

Craneridge



November 2018

Your fellow Craneridge community members have been busy improving upon and implementing new ways to connect with all members of the Craneridge Community. **We hope to publish a Quarterly Newsletter that will cover timely topics about community living as well as social highlights from our neighborhood.** Craneridge is a unique community and deserves a spotlight on the positive attributes that make it a place that we all want to call home.

We would like to start sending e-newsletters as well as keep all our neighbors up-to-date with the latest information via e-mail. In order to do so, we need you to sign-up on-line!

Sign-up now! Go to:
<https://craneridge.org/signup>

Craneridge Association Inc.
PO Box 77
Glenwood, NY 14069
craneridgeassociationinc@gmail.com

<https://craneridge.org>

President's Message



Hello Neighbors!

This is the season that our community takes on a special kind of charm that only a wooded development can have. It is also a special time to spend moments with family, friends and loved ones. We wish you a special greeting and hope that you enjoy everything wonderful that this season and this community has to offer!

Please continue your involvement or add some time to make Craneridge a successful community. Additionally, reach out to those in need and be Thankful for all that we enjoy. On behalf of my family, myself and all the Members of the Board, Committees and Volunteers working for a better Community, enjoy everything for a very long time!

Jeff Randall

President, Craneridge HOA Board of Directors



Craneridge Facts:

- *The Board of Directors is composed of members of the community who volunteer their time to help maintain what we believe is a one-of-a-kind place to live.*
- *The Craneridge Association Inc. was incorporated as a non-profit Membership Corporation in 1967.*
- *Common Properties are areas of land intended to be devoted to the common use and enjoyment of the owners and members of Craneridge Association. These areas include but are not limited to the pool and playground area, the meadow, and property owned by Craneridge Association.*
- *Originally it was thought that Craneridge would be a “weekend retreat” for skiers, but it has evolved into a year round home for more than 170 families.*

Craneridge - Board of Directors

Jeff Randall

President

716-913-6507 | j.e.randall@pga.com

Chuck Dickhut

Vice President

716-592-3571 | CDickhut2@aol.com

Debbie Dietrich

Secretary

716-253-4149 | hummingbird1057@gmail.com

Ted Welch

Treasurer

716-794-3074 | tjwelch109@gmail.com

Jennifer Parsons

Director

716-592-0170 | jennifer.parsons@rocketmail.com

Peter Sobota

Director

716-592-2259 | psobota@buffalo.edu

Shannon Carlin-Menter

Director

716-432-4778 | scmenter@yahoo.com

Eric Twichell

Director

716-794-3056 | twichell@roadrunner.com

Tim Lazarus

Director

716-592-1833 | timothy.lazarus@cobham.com

Kaila Hager

Executive Secretary

228-342-5191 | kailarwood11@gmail.com

Hygge by Jan Freeman

We are coming into the time of year that some WNY'ers dread. Craneridge is somewhat different in that many of us are winter sports enthusiasts. Still the gray days, endless snow shoveling, and lack of neighbors out and about can be depressing.

I try to keep a positive attitude by thinking of winter as “hunkering in” season. In addition to the chance to ski, snowshoe and snowmobile, the cold weather brings other opportunities to embrace simple pleasures. I am sure everyone has their own version of “hunkering in.” For me, it includes reading a book in front of the fire, cooking comfort food, sipping hot chocolate after a shoveling session, and guilt-free movie watching under a stack of blankets. Above ALL that, is the opportunity to get together with friends to enjoy a meal, drinks, or simply each other’s company. After the holidays, everyone just seems a little less busy than the rest of the year. Add to that, the fact that there are times when we cannot safely leave the neighborhood, and the stage is set for spontaneous gatherings and innovative ways to combat potential winter blues.

Our unique surroundings further contribute to the wonder of “hunkering in” season. Craneridge blanketed in snow is truly magical. The gaslights lining the streets evoke the sense of a village out of a Charles Dickens novel. Our homes peaking out from drifts and surrounded by snow draped trees appear extra cozy and lit from within by love. Neighbors help each other with snow removal, stuck cars and grocery runs. The Craneridge kids (and probably the resident teachers) hope for snow days. [\(cont. on next page\)](#)





It is hard to express the sense of community that I feel in Craneridge winters. The town I grew up in pulled together in special ways during the Blizzard of '77, but even those memories don't match what I believe makes Craneridge special every winter and all year long.

