



Claiborne Society Newsletter

The National Society of Claiborne Family Descendants



Spring 2019

2019 Claiborne Reunion Williamsburg, Virginia

July 27, 28, 29, and 30, 2019

Message from the Reunion Chair: Clai Bachmann, Vice President Claiborne Society

What's New at Colonial Williamsburg:

Claiborne descendants will be meeting at the Williamsburg Lodge at 310 South England Street in Colonial Williamsburg for our 2019 Claiborne Reunion next July. {Please use page 11 of this newsletter to register.} Though our focus for the reunion will be the 17th Century, and particularly the important leadership roles and activities of William Claiborne, there will be time during our reunion when members will find opportunities to experience some of the exciting, new offerings of 18th century history, culture and technology in Colonial Williamsburg.

At Jamestown we will appreciate the evolution of a struggling group of English Settlers in the Virginia Colony consumed for their first 50 years in simply surviving and making a life out of a raw and hostile wilderness. Within close to 200 years, by the 1770's, Virginia had grown into the largest and wealthiest of the 13 British Colonies in North America. We have seen the buildings and homes of Colonial Williamsburg for over 70 years during the 20th and in the 21st Century. There have been reenactors of the heroes whose talents, efforts and sacrifice developed the philosophy, announced our independence, and won independence from Great Britain through the eventual military victory achieved in Yorktown.

Now, besides the political scene, the important life and culture of all the people of Colonial Williamsburg shows the reality surrounding the exceptional experience which brought into existence the extraordinary country which we have inherited. Some of the new insights include the following:

TRADES - A few of the popular offerings shown at Colonial Williamsburg are:

The Armory (featuring black smiths and the technology of metal working including materials for building, tools and fire arms)

The Garden Shop (shows colonial plants for decoration, medicinal and dietary uses) Master gardeners share information, tips, and advice for the dozens of beautiful flowering and nutritious fruits and vegetables that are available

Animal Husbandry/Farming (skills are demonstrated for successfully raising and maintaining healthy animals of all kinds – chickens, sheep cattle, horses and more)

Transportation – (many new carriages, and a large variety of conveyances exhibit the technology of the day)

Design & Tailoring, Spinning, Weaving – (clothes, for men women and children)

(Continued on the next page)



Williamsburg Lodge
Autograph Collection

OFFICERS 2017 - 2019

President	Susan W.H. Rura
Vice President	Clai Bachmann
Secretary	Linda M. King
Treasurer	Charles E. Claiborne
Registrar	Frank Rura

Standing	Committees
Reunion	Clai Bachmann
Research	Dr. Alex Waldrop
Archives	Vera "Curly" Moore
Publications	Patricia Clayborn
Webmaster	Dan Boylin

www.claibornesociety.org

ARTS – The Dewitt Wallace Museum exhibits:

The Dewitt Wallace Museum - (first opened in 1985) to house the collection of decorative arts of the 17th, 18th, and early 19th centuries. Later the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Collection, which had been housed separately, was folded into the Dewitt Wallace Museum with expansions in both the space and the collections.

The collection of Folk Art donated to Colonial Williamsburg has been dramatically increased. Many items are from the United States, but examples are exhibited from European and other countries as well. Both the space and collections are larger and in fact, as of the summer of 2019, the latest building addition will double the space available for Folk Art as well as the other collections.

Beautiful furniture, textiles, ceramics, armory items, quilts, silver and more have been increased, and new collections feature period paintings of individuals – leaders, heroes, family portraits, children and trades people. There are beautiful portraits of a William Claiborne descendent, Thomas Augustine Claiborne and his wife Sarah Lewis King, in the new portrait gallery. This Thomas was instrumental in the early Nashville, TN government and was a friend of Andrew Jackson, as well as the brother of William Charles Cole Claiborne.

In addition to artwork there is now a collection of keyboard instruments featuring harpsichords and early pianos showing the evolution of these pieces.

