



Conserving the woods, fields, streams, wetlands and other natural resources in the headwaters of the Clinton, Shiawassee, Huron & Flint Rivers.

scenicVISTAS

Vol 24, Winter 2009



Dr. Ormond, NOHLC volunteer, plows field at Voorheis-Beardsley in preparation for new prairie.

NOHLC Returns Voorheis-Beardsley Property to Native Prairie

NOHLC Volunteers ...

have all types of different interests: Outside work of all kinds, exploring new lands, nature walks, working with young people, grant research, project coordinators & office work—to name a few. If you'd like to volunteer and make a difference in your community - let us know what types of interests you have and contact the NOHLC office at (248) 846-6547

In the 1800's surveyors paused at the pictured above site in Independence Township and recorded that it was a "vista of native grasses." Now NOHLC volunteers are working to turn back time and create a prairie from a weed field.

One of NOHLC's primary goals is to preserve and improve our environment. Recreating prairie, where the Voorheis and Beardsley families farmed, matches that goal perfectly. The sandy soil will once again recharge the aquifer and support a diversity of wildlife. Tall waving grasses and patches of colorful wildflowers will thrive again.

Consumers Power is collaborating with NOHLC by allowing the future prairie to extend over their gas line along I-75. This visible location will demonstrate the attractiveness of native plants and show neighbors

how soil improvement can occur with very little upkeep.

Brush and debris were cleared from the field in 2008 by volunteers and NOHLC's summer interns, Jess Newman and Nancy Roggers. Dr. Robert Ormond offered to plow under the mixture of invasive weeds. Joan Harbaugh, Stewardship Chairwoman, arranged for the collection of remnant native seeds--little bluestem and orange milkweed.

In 2009, the field will again be tilled to eliminate weeds and a cover crop of annual rye will be sown. NOHLC supporters are invited to sign up for the final phases of the restoration--native seed sowing, installation of a walking path and tending the multi-year transition from weed field to luxuriant prairie. Together we can recreate a better environment and a scenic vista.

Near Sighted, Far Sighted

Susan Julian—President

This newsletter is full of the contributions of the faithful supporters of the mission of NOHLC. More and more people are focused on the benefits of preservation actions right in their own backyards. Stream corridor preservation is 30 times less expensive than pollution clean-up, according to one Michigan study. Minimal development that keeps large areas open to infiltrate rain water results in clean groundwater. You and your neighbors are then able to continue well usage instead of paying for expensive water infrastructure projects. The preservation of green neighborhoods and pockets of wildness keep the benefits of nature near us. In Independence Township alone, over eight thousand people agreed with these objectives, based on their votes on the November millage proposal. NOHLC is very heartened by that support. However, we must lift our eyes from these near-at-hand benefits and recognize that we are citizens of a global ecosystem. In hard economic times, it becomes even more important that we find ways to take action that benefits us all. NOHLC has some answers. Through hands-on projects we can increase carbon sequestration far into the future or promote biodiversity starting right here. Through continued small donations of money we can collectively preserve "the best of the rest." Through monthly time commitments we can join with others to plan and carry out long-term projects. Come help us keep the right focus. (248) 846-6547



Jim Reed Honored with Tom Bullen Award for 2008

Jim Reed exemplifies the standards of vision, service and continuing support envisioned by this award. Jim joined the conservancy in 1994 as part of the stewardship committee and has not stopped since. He then joined NOHLC's Board of Directors and became our president in 2003 for two years. During his leadership eight new properties were added totaling 178 acres. He continues to offer the benefits of his wisdom, encouragement and inspiration to the Board and the Executive committee. Jim, along with Tom Pytel, led the recent millage effort for *Independence Goes Green*. His tireless efforts to recruit new members, locate preservation-minded landowners and support our fundraising events are some of the ways he leads by example and always from the heart.

