



November 2024

EDITOR: Judy Hardie



From the President ...

As we gear up for Thanksgiving, it's a time to reflect on what we're thankful for—like great travel companions and unforgettable adventures! Whether you're hosting a feast or just showing up for the pumpkin pie (no judgment here), let's all remember to pack our patience along with our stretchy buffet pants. Thanksgiving might not involve boarding passes, but navigating the kitchen can be just as adventurous! Here's to a season of gratitude, good food, and maybe even planning our next trip to burn off all that turkey!



As the holiday season approaches, it's a great time to reflect on the fantastic year we've shared, full of memorable journeys, new friendships, and exciting adventures! From local day trips to international cruises, our members have experienced a wide range of travel opportunities this year. A special thank you to all who participated in and helped organize these events—your contributions keep our club vibrant and exciting!

We have a lot more in store as we close out the year. December brings our festive holiday presentation, featuring Ruth Dexter's insightful talk on Switzerland, complete with delicious chocolates and ice cream. Be on the lookout for your invitation—make sure to RSVP, as space will fill up fast.

Looking ahead to 2025 and into 2026, we want to know—where do you want to travel next? We're excited to plan new adventures with fellow club members and would love your input. Whether it's exploring hidden gems locally, taking scenic motor coach tours, or embarking on international cruises, your suggestions help shape the future trips of our club. Let us know your dream destinations, and let's make them happen together!

Thank you for making this a wonderful year, and I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

Happy Travels! *Dianne*





Program Notes

Join us For our **November 13th Program, 2:30 pm, at Pinckney Hall Ballroom**

32 DAY CRUISE TO THE SOUTH PACIFIC AND ON LAND IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

Presented by Perry Samowitz

Highlights include:



- * How to lose 2 pounds on a month long cruise
- * Courage needed to zip line in Hawaii
- * Getting exercise and solitude among 2000 passengers
- * French Polynesia, the good, the bad and the ugly
- * The warmth of people from Tonga
- * The beauty of Sydney Australia
- * Why I would live in New Zealand



Looking Ahead

TRAVEL CLUB OF SUN CITY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

*All meetings are 2:30 to 3:30 pm at **Pinckney Hall Ballroom** unless otherwise noted.*

NEXT MEETING: Friday, December 13, 2024,

at 2:30 pm in Pinckney Hall Ballroom

Topic: **Switzerland** by *Ruth Dexter*

Holiday Party

Coming Up:

Jan. 9 **The World of River Cruising**, by *Diane Lippa*



SOME SAVVY TRAVEL TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL VACATION



- **Research your destination** and create a list of things you want to do ahead of time so you won't waste any time when you get there.
- **Buy there!** If your trip is a long one, think about items such as toiletries that may be better to buy there rather than pack.
- **When booking flights**, sometimes it is cheaper to fly in to airports close to your final destination, and then take a train, bus, or budget airline to where you need to go.
- **Always visit the local tourism information center.** Tourism information centers know about everything going on in town. They can point you to free activities, special events happening during your stay, and everything in between. They even offer discounts on attractions and transportation. It is their job to help you experience the destination better.



- **Take pictures of your luggage and clothes.** If your bag gets lost, this will help identify it more easily and speed up the process of having your travel insurance reimburse you.
- **Pre-book your tickets** to attractions, activities, and excursions online. If you're planning to do any activities or excursions on your trip, book them online. Companies usually offer a discounted price when compared to buying in person.
- **Book the first flight of the day.** These flights are less likely to be delayed as the plane is usually there from the night before.
- **Download offline maps** of your destination in case of unreliable Wi-Fi.

- **Lunchtime is the best time to visit historical sites.** Be a contrarian. You'll have fewer crowds getting in your way as big tour buses, groups, and most travelers head to lunch. It's always best to visit an attraction super early, late, or when people eat. You'll have even the most popular places to yourself!





SCOTTIE'S TRAVELS by Scottie Davis

A HOLIDAY ADVENTURE CLOSE TO HOME

Charleston is an exciting, electric place to spend quality time during the holidays. There is so much to do; so many restaurants to try. The cool, crisp air makes it the perfect time to stroll through the streets, take a holiday walking tour or catch a carriage ride. The drive to Charleston only takes a couple of hours, making it an ideal holiday getaway for one day or for several days. The website, www.charlestoncvb.org, is a good place to begin planning your holiday adventure. It gives you more options to consider than Sun City has golf balls!

