

CRANERIDGE May 2021



SPRING NEWSLETTER

Sunday
JUNE 13
2021

ANNUAL MEETING

2:00 pm
@ Pool
Shelter

ALL Neighbors are encourage to attend the Annual Craneridge Members' Meeting!

The meeting will provide you with the opportunity to hear updates on activities of the Craneridge Association as well as elect New Board Members and vote on three (3) proposed By-Laws amendments. There will be two (2) Board positions open.

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

Hope to see you there!

SUNDAY, June 13, 2021 @ 2:00 pm at the Pool Shelter

Craneridge Association Inc.

69 Hardwood Rd.
Glenwood, NY 14069

ExecSec.craneridge@gmail.com

Follow us on Social Media!



VISIT OUR WEBSITE → www.craneridge.org

President's Message

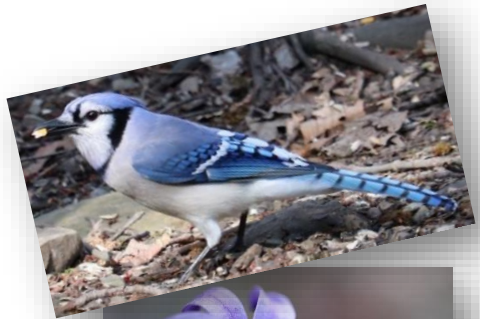
Hello Neighbors!

I hope that you are all doing well and are continuing to do everything you can do to remain healthy and boost your immune systems. We look forward to COVID restrictions continuing to relax and our way of life returning to normal. I will state that the pool will be under initial restrictions and will change (hopefully) as the regulations permit. We all ask for your cooperation to help us provide an enjoyable and safe offering.

The Board of Directors and Committees have been working hard on your behalf. It is very exciting to see additional offerings, expanded communication, forward thinking and greater opportunities. We hope that you become involved in activities in our community. As always, we solicit your participation, communication and vision for the future. We look forward to the annual meeting and all that follows. We all thank you for your support!

Jeff Randall

*President,
Craneridge HOA Board*



Social Committee News



Hopping down the Craneridge Bunny Trail!

On April 3rd, the Social Committee hosted an Easter trail walk around the neighborhood. Starting at the mail center, a marked trail of jokes, puzzles and riddles led the kids through Craneridge to the Meadow where they were met by the Easter Bunny. Each child received an Easter basket filled with treats, and parents and grandparents got to capture some fun photos with the Easter Bunny and a giant chocolate rabbit. We were lucky to enjoy excellent weather and hope to continue this new Craneridge tradition next year.

**Pics from the Tree
Lighting Event this
past December 2020**



2021 SOCIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

More details will be posted prior to each event!

June 13th - Annual Meeting Picnic / Committee Meet & Greet - join us after the annual meeting for a family style picnic and reconnect with neighbors old and new

June 25th - School's Out Party - an annual CR tradition celebrating the end of the school year with our children

August 14th - Music in the Meadow Summer Concert - something new! Pack a picnic and grab your lawn chairs for a concert in the Meadow. Time TBD

October 2nd - Oktoberfest - beer, brats music and fun (21+ only)

October 30th - Halloween Party- tricks and treats for the kids @ the Pool Shelter

December 4th - Tree Lighting/Holiday Event - This was so much fun last year, we're doing it again! Start planning your light displays now!

Woodlands Committee Updates



Our Woodlands
& Habitat
at Craneridge

Woodlands Committee is Branching Out!

We all know that Craneridge is a one-of-a-kind community where the woods and wildlife are one of our most valuable assets. Many families move to Craneridge because of its unique character. We know that our woodlands are a high priority for many of you, and it makes sense to protect and improve the value of our neighborhood... for our human and wild residents. As a result, an energized group of residents is mapping out a multi-year plan to focus on educational programs, native plantings, better woodland management, streambed health, invasive identification and removal, and more!

