



HNPA Honored By Legislators



HNPA President Bill Craig (left) holds the state tribute along with members of the Association who were in attendance. Pictured with HNPAs members are State Senator Glenn Anderson (center) and State Representative Richard LeBlanc (far right).

On August 4, members of HNPA attended a session of the Westland City Council to receive a special State Tribute from Senator Glenn Anderson and Representative Richard LeBlanc for the Holliday Nature Preserve Association on its 20th anniversary.

Both State Legislators thanked HNPA for its two decades of

service to the Holliday Preserve .

HNPA President Bill Craig accepted the tribute on behalf of the group and HNPA members in the audience were invited to stand before the Council as excerpts of the tribute were read.

Bill then thanked the two legislators, HNPA members and supporters. He also praised the City of Westland for the strong partnership that has been built over the past 20 years.

HNPA's Mission

Holliday Nature Preserve Association (HNPA) is a group of volunteers dedicated to the William. P. Holliday Forest & Wildlife Preserve in Westland, Livonia and Canton, Michigan.

The Preserve consists of 500-plus acres of forests and wetlands that runs along tributaries of the Rouge River.

The HNPA seeks to nurture a greater appreciation of this unique natural resource by hosting walks and conducting maintenance improvement projects in conjunction with Wayne County Parks.

Our activities are free and open to everyone. Find out more at www.hnpa.org.

A Note of Thanks for 20 Years From HNPA President Bill Craig

I recently walked through the Koppernick section of the Holliday Preserve. I remembered walking that same trail 20 years ago.

Back then, I was upset that some people wanted the forest there cut down to create a golf course.

Luckily, I was not alone. Many members of our community also believed that this Preserve was more important than having yet another golf course. Maybe you were one of them.

And it was from that belief our Association was formed.

Over those past 20 years, much has changed in the

Preserve. The HNPA has seen some improvements, but has endured some (temporary) defeats in stopping encroachment and getting funding to improve the Preserve.

We've also suffered the passing of some wonderful people who were active members and good friends.

Even after 20 years, many people still care about the Preserve and support HNPA.

I thank all who have helped us get this far.

Bill

Rouge Rescue Review



If there had to describe our 20th Rouge Rescue, that word would be *perfect*.

Saturday, June 7, was warm and dry with only a few hungry mosquitoes (instead of the thick hoards that often greet volunteers).

Everything necessary to get the jobs done was

provided. City of Westland did another exceptional job with Police, Fire and EMS support; city workers had all the tools, supplies



and refreshments and worked hard on all the tasks.

Westland Civitans and other volunteers handled the important duty of registering the more than 90 people.

Perfect.
The volunteers were quickly divided into the two major work projects.

There was the traditional water work, cleaning trash from the creek and performing some environmentally sensitive and legal log jam management.

More than 60 bulging bags of glass, plastic, Styrofoam and just plain old trash were removed from two jams.

The other big project was nature trail work: Approximately 100 feet of boardwalk and three footbridges were built and installed.

Wood chips were also wheelbarrowed nearly a quarter mile to compliment the boardwalks.

All projects were accomplished by noon and workers relaxed with cold drinks. *Perfect.*

HNPA thanks

everyone who helped with this Rouge Rescue. Certainly, our partner City of Westland, especially Bob Patterson and Kevin Buford and their staffs deserve special recognition, as do Mayor Wild and Courtney



Conover who gave us all that was asked for—and more.

Special thanks to Phil Crookshank, HNPA Projects Engineer, for his many hours of planning and pre-Rescue work. HNPA also thanks its dedicated members and those dedicated volunteers who came and performed a hard day's work. *Perfect.*





Fall 2008 Walks

Please note that walks take place rain, snow or shine; trails are uneven and may be slippery. Our pace is casual and children are welcome. Most walks last approximately 90 minutes but you can leave at any time. If you have a group, please send an e-mail to holliday@hnpa.org.

Rouge Rescue Walk Sat., Oct. 18, 10 a.m.