THE CHARLTON COFFEE HOUSE – Where members of the House of Burgesses or the Virginia General Assembly met to discuss the political and social issues of their day over coffee and pastries

HISTORY/ARCHAEOLOGY – Hands on learning is available to folks of all ages – special learning experiences for children as well as adults

FOR MOST RECENT DETAILS ON OFFERINGS VISIT THE COLONIAL WILLIAMS WEBSITE:

<https://www.colonialwilliamsburg.com/plan>



New Attractions Highlighted in the Jamestown Settlement Center Around Stories Experienced by All of Its 17th Century Inhabitants

From Clai Bachmann

Since our Claiborne Society is focused more on 17th Century Virginia due to William Claiborne's active presence there, also of interest are the many stories in which all settlers shared. We understand that William was instrumental in an important entrepreneurial beginning, the business of the fur trade. His major military leadership and, perhaps most important, his many governmental leadership positions in the new legislative assembly are aligned with the American Evolution Celebration of the First Legislative Assembly in North America. His long and active participation in the legislative assembly, the House of Burgesses and the Royal Governor's Council enabled our 18th Century heroes to form and establish the government of the United States one hundred years later. However, the stories of all folks and their experiences from that time, present an important background for our understanding of the 17th century society. Some of the stories highlighted at the Jamestown Settlement are those of the voyages, of Indians and of women.

Every voyage has a story. At the Jamestown Settlement, guests are not just immersed in the extensive galleries and hands-on, outdoor living-history exhibits. They are whisked away on a life-changing journey into an exciting world of new people and new experiences. Standing on the ship's deck, youngsters can begin to understand the story of the settler's voyages and first encounter with a whole new race of people, the American Indians. This story is extended in the Powhatan Indian Village just a short distance away, where materials used by the Indians for their life ways – shelter and food, as well as culture, along with the technology of their weapons used for hunting and war. In addition to the voyage and Indian's stories, Women's roles and activities are presented. The stories of English and African women who impacted Virginia are shown by a special Exhibit: TENACITY. Women's roles in the events of early Virginia history were rarely recorded – tiny fragments like a marriage record or date of death are most often the only things that survived. TENACITY enables us to focus on the stories of women, giving them their rightful place in the narrative of early Virginia history.

Many thanks to our 2019 Reunion Committee:

- Elizabeth Richardson
- Pam Meiring
- Sara "Sally" Prosch James
- Mary Ann Gilman
- Ed Ayres
- Alex Waldrop
- Beverly Davis



Keynote Speaker Martha McCarthy and American Evolution Events

From Clai Bachmann

I am hoping that this will be an exciting reunion for our members. I have felt that because some members may wish to take advantage of the American Evolution Events taking place at Historical Jamestown and the Jamestown Settlement following our reunion, interest in our reunion should be more than usual. This is because William Claiborne had such an impact on the development of our representative assembly, the House of Burgesses, by virtue of his contributions through his service to the formation and functioning of that democratic assembly that led to the formation of our country and our representative assembly, the Congress of the United States, and of course the Virginia General Assembly.

I am very excited that Martha McCarthy has agreed to be our speaker as she specializes on the history of the 17th Century and has very good information on William's job of surveying the new town area of Jamestown Settlement.

So, attached here find my summary and sequence of events which follows my original Reunion outline.

National Society of William Claiborne Descendants Reunion July 27th, 28th & 29th 2019 Sequence of Events

July 27 (Saturday afternoon) 3:00 – 6:00 pm – Home of Clai Bachmann – Welcome, Review of Agenda, goody bags and badges. Williamsburg Lodge Check-in. Evening on your own.

July 28 (Sunday morning) – 9:00 a.m. Board bus for Historic Jamestown. Group to tour the Island, Church, archeological digs, Archaerium, New Town area. Box lunches will be available at 12:00. Bus will leave for Jamestown Settlement at 1:00 and following tour will board bus at 4:00 to return to Lodge. Dinner and evening on your own.

July 29 (Monday morning) – 9:00 a.m. We meet for transportation (TBD) at the Williamsburg Lodge to view the painting of William Claiborne owned by the Muscarelle (W&M) Museum.

By 10:00 a.m. we return to the Dewitt Wallace Museum to see many galleries of 17th and 18th century decorative arts including paintings (Thomas Claiborne and his wife Sara Lewis Claiborne of Tennessee will be featured), furniture, musical instruments, silver, porcelain and ceramics, textiles, weaponry, the Abby Aldrich Folk Art Collection, and much more. We will break for lunch at 12:00 noon in the Museum cafeteria and continue viewing after lunch until 1:45 pm when we return to the Williamsburg Lodge for our business meeting from 2:00 until 5:00 pm. We break at 5:00 to return at 6:00 pm for dinner and our **speaker, Ms. Martha McCarthy**. Program over by 10:00 pm.

