

The Destin Snowbirds Pull Off Another Exciting Year

With almost 1,100 members, the Destin Snowbird Club started and finished its season with huge accolades from its membership. Over the past three months, the Club held weekly meetings with entertainment by local and area musicians and musical groups, held several "Thank Goodness It's Tuesday" dance parties at LuLu's, had cruises on the harbor with the Southern Star, held golf outings and golf tournaments, held special weekly activities, a crafts fair, casino trips, a Valentine's Dinner Dance, a Ladies Luncheon and a Dinner for Volunteers, all held at Austons on 98 Restaurant. While all these activities were underway, the Destin Snowbird Club had time to collect and donate over \$4,200 to local charities.

Planning is already underway for their return to Destin and the Emerald Coast by the new Board. Board elections were held at the Destin Snowbirds Annual Meeting on February 27. The following officers were elected: Jerry Reckman (MI), President; Steve Ericson (MN), 1st Vice President; Rick Mettle (OH), 2nd Vice President; Cindy Varnell (TN), Secretary; Pete Sikkenga (MI), Treasurer; Ted D. Spring (FL), Publicity Director; Jack Krasky (MN), Webmaster; Linda Zukonik (MI), Registration Director; Ruth Beckett (MI), Prize Committee Director; Dean Harper (TN), Member-at-Large; Brenda Murphy (MI), Member-at-Large; and Ken Campbell (GA) was appointed Immediate Past President.



Left to right: Back row: Pete Sikkenga, Ken Campbell, Jack Krasky. Ted Spring, Jerry Reckman, Rick Mettle. Front row: Steve Ericson, Cindy Varnell, Dean Harper, Brenda Murphy, Linda Zukonik, Ruth Beckett

Prior to the election of officers and Club business, the Northwest Florida State College JAZZ BAND entertained the snowbirds. Throughout the season, the college provided musical entertainment that delighted snowbirds from all over the United States and Canada.

The Destin Snowbird Board of Directors and Club members wish to acknowledge the support of local businesses who donated door prizes for each of our meetings. Many of these businesses have donated prizes for many years. The Club promotes these vendors to its members and businesses are encouraged to place their website link on the Club's web page and Facebook page. The Destin Snowbird Facebook page has attracted over 7,400 followers this year.

Ted D. Spring
Director Publicity
Destin Snowbird Club
February 27, 2024