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### H96-1268. Holland Area Historical Society (HAHS). Records, 1980-[ongoing]. 1.50 linear ft.

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**H96-1268.** Holland Area Historical Society (HAHS).  
Records, 1980-[ongoing]. 1.50 linear ft.

### Abstract

Includes cassette recordings of programs, correspondence, financial information, bulletins, newspaper clippings that document the organization and growth of this area society dedicated to studying and sharing the history of the Holland area.

Accession No: H96-1268  
Provenance: Holland Area Historical Society  
Donor: Holland Area Historical Society  
Processed by: Jenifer A. Smith, August 1993  
Chad Nykamp, April 1996

### History

The Holland Area Historical Society was organized in 1980 with the goal of bringing together people with an interest in history while promoting a community awareness of the cultural heritage of the Holland area. That same year, a constitution and bylaws were adopted and officers were elected. An annually elected slate of officers and an advisory board of directors govern the Historical Society. The Historical Society held its first official meeting on January 13, 1981.

### Scope and Content

The collection has been arranged alphabetically by topical heading. News releases, newspaper clippings, and programs document the activities of the Holland Area Historical Society from its beginning. The material contained in addresses, bulletins, financial information, and Historical Society meetings is incomplete. Audiotapes and several videotapes capture Historical Society presentations from 1991-1998.

### Container List

#### Addresses

Bruins, Elton J., "Where are We Going?" 1990  
Kansfield, Norman J., "Dearie, Do You Remember?" (outline), 1980  
Schoup, Jerry, "Heinz in Holland for 100 Years," 1996  
Swierenga, Robert, "Decisions, Decisions: Turning Points in Van Raalte's Founding of Holland," 1997  
Winter, Helena, "Our Petticoated Pioneers, 1850-1930" (includes audiotape), 1992  
Board of Directors, Minutes, 1994-present (3 folders)  
Booklet, *100 Year of the Automobile*, 1996  
*Bulletins*, 1980-1982  
Constitution and Bylaws, 1993, 1994

- Correspondence, 1980-1992  
Elections, 2001-present  
Financial Information, 2000  
*HAHS News* (a supplement to the Joint Archives newsletter), 1997-1999  
Historical Society Meetings, 1981-1983  
Internal Revenue Service documents, 1981, 1987  
Membership List, 1993  
Newspaper Clippings, 1980-present  
Postal mailings, 1978, 1999  
Programs  
    Brochures, 1984-present  
    Press Releases, 1982-present  
    Speaker Information, 1982-present  
Speaker Notes  
    “History of the Holland Fire Department” with Paul Den Uyl, 02/10/2009  
    “Cappy Cappon Chronicles” with Randy Vande Water, 04/10/2012  
Steering Committee, Minutes, 1980  
CDs, 1999, “My Views” (Louis Hallacy II), 10/12/1999  
DVDs, 2013  
    “What Made Holland, Holland: An Historical Overview” by Dr. Robert Swierenga, 01/08/2013  
    “Shipwrecks of Muskegon County” by Craig Rich, 03/12/2013  
    “Scenes of Holland’s Sites & Sights” by Randy Vande Water, 04/09/2013  
Videocassettes  
    1992  
        The City Celebrates 125 Years, 02/18/1992  
        Women in Holland’s History, 03/17/1992  
    2002  
        Growing Smart-Growing Together in the 21st Century (Soren Wolff), 02/12/2002  
    2003  
        Latinos in Holland: Three Generations in Perspective (Becky Arenas, Laura Gomez Thomas, Celia Martinez de Serrano, Angie Fowler, 04/08/2003  
Audiocassettes (located in General Audiotape Cassette Cabinet)  
    Program Year  
        1991-1992  
            Pearl Harbor: A Day in Infamy (Arthur Tazelaar), 12/10/1991  
            U.S. invades Russia: The Polar Bears (Hero Bratt, Elton Bruins, Neal Berghoef), 01/21/1992  
        1992-1993  
            Holland Furnace (C. Warren Vander Hill), 12/15/1992  
            Holland’s Ethnic Diversity (Lupita Reyes), 01/19/1993  
            Van Raalte and the Churches (Gene Osterhaven), 04/20/1993  
        1993-1994  
            Downtown Development (Greg Holcombe), 10/19/93

1994-1995

Mrs. Jack Gruber, Fall 1994  
World War II memories, 10/18/1994  
A. C. Van Raalte (Elton Bruins), 11/15/1994

Drenthe: Hotbed of Controversy, 01/17/1995  
Holland Railroad (Donald Van Reken), 04/18/95

1995-1996

Alumni Recollections, 10/03/1995 (?)  
History Through the Eyes of Faith, 10/17/1995  
Hope-Calvin Game History (Tom Renner), 01/23/1996  
Heinz in Holland (Jerry Schoup), 03/19/1996