July 30 (Tuesday) Reunion over; check out on your own, as you wish. Head home or, depart early to participate in the all day **American Evolution Events at Historic Jamestown Island**. More information on these events and how to take advantage of this opportunity will be forthcoming by March and April. American Evolution events and programs include a series of extraordinary projects ranging from special exhibitions, documentary film, scholarly works, interpretive centers, and digital applications to reinforce 1619 history, commemoration themes and Virginia's role in the creation of the United States and its ongoing leadership in education, tourism, and economic development.

SIGNATURE EVENT DETAIL 400th Anniversary of the First Representative Assembly in the Western Hemisphere

Date: July 30, 2019

Venue: Historic Jamestowne and Jamestown Settlement, Williamsburg
1368 Colonial Parkway, Jamestown, Virginia

<https://www.americanevolution2019.com/event/commemorative-ceremony-of-first-representative-legislative-assembly/>

American Evolution commemorates the 400th anniversary of the first representative assembly in the western hemisphere, which was held in Jamestown's church in the summer of 1619. Members of the Virginia General Assembly, Congress and state legislatures nationwide convene for this special commemorative event.

A New Role for William Claiborne - General and Chief Commander

From Clai Bachmann

William Claiborne had been in the Virginia Colony at Jamestown less than a year when the first large, planned Indian attack on the English settlers took place. In all Virginia during this fateful winter of 1621-1622 there was a universal chorus of good will and trust between the white settlers and the red aborigines. The London Company encouraged families to take in Indians with the hope of encouraging the Indian Nation to their idea of civility. They hoped to Christianize and educate the natives and were planning and soliciting donations for a college in Henrico¹.

However, Opechancanough, brother of the mighty Wahunsonacock and leading chief of the Powhatan confederacy, had never been reconciled to temporizing with the white invaders of his country. Old, wise Wahunsonacock, had so ruthlessly conquered most of the tribes of the Tidewater region and welded them into a nation of tribute paying villages. However, as early as the coming of Lord Deleware in 1610, he had come to recognize the power and resources of the English.

Opechancanough was not so discerning. He was resolute in his opposition to white encroachments on ancestral lands of the Tidewater tribes. So, he waited shrewdly until Wahunsonacock died to act upon his plot for the white settler's demise². During this early period William was primarily a spectator consumed with exploring and setting into his new environment.

Fortunately, the plot was foiled at Jamestown as a friendly Indian boy, Chanco, who was living with a kindly English settler, told his master of the planned butchery of all white settlers. The alarm was given in time to bring most of the settlers local to Jamestown into the stockade to safety. Unfortunately, those settlers in outlying areas did not fare so well. Four hundred men, women and children were killed including six from the governor's council³.

The result of this attack was that relations deteriorated dramatically. The Governor sent out expeditions to attack Indian villages and settlers took all available corn. With sickness during the summer more corn was needed so pillage of Indian lands increased, and colonial war parties continued their extermination of the Indians⁴.

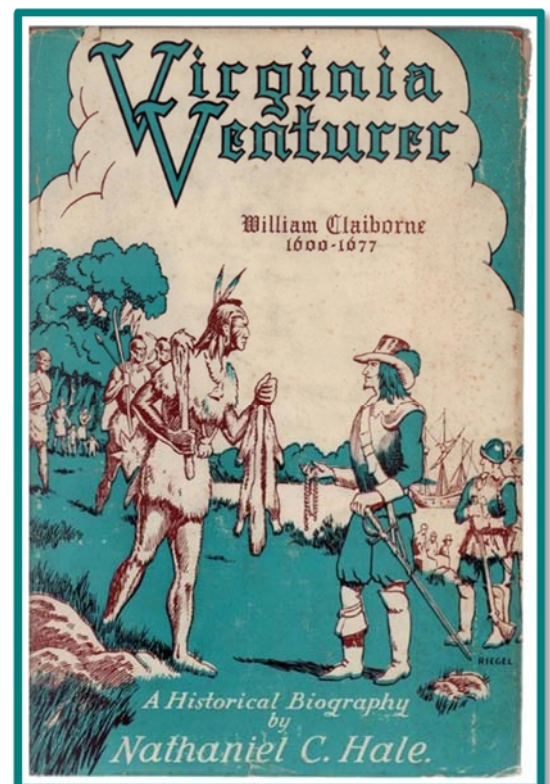
Unfortunately, within 36 years, in 1644, the grim and aged figure of the savage Opechancanough once again launched another attack against unwary whites. As always he remained the irreconcilable enemy of the white settlers as the English Governors granted more and more acres of his already restricted domains to the settlers as they spilled across rivers and streams which had been designated the agreed boundaries.