For this year, we've developed a series of events and are working on two demonstration areas for native plantings. These include the "triangle," where several dead trees were recently removed, and the nature-walk area opposite the mail center. The Woodlands Committee has been fortunate to establish partnerships with our local DEC forester, Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper, PRISM (help with invasive plants and insects), and a local Master Gardener with a specialty in native plants. Expert help at no or low cost. To learn more, visit the Woodlands Committee webpages on our Craneridge site. From the homepage menu > Under Homeowners click on 'Craneridge Woodlands and Habitat'. Make sure you also check out the "Learn More" woodlands info resources linked from that page:

www.craneridge.org/craneridge-woodlands-and-habitat

Questions about this effort or to volunteer:

Contact **Gwen Alegre** (gwenalegre@gmail.com)

Jen Parsons (jenparglen@gmail.com)



Upcoming Community Events

Visit the our website for all community-wide events planned for the year: www.craneridge.org/events

May

Saturday, May 15, 2021 – **Craneridge Earth Day** 9 am – Noon at the Pool Shelter (members volunteer to clean-up the community)

Sunday, May 16, 2021 – **Woodlands Educational Program Series – Topic: Wildlife Habits – Meet our Wild Neighbors** – 1:00 pm @ Meadow

Saturday, May 22, 2021 – **Craneridge Earth Day – Rain Date**

Saturday, May 22, 2021 – **Paint-N-Play** for Craneridge Kids of all ages – 1:00 pm @ Pool Shelter (*hosted by Craneridge Moms*)

June

Saturday, June 5, 2021 – **Woodlands Educational Program Series – Topic: Native Plants** – 1:00 pm @ Pool Shelter

Monday, June 7, 2021– **Monthly Craneridge BOD Meeting** – 6:45 pm at the Pool Shelter

Sunday, June 13, 2021 – **Craneridge Annual Members Meeting** – 2:00 pm at the Pool Shelter

Sunday, June 13, 2021 – **Craneridge Members Picnic / Committee Meet & Greet**– after the Meeting at the Pool Shelter

Friday, June 25, 2021 **School's Out Pool Party** (hosted by the Social Committee) at the Pool & Pool Shelter (time TBD)

July

Monday, July 5, 2021– **Monthly Craneridge BOD Meeting** – 6:45 pm at the Pool Shelter

Sunday, July 11, 2021 – **Woodlands Educational Program Series – Topic: Crump Brook & Watershed** (TENTATIVE Date)

Sunday, July 25, 2021 – **Woodlands Educational Program Series – Topic: Identify Invasive Species** (TENTATIVE Date)

August

Monday, August 2, 2021– **Monthly Craneridge BOD Meeting** – 6:45 pm at the Pool Shelter

Saturday, August 14, 2021 – **Craneridge Summer Family Party** hosted by the Social Committee

Sunday, August 8, 2021 – **Woodlands Educational Program Series – Topic: Trees of Craneridge** – 1:00 pm @ Meadow

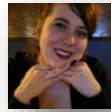
Saturday, August 14, 2021 – **Craneridge 'Music in the Meadow' Summer Concert** Time TBD @ Meadow

September

Monday, September 6, 2021– **Monthly Craneridge BOD Meeting** – 6:45 pm at the Pool Shelter

The Best Hikes Near Craneridge

by Ashley Jacobson



Naturally, you must be drawn to nature if you chose to live in our wonderfully woodland community! For those of you who might be new to the area or some of you that are just looking to enjoy the upcoming nice weather, WNY has so much to offer for outdoor lovers. Hiking is a great way to wake up, connect with nature, get a little cardio in and is even a hobby that can be enjoyed with your furbabies. Sprague Brook is not on this list because we already live right nextdoor! For those of you that might be looking for places to explore, here are the best hiking trails WNY has to offer:

