



(Raku Ceramics and photo by John Scott)

Special Claiborne Artists Issue

THE CLAIBORNE CLARION

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE CLAIBORNE
COMMUNITY
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JOHN SCOTT
JULY 2023 EDITOR

BARBARA REISERT
CLARION FOUNDER/EDITOR EMERITA

JIM RICHARDSON
PRESIDENT, CLAIBORNE ASSOCIATION



THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Jim Richardson

One of my most vivid childhood memories is preparing for our town's Fourth of July parade. It would begin at one end of Third Street, the town's three-block business section, and end at the town's large cemetery.

All of the neighborhood's kids would hurriedly decorate their bikes just hours before the event. I remember weaving colorful red, white and blue crepe paper through the spokes and making steamers to be fixed to the ends of the handlebars and wherever else I thought might be useful. Small American flags with wooden sticks would also be added. Some of the older children might carefully attach a baseball card or two to the bike's frame so that one edge would be in contact with the spokes of the wheels, imitating the purr of an engine. Very cool!

We would then form our own small parade by peddling together uptown to the event that started promptly at ten. The parade had fire engines, middle and high school bands, clowns on stilts, veterans dressed in uniforms that no longer fit, (I remember seeing a few WW1 veterans), and of course the mayor and his wife riding in a large pink convertible. Someone in charge would find a place for us in the parade but we often broke ranks and just rode wherever we wanted. Kids will be kids! It was a day of celebration and always ended too soon for me.

Fortunately, Claiborne has its own Fourth of July parade tradition. It may be smaller but has all the excitement and enthusiasm. It's still a day to celebrate everything that's right about our country, still a day for young and old to march down the street in colorful costumes while holding the Stars and Stripes overhead with pride.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Renny Johnson	July 8
Greg North	July 11
Megan McCoy	July 13
Chris Noyes	July 14
Brian Boos	July 20
Becky Otter	July 21
Kathy Bosin	July 21
Stella Kabler	July 25

If you'd like to add your name to the birthday list, please contact Pat Flory at patflory@gmail.com

The Great Claiborne July 4th Celebration

Great news! The program committee is delighted to announce that this year the July 4th Parade and Ice Cream Social will drop the COVID Klondike bars of the past few years and bring back our tradition of hand scooped ice cream and a serve-yourself toppings bar. So while you work out your parade float and festive wardrobe, you can also mull over whether you'll top your ice cream with nuts and syrup or lean heavily into the fruits and whipped cream options!

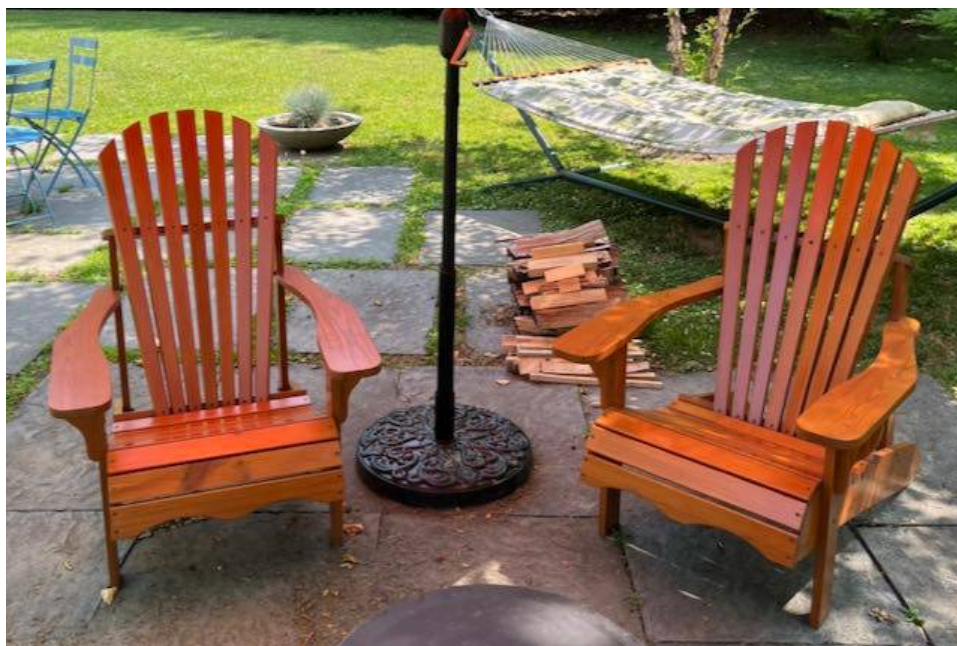
Decorate your vehicle of choice and gather at the Hall in time for a **2:00 parade start**. If your role is to be an enthusiastic observer, plan to put your chair on a neighbors lawn between the hall and the old post office. This year's procession will be enhanced by an actual drumbeat provided by the Todd's musical grandchildren. Three cheers for talented kids!

