



Homewood Izaak Walton Preserve, Inc.

Dedicated to Service in Conservation

1100 Ridge Road
Homewood, Illinois 60430
708-798-1850

e-mail address: info@homewoodizaakwalton.com

Like us on Facebook

To our members and friends:

January 2018

OUR ANNUAL POTLUCK DINNER AND FOLK MUSIC CONCERT

For many years we have enjoyed our annual potluck dinner on the 4th Thursday of February. This year due to scheduling conflicts this event will be held on the 3rd Thursday in February. This family friendly event features home cooked side dishes brought by participants with meat options obtained from a local food provider and wonderful musical entertainment. New for this year is the option of just attending the concert only. This is Mark Dvorak's 31st year bringing his exceptional music and song to this event as we have watched the development of his mastery of guitar, banjo, and voice earning him recognition as a keeper of traditional American folk music. Mark travels widely to conferences and performance venues but saves this date for us. He has researched the history of folk music and shares historical connections between this music and our country's story. A long-standing member of the Old Town School of Folk Music staff, Mark is sought after for his playing, storytelling, and original compositions. All ages will enjoy his program, which will follow our potluck supper. The Potluck committee asks that you return your reservation form below by mail or just drop off at the cabin in the mailbox on the front door by Monday Feb 12. Newcomers are especially welcome to enjoy this program that has been characterized by some as a "Norman Rockwell" event ! To attend the concert only, just pay a charge of \$5 at the door (but children under 18 are free). Concertgoers only, please arrive after 6:45p but before 7:00p—no reservations necessary.

MARK DVORAK, Folksinger

Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018

Time: Supper at 6:00 P.M. – Entertainment at 7:00 P.M.

Place: Arthur Senior Hall, 1100 Ridge Road, Homewood

Cost: \$10.00 includes meat dishes, beverage, and entertainment

Children age 12 and under - \$5.00

Please bring a dish to share: (vegetable, salad, or dessert to serve 4-6).

PLEASE return the RESERVATION FORM BY MONDAY, FEB. 12

RESERVATION FORM

Enclosed is a check payable to *Homewood Izaak Walton Preserve* for ___ adults and ___ children for the Potluck and Entertainment.

Send to: Betty Baker, Homewood Izaak Walton Preserve
1100 Ridge Road, Homewood, IL 60430

Amount of check _____ (\$10 per adult, \$5 per child 12 or under)

Name of member _____ I plan to bring a _____
_____ for the potluck meal.

Thursday January 25th 2018 7 p.m.

January General Meeting: "ALL ABOUT BEES"

Our veteran beekeeper, Mike Rusnak will present a program on beekeeping and bees. Details were previously published in the November/December Newsletter. Mike will provide an overview of getting started in beekeeping. Mike will be offering a 6-week course on Mondays beginning on Feb 19 (one evening per week) on beekeeping at our cabin. The class size is limited but there are still openings; cost is \$50 for members and \$75 for non-members who then automatically become members. Mail or drop off a check at the cabin with a note about your intention to sign up for the course. If you are interested in that course, you do not want to miss this program

LET THERE BE LIGHT

Those of you who have visited our main entrance and parking lot have noticed quite a difference at night; the grounds areas near the cabin and especially the parking lot are now lit by high efficiency LED flood lights. The Board approved this upgrade last summer due to security concerns from increased undesirable activity in the parking lots at night. Our thanks to Bob Enright, who was project manager, and Stu Regan, who installed the lights at a very favorable cost.

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

Over the past few years, Steve Wlodarski, Board member and our Controlled Burn Coordinator, has been visiting local groups of young people in order to inform them about the HIWP. Last October, he visited two groups with his outreach presentation: the Environmental Vikings Club at HF High School, and Homewood Boy Scout Troop 364. Steve gives them a 10-minute discussion of the benefits of having a nature preserve in the area. He also explains the practice of conducting controlled burns at the Preserve in both Spring and Fall and why they enhance the development of native plant species. In order to make the presentation interactive, the young people are given a chance to wear and operate the backpack style fire extinguisher. This is a simple, safe device that utilizes only water with the operator providing water pressure via a hand-operated pump. Steve extols the virtues of volunteerism, explaining to the young people how this educational and enjoyable experience benefits the Preserve and all of those who participate in the project. The controlled burns are conducted in a very safe manner resulting in an educational and fun adventure. The youths this year were as enthusiastic as they have ever been and some participated in our Fall burns. They will be invited again to participate in our Spring burns.

Thanks to Bilagio Ristorante:

In last month's newsletter, we thanked local merchants who donated gift certificates or merchandise for our November fund-raiser. We forgot to mention:

- Bilagio Ristorante, 17501 Dixie Hwy in Homewood

Thank you Balagio's!

2018-19 Memberships Are Now Available

Membership cards for 2018-19 are now available. The new or renewed membership is valid from the date of purchase through March 2019. They can be bought by filling out the form below and mailing it to us at: Homewood Izaak Walton Preserve, 1100 Ridge Rd, Homewood, IL. 60430; we will then mail a membership card back to you. We will have our usual membership drive in February; at that time membership solicitations will be mailed out to those who have not yet renewed.

You'll see that dues for an adult membership are again \$25 as they have been since 1974. We've been able to keep our dues constant for this long period through (1) careful financial management, (2) the success of our November fundraiser (Turkey Raffle & Auction), and (3) voluntary contributions. The form below allows for an optional contribution. Please consider making one this year as our income and expenses are increasingly hard to balance. Homewood Izaak Walton Preserve is a 501(c)3 organization. Contributions to HIWP are tax exempt.

Thank you for your membership and generosity in supporting The Preserve.

DUES FOR YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 2019 Make checks payable to: Homewood Izaak Walton Preserve or HIWP E-mail address: _____ Phone No. _____	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Regular Membership - \$25</td> <td style="width: 40%; text-align: right;">\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Junior Member (under 18) or Active Military - \$5</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; border-top: 1px solid black;">(Military Branch -- or -- Name & birth date of Junior)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Optional Contribution</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Enclosed</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ _____</td> </tr> </table>	Regular Membership - \$25	\$ _____	Junior Member (under 18) or Active Military - \$5	\$ _____	(Military Branch -- or -- Name & birth date of Junior)		Optional Contribution	\$ _____	Total Enclosed	\$ _____
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Please let us know your interests in Izaak Walton Preserve. Check the boxes that apply to you.

	Volunteer Opportunities -----
Activities:	Trail Maintenance
Fishing	Gardening
Dog Walking	4 th of July Community Picnic
Hiking or Jogging	Mail Preparation
Biking:	Invasive Plant Eradication (prairie burns)
Educational Programs	Prairie Restoration
Other	Special Skill (Please specify)

Your President,
 John Brinkman

HOMEWOOD IZAAK WALTON PRESERVE PROGRAM

Thursday February 15th, 2018 6 p.m.

**Arthur Senior Hall
1100 Ridge Road, Homewood IL**

POTLUCK DINNER AND FOLK MUSIC CONCERT

Enjoy an evening at Senior Hall, sharing a potluck dinner with family, friends, and fellow members at 6pm followed by a 1st class folk music concert provided by Mark Dvorak from the Old Town School of Folk Music at 7pm. See reservation form and further details inside this newsletter.