



The Claiborne Clarion

A Newsletter For The
Claiborne Community

June 2020

Volume 13, Number 6

Pat Flory, Editor
Photo by Pat Flory

Barbara Reisert, Clarion Founder and Editor Emerita
Kirke Harper, President Claiborne Association

Note the Dates

June Birthdays

Tom Babb	June 2
Pat Flory	June 16
Dustin Fellingner	June 22

Please contact Pat Flory at patflory@gmail.com if you want to add your name and birthday to the Claiborne Birthday List.

Program Committee Report

The program committee is still on hold, waiting (Im)patiently until it's safe to hold community gathering and events again.

Claiborne Website

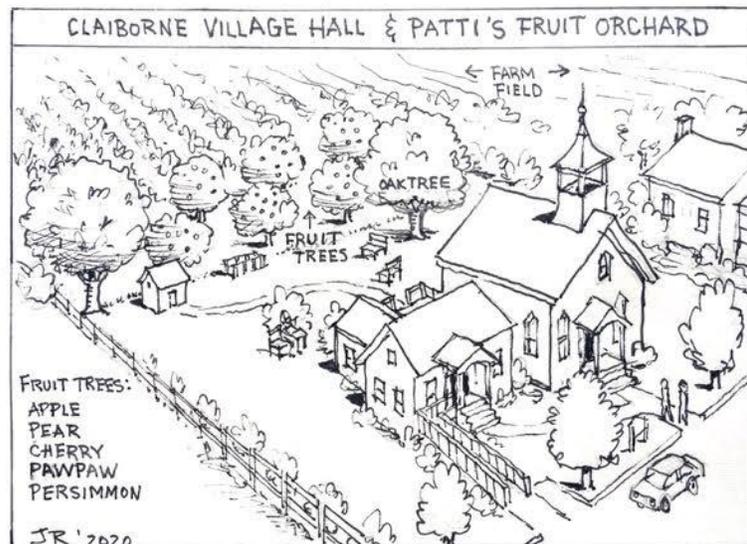
Please visit the redesigned and up-to-date Claiborne website at claibornemd.org/. The website offers links to the Clarion, bylaws, board meetings and other facts about Claiborne.

You can down load the Clarion <https://www.claibornemd.org/2020>

Patti's Orchard...

We are never done! Plans for creating an orchard in back of the Claiborne Village Hall, as requested by Patti Cruickshank-Schott in her will, are now underway. Arrangements to have the present trees, shrubs and vines that border our backyard and the neighboring farm field removed have been made. Once the area has been cleared, the soil will be tested and prepared for the planting of the future orchard, hopefully done in the fall. We will ask Choptank Electric Cooperative to donate the trees and shrubs as part of their "Give Back" program, and will be installing paths for access and benches to the orchard. When completed, the orchard should provide us with delicious fruit for canning and baking as well as offer us a fine view from our deck.

If you are interested in contributing to this project with your ideas, your labor or your fruit-tree expertise, please contact Jim Richardson.



Claiborne - May 2020



Photo by Sarah Sayre



Photo by Bill Love (friend of Jake's)

Please send pictures you want to share in the Clarion or on the website to patflory@gmail.com

President's Message...

The National COVID-19 fatality number is now over 100,000. It's a staggering number. When the New York Times published the names of 1,000 of them - just 1% - it took nearly 4 full pages. And while the number of cases seems to be declining, no one seems to know if there will be a surge of illnesses following the partial opening of businesses. A model used by the Harvard School of Public Health is predicting another 70-100,000 deaths by the end of the Summer, a slowing of the rate that saw the first 100,000 in just over 2 months, but still a staggering number.

After a subdued Memorial Day, we're wondering what Summer will bring. Continued social distancing for sure. Even though local racing will begin soon, the Claiborne Ferryman have decided not to race in the Summer series - it's too hard to maintain social distancing on a boat. Herring Island Fleet is starting their races on June 1. Not sure what the Star racers will decide.

The Association will hold a virtual General Meeting via email and Survey Monkey in June. Members who have paid their dues will receive an email containing the Agenda items, reports and updates as we usually do in person. A link will take you to Survey Monkey where you can vote on the needed items, make comments and give us feedback. You can give one of the Board members your comments and suggestions via email, in person or by phone.

The Association has applied for 2 grants - one to Choptank Electric Trust for electrical work that needs to be completed before the Hall ceiling is insulated. The other is to the Maryland Rural Council for funding for an emergency generator for the Hall. To be eligible for that grant we had to find a partner in another county to show that our Resilience Center is serving as a model for other communities. Our partner is the Friends of Hoopers Island. They want to rebuild a pavilion they use for community gatherings as a demonstration of community-building as part of their community resilience planning.

We discovered that the septic tanks at the Hall were allowing groundwater to enter. That explains why we had to pump the tanks so frequently. Bridges Septic, the installer, found and repaired 2 leaks.

Finally, Jake Flory is building handsome cabinets to hold the post office boxes when they are moved into the Annex. The space will be kept heated and cooled to make delivering and picking up mail more pleasant for the mail carrier and us. When we are safely about to gather, there will be coffee and a place to sit and read or chat, making getting your mail a little more like it was in Martha and Jim's house.

