August 12, 2016

Dear Executive Council Member:

We have finalized our plans for our next Executive Council Meeting to be held October 6 – 9 at the nostalgic Disney BoardWalk Inn located in the Epcot Resort Area. Not coincidentally, this meeting is scheduled during the immensely popular Epcot Food & Wine Festival. Gadget, Steven, Ellie and I are so excited to share this venue and these events with you. Full disclosure – we have been going for years and years and each year, the events get better.

In order to plan for all of the special surprises that we have in store, we need your help. Please review, complete and return the newly enhanced registration form created by our very own talented section administrator, Mary Ann Obos. We want everyone to have lots of fun memories from this meeting. There are some events that may reach capacity but if we know well in advance that we have more attendees than space, we have some limited opportunities to move to a larger room. Unfortunately, if we cannot move, we will be operating on a first come, first serve basis and in all instances, it is likely that onsite registrations for many events will simply be unavailable. We do not want to exclude anyone who wants to attend so time really is of the essence.

The dress code for this event is resort casual and comfortable shoes are a must! For those of you flying in, be sure to check our meeting website for information on Disney’s Magical Express.

Aside from our group activities, Disney offers some very special events planned within Epcot in conjunction with the Food & Wine Festival. To enter Epcot, you will need theme park tickets. Some of the festival events also require an additional reservation and some are complimentary. In case you or your guests are interested in these special events, the official Food and Wine Festival brochure is included with our registration information. Just by way of example, while we are there, you can buy tickets to attend breakfast with a celebrity chef (Jamie Deen on Friday, October 7th or Cat Cora on Sunday, October 9th) or you can listen to music from the Blues Traveler (October 5 - 6) and Plain White T’s (October 7- October 9) in the America Gardens Theater. If you do not already have Disney
Pass holder tickets, now is the time to look for the best pricing for your family. Information on the Convention pricing for tickets can be found at [http://www.mydisneymeetings.com/the-florida-bar16](http://www.mydisneymeetings.com/the-florida-bar16) – or you can explore some of the many options offered for Florida Residents, AAA Members, or if applicable, Military Families.

For our planned events, our Thursday night reception will be inside the Epcot World Showcase. You will not need Disney tickets if you’re going to be taking the bus from the BoardWalk. We will be having refreshments and heavy hors d’oeuvres inside the American Pavilion (and right across from the Blues Traveler concert venue). We will then be taking a short walk to a private viewing area to watch the fireworks and to enjoy desserts, coffee and other refreshments. Following the fireworks, there will be busses available to take us back to the resort or you can choose to walk or take the resort launch back to the BoardWalk. Back at the Boardwalk, we will have our hospitality suite as we wind down from a busy day and gear up for committee meetings on Friday.

Friday morning, the Reptile’s Run group will have no shortage of places to explore for their early morning run/walk. (My goal is to make it to one of these events!) Thanks to Mary Arpe, at the spouse/guest breakfast, there will be an opportunity to discuss William Landay’s New York Times Bestselling novel, *Defending Jacob*.

After a full day of committee meetings, we will meet back up with our families for a fun-filled reception and dinner at the Atlantic Dance Hall on the Boardwalk. Although this location is a “21 and over” venue, because we have rented the entire location for the evening, it will be open to just our attendees. Tickets are required for the reception and dinner. We have lots of fun planned for this night so try not to miss it. After dinner, we will be having our hospitality suite in the Dance Hall beginning at 9:30 PM.

Our Executive Council Meeting will begin bright and early on Saturday morning in the hopes that we will finish in plenty of time to allow us all to go have some fun. On Saturday night, we have a double dose of excitement planned with both events being held at Disney Springs. Disney Springs used to be called Downtown Disney and if you haven’t been there lately, you are in for a huge surprise. First, we will be having dinner at the Boathouse in a private dining room. Hopefully the weather will cooperate and you can explore the fleet of the multimillion dollar rare and antique boats. After dinner, we will be walking to Splitsville for some good natured, competitive bowling. Death vs. Dirt? Kids vs. Parents? Boys vs. Girls? Who knows but it will be fun. Please note, you can sign up for either dinner or bowling or both. We will need time to work on the logistics for this event so the sooner you can send in your registration forms, the better!

Looking forward to seeing you all again soon and as they say in Disney, have a magical day!

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