





Please consider making an end-of-the-year donation to the Claiborne Association. Your continued generosity supports the work of restoring the Hall and Annex. A donation to the Endowment Fund will help to provide for the future of the Village Hall. Claiborne Village Assn. 10403 Claiborne Rd., 21624



**A Sing-a-Long is good for the soul...**  
Claiborne voices were at their sweetest as Jonathan Williams, joined by Rebecca Cockey Mullins, led a pre-Thanksgiving sing-a-long.

### **AND SPEAKING OF MUSIC and sweet stories...**

I asked some folks to tell me what music they listen to as the days get shorter and a little colder and they are settling in to be cozy. I also asked them to say a bit about why they are favorites.

#### **From Abby West:**

I love listening to George Winston's "December". Somehow, my rock n' roll-loving dad got wind of this pianist and we would listen to this record during holiday dinners. Candles lit, dark Montana night, my mom's amazing cooking and the wood stove cranking out heat. We didn't have any extended family nearby, so we were very close-knit and holidays were often just the four of us. George Winston is from Montana, which is pretty special, too!

#### **From Emma Richardson:**

'[Krampus](#)' by Houndmouth: I'm never one to listen to lyrics, so the fact that this two minute song has a total of two sentences repeated throughout guarantees that I'll be able to sing along to their four-part harmonies without forgetting the words. I love how it starts out slow and steady as if they're just trying to trudge through the long cold winter, and then builds as each instrument and voice is added. By the end it's clear that their winter goal is to just make it home for dinner, which just goes to show that they'd understand the true meaning of a Claiborne potluck.

**The Christmas Revels:** In Celebration of the Winter Solstice is recorded as a theater production rather than individual carols and folksongs, which makes it impossible to pick just one track from the album. I remember going to one of their shows as a kid, dancing with the entire audience to 'The Lord of the Dance,' and then watching as they picked a full-bearded Phil Sayre out of the crowd to play the King on stage. I've been hooked ever since and couldn't imagine a December without it.



Alan Wright and Jonathan

*Felice Navidad*

### **Get involved, stay informed**

It is an exciting time in the renovation of the Village Hall/Resiliency Center. Express your ideas and learn what is being planned. All are welcome when the Association Board meets; usually on the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. Association Board minutes are available at [www.claibornemd.org](http://www.claibornemd.org)

*Joyeuses Fetes!*

*Merry Christmas*



**Shirley Cockey works her stitching magic, this year with a nod to the railroad heritage of our village. Charming choo-choo ornaments are \$10 each, with all of the proceeds going directly to the Claiborne Association. Pre-order by contacting Shirley at 410-829-5571 or at [nellebelle38@gmail.com](mailto:nellebelle38@gmail.com)**

More thanks to the ladies and gents,  
“There are fairies in the bottom of my garden” trilled Bea Lilly in her youth and mine.  
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wVo3dphCtJE>)

On returning from a stay in various medical facilities, I found, to my delight, that the fairies had been ALL OVER my garden and left it IMMACULATE!  
Time revealed that it was the darling housewives (and househusbands?) of Claiborne who had gotten down and dirty for a needy neighbor.  
Thank you Dear Claibornites,  
**Carol, the Kab**

'[The Detectorists](#)' by Johnny Flynn: This song is made for a BBC show, but it can easily stand on its own. It's a song of searching and adventure, and reminds me of playing as a kid in the woods around Claiborne. It's also fairly sparse, which might be why it reminds me so much of the woods in winter.

'[Gloomy Winter](#)' from A Scottish Christmas (Bonnie Rideout, Maggie Sansone, and Al Petteway): This is a CD that has been in our family's Christmas rotation for decades. The droning strings on this track embody the loneliness of winter more than any other song I know.

'[White Winter Hymnal](#)' by Fleet Foxes: This is a dreamlike, if a little macabre, song with wonderfully lush harmonies and a beautiful melody. It starts off almost as a round, and continues its cyclical theme with the lyrics that take you from the "whitest snow" to "strawberries in summertime" and then back again.

#### **Keeping it local...**

Jim Richardson

If you are trying to decide on what organizations to support this holiday season, and you're especially looking for a local organization that serves our community well, a worthy option is the Bay Hundred Community Volunteers.

The group was founded in 1999 to address a specific need for a small community in Sherwood, MD. The volunteers repaired dirt roads, removed trash, cleared brush, and renovated several homes. In 2002, they achieved non-profit, 501 (c)(3) status. They expanded their scope to include roof repair and replacement, painting, and handicap ramps, and now serve all of Talbot County.

The mission of the Bay Hundred Community Volunteers is to help improve the living conditions of the residents of Talbot County and to raise public awareness of the need for adequate, safe, affordable housing.

If this sounds like an organization you would like to support, please send your tax-deductable check to: Bay Hundred Community Volunteers, Inc., P.O. Box 12, McDaniel, MD. 21647. If you would like to become a volunteer, their next committee meeting is January 9th at 7pm at the New St. Johns United Methodist Church in Wittman.