Kid Friendly

- **Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve** in Depew (35 Minutes) – This is a great place if you are looking for an easier grade to bring the kids along. Unfortunately, dogs are not allowed as it is a nature preserve, but the lily pond loop is easy for younger kids and is a beautiful walk in the summer months when the lily pads are in bloom. They also have an education center and plenty of events to keep those little ones busy over summer break. The Nature Reserve also backs up to Steiglmeier Park which has a playground, pavilions, sports fields and a couple more hiking trails. Is a great way to spend an afternoon!
- **Birdsong Park Nature Trail** in Orchard Park (20 Minutes) – An easy 1.4-mile trail loop hike that features a nice lake that is a good choice for kids and even welcomes dogs! This quiet nature hike has lots of tree cover, raised boardwalks and lots of water foul to see. There is also a very large field near the entrance where you might see some people playing soccer or frisbee or even having a picnic after their hike.
- **Scoby Dam Park** (20 Minutes) – This is a beautiful place to hike, relax and maybe have a picnic as there are plenty of tables and benches along the trail. It is a short drive, easy to find and something your 2-legged and 4-legged kids can do easily. The flowing water offer relaxing sounds as you make your way to the 30 foot dam the kids will love to see.

Must See

- **Eternal Flame Falls** in Orchard Park (20 Minutes) – A fairly easy hike (weather depending) with a great reward. Dogs are welcome and is even a hike most kids would be able to do. To get to the Eternal Flame Falls, you start walking down hill and then make your way to the falls navigating through a creek in a valley. You will smell the natural gas before you make it to the flame, but the hike itself is beautiful and the Eternal Flame Falls make for some great photos. If you google this phenomenon, you will see how rare naturally occurring flame really is!
- **Griffis Sculpture Park** in East Otto (30 Minutes) – If you haven't seen this place, this is definitely one to put on your list! Griffis Sculpture Park is a 425 acre outdoor art museum created back in the 60's and since its creation, over 100 local, national and international artists have contributed works to be displayed. This is also a great place to bring the kiddos and spend a few hours hiking the trails taking pictures of the sculptures. Truly a unique place!
- **Zoar Valley** near Gowanda (40 Minutes) – Hiking the Zoar Valley is a great way to spend a summer day! If you have pups that love water, this is a must see for them! The Valentine's Flats Trail allows you to walk right through the valley enjoying the cool crick water on your feet and taking in the sights of the rock formations and waterfalls. It is also a great place for those who love kayaking and rafting A great way to cool off in the summer!



Closest (besides Sprague Brook)

- **Erie County Forest** in Concord (9 Minutes) – Located on Genesee County Road, there are several trails to choose, but the most popular is the Scarbuck trail (yellow trail markings), which is a 2.75 mile loop with its extension. The Conservation trail also cuts through this area and is marked by orange trail heads.

Experienced

- **Holland Ravines** in Holland (15 Minutes) – This hike is for those more experienced hikers who might be looking for more of a challenge. This almost 10 mile trail (one way) has 34 ravines you will navigate and is very rewarding when you finish it. Holland Willows is the traditional ending point for the hike, but you can also start here as well. Some hikers will stash their bike at the point they are ending so they can ride back to their car or home. Outside Chronicles has a great YouTube Video to give you an idea of how to tackle this challenging adventure.
- **Letchworth State Park** in Castile (45 Minutes) – The “Grand Canyon of the East” is a great place to explore and experience. There are so many trails for all types of hikers and are 66 miles of trails to choose from. Personally, the Gorge Trail and the Fingerlakes Trail are a must see when you go. This is a great place to check out in the summer but is also very beautiful in the autumn when the leaves are changing. Even though I categorized this as “Experienced”, this is also a nice way to spend a day and take the kids as they do have shorter and easier trails to walk. All around, a gem!

Honorable Mentions

- Devil’s Hole Trail in Niagara Falls (60 Minutes)
- Tift Nature Preserve in Buffalo (40 Minutes)
- Knox Farm State Park in East Aurora (25 Minutes)
- Hunter’s Creek County Park in East Aurora (20 Minutes)
- Beaver Meadow Audubon Center in Java Center (30 Minutes)



If you are looking for more recommendations, a great group to join is Hike WNY. #HikeWNY Many community members will post their stunning photos on the page as well as let you know the condition of the trails and other useful information to use on your hike trips. Looking for a challenge? Outside Chronicles on Facebook frequently hosts challenges in an attempt to get people outside and discovering new trails. Check them both out and make your hiking goals a reality this summer. And remember to only leave footprints!

