

Claiborne Newsletter

Spring 2013

RETURN TO RICHMOND

The Claibornes are gathering once again. We will meet for our reunion in Richmond, Virginia, our second time there, the last time being 3 - 7 October 2001. Once again we gather, for this is our fourteenth Claiborne Clan Reunion, not including four mini-reunions and a harvest celebration, since 1987.

We gather biennially to honor our brave ancestors who boldly ventured into the New World in the 1600s, who survived starvation, Indians, and wars to live along the James River.

Unless your ancestors, after the Revolution, went to the Northwest Territory or newly opened Louisiana Territory, they were here experiencing the turmoil and trauma of the conflicts of the Civil War. Never before were there wounded and sick on such a massive scale, creating the need to establish hospitals. Huge numbers of dead called for dedicated land for cemeteries, something more than burial in the family plot. Did your ancestor march into battle? Do you know where he fought? Share your family story.

Your ancestor survived. Richmond survived. There are lessons of survival here for all of us. Come join together for an exciting and memorable reunion.

REUNION IN RICHMOND, VIRGINIA Old Richmond and the Civil War

1. **Date.** The Richmond Reunion is scheduled for Thursday-Sunday, October 3-6, 2013.
2. **Location.** We will be staying at the OMNI RICHMOND hotel at 12th & Cary Streets [100 South 12th Street] in the financial district, adjacent to historic Shockoe Slip with its cobbled streets and fine restaurants. Within walking distance are the State Capitol, Governor's Mansion and the White House of the Confederacy.

Rooms have been secured for **The National Society of the Claiborne Family Descendants**, from Thursday October 3 – Sunday October 6, 2013, at the rate of \$125 plus 13% [current state and local taxes, fees and assessments].

To reserve your hotel room, call OMNI Reservations at 1-800-THE-OMNI giving the name of our group. All group attendees will be responsible for their own room, tax, and incidental charges. Reservations should be made early but no later than Thursday, August 15, 2013. A large group is booked at the hotel at the same time as we are.

Schedule

3. **Thursday, October 3rd. Arrival and Registration.**

From 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., the Rappahannock Room, our hospitality and welcome room, will be open. Available for you will be name tags, programs, welcome bags, and tourist brochures. We will have a display of Claiborne Society memorabilia. Clan Archives will be available for examination during our Reunion.

At 6:00 p.m., we will adjourn for dinner at the nearby restaurants. Some choices include: The Tobacco Company, La Grotta, Bistro Bobette, Morton Steak House, and Sine Irish Pub and Restaurant. It should be possible to form groups, or not, but definitely to have an enjoyable first night in Richmond.

The Hospitality room will reopen after dinner, until 10 p.m.

