



## HNPA Turning 20

This year, marks the Holliday Nature Preserve Association's 20th year as a service organization dedicated to the William P. Holliday Forest & Wildlife Preserve.

We have some special things planned including an end-to-end walk that will take us from Koppernick section on the west to the Ellsworth section on the east.

It's something we've never done as a group outing before. We may end the walk with a picnic and a cake to



*HNPA members take part in an early Rouge Rescue.*

celebrate this anniversary. (More details in our next newsletter.) And if walking the Preserve all in one day is

not something you are able to do, please join in one of our shorter walks that will take us end-to-end, one section at a time. Or come out for one of our usual Preserve activities, including an Earth Day clean up and Rouge Rescue.

You are invited to participate in any event or just join us for cake.

After all, this is your celebration because your support of funds and time has made it possible.

### 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](http://www.hnpa.org).

### Winter Walks

Walk in the preserve by yourself and enjoy the solitude or come with us and enjoy an organized HNPA walk. The pace is leisurely, the atmosphere informal and the people are interesting. Events are held regardless of the weather so please dress for the conditions. Questions? Contact us at [Holliday Association@hnpa.org](mailto:Holliday Association@hnpa.org) or view our Web site at [www.hnpa.org](http://www.hnpa.org).

#### Sun., Jan. 27, Noon Mid-Winter Walk

Ellsworth Section (across from Nankin Mill in Hines Park)  
This walk winds along Tonquish Creek to Wayne Road and back. We'll also walk along the floodplain.

#### Sat., Feb. 23, Noon President's Walk

Cowan Section (Central City Parkway, west of Wayne Road)  
If it's sunny, we might spot some raccoons and there is always a chance we might spot a deer in this section.

#### Sat., March 15, Noon Nearly Spring Walk

Newburgh Section (Newburgh Road, north of Warren Road)  
This walk takes us to a seldom visited section of the Preserve. Please park in a nearby lot if the gate is locked, since Wayne County has not put in parking spaces for visitors who wish to access this section of the Preserve.

# Deer and Destruction In The Preserve



HNPA President Bill Craig and Tim Carlington went for a hike in early December along a section of the Preserve that runs between Hix and Newburgh Roads. The two enjoyed following fresh deer tracks and they found several “rubs” where bucks had scraped their antlers on tree trunks. It wasn't long before “white flags” deer tails were seen and two bucks spotted!

Bill and Tim watched excitedly as the deer moved toward Newburgh Road. As they watched, Tim spied an eight-pointer standing near Tonquish Creek. Fearing they might spook the deer onto the busy road, the two hikers backed off.

Deer in the Preserve and not even a mile from one of the most heavily trafficked areas of Westland. How wonderful it is that we have Holliday Preserve. The presence of these animals shows the need for a wildlife preserve. It also shows the wonders that await you in this place.

Holliday Nature Preserve is our backyard—it belongs to all of us. Sadly, sometimes nearby homeowners treat the Preserve as though it is an extension of their backyard.

After spotting the deer, Bill and Tim visited an area of the

Preserve that backs up to homes. What they found in the Preserve was disappointing.

- ◆ Hatchet damage by



children making forts. Many large sassafras trees were victims.

- ◆ Logging activity by adults. Dead and fallen ash trees and several live trees were chainsawed and then stacked up the ten-foot trunk sections.
- ◆ Trails were created and cleared leading to play areas and logging sites. After taking photographs ,



Bill and Tim continued their hike and Tim found a recently shed antler that had not yet been gnawed on. It was a rare find and a nice way to end the walk (photo above left).

Bill has submitted photos and filed a report with the Parks Department. They are investigating and may turn

this over to the Sheriff's Department. This alteration in the Preserve was illegal, unnecessary and irresponsible. Local property owners are free to do as they like to their PRIVATE property, but the Preserve is PUBLIC property: It belongs to all of us.

It is very unlikely anyone will be ticketed or charged for this damage, but it is HNPA's position that the area be restored and all property of homeowners removed. It's also important that, in cases such as these, that homeowners be educated on what activities are allowed and which ones are prohibited, and why the Preserve be left in its natural state.