<https://outsidechronicles.com/challenge>

<https://wnyhikes.com/>



Welcoming Committee Updates

One of our biggest challenges is identifying new neighbors as they arrive. In addition to warmly greeting someone who moves in near you, feel free to notify Jan Freeman (jmfdvm22@gmail.com) so that the committee can also reach out to them. If you are a new neighbor reading this and have not yet been contacted, sit tight...we should get to you soon. We hope we don't frighten you (since we will be wearing masks), but know that we are neither sales people nor census takers. If you have any questions in the meantime, please feel free to contact Jan or one of the other Welcome Committee or Board members. Our contact information is on the website: <https://craneridge.org>

Woodlands Tree Removal Requests

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 www.craneridge.org 'Homeowners' page to get submission forms and review the guidelines.



Proposal to Amend Craneridge Association By-Laws



Please see the separate by-Laws Amendment pages sent along with this Newsletter. To VOTE on these Amendments, please attend the Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 13th @ 2:00 pm at the Pool Shelter (or by Proxy which is also included with the newsletter).

Nominees for the Open Board Positions...



To VOTE on these TWO open positions, please attend the Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 13 @ 2:00 pm Pool Shelter (or by Proxy)

- **Denny Donner** (*incumbent*)
- **Ron Krasnek**
- **Sam Lewandowski**

Thank You Volunteers!

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: Paul Bartholomy & Adam Wichlacz. (Chair: Kelly Campbell | 474-6569)

Maintenance Committee Members: Ted Welch, Eric Twichell, Ron Krasnek, Gary Bingeman, Cheryl Spencer & Mo Spencer. (Chair: Adam Wichlacz | 725-1864)

Social Committee Members: Amanda Bowen, Kelly Campbell, Butch and Lorena Lesniak & Vianka Krasnik. (Co-Chairs: Leslie Hornung & Michael Korchynski | 261-8051)

Pool Committee Members: Jackie Wells, Jen Parsons, Dave Spillman & Kelly Campbell. (Co-Chairs: Amy Shaul (628-3642) & Marty Kemsley (592-4542))

Woodlands Committee Members: Cory Bowen, Alan Miano, Gwen Alegre, Jennifer Parsons, Kelly Campbell & Sam Lewandowski. (Chair: Jeff Randall | 913-6507)

Finance Committee Members: Jeff Randall, Chuck Dickhut, Dennis Donner & Shannon Wichlacz. (Chair: Rich Barber | 913-9169)

Bylaws Committee Members: (Chair: Chuck Dickhut | 592-3571)

Communications Committee Members: Chuck Dickhut, Cory Bowen, Rich Barber, Ashley Jacobson & Rory Rinaldi. (Chair: Shannon Wichlacz | 432-4778)

Welcoming Committee Members: Marilyn Dickhut & Natalie Rinaldi. (Chair: Jan Freeman | 592-3923)

Dog Poop Station Clean-up Volunteers: Ina Randall, Shannon Wichlacz, Kathy McDonnell, Pricilla Dale, David Spillman, David Reese, Sharon Burganowski & Erin Reese (Organizer: Jan Freeman | 592-3923)

To Volunteer:

Contact the Chair of each committee above
or e-mail: ExecSec.craneridge@gmail.com

Pool Committee News

Welcome back to summer. Looking forward to providing safe fun in the sun. Craneridge Pool provides American Red Cross Trained Lifeguards with CPR training as a level 2 pool during business hours.



- The Pool will open this month. Official opening Date TBA
- Business hours of operation will be: 10 am-9 pm.

Swimming is prohibited when Lifeguards are not on duty. We will close due to inclement weather and COVID-19 related for deep cleaning. Lifeguards will be on an increased cleaning schedule to high touch surface areas, no swimming allowed during sanitization time.

