 5:00 p.m. Arrive Union Station for walking tour and dinner.
- 6:30 p.m. Board bus for guided tour of D.C. Christmas Lights.
- 8:30 p.m. Depart for Lake Frederick.
- 10:00 p.m. Arrive lodge.

Minimum for this trip is 16 and maximum is 26.

Registration is \$75 for transportation and guide. Dinner and tips for driver and guide 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, December 10, 2023.

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