

CRANERIDGE

SPRING NEWSLETTER

May 2023



Craneridge Mission

To enhance our living environment through woodlands stewardship, shared property maintenance, and community building.

Our Vision

A 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 properties and our friendships.

President's Message



Dear Neighbors,

As the President of our Homeowners Association, I am constantly reminded of the tremendous value that each and every one of you brings to our community. Whether it's through volunteering your time, sharing your talents, or simply offering a kind word, you are the lifeblood of Craneridge.

I often get asked why it is important to invest time and effort into volunteering for our community, and I want to take this opportunity to share my thoughts on the matter.

First and foremost, volunteering is an incredibly rewarding experience. When we give back to our community, we feel a sense of purpose and fulfillment that cannot be replicated elsewhere. Whether it's planting trees, organizing events, or simply cleaning up the neighborhood, every act of service makes a difference and helps to improve the quality of life for everyone in our community.

But volunteering is not just about personal fulfillment. It is also about building relationships and fostering a sense of community. When we work together towards a common goal, we create bonds that go beyond our individual differences and bring us closer as neighbors and friends. Volunteering is an opportunity to meet new people, share experiences, and make lasting connections that can enrich our lives in countless ways.

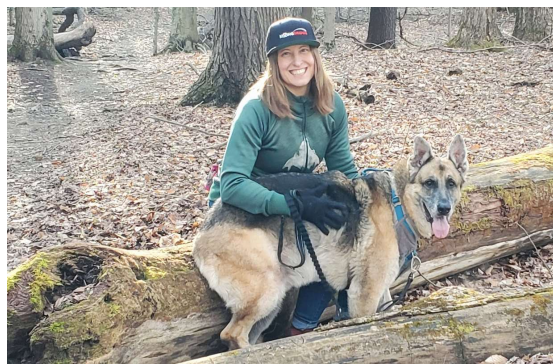
Volunteering is essential to the success of our community. As homeowners, we have a vested interest in ensuring that Craneridge is a healthy, vibrant, and thriving place to live. By volunteering our time and talents, we can help to address issues that are important to us, and work towards creating a better community for ourselves and future generations.

Finally, volunteering is a way to lead by example and inspire others to get involved. When we demonstrate our commitment to our community through action, we encourage others to do the same. By working together, we can create a culture of service and civic engagement that benefits everyone.

I want to express my deepest gratitude to all of you who have volunteered your time, energy, and resources to our community. Your dedication and commitment make Craneridge a better place to live, work, and play. To those who have not yet gotten involved, I encourage you to take that first step and discover the many rewards that come with volunteering. Together, we can continue to build a strong, vibrant, and thriving community for years to come.

Sincerely,
Shannon Wichlacz
President, Craneridge HOA

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Woodlands & Habitat Committee Updates



Congratulations to Gwen Alegre on her Official Certification as a New York State Master Naturalist



Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Hunters
HWA survey training at Craneridge
with PRISM on Jan. 28, 2023

Our Chair of the Woodlands and Habitat committee is now a NYS Master Naturalist! Gwen obtained the certification in December by taking the 16-hour mandatory “Naturalist Trainee” course, supplemented by 14 hours of additional coursework and 30 hours of volunteer work tailored to her personal interests through the Cornell University Cooperative Extension. The Master Naturalist is an adult education program designed for educators, land trust personnel, private landowners, land managers, natural resource professionals, and citizens with a passion for our natural environment. Looking forward to benefiting from her expertise!