COVID-19 POOL protocols:

- All members adult/children to bring their own personal face mask, to be used if social distancing of 6' cannot be maintained. Masks should never be worn while swimming in the pool. Mask waivers allowed for medical conditions and children under 2.
- Entrance Gate is located on parking lot side. Wash hands upon entry.
- Stop at the check-in table. A touchless QR code is available. Register all names, House Lot Number, Time Entering the pool area & Phone Number. This information is important to NYSDOH for COVID-19 contact tracing and pool usage.
- If swimming, please rinse off under shower prior to entering the water.
- Walking is a one-way direction clockwise around the pool deck. Please follow directional arrows.
- Bathrooms to be used one person or one household group at a time. Bathrooms will be on an increased cleaning schedule and sanitizing products will be able for your use.
- The water fountain will be closed at this time.
- Everything is bring-in and take-out. When members are leaving please remember, take in/take out all towels, personal items, clean your area. No shared items, i.e. kids pool vests, toys.
- No shared refrigerator or admission inside the pool maintenance club house.
- The pool deck has been designed and respaced to maintain social distancing 6' for all HOA members. Areas are marked with blue tape along the pool deck. Do not remove tape marking on the pool deck. Please do not move pool deck furniture, ask the lifeguard. Please select a taped off section.
- Pool deck is limited to household groups no larger than 10. We have 5 household areas set up, single lounge chair 6' apart, one couple area, and one medical reserve area. Deck furniture will be sanitized nightly and between household use. Please help the lifeguards by using sanitation products available and wiping deck furniture upon leaving.
- Pool bathers are limited to 50% capacity (16 people) and maintain 6' part from other bathers who are not in your household.
- Please sign out when leaving, this is important for contact tracing. Exit gate is located on the shelter side.
- To limit community exposure, use of the Pool is for only Craneridge HOA household members and immediate family. No large group parties i.e. birthday, graduation, retirement during COVID-19).
- NOTE: if we reach full capacity, and another member wishes to use the pool, the lifeguard reserves the right to request groups who have been there the longest to leave.
- Lifeguards reserve the right to ask members to leave for noncompliance with any NYS Dept. of Health, social distancing or COVID-19 regulations.

NOW HIRING LIFEGUARDS

The opportunity for a Lifeguard position is available for Summer 2021 at the Craneridge Community Pool. You must be Lifeguard and CPR certified. Working papers are required if under 18 years of age. Minimum wage. Preference will be given to Craneridge residents. Please contact Marty Kemsley at nursie99@yahoo.com or 716-364-7879

Quotes about Woodlands:

“I come to my solitary woodland walk as the homesick go home. I thus dispose of the superfluous and see things as they are, grand and beautiful.”

- **Henry David Thoreau**

“There is a serene and settled majesty to woodland scenery that enters into the soul and delights and elevates it, and fills it with noble inclinations.”

— **Washington Irving**

“Keep close to Nature’s heart...and break clear away, once in a while, and climb a mountain or spend a week in the woods. Wash your spirit clean.”

– **John Muir**

“You cannot protect the environment unless you empower people, you inform them, and you help them understand that these resources are their own, that they must protect them.”

– **Wangari Maathai**

Craneridge - Board of Directors

Jeff Randall (*term ends 2022*)

President

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

Chuck Dickhut (*term ends 2022*)

Vice President

716-592-3571 | CDickhut2@aol.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

Dennis Donner (*term ends 2021*)

Director

716-435-6655 | ddonner@lawleyinsurance.com

Peter Sobota (*term ends 2021*)

Director

716-592-2259 | psobota@buffalo.edu

Shannon Wichlacz (*term ends 2022*)

Director

716-432-4778 | scmenter@yahoo.com

Kelly Campbell (*term ends 2023*)

Director

716-474-6569 | kanncampbell@gmail.com

Leslie Hornung (*term ends 2023*)

Director

716-261-8051 | leslie.hornung@gmail.com

Anne Mahoney

Executive Secretary

716-812-7071 | ExecSec.craneridge@gmail.com



WELCOME TO THE *Neighborhood*

WELCOME New Residents!

28B Ridge Trail - Melissa Giordan & Ryan Marshilok

N30 Woodstock - Daniel Ryan

60 Tarn - Shawn Johnston

78 Tarn - Patrick Ehrenreich



**WE WANT
TO HEAR
FROM
YOU**



SCAN ME

2021 Community Feedback Survey
Fill-out the paper Survey <OR>
Take it online (scan above QR code)

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

Sign-up via the link below:

<https://craneridge.org/signup>

PROXY FORM
for the
CRANERIDGE ANNUAL MEETING
on Sunday, June 13, 2021 @ 2:00 pm

Please note that in order to proxy, you must be a member of good standing of Craneridge Homeowners Association.