So, on Good Friday, April 19th of 1644 the attack was launched with disastrous consequences for the colonists on the South side of the James River and other more remote plantations. Many families met their deaths by guns that had been furnished to the Indians by settlers.

Governor Berkley had urged all Virginians to draw together in palisaded camps strong enough to resist assaults of large bodies of Indians. After the attack he then convened the Assembly on June 1st to raise funds, draft needed troops and make other arrangements for a planned military offensive. At this Assembly of the Burgesses in Jamestown William Claiborne was chosen General and Chief Commander in Virginia's War against the Powhatan Confederacy. The Commander's battles against the Powhatan Confederacy were successful, and the new Indian leader, Necotowance, sued for peace. In spite of continued white encroachment this peace lasted for 30 years.

Reference:

1. Virginia Venturer, William Claiborne 1600-1677, by Nathaniel C. Hale, Chapter 4, The Merchant Princes, pp 69 - 78.
2. Ibid. p. 78.
3. Ibid. pp. 79 & 80.
4. Ibid. p. 84 - 92



William Claiborne Sees an End to the Virginia Company Charter – Virginia becomes a Royal Colony

From Clai Bachmann

The many troubles of the Virginia Colony in 1622 led to the demise of the Virginia Company's Charter. These events brought the changeover to Royal control under James's son Charles. The facts and the political intrigue surrounding this matter were well known to William Claiborne who was appointed, at the tender age of 23, to the Governor's Council by King James on August 26, 1624¹. Fortunately for the colony, James passed away in March of 1625 while still working on a new charter for his Royal province, which undoubtedly would not have approved calling for a representative assembly, the House of Burgesses².

Claiborne together with other council members suggested "that it would be profitable for King Charles to make tobacco his own personal monopoly, settling the price to be paid, the freight rate for the customers, and the quantity to be imported from the colony, lest the planters perish for lack of protection."

George Yeardly, who assumed the Governorship of the Virginia Colony from Governor Francis Wyatt in May of 1626, addressed the King's Privy Council in London, and sold the new contract with its tobacco monopoly for the King, with curiously enough, the colonists desire for their representative assembly. So, as a bargaining point and to create the needed instrument of his plan, the Crown not only did nothing to abolish the Virginia Legislature, but officially recognized "our trusty and well-beloved Burgesses of the Grand Assembly of Virginia" in a message early in 1628³.

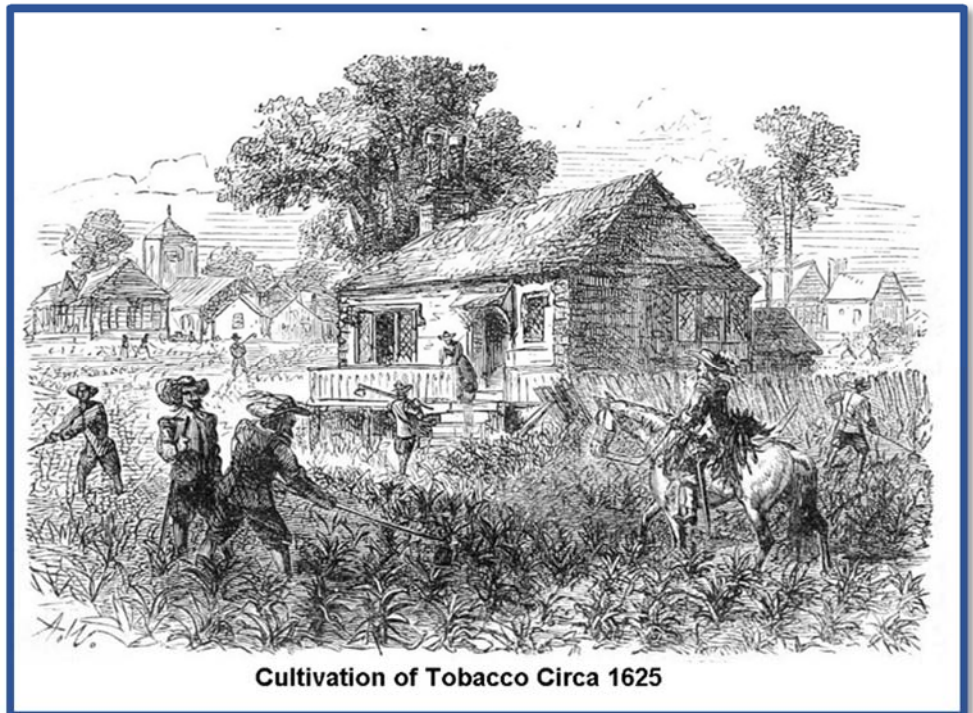
Charles, however, did not accomplish his purpose of control as it turned out, for the Burgesses never went all the way in giving him what he wanted, and in fact from that time forth used their little parliament to keep a tight rein on the very agency which had given it to them⁴.

