

The Arboriculture Society of Michigan's (*ASM*) 'Day of Service'

War Dog Memorial

June 23, 2012

Camelot Tree Service (Grosse Pointe), Kappen Tree Service (Cass City), and Victorian Garden's Tree Service (White Lake)

ASM – War Dog Memorial



Background Information on the War Dog Memorial

- There are only eighteen War Dog Memorials in the United States.
- The Michigan War Dog Memorial was buried under brush and trees for approximately twenty some years.
- In (estimation) 2009, a person walking their dog stumbled across the memorial and reported it to Lyon Township. Phil Weitlauf decided to donate his services to restoring the War Dog Memorial.
- The War Dog Memorial is located on Milford Road and 11 Mile in Lyon Township.



Background Information on the War Dog Memorial

- Phil Weitlauf – U.S. Army – 62-68 Vietnam Era
- Phil has tirelessly, with many volunteers, been an organizer of the restoration of the War Dog Memorial.
- www.vimeo.com/33994865 - War Dog Memorial Video produced by Paul Pytlowany CBS – Emmy Award Winning in the Historic/Cultural News Category.
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fjX4RVJJRpl> – War Dog Memorial Video of progress volunteers have made.



Judy Long – Proprietor of Hanabrit German Shepherds – Instrumental in organization of volunteers for the War Dog Memorial – www.puregoldmorgans.com

Background Information in the War Dog Memorial

- SGT. Spikes is buried at the Lyon Township War Dog Memorial and Pet Cemetery. He fought with the Marines in the Guadalcanal Campaign.

And when he gets to heaven, To Saint Peter he will tell:

One more soldier reporting, sir--

I've served my time in hell.

-Marine Grave inscription on Guadalcanal, 1942 canal Campaign.



How ASM Became Involved with the War Dog Memorial

- In Lyon Township, Michigan there is home to a War Dog Memorial Cemetery.
- Volunteers from all over Michigan have been helping restore this memorial for our four-legged heroes; but it is a massive project for just hand-tools. They have diligently volunteered for two years and made much progress.
- Phil Weitlauf – AMVETS, American Legion and Judy Long – Hanabrit German Shepherds asked Victorian Garden's Tree Service to remove a few trees from the grounds.

How ASM Became Involved with the War Dog Memorial Cemetery

- After actually walking the grounds, Victorian Garden's Tree Service wanted to become involved, but came to the conclusion that ASM and its members could rapidly make progress for this worthy cause and work with the diligent volunteers.
- Victorian Garden's Tree Service requested that ASM and its members do a 'Day of Service' for the Michigan War Dog Memorial.
- Nancy Carpenter, Executive Director and the Executive Board – Marshall Baeckeroot (President), Ryan Warby, (Secretary), Dawn Thierbach (Vice-President), and Steve Ryder, (Treasurer) approved the 'Day of Service'.



Why Should We Honor these Four-Legged Heroes?



<http://www.hardcoresledder.com/forums/507-dog-lovers/584388-war-dog-memorial-pet-cemetery-lyon-township-michigan.html>

How ASM Became Involved with the War Dog Memorial

- Victorian Garden's Tree Service asked two other ASM Members if they would donate their company's equipment, crews and services to the Michigan War Dog Memorial.
- Camelot Tree Service, (Grosse Pointe, MI) – Clint Sherrill, Proprietor
- Kappen Tree Service – (Cass City, MI) – Jason Kappen, Proprietor
- Victorian Garden's Tree Service – (White Lake, MI) – Jeff Thierbach/Dawn Thierbach, Proprietors
- These three companies became the ASM 'Day of Service' Team.

How ASM Became Involved with the War Dog Memorial

June 22, 2012 – Nancy Carpenter went to work with Karen Larson (Larson's Insurance Agency Solutions) procuring Insurance for the Day of Service at the War Dog Memorial. The Day of Service arrived – The Insurance was provided, The Waivers were Signed and The Team was ready!



ASM's Day of Service at the War Dog Memorial in Lyon Township, Michigan – June 23, 2012

- Camelot Tree Service, Kappen Tree Service and Victorian Garden's Tree Service arrived and the Day of Service began!



ASM – Day of Service/War Dog Memorial – June 23, 2012 Volunteers

- Mark Brooks
- Rachel Brudzinski
- Zach Campbell
- Jake Carufel
- Nancy Carpenter
- Ron Carpenter
- Joshua Falls
- Jason Kappen
- Jeremy Long
- Christian Monville
- Jason Rhodes
- Clint Sherrill
- Dawn Thierbach
- Jeff Thierbach
- Joanne Thierbach
- Brandin Wells
- Michelle Woatorcik



ASM – Day of Service/War Dog Memorial – June 23, 2012 – 90 Degrees



ASM – Day of Service – War Dog Memorial

Some of Us Were Above it All!



ASM – Day of Service – War Dog Memorial

Some of Us were Chipping Away at it!



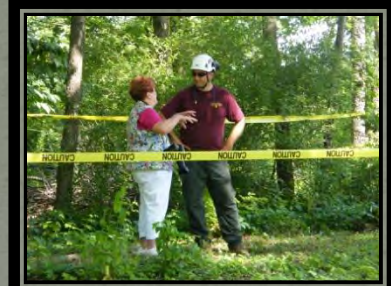
ASM – Day of Service – War Dog Memorial



ASM – Day of Service – War Dog Memorial

Lunch and Discussions

- Judy Long (Hanabrit German Shepherds) cooked our lunch.



ASM – Day of Service – War Dog Memorial



ASM – Day of Service Comes to an End





Special Thank You

- Thank you to Larson's Insurance
- Thank you to all the volunteers – ASM and Others
- Thank you to Judy Long and Phil Weitlauf for contacting us.
- Thank you to Ron L. Aiello of the United State's War Dog Association for Donating 45 shirts for all the volunteers.
- And the ASM Day of Service Ends for the War Dog Memorial



March 13

A Veteran is a Veteran, whether they are two-legged or four-legged!