IN CELEBRATION OF CLAIBORNE TALENT

What follows is by no means an exhaustive representation of the work of Claiborne Artists. Nor does it represent all mediums in which Claiborne artists are engaged. Not included (this time) are Claiborne's many poets, song writers and musicians, botanical artists, dancers and performing artists (though many have been asked to share their work for this first special Claiborne Artists issue, several -- out of modesty or for other reasons -- have not responded to the call. To those who were overlooked, this editor is sorry. *Clarion* readers can look forward to future editions that will continue to shine a light on the creativity of Our Village.

Be on the lookout this fall for an exhibit at the Village Hall, featuring Claiborne artists.

By Jake Flory



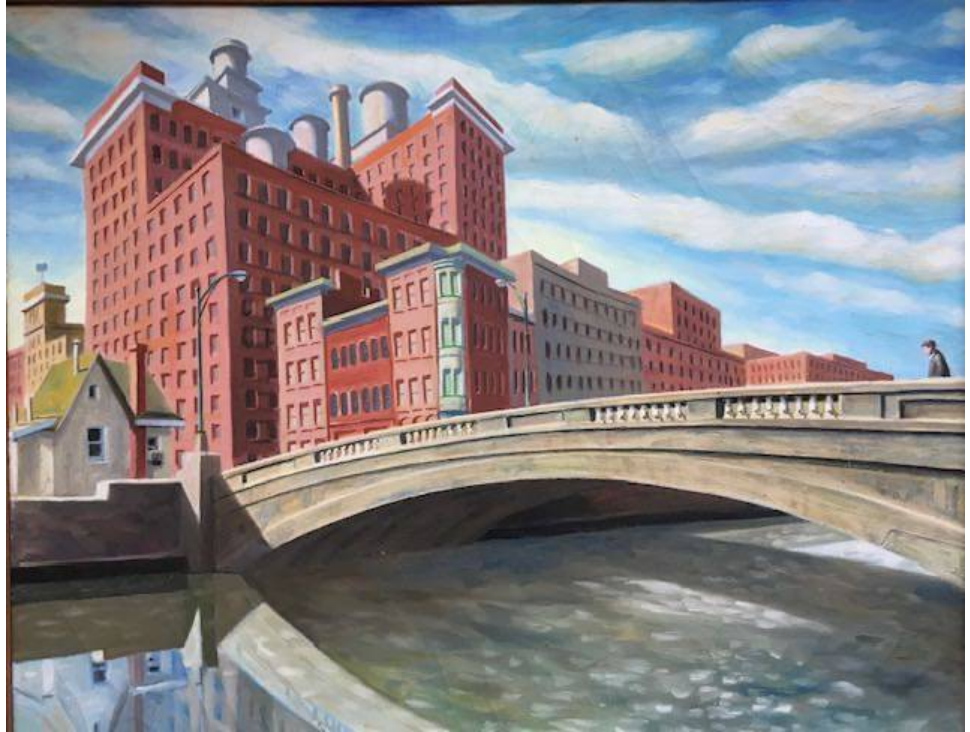
It's hard to say where inspiration comes from, maybe a picture in a book or an idea just comes to mind. For me it's usually something I see that sticks in the back of my head for years. Then there's the moment when you pick up that old piece of wood you've had stashed away and it starts to come alive. It was so with the little bookcase I built for my mother-in-law, Shirl. The Adirondack chairs I designed have been on my mind for most of my life and finally, a few years ago was the perfect time to build them. They are the most perfect chair I have ever sat in or seen.

Now anyone can make a cabinet. That's more a function of symmetry. But a piece of furniture is more art or imagination. I spent my life in two worlds as a mechanic and wood worker. At this point in my life, working in wood has become more pleasing and more fulfilling.