Newburgh Section (north of Warren Road, on the east side of Newburgh)

We will walk along the new boardwalk installed during Rouge Rescue/River Day in June. We may also check the trail conditions and collect some trash while enjoying the early fall colors.

Head Over to Hix Walk Sat, Nov. 15, 10 a.m.

Hix Park. (Hix Road, north of Warren Road)

We will check out the bridge work and then head east toward Newburgh Road. The trail will be a lot easier to walk because of the hard work Boy Scouts did earlier this year.

Pre-Christmas Walk Sat, Dec. 13 10 a.m.

Cowan Entrance (Central City Parkway, west of Wayne Road)

The trees may have lost their coat of leaves, but maybe we will be lucky enough to enjoy a blanket of snow to help get us in the Christmas spirit.

HNPA Annual Meeting is Nov. 19 at 7p.m.

Everyone is welcome to our annual meeting at the Livonia Civic Center Library (5 Mile and Farmington Road). We will also plan

meeting for 2009.

Afterwards, we will have by a slide presentation of this year's walks and activities. There will be plenty of

time to ask questions and learn more about the Preserve and our organization while enjoying some refreshments.

Celebrating 20 years with a Picnic



beers, lots of laughter and a big cake with our logo on it.

Many attendees wore their HNPA t-shirts. Some had the first – Don't Drive Our – Wildlife Away (with the golf ball).

HNPA founders, John

Covert and Jack Smiley, talked about the first meeting against the golf course proposal and the formation of HNPA.

Our first editor, Bob Duda, provided copies of all newsletters from 1988 to 2000.

We had displays of newspaper articles, various awards and photographs. We had a

good mix of long-time members

and newer members.

We all enjoyed the end-to-end hike ordeal story from three hikers that made it. (their story appears on page 3).

Then it was time for desert – a cake that was 20 years in the making.



Queen Marie Antoinette once said, "Let them eat cake."

That's just what we did to celebrate our 20th anniversary. No horse shoes, no baseball, just lots of yummy pass-around dishes, a few



Thanks to our Supporters

Since last newsletter, the following people have kindly renewed their memberships, made donations, or have become new members. Thank you all. HNPA appreciates your support.

Zeke & Louise Arzooyan
Diane Bancroft
Kathy & Mike Best
Donald Boyd
Mary Buda
John Covert
Phil Crookshank
Louis Cyburt
Pat & Jim Dee
Melissa & Mike Deluka
Marie Feeley
June Glen
Cheryl & Ron Graunstadt
Phyllis Hammerberg

David & Karen Howell
Carol Shea & Paul Kulling
Susan Lanning
Cathy & Gene Moulton
Noel Mullett Family
Wilma & Bill Murphy
Vera & Sever Pederson
Linda Poole
Rosemarie & Mark Rembisz
Ryan Richardson
Johann & Neil Sheibley
Dorothy & Jack Smiley
Joanne Tutas
Mariann Watkins

Scott Williams

The following individuals made donations in memory of Thomas Clough:

Mr. & Mrs. D. Emreschak,
Pittsburg, PA
Mr. & Mrs. F. Pitschman,
Pittsburg, PA
Mrs. Doris Turson,
Mt. Pleasant, MI

Can we Count on You, too?

Reminder: It's time to renew your HNPA membership

Membership in the Holliday Nature Preserve Association **runs Jan. 1—Dec. 31** and is only

\$5 per year. Your support makes it possible for us to **publish three newsletters** a year, **host a Web site** and **hold clean-up projects** that help maintain the Preserve.

If you have not yet done so, please take a moment to

support your HNPA by using the form below.

You may also earmark any additional contribution to extend your membership.

Your donation will be used to benefit the Preserve and to inform and educate.

Be Part of HNPA!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address 2: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____ + _____

\$ _____ Enclosed

If more than \$5, should additional funds be used as: () Donation () Extend membership
Please make check or money order payable to the *Holliday Nature Preserve Association* and mail to: HNPA, P.O. Box 52104, Livonia, MI 48152