



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, conducting maintenance improvement projects in conjunction with Wayne County Parks and promoting the importance of the Preserve in improving the quality of life in Western Wayne County communities.

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

Membership Dues Due

Five bucks. That's all we ask each calendar year for your continuing support of our organization and its mission (see above).

That money gets you three newsletters and allows us to support Scout and trail maintenance projects, Preserve clean ups as well as fund our website at hnpa.org. Please use the form on page 4 and drop it into the mail without delay. Thanks!



HNPA members past and present attended a 25th anniversary celebration and marker installation on Oct. 20. See story on page 2.

Upcoming Activities

Take a walk through the Preserve with HNPA volunteers.

The pace is leisurely and the atmosphere informal. Our walks last from an hour to 90 minutes and are held regardless of the weather,

so please dress for conditions (snowy and wet) and often uneven ground.

Walks are family friendly and kids are welcome. Sorry, no dogs allowed. Questions? Contact us at Holliday Association@hnpa.org.

➤ Winter Silence and Snow Walk

Sunday, Jan. 26, Noon, Ellsworth Entrance
(Meet in Nankin Mill parking lot on Hines Drive)

➤ Let's Look for Deer (and other Critters) Walk

Saturday, Feb. 22, Noon, Hix Park Entrance
(Hix Road north of Warren Road)

➤ Is Spring ever coming? Any Signs of it? Walk

Saturday, March 22, Noon, Cowan Entrance
(Central City Parkway, west of Wayne Road, north of Warren Road)

HNPA Celebrate 25 Years

Marker Honoring Arthur Richardson Reinstalled

It rained on our anniversary event Oct. 19, but the rain did little to dampen the spirit of those who came out to the Cowan/Central City Parkway entrance to the Preserve to celebrate our (and their) quarter century of service to the Preserve and Wayne County Parks.

There were plenty of hugs, handshakes and laughs from those who came out to see long-time friends and wonder how 25 years zoomed by so fast. The group huddled under a tent to look at photo displays and old newspaper articles, while sipping hot coffee and sampling donuts. We had people from the very first meetings, espe-

cially HNPA's founders and former presidents: John Covert and Jack Smiley. (It was so very nice to see Jack's parents, Dorothy and Jack Sr.)

Like all such reunions, there were members with many years of seniority chatting with people who recently joined our active association. We also fondly remembered our friends who have passed on.

Current HNPA President Bill Craig and the two former presidents, thanked the hundreds of members and volunteers who have supported HNPA over the years, to make the Holliday Preserve a quality place to enjoy nature in the midst of an urban environment.

A black granite stone was unveiled during the celebration. On it is engraved, "William P.

Holliday Forest and Wildlife Preserve donated by Arthur J. Richardson 1963."

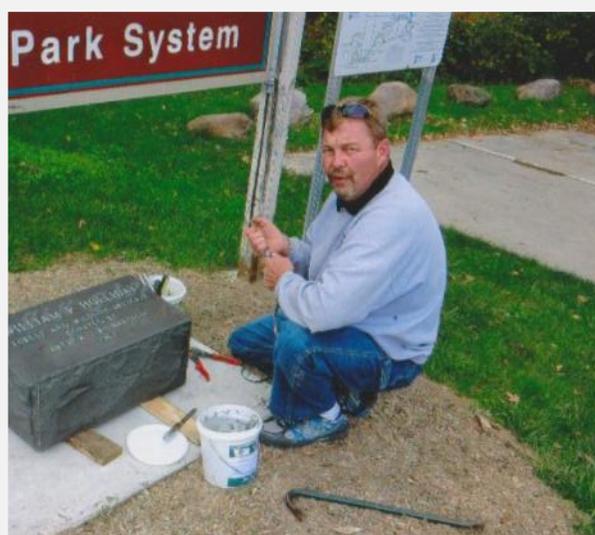


Former HNPA Presidents John Covert (l) and Jack Smiley (r) join current President Bill Craig for the unveiling of a marker honoring Arthur Richardson, the man whose donation made the Preserve possible.

