

# **Craneridge**

## **WINTER NEWSLETTER**



## **November 2019**

### **NEW! Craneridge Mission Statement**

The Mission of the Craneridge Homeowners Association, Inc. is to sustain and enhance the unique living environment within our community, with a focus on stewardship, sustainable woodland management, maintenance of shared proprieties, and a strong sense of community among all homeowners. The Craneridge Homeowners Association has some of the most interesting properties in Western New York with our circular lots, the surrounding woodlands, proximity to Sprague Brook Park, Kissing Bridge and the surrounding Town of Concord, as well as, our common properties, community pool and shared amenities. We seek to preserve and improve Craneridge by maintaining the unique character of our neighborhood, while also promoting a true community of friendly, caring and respectful neighbors who cooperate with each other to maintain the health of the woodlands, and grow the value of both our property and our friendships.

**The Mission Statement was shaped and established through the responses from the Craneridge Association Feedback Survey, and then drafted by the Communications Committee.**

**Thank you to all those who contributed!**

**Craneridge Association Inc.**

**PO Box 77**

**Glenwood, NY 14069**

**[craneridgeassociationinc@gmail.com](mailto:craneridgeassociationinc@gmail.com)**

**<https://craneridge.org>**

# President's Message



## *Hello Neighbors!*

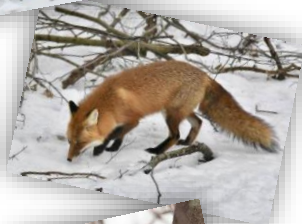
We are entering a completely new season that is unique to Craneridge. For those of you that love the winter weather, we are well located for many activities. In addition to outdoor activities, those who love to “nest” it is the perfect time of the year as well. We reconnect with family and friends during this season and I always look forward to the Annual Holiday Craneridge Dinner in January.

Your Board is busy during the next three months revising budgets in anticipation of a new budget to be presented this Spring. I implore all of you to be involved in the committees that function within our community. They do great work and could certainly use your help.

At the time of this newsletter, we are in the season of Thanksgiving. I am personally thankful for a loving family, an active lifestyle and the great friends in this community.

### **Jeff Randall**

*President,  
Craneridge HOA Board*



# Vice President's Report on Pool Updates by Chuck Dickhut



Last Spring the Association repaired and replaced the decking surrounding the community pool. The last time the pool had major repairs was almost 20 years ago. In Spring 2020 we will complete the updating of the community's "biggest asset." We will be replacing areas in the pool which have become separated from the gunnite foundation of the pool. We will be replacing the tiles at the waterline many of which are broken, cracked or missing. After the repairs are complete the entire pool will be resurfaced with a fresh coat of white Marsite. When finished, the pool will be something we can all be proud of. Weather permitting, all the repairs will be completed by Memorial Day 2020.

## Pool Committee VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

**The Board of Directors is looking for residents who would be interested in joining the Pool Committee.**

This committee is best served when it contains multiple families or people. We would like to meet with any families or people interested in the pool management. This meeting would be casual and outside of a board meeting.

**You should you consider joining the Pool Committee if you...**

- and/or your family use the pool on a regular basis.
- understand that the Community Pool adds value to your home.
- never use the pool but want to help and be involved.

**Your time will be greatly appreciated by all your neighbors!**

Please contact Chuck 716-592-3571 | [CDickhut2@aol.com](mailto:CDickhut2@aol.com) or any Board member to volunteer.

# Maintenance Committee News

As most of you are aware, Craneridge has a Maintenance Committee that performs various functions in our neighborhood. Our current committee consists of James Belford, Ted Welch and Eric Twichell (Chair). The purpose of the committee is to promote health, safety and welfare of Craneridge by maintaining its properties for the common use of its members. Below is a list of activities the Maintenance Committee has performed:

- Organized neighborhood maintenance and cleanup activities such as “Earth Day.”
- Contracted mowing of Association properties.
- Contracted snow plowing of the mail center.
- Maintaining buildings such as the Pool House, Shelter and Meadow building.
- Coordinating with appropriate parties regarding sewer, water or road issues.
- Managing the winterizing of the Pool House.



## Maintenance Committee Recommendations to support the appearance of our unique woodland community:

1. Keep our homes in good shape by maintaining our siding, roofing and overall appearance of the structures.
2. Keep lawns mowed in the warmer months for those of us that have grass.
3. For those of us that do not have lawns, maintain our property in a natural state and adhere to the indigenous character of Craneridge.
4. Overall, keep our properties uncluttered with trash, equipment or other debris that detracts from the appearance of our beautiful neighborhood.

If you would like to learn more about the Maintenance Committee or volunteer to help, please contact Eric Twichell at 794-3056.





