



No mystery -- Mystery Bus Golf Event a day of fun ***By Terrie Marshall, event captain***

Before leaving the Barbur Park & Ride lot, the 36 attendees were asked to guess where we were going on our First Annual Mystery Bus Golf Trip (four were disqualified...they already knew). Seven ladies who put two-and-two together (our departure time and the tee times) correctly guessed our destination would be the Salem Golf Club (not the Salem Country Club). **Linda Erickson's** correct guess was drawn for the prize. Great job, ladies!

What a great time we had. The weather couldn't have been more perfect. We started our day by having a Continental breakfast (pastries and fruit) while being driven to the course. My biggest task was trying to keep people occupied so that they wouldn't look out the windows and spoil the surprise. It didn't help seeing the big colorful hot air balloons flying off to the west in Tigard, but I quickly got our passengers' attention back by passing the food and coffee around for the second time.

Along with breakfast, the attendees got a bag containing a EWGA pen, a EWGA poker chip, bottle of water, fruit bar, cheese stick, bag of apple slices and an empty plastic bag in case they wanted to bring any breakfast items to the course with them or to load up on the red licorice that was available. Some people filled their bags and were VERY happy!

Golf carts and range balls were made available upon arrival, as part of our fee. While the first five groups went out, the last five groups had a putting contest to break up the waiting. Then when the first five groups came in after completing their rounds, they also enjoyed the putting contest. **Martha Peterson** won with a putt to 1 foot. On-course winners for KP (closest to the pin) on the Par 3s were **Mari Border, Mary Gilbert, Debbie Bensching** and **Jennifer Wood**. Long drive winners were **Jen Piper** on No. 9 and **Jodenne Scott** on No. 18. Awards for the games were given out on the return trip to Portland, with the winners getting first pick from the prize basket. Everyone on the bus eventually got to pick something after that from the towels, cozies, golf gadgets and other fun golf-related items up for grabs.

After the round, a lunch buffet (hamburgers, chicken, Caesar Salad) was served in the Ruby Restaurant right behind the 10th tee box. There was a lot conversation about all the fun we had on and off the course. Bragging rights went

to **Jodenne Scott**, who chipped in on No. 4, and **Denise Balsiger**, who chipped in on No. 16. And there was a lot of talk about being in the trees.

With the feedback I'm getting to the survey I sent to participants, next year's Mystery Bus Trip promises to be even better. I'm hoping to get more than 75 people next year...maybe even 100. Returned surveys indicate you are willing to travel 1-1/2 hours one-way and you'd be willing to pay up to \$150 for the ride and play on the coast, in the mountains or in Washington. (The trip this year cost \$100 and took about 45 minutes to get there.)

You will need to sign up early, as soon as registrations open at the 2017 Kickoff, to guarantee a spot and so I can work with the course to do a shotgun start so we can all get to lunch at the same time.

It's a mystery why anyone would want to be left behind.