Dan Stencil Presented Great Blue Heron Award

NOHLC was proud to present **Dan Stencil**, Executive Officer of Oakland County Parks & Recreation, and the entire staff of Oakland County Parks & Recreation with the 2008 Great Blue Heron Award. Dan Stencil and his staff recognized the significant regional role that Oakland County Parks play in preserving ecological and recreational connectivity with a renewed focus on stewarding water quality in county parklands. Under his leadership funds have been appropriated to preserve over 600 additional acres of land in perpetuity as parks in Oakland County. Dan & his staff look forward to continuing to partner with NOHLC and others in the land and water conservation community to conserve and steward land for ecological and recreational uses, and promote equity of access to the abundant natural resources of Oakland County.



Clarkston Post High volunteers do their part for clean water & open spaces.

A big thank-you to the students, assistants and their instructor Mary Barnard at the Clarkston Post High school. They are always ready to volunteer for NOHLC when it comes to helping out the NOHLC staff with numerous mailings and other time consuming tasks. We certainly appreciate their invaluable time and effort that goes into all the work they accomplish for NOHLC.

Pictured (L to R) is Rhonda Garrison, Jackie Thompson, Mary Barnard, Tyler Riddle and Renae Billups.

It's Your Backyard....

Joan Harbaugh, NOHLC Stewardship Chairwoman

Winter seems like the perfect time for Stewardship planning for the new year and it is. But wait a minute! There's much to do out-of-doors. It is the best time of year to remove invasive shrubs, trees and vines such as Autumn Olive, Glossy Buckthorn and alien Bittersweet. Herbicides used in the growing season are just not effective.

Here's how to do it. Cut the invasive to the ground and immediately paint with super-concentrate full strength Roundup (or Rodeo if in an area around water). From late October to mid-March the product goes down to the roots. During the growing season the plant is busy making top growth and Roundup has limited effectiveness on cut stems.

Why do we need to eradicate these plants? They leaf out early and sun cannot get to the lovely wildflowers and good plants and trees (such as Oak) to permit growth. And birds spread the seeds with abandon. Another very important winter project is inspecting fens and marshes and just plain old swamps. Often we can't get up close until the ground freezes. During winter we can inspect the deciduous trees for damage, etc. Besides it's just a good way to work off all the stresses of today. If you are interested in joining us in Stewardship or have questions, give me a call at 248-625-3316 or e-mail me at joanharbaugh@att.net.



Student Volunteers

Four high school seniors from Oakland Technical School's Biotech Program and one homeschooler are working with NOHLC as student interns during the 2008-2009 school year. The students are volunteering at the Knorr Preserve in Clarkston, under the supervision of NOHLC volunteer, Emily Duthinh and biotechnology & environmental teacher Linda Smith Torony. In the fall of 2008, these students learned how to remove invasive plants, including buckthorn, autumn olive, oriental bittersweet, and Phragmites. The interns also assisted with the annual property inspection and report.

During the winter of 2008-2009, the students are preparing brochures to guide homeowners in removing these invasive plants from their properties. These students are also preparing interpretative signage, which they will install at the preserve in the spring. Other activities which these Biotech students hope to complete this year include conducting a salamander census, a frog and toad survey, cleanup of an old dumpsite at the preserve, delineation of trails, preparation and distribution of an NOHLC "starter kit for control of invasive plants", and helping to prepare a management plan for the Knorr Preserve.

In addition, other students with Oakland Tech may assist NOHLC with repairing a footbridge in the preserve, and using a GPS system to survey the property boundary. This internship program is benefiting both Oakland Tech and NOHLC. Oakland Tech is seeking internship placement opportunities that enable their students to learn vocational skills in real world environments. NOHLC appreciates the assistance and resources which these dedicated interns are providing. NOHLC and Oakland Tech plan to continue this internship program indefinitely. For more information visit the Biotech Program at: <http://new.oakland.k12.mi.us/Default.aspx?tabid=1633>



Biotech students: Kalea (Waterford Mott), Robert (Holly), Jesse (Brandon), and Casandra (Holly) are doing on-the-job training with NOHLC at the Knorr Preserve in Clarkston.

