

CCL Newsletter

January, 2023



Submitted by Kathy Donahoe

President's Letter

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Happy (slightly belated) New Year to all.

The Board of Directors met on Monday, January 9th via zoom.

The focus of effort was to discuss the 2023 budget and event schedule.

Jim Skarbek (Treasurer) left the Board. Thank you Jim for all your hard work. We have two new Board Directors – Jan Perriello and Jen Resio. Thank you for volunteering!

Our new Treasurer, Sharon Heath, reported that we ended 2022 with \$41,595.75 in our account (as compared to \$49,085.33 in 2021). The Security fund was boosted by approximately \$1,500. Highlights for the year include a very successful Spring Fling at the Point and the Annual Meeting at Waterman's. Our September Ice Cream Social was attended by more than 100 residents. For walkers and bike riders, you know about the bridge crossing built between Coastal and Fort Raleigh.

For 2023, the very general tentative schedule looks like this:

March - Beachside Social

April - Croatan Cares 5K run

May - Happy Hour Social at Rudee's

JUNE - Spring Fling

August - Back Bay Astronomer's Night

September – Back to School Ice Cream Social

October - Halloween Party/Costume Contest

October or November - Annual Dinner and Meeting

November or December - Photos with Santa on the Beach



December - Lights Contest and "Bike the Lights" Cookie and Santa night

If you have an idea for a social event (adult or children's) please reach out to us. We want to make our civic league a great resource for neighborhood improvement and have a lot of fun while doing it.

I provided a detailed update on the Beach Nourishment Project in the November newsletter. There is no significant update so far.

The next Board of Director's meeting will be held on Monday, February 6th, 2023, at 6:30 PM via Zoom. If you would like an invite, please let me know and I will send you one.

Thanks to all the people that helped get us through 2022.

All the best, remain vigilant, and stay safe,

Mike Kelly
President, Croatan Civic League
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president@croatanbeach.org

Did You Know?

- Approximately 20 children live and play in the vicinity of the corner of Fort Raleigh and Bushnell Drive. **Drivers please slow down!**

Croatan Book Club

HAPPY NEW YEAR !

Want something new in 2023? Try the book club!

All Neighbors are welcome. Just read the book (or maybe not – come to socialize and hear a review of the book), and notify the hostess that you will be attending via a response to the email. Bring a light snack/wine to share, if desired. We meet on the third Thursday of each month, location varies.

Next Meeting Thursday,
January 19, 2023. Time 7 P.M.
Hostess: Alice Weisz
Place: 501 Bushnell Drive

Book: Cloud Cuckoo Land by Anthony Doerr
Debbie Warwick will lead the discussion.

Future Selections (in order):

The Garden of Small Beginnings – Abbi Waxman

Privileged Information – Stephen White

The Orphan Keeper – Cameron Wright

Three Words for Goodbye – Gaynor, H. & Webb, H.

Have you read a good book recently? Want to recommend it to others? Share your find with us.

Croatan Women's Club

GALatine's Party

Monday, February 13 at 7 p.m.

Hostess: JoAnn Burke

Desserts will be provided by the Club and members will be bringing wine or Prosecco.

Safety/Security – January 2023

Bottom Line Up Front:

- Threats to Schools – See Something; Say Something
- Black Ice
- Control of Dogs
- Short-Term Rental Points of Contact
- CAC – “My90” Citizen Engagement Application

Threats to Schools: At the January 11 CAC meeting, both police and Commonwealth Attorney spoke about the increase in threats being made in schools – including elementary schools. As recently witnessed in Newport News, the availability of firearms is too great not to take threats seriously, whether they're meant as idle boasting, bravado, “smash-mouth,” or colloquial “I've gonna ‘kill’ that person.” Verbal and social media threats, including bomb threats, are increasingly common and often issued by youths without the maturity to understand long-term consequences (e.g., one cannot just turn on the video game the next day and have all the players still be present). Please urge all school-age children that if they “**see something, say something.**” Lives can be forever changed by not heeding warnings. Lastly, **if you own firearms, be sure to secure them to ensure they are not accessible to children.** The days of bloody noses and fat lips are over – sadly, even pre-teens now settle disputes with lethal weapons.