I, _____ being an owner of LOT # _____, part of Craneridge Association, Inc., do hereby constitute and appoint _____ (member of good standing) as my proxy to attend all the meetings of the shareholders of said Association to be held between the date hereof and **Sunday, June 13, 2021** 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: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)

Lot # _____

Lot Owner (print name)

Owner Signature (required to be Valid)

Delivery of Proxy Methods: Give to designee to bring to the meeting <or> the following delivery methods listed below must ensure that we receive the proxy on or before June 12, 2021 to allow time for processing:

1. Drop the form into the Executive Secretary box at the Craneridge Mail Center.
2. Mail to: Anne Mahoney, 69 Hardwood Rd., Glenwood, New York 14069
3. SCAN the signed proxy and e-mail to: ExecSec.craneridge@gmail.com

Proposal to Amend Craneridge Association By-Laws:

- ***Section 7.01. Board of Directors***
- ***Section 11.05***
- ***Section 14.03 Annual Reports***

The Proposed changes to the by-law are shown as follows:
RED indicates deletions and **BLUE** indicates additions)

Section 7.01. Board of Directors: The business and affairs of the Association shall be managed by the Board of Directors. The number of Directors of the Association shall be not less than ~~five (5)~~ **nine (9)** nor more than fifteen {15}.

Section 11.05.

The treasurer shall keep proper books of shall keep proper books of account and as directed by the Board, ~~cause an annual audit, review~~ **a** compilation of the Association books to be made by a certified public accountant completion of each fiscal year. At the direction of the Board, the treasurer shall prepare an annual budget and an annual balance sheet statement and the budget and balance sheet statement shall be presented to the membership at its regular annual meeting

Section 14.03 (see next page)

To VOTE on these Amendment changes, please attend the Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 13, 2021 at 2:00 pm @ Pool Shelter (or by Proxy)

Section 14.03 Annual Reports: There shall be a full and correct statement of the financial affairs of the Association. ~~including a balance sheet and a financial statement of operation for the preceding fiscal year prepared by a certified public accountant and including a certificate signed by a public or certified public accountant to the effect that the financial statement presents fairly the financial position of the Association and the results of its operations in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding period except as specified therein. Such report shall be distributed to all Lot Owners and to all mortgagees of Lots who have requested the same, promptly after the end of each fiscal year. Taking into consideration the cost of an audit vs. a review, the complexity and volume of the Association's financial affairs and such other factors the Board of Directors deems relevant, the Board of Directors of the Association shall determine each year whether such statement shall be in the form of an audit or review, except that (i) an audit, at the expense of the Association shall be required if authorized in writing by at least two-thirds (2/3) of all Lot Owners and (ii) any Lot Owner or mortgage holder shall be entitled to obtain an audited statement at such Lot Owner's or mortgagee's own~~ **The Treasurer will prepare Annual reports as required by NY State Not-For-Profit-Laws**

Annual report of directors

- 1. The board shall present at the annual meeting of members a report, verified by the president and treasurer or by a majority of the directors, or certified by an independent public or certified public accountant or a firm of such accountants selected by the board, showing in appropriate detail the following:**
 - a. The assets and liabilities, including the trust funds, of the corporation as of the end of a twelve month fiscal period terminating not more than six months prior to said meeting.**
 - b. The principal changes in assets and liabilities, including trust funds, during said fiscal period.**
 - c. The revenue or receipts of the corporation, both unrestricted and restricted to particular purposes during said fiscal period.**
 - d. The expenses or disbursements of the corporation, for both general and restricted purposes, during said fiscal period.**
 - e. The number of members of the corporation as of the date of the report, together with a statement of increase or decrease in such number during said fiscal period, and a statement of the place where the names and places of residence of the current members may be found.**

The annual report of directors shall be filed with the records of the corporation and either a copy or an abstract thereof entered in the minutes of the proceedings of the annual meeting of members