Savannah Preserved by Holly Township Parks

A little over seven acres of land, historically savannah, was preserved along the Shiawassee River by the generous donation of the Starman Family to Holly Township Parks in late 2008. This acquisition adds to the remarkable dry prairie where the beautiful blue flowers of wild lupine can be seen at the end of May in the park on East Holly Road. NOHLC continues to advocate for preservation of the unique environments along the Shiawassee River through conservation easements or partnerships with entities such as township parks that have the same objectives in mind. NOHLC congratulates Holly Township Park #2 on its expanded area of conservation. The prairie community supports rare butterflies that depend on the wildflowers that thrive there. NOHLC supporters are encouraged to assist our partner organization with invasive removal and redistribution of native seeds on the site during conservancy workdays.

NOHLC CONTRIBUTORS

Thank-you 2008 Members, Donors & Partners

Your support plays a critical role in helping NOHLC protect our land, our clean water and our quality of life –right here where we work and live.

Conservator -(\$1000 and above)

Wayne & Nancy Strole

Sustaining -(\$500 - 999)

Tom & Lorraine Hall
Robert & Joanne Inskip
Charles & Susan Julian
David Leak
Jim Pistilli & Lisa Poisson
Jim & Barb Reed
David & Marilyn Robison
Don & Sue Topping

Guardian -(\$250 -499)

Bill & Katie Anderson
Chris & Rebecca Benedict
Paul Gambka
John & Cheryl Gault
Joan Harbaugh
Janette Martin
Tom & Anne Pytel
David & Sherry Regiani
Fred & Gail Roeser
Chris Walker
Robert & Marilyn Zigarac

Protector -(\$100 - 249)

Don & Marjorie Arsen
Cynthia Balkwell
Brian & Julie Bauer
Fred & Connie Baumann
Tim Birtsas
John & Mary Blanchard
Robin Brandle
Theresa Celusta
Gary & Carol Chandler
Ann Crane
Michael & Vesta DeRiso
Emily Duthinh
Angela Dutkiewicz
Phil & Ann Dutton
Bill Edwards
Rose Evarts
Joe & Joyce Figa
Charles & Dana Fortinberry
Janet Frericks
James & Louise Gotch
Jean Gramlich

John Hazen
Paul & Judy Hensler
David & Diana Hopper
Robert & Sharon Hurlbert
Richard H. & Carola Huttenlocher
Cory & Robyn Johnston
Susan Jones
Denise Kander
Mary Anne Ketvirtis
Takao & Sylvia Kojima
James & Juanita Kostecki
Roy Lahring
Pamela Lewis
Carol Lowrie
Margaret Maneese
Daniel Manthei
David & LeLane McCarty
Keith McCormack
Delbert & Joan McCrary
Gerald & Carol McNally
Michael & Cheryl McNeil
John & Freda Meyland
Pete & Laura Moreau
Connie Morgan
Richard Petherbridge
Tom & Sharon Plummer
Paul & Betty Rabaut
Sue Ring
Kenie & Kellie Rittenhouse
Todd Roeser
Doug & Judy Roeser
Ann Rose
Richard Rotramel
William Pavlik & Barbara Rush
Bob & Mary Kay Schmelzer
Mark & Nancy Stesney
Tom & Arlene Stone
Dale & Deborah Stuart
Thomas & Trina Szott
Jerry Tauer & Donna Clancy-Tauer
Daniel & Betsy Travis
Mel & Jo Vaara
James & Nicole Vassallo III
Richard & Ruth Vrbensky
Ron & Elizabeth Wagner
Bob & Beverly Walters
Joe Wauldron
James & Sharon Wenger
Mac & Marilyn Whisner

Dave & Ellen Whitehead
Doug & Sandra Williams
Gordon & Stephanie Wilson
David & Mary Wilson
Bill & Carolyn Wood

Supporting -(\$50 - 99)