Charleston literally has it all! You can take a private holiday tour, attend a concert, *The Sound of Charleston - From Gospel to Gershwin*, in the historic ***Circular Congregational Church***; experience a unique adaptation of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* in the beautifully restored ***Dock Street Theater***.

Art lovers will be moved by the paintings about Charleston and Charlestonians at the ***Gibbes Museum of Art*** and history buffs will linger in the galleries of the ***Charleston Museum*** that feature everything Charleston – from its duels and silversmiths to a couple of wars that affected the holy city.

While there are a gillion places to stay, I highly recommend you plant yourself in the historic district where you can walk everywhere or take pedicabs (a memorable experience peddled by college students with strong legs). Parking is a bear. ***The Vendue Inn***, the ***Elliot House*** and ***Charleston Place*** are among the many excellent choices.

One could go on forever about dining in Charleston. The elegant ***Charleston Grille***, over the top, ***Gabrielle*** in Hotel Bennett, the rooftop bars, all of the restaurants on Bay Street and King Street...so much great food!

To get a taste of what Charleston is like during the holiday season, join us for our **Charleston Holiday motor coach trip** departing from Sun City on **Saturday, December 14** to experience some of the best the city has to offer- a festive lunch at ***High Cotton***; the magnificent Christmas show at the ***Charleston Music Hall*** and marvelous light displays at ***James Island Festival of Lights***. For more info and to sign up, go to www.scottiedavis.com.

Charleston is an ideal place to experience a bit of holiday joy. It is fun; it is beautiful and just right down the road! Happy holidays, y'all!

*(Scottie Davis has been writing and lecturing about this area for four decades. Her tour company, **Weekend Get-aways on a Tank of Gas** creates one day and overnight motor coach trips to visit these places two to five hours away. Her articles and trips can be found at www.scottiedavis.com.)*



BUS Trips, One-day & Extended

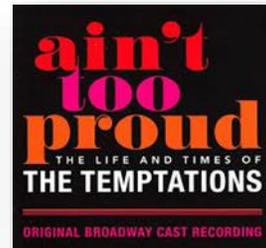
Weekend Get-Aways

www.scottiedavis.com Contact: Cheryl Fuchs, 703-887-7793, or Scottie Davis, 843-422-3360

***AIN'T TOO PROUD: LIFE AND TIMES
OF THE TEMPTATIONS***
plus St. JOHN'S TOWN CENTER – JACKSONVILLE

Saturday, December 7, 2024 (\$244 pp)

SPACE STILL AVAILABLE - SIGN UP IMMEDIATELY!



A great holiday gift to give yourself, a significant other or friends! This fantastic day includes an orchestra seat for the Broadway production of “our kind of music” at the Moran Theater and free time at St John’s Town Center to enjoy a wonderful lunch, knock out holiday shopping or find that perfect dress and shoes to shine at holiday events. On the way home, we will have a wine party to end a very special treat.

Trip includes: transp., orchestra seat for the show, wine and snacks, bus driver’s tip. Trip picks up in Sun City at 8 am and returns by 8 pm that evening.



CHRISTMAS CHEER IN CHARLESTON

Saturday, December 14, 2024 (\$234 pp)

SPACE STILL AVAILABLE - SIGN UP IMMEDIATELY!

A festive, memorable day with a holiday lunch at **High Cotton, Moranz Christmas Show** at the *Charleston Music Hall* with uplifting songs, dances and skits followed by the magnificent **Holiday Festival of Lights** display on James Island, along with wine and snacks for a very full, fun day.

Trip includes: transp., lunch at High Cotton, Christmas show, James Island lights, wine, snacks, bus driver’s tip. Trip picks up in Sun City at 8 am and returns around 8:30 pm.





BUS Trips, One-day & Extended

Weekend Get-Aways

www.scottiedavis.com Contact: Cheryl Fuchs, 703-887-7793, or Scottie Davis, 843-422-3360

THE MAGIC OF BILTMORE AT CHRISTMAS PLUS CHIHULY EXHIBIT

Wednesday, December 4 - Thursday, December 5, 2024

(\$979 pp single; 749 pp dbl occ; \$679 pp. triple)

THE TRIP IS FULL. SIGN UP TO BE PLACED ON THE WAIT LIST.