Annual Picnic Date Set

Save Sunday,
September 10, for the
Claiborne Potluck Picnic.
Our hosts this year will
Marty and Maura
Bollinger.

By Jim Richardson



What motivates me to make a drawing or a painting? It's not all that mysterious or complicated for me - I simply find making art a fun way to spend my time.

When I am lucky enough to take the time - and that's the hard part now - I feel energized and pleasantly lost in my thoughts. And like taking a trip to an unfamiliar destination, I am more interested in the actual trip, the unexpected discoveries I might find along the way.

I also seem to be drawn to certain subjects, old architecture for one, and like an explorer, I tend to find more creative energy when I'm traveling away from home.



**A Message from
Shauna Beulah,
St. Michaels Branch
Manager**

I hope all is well with you. Here are our events for July:

Art in the Summer,
Tuesday July 11 4p.m. -
Coloring for Relaxation
ages 3-17.
Board Games, Tuesday
July 18 3p.m. ages 3-14.
Story Time & Crafts
Wednesdays July 12 &
26 10:30a.m. ages 5 and
under with an adult.
Reptile Wonders
Thursday July 27
2:30p.m. Turtles, snakes
Komodo dragon, and
more ages 4 and up.

Adult Monday
[Movie@noon](#) July 31 80
for *Brady* Starring Rita
Moreno, Sally Field, Jane
Fonda, Lily Tomlin &
Harry Hamlin. Best
friends get into the best
kind of trouble.

By Kirke Harper



I began making bags as a way of reusing old sailcloth several years ago. Sewing by hand was relaxing and creative and resulted in useful things. In 2019 I took a printmaking class at Penland in North Carolina where my daughter Jana was teaching. It introduced me to using ink, thinking about images and shapes, and was really fun. We cut out and printed plywood

**GET INVOLVED,
STAY INFORMED**

Lots of things are happening for the Claiborne Association and you are always invited to hear first-hand what is being planned and to express your ideas. All are welcome when the Association Board meets; usually on the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m.

For more about Claiborne and the Association, check out:

<https://www.claibornemad.org/>

and paper shapes. Back in Claiborne Jim Richardson suggested that I try carving linoleum blocks. Making and printing those images was even better. My first carved image was a rabbit.

Lately I've been printing images on sailcloth as well as paper. I can't really draw well so I copy images. I've made goats, dogs and cows. I've also enjoyed making a few prints of Claiborne Hall from different angles and a couple of houses.

By David Crenshaw



I hardly think of myself as an artist and it has been quite a while since I've been active and yet I do have a bit of a body of work.

Mask making has a long history in cultural artifacts, theater and religion. The masks I make are inspired by various images. Photos in newspapers, magazines and posters have been sources.

Of particular value to me, the book, *Masks – Faces of Culture* by John W. Nunley & Cara McCarty, which has been a direct inspiration in general and on several individual pieces – including “The Monk”. “Frodo” was inspired by a poster for the movie *Lord of the Rings*.

By Eric Applegarth



Although I've worked in many different mediums over the years, wood carving is my most satisfying form of creative release. The physical effort of carving is just as important as the mental, if not more.

Simple hand tools such as hatchets, adzes, gouges, chisels, knives, and rasps lend themselves to this process. I've found these at places like flea markets and yard sales.

I find a lot of the wood for carving by foraging or by chance. I never know what I'll find. Wood is everywhere. Unhurried examination and meditation on materials is good.

I don't stick to a set carving technique. Where at one time I may find chiseling satisfying, later I may grind away with a rasp to accomplish the same task. The freedom of choosing and the movement of purpose keeps things interesting. Appreciation of the living nature, the grain and smell of the wood, is an organic meditation.

Subject matter tends to be things connected to my love for the Chesapeake and the human form and faces. Wood carvings from all times and places around the earth is also very interesting to research.

I have a large body of "unfinished" work from over the years. It's very satisfying to revisit these pieces, to work on them again or just handle them for inspiration.

Carving for me is self-preservation but at the same time a conversation with the world. To put it in an oyster shell, it's an antidote for a stressful world.

By Renny Johnson



Yes, living in Claiborne has inspired me for the last 44 years... It is a beautiful location to watch the ever giving sunsets and developing storms which pop up and head for... maybe Claiborne.

I'd like to draw and paint in oil and acrylic from life... Time spent with a subject has always for me, produced a better result hoping that whatever I produce transcends itself in some manner and capacity...