Rick & Aimee Baker
Ken & Jeanette Barks
Jackson & Margaret Byers
Marco & Dana Campbell
James & Linda Carlton
Gary & Cynthia Casey
Ken & Phyllis Choops
Brian & Carla Covert
Clint & Emily Crook
Gunars & Baiba Ejups
Sharon Gardner
Kurt Haines
Jim Hebert & Sandra Hull
Carolyn Izzo
Susan Kent
Ken & Cheri Klostermeyer
Roger & Kathryn Knoebel
Laura Kovalcik
Joe & Pamela Lawrence
Ann Lehman-Rittenger
Carol Lenchek
Rich & Vicki Little
Judy Livingston
Sean & Amy Muldoon
Don Nanney & Ruth Johnston
John Olsen & Eileen Callahan
Lora Perkins
Jannice Rabette
Kathy Rollins
Craig Rossano & Wendy Blizzard
Mary Lou Schell
Eleanor Snyder
John Stakoe
David Sweet & Belinda Seal
Fred & Alycmae Townsend
David & Nancy Trott
Barb Trueman
David & Shelagh VanderVeen
Robert & Suzanne White
Margaret Yerman
John Ylvisaker

NOHLC CONTRIBUTORS

Subscribing - (\$25 - 49)

Tom Andrews
Aaron & Arlene Badgley
Daniel & Karen Badgley
James & Lucy Bishop
David & Vivian Cheklich
David & Sue Dinger
Michael Donnellon Jr.
Michael & Elizabeth Doyle
Poly & Linda Endrasik
Joe & Lynette Fioroni
Lawrence & Carol Forbes
Carol Gabriel
Cory & Heather Haines
Sherri Hall
Mary Ann Hennig
Lubomyr Hewko
Karen Jackson
Alan & Tammy Jesiel
Jim & Claudia Keglovitz
Joyce Little
Robert & Dorothy Lloyd
James Magri
Robert & Marilyn McCliment
Cindy McCue
Doug & Ann McInnis
Sam & Kelly Moraco
Barry & Susan Pool
Mark & Karen Pytel
Gloria Rose
Lawrence & Mary Rosso
Dave & Jan Scislowicz
Tim & Sharon Sherrow
Linda Torony
Lee Truitt
Joann Van Tassel
Paul VanKlaveren
Judith Walczak
Neil & Mary Willson
Sue Zanotti

Memorial Contributions

In memory of **Blinn Rush**

Tom & Arlene Stone
Jannice Rabette

Honorariums

In honor of **Joe Figa's** retirement
by Larry Falardeau & the Oakland
County Park Employees.

Matching Gifts

Charles Mott Foundation

for Bob & Joanne Inskeep
Borg Warner
for Bill & Katie Anderson

NOHLC Partners

*Partners are businesses, institutions,
and groups who have made cash dona-
tions.*

Conservator Partners

(\$1000 plus)
Beaumont Hospitals
Hubbell, Roth & Clark
Joachim E. Lay Charitable Trust
June & Cecile McDole Foundation
McLaren Health Center
Merrill Lynch

Sustaining Partners

(\$500 - 999)
All Points Construction
Blackrock Financial Management
Clarkston Allergy & Asthma Clinic
Clinton Women's Healthcare
- Dr. Betty Chu MD
Coats Funeral Home
Oakland County Credit Union
Washington Management

Guardian Partners

(\$250 - 499)
Chris Walker - Investment Council
Synergy

Protector Partners

(\$100 - 249)
Anderson Eckstein & Westrick
City Aluminum Foundry
Clarkston Farm & Garden Club
Complete Automation
Dennis Darrow State Farm
Dickinson, Wright LLC
Farm Bureau Insurance
Himrod & Assoc.
Huntington Cleaners
Guest, Olds & West, PLC
Koz's Fun Fish
Kevin Pickard
Plante Moran
Pytel Veterinary

Kathleen Reichart, CFP
Dr. Carl Shermetaro, D.O.
Springfield Garden Club

Supporting Partners

(\$50 - 99)
John W. Stevenson DDS

Wild Night Out Swamp- Stomp Committee

Bill & Carolyn Wood, chairs
Bill & Katie Anderson
Phil & Ann Dutton
Bob & Joanne Inskeep
John & Penny Mason
Del & Joan McCrary
Pete & Laura Moreau
Lois Robbins
Wayne & Nancy Strole
Don & Sue Topping
Sue Zanotti