# Social Committee Event Photos

**MAY:** Cinco de Mayo- potluck style Mexican fare and family fun!



**JUNE:** School's Out- pizza pool party and water balloon wars!



**JULY:** Tiki Bar Luau Pig Roast- Hawaiian themed pool party, tropical drinks and delicious pigroast.



**August:** Band/Potluck- Live music from the band Krossfire, hotdog/hamburger roast. Neighbors brought a dish to share and BYOB.



**October:** Oktoberfest- delicious German style feast, beer, and great neighbors!



**October:** Halloween Party- Pizza, treats, costumes, and pumpkin painting.



# Local Authors Spotlight!

## New Book: “The Face of WNY’s Weather”

### The Face of WNY’s Weather



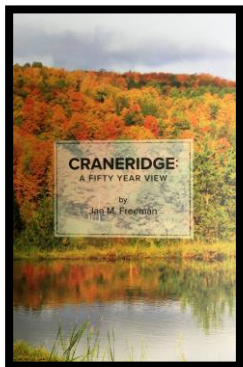
Stephen Vermette, PhD

Stephen Vermette, a long-time resident of Craneridge, has written a book on WNY’s weather, after having taught the subject for 25+ years at SUNY Buffalo State. The book covers a variety of weather-related topics – basic weather concepts, our rollercoaster weather, severe weather, the business of reporting and forecasting weather, WNY’s observational and forecasting history, and local climate trends. The book explains and documents WNY’s weather, rich with local examples.

Included in the book are writeups (local knowledge contributors) from a number of weather enthusiasts, broadcast meteorologists, and retired National Weather Service (NWS) staff, as well as information tidbits such as the time it rained fish, how to use a rhododendron as a thermometer, and school-related snow day rituals. A chapter is dedicated to the history of the Buffalo Weather Office, as researched by the author from primary sources dating back to 1870, and additional histories going back to 1812. It is a book that you won’t only read once; you will keep it as a reference to look through again and again.

A review by Don Paul (retired broadcast meteorologist from WIVB-TV): *“I know there are many thousands of weather fans/‘geeks’ in WNY. This is the book for you! Dr. Stephen Vermette has written by far the most complete compendium on WNY weather I have ever seen, also including vital basics on meteorology. Vermette is a Buffalo State professor who takes a multi-disciplinary approach to both our climatology and meteorology. He is an award-winning scientist who writes very well for the layperson. I highly recommend it - perfect gift for the WeatherGeek in your family!”*

Craneridge Resident Special Price: \$22 (includes tax) cash only, and at-your-door delivery and payment. If interested, please contact Stephen Vermette at [vermettsj@buffalostate.edu](mailto:vermettsj@buffalostate.edu)



If you enjoy old Craneridge pictures or hearing stories of the early days, Jan Freeman’s book is still available. Jan poured her heart, soul and countless hours into the research, interviews and writing that made this book into a must-read!

This book would make a great holiday gift for Craneridge residents: past, present and future!

Contact Jan for a copy:  
592-3923 or [jmfdvm@rbfa.com](mailto:jmfdvm@rbfa.com)

# Winter reading, by the fire...



## New Book: "WETSUIT"

A resident of Craneridge, Kim Chinquee's **WETSUIT** was published in March 2019.

Per James Thomas (editor of Flash Fiction, Sudden Fiction, Flash Fiction International), This book is brilliant, every bit of it. One delight after another. Chinquee makes the English language sing--amazing sentences, beautiful lines, incredible strokes. Dazzling.

Joseph Young says: "Like any book, Kim Chinquee's *Wetsuit* asks you to learn how to read it. For me, it's in the cascade, the ripples that accumulate against the shore or against a body as it floats. It's a sensory experience, one that asks me, at least, to feel as the sentences and words, the one story and then the next, accumulate in the body's memory. I don't ask the stories so much to make sense as to make corporal.

There's an intuition in how Chinquee constructs her stories, letting sentences and scenes associate as they might, often in small surprises. Of course, that doesn't mean there isn't craft in what she does--because there's a lot. As you read the book, or any of her books, you trust the years she's spent developing her idiom, you can feel and know it.

*Wetsuit* cycles through hope and anger and fear, disgust and ennui, boredom, tenderness, and it takes up a rhythm as you read through it. I might almost say it becomes meditative, except she's always popping in with those surprises, in language, character, or observation. "

Kim Chinquee serves as a Board Member of the Association of Writers and Writing Programs, representing as Northeast Regional Chair. She's a professor of English at SUNY-Buffalo State, and has over 500 pieces published in literary journals. She grew up on a dairy farm in Wisconsin, served in medical field in the Air Force, is a runner and triathlete. **WETSUIT** is her sixth book. It can be purchased on Amazon, and via her website at [www.kimchinquee.com](http://www.kimchinquee.com)

# Community Mission & Feedback Survey Responses

Thank you to all who contributed to the Craneridge Association Mission Statement and Feedback Survey! We have posted the anonymous replies to the survey to the Craneridge OWNERS ONLY page:

<https://craneridge.org/for-residents/craneridge-owners-only/>

Please contact a member of the BOD for the password to the Owners Only page.

