



## THE HIGH COUNTRY RAT RACE

The High Country Rat Race began in 1953 when George and Grace Thompson, along with two other couples, decided to create a social event where couples from various clubs in Eastern Oregon could get together for some golf, dinner and dancing.

According to Mona Williams, the first tournament was played on sand greens. On one of the Par 3 holes a 50-gallon barrel ring was set in the sand for the hole. Also, the runner-up received an "award" that was one half of a toilet seat - the "Half Assed" award. It sounds like they had a lot of fun!

Eventually, the crazy putting contest, the sole survivor contest, the best ball contest and the mini tournament replaced the dancing. The Saturday night dinner is still a big part of the tournament.

This year's event was August 30-September 1. Ninety-four golfers made forty-seven two-person teams. Golfers came from Baker City, Echo, Enterprise, Hermiston, Joseph, La Grande, Pendleton, Tri Cities, Troutdale, Stanfield, Walla Walla, Wallowa and as far away as Idaho, Utah and Arizona to participate in this fun weekend.

The Saturday night dinner included beef brisket from Z's BBQ with all the sides, rolls and dessert prepared by Belinda Kuntz and Mona Williams. Bill Williams, Belinda and Mona were the servers and cleanup crew!

Also included in the fun was a raffle with over 50 items, mostly from local businesses and some donations from players and participants with values from \$25-\$500. This year three \$100 bills were hidden in three of the items. The lucky winners were Rachel Jones, Joan Hollstrom (Troutdale) and Stormie McCarthy (La Grande). Kathy Reynolds won the 50/50 pot taking home over \$300.

Alpine Meadows Golf Course received \$11,095 from the Rat Race proceeds plus \$5,000-\$6,000 from cart rentals, the bar and pro-shop proceeds making the total for the three-day weekend between \$16,000-\$17,000.

Many volunteers helped make the event such a success. Erin Taggart and Ashley Imoos from Helping Hearts worked all day on Friday with registration. A big thank you goes to the Lady Golfers. Judy Ables and Kathy Reynolds organized the food for the Friday night "Meet and Greet." Donna McCadden volunteered on Saturday to sell the lunch that consisted of chicken/bacon Caesar wraps, chips and cookies.

Belinda helped out all weekend with whatever was needed -- food, registration, cleanup, etc. Sylvia Marcum made breakfast burritos that were a big hit. Scott Marcum did all the scoring and ran the soul survivor tournament. Bob and Cindy Williams announced the winners of the raffle, making that a fun event.



Last, but by no means least, a big thank you to Greg Oveson, JD Hagen and Wyatt Nash for their work throughout the season and especially during the Rat Race assuring that the course was in pristine condition.

Mona said, "We received many comments from players who have attended this tournament for years, saying that the course was in the best shape it had ever been".

Bill and Mona will be organizing the 2025 Rat Race. Mona says, the work begins now. They need one or two couples to serve on the committee with them. Golfer and non-golfer spouses are welcome!

Anyone interested please contact Bill or Mona. Email Mona at: [monakayda2007@gmail.com](mailto:monakayda2007@gmail.com) or text her at 541-263-0543.



Crazy Putters: Left to right: Bill Ables, Emmitt Comford, Rachel Jones, Cindy & Bob Williams.

## BOARD BUZZ

### September 10 Board Meeting:

The Annual Board Meeting, open to all Members, was held September 10.

AMGC closes on October 15, signaling the end of a very busy golf season.

Election of officers will be held at the October 8 Board meeting.

### President Bill:

As I look back on the last few months I am amazed at how fast it went. It is hard to believe that we are already in October.

First of all I would like to thank all of you for your support as President this year and the past three as well. I will be stepping down for 2025 but will still be on the Board. I am looking forward to the new leaders and their ideas.

Looking back on this year hiring Scott and Syl for the clubhouse was terrific. It was great to have both of them on board this year. The best part is that they are both looking forward to coming back to AMGC in 2025.

As for the course, Greg Oveson and his crew worked very hard and the results were terrific. It looked the best it has ever been in my opinion.

Finally, I want to commend Beth Hough for her service as Secretary of the Board. She has agreed to serve another year. Thank you Beth.

Thank you Wendy McCullough for the newsletters. Another addition to a great year for Alpine Meadows!!

Welcome new Board members, Donna McCadden and Curtis Martin!