Reference:

1. Virginia Adventurer, William Claiborne 1600–1677, Nathaniel C. Hale, pp. 78-85
2. Ibid, p.106
3. Ibid, p. 107
4. Ibid, pp. 107-108



Gentlemen Smoking and Playing Backgammon by Dirck Hals, 1627



Cultivation of Tobacco Circa 1625

No Stone Unturned

Written by Nellie Harwell Richardson (born 1929-passed away 2014)

Submitted on Nellie's behalf by Mary Ann Gilman and Curly Moore

My Revolutionary ancestor, General Charles Harrison, died in 1793. He was my fourth great grandfather. When I began my D.A.R. paper about him, I was shocked when my cousin, Gladys Butts Lewis, wrote me an account of his death. At first, I simply couldn't believe it.

Charles Harrison served eight years in the Continental Army. He was commander of the 1st Virginia Artillery which later became the 1st Continental Artillery. He was Military secretary to General Washington at Valley Forge, a hero in the battle of Monmouth, and later fought in the Carolina Campaign with General Nathanael Greene.

And this ancestor had no grave and no tombstone! His name had almost vanished from the earth.

Gladys wrote me that in 1784, after the end of the Revolution, Charles Harrison, like many other founding fathers, had lost his fortune. He went to England to try to regain his fortune by selling prize race horses. He left his affairs in the hands of his late wife's brother.

When Charles returned from England in 1793, there was a dispute over his property at Osborne's Tavern. Charles Harrison was murdered. His body was placed on a wagon, driven by a servant to be taken to his plantation for burial. Somewhere in the Virginia wilderness, the body vanished from the wagon. It was never found. General Charles Harrison had no known grave.

Sometime later my husband and I went to Berkeley Plantation in Virginia, the great plantation on the James River where Charles, a twin was born in 1742. We received a warm welcome from the owner of Berkeley, Malcolm Jamieson. The Coach House restaurant was opened for us and we ate an excellent lunch. Mr. Jamieson was- "horrors" – a Yankee! But he had saved the plantation house, built by Charles' parents, Benjamin and Ann Carter Harrison in 1727. His father, a Union soldier invading Virginia during the Civil War, had camped at Harrison's Landing. Later he purchased Berkeley for the timber.

Union Army General Dan Butterfield composed Taps at Berkeley. When his bugler played it on the landing, Confederate troops, camped across the James River heard it. Taps, then known as Butterfield's Lullaby, has become a national tradition, played at military funerals. In 1864 the Berkeley plantation house was a derelict ruin.

But the heart with Ann Carter Harrison and Benjamin Harrison's initials and the date of construction was still over the side door. Years later, Mr. and Mrs. Jamieson had restored the house and turned Berkeley into a working plantation. It was also a shrine to the Harrisons.

I went to the gift shop. When I discovered that there was no mention of Charles Harrison, the only family Revolutionary War General, I proceeded to have a real Southern lady hissy fit. My husband and I then went to the Berkeley Harrison cemetery and ascertained that Charles Harrison had no grave there. Mr. Jamieson told me that I could put a memorial stone for General Harrison in the Berkeley cemetery. I resolved to do this as soon as possible.

