



# The Croatan Civic League News

March 2020

## President's Letter by Mike Kelly

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We haven't had much of a winter and for those of us who very much like warm weather, that was just fine. Of course, the tradeoff is likely to be a hotter summer.

The 2020 membership drive is going very well. At the end of February, we were at 45% for member dues and 43.5% for the security. If you have done this yet, please do so soon. Everyone who joins or renews their membership by April 1<sup>st</sup> will be added to a drawing to win \$100. The drawing will take place on June 6<sup>th</sup> at the Spring Fling.

If you made it to the CCL social held at Murphy's on Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, you know that it was a very good event. We had approximately 70 people show up. Congratulations to Amanda Robinson and Katie Ripberger for coordinating. They do a great job. The next one will be sometime in May, so be on the lookout for the details.

**The Shamrock Marathon will be held on Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>.** The northbound side of General Booth Blvd will be closed from 5<sup>th</sup> St./Rudee Inlet to Birdneck Rd. from 8:00 AM until 2:45 PM. If you are trying to leave the neighborhood that morning, you will only be able to turn left, and you can expect someone at the Croatan Rd. entrance who will monitor the runner flow for a safe crossing. Plan on being help up there for a few minutes until there is a gap in the race.

As always, be safe.

Mike Kelly

President, Croatan Civic League

(M) 703.439.9153 (Primary) (H) 757.961.6244 (After 7:00 PM)

president@croatanbeach.org

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**SCOOP  
THAT POOP**

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 3/9 Women's Club**
- 3/19 Book Club**
- 3/22 Shamrock Marathon**
- 4/6 CCL Board Meeting**
- 4/10 Newsletter Deadline**
- 5/2 Croatan Yard Sale**



*Yuengling*



## **Beach Safety Update** by John Mannarino, Director

According to James D. White, P.E. Coastal Section Project Manager City of Virginia Beach Public Works, federal funding is available for the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to advertise the dredging project. It is the City's expectation that the project will be advertised during the month of March (date to be confirmed) and dredging and sand placement to commence prior to June 2020. Jim will provide further details once they are provided by the USACE .

## **The Croatan Book Club**

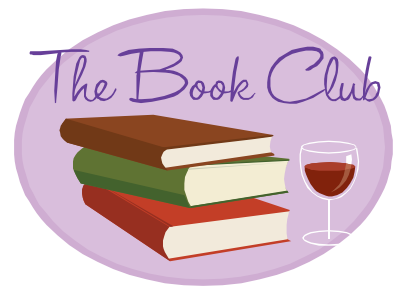
### **Next Meeting**

Date: **Thursday**, March 19th

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Place: Susan Martin

Selection: **Origin** by Dan Brown



All Neighbors are welcome. Just read the book (or maybe not), bring a beverage or snack, and e-mail the hostess that you will be attending.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Future Selections</b>	<b>Author</b>
4/16/2020	<b>Dutch House</b>	Ann Patchett
5/21/2020	<b>The Tattooist of Auschwitz</b>	Heather Morris
6/16/2020	<b>The Art of Racing in the Rain</b>	Garth Stein

See the CCL website for 2020 selections: [www.croatanbeach.org/book-club/](http://www.croatanbeach.org/book-club/).

## **Croatan Women's Club**

### **Next Meeting**

Date: **Monday**, March 9

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Place: Cathy Callahan

Program: St. Patty's Meeting—Shades of Green

See the CCL website at [www.croatanbeach.org/womens-club/](http://www.croatanbeach.org/womens-club/)



## Safety, Security Update, Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC ), and Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations (VBCCO)

### Safety/Security/CAC/VBCCO:

The Croatan Civic League acts as a conduit between the neighborhood and our off-duty patrol officer – MPO Don Noha. The operative adjective is “off-duty.” For instance, Officer Noha responded to a home alarm one evening last month and cleared the site with the owner; he also opened the municipal parking lot after vehicles overstaying the 5:30 PM closing, were locked in. Nevertheless, Officer Noha cannot be everywhere all of the time – his off-duty time is limited (as is our Security Fund). The CCL itself, has no policing powers.



While Croatan continues to be one of the safest neighborhoods in one of the safest cities in America, we had an incident last month involving some rowdy (suspected) renters. I think that it is only reasonable to expect further incidents to arise during the upcoming “season.”

