

CROATAN CIVIC LEAGUE NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 2025

IN THIS ISSUE

- President's Letter
- Safety & Security
- Citizen's Advisory Committee
- Book Club
- Women's Club
- Walking Club
- Board of Directors
- Upcoming Events
- City of VA Beach Informational Websites

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Ladies and Gentlemen,

An important reminder: **Annual Meeting October 26th**

Our Annual Meeting and Social will be held on Sunday, October 26th at the Warriors Taphouse at 1630 General Booth Blvd. It starts at 5:00 PM and goes until 8:00 PM. See the [CCL website](#) for sign-up information. Please RSVP so that we can ensure that we order enough food. The event is free for CCL Members.

During the annual meeting portion of our evening, we will have a Treasurer's Report and Board of Director elections. Up for reelection as Directors are the following residents:

Bob Lougen	Vice-President, Website
Mike Fantozzi	Secretary
Frank Borum	Croatan Rd. Traffic Mgmt.
Cheryl Garvey	Welcome Wagon, Landscaping
Katie Ripberger	Social Programs, Logo Wear
Amanda Robinson	Social and Children's Programs

If you are a member of the Civic League and have never sat on the board, please consider doing so now. Nominations can be made from the floor. **If you are interested in joining the board, please contact me.**

If you cannot make the meeting, please fill in the [proxy form- click here](#). We need 95 names of members to have a quorum for elections.

With elections in mind, early voting is underway, and Election Day is Tuesday, November 4th. Our location is Seatac Elementary School. All elections are important. If you have not done so already, please vote.

All the best, remain vigilant, and stay safe,

Mike Kelly
President, Croatan Civic League
(M) 703.439.9153 / mkellyav8@aol.com

SAFETY/SECURITY - OCTOBER 2025

*****Please Share with Renters & Contractors***
Be courteous; we all live in this community.**

Bottom Line Up Front:

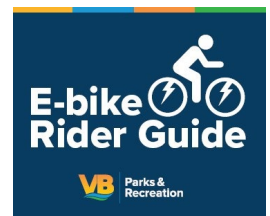
- Fire Prevention Month
- E-Bike Rider Guide
- Wet Leaves
- Halloween Trick-or-Treating
- Pruning Season
- CAC – November 4 General Election



Fire Prevention Month: is observed every October in recognition of the Great Chicago Fire, October 8 – 10, 1871. The VBFD website includes many Fire and Life Safety instructional videos. Check it out at [Virginia Beach Fire Department](https://virginiabeachfire.com/). Here are some highlights:

- Change batteries in all smoke and carbon monoxide detectors this month. Replace detectors if > 10 years old or if testing fails. Don't tempt fate: In my experience, if you do not change the batteries, the low-battery alarm likes to sound between 3:00 and 4:00 AM.
 - If replacing smoke or carbon monoxide detectors, please ensure that they are **Underwriters Laboratories (UL) or Intertek's Electrical Testing Labs (ETL) certified.** Many purchased from discount stores and websites lack one of these designations.
- Fires are not permitted on the beach.
- Permits are required for burn pits and bonfires.
- Permitted fires must be at least 50 feet away from any structure. (Commercially sold outdoor fire pits must be at least 15 feet from any structure).
- Put fires out twice – drown the blaze, rake and/or stir the remains, drown it again.
- Keep a charged hose (or other means of extinguishing the fire) at hand.
- Ashes must be disposed of in a non-combustible container placed away from any flammable material or structure – and **not** on a deck.
- Never plug a space heater into an extension cord or power strip, even one with a built-in circuit breaker.

E-Bike Rider Guide: The City's E-Bike Task Force has developed a superb (IMHO) tri-fold E-bike Rider Guide. Please download it from the Croatan website <https://croatanbeach.org> or by pressing Ctrl+Click on the image to the right, print it, and read it. Recommend providing a copy to any tenants and/or visitors.



Wet Leaves Mean Slick Roads: Rain and dew can leave fallen leaves as slick as ice. Beware of driving, motorcycling, or bicycling over them, especially on curves.

Trick-or-Treat: Halloween Trick-or-Treating is scheduled in Virginia Beach from sunset (c. 6:30 PM) until 8:00 PM on Friday, October 31. I have asked for one of our off-duty police officers to be in the neighborhood that evening.

If you're driving, please drive slowly and carefully. Even when escorted, children have been known to run into the street in search of the next treat.

If you're trick or treating, please ensure that you can be seen with reflective costumes, glow sticks, or flashlights. Have fun!!!

Pruning Season: Fall is the time for many homeowners and gardeners to trim back the prodigious growth of summer vegetation. If you live on a corner, please ensure that draping tree branches and bushes do not obstruct any street signs, especially Stop signs. Also, please assess your foliage from a vehicle (i.e., driver's eye height) to ensure a clear and unobstructed view of approaching traffic. Also, signs that address parking are enforceable only if free of obstruction.

VB 3-1-1 is there to assist if foliage on public property or rights of way is obstructive. I called them about obstructed 35 MPH speed limit reduction signs on General Booth Blvd, and the trees were trimmed within days.

CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC):

Meets at 7:00 PM on the second Wednesday of each month at Virginia Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad #14 conference room (740 VB Blvd – aka: 17th Street). Meetings are open to all. Please park on the east side of the building. The next meeting is October 8.

Early In-Person Voting is Now Underway for the November 4 General Election. Visit <https://virginiabeach.gov> -> Services -> Elections and Voting for more information. This is a Gubernatorial election that also features a U. S. Senate election and an important Redistricting Referendum (yes, again) on whether the City should adopt the 10-1 representation rubric or revert to the 7-3-1 system written into the City Charter. Visit the city's website for unbiased information.