I had grandiose visions of a replica of a Revolutionary War canon, covered with my ancestor's name and date of service. When he heard that this memorial would cost ten thousand dollars, my husband had a male version of a hissy fit. He said, "Forget it Nell!" So, Nell forgot it. Time went on. There were many family illnesses, many deaths. I had to deal with too many graves.

Now, as I near the end of my life, I have done all the legal things I need to do. I have provided for my 25 descendants. But, sitting alone in a big house with only a housekeeper to care for me, I realized that there was one more thing to do. I had to provide the memorial stone for Charles Harrison. First I contacted the office of Texas senator, Kay Bailey Hutchison. She had her staff help me. They got every record of



Berkeley Plantation

The original datestone can be seen on the west side of the manor house, above a side door. The initials of Benjamin and Anne Harrison are carved in the stone, along with a heart and the date the house was completed, 1726.

Charles Harrison's eight years military service from Mr. Dennis Edeline at the National Archives. They sent them to me. Now I needed to find a place to put the stone. I was turned down more often than a motel bedspread.

There was no room for a memorial plaque to General Harrison in the Church at Valley Forge. I got a letter from The Valley Forge Cemetery saying they had to have a body to have a grave. They wouldn't accept a memorial stone. I moved on to the Arlington Cemetery which had once been the plantation of my and Charles' cousin, Robert E. Lee. I was rejected at Arlington.

Meanwhile, I had contacted the Veteran's Administration about a stone. The V.A. had given me a beautiful bronze plaque to go at the foot of my husband's grave listing his service in the U.S. Navy on Guam during World War II. But no memorial tombstone for a Revolutionary War general. They wanted to see Charles' discharge papers. In 1783? Was he buried in a mass unmarked grave? On and on. General Charles Harrison didn't fit into regulations about burial at Arlington.

I contacted the present owner of Berkeley Plantation. He was reluctant to let me put the stone in the Harrison cemetery. In 2007 my daughter Ann Starr, a NASA engineer, went to Jamestown, Virginia with me. We went to a reunion of the Claiborne Clan. We stayed in a hotel right across the street from William and Mary College where Charles had been a student in 1761. I have four ancestors who came to Jamestown in the early 1600's. Sitting alone on a wall, looking down at the old Jamestown church, I felt at home.

But I had stopped being uppity about my genealogy while speaking to a man at the historical meeting. When I said, "Four of my ancestors came to Jamestown in 1608" the man replied, "Well, Madame, my ancestors met their boat." Then I remembered the ancient Indian factory in Jamestown where the Indians made glass beads. Yep, maybe my ancestors weren't nice to the Indians. But then I thought that God had already judged them, and I need not do so. I remain proud of them.

My beautiful daughter Ellen, also a D.A.R. died of leukemia in 2005. I believe that her spirit is coming to me in the form of a yellow butterfly. There was always a butterfly in my backyard, and I saw one wherever I went. When Ann drove me down the road in Virginia that passed behind the plantation of my Carter (Shirley) and Harrison's (Berkeley) ancestors, I saw yellow butterflies everywhere. Finally we passed a field of flowers that was alive with hundreds of yellow butterflies. I said, "Ellen, you're overdoing it."

Ann and I went to Sunday services at the historic Westover Church across the James River from my ancestors' homes. Many Carters and Harrisons had been members. When the priest, Virginia Heisand Jones, came down the aisle during the Peace part of the service, she leaned over to me and said, "Welcome home." After the service, as I stood telling Virginia about the butterfly, a yellow butterfly flew behind us.

There were old Harrison graves far in back of the Westover cemetery. No place for Charles I decided. I had given up hope of getting the memorial when my sister, Ann Harwell Gay, sent me the name and number of Gary Williams, Circuit Clerk of Sussex County, Virginia. General Harrison had owned property and lived on his Huntington plantation in Sussex County. Gary was very helpful and friendly. He told me that there was a Harrison family cemetery at Hunting Quarter in Sussex County. He was sure the owner, Mr. William Ellis, would let me place my stone there.

Mr. Ellis graciously gave permission. General Harrison's stone will be placed next to his Brother Henry's grave. Henry served as a Captain in the Virginia Militia, commanded by Colonel George Washington during the French and Indian War.

