



## **\$100,000 of eFun at the 2016 Tonto Verde Charity Roundup**

Over \$100,000 was raised for VerdeCares, Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium, Arizona DAV and Sunshine Acres at the March 3, 2016 Tonto Verde Charity Roundup. The objective for the event was to raise as much money as possible for the four charities and to make sure all the participants had a ton of fun doing it.

And fun we had. As in prior years, the event consisted of golf scramble and best ball events, silent and live auctions and a terrific dinner. But there were lots of new ways to have fun this year. First, was a transition to electronic bidding where anyone from the community could bid from their smart phones or tablets from anywhere. While a few folks tangled with the change, the majority of the attendees enjoyed it and placed 600 bids from all around the clubhouse, the course and their homes. We also had a Golden Ticket raffle in which the winner got to select their choice of the live auction items. Congrats to Bob and Phyllis O'Roark on winning and selecting a Hawaii condo for a week. The live auction was the liveliest ever with over \$35,000 raised due to 11 donations by generous community members. The bidding on the Green Bay Packer suite, donated by the Gabrielse's was one of the most fun to watch as the winning bid was for \$6,500 and then Tim and Kris donated a 2<sup>nd</sup> package for another \$6,000.

The golfers had something new this year as well. We had a break the glass event on the driving range. There was a wood box with a 3-foot square sheet of glass on the top, and only one person, Marsha Heitzman, was successful in breaking it. Additionally, Van Buick/GMC put up a Buick Enclave as a prize for a hole-in-one on the Ranch hole 15. Congrats to Don Cooke for getting a hole in one that day but he picked the wrong hole by knocking it in on #7. He did, however, receive a very nice consolation prize. Also, congratulations to the winners of the golf events. David Dyer, Janet McGee, Monique Wright and Kirk Naismith won the scramble with a score of 55.7. Steve Hamann, Jan Hamann, Larry Holden and Sally Storey won the best ball event with an amazing 116.

Those of you who were there know it was a great event with a terrific outcome for the four charities. It could not have happened, however, without a lot of help. Special thanks to Bob Buhler and the many ropers who solicited the silent auction items, Dave Burns who solicited and auctioned off the live auction items, Tom McGuigan & Mark Bloom for soliciting 15 corporate sponsors, Liz Brandanger for entering all the silent auction items into the BidPal software system, Donnielle Ostlund and the golf staff and dozens of other volunteers, and, finally, to Steve Peterman & Lynn Casebere for their tremendous support with the facility, food and beverage and administrative support.

Please put the 2017 event on your calendar, as it will be another fun way to support our local charities.