Spend a magical 24 hours on the Biltmore Estate grounds; stay at the elegant Inn on Biltmore Estate with a wine tasting, dinner, and Biltmore House candlelight tour. On day 2, tour the Estate grounds with a step-on guide and see the Chihuly Exhibit.

Trip includes: transp., wine tasting, candlelight tour, Estate tour, Chihuly exhibit, accommodations at Inn; 2 meals, bus driver's tip, snacks.



SAVE THE DATES FOR THESE AMAZING TRIPS COMING SOON!



Valentine trip, Feb 14-15

Christ Church Tour of Homes, March 15

Amelia Island-St Augustine, April

Brevard Music Center and Western NC, end of June



WHERE TO NEXT?

By Lori Fritzky

LAS VEGAS...IT'S MORE THAN JUST GAMBLING! (PART 1)

There are more than 135 museums, exhibits and art galleries listed in Las Vegas, and that doesn't include all the special features and exhibits in the hotels! Some of the museums offer combination tickets, and there are also guided and docent tours. If it's a family vacation with multi generations, there are many museums and fun stuff for kids that are not included here. Following are a few of the museums and exhibits; the art galleries were too numerous to mention. There are also many tours and attractions outside the City that will be featured in next month's Newsletter article, LAS VEGAS... (Part 2).



Starting Downtown, you will find **The Fremont experience**, a pedestrian mall that offers many entertainment options, in addition to shopping, dining and gambling. The Viva Vision light and music show each evening, a 3D graphic interpretation of top songs from legendary artists is one of the best free attractions anywhere. With 3 stages and a never ending roster of entertainment, no matter the day, there is always something thrilling happening at the Fremont Street Experience.

Also downtown, you may want to check out a couple of hotels that are attractions in their own right, such as:

Main Street Station Casino and Brewery Hotel, set in the Victorian era, has dozens of rare antiques and curiosities from around the world, even a slab of the Berlin Wall...in the Men's bathroom!! The registration desk has a brochure listing all the antiques around the Hotel.

On to the **Golden Gate Hotel & Casino** that opened in 1906 and has a lot of history. Near the hotel's registration desk, there are some little known artifacts on display, including gaming ledgers from the early 1900s, vintage chip racks and more curiosities from the early days of SIN CITY.

Each hotel has its own unique brand of glitz and glamor that is worthy of a visit, but a couple of things worth mentioning are **Circus Circus**: An entire floor of the hotel is dedicated to circus shows that take place every fifteen minutes from 11AM to midnight. Around it are many carnival sideshow attractions. Right next to the hotel is an **indoor theme park**. There's a **Gondola Ride** at *The Venetian*. ZIP LINING anyone?? an exhilarating experience can be had at both **SlotZilla**, seven stories high, two blocks long through Downtown, and **Fly LINQ**, an adrenaline-fueled ride 12 stories high on the Strip.

(Continued on page 8)

(LAS VEGAS... Continued from page 7)

MUSEUMS/EXHIBITS:

Titanic Artifacts Exhibit at *The Luxor*. 350 recovered relics and full-scale recreations of the ill-fated Titanic luxury liner can be seen at this exhibition.



Bodies, the Exhibition at the *Luxor*. Discover the literal inner workings of the human form.

Arte Experience Museum: An immersive art exhibition showcasing works inspired by nature, incorporating both the natural landscapes and cultural backdrop of the city.



Pinball Hall of Fame is an attempt by the members of the Las Vegas Pinball Collectors Club to house and display the world's largest pinball collection, open to the public. You can play on very old machines as well as new ones.

The Neon Museum is a collection of vintage neon signs that offers a journey into the heart of old Las Vegas and its evolution. Each sign carries a piece of the City's legacy, representing former hotels, businesses and spots that once adorned the streets.

The Mob Museum: Discover the scandalous stories of the mob's most infamous gangsters as you explore the fascinating immersive exhibits, artifacts and digital experiences, learning more about the lives of the many criminals from Sin City and beyond.

Princess Diana and the Royals Exhibit: 3rd floor at the Shops at *Crystals*

Liberace Museum Collection: legendary collections of influential showman Liberace, at the former residence of Michael Jackson in Las Vegas.

The Las Vegas Natural History Museum, an affiliate of the Smithsonian, offers an opportunity to explore exhibits that range from dinosaurs to ancient Egyptians and the African savannah.