I gave up trying to get a stone from the V.A. My friend, Curly Moore in Hopewell, Virginia gave me the names of two granite memorial companies in Petersburg, Virginia. I chose Pembroke Granite Works. Since I was paying for the stone myself, it couldn't be very big. I ordered one about the size of the one that would have been given by the V.A. I rationalized that Charles Harrison wouldn't want a large pretentious stone. After over two hundred years, he would be grateful to be remembered. I hope I can go to Virginia for a blessing of the memorial stone. But if I can't, I know that the stone will be blessed by a yellow butterfly that will fly around it and hover over it.

I'm happy with that.

Nellie Harwell Richardson





Hunting Quarter
Home of General Charles Harrison



Hunting Quarter
Home of General Charles Harrison

Hunting Quarter Home of General Charles Harrison

Harrison Family Cemetery at Hunting Quarter

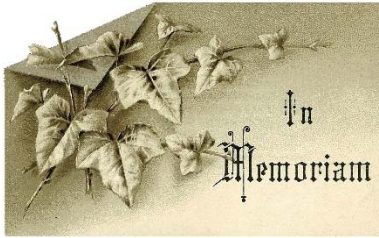


Harrison Family Cemetery at
Hunting Quarter in Sussex County



General Harrison's stone placed
by Nellie Harwell Richardson





Jill Price

The Claiborne Society has lost our beloved “Pearl of Great Price,” Jill Mary (Brider) Price, who passed away on November 30, 2018, aged 86 years, at the Norfolk Hospice Tapping House in Norfolk, England. Her Funeral Service was held at the Mintlyn Crematorium on

December, 20, 2018. Jill was the daughter of Chubby and Mary Brider, widow of Huw Price, loving stepmother of Huw, Rosemary and the late Diana, and a grandmother and great-grandmother.

Jill and her husband Huw were founding members of the National Society of Claiborne Family Descendants, along with Mildred “Milly” Barker Johnson and her husband. In 1985 the Johnsons traveled to England for a summer vacation and made a stop at King’s Lynn, where they met Town Guide Jill and Huw. You may read the full story of what happened next, written by Michael P. Gleason for his article for the Virginia Magazine of Travel and History Fall 1998, Volume 6, No 3 at our web site under the tab “History.” It was Jill Price who went to Cliburn Hall in Westmorland and obtained the names of eight past visitors named Claiborne and provided the list to Milly as the nucleus of the Claiborne Society. Jill was the Society’s guardian angel from then on, escorting Claiborne Clan members through King’s Lynn like visiting royalty.



Jill Price

The West Norfolk Community Newspaper has reported that she was also a founding member of the King’s Lynn Town Guides as follows: “Jill Price was born in Southampton but moved to Terrington St. Clement in 1973 where she became an active part of village life and many activities in Lynn. Mrs. Price married husband Huw in 1970 and had three step-children, Huw Junior, Diana (deceased) and Rosemary, seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. When the couple moved to West Norfolk Mrs. Price taught French at West Norfolk and King’s Lynn High School for Girls and her husband was Head of the special needs department at Gaywood Park School. She was a magistrate for 16 years and was a member of the Civic Society, a steward at St Nicholas’ Chapel and arranged church tours for King’s Lynn Festival and the National Trust. Mrs. and Mr. Price were actively involved in setting up King’s Lynn Town Guides, of which Mrs Price was chairman and then patron. Mrs. Price enjoyed travelling and dining out with friends and was a member of the Three Counties Ladies’ Lunch Group, King’s Lynn Ladies’ Luncheon Club and the Tech Group. Friend Susan Thompson compiled tributes to Mrs. Price, who died on November 30, and said: ‘Tasked with compiling these tributes, I soon became aware of the great influence this ‘incomer’ Jill had on many people and how much she was admired. This was obviously due to her embracing her new town and learning of our rich heritage and keenly spreading this knowledge to locals and tourists alike.’”

New Members

We are delighted to welcome the following new members to our Clan:

Howard Richard Sills and Janet William of Eatonton, Georgia
Danielle Claiborne BeCraft and K.C. BeCraft of Norwalk, Connecticut
Derek John Claiborne and Jennifer Bengle of Laurel, Maryland
Anne Claiborne Ray Streeter of Liberty, Texas
David Keith Cliborne and Darlene Katherine Honaker of Gibsonton, Florida

MEMBERSHIP CONTACT INFORMATION

Please send updated contact information to our Registrar Frank Rura, or include it with your dues payment below:

Frank Rura
3052 Rogers Ave. Ellicott City, MD, 21043
E-Mail: frank9111@verizon.net Ph: 410-465-4778



Edward Claiborne Irby, Sr.

