

CCL Newsletter

February, 2023



Submitted by Kathy Donahoe

President's Letter

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I wrote the following one year ago:

Usually around this time I am looking for daffodil shoots to be several inches above the ground. But as I write this, we have a possibility of snow this weekend. If it happens, that will be the third time this year.

This year many daffodils are blooming and if you timed it right and looked carefully you may have seen a snow flurry or two. We have only had three nights (so far) that temperatures were below freezing. Overall, this winter is quite mild. Most days are great for a walk and, hopefully, we won't see any more cold weather for the season.

The Board met this past Monday. I would encourage you to look at the minutes that are posted on the Civic league website. Note that we have set the **Spring Fling for Saturday, June 10th**. We have many social events planned for the year, as well as children's events. Please consider volunteering to help, and if you have an idea, contact one of the Board members or send me an email.

Our first social event will be at Beachside Social on Friday, March 24th from 7:00 to 10:00 PM. It was great fun last year and included shuffleboard and bocce ball – something you don't get to do every day. Please put it on your calendar.

While you are on the website, don't forget that it's time to join or renew your membership for 2023. It's easy to do online. Please consider donating to the security fund as well.

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

All the best and stay safe,

Mike Kelly
President, Croatan Civic League
(M) 703.439.9153 (Primary)

Croatan Beach Sand Update – February 2023

A year ago, I said that the Beach Nourishment Project wasn't expected to begin until April. Yet again, for good planning and fiscal reasons, the city plan has changed significantly. Like most of you, I continue to be frustrated.

A week ago, I received the following from the Coastal Program Administrator, Dan Adams.

Our best course of action to place a significant volume of sand on Croatan Beach is being coordinated as a betterment to the USACE Resort Beach renourishment planned for early 2024. This project is being delivered as part of a beneficial reuse of dredge material from the Norfolk Harbor Deepening Project - Atlantic Channel phase work. Approximately 1,000,000 cubic yards of beach sand is anticipated to be available for this contract and we have requested a reservation of up to 120,000 cubic yards of sand for placement along Croatan Beach. This will allow us to meet the beach berm design template based on the recommendations in the Croatan Assessment Report of 2017. We are working on obtaining permits to allow placement from the new borrow source.

It will be a significant effort if/when it happens, but as I said, this is a very frustrating process.

Mike Kelly
President, Croatan Civic League
(M) 703.439.9153 (Primary)

president@croatanbeach.org

Did You Know?

It is time to pay your annual CCL dues. Please visit our website to join.

Croatan Book Club

Happy Valentine's Day!

Why not put down that remote and read a book 😊. Then come to book club - All Neighbors are welcome. Just read the book (or maybe not and just come to socialize and hear a review of the book); 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,
February 16, 2023. Time 7 P.M.
Hostess: Cindi Kilmer
Place: 406 Vanderbilt Ave

Book: The Garden of Small Beginnings by Abbi Waxman

Alice Weisz will lead the discussion.

Future Selections (in order):

Privileged Information – Stephen White

The Orphan Keeper – Cameron Wright

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

West with Giraffes - Lynda Rutledge

Book of Lost Friends – Lisa Wingate

UPCOMING EVENTS:

2/16 Book Club

3/6 CCL Meeting

2/13 Women's Club

3/24 Beachside Social

6/10 Spring Fling



Have you read a good book recently? Want to recommend it to others? Share your find with us. Just email title and author – must be available through VBPL.

Croatan Women's Club



Safety/Security – February 2023

Bottom Line Up Front:

- A Note of Thanks
- Groundhog Day and Spring Harbingers
- Coyote Sighting
- Yard Debris
- Pedestrians – Be Seen

- Mind Speed/Stop Signs
- CAC and VBCCO
- Support Croatan Security Patrols

Thank you to the individual(s) who cleaned the algae/mold from the signs at the Croatan entrance. That little touch enhances the appearance of, and shows pride in, our community.

Groundhog Day: I am reminded of the eponymous movie that forced a cynical weatherman to relive February 2nd repeatedly. As I write this, the little rascal saw his shadow. Despite that, our bulb plants are popping out of the ground. With weeding, pruning, and planting around the corner, remember to stretch beforehand and ease into your “normal” gardening routine following weeks of winter’s relative inactivity (unless your gardener is on speed dial).