Our Active Community Partnerships

Craneridge is fortunate to have formed partnerships with some local organizations and experts, such as:

- **Western New York PRISM** <https://www.wnyprism.org/> - to protect our Woodlands from invasive species
- **Mark Gaston, ECSWCD** <https://www.ecswcd.org/> - to inform our Craneridge Creek Erosion Remediation plan
- **Lyn Chimera** <https://www.lessonsfromnature.biz> - for her native plant knowledge & garden planning
- **Nate Morey, DEC Region 9 Forester** – for his Forestry Stewardship expertise
- **Claudia Rosen, Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper** <https://bnwaterkeeper.org/> - for her expertise in restoration and protection of WNY headwaters

Stay Current on Woodlands & Habitat Happenings and Resources

Over 65 Craneridge neighbors have already joined our private, residents-only Woodlands & Habitat Facebook group. If you haven't already, join us! We regularly post events, activities, and links to many resources that help us all learn more about our wonderful, wooded neighborhood and how we might preserve it for the future.

www.facebook.com/groups/craneridgewoodlands

Join us for the Annual Members Meeting & Picnic on Sunday, June 11th 2:00 pm at the Pool Shelter

ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING

The association's Annual Meeting is the best opportunity for you to learn about this year's events and get caught up on everything happening in our community and vote for new Board Members. There will be four (4) Board positions open.

The meeting will last approximately an hour and directly after, we will have a meet-and-greet with neighbors as well as a Post-Meeting Picnic hosted by the Social Committee!

Meet your Board Member Nominees*

Austin Ridley (83 Hardwood) "My wife Lexi and I joined this community in the early months of 2017 and have cherished every moment in the neighborhood since. This election period will be my first opportunity to join the board of directors as a member ready to work. While I lack the experience of participation within this board's settings, I feel that I qualify through experiences in management within the construction industry, my overall social ability, and my love for this community. I've already had the privilege to meet and build bonds with a large number of amazing people within the community and look forward to extending to more while making positive progress."

Andrea Post (114 Pine Run) "I moved into Craneridge in 2005, had a baby in 2006 and have loved raising my family here. Living in the woods is a privilege that makes me feel like I am on vacation every day. I am looking forward to giving back to this community by serving on the Board of Directors. I will bring my software analyst skills to the role and will ask lots of questions regarding all issues. Thanks for considering me to serve on the Board."

Angela Jackson (116 Deer Run) "My daughter and I moved to Craneridge in the Fall of 2020. We fell in love with the quaint neighborhood and all it has to offer. I currently serve as a member of the Architectural Committee. In joining the BOD, I hope to become more in tune with our community and help maintain the mission for years to come."

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* We are looking for individuals who are passionate about our community and want to make a positive impact by serving on the board. If you have leadership experience, a willingness to collaborate with others, and a desire to contribute to the betterment of our neighborhood, then we encourage you to consider running for a position on the BOD.

We will take nominations right up to June 11th Annual Meeting!

Board Announcement – Annual Assessment

Please accept this as a **written notice** and invitation to attend the community annual meeting on June 11th. We need your involvement in the election of officers as well as the ratification of the new three (3) year assessment. The board of directors has a fiduciary responsibility to the community and asks that you participate in the Annual Meeting. We want to share what is happening in the "business" of Craneridge as well as sharing our vision for the future. If you are not able to attend the annual meeting of the community, please fill out a proxy for your vote and network with the Board and other members.

PROXY

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that I, _____

Being an owner of LOT # _____, part of Craneridge Association, Inc., do hereby constitute and

appoint _____ (member of good standing of Craneridge Homeowners Association) as my proxy to attend all the meetings of the shareholders of said Association to be held between the date hereof and _____ (date of meeting), or any continuation or adjournment thereof, with full power to vote and act for me and in my name, place and stead, in the same manner, to the same extent and with the same effect that I might were I personally present thereat, giving said _____ (Association member) full power of substitution, and I hereby revoke any other proxy heretofore given by me.

Date at _____ (city), _____ (state), _____ (date MM/DD/YYYY)

Lot # _____ Lot Owner(s) _____

URL Link to the General Proxy PDF file

<https://craneridge.files.wordpress.com/2013/12/general-proxy.pdf>

Upcoming 2023 Craneridge Events

June 11th (Sunday) – **Annual Members' Meeting & Picnic** - 2:00 pm @ Pool Shelter

June 23 (Friday) – **School's Out Kid's Party**
5:00 pm @ Pool Shelter

July 4th (Tuesday) – **Woodland's Scavenger Hunt** - All Ages – time TBD @ Pool Shelter