Great Blue Heron Open Golf Committee

Ken Klostermeyer, Chairman
Bill Edwards
Jerry Fisher
Mike Kilbarger
David McCarty
David Robison
Dale Stuart
Dan Travis

*We have made every effort to include all who
donated. If we have omitted a name, please
accept our sincere apologies and kindly notify
the office so that we may correct the error.*

THANK-YOU VOLUNTEERS

VOLUNTEERS MAKE THINGS HAPPEN!

Many thanks to all the NOHLC volunteers that helped protect our clean water & open spaces in 2008. Here are a few: **Judy & Paul Hensler** for helping to reorganize our office; **Mike Harbaugh** for creating wood posts for our Kimball Preserve; **Chuck & Sue Julian** for creating frames & signage at the Kimball preserve and for unending superhero-type volunteerism! **James Wilson** for providing lumber for foot-bridges at the Kimball Preserve; **Emily Duthinh** for donating a printer/scanner/fax machine & leading students in education & work at the Knorr Preserve; **Pete and Laura Moreau** for creating our wonderful Wild Night Out invitation; **Robin Rose**, Rose Printing Services; **Bill Wood** for donating rebar for the Heritage Garden and the humongous truck for the parade float; **Arlene Badgley** for her help & numerous skills including her wonderful photography; **John Mason** for donating a shredder for the NOHLC office; **Lois Robbins** for keeping track of our volunteer hours; **Joan Harbaugh** for going above & beyond in her stewardship role; **Cynthia Balkwell** for everything from baked goods to tablecloths; **Carolyn Wood** for her outstanding job as Wild Night Out chairperson; **Jerry Fisher & Frank Aiello** for legal advice; **World-wise.net** for website design; Great Blue Heron Open Golf volunteers: **Cheri Klostermeyer, LeLane McCarty, Mary Blanchard, Pam Bytner, Lois Robbins, Donna Clancy, Deb Stuart, Deanna Traver, Joe Lawrence, Katherine Mihalek, Mike Kilbarger, and Bob Inskip.**

Thanks to the following for donating in-kind:

Advances Eye Care	Bullfrogs
Al & Cheryl Cooper	Carolyn & Bill Wood
Anderson, Eckstein & Westrick	Clarkston Cafe
Ann Dutton	Clarkston Conservatory Music
Art Concepts	Clarkston Garden Club
Atlas Global Bistro	Clarkston Jewelry Outlet
AuSable Anglers	Deer Lake Racquet Club
Avanti Salon	Detroit Tigers
Belle Visage	Detroit Zoological Society
Bernice Butterworth	Don & Sue Topping
Big Lake Farm	Dorothy Thiese
Bill Edwards	Fingers & Forks Personal Chef
Brioni Café	Fred Roeser DDS
	Glitz Salon of Clarkston
	Grace Geisler—Willow Pointe

Special volunteers:

John & Freda Meyland

On behalf of NOHLC - our gratitude and appreciation for John & Freda's time, talent, patience and incredible photography that they generously donate to NOHLC. John and Freda are not only at every event, parade and meeting we ask them to cover but are continuously out at our preserves capturing nature with John's knowledgeable eye and skillful framing.

Join NOHLC





In-kind cont':

Great Turtle Time
 Green Parrot Beach House
 Haddon Nursery
 Hamlin Pub
 Independence Fire Dept.
 Jim & Lisa Pistilli
 Jim Reed
 Joan McCrary
 Joanne & Bob Inskeep
 John & Freda Meyland
 Judy Barrett
 Keepsake Flowers
 Kinetic Systems
 Kirk Falvay
 Kroger
 L.A. Café
 Land Choices
 Laura Walls
 Lifepointe Chiropractic Center
 Linda Pudlik
 Lois Robbins
 Lynn Duffey
 MacPhee's Restaurant
 Margaret Francis
 Marilyn Lockwood
 Mary Blanchard
 Maureen Kay
 Meijers
 Moreau Creative
 Mr. B's Roadhouse
 Mystic Rods
 Nancy & Wayne Strole
 Nickelodeon
 Oakhurst Golf & Country Club

