



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:

September 2020

COVID 19 PANDEMIC IV

We are nearing the end of summer and sad to see it go but, unfortunately, the Coronavirus 19 continues lurking around in its insidious unseen way, messing up our lives. The Preserve (our Green Jewel) though, continues to be a sanctuary: a wonderful place to enjoy nature in its late season glory. We continue to recommend social distancing at the Preserve when outside of your immediate household group. When passing others on the trails you should do one of three things to prevent transmission of the virus 1) step aside to become at least 6' apart, 2) put your mask on while you pass or 3) simply hold your breath for 2-3 seconds while you pass by other people. These are easy mitigating steps to minimize this risk that exists among us. Please read further in this newsletter for updates for our usual fall activities.

ANNUAL TURKEY RAFFLE FUNDRAISER—DRAWING ON SUNDAY Nov 8th

We're disappointed that the continuing pandemic forces us to cancel our annual Fall Turkey Raffle, Bake Sale and Auction Party. This is yet another victim of the unseen enemy! But we'll still conduct a raffle ticket fundraiser and draw the winning tickets on Sunday November 8th. This is our only fund raising event of the year and it accounts for about 25% of annual revenue.

You'll soon receive in the mail (or already have) a letter with your raffle ticket booklets. You'll see the prize list, which is better than ever. Instead of 3 cash prizes, we now have five; they are: \$500, \$400, \$300, \$200 and \$100. We'll also raffle off 30 turkey coupons (gift cards) from Walt's Foods (value \$25 each).

You'll all get two booklets of 6-tickets. The cost per ticket is \$5; however, a booklet of 6 costs only \$25. Please consider purchasing a booklet of tickets and then ask family, friends, & acquaintances to support The Preserve with the purchase of additional raffle tickets. To encourage ticket sales, members who sell 6 booklets (\$150) will receive a complimentary Walt's \$25 gift card for each block of 6 booklets sold. Additional ticket booklets are available at Senior Hall during office hours (Saturdays 9-noon). Stop by or leave a voice message (708/ 798-1850) requesting additional booklets; we would then mail them to you promptly. Again, this year we're able to accept payment for raffle tickets via credit or debit card in person at Senior Hall.

Ticket stubs and payments can be returned to Senior Hall (1100 Ridge Road) via mail or during office hours on Saturdays from 9 AM until noon. For many, many years the enthusiasm of our

membership for this fundraising effort has been gratifying and wonderful. We look forward to holding our normal auction, bake sale, and raffle party in 2021. Thanks to our loyal and strong membership for your continuing support for this key fund-raising event.

OFFICE HOURS—HONEY IS BACK !

Just a reminder that our office hours are Saturday 9 AM to noon. Thanks to our dedicated bee keepers, Mike Rusnak and Tony Ferracane, we now have recently harvested honey from our beehives available for sale at the cabin. The cost is the same as before: \$8 for a 12oz bottle. If you are unable to get to the cabin during our regular office hours, please call the office phone (708/ 798-1850), leave a message, and we'll then make arrangements for you to meet a volunteer and make your purchase at a more convenient time.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer Dave Smith has completed our annual report for our fiscal year that ended on August 31, 2019. We are reporting these results to you about 7 months later than normal due to dislocations caused by the pandemic. Please note this report is NOT for the current fiscal year that just ended on 8-31-20. Once again we thank you, our loyal and generous members, and thank the entire Board, for its careful management of our revenue and expenses. Our finances are in good order and our reserves are strong. Notable also, is the steady, significant, voluntary contributions that we receive which have been very supportive over the past 5 years. Below is a summary of our major categories of revenue and expenses comparing this year to the last two years.