Madame Tussauds Wax Museum...Las Vegas Style! Separated into zones featuring icons in music, sports, Las Vegas, special exhibits and more.

Haunted Museum. Hostile spirits have been rumored to roam the halls of this 1938-built property terrorizing past occupants. Visitors to The Haunted Museum will venture down creepy winding hallways and secret passages into more than 30 rooms that rival scenes from Hollywood horror films.

Atomic Museum. Showcases some of the rarest of artifacts relating to the nation's atomic testing program. Nowhere else can you see a large nuclear reactor that was used in the development of the

nuclear rocket and the first air-to-air missile, *Genie*. Personal atomic weapons developed to use in place of conventional weapons are placed throughout the 8,000 square feet of museum exhibits.

Shelby American Experience: Home to more than 30 vintage Shelby vehicles, the Carroll Shelby Heritage Center is a must-see attraction for car enthusiasts in Las Vegas. Also, Nostalgia Street Rods has an amazing collection of classic cars and memorabilia.

Museum of Illusions: Enter the fascinating world of illusions where nothing is ever quite as it seems.



Whether you are a gambling enthusiast or not, there is plenty to do in Las Vegas!

SOLO TRAVELERS SIG

Our next meeting is Tues., January 21, 2025
All meetings are at 7 PM in the Lakehouse Ballroom.



The holidays are upon us and the “Solo Travelers” SIG will be taking a quick meeting break for November and December. We will resume our monthly meetings on January 21st at 7pm in the Lakehouse Ballroom. Stay tuned right here for updates on our exciting plans for 2025.

“Traveling is creating priceless memories that will last a lifetime”



Join our private Facebook page, [SCHH Travel Club](#), for exclusive travel updates, news, and exciting developments. Connect with like-minded members and stay informed about your Travel Club.

Name Badges: Order Yours Soon!



We've received numerous requests for Travel Club name badges, and we're excited to offer them. Even if you already have a name badge from another club, having a Travel Club-specific badge helps you stand out at our meetings and events. You'll have the option to choose between pins or magnets when placing your order. Instructions for ordering are included here and on the club website.



NAME BADGE ORDER FORM

Name as you would like it to appear on the badge, (**first name & last name**, printed in all CAPS):

_____ (First Badge)

_____ (Second Badge)

TYPE OF NAME BADGE (please check x):

Magnet Backing (\$4.50): _____

Pin Backing (\$3.50): _____

Plain Back-no pin or magnet (*for those who may already have a magnet from another badge*) (\$2.50): _____

Charge will be made to your Sun City CAM Card.

Name as it appears on your Cam Card: _____

Cam Card # _____

Address: _____

Your Phone # in case we have questions: _____

Drop this form in the mailbox to Kate Silver, 82 Redtail Dr., email the form or your information as shown on this form to: silver0325@yahoo.com

Your name badge will be delivered to you after completion.

Thank you!



What Ever's Going On - WEGO!

The Travel Club's very active special interest group for local events

WEGO meetings are a great way to get together with other members. Click [here](#) to view the WEGO page on the Sun City website. Current and past lists of events are in the Documents section at the bottom of the page.

If you're interested in events close to home, the WEGO program has something for everyone! The WEGO group within the Travel Club is included with your membership at no additional charge. Meetings are at 1 pm on the third Wednesday of the month (except in June, July, and August). WEGO benefits include:

- An extensive **WEGO list** of events that changes every month, plus an Ongoing Happenings list of activities that occur regularly. The latest lists are emailed to members and posted on the Travel Club page of the Sun City website in the middle of the month.
- Free and moderately priced events (some with exclusive discounts for us). Most are \$40 or less.
- A wonderful way to discover local treasures, such as these:
 - * **Classical Events** – Symphony concerts, ballets, and operas.
 - * **Festivals & Home Tours** – Gullah, food and drink, music, art, and water festivals; shopping and holiday events; parties; parades; and house and garden tours.
 - * **Music & Theater** – Band and orchestra concerts, singers and musicians, plays, musicals, and shows.
 - * **More Adventures** – Cultural and historical events, boutiques and markets, expos, lectures, classes, races, art exhibitions, lunch with author series, dinners, and much more.
 - * **Museums & Tours** – Museum exhibits and events, local tours, and wildlife refuges.
- Access to our Facebook page (SCHH Travel Club) to get last-minute updates and keep in touch with other Travel Club members. It's a Private page for our members only. Contact Debbie Hite at 207-240-4980 or pushywoman@aol.com if you have questions.
- The opportunity to get together and arrange to go places with others through the Facebook page and meetings.

