

## Almost 2000 Registered members

Registrations for the 2019-2020 Destin Snowbird season are closed. Nearly 2,000 members joined the club this season and more than a quarter of them were new. Thirty-seven states were represented with Michigan having the largest group at 296. Canadians numbered 309 participants with Ontario having the lion's share of 285. A smidgeon smaller than past years, perhaps, but certainly not lacking in enthusiasm and sociability.



Anyone looking for registration chair Linda Zukonik can find her at a table in the front of the gym between the remaining February 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Tuesday morning meetings. She and past president Jackie Roberson are now selling tickets for storage boxes. In addition to the 18 x 18 x 18 boxes, items like bikes and golf clubs can be stored. Go to [www.destinsnowbirds.org](http://www.destinsnowbirds.org) for more details, then stop in at a meeting to purchase your ticket.

The last Harbor Party Cruise took place last Monday with 146 on board. Cloudy skies with pleasant temperatures seemed to be just the formula to entice the dolphins to perform for the crowd. The accompanying seagulls made the ride a nature nirvana. Kudos to Vice President Tom Voelkel with his wife Louise for chairing all three successful cruises. No doubt it helps that past chairmen Ted Spring and Don Collins were always on hand to share their experiences on what worked and what didn't. I heard a rumor that people are already trying to secure tickets for next season.



Kudos also to Brenda Murphy and Mary Lou Barnard for a successful, fun filled Ladies Scrambles last Saturday at Shalimar Pointe Golf Club. Twelve teams competed and the foursome that came out on top with a score of 71 consisted of Ruth Rusk, Patti Blaskie, Tina MacIntyre and Linda Sill. Mary Lou Barnard, Kris Sedlak, Diane DeVincent and Mary Pierce took second place

honors with a 74. Closest to the pin prizes were awarded to Sandy McNabb and Marilynne Kennedy. Jeannie Deering took the longest drive prize home. Nearly 30 door prizes were given away including a beautiful ladies golf bag donated by Edwin Watts Golf. Thank you also to the National Golf Outlet and so many other supporting vendors who made the day so memorable.



The results of last Wednesday's Inaugural Can/Am Cup are not available as this article goes to press, but details and photos will be in next week's paper. Mother Nature was at it again and the two-day event had to be whittled down to one because of forecasted storms. Fourteen foursomes were scheduled to

play, each pitting two Canadians against two Americans. Hopefully, this will become a highly anticipated annual event. Thanks to Rick Mettle, captain of the American team and Rick Baker, captain of the Canadian team for all their hard work and dedication.

Another inaugural activity is a party-bridge club. Past president Charles Cassell has recruited about 20 interested players, but more are always welcome to join. The first session was Friday at the Community Center. He is considering other days at alternative locations. Check the website ([www.destinsnowbirds.org](http://www.destinsnowbirds.org)) for more details.



The season's last enormously popular T.G.I.T. (Thank Goodness It's Tuesday) party will be next Tuesday in the Seascapes Conference Center from 3 to 6 p.m. If you haven't been to one of these parties yet you're missing out on a lively, entertaining afternoon. Music, dancing, snacks galore and discounted drinks are only part of the experience.

Camaraderie, laughter and 50/50 raffles give everyone something to enjoy. If you're looking to develop new friendships, this is the place to be.

Tuesday's entertainer will be David Hall. While most returning snowbirds have known and enjoyed David's musical genius for many years, several new members have also had the opportunity to get to know him on two of the three sold-out Harbor Party boat cruises. David will also perform at Tuesday morning's meetings and will, no doubt, attract a large crowd to both venues.

Singles, mark your calendars for the Surf Hut after Tuesday's 11:00 a.m. meeting, and everyone mark your calendars for tomorrow's Soundsations Benefit Concert at the Mattie Kelly Arts Center on the NWFSC campus. Don't have a ticket? No problem. You can get one at the door for \$10. The show begins at 2 p.m.

And finally, mark your calendars for the snowbird Writers Club's presentation at the Destin Library next Friday at 1:00 p.m. I'll see you there!

Happy Valentine's Day weekend.