		'16-'17	'17-'18	'18-'19
Revenue:	Dues	43%	45%	41%
	Donations	20%	19%	26%
	Turkey Raffle	27%	28%	26%
	Events/Other	10%	8%	7%
Expense:	Revenue related	18%	19%	13%
	Non Discretionary	61%	54%	61%
	Purchases, Projects	21%	27%	26%
	Surplus as a % of Revenue:	15%	27%	29%

Thanks once again for your continuing financial support making these strong results possible.

HIWP CALANDAR BACK FOR 2021

The Izaak Walton Photo Committee is pleased to announce the launch of our second annual calendar photo competition, “More Seasons of Izaak Walton/2021,” which will be a 14 month calendar. Last year, more than 200 photos were entered into the competition for a spot on the calendar: “Seasons of Izaak Walton/2020,” showing the preserve in different months of the year.

Rules: The same basic rules from last year will be followed:

- Entries can be submitted starting September 10, 2020 and will be accepted through midnight September 28, 2020
- Each entrant can submit a maximum of four photos of weather, landscapes, birds, dogs, insects, turtles, other animals, or unidentifiable people. All photographs must be taken at the Homewood Izaak Walton Preserve.

--Please submit your **images with your name, email address, phone, title for the photo, and month or season photo was taken to this email address for Izaak Walton:**

fb@homewoodizaakwalton.com.

--There are no entrance fees.

--Please do not submit photos taken of family events by hired, professional photographers.

--There should be no watermarks on the photo. All photos should be in landscape orientation suitable for a calendar.

--Everyone is allotted 12 votes to cast at Facebook for their favorite photos until midnight September 28. An independent panel of four professional photographers will choose their favorites. The HIWP Photo Committee will use the public's votes to break ties.

--The expectation is that most calendars will be mailed. But a one-day outdoor pick-up of calendars may be arranged with social distancing and masks required. Details to come about these arrangements and also pricing for calendars.

The IW Photo Committee is comprised of five HIWP photography fans: Kathie Hazlett, Heather Marcum, Jim Shover, Penny Shnay and Howard Wolinsky. Board member Todd Wittenberg is HIWP's contact for the contest and calendar.

***Please note that participating photographers will be limited to only one chosen photo (for a month) for the calendar. We may use extra images from a winning photographer as thumbnails on the calendar. Also, by submitting your images, should your image be chosen, you give the Homewood Izaak Walton Preserve the right and privilege of printing the image, for the purpose of being included in its 2021 calendar. All proceeds from said calendars shall benefit the Homewood Izaak Walton Preserve.

WALK WALTON

The Homewood Science Center will be conducting their 4th Fall fundraiser at the Preserve on Sunday Oct 18 from 9 am until noon. Like so many other events, this activity has been reduced in scope in order to maintain personal safety as a result of the pandemic. This year's activities will be limited to a socially distanced nature walk and bio blitz for familial groups of 10 or less. This activity provides an excellent opportunity to explore parts of the Preserve with a knowledgeable docent providing interesting information about the Preserve. We encourage you to participate. Registration will begin in mid-September. For more details and to register, please visit their website at www.homewoodsciencecenter.org

RUN FOREST RUN

For the 15th consecutive year, we will again be sponsoring our Fall Trail Race event on Saturday, November 7th at 9:30a. This 4-mile run through our well-maintained trail system has become a very popular event in our local running community. Anyone who has participated in the past has already been invited to participate via email registration. Due to pandemic concerns, the race will be strictly limited to 50 runners, masks will be required in the grounds area before and after the race and whenever passing another runner. No congregating will be allowed. Runners will be strategically spread out to start the race. Nevertheless, anyone learning about this event for the first time and desiring to participate can sign up at www.RunTheForest.com.

Sincerely, Your President *John Brinkman*

HOMEWOOD IZAAK WALTON PRESERVE

FALL EVENTS

Walk Walton

Sunday October 18th from 9-noon

Run Forest Run Trail Race

Saturday November 7th at 9:30am

Please read the articles about these events within this newsletter

Place: Arthur Senior Hall 1100 Ridge Road Homewood, IL