



# The Claiborne Clarion

A Newsletter for the Claiborne Community

November 5, 2012 -- John Scott, Guest Editor -- Jim Richardson, President, Claiborne Association -- Volume 6, Number 11

## November Events @ Village Hall

Association Board  
November 11, 7:00 PM

Contra Dance  
November 19, 7:00 PM

Thanksgiving leftovers  
Potluck Dinner  
November 25, 6:00 PM

## November Birthdays

Jake Flory November 7  
Rob (not Bob) Todd November 29

## President's Message

By Jim Richardson, Grand Pooh-Bah

As we begin the month of November, the progress on the Village Hall continues to move at a steady pace. Will Murdoch, and his wonderful crew of Gary and Luke, have nearly finished siding the front and sides of the building. The remaining back (east) wall will be finished probably by the end of the week, weather permitting. It is wonderful to see the building being restored to its original lap-strake siding.

Speaking of weather, the Village Hall survived Hurricane Sandy with no damage save for a large pine tree that gave a glancing blow to the north side of the annex building. Plans to remove the tree and inspect any damage from the fall have already begun. Hopefully, no additional roof repairs will be needed.

This month's coming events include a contra dance with live music on Saturday evening, November 17, at 7 PM. No previous experience or dancing skill required! If you like, bring a dessert to share.

The Saturday after Thanksgiving, November 25, a Thanksgiving leftovers potluck will be held at the Hall at 6 PM. This is your chance to make some space in your refrigerator!

## Why I Like Being a Kid in Claiborne

By Koa West Cureton (Claiborne Clarion Cub Reporter)

I'd like to say, first thing, that while the people in Claiborne are incredible, the very best thing I like about living here is the bike riding conditions. It's not too hilly and there are some great courses for a beginner like me.

Being a kid in Claiborne is really fun. Knowing our neighbors' names, starting with our next-door neighbor, Ralph, or "Raf", as I like to say, is just the beginning for me. It's also really great to have the autumn weather here now and see all the leaves falling. I spend a lot of time playing in the yard with my big trucks. I also like to watch the big trucks drive by my house. As you might have guessed, "big truck" were my first words. I really dig the water around Claiborne and love the beach and the landing. What can I say? I'm a lucky kid to live in Claiborne!

PS - My dog, Kingston, really, really, really likes living here. He thinks he's even luckier than I am!

## Claiborne: A Regional Kite Surfing Hot Spot

By Adam Grant (Regional Stringer for the Claiborne Clarion)

The Maryland/DC area contains 50 or so of us wind addicted kite surfers and it's not uncommon to drive hours to find the right spot and atmospheric conditions. When it blows from the northwest, most from the western shore kites will go to Terrapin Park in Stevensville due to its proximity to the bridge. It's an okay spot but open bay water, shipping lanes and "DC kites" create choppy crowded waters. Those of us who know better come to Claiborne, and we don't talk about it on the open kite forums.

The Claiborne cove (Broad Cove) offers perfect geography to make use of a northwesterly wind, the prevailing frontal wind in the Chesapeake. Clean wind and smooth water are the most coveted conditions for the kiter and it's very rare to find a shallow protected cove with good wind exposure. With the whole fetch of the Eastern Bay, there is little landmass to interrupt the wind. The jetty at the northern end of the mouth provides a break from the incoming swell without disrupting the airflow due to its absence of buildings or tall trees. On a north wind, you can ride into the cove, right up to the dock, on glassy smooth water. This condition is fondly known to kites as a "slick" because strong wind and smooth water don't usually coexist. On the outside of the cove, the gentle sandy shoal smooths out the swell by increasing the wavelength and lining up the peaks creating a visual effect of giant corn rows. On a big wind day, you ride through the trough and have chest-high wave peaks on each side of you to bank off of like a half-pipe. These wave peaks also create great ramps to launch from. These perfect conditions, coupled with the beauty of the spot and the warmth of the local spectators make Claiborne a favorite for us lucky few that know it and love it.

## Wade in the Water, What is it?

A Community Initiative

First, it is a fun website. Here, you can post a picture of you and your friends and your dog, wading in the Chesapeake Bay. Add a small banner if you like or dress in silly costumes. It could be a picture of your family wading together or of some of the people you work with in the office. You choose. Most importantly, the picture should represent your love of the Bay and your personal connection to it. In addition, a location of where the picture was taken needs to be indicated. Only pictures taken wading in the Bay should be submitted. (Please, no pictures wading in Ocean City or your backyard pool.) And keep them tasteful - this site is intended to be used and viewed by everyone. A map of the bay and its tributaries will be posted so that you will be able to click on your location and see yourself "wading in the water".

Second, it is an educational tool and a portal website. We plan to include a list of names & addresses of environmental organizations, such as the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and Mid-Shore Riverkeepers, which are out there working for the Bay's health & restoration. Here, you will be able to read about these organizations and what important things they are accomplishing. If some of these organizations appeal to you, there will be an easy way to connect directly to their websites to find out more. Ideally, we hope that you will decide to volunteer for them and or support them with your money.

Third, it is website where you can express your artistic talents. We encourage you to send in your artwork and photographs that are either inspired by the Chesapeake Bay's beauty or by her problems. A picture of a sunset over the Eastern Bay or a picture of garbage washed up along her shores is equally acceptable. Finally, we encourage musicians to send in a video of their rendition of the spiritual song, "Wade in the Water". It could be a video of you singing the song, your band, your school or your church choir. You can find the words and music on the internet but most importantly, make the song your own....Start singing!

## Claiborne History Videos: a brief reminder

By Pete Gregorio (Claiborne Clarion Photographer and Raconteur)

Several years ago, Barbara Reiser assembled a group of Claibornites to record historical and personal accounts of the Claiborne experience. We then uploaded these videos to YouTube.com. These videos may be accessed by going to the Claiborne Community website "www.claibornemd.org" and clicking on the "Claiborne Videos" link on the left side of the main page.

Molly Bond's informative presentations have been viewed nearly 400 times. Dan Higgins did a comprehensive house-by-house history of the Claiborne of his youth. Bob Todd and Mary Steinberger also share their experiences of Claiborne. Also, watch (groan) men cheat and splash their way through the "GREAT RACE". (Editor's Note: Cheat? Who? Me? It was Jim! Ask anyone!)

We hope to restart the series in the coming months and are looking for more shared memories. If you have any ideas for storytellers or stories, please share them with any board member.



## Painting Crew Needed

The Village Hall needs to have its porch and all of its trim painted before winter sets in. Much of it can be done from the ground or on stepladders. The higher portions, including the soffits, may be left for the professionals if the budget permits. Please contact Jim Richardson to let him know of your interest in this volunteer project so that he can schedule a time to begin painting