The stone replaces a bronze marker that was stolen several years ago.

We hope that people will notice this stone, read it, and be curious enough to venture down the path into the forest. And when they are standing in that forest, they will say, "Wow, this place is special. I wonder how I can help protect it." (Answer: Join HNPA!)

Special thanks to Scott Waldorf, representing Inch Memorials in Northville. Scott took a special interest in HNPA, giving us a great deal and personally installing the heavy stone. We also want to thank Sue Mason, Observer Newspaper editor, for her Nov. 7 article on our little celebration. We got several new hikers from that story.



Scott Waldorf, Inch Memorial provided HNPA with a great deal on the stone and handled the installation. We are thankful to Scott for his efforts on our behalf..

Scouts Improve the Preserve...

Scout Brendan Noble, Canton, contacted HNPCA offering to build and install another boardwalk in the Preserve for his Eagle Scout project. This one would connect three present existing Scout created boardwalks into one continuous boardwalk into one long boardwalk.

Brendan's team worked in the rain to carry, assembling and installing the heavy weather-resistant sections. They also brought more than enough sledge hammers (and young men to

drive rebar into the footings that hold sections in place. With all those hammers and men pounding, it sometime looked as if they were laying railroad track!

Brendan is awaiting the Scout Board of Review to approve his project paperwork. We definitely approve of his project. Thank you Brendan for doing a great job.



...Vandals Seek to Ruin It



Boardwalks in Holliday—mostly installed by Scouts—make walking the trails drier and more enjoyable while keeping visitors off the sometimes fragile vegetation. That's why it was discouraging when HNPCA received word that 13 sections of boardwalk had been pulled out and tossed in a huge pile. Someone took a great deal of effort to disrupt these Eagle Scout

projects since these sections are very heavy with rebar holding them in place.

We posted a request for help on our Facebook page looking for volunteers to help reinstall the sections and Ron Webster answered the call. Ron, Phil Crookshank and Bill Craig worked hard to reinstall them. Thanks for your hard work that day, Ron.

The big question is "why?" Why would a group of individuals (it had to be more than one given the size of the boardwalks) vandalize the efforts of a lot of dedicated and committed Scouts. Although we have our suspicions and evidence, we lack sufficient proof to go to the sheriff's

office. We also hope this is a one-time problem.

If you should ever see vandalism taking place, bicycles or motorized vehicles in the Preserve, please call Wayne County Parks at (734) 261-1990 without confronting the perpetrators. We don't want vandalism in the Preserve, but we also don't want to an incident.



Ron Webster helped reinstall the boardwalk sections.

Walking the Trails



(Left) Thanks to a nice article in the Westland Observer and nice weather, we had a good turnout for our November fall color walk.



(Above) Deb, Milton and Wayne braved a snowstorm to join our December walk.

Thanks to our Supporters



The following people joined HNPA, renewed their memberships or made donations this summer. We thank them and appreciate the continuing support they and our other members give along with the trust they put in us. We will use the funds for the overall benefit of the Preserve.

**Kathleen & Michael Best
Elizabeth Breneau
Thomas & Madeline Carpenter
John Covert**

**Phil Crookshank
Marie Feeley
James Flanigan
James Gilbert**

**Sally & Mickey Green
Kiran Lenz
Vivian & Gerald Nyland
Thomas Vancamp**

Become Part of HNPA!

Membership in the Holliday Nature Preserve Association is only **\$5 per year (Jan. 1—Dec. 31)**. Your support makes it possible to distribute

our newsletters, host a website, support Rouge Rescue, offer walks, educate the community and promote the Preserve. Any additional funds over and

above are used to benefit the Preserve. You may also earmark additional funds to extend your membership.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address 2: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____ + _____

\$ _____ Enclosed

Please make check or money order payable to the **Holliday Nature Preserve Association** and mail to:
HNPA, P.O. BOX 532243 Livonia, MI 48153