



Rodeo! News

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2016 Board of Directors

Trey Windes, Chairman
Justin Destin, Chairman-Elect
Angela Hayles, Treasurer
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Tina Harbuck
Chris Schofield
Allen Staples
Eric Thrasher
Jake Brashears, Advisor
Tim Broom, Advisor
John Ledbetter, Legal Advisor
Ann White, Social Liaison



Helen Donaldson, Executive Director

Weigh-Ins at A.J.'s!

A.J.'s Seafood and Oyster Bar is once again the host of the Annual Destin Fishing Rodeo. "Every year A.J.'s surprises and amazes us with new and exciting changes. The addition of the Jumbotron with live-feed of the Rodeo Weigh-ins has been spectacular and really has increased the number of spectators at the Rodeo," stated the Rodeo's Director, Helen Donaldson. "A.J.'s, along with all of our sponsoring partners, bring something new to the table every year. We are looking forward to the changes and enhancements and hope the community will join us for the fun!"

Time to Renew

Memberships are now available for the 2017 Destin Fishing Rodeo. The Destin Fishing Rodeo was established in 1948 and is the oldest organization in Destin. The Rodeo is a volunteer based non-profit organization whose purpose is to promote recreational fishing within Destin, Florida; strengthen the claim of "The World's Luckiest Fishing Village"; and to foster good sportsmanship and safe fishing among the general public by providing an organized competition for recreational fishermen.

The Rodeo is held the entire month of October and is host to over 35,000 anglers annually. Destin Fishing Rodeo, Inc. also participates in the Destin Seafood Festival and is the coordinating organization of the Miss Destin Pageant.

The Rodeo is seeking members to join them to make this, the 69th Annual Destin Fishing Rodeo, the best yet. The profile of a Rodeo member is as varied as the Rodeo. We need people whose interests range from fishing to beauty pageants and everything in between.

In order to assure continued growth, the Rodeo needs members to bring their ideas to our committees. Rules and Awards Committees will begin meeting in February to set the direction for the 2017 Rodeo.

Memberships are available for \$25.00 for individual members and \$35.00 for family memberships. You may join at our website: www.destinfishingrodeo.org, by phone or by mail to Destin Fishing Rodeo, Inc., Post Office Box 296, Destin, Florida 32540. You may sign up at the Annual Meeting.

The Annual Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 2, 2017 at **A.J.'s Seafood and Oyster Bar** on Highway 98 at 5:00 p.m. The meeting is open to all members of the Rodeo (new and existing). Complimentary heavy hors d'oeuvres and non-alcoholic beverages will be served. A cash bar will be available. Directors for the 2017 Rodeo will be elected and Committee sign-up sheets will be available.

On the ballot

Three new directors will be elected at the Annual meeting on Thursday, February 2th at 5:00 p.m. at A.J.'s. Three current directors' terms are up on that day and the membership will elect directors based on a slate of candidates recommended by the Nominating Committee.

This year's slate of candidates includes long-time rodeo volunteers, participants and captains. They are: Jake Brashears, Isabel Graef, Tina Harbuck and Eric Thrasher. There will be write-in spaces available for additional nominations. Voting is limited to members in good standing only. Membership registration must be completed prior to the call of order of the meeting in order to vote.

2017 Rodeo Guide Ad Deadline – April 15th

Advertising space is now available for the 69th Annual Destin Fishing Rodeo Awards and Rulebook. This year, thirty-five-thousand copies of the popular book will be printed and distributed throughout the Southeastern United States, locally, and mailed to locations throughout the country.

The book has become a collector's item for the avid Rodeo angler and is used to make reservations for accommodations and fishing trips year after year. Ad rates start as low as \$250.00. Please contact Helen Donaldson at 850-837-6734 or Ann White at 850-259-4180 for ad specifications and rates. This year's deadline for advertising is April 15th, so call today for preferred placement.

Awards Sponsors – Deadline – April 15th

The Rodeo awards over 200 prizes during the month of October. We are currently seeking awards sponsors for these prizes. Sponsors receive recognition in the Rodeo guide book and awards program as well as have their name engraved on the Rodeo Plaque awarded at the Awards Banquet. Available awards vary from daily prizes to Division sponsors. Sponsorship deadline is April 15th. Please contact Helen Donaldson at 850-837-6734 for more information.

