



# THE CLAIBORNE CLARION

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE CLAIBORNE COMMUNITY  
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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE -- Hello Claiborne Friends & Neighbors!** By Mary Gregorio

Whether you are tiptoeing back out into the world after this long and tedious year, or you are racing headlong, with open arms, to enjoy the company of others I hope you are taking good care of yourselves. The Claiborne Association board continues to respect the wily and adaptable nature of the COVID virus and so will tiptoe rather than race into summer activities. Events held in the Village Hall are currently limited to a small number of people, e.g., board meetings, ladies' night where people can spread out. Hopefully we are on our way to enjoying potluck dinners, square dancing and poetry slams – well, poetry readings very soon.

The Annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities will be fully staged outdoors. Liz Fellingner will sing the National Anthem to lead off the parade, so get working on those fabulous floats! We'll have pre-packaged ice cream treats, good company and an opportunity to share in this happy tradition.

As we move into summer, we are also looking forward to the August General Meeting when members gather to review the year, vote for board members, and plan for the future. We'll have updates on the work that's been done in the Village Hall – inside and out! We'll also update you on the status of the Endowment Fund which is key to the sustainability of the Village Hall.

If you are a member, thank you! If you are not yet a member but would like to be, please send \$10/adult in the (Claiborne) household to Steve Friedberg, c/o Claiborne Association, 10446 Claiborne Rd, Claiborne 21624. Non-residents are welcome to join as Friends of Claiborne! Look for an announcement about the General Meeting date/time coming soon.

By the way, we join the Fellingner/Boos family in congratulating Liz as the Distinguished Young Woman of New Jersey 2021.

## **July 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

(The Clarion apologizes to Ellie Russell, whose birthday was June 7. We missed it.)

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

## Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July!



The Annual Claiborne 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade will be happening after having to miss last year. Gather at the front of the Village Hall at 1:45 if you'd like to decorate your bike, golf cart, car, or yourself for this great event. The parade will begin at 2:00 right after Liz Fellingner sings the anthem. Thank you, Liz! And, of course, there will be ice cream bars after the parade!

## Claiborne Annual Picnic

Yes, that will be back, too! The picnic is tentatively scheduled for August 21 with August 28 as a rain date. The location and other details will be included in the August Clarion.

While we're at it, let's congratulate all of the young people who have gotten through the stresses of this past year, finished out the school year or managed their jobs, and held on to relationships – with a nod of course to the parents, grandparents and caregivers who helped along the way. You are amazing!

## THERE AND BACK AGAIN

By Michelle Zacks

Thirteen years ago in late May, I boarded a plane in Honolulu, traveled across the Pacific Ocean and the continental United States, landed at BWI, and took a shuttle to the Easton Airport. Wired and weary, I thought the drive across the Bay Bridge and east on Rt. 50 would never end. After the mountains and turquoise waters of Oahu, the shallow grey-green of the Chesapeake and rippling seas of corn and soybean was a humble kind of beauty. The flatness of the landscape made me nervous, exposed to the summer sun and big sky. Crossing into Talbot County, history felt exposed, the footprints of slavery palpable. Frederick Douglass's narratives, Ira Berlin's book *Many Thousands Gone: The First Two Centuries of Slavery in North America*, and my mentor Lois Horton's work on Harriet Tubman were fresh in my mind.

Thirteen years ago, Eric and I met and fell and love in this landscape. As many Claiborne Clarion readers know, we worked together at CBMM, Eric as the decades-long creative heart and soul of the museum (exhibits specialist was his official title) and I as a grey-haired intern en route to my late-blooming PhD. Putting together the museum's first Folk Festival, we shared ideas and questions, dreams and art, boat rides and fireflies, laughter and meals. I met his family, his friends, his ancestors. We learned that this happenstance meeting was meant to be. At the end of the summer, I flew back to Oahu to finish my coursework. The following May, Eric made the trip across the continent and the Pacific. We married each other in the Honolulu city hall, had a big party in my Palolo Valley hideaway, said farewell to friends, colleagues, and the tropics, and journeyed back to Claiborne.

Thirteen years after the first magical summer, many tides have risen and ebbed. I worked at the museum, fell out with the museum, struggled to forge a path in this neck of the woods to tell a full and honest story of the Chesapeake maritime history and culture, inextricably enmeshed as it is with slavery and its many ongoing afterlives. Five years ago, I found work at Yale University back in my natal stomping grounds of New Haven, still fighting the good fight to reckon with global histories of slavery, resistance, and abolition. Five years of life in Connecticut has led Eric to deeply know my family, friends, and ancestors. Taking great pleasure in the rocky glacial landscapes of New England and the echoes of the Chesapeake found within Long Island Sound, Eric reveals the place where I grew up with fresh eyes. We cared for my beloved mother and helped her transition to the Other Side. We continue to care for my Dad. We carve out bits of time and space for ourselves and Eric carves artistic visions from scraps of wood.

Thirteen years after that first magical summer, it was beautiful, sad, and sweet to come back for a week in June. Come back home? Home away from home? Our house is a home we do not live in, as Eric disassembles it to put it back together. Adding windows, replacing roofs, repairing leaks, chasing out racoons, negotiating with snakes. For the first time in a couple of years, I spent an afternoon in our house, wondering at the art on the walls, fingering books on the shelves, cautiously opening cupboards and cartons. I sat in my grandmother's

## Recommendation for Masking in Claiborne

As of June 29, 2021, the CDC recommends unvaccinated people wear a mask inside but not outside unless in an area with high COVID numbers.

