Spring 2022 Special Reunion Newsletter

2022 Claiborne Reunion Annapolis, Maryland

November 3, 4, 5, and 6, 2022

Message from the Reunion Chair: Elizabeth Richardson, Vice President Claiborne Society

We are looking forward to seeing you in Annapolis on Thursday, November 3rd from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the Historic Inns of Annapolis Governor Calvert House at 58 State Circle, Annapolis Maryland.

The Historic Inns Hotel is comprised of three buildings:
• The Gov. Calvert House is said to have had its beginnings in 1694, rebuilt after a 1764 fire.
• The Maryland Inn was initially built in 1772 and subsequently expanded.
• The Robert Johnson House's middle section was built in 1773 and later incorporated the homes on each side.

In the 1970s, all three buildings came under one owner who renovated them into boutique hotels. They are in the old part of Annapolis, convenient to most attractions, many restaurants and small shops. The hotel is 30 minutes from the Baltimore Washington International Airport. Here are some suggested Annapolis attractions:
• Tours of historic Annapolis (standard or custom) by electric car.
• Tours of U.S. Naval Academy.
• Ornate 1770s Annapolis Capitol (Washington gave his resignation speech and treaty ending Revolution ratified there when it served as U.S. capitol, 1783 and 1784).
• 1774 Hammond-Harwood House (outstanding architecture and furnishings).
• 1760s William Paca house with two-acre reconstructed 18th century garden.
• Historic and lively city docks (beautiful water views, luxury sailing and motor yachts, historic buildings, restaurants and bars).
• Annapolis Maritime Museum.

The theme of the reunion will be William Claiborne's 1631 settling of Kent Island, the first English outpost in what would become Maryland. During the reunion we will hear of Claiborne's accomplishments and struggles relating to Kent Island. We will also view sites where archeological work to find remains of his two forts has taken place.

Claiborne named the island and the fort he built near its southeastern tip after England's County Kent, his home before coming to America. His main purpose was to trade with the Indians of the upper Chesapeake Bay for beaver pelts, which were then in high demand in Europe for making fashionable hats. In conjunction with the fort, he erected warehouses for his trade goods, homes for his men, several windmills, a boat construction facility, and the first church in present-day Maryland. Initially, his residence was in or near Kent Fort, but later he established his home and a second fort up the island's west coast, naming both Crayford, after his home town in England. Unfortunately, in 1632 King Charles granted part of northern Virginia, including Kent Island, to Lord Baltimore. This set up a power struggle for the island, which Claiborne eventually lost. He spent the rest of his life trying to regain this land he considered rightfully his.

In the twentieth century, repeated attempts were made to locate the site of Kent Fort, but none was completely successful - probably due to the island's severe coastal erosion over the years. A good part or perhaps all of the original settlement is probably now underwater. Many artifacts from Claiborne's period have been found close to shore by watermen dredging for clams, and by others on the island's beaches. Archeologists, too, have found numerous artifacts, but no proof of exactly where the fort was, although there have been indications of its vicinity.

This mailing includes a tentative Reunion agenda and registration form. If you have any questions, you may e-mail Elizabeth Richardson at lizgric@gmail.com.

National Society of Claiborne Family Descendants

2022 Reunion Annapolis, Maryland

Thursday, November 3 through Sunday, November 6, 2022
Historic Inns of Annapolis Governor Calvert House 58 State Circle
Reunion theme: "Colonel William Claiborne: Settling of Kent Island"

PROGRAM

Thursday, November 3:

3:00 pm to 6:00 pm: Registration, hospitality and cash bar at the Governor Calvert House. Dinner and evening on your own with Claiborne and Cliborn relatives and friends.

Friday, November 4:

9:00 am: Meet in the Governor Calvert House lobby and board bus for tour of Kent Island. (Juice and mini-muffins will be served on the bus.)

- Stop at Claiborne historical marker for photo op.
- Visit private beach to hear about and view mostly offshore archeological sites, pictures of artifacts found, distant island where family of one of Claiborne's men was massacred by Indians.
- Stop near where evidence of Crayford Fort was found offshore.
- Lunch at waterfront restaurant. Can order and pay for what you wish.
- Visit 1880 Gothic Revival church, said to stem from Claiborne's church.
- Driving tour of historic Stevensville.
- Visit Kent Island Visitor Center's mini museum to view exhibits on history of Kent Island, including brief information on Claiborne.
- Return to Governor Calvert House. Dinner and evening on your own. Note: For Thursday and Friday nights "dinner on your own", we may organize group visits to two restaurants: Cafe Normandie (French restaurant highly recommended by our president Deb Peabody) and Reynolds Tavern (built 1747, oldest tavern in Annapolis).

Saturday, November 5:

9:00 am: Meet in Maryland Inn conference room for business meeting. Continental breakfast served prior to meeting at table outside the meeting room.
Business meeting: Call to Order, Invocation, Minutes, Treasurer's and Registrar's Reports, Nominating Committee Recommendations, Election, New Business, Discussion of next Reunion, Benediction, Adjournment.

12:00 Noon: Casual lunch served in the meeting room after the meeting.
Afternoon free on your own to visit Annapolis sites of your choice. (See first page for list.)

7:00 pm: Banquet
Dr. Claiborne Smith Award, Installation of new Officers, Remarks by new President.
Keynote Speaker: Chief Archeologist with the Maryland Historical Trust. Lecture and power point presentation on William Claiborne's adventures and struggles to settle and keep Kent Island, and the archeological attempts to discover the sites of his two forts. We possibly will be able to view some artifacts found during these attempts.
Closing Remarks, Group Photo, Board Meeting with New Officers.

Sunday, November 6:

11:00 am: Check out. There are several good restaurants nearby serving Sunday brunch. Information on these will be provided.

NATIONAL SOCIETY CLAIBORNE FAMILY DESCENDANTS
REUNION IN ANNAPOLIS
NOVEMBER 3, 4, 5, and 6, 2022
REGISTRATION FORM

Name ……………………………………………………………………………………………………

Claiborne Line/Ancestor……………………………………………………………………………………...

First Name, Last Name and Hometown as you would like it on the name tag:

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Street Address …………………………………...………………………………………………………………

City …………………………………….…..…………………….. State ……...…...…… Zipcode ……………..…...

Telephone …...………………..………… E-Mail: ……………………..……………….………………………..

Additional Guests: Name, Hometown, State

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 ($220 cost includes hospitality room, name tags, gift bags, info folder, bus, tour guides, bus driver tip, meeting room, Saturday continental breakfast, lunch, banquet dinner, and speaker.)	# _____	x $220 =	$ _____

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LODGING: Check in, Registration, Hospitality will be at The Gov. Calvert building, 58 State Circle (valet parking).
Reserve rooms by calling 900-847-8882, and giving discount code 1050OA. Rooms with 1 king or 2 double beds: Thurs. night $195, Fri. and Sat. nights $290 each. It is important to book rooms as soon as possible. First block of discounted rooms has already sold out. The current block available is at a higher rate (but still discounted), and limited in number. The hotel has said that as their capacity shrinks, their rates go up; when these rooms are gone, subsequent block rates may be higher, if available.
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Send this form and a check payable to "*The Claiborne Society*" to our Treasurer:

Charles Claiborne
508 Penny Lane
Woodstock, GA, 30188

Registrar
3052 Rogers Ave.
Ellicott City, MD, 21043

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The National Society of Claiborne Family Descendants