The November WEGO list contains several classical concerts, an opera, home tours, Hilton Head Lantern Parade, several oyster roasts, holiday activities, music and shows (at Savannah Theatre, USCB Center for the Arts, May River Theatre, Savannah Civic Center, Tybee Post Theater, Averitt Center for the Arts, Victory North, Arts Center of Coastal Carolina, and more), local markets, Palmetto Bluff Conservancy events, walks and races, lectures, several fundraising activities, a rodeo, Thanksgiving dinner, Savannah Riverboat cruises, workshops, a circus, museum exhibits and events, local tours, and much more.

Meetings provide the opportunity to learn more about what is going on, ask questions, tell about places you have gone and things you have done, meet with fellow members, make new friends, and arrange to go places together. We look forward to seeing you there!

THE NEXT MEETING IS Wednesday, Nov. 20th at 1 pm in Pinckney Hall (Edisto River Room).

Come starting at 12:30 to see what events others are planning to attend.

Oktoberfest 2024

The Travel Club's **2nd Annual Oktoberfest**, held on October 2nd at the Pavilion, was a smashing success! With 170 guests in attendance, the event was filled with lively energy, starting with live music by "Mr. Ed" and a fun performance by the Sun City Cloggers. One of the evening's highlights was the hilarious BRATwurst toss game—brats were literally flying through the air as partners aimed to catch them!

The culinary delights didn't disappoint either. Chef Johannes served up a mouthwatering buffet



featuring Chicken Schnitzel, Bratwurst with Sauerkraut, German Potato Salad, Red Cabbage, Spaetzle, and pretzel rolls. Desserts included delicious Plum Tart and German Chocolate Mousse, perfectly rounding out the meal. Guests were also treated to a drink ticket for use at the Low Country Beer Tap truck.

Kudos to the social committee for pulling off an amazing event with fabulous décor and fun-filled planning. Everyone had a blast!

See what you missed....

[Sun City News Week of 10-14-24](#)

FYI: LOCAL TRAVEL AGENTS

These are local travel agents. FYI ONLY *Travel Club does not endorse travel agents so do your own due diligence.*

Dream Vacations -

Stephanie - 843-816-4083

Lisa & Terry Mosher Travel

843-929-0775 -lisa.russo11@gmail.com *(Sun City Residents)*

Travel Experts - Carolyn Weber - 843-645-0800 *(Sun City resident)*

AAA - Kelly Brock - 843-815-3775

Expedia Cruises, Diane Lippa, 843-929-2527

(Sun City Resident)

Valerie Wilson Travel - Joan Flynn - Off. 843-757-5888; Cell 843-368-2470

(Sun City Resident)



NOTE: If you are parking for an overnight trip, don't forget to show your Sun City Parking Pass on your car, and park in the appropriate place.

*Both of these documents can be found on the Travel Club website, **Travel News, Helpful Documents**, at: <http://www.travelclubsuncityhh.com>.*



[travelclubsuncityhh.com](http://www.travelclubsuncityhh.com)

2024 Travel Club Board and advisors

*Indicates voting members

President*	Dianne Brooks	678-428-4746	Trip Managers	Lori Fritzky*	203-506-8117
Vice President*	Shelly Clarke	661-755-3012		Scottie Davis	843-681-1900
Secretary*	Rhonda Rowe	843-422-0354		Diane Lippa	760-668-7499
Treasurer*	Michael Chorney	571-234-7812	Editor, <i>The Frequent Flier</i>	Judy Hardie	215-962-7213
Past President*	Ed Raney	843-707-7085	Webmaster	John Clarke	443-286-7052
Membership Admin./	Joan Morris	843-705-6132	travelclubsuncityhh.com		
WEGO SIG Leader*	TravelClubOfSCHH@gmail.com		Social Com. Co-Leaders:	Cyndee Wilbur	412-417-7281
Solo Travelers Leader*	Karen Ovesney	304-481-5406		Linda Maslowski	708-268-6197
	Ann Morgan		Special Assistants	Bernie Wilson	843-705-5468
Program Director*	Joannie Welch	603-275-1274		Debbie Hite	207-240-4980