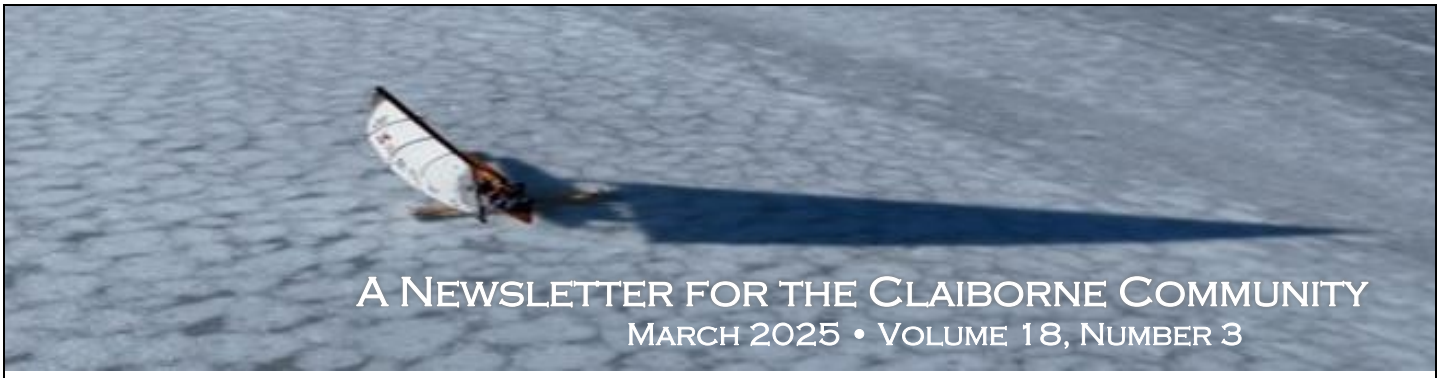

A Newsletter for the Claiborne Community
March 2025 • Volume 18, Number 3

The Claiborne Clarion

Kirke Harper, March Editor | Barbara Reisert, Clarion Founder & Editor Emerita Mike Kuperberg, President

March Birthdays

Ted Jones....9
Suzanne Todd....9
Kevin Garber....12
Mike Kabler....13
Rebecca Cockey Parks....14
Penny Rhine....14
Baba Groom....15
Josh Galicki....30
Alan Farr....30

Coming Soon

Bingo Night Fundraiser at the Hall
Saturday, March 15, 7 pm

Presidents Message

Is everybody getting tired of our swings between spring and winter weather? How can it be 60 degrees on day, 60 mph winds the next and then below freezing? I have to look at a weather report to know how to dress each morning!

Our February Board Meeting (2/20) was efficient and uneventful. Reports on finance, programs, and the building were all positive with your donations continuing to roll in.

Several of Claiborne's Wednesday night sailors hosted the Maryland Eastern Shore Star Fleet winter gathering at the Village Hall earlier this month. We had a nice turnout and many compliments from our guests on the warmth and functionality of our Hall. Many of you attended the concert with Munit Mesfin & Kenny Allen last Sunday. I am continually amazed at the quality and diversity of talent that our Program Committee (and Carpe Diem/Talbot Arts) brings to our small community. I highly recommend these concerts to all of you.

Remember - our standing meeting date is 7 PM usually on the third Thursday of each month. However, the next Board meeting will be 7 PM on March 27. Please join us and bring your ideas, suggestions or concerns. You may also provide input to the Board by contacting any of your Board members.

Please continue to stay in touch with your favorite Board member and let us know if you have suggestions for the Association.

Finally, the Board is interested in forming a Grounds Committee to consider, plan, and maybe do some implementation on keeping the outside property beautiful. Are you interested in, at least, talking about our grounds? Please contact me (Mike – mkupe@mac.com) and I'll get you signed up.

Best wishes and fingers crossed that springtime is just around the corner.

Photo: Bill Sewell

County Events in March

MUSIC

1 Newmyer Flyer – Avalon

5 Steel Wheels with Greg Loftis – Avalon

6 An Evening of Klezmer Temple B'nai Israel, 7 pm

8 Swamp Donkey – Avalon

11 Song Riot – Brookletts Center, 12:15 pm

14 Ye Vagabonds – Avalon

22 Interlude Concert– Ebenezer Theater, Easton, 5:30 pm

22 Amish Outlaws – Avalon

27 Geo Porter Jr and Runnin' Pardners – Avalon

28 Threads of Sound – AAM, 5:30 pm

SCIENCE

4 Shells and Rocks – Oyster Habitat – TCC-Wye, 5:30 pm

6 Drought and Rain – Oxford Comm Center, 2 pm

11 Harmful Algae Bloom – TCC Wye, 5:30 pm

20 Beavers and Stream Ecology – Easton Library, 10:30 am

ART

3 Hoods Up Happy Hour – AAM, 6 pm

8 "It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World" – AAM, 1 pm

18 "The French Connection" – AAM, 7 pm

20 Bugatti Marvels and Mystery – AAM, 6 pm

29 Family Art Day – AAM, 11 am – 1pm

Hall Electrical Report

There have been electrical adventures at the Hall recently. A problem with the installation of Choptank Electric's smart meter led to the destruction of the motherboard of one of the wall mounted heating and cooling units. Repairs followed. We will ask Choptank for a grant to reimburse our costs.

