

# The Claiborne Clarion

A Newsletter for the Claiborne Community

December 2023 - Volume 16, Number 12

Pat Flory, Editor Barbara Reisert, Clarion Founder and Editor Emerita, Jim Richardson, President Claiborne Association

## Note the Dates:

### Monday, December 4, 2 PM

Come to the Village Hall to join in the decorating fun! Bring your ribbons, greens, wire cutters and good cheer.

### Saturday, December 16, 6 PM

Claiborne Annual Holiday Potluck and Association Meeting

### Sunday, December 31

New Year's Eve event at the Village Hall. Details to follow.

### Sunday, January 7, 4 PM

Concert at the Village Hall

### Wednesday, January 10, 7 PM

Wednesday Movie Nights are back! Join us to celebrate the start of our 2024 season.

## December Birthdays:

Liz Fellinger	6
Lida Klunk	8
Jess Murphy	9
Danielle Murphy	16
Celia Boos	17
Edward Schaefer	22
Norm Haddaway	26
Owen Bond	28
Devin Lednum	28
Page Lansdale	29
Susan Cooper	30

## A Pair of Christmas Memories

As we approach the Christmas season, I think back to the first Christmas Martha and I spent in Claiborne. It was 1981, and only a few months had passed since we bought the village country store from the Joneses. Our girls were not born yet and we were living in a room at Renny Johnson's house. Although my memory is fuzzy, I believe it was also the first time we attended an event at the Hall, then the Claiborne United Methodist Church. It was a Christmas Pageant. Children that we had gotten to know pretty well walked down the aisle singing carols, portraying Mar, Joseph, the Wise Men and the little drummer boy. I'm sure it was charming and heartwarming, and all the parents must have loved it and beamed with pride. All I remember is having tears in my eyes as I tried mightily to suppress laughter at the miss-match of the rough and unruly boys and their angelic alter-egos.

My second memory comes from a few years later. Our children had joined a dozen or so others in town, and they cooked up the idea of a Christmas caroling parade. It was a scraggly line of the usual holiday characters, either Audrey or Hannah was Mary, Avery Noyes in a wagon was baby Jesus, and there were attendant stars and wise men. Devin Murphy was a very unhappy Joseph who absolutely did not want to wear a dish towel on his head. A few people in town were alerted of the impromptu event and kindly came to their porches and cheered and waved.

I look forward to our upcoming Holiday potluck when all of you have the chance to share your memories.

Peace, Jim Richardson

*Claiborne Christmas  
Potluck*

*December 18, 2010*



If the Association is on your end-of-year contribution list, please know that it is much appreciated. Donations may be made online by going to [claibornemd.org](http://claibornemd.org). or by dropping a check in the Dues & Donations box at the Hall. Please know you are much appreciated.

## Autumn Beauty



*Photo by Martha Hamlyn*

Sing a song of seasons!  
Something bright in all!  
Flowers in the summer,  
Fires in the fall!

*Robert Louis Stevenson*

## Guest Editors Wanted

The Clarion needs a guest editor for the January edition and anytime in 2024. If you are interested, please contact Pat Flory at [patflory@gmail.com](mailto:patflory@gmail.com) or 443-472-6800.

## Our landscape Crew

Terry Boos  
Peter Bruins  
Susan and Paul Cooper  
Pat and Jake Flory  
Martha Hamlyn  
Renny Johnson  
Luann Kolander  
Will Murdoch  
Jim Richardson  
Phil and Sayre Sayre  
Rob and Susanne Todd

## A Holiday Potluck - Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM

The very first Association event at the Hall was a Holiday Potluck, held just a month after the purchase of the building was final. We brought a dish to share, drinks and our own plates and utensils. Since then, we've had the same happy event every year until 2020, when we shifted to outdoor events and made do with bell ringing, tree lighting, and carol singing. Happily, we can now return to our tradition and gather together to share a holiday meal and holiday cheer. So please bring a dish to share and your drink of choice and celebrate!

### Program Committee

Doesn't this seem like it's been the busiest Fall ever? Or had we just gotten used to the slower pace of things that the COVID required, and now a normal pace seems like a swirl? In November alone, we squeezed in a clean up day, a lively contra dance, and a full-house photography presentation by Josh Galicki. Those who attended will never look at our humble cove the same way again.

December, as you might guess, will have some things going on, as well. First, we will deck the Hall with boughs of holly (and pine and cedar). Whether you are a day-after-Thanksgiving decorating enthusiast, or a last-minute stick-a-wreath-on-the-door person, consider joining neighbors at 2:00 on Monday the 4th. We'll bring out all the old bits we have stored away, and put up indoor and outdoor decorations. Bring fresh greens if you have some, maybe clippers, ribbon and anything else you've got extra that you'd lend to the cause.

After most of the hubbub has died down, keep your eyes open for news of a New Years' gathering of some kind. We have rung that bell on New Years' every year since 2010, and we'd hate to ruin that record!

### We cleaned ...



## St. Michaels Library News

### Lunch & Learn:

Monday December 4<sup>th</sup> at Noon:  
The St. Michaels Library will host Kristin Rutkowski who will share stories and photographs from her book, "Her Helm: Chesapeake Bay." The book highlights women who make their living on the Bay waters as ferry operators, captains and more. An exhibit of the portraits can be seen at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum thru September 2024

### Movie: "*Tora! Tora! Tora!*" --

Thursday December 7<sup>th</sup> at Noon  
This film is a dramatization which chronicles the bombing of Pearl Harbor from both the Japanese and American points of view.  
Starring Martin Balsam, Joseph Cotton and E. G. Marshall.  
Rated G

### Annual Book Sale at the St. Michaels Branch

Saturday, December 9th-  
Saturday, December 16 during normal library hours. Start your holiday shopping and support the library.



### *And We Danced*



[Click here to see Claiborne Dance](#)



### *An Ode to Josh Galicki - by John Scott \**

\* Kind of -- For fun I asked ChatGPT for a few paragraphs with the prompt, "Give me a few paragraphs written in a poetic style that describes a person who is able to capture the nobility and beauty of wildlife." With a few edits of my own, this was the product of that request. Though artificially created (scary, its import for our future), the sentiment is accurate. Thanks, Josh, for showing us through your photos neighbors we seldom see.

In the quiet embrace of dawn's gentle light, there strides a soul intertwined with the untamed grace of nature's children. Each step echoes a silent symphony, a dance born of reverence and wonder, as they move amidst the sprawling tapestry of the wilderness. Their eyes, twin reflections of ancient wisdom, hold the secrets whispered by the winds and sung by the stars.

With a tender touch, our observer unravels the mysteries veiled within the intricate hues of a butterfly's wing, or the silent eloquence of a noble stag standing regally against the backdrop of an emerald forest. In his presence, the untamed beings of the wild seem to sense a kindred spirit, a silent kinship that transcends words. He wields an invisible brush, painting portraits not on canvas but upon the canvas of the soul, capturing the noble essence of a prowling predator or the delicate vulnerability of a fledgling bird taking its first flight.

With a heart attuned to the rhythms of nature's symphony, he is a humble chronicler of the untamed beauty, revealing the majestic tales woven within the fabric of the untamed world, embodying the very spirit that harmonizes with the pulse of wildlife's nobility.