Absentee Voting: Yes, you can still vote with an absentee ballot by mail. The ballot must be postmarked on or before election day and received by your general registrar's office by noon on the third day following the election. Since we cannot control USPS delivery performance, recommend mailing early.

M. C. "Connie" Agresti,
CCL Safety and Security Director

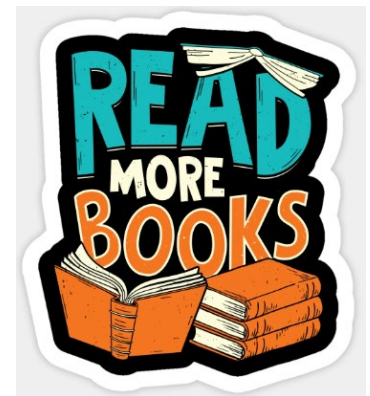
BOOK CLUB

New Members Welcome!

This month our book is *The God of the Woods* by Liz Moore. Lots of book clubs are reading this! Our meeting will be held on October 16th at 7:00 p.m. at the home of our member Debbie Warwick.

[The God of the Woods](#) by Liz Moore is a multi-generational mystery and drama centered on the disappearance of 13-year-old Barbara Van Laar from her family's summer camp in 1975, a case that echoes her older brother Bear's vanishing fourteen years prior. Told from multiple perspectives across shifting timelines, the novel unravels the complex secrets and class tensions within the wealthy Van Laar family and the surrounding community, ultimately revealing an accident covered up by a legacy of privilege and neglect, and a satisfying, unexpected resolution for both mysteries.

If you have already read the book, or it sounds interesting, come join us!



Future reads:

November 20th - Yours Truly - Abby Jimenez

December – The Correspondent - Virginia Evans

January 15th - Throne of Glass - Sarah J. Maas

February 19th - The Wedding People by Alison Espach

March 19th - Hail Mary by Andy Weir

Later March - optional group outing to see new movie coming out

April 16th - The Secret Life of Sunflowers by Marta Molnar

May 21st - Lion Women of Tehran by Marjan Kamali

June 18th - the Stolen Queen by Fiona Davis

July 16th - Wild Dark Shore by Charlotte McConaghy

Books are a mix of genres chosen by age, availability at library in print and audiobook form, plus suitability for the group. Movie versions are also acceptable forms for discussion.

Any questions? Email cynthiakilmer@verizon.net or call Cindy Kilmer 703-470-1996.

Looking forward to spending time with some new and old members!

CROATAN WOMEN'S CLUB

Ladies of Croatan, please join us for a *Hippie Halloween* costume party beginning at 6:30 p.m. on October 20th. This event will be held at 517 S. Atlantic Ave.



CROATAN "BE BONE STRONG" WALKING CLUB

WEDNESDAY NIGHT WALKS ARE ON HOLD!

Due to walking club members' travel plans, the Wednesday Night Walking Club 'Walk + Talk' around the 'hood has stopped until the **middle of October**.

Barbara will send an email to walking club members with information.



SATURDAY MORNING WALKS ARE NOW 8:00 a.m.!

Saturday morning weekend walks continue. A great way to kick off your Saturday with movement, conversation, and connection. There are different pace groups so find the one that works best for you! Meet at 8am on Saturday morning on the corner of Croatan Rd/Kerry Lane.

Some good news: the BHOF 'Be Bone Strong' Walking Club concept is catching on! Soon there will be neighborhood walking clubs in West Virginia, Florida, and Arizona! But the Croatan 'Be Bone Strong' Walking Club will always be "THE FIRST"! Stay tuned for more updates!

Thanks for helping make this walking community so special. And as always—feel free to **share this email with friends, neighbors, or family members** who might like to walk with us!

See you out there!

Barbara + Bettina

Croatan *Be Bone Strong* Walking Club





BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Mike Kelly President, VB Gov Liaison	Bob Lougen Vice President, Website, Facebook, Communications
Mike Fantozzi Director, Secretary	Patrick Costigan Director, Treasurer
M.C. "Connie" Agresti Director, Security, CAC	Amber Torgensen Director
Jim Ferrera Director, VBCCO, Directory, Membership	Frank Borum Director, Traffic Mgmt.
Amanda Robinson Social Activities, Children's Programs	Katie Ripberger Director, Logo wear, Social Activities
Cheryl Garvey Director, Welcome Wagon, Landscaping	Eileen Wren Director
Bill Garvey Past President, By-Laws	Martha Kelly Newsletter

2025 UPCOMING EVENTS



Sat	Croatian Walking Club Every Saturday at 7:30 AM . Meet at Croatan Rd. & Kerry Lane.
YTBD	Town Hall Join us for a CCL Town Hall. . Date YTBD
Oct. 26th	CCL Annual Meeting CCL Members are invited to attend . 5 - 8PM at Warriors Taphouse
Nov. 1	Halloween Party Halloween Party for Croatan kids - 728 Surfside Dr. from 11AM to 1PM
Nov. 30th	Pictures with Santa At the north end of Croatan Beach. 2 to 4PM. RSVP required - pixiefloat@hotmail.com
Dec. 7th	CCL Member Social At Chicho's Strawbridge - Time is YTBD -


Croatan Civic League
<https://www.croatanbeach.org/>

CITY OF VIRGINIA BEACH INFORMATIONAL WEBSITES



Be in the Know
KEEPING RESIDENTS INFORMED + INVOLVED

Sign up to get email updates on news and happening in our City.
Ctrl+Click on the image above to subscribe.



Ctrl+Click on the image above to see the latest events upcoming in VA Beach.
Scroll down on the page to see the calendar.