July 21st (Friday) – **Craneridge Summer Party!**
90's Throw-back Theme 6:00 pm @ Pool Shelter

August 26th (Saturday)– **Craneridge Live Music & Wine Party** – time TBD – @ Pool Shelter

September 16th (Saturday) **Craneridge Oktoberfest Party** – 6:00 pm– @ Pool Shelter

October 28th (Saturday) –**Craneridge's Trunk or Treat Halloween Party** – 2:00 pm – @ Pool Shelter Parking Lot

Stayed tuned for more events
www.craneridge.org/events

Have an idea for a fun activity or community-themed event? Want to gather like-minded people together for a craft/art or sport themed gathering? Contact the Char of the Social Committee for help:



Sara MacAllister: smacallister1988@yahoo.com <or> 716-604-5716

Craneridge - Board of Directors

Shannon Wichlacz (*term ends 2025*)

President

716-432-4778 | scmenter@yahoo.com

Jeff Randall (*term ends 2024*)

Vice President

716-913-6507 | Randall@agro-shield.com

Cory Bowen (*term ends 2023*)

Secretary

716-480-4090 | bowen.cory@gmail.com

Rich Barber (*term ends 2023*)

Treasurer

716-913-9169 | rjb14crane@gmail.com

Gwen Alegre (*term ends 2025*)

Director

716-480-1159 | gwenalegre@gmail.com

Chuck Dickhut (*term ends 2023*)

Director

716-592-3571 | CDickhut2@aol.com

Sam Lewandowski (*term ends 2024*)

Director

716-771-9094 | slewandowski92@gmail.com

Shawn Johnston (*term ends 2023*)

Director

716-796-1759 | mrxracer14737@yahoo.com

Kathryn Orrange (*term ends 2025*)

Director

716-867-9147 | kaccles@hotmail.com

Kathie Sharp

Executive Secretary

716-425-1280 | ExecSec.craneridge@gmail.com

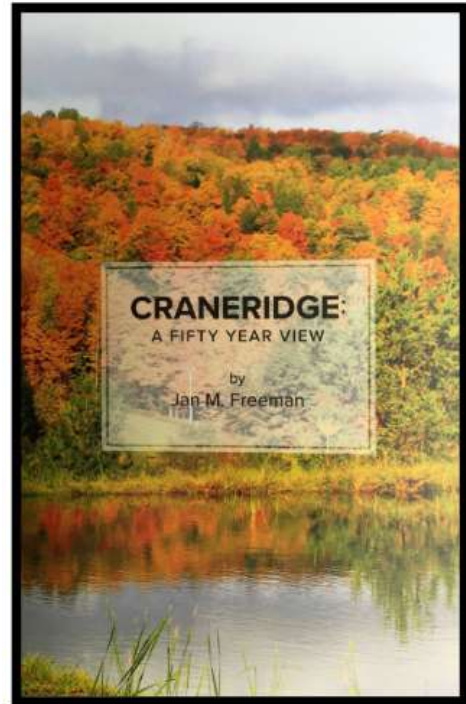


Have you read Jan Freeman's book **CRANERIDGE: A 50 Year View ????**

This is a MUST-READ for all new Craneridge members! If you haven't seen the book, it contains a history of Craneridge and the surrounding area, the amusing and heartwarming stories, lots of other interesting information and tons of color pictures spanning decades.

Learn about the 50 + year History of Craneridge:

- Why are some of our lots round?
- Why do the houses look so unique?
- What did the original founders envision for the community and surrounding woodlands?



New members arriving in Craneridge will receive a complimentary copy courtesy of our Homeowners' Association. Others wishing to purchase a book may contact Jan at jmfdvm22@gmail.com or (716) 861-2020.

Good Neighbor Reminder!

Please be considerate of your neighbors and **keep loud noise to a minimum** (*i.e. parties, loud talking, machinery, and/or music*) during the hours of 11 pm to 8 am, especially during the weekdays.

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

Sign-up via the link below:

<https://craneridge.org/signup>

Follow us on Social Media!