Four years ago, I had the opportunity to visit my daughter and her family while they were living in Denmark. There for the first time, I learned a word that begins to define what I love about Craneridge winters. The Danes are dealt more than their share of short, gray days. They embrace this by evoking something they call "hygge." The term is really hard to explain, but is considered a key element of Danish culture and a large contributor to their happiness. "Hygge" nearly defies translation, but here is an attempt:

Hygge (*hoo'-guh*) n. [Danish]

1. The art of building sanctuary and community, of inviting closeness and paying attention to what makes us feel open hearted and alive.
2. Enjoying life's simple pleasures.
3. A coziness of the soul.

The majority of restaurants maintain outdoor seating augmented by heat lamps, piles of blankets and hot beverages. Lit candles are everywhere. People focus on creating opportunities to spend quality time together...but there is so much more to it. Google the term to learn more and to recognize and cherish our own Craneridge version of this concept.

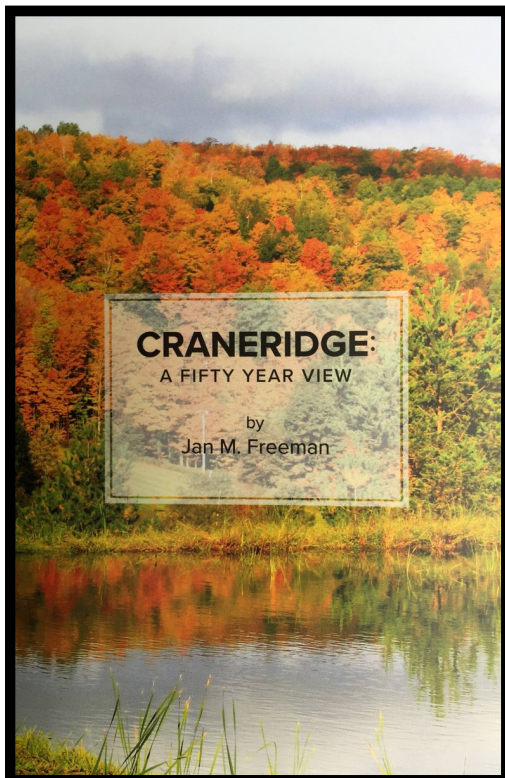
HAPPY "HYGGE SEASON"!



Architectural Committee News:

The Architectural Committee reviews any proposed alterations to the property owned by a Craneridge resident. This only includes exterior changes: siding changes, roofing, windows, etc. No interior changes need to be submitted. We review the proposed changes with a consideration as to how the alterations fit the Craneridge environment and if there might be an impact on neighboring properties. General maintenance is not required to be submitted for review (i.e. re-staining a deck in the same color, siding, etc.) We will be happy to work with a resident to find a compromise if needed. Forms are available on the Craneridge website: <https://craneridge.org/for-residents/>

Craneridge Book Available:



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

Craneridge BookClub News:



The Craneridge Book Club has set its schedule for 2018-2019. Book selections and dates are available on our blog:

www.crbcblogspot.com

The next few months feature some special events. On Sunday, December 2nd, Ina Randall will be hosting a book club supported cookie exchange (*info below*). This gathering is for all Craneridge women and provides a great opportunity to take a break during the busy holiday season to socialize with your neighbors and pick up some yummy treats for the season.

Friday, January 11th is our annual co-ed book club meeting. We will be reading Fly Girls: How Five Daring Women Defied All Odds and Made Aviation History by Keith O'Brien. This non-fictional account made the New York Times bestseller list in its first month of publication and details how Amelia Earhart and a handful of lesser known women pilots advanced women's rights and made their mark in the sport of airplane racing which was so popular between the two world wars. The author is a good friend of the Freeman family and will be participating in our discussion via FaceTime. For this meeting, we start with a meal of "substantial appetizers" at 6:15 PM and follow the book discussion with awesome desserts. New participants are always welcome! For more information about the book club or co-ed meeting, contact Jan Freeman at **592-3923** or jmfdvm@rbfa.com

Craneridge Cookie Exchange:



The Holiday Season will soon be here. **Cookie Exchange** is back so come and join us for an afternoon of fun and laughter. Meet your neighbors and make new friends.

It's easy to join the fun. **Make 5 dozen** of one variety of cookie. **Set aside one dozen** on a plate to share with everyone at the exchange.

Divide the remaining four dozen into wrapped packages/bags of **six cookies each**.