Residents may not always find the natural jumbled state appealing, or feel they have a need for additional space for family “toys.” However, that's not theirs to decide. The Preserve serves as sanctuary for plants and animals such as deer and a place of enjoyment and solitude for the community. With your help, HNPA's aim is to keep it that way.

## Citizens Remain Preserve's Eyes and Ears

HNPA was made aware of this damage from a resident who contacted President Bill Craig.

If you become aware of any illegal activity in the Preserve, contact Wayne County Parks at (734) 261-1990. You can also send an e-mail to [HollidayAssociation@hnpa.org](mailto:HollidayAssociation@hnpa.org) or from our Web site at [www.hnpa.org](http://www.hnpa.org) and we will take a look.



# Looking Back At Fall 2007

HNPA sponsored four walks this fall. Here is a brief recap:

## Oct 6

It was a beautiful day and our group met at the Three Fires Parking lot on Ann Arbor Trail.

The area is so named because it is rumored to have been a meeting site for the



Ottawa, Pottawatomie and Ojibwa tribes. After so many centuries it is impossible to know; however, it would have been a pretty place for tribes to meet and trade and still is. We enjoyed some early colors as we walked to Ellsworth.

## Oct. 27

This day was the opposite of the Oct. 6 one not only in direction but in the weather. Five people met at Ellsworth trail on a cold, drizzling day crossed the small rebuilt bridge over the Tonquish Creek up to the



Three Fires Parking Area and walked back to Nankin Mills.

## Nov. 10



We had a terrific warm and sunny day for walking the Koppernick trails to the Deer Creek bridge. There was still plenty of fall color to enjoy. We checked out the work we did in the river during Rouge Rescue to increase water flow and aeration and were glad to see our work was still intact. All the fallen dead ash trees makes the trails difficult to navigate at times.

## Dec. 8

Our small group hiked the Cowan section on a bright and cold day. We had four new people: Matt Best and his son Brandon along with Dan and Laura Rust. Dan Rieder, one of our seldom-seen original members joined in.

Our walkers spotted a number of sleeping raccoons (Cowan is the best section to spot these animals. We also answered questions concerning whether bikes and dogs are allowed in the Preserve. They are not and we, as a group, remain frustrated on the lack of signage instructing visitors on what is and isn't allowed. Also not allowed is construction and the group dismantled a log shelter someone had built in the Preserve.



## Annual Meeting Sees Strong Turnout

Thanks to all members and guests who attended our annual membership meeting on Nov. 29. We had a great turnout.

We elected Rose Treppa as our new treasurer. Rose takes over for Roberta Treppa.

Our many thanks to them for

taking good care of our treasure and yours.

Afterwards, Phil Crookshank narrated two presentations: the Cowan bridge building with Ford Motor Co. volunteers and Rouge Rescue 2007.

During the open discussion that followed, HNPA President

Bill Craig announced that 2008 is HNPA's 20th anniversary, and asked for ideas to help celebrate? Some of them can be found on page one. Please send your suggestions to our [www.hnpa.org](http://www.hnpa.org) Web site. More on 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary plans in the next newsletter.



# Thank You For Your Support

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.

*Kathy and Mike Best  
Roberta Campbell  
Betsy Conway  
Ellie Cox  
Dorothy, Thomas and Janet Drummond  
Joyce and Kenneth Holmes  
David and Karen Howell  
Patrick Kobylarz  
Orin and Kiran Lenz  
Wayne McGarrah  
Dennis and Pamela Scott  
Irene Seguin*

*Carol Sullivan  
Thomas and Elizabeth Van Camp  
Wayne McGarrah  
Karen and Richard Zyczynski*

*Sandra Guara*

*In Memory of  
Albert Guara*

## Reminder: Membership Dues Are Due

**H**ave you renewed your membership for 2008?

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 HNPA by using the**

**form below.**

Any additional money we receive will be used to benefit the Preserve.

You may also earmark any additional monies you send to extend your membership.

Thank you for your support!

# 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