Oakland Co. Parks & Rec.
 O'Malleys Galley
 Outback Steakhouse
 Palace Sports & Entertainment
 Patricia Satterwaite
 Paul Gambka
 Paul Rabaut
 Randolph Salon
 Red Knapps
 Roger Bailey
 Ron & Ruth Finch
 Rose Printing Services
 Ruby Tuesdays
 Ruth Vrbensky
 Sayles Studio
 Simply Natural Health Food
 Springfield Garden Club
 Springfield Park & Rec
 St. Julian Winery
 Sue & Chuck Julian
 Sweetgrass
 Terri King Salon & Day Spa
 The Candle Factory
 The French Laundry
 The Holly Hotel
 Tim Birtsas
 Town Center Auto Wash
 Trevarrow Inc.
 Trish Hennig
 V Nails II
 Walls Real Estate
 Waterfall Jewelers
 Wojo's Greenhouse

Thank-you Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Volunteers



Special appreciation and thanks to coordinator **Heidi Quitmeyer** and the many men, women and young folks who contributed many hours of hands-on help to improve habitat at **NOHLC's Nels Kimball Sanctuary** in Clarkston.

scenicVistas is published periodically by the North Oakland Headwaters Land Conservancy. A subscription is included as **part of a member's donation**. Free copies are available to civic and community organizations. Submissions and letters to the editor should be sent to: scenicVISTAS, P.O. Box 285, Clarkston, MI 48347 or to mail@nohlc.org
Editor & Design: Penny Mason
Writers: Katie Anderson, Joan Harbaugh, Emily Duthinh, Sue Julian & Chuck Julian.
Photos: Arlene Badgley, John Meyland, Penny Mason, Katie Anderson, Emily Duthinh.



PO Box 285
Clarkston, MI 48347

Super-Hero Volunteer

Life of a Super-Hero Volunteer

(written tongue-in-cheek by Chuck Julian bleary eyed at 4 am)



What day is it? Oh yes, the invasion. Me and my 14 select volunteers. (Selected by the Work Alternative for Misdemeanorites program.) Our best preserved areas have been invaded by the dreaded Autumn Olive hordes who have come to wipe out the poor defenseless native trees and bushes of Oakland County. Morning preparations start. Make Chili. Feed the army. Did I buy enough supplies last week? Get those muffins in the oven. Brew gallons of coffee. Check out the Julian Armory aka the garage. Select eight pairs of razor sharp loppers honed on the diamond wheel in my business. Three hand saws in black leather sheaths. Three (not two) chain saws so that I will be assured that perhaps one will work. High octane gasoline mixed with the finest two-cycle oil. Fifteen pairs of black leather gloves designed to thwart the thorny defenses of the vicious Autumn Olive bushes. Six dropper bottles of potent herbicide to apply to the stumps, finishing them off for good. Remember the home-grown hot peppers to add to the chili for this tough crew determined to punish their taste buds. Nine o'clock. The packing begins. Ten am - rendezvous with the crew. Go over the battle plan. Very clear instructions. We launch a coordinated attack. Loppers, saws, chain saws mowing down the enemy. We have no mercy. The vanquished are thrown onto a funeral pyre and turned to ashes. We have won the day. To celebrate -high fives and a case of Mountain Dew. The serviceberry tree and the trillium emerge from the repressive shade of the Autumn Olive bushes. Although they are gone, we know they will be back - thin infiltrators arising from scattered olive fruits, abetted by the digestive tracts of birds. After 6 hours of battle, an exhausted army crawls back into its transport vehicle. As quartermaster, I must pack out all the supplies, wash the dishes, resharpen the tools, restock the pantry and ready for the next assault. Ah, the life of an NOHLC volunteer.