### Alpine Meadows Information:

Address: 66098 Golf Course Rd  
Enterprise, OR 97828  
Telephone: 541-426-3246

Website: [golfalpinemeadows.com](http://golfalpinemeadows.com)

### Hours of Operation:

April-May – 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM  
June-August – 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM  
September-October 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM

**Newsletter Scoop:** Email pictures and information for the Newsletter to: [sallybfarms@comi.com](mailto:sallybfarms@comi.com)

## Ladies Club News

The Ladies Club met on September 5. One of their projects is Course beautification. It was reported that Southfork Ready Mix would donate gravel/rock for the beautification project on #6. Thank you Judy Ables, Donna McCadden, Rachel Jones, Rochelle Danielson & Carol Marr for your time, ideas and work to improve the areas around Tee boxes 2, 6, & 8.

The ladies voted to spend money for the following improvement projects:

Update POS computer system - \$2500

Weed killer for the fairways - \$1500

Pro Shop updates - \$1200

**Election of officers:** Voted to keep the same slate of officers for 2024: President - Belinda Kuntz; Vice President - Rochelle Danielson; Secretary/Treasurer - Beth Hough.



**Ladies Work Party!** They spread out the pond liner on the hill behind Tee Box #6. River rock comes next. Left to right: Rachel Jones, Carol Marr, Rochelle Danielson, Judy Ables and Donna McCadden. Thanks gals. It looks GREAT!

## Calendar of Events

**AMGC Board Meeting:** October 8 at 5:00 p.m. at the Clubhouse.

**Ladies Day** – Tuesdays from 7:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.

**Foundation Improvement Committee Meeting** – October 9 at 5:00 p.m. at the Clubhouse.

## 2024 Golf Tournaments

Monday, October 7 – Firefighters Tournament

**GOLF COURSE IS CLOSED TO OPEN PLAY ON TOURNAMENT DAYS.**

# RAT RACE TOURNAMENT RESULTS:

**Fun Fact:** Instead of flights 1, 2, & 3 the flights are CATS for 1st flight, RATS for 2nd flight and CHEESE for 3rd flight.

## CATS

Gross	Twosome
1	Bill & Judy Ables
2	Mike & Dara Alverson
3	Mark & Callie Goss

## RATS

Gross	Twosome
1	Mark & Tiffany Sherman
2	Cedric & Kathy Shanks
3	Lloyd & Nita Baker

## CHEESE

Gross	Twosome
1	Chuck Haines & Rachel Jones
2	Terry & Ann Smestead
3	Andy & Nancy Munsey

## CATS

Net	Twosome
1	Albin & Chris Presley
2	Ron & Dina Ranger
3	Gary & Kari Carter

## LONG DRIVE - MEN

CATS	Bill Ables
RATS	Cedric Shanks
CHEESE	Andy Munsey

## LONG DRIVE - WOMEN

CATS	Kari Carter
RATS	Katie Williams
CHEESE	Lesa Burton

## ACCURACY DRIVE

MEN	Chris Greenough
WOMEN	Susan Hanson

**BEST BALL** - Six on a team. There was a tie for 3rd place. Paid out top five teams.

Gross	Twosome
1	Chuck Haines & Rachel Jones Cedric & Kathy Shanks Gregg & Joan Holstrom
2	Brad Grabeal & Tana Sanchez Lloyd & Nita Baker Michael & Marcia Flemmer
3	Bill & Judy Ables Devon Comford & Katie Williams Steve & Betty Wilcox
3	Ron Schuening & Wendi Kelly Mark & Callie Goss Mike & Kathy Reynolds
5	Mike & Dara Alverson Mike & Patsy Taylor Andy & Nancy Munsey

# CHIEF JOSEPH SUMMER CAMP SCRAMBLE

The Lions Club hosts Chief Joseph Summer Camp and raises money for the Chief Joseph Day Camp held each summer at Fergi Ski Area. For decades, elementary school age kids have found fun and friendship while learning about journalism, theater and outdoor skills. This was a four-person scramble held September 14 with thirty-one golfers participating.

Gross	Foursome
1	Cole Warnock, Alonzo Mendosa, Rachel Jones, Paul Pagano
2	Randy Slinker, Nathan Slinker, Ed Milar, Jim Hite
2	Jerry Hook, Terry Lamb, Kyle Hook, Kyle Gardner
2	Ken Hauxwell, Panky Hauxwell, Rob DeSpain, Crystal DeSpain

KP 1/10	Scott Noble
KP 4/13	Jeff Irish

## LONG DRIVE - MEN

#2 Hole	Cole Warnock
---------	--------------

## LONG DRIVE - WOMEN

#6 Hole	Crystal DeSpain
---------	-----------------

## LONG PUTT

#9 Hole	Josh Nash
---------	-----------

Note: There six on a team and 3-way tie for third place. Paid out top five teams.



# THE 2024 RAT RACE

AMGC Newsletter – OCTOBER 2024



Perfect weather. Great golfing. Lots of fun for the ninety-six golfers participating in the annual High Country Rat Race.