## Responses were reviewed by the Communications Committee and categorized as Follows:

Why do you choose to live in Craneridge? What makes it unique?

**% of responses that Mentioned :**

- 68.9% Woodlands/Nature/Country Living
- 40% Belonging / Sense of Community / Neighbors
- 22.2% Sprague Brook
- 22.2% Peaceful/Quiet
- 17.8% Design/ Architecture/ Circular Lots
- 15.6% KB

What do you think should be the purpose (or effort) of the Craneridge Association Board of Directors?

**% of responses that Mentioned**

- 41.5% Fair Rules enforcement / avoid bias
- 26.8% Maintain Common Properties
- 17.1% Fiscal Management
- 9.8% Woodlands/Nature/Country Living
- 9.8% Property Value
- 9.8% Pool
- 9.8% More Volunteers Needed

What do you see as the Craneridge's major issues or problems?

**% of responses that Mentioned:**

- 37% Negative Attitudes
- 23% Woodlands/Nature
- 12% Lighting
- 12% More Volunteers needed

What is your future dream for Craneridge or what kind of community do you want to create?

**% of responses that Mentioned**

- 68.9% Woodlands/Nature/Country Living
- 44.4% Belonging / Sense of Community / Neighbors
- 22.2% Keep it the Same
- 8.9% Pool

What do you see as Craneridge's major strengths and assets?

**% of responses that Mentioned:**

- 53% Belonging / Sense of Community / Neighbor
- 48% Woodlands/Nature/Country Living
- 18% Sprague Brook
- 13% Design/ Architecture/ Circular Lots
- 13% Beauty
- 10% KB

**Quotes from your Neighbors:**

- "I live in the forest! It is a beautiful, peaceful environment to live within."
- "We're connected to nature and it's safe for the kids."
- "I love the tranquility and feeling like I'm on vacation year round. I love the tight knit community, and it's a great place to raise kids"





*The Board would like to thank all those who Volunteer their time to make Craneridge an amazing community. Craneridge is a small community that is entirely run by volunteers. As such, **we'd like to thank the following community members:***

**Architectural Committee Members:** Debbie Dietrich, Paul Bartholomy, Jim Belford and Adam Wichlacz. (Chair: Jennifer Parsons | 592-0170)

**Maintenance Committee Members:** Ted Welch, Jim Belford. (Chair: Eric Twichell | 794-3056)

**Social Committee Members:** Amanda Bowen, Jessica Ogburn, Tanya Filighera, and Jenelle Santiago. (Chair: Tara Beaudoin | 848-0303)

**Pool Committee Members:** *We Need Volunteers!* (past Chair: Amy Shaul)

**Woodlands Committee Members:** Cory Bowen & *We Need Volunteers!* (Chair: Jeff Randall | 913-6507)

**Finance Committee Members:** Ted Ryan, Tim Lazarus and Chuck Dickhut (Chair: Rich Barber | 913-9169) (past Chair: Ted Welch)

**Bylaws Committee Members:** Chair: Peter Sobota | 592-2259

**Communications Committee Members:** Rich Barber, Chuck Dickhut, Roger Walsh, and Cory Bowen (Chair: Shannon Carlin-Menter | 432-4778)

**Dog Poop Station Clean-up Volunteers:** Shirley Skinner, Ina Randall, Shannon Carlin-Menter, Kathy McDonnell, Pricilla Dale, David Spillman & David Reese (Organizer: Jan Freeman | 592-3923)



***To Volunteer:***  
***Contact the Chair of each***  
***committee above***  
***or e-mail:***

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

# Architectural Committee News

The Craneridge Architectural Committee is mandated in the "By Laws and Covenants" of Craneridge. The goal of this Committee is to ensure that the properties here abide by not only Local laws and ordinances, but also that the homes are in keeping with the existing architectural standards, without sacrificing creativity and originality. We on the Committee view each and every project on an individual basis. We welcome new ideas and carefully review each submittal. We are more than happy to work with each homeowner to resolve any concerns that might exist. All homeowners are welcome to attend a meeting to coordinate with us for the approval of their project. In the rare event of a rejection, a homeowner can appeal to the Board of Directors for a reversal of our decision. This has only happened once in the last three years, and we work hard to avoid such an event.