For more info:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>

## Writers! Claiborne Historians! Storytellers!

One-time resident of Claiborne and the woman who launched the Clarion, Barbara Reisert, is interested in hearing from folks who might want to tell the stories of Claiborne. Barbara has been writing and encouraging the writing of others for quite some time now and she is interested in getting together with like-minded folks. She hopes you'd like to join her and a small group of people to capture the history of Claiborne.

For more information please reach out to Barbara at: [claiborne@goeaston.net](mailto:claiborne@goeaston.net)

rocking chair in the living room, the life we created here swelling around me. We may not live here now but this is home and we will be back.

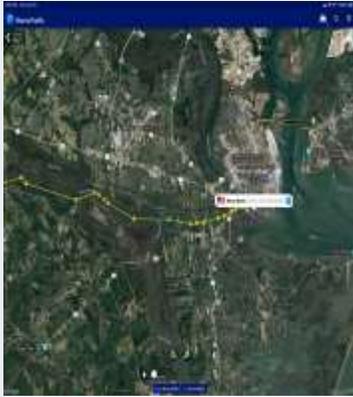
We are so thankful to Susanne and John for their amazing hospitality during this trip! And it was great to see so many Claiborne-ian and other Shore friends. Love and blessings to you all.



## DISCOVERY

While visiting Claiborne, world-renown marine archaeologist Eric Applegarth believes he may have found remnants of an early attempt to reach Claiborne's shores by the Scott Family. Last week, remains of a ship's keelson and ribs were found by Eric in Broad Cove near the Scott Family residence.





<https://www.marinetraffic.com/>

## “Ladies Night” is Back

Monday Ladies Nights are back in session in the cool of the Village Hall annex! So, bring a beverage and join us around 5:00. Masks are not required but feel free to wear one if you like.

## A PLAY OFF THE OLD, “WHERE’S WALDO?” GAME

All of Claiborne is following skippers Mike and Jeanne Kuperberg and their able crew Jake and Pat Flory as they bring their new ship, Karisma (currently named Moon Beam), up the Intracoastal Waterway from South Carolina.



To play the game, log on to <https://www.marinetraffic.com/> (no sign-up or password required). In the search box, type Moon Beam and you’ll be taken to a near-real-time track of Mike’s and Jeanne’s progress. As this post is being written, they are in North Charleston.

## OLD DOG AND NEW TRICKS

By Mike Kuperberg

For those who don’t know this, let me begin by confessing that I am not a sailor. We’ve been in Claiborne long enough that I hope that this admission will not incite an angry mob to come and burn our house. Just so everyone knows, I admire and respect sailors, and in my childhood I did sail prams and sailboards, I just never got the “bug”.

That all changed when Peter Bruns asked me to crew on his Star Boat. I made my ignorance clear, and he warmly agreed to train me. In the back of my mind I thought, “How hard could it be? You haul on the sheets and hold the tiller!”

The reality was a bit different from my imagination. A star boat is a spider’s web of lines to control a dizzying array of factors that control the performance of the vessel. The mast moves from the top and the bottom, the boom moves, the doohickies that control the jib angle move - and that’s just the stuff that I’ve learned so far on the front half of the boat. Further, you fine tune the performance of the boat with a tape measure and tension gauge to get everything

## 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 Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. **Association Board minutes are available at [www.claibornemd.org/clai\\_board.php](http://www.claibornemd.org/clai_board.php).**

## Note with sadness (Editor's prerogative)

The world has lost a noble and much-loved boy



R.I.P. Clai

“just right.” Peter has been a fabulous teacher, and I’ll recount a couple of stories to illustrate my education.

At one point, we were tacking, or jibing, or maybe it was something else. Peter prepared me by reminding me that it was important to take tension on the correct backstay (the line that controls the top of the mast). He emphasized this by saying that failure to take tension in a timely manner would result in “breaking the mast”. I have filed that away under “important things to remember” :)

The second “ah ha” was as we were sailing downwind. Peter said that we “need more heel”. I was still new to the boat and I hadn’t yet discovered where we keep “heel”. I was beginning to look around when Peter explained that this meant that I needed to be on the other side of the boat to help it “heel”.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my introduction to sailing, Star Boats, and hanging out with Peter and the other crews.

## VILLAGE HALL ORCHARD NEWS

As you may have noticed, the orchard has been started! It may not look like much right now, just some small trees in the back field. But there are plans to do more! Right now, there are two fig trees, two persimmon trees, two pawpaw trees, and one elderberry tree. An ALL CALL will soon be sent out once we get the blueberry and bayberry bushes for a hedge in the back behind the trees, and some cherry trees. So, stay tuned!

Right now, volunteers are needed to water what’s been planted. A new blue collapsible garden hose has been purchased and is ready for use. It’s quite amazing to watch it “grow” as it fills with water and then shrink back to its original size when the water drains from it. The hose fits nicely in a bucket. So, please check your summer calendar and sign up for a week to water the orchard. In this heat, every other day is probably a good idea. Of course, if it rains during the week you signed up for, you get away easy!

Contact Suzanne Todd at 240-409-8087 or [suzannetodd@outlook.com](mailto:suzannetodd@outlook.com) if you can help. THANKS!