



## **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](mailto:info@homewoodizaakwalton.com)

*Like us on Facebook*

To our members and friends:

January 2020

### **WINTER FUNDRAISER MUSIC CONCERT\*--THURSDAY FEB 20, 7:30PM**

Returning again this year after their excellent inaugural concert last year, the local band “Work in Progress” will perform a concert in Senior Hall on Thursday February 20 to begin at 7:30p. Two 45 minutes sets are planned with one 15-minute break. There is no charge for this event but voluntary contributions to the Preserve will be accepted. Also, attendees will be allowed to bring their own alcoholic drinks to enjoy during the concert. In advance of the concert, at 6:45p, pizza from 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter as well as bottled water and pop will be available at reasonable prices. Free coffee, cider and snacks will be provided. This band has become well known locally having performed at numerous events including Homewood’s Art and Garden Fair, Trail Mix at the Preserve, Homewood’s Fall Festival, Grape and Grain, and One Trick Pony. Their music is best characterized as “Americana” which includes elements of bluegrass, newgrass, blues and rock and includes some original music. Instrumentation includes guitars, bass, banjo, mandolin, harmonica, and the cajon (a Peruvian percussion instrument). Musicians include Dirk French, Jeff Mahary, Steve and Steve Klein (father and son), Rob Mayes, and Tim Majkowski. Music will be performed without amplification due to the wonderful acoustics in the cabin. So come on out to the cabin to enjoy wonderful music in a unique venue and BYOB !

\* Our traditional Pot Luck dinner with folk music is scheduled for March 5. Watch for details in the February newsletter.

### **THINK SPRING: NATIVE PLANT SALE AT HWIP**

Again this spring, HIWP will co-sponsor a native plant sale with Thorn Creek Audubon Society (TCAS). This year, thirty-four different plants will be offered at the sale, including trees, shrubs, flowers, and ornamental grasses. Plants are chosen to represent different colors, textures, sun exposures and bloom times. All are native to this area of Illinois. Judy Johnson, a member of both organizations and plant sale organizer, stresses that native plants are beneficial to wildlife and the environment. Local wildlife, including pollinators, depend on native plants for food and shelter. Also, native plants thrive without pesticides or fertilizers and, once established, do not require watering. The very deep root systems also help prevent erosion and flooding. In order to better ensure that you obtain the plants you desire, **we strongly encourage pre-ordering** as the supply of plants not preordered will be limited. The order form can be accessed on our website; just print it out and follow directions. Order forms are also available in the office which is

staffed on Saturday mornings during the winter. **Deadline to pre-order is March 1. Plant delivery and open sale is Saturday, May 23 from 9-noon at HIWP.** All profits will be split between HIWP and TCAS. More information on native plants including pictures can be found at: [www.illinoiswildflowers.info](http://www.illinoiswildflowers.info). Questions/order form requests can be directed to Judy at: [TCASPlants@gmail.com](mailto:TCASPlants@gmail.com). Think Spring!

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT FOR 2019 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS 2020**

In 2019, we had our 2<sup>nd</sup> best membership year with 1,398 members. That’s 41 below the record set in 2018. The decreased number might be explained the very wet spring, which caused fewer visits to The Preserve. However, the 1,398 number is a very good number and we’re very thankful for the wide support received from residents of Homewood and a dozen other near-by communities.

We hope you’ll renew your membership for 2020. You can do so by filling out the form below and mailing it to is at 1100 Ridge Rd, Homewood, IL. 60430. We’ll then mail a membership card to you. You can also join on-line as follows:

- Go to: [www.homewoodizaakwalton.com](http://www.homewoodizaakwalton.com)
- Click membership, then click on the following page per instructions and order you membership using a credit card.
- We will then mail a membership card to you.

Memberships are only \$25; that number has been unchanged since 1974. We’ve been able to keep our dues constant through (1) careful financial management, (2) successful November fundraisers (Turkey Raffle & Auction), and (3) voluntary contributions. The form below allows for an optional contribution. Please consider making one this year. 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.