The Claiborne Society is sad to report that Edward Claiborne Irby Sr., 91, of Richmond, Virginia, passed away on December 8, 2018. He was a well loved and active member of our Society and served as president.

Clay, as he was known by his friends, was preceded in death by his parents, John Poindexter Irby Jr. and Florence Broaddus Irby of Blackstone, Virginia; his sisters, Emily Harrison Irby Short and Grace Irby Garrett; and his children, Anne Broaddus Irby and James Poindexter Irby.

He is survived by his brother, John Poindexter Irby III; his three children, E. Claiborne Irby Jr. (Michelle), Beth Beale (Kevin) and Emily Grimes; his eight grandchildren, E. Claiborne Irby III (Bevin), Sarah Irby Kautzman (Adam), Christopher Irby, William Irby, Thornton Beale, Marshall Beale, Duncan Grimes and William Grimes; and four great-grandchildren, Charlotte Irby, Emma Irby, Christopher Kautzman and Elizabeth Kautzman.

Clay spoke fondly of his bucolic upbringing in Blackstone, Virginia. He always loved to tell his family how he avoided milking the cow by just never quite "being able to do it properly." He served in the U.S. Navy for several years before earning his undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he was a member of the Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity. After graduating from UNC-Chapel Hill, he earned his medical degree from the Medical College of Virginia. From there, he worked in private practice in internal medicine for several years before joining the medical department at Reynolds Metals Company.

He was one of the first in the country to be board certified in Occupational Medicine, and worked as a physician for Reynolds for 33 years, finishing his career as medical director there. In his retirement, he served on the board of the National Rehabilitation Hospital in Washington, D.C.

Clay was most at home on the waters of the Potomac and the Chesapeake Bay, cruising, sailing and fishing or in the fields hunting with friends. He also found it rewarding to fix things and build creations from scrap.

For grandchildren, Thornton and Marshall, he built a walk-in playhouse, complete with a front porch, shutters, planter boxes and a shingled roof. For his son, Jim, he devised a lift and pulley system that allowed Jim (along with his wheelchair) to get from the dock over and into his boat. However, his greatest source of pride was all of his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Please consider a donation in his name to the James P. Irby Memorial Scholarship Fund at St. Christopher's School (stchristophers.com), or the James P. Irby Memorial Scholarship Fund at Virginia Military Institute (vmialumni.org).

We learned of Clay's passing from his son, Edward Claiborne Irby, Jr., who has donated to the Society copies of the book "Claiborne of Virginia: Descendants of Colonel William Claiborne: The First Eight Generations" by John Frederick Dorman and Claiborne T. Smith.



Clay Irby



**NATIONAL SOCIETY CLAIBORNE FAMILY DESCENDANTS
REUNION IN WILLIAMSBURG
JULY 27, 28, 29, and 30, 2019
REGISTRATION FORM**

Name Claiborne Line/Anccestor.....

Street Address

City State Zipcode Telephone

E-Mail:

Names of additional guests:

1.....

2.....

3.....

I would be interested in participating in room sharing/cost sharing with other Claiborne Clan members.

	Number of Attendees	Cost Each	TOTAL
Reunion Registration Fee: \$220 per person Includes admission to Historic Jamestown Island and Settlement, transportation and lunch on Sunday, and banquet on Monday.	# _____	x \$220 =	\$ _____
GRAND TOTAL ENCLOSED			\$ _____

LODGING: Williamsburg Lodge, 310 South England Street, Williamsburg, VA, 23185

Special room rate for reserved block of 10 rooms is \$179.00 per room per night plus local taxes and fees, payable at time of booking. More rooms may be available at this special price if booked early, subject to availability. Reserve your room soon – at least by the end of February or early March. Final cutoff date for booking is 6/27/2019.

When making lodging reservations, please reference our group as: *Claiborne Family Descendants*

To make reservations: Call the hotel direct at **1-800-261-9530**

Send this form and your check to our Treasurer payable to *The Claiborne Society*:

**Charles Claiborne
508 Penny Lane
Woodstock, GA, 30188**

Registrar
3052 Rogers Ave.
Ellicott City, MD, 21043



Claiborne Society Newsletter
The National Society of Claiborne Family Descendants