I also enjoy composing drawings/paintings from my thoughts and imaginings..it's difficult to make a still shot of your imagination when your life is a video in your mind... This process can be remarkably rewarding.

Thanks to the kindness of the wonderful people of Claiborne, living here has been the greatest reward, and has literally kept me alive... in paradise!

By Josh Galicki

(As this issue is published, Josh is in Shetland, Scotland of a photo shoot. Look forward to an evening this fall at the Village Hall when Josh will regale us with stories of his experience)



Many folks look at water locations on the Eastern Shore from a boating or sailing perspective, whereas I look for photographic opportunities. I've been a wildlife observer and photographer for most of my life with the Eastern Shore as a favorite location. Actually, bird photography" is one of the primary reasons I discovered this area and why I'm here today.

When I first arrived in Claiborne, I was so impressed with Broad Cove or Claiborne Cove as some say, since it is perfectly situated for wildlife. The cove's shallow waters can provide a respite for loafing ducks and swans, exposed tidal flats for foraging herons, and ample fishing opportunities for diving terns, Bald Eagles, and Osprey. Thus far I've recorded over 600 species throughout North America. Many birds in Claiborne are migrants passing through. Some make their home here to nest and raise young such as the conspicuous Red-winged Blackbird.

Beyond all of the avian life, I've spent time photographing Red Fox, Muskrats, Diamondback Terrapins, White Tailed Deer, Eastern Cottontails, Rat Snakes, and many other species. It's such a delight to kayak, boat, bike, or just walk around and see what's happening in the early morning or late hours of the day. From a photography standpoint, what makes our town stand out is the light from the amazing sunsets that we're gifted throughout the year. I've been striving to incorporate these rich colors into my work, and also adding some human elements of interest over at the pier when possible.

By Susanne Scott



I am a functional potter. I love throwing pots on the wheel. Centering the clay is a way of centering myself. I have been working with clay for almost 30 years. I took classes and workshops and have made a variety of different pieces; however, my passion is making bowls. I especially like working in my beautiful pottery studio in Claiborne (thanks Will!). I am very inspired by the space but must admit sometimes I feel a little bit intimidated, like I should be a lot better potter than I am to deserve such an amazing place to work. I share the space with my husband John who is also a potter. His style (and passion) for working with clay is different than mine. I love sharing the space with him as one of the many activities we do together.

Will Murdoch

The only thing I was interested in or any good at in school was drawing but the teachers told me I couldn't make a living at it so I followed other paths and now I build things ... houses, boats, furniture sometimes these projects involve lots of people and I am just the organizer. Sometimes they are solitary the eternal question of whether they are art or craft I will leave for others to debate





Editor's Note (There's a special place in Claiborne's heart for Busy Graham. Ever since the Village Hall was dedicated, and through her *Carpe Diem Arts*, Busy has brought musicians and dancing to our community. As an Honorary Claiborne Artist, Busy was invited to contribute to this Clarion issue.

By Busy Graham

To the Claiborne Community:

John Scott asked me to give a little background on Carpe Diem Arts and to share why this work is so important to me.

I am a big believer in the power of the arts to transform lives and bring communities together across the divides---particularly during tough times when the arts can make such a difference in keeping us buoyed and resilient. As we like to say, "the lights go on when the arts walk in."

Our primary focus is on bringing programs to schools and communities that might not have ready access to the visual, literary and performing arts: early learning centers, schools, after-school programs, libraries, senior centers and care facilities, special needs communities, and correctional facilities.

In the fall, we will be bringing our "Ukes on the Move" program to St. Michaels Elementary School, with Chris Noyes teaching ukulele and songwriting. Each student will receive her/his/their own ukulele to keep: providing a springboard for what we hope will be a lifetime of music-making!

Carpe Diem has the pleasure and privilege of working with a remarkable group of artists representing a broad range of cultures and traditions. I have been so grateful for the opportunity to share some of those artists and experiences with the Claiborne community--and I look forward to enjoying many more concerts with you in the beautiful Village Hall!

You can learn much more about Carpe Diem's programs, our mission, vision and values by visiting our website: CarpeDiemArts.org. Here is a link to our "Dream Big" video from past events and activities in Talbot County, with an original song written by our 10-12 year old campers! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bZGYeZkKxhY>

I am working on putting together some highlights from our Claiborne Village Hall concerts, and images from other more recent Shore events.