During the case-in-point, concerned residents notified neighbors of this disruptive group via “Nextdoor.” Unfortunately, their well-intentioned alerts were received too late to permit deterrent action. Letting neighbors know of disruptive incidents via “Nextdoor” remains a prudent course of action, but please do so only after calling the police at **757-385-5000** (or **911, in the event of a true emergency**). Sworn, uniformed police officers are the only ones who can act in such instances, often dissuading youthful exuberance simply by discussing acceptable decorum. When Officer Noha is in the neighborhood, he will be first to respond; but without a record of disturbances (obtained through citizen reporting), the police will continue to prioritize their routine patrols to higher risk areas where the majority of such reports (known as “calls for service”) originate.

By the way, the VBPD is significantly short staffed and without a long list of applicants. Large events, like Something in the Water (see more below) necessitate augmentation from other precincts and (occasionally) police departments. If you know of young adults seeking a challenging career, suggesting policing in Virginia Beach couldn't hurt.

### Citizen's Action Committee (CAC):



Police and other city agencies are planning for the summer season, which kicks off with Something in the Water (SITW 2020), to be held **April 20 – 26**. I did use “Nextdoor” to notify the community of the March 5 Convention Center briefing. Last year’s planning was superb with crowd control, off-site parking, and shuttle services working smoothly. This year’s event will be twice as long. Once again, SITW is the successor to College Beach weekend, but offering more family-friendly alternatives, as well as professional-development events. Expect traffic jams on the Interstate and radial access roads (e.g., S. Birdneck, Oceana, and London Bridge).

I expect that similar to last year, no private vehicles will be permitted to head north on General Booth Boulevard from Croatan (and possibly from the aquarium) during SITW 2020. Expect egress from Croatan to be challenging and be prepared to turn left (i.e., south) only onto Gen. Booth. I will speak with VBPD about stationing an officer at the intersection during high traffic hours if egress becomes too challenging. **Please advise, if it does.** I will also inquire as to whether we'll need to show proof of residence to travel north of the aquarium and/or enter Croatan. Expect more in next month's Newsletter, Facebook, and Nextdoor.

While SITW 2020 will be the primary topic of discussion at the **March 11** CAC meeting, Ms. Pamela Shine, City Support Services, will also be in attendance to address the homeless issue at the Oceanfront.

CAC meets at 7 PM at Second Precinct HQ, 820 VB Blvd (17<sup>th</sup> Street).

### Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations (VBCCO):

Mr. John Hallman, Fire Safety Officer for VBFD, spoke to us on home safety, specifically concerning fire extinguishers and smoke detectors. Among the many things I learned are the four criteria for placing smoke detectors – in every sleeping room, on every level of the house, in the vicinity of every point of egress, and interconnected – so that if one sounds, all will sound. **Even new smoke alarms must be replaced every 10 years** due to shelf-life of the reactive agent in the device.



Mr. Hallman stated that once an alarm is sounded, residents have **less than three minutes to vacate a home.** You should establish a communal meeting point and **call 911 only after leaving the structure.** VBFD has an **Operation Smoke Detection** program in place where they will come out and inspect your home and even provide up to two smoke alarms. To schedule, call **757-471-5826** and leave a message (as it is an unattended line).

Those with short-term rental houses must comply with all City and State Fire regulations regarding smoke detectors, alarms, and fire extinguishers. See regulations on [vbgov.com](http://vbgov.com).

### Shamrock Marathon:

Reminder that this annual race will severely restrict/close neighborhood access and egress at General Booth Blvd and Croatan Road on **Sunday, March 22.** Closure of northbound Gen. Booth is advertised to last from **8:00 AM until 2:45 PM.** If you have to be somewhere before 3PM – church, brunch, work, airport, event, etc. – you might benefit from positioning your car the previous evening at the boat launching ramp parking lot. See road closures at

[https://www.vbgov.com/government/departments/cvb/resort/Documents/2020%20Shamrock%20Race%20Weekend%20Road%20Closure%20Notice%20\\_.pdf](https://www.vbgov.com/government/departments/cvb/resort/Documents/2020%20Shamrock%20Race%20Weekend%20Road%20Closure%20Notice%20_.pdf) .

M. C. "Connie" Agresti,  
CCL VP, Security Chair

## Neighborhood Contacts

*Send any corrections, deletions or additions to this page to Marian Kitchin at [mdkitchin@gmail.com](mailto:mdkitchin@gmail.com).*

### Welcome Wagon

Contact Cheryl Garvey at [cgcroatan@gmail.com](mailto:cgcroatan@gmail.com) or phone 471-5436 if you know of new Croatan neighbors .



