



To our members and friends:

May 2022 Newsletter

FINALLY.....OUR REMODELED BATHROOMS ARE OPEN !

We reported extensively on this project in our March '22 newsletter. (Note that prior newsletters going back about two years are available on our website). Before renovations, we would keep the main cabin locked when not in use, but still have the bathrooms open from about early morning until dusk (aside from winter months). We now have brand new bathrooms and once again have them open during daylight hours. We'll maintain a port-a-potty on the north side of the parking lot for after-hours use year-round.

TRAIL MIX CONCERT....FRIDAY NIGHT JUNE 10th

We're in our 7th year of Trail Mix! Yes, for seven years Trail Mix has brought the community together with live, mostly-acoustic music, from talented local acts to professional recording artists. The venue is our special "clearing in the woods", the Homewood Izaak Walton Preserve.

The mission of Trail Mix is to introduce music lovers to the Preserve, to provide a live music experience to the whole community, and to help raise funds for Preserve improvements. We're very happy that our outdoor venue adds popular performance opportunities for talented local musicians & bands who perform a variety of musical offerings including blues, bluegrass, Americana, folk, and jazz right here at the Homewood Izaak Walton Preserve.

In 2022, Trail Mix is significantly upping its game, with plans to schedule four concerts throughout the year; details concerning late summer and winter concerts will come in due time. We have had much success with the musical talent we've attracted in recent years. This concert will be something special featuring a popular local band followed by a well known **headliner**.


Friday June 10th: **6pm –Doors Open**
 7pm—Butterfield Creek (Local Americana/bluegrass band)
 8pm—Dom Flemmons

Referred to as the American Songster, founder of the critically acclaimed Carolina Chocolate Drops and 2010 Grammy winner with two Emmy nominations, Dom Flemmons will headline Trail Mix on June 10th, 2022. Dom's a recipient of the prestigious 2020 United States Artists Fellowship Award with seven solo albums on labels like the Smithsonian Folkways label. He's played alongside Carrie Underwood, Old Crow Medicine Show and Taj Mahal, and his critically acclaimed, 2019 Grammy nominated *Black Cowboys* album and *Prospect Hill: the American Songster Omnibus* have topped multiple charts, including the Billboard Bluegrass Charts for 55 weeks.

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In short, Dom Flemons is the real-deal and tickets to the June 10th event have already been sold on line to music lovers from well outside our immediate community. Dom's reputation for being an amazing performer and his credentials will surely increase the audience size, but a limited number of advanced tickets are available at the following website <https://www.tix.com/ticket-sales/trailmixmusicfest/6933>. Advanced tickets include premium, close to the stage tickets for \$30 and Advanced General Tickets for \$20. Purchasing tickets in advance will assure your parking in the immediately adjacent Izaak Walton Parking Lot and they will assure a dry seat indoors at Senior Hall should rain move the concert indoors. Day-of tickets behind the Advanced General seats will be available for a suggested price of \$15, payable through Paypal, or Cash.

As always, audience members are encouraged to bring their own reasonably sized, non-view-obstructing lawn chairs, or blankets for that special outdoor seating. Some picnic tables will be available outside the premium spaces. Pizza and water will be available from Preserve volunteers; BYOB is allowed !

JUNE GENERAL MEETING AND PROGRAM: ALL ABOUT FISHING

All about Fishing: Presentation/Seminar on Thursday 6/16/22 & hands on fishing instructions on Saturday 6/25/22


We're pleased to present Johnny Wilkins, an expert fisherman and member of The Preserve. His presentation will be at our east pavilion on Thursday, June 16 at 7 PM. Then on Saturday, June 25 at 5:00 PM Johnny will provide hands-on fishing lessons at one of our lake sites. The presentation & fishing lesson will be free to Preserve Members.

Johnny is the founder of the Chicago Fishing School. He has taught fishing for over 20 years and has competed in 3 world championships for Team USA. His methods will put brand new fishers on the road to catching fish; they'll also improve the catches of more veteran anglers. If you've never fished before, this is an excellent chance to get to know this great outdoor sport and learn correct techniques right from the start. A limited number of simple free fishing poles will be available for the hands-on lesson.

VOLUNTEERS FOR MEMBERSHIP WORK NEEDED

Membership at The Preserve is managed with the help cloud-based software provided By Salesforce, Inc. Salesforce offers that software free of charge to Izaak Walton and other non-profit organizations. It's easy to use, allows for easy e-mailing to our members, and helps us identify & connect with volunteers.

In recent years our membership has been about 1,700 per year and so, we need to make 1,700 annual entries into Salesforce. Since it's a cloud-based tool, multiple people can work on Salesforce at the same time from their home computers. We'd appreciate having more volunteers. If interested, please send us an email to info@HomewoodIzaakWalton.com. You could also call Shawn Straney, our Membership Secretary, at 708-870-4836.





ANNOUNCING THE RETURN OF OUR TRADITIONAL JULY 4th VILLAGE PICNIC !

After a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic, we enthusiastically bring back to the community, our traditional July 4 picnic which has been a local favorite in Homewood for decades. The event immediately follows the Village's 4th of July parade which steps off at 10am from downtown and ends at the Preserve's Ridge Road entrance shortly after 11am. Preserve volunteers will provide the facilities and offer food and refreshments for sale (cooked brats, hot dogs, corn on the cob, soft drinks, water etc.) In past years, the Park District sponsored a July 4th Family Fun Fest on our grounds but the Park District prefers not to continue that partnership and so, our Board came up with alternative plans for family-fun activities.


We'll sponsor *Games for Everyone* in the middle of our east meadow. We'll conduct foot races for young age groups (and a crawling race for the youngest ones), 3-legged sack races for older kids, water balloon toss, egg toss and catch contest, a bag toss tournament and others games that we're working on. The volleyball net will be available for informal use. The games will start at 12:30p except the bag toss tournament which will begin at 11:30p. All events will conclude at approximately 1:30p. You'll be able to sign up in advance on our website for all games after approximately June 13. You can also "walk on" and participate in the games at the event. ALL winners will receive prizes and All participants will receive free T shirts.

Also, we'll have activity stations sponsored by local organizations and businesses that will offer fun things for kids to do. Participants so far include Homewood Science Center, Serendipity Yoga, Homewood Baseball, Goodspeed Cycles, John Harrell State Farm Insurance and perhaps others. We have strong support from Board members to manage the event including Sam Casella, Jay Eagle, Shawn Straney, and Greg Busler. We'll be calling on a loyal group of volunteers from past July 4 events to help with the event and we're always looking for more volunteers. If you'd like to volunteer, please send an email to info@homewoodizaakwalton.com. You could also leave a message on our voice mail at 708-798-1850. Watch for more details in our June Newsletter.

OFFICE HOURS HONEY, AND MILKWEED SEED PACKETS

A reminder that we staff the office on Saturday mornings from 9-noon until mid-November. We have plenty of milkweed seed packets available **free of charge** and an ample supply of Preserve honey for sale for \$8 per 12 oz jar.

Your President, John Brinkman





JUNE PROGRAM

Thursday June 16, 2022, 7PM at the east pavilion

Johnny Wilkins, the founder of the Chicago Fishing School & competitor in fishing competitions, will give a presentation with much to offer to both new & veteran fishermen & fisherwomen.

Then on Saturday June 25, 2022 at 5:00 PM, Johnny will return for hands-on fishing lessons at one of our lake sites.
(see article in this newsletter for additional details)