1996-1997

Ottawa County Political History (Julie Dennie, Tom De Pree,  
Larry Wagenaar), 10/15/1996  
War Crime Trials at Nuremberg (and personal story, Paul Fried),  
11/19/1996  
Native American Society on the 19th Century Midwestern Frontier  
(Susan Sleeper-Smith), 01/21/1997  
Decisions, Decisions: Turning Points in Van Raalte's Founding of  
Holland (Robert Swierenga), 02/18/1997  
Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad: 150 Years of the Pennsylvania  
Railroad (Jim Winslow), 03/19/1997  
WHTC and Early Holland Radio (Juke Van Oss), 04/15/1997

1997-1998

Vignettes in Holland Sports History (Leo Martonosi), 04/14/98

1998-1999

Is it Worse Than the Wound? Civil War Surgery (Dr. Brad  
Bengtson), 11/09/1998  
Family Feud: The RCA/CRC Split (Elton Bruins and Michael De  
Vries), 01/12/1999  
History of Chris-Craft in Holland (Chris J. Smith), 03/09/1999  
Lake Michigan Shipwrecks and the New Underwater Preserve  
(Ken Pott), 04/13/1999

1999-2000

Holland Explodes (Louis Hallacy II) (includes PowerPoint  
printout) (see also CD Roms), 10/12/1999  
Washington Square History (John Vander Veen, Jim Heerspink),  
11/09/1999  
Maritime History of Holland (Geoffrey D. Reynolds), 01/11/2000  
The Pere Marquette Celebrates a Century (Robert Vande Vusse),  
02/08/2000  
Holland Mayor Reunion (Paul Trap-Moderator, William Lamb,  
William Sikkel, Phil Tanis, Al McGeehan), 03/14/2000  
The Value of Antiques (Leslie Lampen, Judy Elenbaas),  
04/11/2000

2000-2001

Cannibal from Grand Haven (Charles Langlade), 02/13/2001  
Holland American Legion Band (Henry Vander Linde),  
03/13/2001

History of Bil Mar Foods (Mike Lozon), 04/10/2001

2001-2002

Dutch Chicago (Robert Swierenga), 01/08/2002

Growing Smart-Growing Together in the 21st Century (Soren  
Wolff), 02/12/2002

Building the County's First Railroad (Paul Trap), 03/12/2002

Black/African-American Baseball in Grand Rapids (Richard  
Harms), 04/09/2002

2002-2003

The Funeral Trade in the Holland, Michigan, Area (Vic and Craig  
Kleinheksel), 10/08/2002

The Rise and Demise of the A. C. Van Raalte Home (Elton  
Bruins), 11/12/2002

Quest for the Chicora (Michigan Shipwreck Research Associates),  
01/14/2003

Serving the Needy: Social Service Agencies in Holland (Mark  
Brower), 02/11/2003

German and Reformed: Another Slice of Migration to 19th  
Century America [Ostfries, Bentheimers] (Wayne  
Brouwer), 03/11/2003

2003-2004

Lost City of Port Sheldon, Harold Kuipers, 10/14/2003

History of the Ben Van Raalte Farm and Family (Elton Bruins),  
01/13/2004

Reflections on an Encounter at Sea (sinking of the Natori  
Lightcruiser by the submarine U.S.S. Hardhead during  
World War Two) (Gordon Van Wylen), 02/10/2004

2004-2005

Battle of Tebbs Bend (Terry Vande Water), 11/09/2004

Ferris Wheels and Summer Breezes: The History of Jenison Park  
(Geoffrey Reynolds and Lois Jesiek Kayes), 03/08/2005

2005-2006

A Quarter Century of Historical Preservation in Holland, Michigan  
(Elton Bruins) (includes PowerPoint presentation CD and  
outline), 11/08/2005

The Weakest Link: Lake Michigan Cross-Lake Service from  
Grand Haven: Detroit & Milwaukee Railway and  
Successors (CD of PowerPoint presentation) (Paul Trap),  
02/14/2006

The History of the De Graaf Nature Center (Robert Venner),  
03/14/2006

Getting Political in Holland (Robert Swierenga), 04/11/2006

2006-2007

Lumir, LLC and the Prince Legacy (Ross Nykamp and Elsa Prince Broekhuizen), 11/14/2006

West Michigan Interurbans and Chicago Steam Boats (Carl Bajema and David Kindem), 03/13/2007

Graafschap CRC: Zion in the Wilderness (Janet Sheeres),  
04/10/2007

2007-2008

Van Raalte's First Emigrants (Henry ten Hoor), 10/09/2007

History of Holland Banking (Steve Vander Veen), 01/08/2007

"Tulip Time Treasures" (Randy Vande Water), 04/08/2008

2008-2009

"Land Conservation in West Michigan (Peter Homeyer),  
10/14/2008

"History of the Holland Fire Department [eight large fires at Vogelzang Hardware explosion and fire at Washington Square, Texas Company Gasoline Storage Terminal, *South American* steamship at Montello Park docks, Macatawa Park cottages and incline railway (Angel's Flight)] (includes speaker's outline) (Paul Den Uyl), 02/10/2009

"History of the Grand River" (Kit Lane), 03/10/2009