### Magazine Collection

Michele Speight, Teen Crisis Intervention  
549 Bushnell Drive  
428-7947; [msp8@cox.net](mailto:msp8@cox.net)

### Book Collection

Betty Rosignolo  
760 Virginia Dare Drive  
437-8662; [rbrosignolo@cox.net](mailto:rbrosignolo@cox.net)  
For Sentara Virginia Beach Hospital Auxiliary

### Who to Call

Dead or Stranded Marine Mammal (dolphin, seal, whale) or Sea Turtle  
Virginia Aquarium Stranding Response Team  
**757-385-7575**



### Important Contacts

Police Fire & Rescue Emergencies	911
Non-Emergency Assistance	385-5000
Miss Utility	811
Potholes, Street Signs and Repairs	385-1470
Animal Control (Option #1)	385-4444
City Landfill	385-1980
Bulk Trash Pickup	385-4650
Croatan Temporary Parking Permit	385-4131
Wildlife Response , Inc.	543-7000
VBSPCA Wildlife Referral Line	263-4762
Wildlife Conflict Helpline (toll free)	(855) 571-9003
Beach Wedding Permit	385-4800

### Tidewater Wildlife Rescue

#### Helpline 757-255-8710

A volunteer organization dedicated to assisting orphaned and injured wildlife throughout Tidewater, Virginia.

[Tidewaterwildliferescue@gmail.com](mailto:Tidewaterwildliferescue@gmail.com)



## CROATAN ANNUAL YARD SALE

If you are engaged in spring cleaning and you discover items that you forgot you owned, please consider joining the 40 or so families in Croatan who participate in the annual yard sale. This year, it will be held on Saturday, May 2, from 8:00 am to noon.



**The People Make the Beach**  
**Croatan Civic League**

We are on the WEB!  
 Check us out at  
[www.croatanbeach.org](http://www.croatanbeach.org)  
 and Nextdoor.com

## **Croatan Civic League Officers, Directors and Committee Chair Contacts**

### **Board**

#### **President, City Government and Military**

Mike Kelly Phone 961-6244  
 Email: mkellyav8@aol.com

#### **Vice President, Security, VB Council of Civic Organizations, Citizen's Advisory Committee**

M.C. "Connie" Agresti  
 Phone 425-2068  
 Email: mcaiii@aol.com

#### **Secretary, Children's Activities Amanda Robinson**

Phone 641-9403  
 Email: pixiefloat@hotmail.com

#### **Treasurer**

Jim Skarbek Phone 491-3230  
 Email: treasurer@croatanbeach.org

#### **Past President, Welcome Wagon, Croatan Yard Sale**

Bill Garvey Phone 471-5436  
 Email: cddx@aol.com

#### **Director, Artisan's at Croatan Beach**

Jen Alex Phone 348-3884  
 Email: jalexstudios@gmail.com

#### **Director,**

Kathy Donahoe Phone 422-8766  
 Email: Kdonahoe@cox.net

#### **Director,**

Cheryl Garvey Phone 471-5436  
 Email—cgcroatan@gmail.com

#### **Director, Spring Fling**

Larry Kurtz Phone 428-9240  
 Email: larry.kurtz001@gmail.com

#### **Director, Annual Dinner, Website, Facebook Group**

Bob Lougen  
 Email: directorbl@croatanbeach.org

#### **Director**

John Mannarino Phone 496-2746  
 Email: manoreno1955@gmail.com

#### **Director**

**Milt Martin**  
 Phone 804-467-0717  
 Email: mcmsbm@verison.net

#### **Director, Logo Wear, Rudee Inlet Foundation**

Katie Ripberger Phone 434-6450  
 Email:katiefr@howardhanna.com

#### **Director, Halloween Party and Parade**

Amber Torgerson  
 Phone 319-6076  
 Email: ambertorg@gmail.com

#### **Director**

Patricia Zuraw Phone —422-5644  
 Email: pzuraw@howardhanna.com

#### **Special Advisor**

Ken Jobe Phone 428-0328  
 Email: kejo425@aol.com

### **Committee Chairs**

#### **Newsletter, NextDoor**

Marian Kitchin Phone 437-9554  
 Email: mdkitchin@gmail.com

#### **Surfing**

Wes Laine Phone 428-2620  
 Email: wlaine@cox.net

### **Clubs**

#### **President, Women's Club**

Martha Davenport  
 Email: croatanemail@gmail.com

#### **Leader, Book Club**

Diane Maurice  
 Email: dem5551212@yahoo.com

#### **Treasurer, Lake Christine**

#### **Conservatory**

Vicki Aiken Phone 962-2848  
 Email: vtaiken73@gmail.com