Coyotes: Coyotes are common throughout Virginia, therefore as they increasingly lose natural habitat to development, sightings in neighborhoods increase. Virginia Department of Fish and Game offers a tri-fold document on coyotes (see a copy included with the newsletter and online at croatanbeach.org.) Coyote breeding and birthing season is between January and June. They may be more active in foraging at this time. They will generally be afraid of you but there are some absolute DO NOT guidelines: do not feed wild animals, do not leave food out for feral cats, ensure that garbage bins are closed, do not let small dogs and cats venture outside unrestrained, and most of all, do not use ACME mail order products. Coyotes will eat rabbits, geese, rats, and other small animals (such as groundhog meteorologist wannabes).

Yard Debris: We are fortunate that Virginia Beach picks up yard debris. Yard debris may be placed in clear plastic bags (not to exceed 25 pounds/bag) and placed roadside for city pick-up on garbage days – Tuesdays. Bundles of limbs (also placed roadside) need not be tied, should be no more than four feet high or long, and should not extend more than 18” into the street. Limbs should not exceed 6” in diameter. Limit of two limb bundles per house per collection day. If the collection workers drop some of your branches in the roadway, please retrieve them for either placement in your black can or the ensuing week’s pick-up.

Pedestrians – Be Seen: If you are walking, biking, skateboarding, or dog walking in the dark – please remember that it is ON YOU to be seen by drivers. Wear reflective or light-colored clothing. You can also use reflective collars and/or leashes on your pets. Even a car hitting you at slow speed will hurt.

Mind Speed/Stop Signs: It scares me to see vehicles (including large trucks and buses) traveling our neighborhood streets at speeds markedly above 25 MPH. Please do your part by watching your own speed and minding stop signs. Easily half of the cars approaching the stop sign in front of my house, cruise through it. Other stop signs get their own share of disrespect – you know where they are, but familiarity breeds contempt.

Citizen’s Advisory Committee (CAC) is a coalition of civic leagues, businesses, and concerned citizens who gather on a monthly basis with representatives from city departments to discuss matters of community concern. There are four CACs aligned to the catchment areas of the four police precincts. Croatan is in the Second Precinct catchment area. The “CAC of the Second Precinct” meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the conference room of the VB Volunteer Rescue Squad (Building #14) at 720 Virginia

Beach Blvd (aka: 17th Street) (east (butterfly garden) side of building). All are welcome. I represent the CCL at these meetings, so if there is anything that you desire to be raised but cannot attend, please let me know and I will try to get you answers.

Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations (VBCCO) is in the reconstitution phase. After being placed into “caretaker” status for two years during COVID and following the deaths of two long-term leaders, a standing-room-only crowd of civic league representatives voted (at a January 26, 2023 meeting) to reconstitute the organization. CCL has submitted its dues (\$25 per annum), so we can now vote. There are 168 registered civic organizations within Virginia Beach. Some (like CCL) are more active than others, but that number carries weight when presenting issues to City Council, etc.

Support Croatan Security Patrols: The CCL employs off-duty police officers to patrol our neighborhood and therefore provide an added level of security. They give us a break on what off-duty cops normally draw for hourly-pay, but it still amounts to a bit over \$12,000 per year. Some say that VBPD should support us through our taxes. While a valid argument on the surface, the VBPD is understaffed and must deploy their patrols on a risk-management basis. Fortunately, Croatan is low on that list but that makes on-duty patrols sparse. Regrettably, we are not immune from crime (although usually property crime), hence the employment of off-duty officers. Please show your support and appreciation for their efforts by contributing to the Security Fund when you renew your CCL membership. Thank you.

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

Tidewater Wildlife Rescue Helpline

757-255-8710

A volunteer organization dedicated to assisting orphaned and injured wildlife throughout Tidewater, Virginia
Tidewaterwildliferescue@gmail.com

Welcome Wagon

Contact Cheryl Garvey
cgcroatan@gmail.com
(757)739-7078

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



Name	Committee	Email	Phone
Jo Bloomquist	Women's Club	vagolfers@mac.com	
Alice Weisz	Book Club	bookclub@croatanbeach.org	425-2068
Wes Laine	Surfing Advisor	surfing@croatanbeach.org	428-2620
Ken Jobe	Special Advisor	kejo425@aol.com	428-0328

Croatan Civic League Board of Directors

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