The Architectural Committee Project Form form is available on the Craneridge website: <https://craneridge.org/for-residents>  
Just fill it out and send it to the Craneridge mailbox, or email the completed form to the Chair of the Committee Jennifer Parsons at:  
[jennifer.parsons@rocketmail.com](mailto:jennifer.parsons@rocketmail.com)

The Committee has 30 days to approve it, so please think ahead and plan before construction begins. We will work with you to progress the approval quickly.

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## Woodlands Committee News

The Woodlands Committee continues to address needs outlined by requests and complete bids to accomplish needs. We would like to expand our committee to involve the suggestions outlined earlier in the Woodlands Management Report. Please join this committee and help us to achieve our community goals.



Please contact Jeff Randall (913-6507) to help oversee the maintenance of the Common Ground woodlands. Remember to contact the Woodlands Committee if you are planning any tree removals. Please go to the website at [www.craneridge.org](http://www.craneridge.org) to get submission forms and review the guidelines.



## Winter Quotes:

"Winter is coming" –  
George R. R. Martin

"Winter is the time for  
comfort, for good food  
and warmth, for the  
touch of a friendly hand  
and for a talk beside the  
fire: it is the time for  
home." – Edith Sitwell

"What good is the  
warmth of summer,  
without the cold of  
winter to give it  
sweetness."  
- John Steinbeck

"Even the strongest  
blizzards start with a  
single snowflake."  
– Sara Raasch

"Snow was falling,  
so much like stars  
filling the dark trees  
that one could easily  
imagine its reason for  
being was nothing more  
than prettiness."  
- Mary Oliver

"A snow day literally and  
figuratively falls from the  
sky, unbidden, and  
seems like a thing of  
wonder."  
- Susan Orlean

"You can't get too much  
winter in the winter."  
- Robert Frost

## Craneridge - Board of Directors

**Jeff Randall** (*term ends 2022*)

*President*

716-913-6507 | [Randall@agro-shield.com](mailto:Randall@agro-shield.com)

**Chuck Dickhut** (*term ends 2022*)

*Vice President*

716-592-3571 | [CDickhut2@aol.com](mailto:CDickhut2@aol.com)

**Cory Bowen** (*term ends 2020*)

*Secretary*

716-480-4090 | [bowen.cory@gmail.com](mailto:bowen.cory@gmail.com)

**Rich Barber** (*term ends 2020*)

*Treasurer*

716-913-9169 | [rjb14crane@gmail.com](mailto:rjb14crane@gmail.com)

**Jennifer Parsons** (*term ends 2021*)

*Director*

716-592-0170 | [jennifer.parsons@rocketmail.com](mailto:jennifer.parsons@rocketmail.com)

**Peter Sobota** (*term ends 2021*)

*Director*

716-592-2259 | [psobota@buffalo.edu](mailto:psobota@buffalo.edu)

**Shannon Carlin-Menter** (*term ends 2022*)

*Director*

716-432-4778 | [scmenter@yahoo.com](mailto:scmenter@yahoo.com)

**Eric Twichell** (*term ends 2020*)

*Director*

716-794-3056 | [twichell@roadrunner.com](mailto:twichell@roadrunner.com)

**David Spillman** (*term ends 2020*)

*Director*

716-982-4334 | [twentieth\\_century\\_modern@yahoo.com](mailto:twentieth_century_modern@yahoo.com)

**Kaila Hager**

*Executive Secretary*

228-342-5191 | [kailarwood11@gmail.com](mailto:kailarwood11@gmail.com)

# SAVE-THE-DATE !

Our Annual Craneridge  
Winter Dinner will be held on  
**Saturday, January 18, 2020** at  
the Springville Country Club.

Cocktail hour with open bar  
and light appetizers from 5:30-  
6:30pm, followed by dinner at  
6:30pm with dessert and  
coffee to follow. Cash bar will  
be available during and after  
dinner.



Information with a printable invite will be available via Nextdoor link and on our website. We will have some printed versions available in an envelope hung at the mail center.

We are trying to be cost friendly and more environmentally efficient by not doing a mass mailing for the winter dinner this year. Please contact Social Committee Chair, Tara Beaudoin: [pumpkin8880@aol.com](mailto:pumpkin8880@aol.com) with any questions or concerns.

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## Want to help save the Association money on Newsletter printing and postage costs?

Please sign-up to get the Newsletters e-mailed. You can also sign-up to receive your general mailings and owner account billings via e-mail only. This is also a way to add or update your e-mail and phone number in the online directory. Sign-up via the link below:

<https://craneridge.org/signup>

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## WELCOME New Residents!

Rodney Montgomery & Amanda Courteau – 53 Tarn Trail  
Ashly Place – 124 Deer Run  
Dave Ball – 131 Deer Run  
Karen & William Smith – 98 Meadow Trail