We would of course welcome donations in support of our work---particularly at the end of this fiscal year (June 30)---to help us bridge the gap.

<https://carpediemarts.org/power-the-arts>

Looking forward to seeing you again sometime soon!



Editor's Prerogative

Susanne and I are collectors -- Anything we have more than one of becomes a collection. Anything we do more than once becomes a tradition. As many Clarion readers know, our home has become a gallery (more like an eclectic museum if you ask our kids). Our prized possessions are those created by our Claiborne friends, some of whom have shared their work in this Clarion edition. We, as patient *waiters for the return of the ferry*, are so lucky that we are surrounded by such creative talent and energy. Our Claiborne Artist Collection includes:

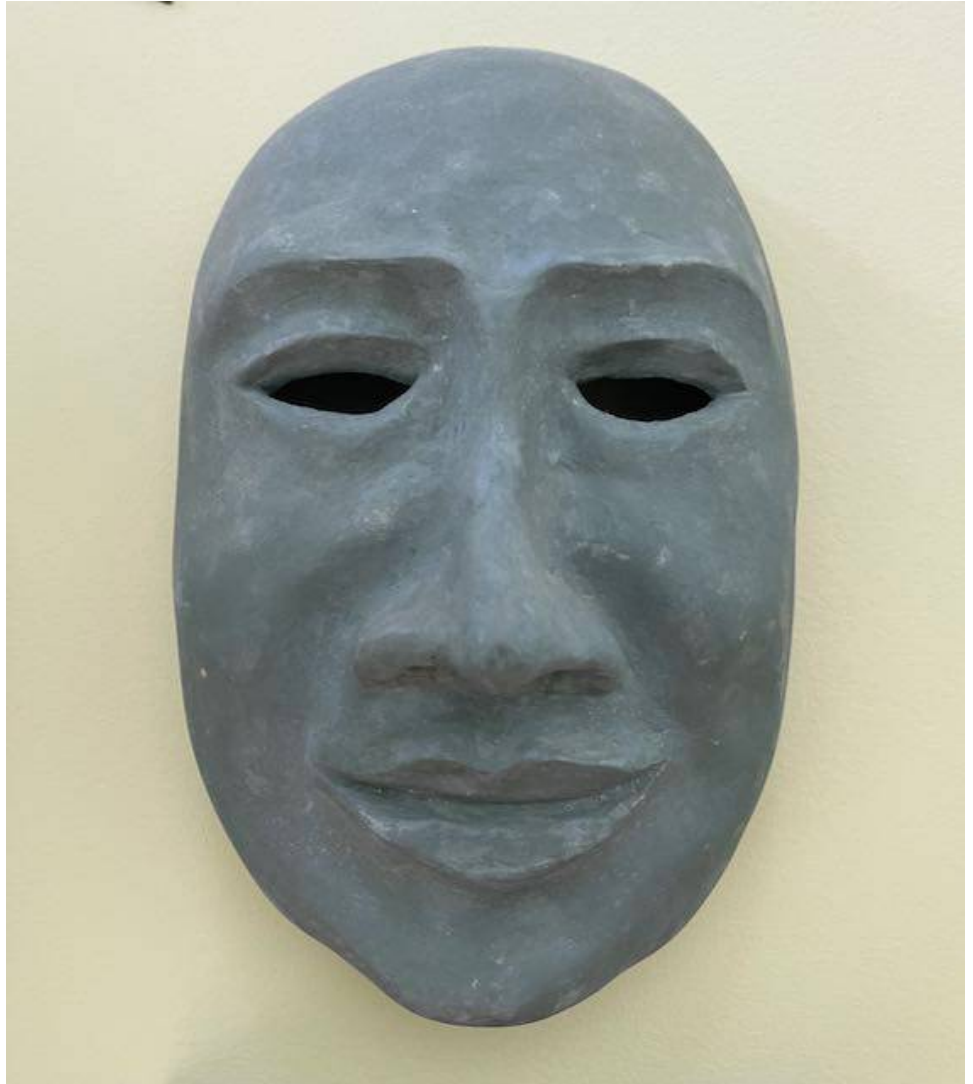
By Jim Richardson -- (3-D. Susanne's and my first kiss... pull the lips and it happens... again and again)



By Renny Johnson



By David Crenshaw



By Pete Gregorio



By Eric Applegarth



By Will Murdoch