Association's Endowment Fund

Now that donations to the end-of-year fundraiser for the Claiborne Association have been counted and deposited, the Association's endowment has passed a major milestone. The fundraiser brought in $27,000, thanks to donations from more than 30 households as well as a $10,000 match from a generous Claibornite. All of this pushed the endowment's value to more than $150,000!

A major goal of the Association's long-range plan is assuring sustainability. Will there be sufficient financial resources in the future? The growth of the endowment shows the Association's strength….which comes from the strong support by the community. This makes us able to weather challenges in years ahead.

The Village Hall, Ten Years Ago

Just ten short years ago this month, the Association was preparing to install a heating and air conditioning system in the main room of the Hall.

Before the Annex became what it is today (post office, sitting area, kitchen and bathroom), it was thought of as the "old kitchen" and possibly Sunday School rooms.

MISCELLANEOUS

22 Stamp Show – Easton VFD, 10 am – 4 pm

22 Researching Your Historic Property – Talbot Historical Society

NOTES:

AAM = Academy Art Museum
academyartmuseum.org

Avalon Theater:
avalonfoundation.org

Brooklets: 410-822-2869

Easton Library:
mailto:mboley@umd.edu

Seen at a Recent Potluck

Our former neighbors, Becky Otter and Kevin Garber. Also visible in this photo are Carrie Gould-Kabler and Renny Johnson.

Library Reopening

The St Michaels Branch of the Talbot County Free Library is now open at its new, temporary location in the St Michaels Village Shopping Center at 1013 South Talbot Street. The library is in Suite 11. Their hours are Monday – Thursday from 10 am to 6 pm, and Friday and Saturday from 9 am to 5 pm.

Repairs to the Annex that were underway were:

- the installation of recycled oak flooring in the old kitchen section of the annex (this is now the hallway to the bathroom),
- replacing damaged joists,
- installing a beam and widening the opening to the old kitchen,
- raising the floor and installing new flooring,
- installing a donated French door.

Repairs to the structure under the larger Annex room (the kitchen and post office) were next in line and soon to be started were:

- plans for the kitchen and bathroom as well as the location of the replacement windows in the old kitchen area,
- replacement of the old siding on the Annex,
- working with the Health Department to reach a decision about a septic system (the end result was the installation of two holding tanks instead).

Progress was made possible through the efforts of many volunteers and generous donations by the community. And just think, ten short years later the Hall is home to the post office, Board meetings, potluck dinners, Wednesday night movies, ladies' night, concerts, bingo, and a variety of presentations. A dream that became a reality.

Ice Boating

Our weather hasn't provided the opportunity for local ice boating for several years. In late January, Mike Keene led the way to Emerson Point for ice boating on Hemmersly's Creek. Bob Foley generously granted access to the creek from his boathouse landing. A lack of wind hindered sailing on a couple of days, but it was great fun when the wind cooperated.

Spring Activity

Bill and Alice Sewell spotted this pair of eagles recently at the Claiborne Landing. Hopefully, the pair will quickly move on from the Osprey platform near the Claiborne Jetty. Last year, Osprey were spotted in Claiborne on March 17.

Stargazing

From Marty Bollinger: “A couple of weeks ago, Rob and Suzanne Todd, along with Mike Keene, visited my observatory to look at the planets and some other stuff. We saw Saturn and its rings, Jupiter and its moons, and the planets Venus, Mars, Neptune and Uranus. We also looked at the Orion Nebula, which is just a green “cloud” when you look through the telescope visually. Here is a photo I took of a single 5-minute image using my astro-imaging setup in the dome observatory next door. This is the image of the Orion Nebula.”

February Concert

If you like great songs by Marvin Gaye, Roberta Flack, Sly and the Family Stone, then you really enjoyed Claiborne’s recent concert,

About 30 people came out to see and hear Munit Mesfin & Kenny Allen perform together at the Claiborne Village Hall on February 23.

Munit is an Ethiopian-American singer, songwriter, and producer known as a trailblazer in the Ethio-Soul movement. Think jazz improvisation & reggae rhythms, with a big dose of soul. Kenny Allen joined her on guitar.

The concert, brought to us by Carpe Diem and Talbot Arts, was followed by a social hour with goodies.