(Suggestion: use Dollar Store goodie bags or ziplock bags or be creative with your packaging.) **Bring your cookies in a basket** or box so you have something to take your 'new' cookies home in. You can keep your cookies, share with a neighbor or relatives or take them to work. Want to attend but not participate in the exchange, that's OK. Wine and non-alcoholic beverages will be available.

RSVP & Questions - Please call Ina Randall 592-7065.

Date: Sunday, Dec. 2, 2018 | Time: 2:00 pm

Place: The Randall's - 82 Hardwood Dr.



May the Four Winds Blow you Safely Home by Roger Walsh

I'll never forget my visit to Craneridge in November of 2014. The massive storm that accompanied that same month moved on but left its calling card everywhere. The lovely Andrea invited me over for dinner. As I drove past the snow banks that grew in height, I thought one thing: she must be upside down on her mortgage. Why would anyone live out here? Why indeed. I am not too proud to say, as many of you already know, I was wrong. Craneridge is a unique living experience that is unsurpassed in WNY.

The quiet. Absolutely, it was the first thing I noticed. After living in cities and first ring suburbs my entire life, I could actually hear, well, nothing. Then the sweet melody of birds. No continual traffic or landscaping wars were going on. My friends Sandra and John Nowak compare our home to a bucolic setting in California. Living in Northern California for years I couldn't agree more. In what other neighborhood do you have a county park attached to it? In what other neighborhood does everyone wave? I know WNY is a friendly place and that is part of the charm, but our streets have a kindness that others do not possess. Ever live in Tonawanda?

I love how we are tucked away up on the hill. That is the point. If you don't take the time to drive up Crane, you'll never know. You'll never know the sunrises, the sunsets, the beauty of watching deer prancing through your yard as if they are hearing their own music, or the simple sweetness of a hello at the mailbox.

New Hampshire's state motto is "Live free or die." While the latter is a bit extreme, the former describes Craneridge perfectly. All of us should be proud of what we continue to propagate in this hidden gem of our community. We have something special here. I know it. You know it. As Andrea says: "Shhh. Don't tell anyone."

Happily, it continues. We haven't had any Trick-or-Treaters since I've been here but four little ones showed up unexpectedly on Halloween. We had no candy, so I give them a quarter each. What can you do? Two more showed up 20 minutes later. Out of quarters, I handed them a dollar each. Next year I promise to stock up on more candy than your kids can possibly eat. When I explained to the Mom of the four little girls who came by that I wasn't expecting them, she sweetly said "We have a new generation here." Exactly.

We have something special. Embrace it. Bask in its glow. A simple life, a good life. As the song says: "Once in awhile you get shown the light in the strangest of places if you look at it right."



*Craneridge is a small community that is entirely run by volunteers.
The Board would like to thank all those who Volunteer their time to
make Craneridge an amazing community.*

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, Rebecca Langa, Tanya Filighera, Jenelle Santiago. (Chair: Tara Beaudoin | 848-0303)

Pool Committee Members: Pam Lazarus, Marty Kemsley, Jennifer Parsons, Amy Shaul, Bethany Lazarus (head lifeguard) (Chair: Tim Lazarus | 592-1833)

Woodlands Committee Members: Cory Bowen (Chair: Jeff Randall | 913-6507)

Finance Committee Members: Ted Ryan, Tim Lazarus, Chuck Dickhut, Rich Barber (Chair: Ted Welch | 794-3074)

Bylaws Committee Members: Debbie Dietrich, June Russo, Amanda Bowen, Cory Bowen, and Paul Bartholomy

Communications Committee Members: Rich Barber, Chuck Dickhut, Roger Walsh, Amanda Bowen, 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 (Organizer: Jan Freeman | 592-3923)

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

craneridgeassociationinc@gmail.com

Social Committee News:

The Annual Movie in the Meadow: September 22, 2018



Oktoberfest: October 6, 2018



Halloween Party: October 14, 2018





**Want to contribute to
future Newsletters
and/or website content?**

Contact Shannon Carlin-Menter,
(Chair of Communications
Committee): scmenter@yahoo.com

**Photos, poems &
artwork also welcome!**

Sign-up now to receive Craneridge
e-Newsletters, notices of meetings, general
mailings, and owner account billings!
Also, add your e-mail to our new member's only
online directory by going to:

<https://craneridge.org/signup>

SAVE-THE-DATE !

Our **Annual Craneridge
Winter Dinner** will be
held on **Saturday,
January 26, 2019** at the
Springville Country Club.
An invite will be sent to
everyone just after
Christmas!