Black Ice: Happy New Year! This year began with some of the coldest weather we've had in a long time. When the ambient temperature is below freezing (32° F), otherwise damp pavement can acquire a glaze of ice

that is not always visible. Test your brakes while going slowly in the neighborhood to see if the road is icy. Be mindful that even on sunny days, elevated roadbeds, bridges, roadways in shadow, or the edges of curves may be slick even when the rest of the road seems clear. Drive cautiously and defensively. If you skid, ease off the throttle and steer into the skid. Final note: four-wheel drive helps you “go,” it doesn’t help you “stop.”

Control of Dogs: I regret having to address this issue, but I received a report of a dog attack in Croatan recently, as well as several complaints of barking dogs disturbing the peace. City Code addresses these situations and **I request that landlord recipients of this Newsletter share its contents with renters.** Here are some excerpts from VB City Code on the subjects:

Chapter 5 – Animals and Fowl, Article V – Animal Welfare, Division 2 – **Dangerous and Vicious Dogs** defines a “dangerous dog” as “a canine...that has bitten, attacked, or inflicted injury upon a companion animal that is a dog or cat...” There are caveats, of course, such as no injury being inflicted, or the attacking dog is on its own property. Regardless, Animal Control or Police should be called in such instances in order to make a determination of risk and observe injuries. Proper number for such incidents is 757-385-5000. Call 9-1-1 if death of another animal or serious injury to a human (beyond a nip or scratch) has occurred.

VB City Code § 5-532(a) – **Barking Dogs** – “It shall be unlawful for any person to keep a dog without exercising proper care and control of such dog to prevent it from disturbing the peace of others by barking, whining, howling, or crying without provocation in a loud, continuous or untimely manner.” Some dog breeds are more prone to barking than others, but owners owe a responsibility to their neighbors to train their dogs not to bark except as a warning.

VB City Code § 5-534 – **Allowing dogs or horses to urinate or defecate on public or private property** - “It shall be unlawful for an owner or person in immediate control of a dog or horse to: (1) Allow his/her dog or horse to urinate or defecate on private property of other persons without their consent...”; (2) Allow his/her dog or horse to defecate on public property...unless...the owner or person in immediate control of the dog or horse immediately removes the [excrement] and disposes of it in a safe and sanitary manner.”

Short Term Rental (STR) Points of Contact (POC): The owner of the aggressor dog in the aforementioned attack was staying in a STR and departed before Animal Control arrived. A newspaper article last week reported a case of burst water pipes in an unoccupied rental property located in Sandbridge. Both issues highlight the need to have the name and number of an accountable individual (owner or agent) who can respond within thirty (30) minutes on file with the City for contact in emergencies. City Zoning Ordinance § 241.2 requires this.

Citizen’s Advisory Committee (CAC):

“My90,” Community Engagement Tool! On January 9, VBPD announced the deployment of “My90” – a new tool to be used to engage the public, collect confidential feedback, and improve transparency and outcomes following service calls. The data VBPD receives through this tool will allow the department to see the impact they are having in the community and take appropriate action. My90 will provide community members an online option to provide input while maintaining their privacy. My90, will facilitate Community Orientated Policing through citizen engagement with VBPD to measure what is working well and what needs additional attention. To learn more about My90, visit: <https://www.axon.com/products/my90>

M. C. “Connie” Agresti,

CCL Safety and Security Director

Do you want to save \$200, save your neighbors, save children, bicyclists, pets and wildlife? GO SLOW IN CROATAN!!!



Neighborhood Contacts

Book Collection
 Betty Rosignolo
 760 Virginia Dare Drive
 437-8662; rbrosignolo@cox.net
 For Sentara Virginia Beach Hospital Auxiliary

Magazine Collection
 Michele Speight,
 Teen Crisis Intervention
 549 Bushnell Drive
 428-7947msp8@cox.net

Welcome Wagon
 Contact Cheryl Garvey
 cgcroatan@gmail.com
 (757)471-5436
 if you know of new
 Croatan neighbors



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



Tidewater Wildlife Rescue Helpline
757-255-8710
 A volunteer organization dedicated to assisting orphaned and injured wildlife throughout Tidewater, Virginia
 Tidewaterwildliferescue@gmail.com

Name	Committee	Email	Phone
Jo Bloomquist	Women's Club	vagolfers@mac.com	
Alice Weisz	Book Club	bookclub@croatanbeach.org	425-2068
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