<p>DUES FOR YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 2021 Make checks payable to: Homewood Izaak Walton Preserve or <u>HIWP</u></p> <p>E-mail address: _____</p> <p>Phone No. _____</p>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Regular Membership - \$25</td> <td style="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 &amp; birth date of Junior)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Optional Contribution</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total Enclosed</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>\$ _____</b></td> </tr> </table>	Regular Membership - \$25	\$ _____	Junior Member (under 18) or Active Military - \$5	\$ _____	(Military Branch -- or -- Name & birth date of Junior)		<b>Optional Contribution</b>	\$ _____	<b>Total Enclosed</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>
Regular Membership - \$25	\$ _____										
Junior Member (under 18) or Active Military - \$5	\$ _____										
(Military Branch -- or -- Name & birth date of Junior)											
<b>Optional Contribution</b>	\$ _____										
<b>Total Enclosed</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>										

Please let us know your interests in Izaak Walton Preserve. Check the boxes that apply to you.

	Volunteer Opportunities -----
Activities:	<input type="checkbox"/> Trail Maintenance
<input type="checkbox"/> Fishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Gardening
<input type="checkbox"/> Dog Walking	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Community Picnic
<input type="checkbox"/> Hiking or Jogging	<input type="checkbox"/> Mail Preparation
<input type="checkbox"/> Biking:	<input type="checkbox"/> Invasive Plant Eradication
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational Programs	<input type="checkbox"/> Prairie Restoration/Prairie burns
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Special Skill (Please specify)

## **WINTER OFFICE HOURS**

Until spring, the office will be staffed on Saturdays only 9-noon for membership renewals as well as merchandise and honey sales. A few 2020 calendars are still available.

## **WATER QUALITY TESTING AND LAKE REPORT**

We recently hired a company (Environmental Aquatic Management LLC) to analyze the quality of the water in the Sandpit Lakes. We last performed these tests of the Sandpit Lakes in 2003. These tests are extensive measuring 15 parameters including dissolved oxygen, hardness and several other chemical and bacteria measurements. Sediment depth is also checked. We are gratified to report that the Sandpit lakes are very healthy and provide an excellent habitat for fish and other aquatic creatures. In fact, the company reports that the overall health of these lakes is among the top 10% of all the lakes that they have analyzed over many years. Who knew ? And no dredging is recommended or advantageous in any way. We have made the entire report available on our website. This is the first "capital project" funded by the proceeds of our sale of 2.6 acres to CN back in early 2019. Our thanks to board members Tony Talarico and Carolyn Bury for their assistance in obtaining and understanding this report.

## **YOUTH FISHING CLUB FORMING**

Member Aja Moore recently approached us for help and assistance in forming a Homewood based Bassmaster fishing club for youths. These clubs are sponsored by Bass Pro Shops all over the country and participate in fishing tournaments. At present, the nearest one is in Bolingbrook. This is a youth club for kids from 5<sup>th</sup> grade into high school who are interested in fishing. The club (Off the Hook-South) is just getting started so plenty of time to join though participation may be limited. The next meeting is on Thursday March 19 at 7p at the cabin. Interested parties (either kids to join or adults to volunteer) should contact Aja directly at: [reelkidzfish@gmail.com](mailto:reelkidzfish@gmail.com) or at 612/ 876-1112.

## **HIWP CAMERA CLUB FORMING**

Several of us who take nature photos at the Homewood Izaak Walton Preserve are forming the "HIWP Camera Club". The primary goal of the club is to promote nature photography in the preserve. We envision that activities will include nature walks/photo shoots, learning and sharing techniques, and potentially inviting outside presenters.

If you are interested in joining us, send an email to Jim Shover at [HIWP.camera@gmail.com](mailto:HIWP.camera@gmail.com)

Your President,      John Brinkman

## **HOMWOOD IZAAK WALTON PRESERVE EVENT**

**Thursday February 20, 2020 7:30 p.m.**

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

### **WINTER FUNDRAISER MUSIC CONCERT**

Enjoy an evening of wonderful music performed by well-known local band “Work in Process” in the great acoustics of Senior Hall. Attendance is free but voluntary donations will be accepted. BYOB but pizza and pop will be for sale at 6:45p before the concert. See article in this newsletter for more details. Music aficionados---we offer you a unique musical event !