Don't let down your guard - disinfect things you bring into your house, wear your mask in public, maintain a safe distance from others, don't touch your face when you're out and wash your hands frequently.

Thank You ...

The fund-raiser for Graul's employees raised nearly \$2100, way beyond expectations. Thanks to many in Claiborne who started the ball rolling with cash donations during Cinco de Mayo. After installing at Graul's entrance a great poster created by Jim Richardson we began to see contributions come into the GoFundMe site.

By the end of May, we will have provided the 35 Graul's employees with free lunches on six occasions, meals provided by St. Michaels restaurants: Sam's Pizza, The Galley (twice), Hammy's, Chesapeake Landing, and Rusticana Pizza. One more lunch is planned for June 5. Claibornians have been extremely generous, and the Graul's staff is very appreciative.....Phil Sayre



Photo by Rob Todd

On Quatro de Mayo (May 4th), the Kuperbergs, their new golf cart, and margarita machine toured the village serving Margaritas to all (of age) with a glass in hand. They collected \$520 from the village towards the Graul's appreciation fund.

Claiborne Works with ShoreRivers to test bacteria levels at Claiborne Beach and Broad Cove Rivers ...

Elle Bassett, Miles/Wye Riverkeeper



Shore Rivers budget will not yet accommodate bacteria testing as broadly as Elle hopes it will eventually, so for the past two seasons generous Claiborne residents have been contributing to "the cause". Based on ShoreRivers protocol, Jeanne Kuperberg has been taking samples at Claiborne Beach and at broad Cove in Claiborne. Those samples are then tested by ShoreRivers. Last week we received the first results of the season: Claiborne Beach passed, with a reading of <10, while Broad Cove failed with a reading of 201. Other sites tested (not funded by us) were; Miles River Yacht Club, Tunis Mills Landing and Drum Point).

I asked Elle why Broad Cove may have failed (last year both Claiborne Beach and Broad Cove failed several times). She said, "There could be many sources to the bacteria spike at the cove including pet waste, storm water runoff, wildlife, agricultural runoff, or perhaps even the upwelling of the sediment from clam dredgers. The bacteria that we test for is related to Ecoli. We did test this cove a year or so ago to see if nearby septic systems were a pollution source, while there were trace amounts, it was not significant enough to be a point source of pollution."

As for possible mitigation, Elle went on to say, "I'm sorry I can't give a more definite answer as to why the bacteria is there or how it got there. Generally, the best thing we can do at this point is continue to check before swimming and to practice stewardship such as picking up after pets, maintaining septic, and installing restoration practices to capture runoff before it enters the water."

I suggested that we work, through ShoreRivers, to approach the County Health Department with our results (they are aware that we are testing) with the thought that they (we) might post signs at the Ferry Landing (the access point for Broad Cove) and at Claiborne Beach notifying waders, bathers, crabbers and dog walkers when either site has failed.

We'll keep you posted.John Scott

Update:

May 28 results show both Claiborne Beach and Broad Cove passing with readings of 52.

Lemons to Limoncello



Great article in the Times on 5/30/20 about the limoncello being made in the Bernal Heights neighborhood in San Francisco:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/30/technology/bernal-heights.html?smid=nytcore-ios-share>

Life in Claiborne in a Time of Corona Virus: Lemons to Limoncello

Yes, the *time is out of joint*, but many unexpected, sweet experiences and creative adventures have come from these challenging, tart times. Community has grown closer, the air cleaner.

So what limoncello is being made in Claiborne? The Clarion tasted a few samples:

Suzanne T.: Making masks revived both the sewing machine and her sewing skills and gave her a wonderful way to contribute to the community!

Mike K.: Being able to live in Claiborne full-time and with his wife!!

Jean K.: Having Mike here full time has been wonderful! Also, it has been great to connect with our girls while they teach me to make delightful homemade bread. We count ourselves lucky for where we live in this very special community.

Shirley: Having her great- grandchildren living next door!

Sarah: Phil and I have been delighted to get bicycling several times a week during the Stay-at-Home-Time. I even bought a new bicycle to fit me better. We have discovered long byways accessible from nearby, both from rte. 33 and the Bozman road. A delightful trip goes from the Bellevue ferry parking lot down lanes so forested that the road is shady on both sides for miles ! We were delighted yesterday when Jack and Judy Harrold showed up on their bikes for an impromptu ride (from 33 to Macks Lane and McDaniel Farm Road). On return I felt like I had just enjoyed an ice cream cone!

Jennifer: Sent in her first answer to NPR's Puzzler!!

Kirke: Lin and I have learned to Zoom. While FaceTime was always there, and Skype, there wasn't the need to use them, so we didn't. Now we Zoom weekly with all of our children and with Lin's brother. The small grandchildren aren't as interested and "zoom" past the camera, peeking in to make a face or to say "Hi" if forced to. But seeing the grown-ups weekly has provided an unexpected bonus. The visits are short, to the point, and there's no clean-up after they're gone.

Peter: The best thing about social distancing is that no one can hear my violin playing!

Please send your versions in for the July issue!Jennifer Shea