

Happy New Year!

The Destin Snowbird Club begins every New Year with what is known as the “Big Registration,” because it is the day the majority of snowbirds sign up. This year, the event will take place on Monday, January 3, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Destin Community Center on Stahlman Avenue.

However, snowbirds who are already registered may also want to stop by “the Roost.” Tickets will be on sale for some of the popular and often sold-out events, and activity chairpersons will be offering information and accepting names for many of the activities that are set to commence soon. Here is what both new and old birds can expect to find next Monday:

Chairperson Patty Daun will be selling tickets for a Thursday, January 27 bus trip to the Todd Herendeen Dinner Theater in Panama City, Florida. Tickets are \$55 per person and include transportation, dinner and show tickets.

Dean Harper, chair of the annual Valentine’s Day Dinner Dance, will sell tickets at \$35 each for this popular event that will be held on Monday, February 14. This year’s venue will be Lucille’s Kitchen in the Seascape Center.

Marie Fellows and Joan Collins will be selling tickets for the Wednesday, February 16 Fashion Show Luncheon at Louisiana Lagniappe from noon to 3 p.m. The cost is \$35 per person and includes lunch, raffle prizes and possibly even some discount coupons from the fashion vendors.



Harbor Party boat cruises have traditionally been sold-out events.

Second VP Walter Williamson and Past President Jackie Roberson will be staffing the table for the Harbor Party Cruises. Cruises are scheduled for Mondays, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. on January 24 (with David Hall entertaining), January 31 (with Bobby D), and February 7 (with David Hall). Tickets are \$30 per person.

New Orleans Mardi gras trip chair, Joy Myer will have tickets available for \$140 per person (double occupancy, \$170 for a single) The February 20-21 excursion will include transportation to The Big Easy, and a night at the IP Casino in Biloxi on the way home with a visit to The Hard Rock Casino. Free-play money at both casinos is included in the package.



Dick and Brenda Murphy of Michigan are regulars to the Mardi Gras New Orleans trip.



Past T.G.I.T. parties have had shoulder-to-shoulder attendance. In 2022 the parties will be held at Lulu's on Legendary Marina Drive

Tickets won't be sold for the infamous T.G.I.T. (Thank Goodness It's Tuesday) parties, but chairpersons Cindy and Ray Varnell will be on deck to answer questions. Tickets for this event will be sold at the door for \$5. This year's venue is Lulu's on Legendary Marina Drive, from 3 to 6 p.m. The dates are January 11 (with David Hall entertaining), January 25 (with Todd Herendeen), February 8 (with Chuck Lawson), and February 15 (with Bobby D).

Activity chairpersons that will attend the Big Registration include the following:

Singles Friendship Club co-chairs Jan Langham and Joann Benesh, will be available to share information, answer questions, and take names. The club meets every Tuesday for lunch immediately after the 11:00 snowbird meeting. (The location varies.) The first luncheon is planned for Tuesday, January 4, at Callahan's Restaurant & Deli on Harbor Boulevard. All singles are welcomed to attend. Future luncheons will be announced at the meetings, on the website and in my articles.

Mah Jongg chairpersons Diane Hartzog and Cyndi Bunna also plan to be available to explain the increasingly popular Chinese tile game and to take the names of interested participants. They have finalized plans to begin on Monday, January 10 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Community Center. All registered snowbirds are invited, even if they weren't able to attend the Big Registration.

Likewise, all quilters are invited to attend the first Quilters Club meeting at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 12, at Cornerstone Presbyterian Church located on Beach Street. Still, Chair Phyllis Hall will be available at the Big Registration to take names and answer questions,

Jay Young will be on hand to answer questions about Tennis activities, and Tom Franklin will give updates on bowling.

Golf chair Joe Pierce will be on deck to take names for the three 18-hole outings he has already scheduled. The first is on January 16, at Regatta Bay. The format will be a shotgun start, teeing off at noon. The cost is \$65 plus tax per player. The second is on January 26, at Shalimar Pointe where the format will be tee-times beginning at 10 a.m., and the cost \$40+ per player. And the third outing is at Blackstone on February 3. The format is set as a 10 a.m. shotgun, but depending on the number of participants, that could change to tee-times. More outings are in the works.

Diane DeVincent and Brenda Murphy will be available to answer questions about the "Nine-and-Whine-and-Wine," and the Ladies Scrambles. Rick Mettle (or Joe Pierce) will share information on the upcoming Can/Am Cup. There will also be representatives from several of the area's golf clubs who will share information about their snowbird/winter specials.

Basketball chair Larry Farekas says that the ballers have already been playing every Monday from 8 – 10 a.m. at United Methodist Church on Beach Street. Several local players have joined the early-bird snowbirds to play everything from two-on-two to four-on-four. But the activity will officially begin on January 10. (The gym will be closed on January 3 and 17.) Those interested in playing can just show up,

but if you want to know other days that the gym will be closed, it is best to get on Larry's email list. He can be contacted at 414-554-3024 or at lfar1387@juno.com.



Destin snowbirds enjoy playing cards including poker, pinochle, bridge and euchre. Bridge and Euchre are in need of new volunteer chairpersons..

Every chairperson's contact information can be found on the website at www.thedestinsnowbirds.com, under the activities link, but nothing beats getting to know you, face-to-face. So, we Hope to see you on Monday!

Important reminders: storage lockers will be open Monday, January 3 from 2 to 3 p.m. After that, it's back to Saturdays from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. And beginning Tuesday, January 4, the two-meeting format (8:30 and 11 a.m.) will begin.