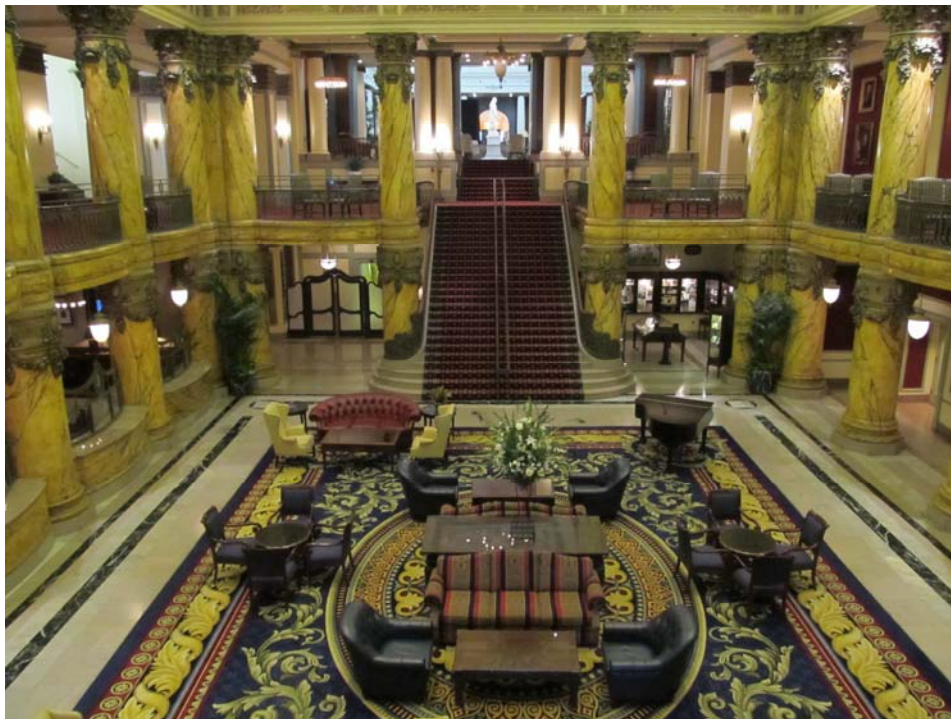


Historic marker at St. John's Episcopal Church, on Church Hill, in Richmond, Virginia.

4. Friday, October 4th. City Tours.

A bus tour of "Old Richmond" and the "City Environs & the Civil War" has been planned for the day. An outstanding tour guide will accompany us as we learn the fascinating stories of this area. The tour guide is Frank Williamson, certified by the Historic Richmond Foundation, who has been giving unique tours for 15 years.

We begin in the **morning** seeing notable places of "Old Richmond". **Lunch** will be at TJ's restaurant at the Jefferson Hotel. Again we board the bus for the "City Environs and the Civil War" tour. Those not wishing to do the afternoon tour will be returned to the OMNI hotel.



Lobby of the Jefferson Hotel, showing the iconic staircase.

Our stops in “Old Richmond” will include: Soldiers & Sailors Monument on Libby Hill, the Medical Museum at Chimborazo Park, St. John’s cemetery on Church Hill, the American Civil War Center at Tredegar Iron Works, and Hollywood Cemetery.



Some grave markers at HOLLYWOOD CEMETERY, Richmond Virginia, beside the James River

The **afternoon** tour offers a ride to Petersburg and the chance to see and feel the obstacles confronting the South in the last months and days before the end of the Civil War. We will visit the Siege Museum, with movie and artifacts documenting the 10-month long siege; Blandford Cemetery and Church, with 15 stained-glass windows by Louis Comfort Tiffany; Appomattox Plantation & City Point, General Grant’s headquarters; and Bermuda Hundred, birthplace of son of John Rolfe and Pocahontas.

Our bus returns to the OMNI hotel. Dinner will be on your own at one of the nearby restaurants.

5. Saturday morning, October 5th. Business meeting, lunch.

At 9 a.m. in the Shenandoah room, the business meeting of the Claiborne Society will take place with election of officers, selection of next reunion location, and other business.

Lunch will follow the business meeting.

6. Saturday afternoon, October 5th. Historic aspect.

In the p.m., we will visit the Library of Virginia, at 8th & Broad Street, to examine historical documents. Nearby we can walk to Court End to see one of the historic structures: John Marshall House, Valentine /Richmond History Center with Wickham House, or the White House of the Confederacy.

We return to the OMNI hotel by walking or request the Omni hotel shuttle for pick-up.

7. Saturday evening, October 5th. Banquet.

BANQUET in the Shenandoah room.

8. Sunday morning, October 6th. New officers’ board meeting.

Meet in BOARDROOM. This is a business for newly elected officers.



BERMUDA HUNDRED marker, placed by the Bermuda Hundred D. A. R.



Appomattox Plantation. site of General Grant's headquarters cabin at City Point, Hopewell, Virginia

New Members

In 2012 we have welcomed the following new members:

- Michelle Lacy Christie – Houston, Texas
- Tracy Neal Claiborn – Raleigh, NC
- Alan L. Claiborne – Fort Scott, KS
- Hilton E. Clayborne – Morehead City, NC
- John C. Clayborne – Richmond, VA
- Stanley A. Jones, III – China, Tx
- Lisa V. Jordon – South Hill, VA
- Linda M. King – Stuart, FL
- Lora F. Lake – Silver Spring, MD
- David Owen – Akron, OH
- William C. Powell – Henrico, VA
- Thomas L. Reynolds, Sr. – Trout Lake, WA
- Thomas W. Sale, III – Evington, VA