Join today  www.destinfishingrodeo.org

Annual Membership Meeting, Thursday, February 2, 5:00 p.m.

Miss Destin 2017 – Application Deadline Friday, March 10

The Rodeo is currently seeking sponsors for the 2017 Miss Destin Pageant. The pageant will be Saturday, April 8th with a month of fun activities preceeding the exciting event. The pageant is not a beauty contest, the young lady who receives the title of Miss Destin is judged on her grade point average, school and community involvement and communication skills. She serves as a public figure throughout the year, representing Destin at many functions, including the annual Destin Fishing Rodeo.

Destin resident high-school girls between the ages of 16 and 19 vie for the title of Miss Destin, which among other things, provides at least a \$2,000 academic scholarship. Additional scholarship moneys will be awarded.

Preceding the actual pageant, there are several fun-filled social events planned so that the contestants and their parents can meet with pageant officials and judges. The girls will participate in a contestant’s social, a boat cruise and an afternoon Judges Tea for the contestants and their parents to meet one another and the pageant officials.

All contestants must be high school students between the ages of 16 and 19 on the day of the contest, must have a 32541, 32540 or 32550 zip code, be single and never married, and must live within the boundaries of Destin Bridge, South shore of Choctawhatchee Bay, Eastern boundaries of Sandestin and the Gulf of Mexico.

Anyone interested in sponsoring scholarships, the pageant, or in entering the pageant, please contact Helen Donaldson at the Rodeo – 850-837-6734.

Membership

The Destin Fishing Rodeo recently celebrated its 68th year of existence, making it the oldest ongoing event in Destin’s history.

Destin Fishing Rodeo, Inc. is involved with many aspects of the Destin community, including the Miss Destin Pageant, The Larry Hatchett Fishing Fund, Destin Fishing and History Museum, Festivals and of course the month long Destin Fishing Rodeo. The Rodeo keeps abreast of legislation effecting the local fishing industry and supports the local Charter Boat Association in their efforts regarding saltwater fishing regulations.

The Destin Fishing Rodeo was established in 1948 to promote fishing in the off-season. Today’s Rodeo not only allows fishermen an additional month of fishing, but Destin’s restaurants, retail stores and accommodation providers benefit from the 30,000+ anglers that participate in the Rodeo each October. The Rodeo has become a community event benefiting Destin’s economic prosperity.

Become a member of the internationally acclaimed Destin Fishing Rodeo. Membership benefits include:

- ✓ Invitations to Rodeo events, Kick-Off Dinner, Awards Dinner, Annual Meeting, etc.
- ✓ Opportunity to serve as judge at the Annual Destin Fishing Rodeo
- ✓ Opportunity to work with events such as Miss Destin Pageant and Annual Destin Fishing Rodeo
- ✓ Newsletter Update via e-mail
- ✓ Discount on Rodeo Merchandise at the Destin Fishing Rodeo on-site sales trailer
- ✓ and of course the knowledge that you are supporting a part of Destin’s heritage

Join today and take part in our Annual Meeting. We look forward to seeing you Thursday, February 2, 2017, 5:00 p.m., at A.J.’s Seafood and Oyster Bar. Dress is casual and hors d’ oeuvres are free. This is a Members Only event. Membership fees must be paid prior to the meeting and will be available at the door. Bring the attached registration form with you!



Destin Fishing Rodeo 2017 Membership

- \$25.00 Individual membership (1 Representative, 1 Vote)
- \$35.00 per family membership (2 Representatives, 2 Votes)

Representative 1 _____

Representative 2 (Family Memberships Only) _____

Address _____

City,State,Zip _____

Telephone _____

E-Mail _____

Annual Membership Meeting-Thursday, February 2, 2017 - 5:00 p.m. - A.J.’s Seafood & Oyster Bar

Join today  www.destinfishingrodeo.org

Destin Fishing Rodeo, Inc.
Post Office Box 296
Destin, Florida 32540-0296

Join the Rodeo!
Sign up for Committees or be a Rodeo Judge!

Annual Membership Meeting

Thursday, February 2, 2017

5:00 P.M.

A.J.'s Seafood & Oyster Bar!!

**The 69th Annual Destin Fishing Rodeo is
October 1 – 31, 2017**