

greatergbc.org Aug. 16, 2021

## **Member spotlight – Timber Rattlers**



They're back and they're ready to strike: The Wisconsin Timber Rattlers have returned to the field for the 2021 baseball season now that COVID restrictions have been lifted. Due to health and safety concerns for the players and staff members, the team did not play for the entire 2020 season.

But that doesn't mean the Timber Rattlers disappeared. They hosted season-long (safe) events like drive-in concerts and movie nights at the stadium, ballpark dinner pick-ups and fish-fry pick-ups. The team wanted to keep their community smiling through one of the toughest years we've ever faced. But now, it's time to play ball.

The Wisconsin Timber Rattlers is a Minor League Baseball team and a High-A affiliate of the Milwaukee Brewers. This means all Timber Rattlers players are drafted and under contract with the Brewers. Though the Rattlers got their name during a rebrand in 1995, the team has a 100+-

year history of baseball in the Appleton area. You may remember the Timber Rattlers as the Fox Cities Foxes or the Appleton Foxes (or even the Appleton Papermakers!)

Many Major League players have gotten their start in Appleton, including Hall of Famers Goose Gossage and Harold Baines. In fact, almost half the players currently on the Milwaukee Brewers team began with the Timber Rattlers. But Rob Zerjav, current president, CEO and co-owner of both the Timber Rattlers and the Fond du Lac Dock Spiders said, "We are so much more than just a baseball team."

"Whether someone is a baseball fan or not, they will more than likely have a great time at a game," said Zerjav. "We have fun promotions inbetween innings, and we have a different theme night almost every night of the week."

Some of the Timber Rattlers' most popular theme nights include Star Wars

Night, Princess Nights, Superhero Nights and Dinosaur Night. They also have great promotions including \$2 brats and craft beer or Bark in the Park (dogs get in free every Wednesday!)

Zerjav loves seeing new and familiar faces alike. "We obviously attract baseball fans, but we do see lots of families, companies having group outings, Little League teams and churches. It has been fun to see couples that had their first date at the stadium come back years later with their family. It's a special place for a lot of people," he said.

For those who want to reap the benefits of a membership, there are plenty of options. The business membership works like season tickets, or they can be used for group outings. It's great entertainment for employees or a way to kick back with new clients. Plus, it includes perks such as a little airtime on the Timber Rattlers video board during the games.

T-Rats Ten is a new membersonly club that grants exclusive prices and events for \$50 a year. T-Rats Ten members get access to complimentary tickets, reduced prices in the Snake Pit store and on Brewers tickets, exclusive VIP and meet-and-greet events and more. Why become a member? Zerjav said, "Our organization has been recognized locally and nationally for our promotional and marketing efforts; I would put attending a Timber Rattlers game up there against anyone."

Even if you're not a diehard benchwarmer, the stadium is more than just a place to watch a ballgame. It's about creating a cherished memory. Zerjav says his favorite part about spending every day at the ballpark is that, "You might not remember if we won or lost, but you do remember that first date, or your child's first ballgame or enjoying a game with grandma and grandpa. The ballpark is a special place, and it is our responsibility to continue to make those memories."

The Timber Rattlers play games every day except Monday during the baseball season, weather permitting. Home games take place at the Neuroscience Group Field. To learn more about the team and book tickets, visit milb.com/wisconsin.

# CHAMBER EVENTS AT A GLANCE

### **Greater Green Bay Council on Foreign Relations**

Thursday, Aug. 19, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

See ad in spread.

Free for members. \$15 for guests.

#### **(BYO) Lunch with Legislators** Friday, Aug. 20, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Join the Chamber in a lunchtime discussion with State Senator André Jacque and State Representative John Macco about their policy initiatives and the current legislative agenda.

Free for members. \$15 for nonmembers.

# Current Young Professionals Dine n' Develop: Lead From Where You Are

Tuesday, Aug. 24, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Join CYP at NWTC for a discussion on how to find value in your work to keep moving forward and reflect on your leadership image.

Free for CYP members. \$20 for guests.

#### Food for Thought: From Plate to Plank

Thursday, Aug. 26, 5 – 6:45 p.m.

See ad in spread.

\$25 for members. \$40 for nonmembers.

Learn more about all events at events. Greater GBC. org