

April 2016

Ladies of the Lake
by Barbara Galvin

On a dreary wet day, [April 6](#), 2016, Ladies of the Lake were gung-ho to get started on the trip to Bishop Hill. The specific destination was the Bishop Hill Bakery & Eatery at 103 S. Bishop Hill Street. Although light rain showers occurred during the drive, by the time the ladies arrived, the [sun](#) was attempting to shine. In fact, once lunch was over, the [sun](#) was shining.

Hostesses for the luncheon adventure to Bishop Hill were Mariana Schrader and Jane Stevens, who always take care of all the details.

Bishop Hill Bakery & Eatery always has "Daily Specials" and on [Wednesday](#), the special was Swedish Meatballs, very apropos for the Swedish village.

Bishop Hill's history begins in Sweden, where a group of religious dissenters, led by Erik Jansson, came to New York in 1846. Eventually the group traveled from New York to Chicago, and from Chicago to what would become Bishop Hill, where they settled.

[Today](#), Bishop Hill has about 128 residents according to the 2010 United States Census. Seasonal events that occur throughout the year make Bishop Hill a place for tourists to check out and enjoy.

What Ladies of the Lake enjoy, besides the delicious meals and scrumptious desserts at Bishop Hill Bakery & Eatery, are the shops, like the Colony Store on West Main Street, which not only has souvenirs, but all kinds of seasonal gifts, plus candy and unique coffees and teas. The shop keepers like seeing the Ladies of the Lake arrive!

On Wednesdays, a special soup is also available at the Bishop Hill Bakery & Eatery: it is Cream of Potato. All the soups are homemade and delicious. But the highlight of the luncheon was dessert, which comes from the connected bakery. Before beginning to eat, the ladies viewed the bakery goodies, especially the pie, and were tempted by the aromas of homemade bread and pies plus cookies, brownies, and rolls.

The Ladies of the Lake who enjoyed Bishop Hill and lunch were: Gloria Miller, Darlyne Ackers, Sandy Morrow, Gail Maher, Wanda Kepple, Sharon Butler, Peggy Garrett, Bev Ver Steeg, Gloria Bewley, Barb Dunlap, Mariana Schrader, Jane Stevens, Denise Thomas, Lonnie Woodring, and Barbara Galvin.

The luncheon was twice as nice for Gail Maher, who won the door prize, provided by hostesses Mariana and Jane. The prize was a unique dish towel with a quote: "You can't buy happiness but you can buy ice cream and that's kind of the same thing."

Bishop Hill will be having a quilt show in May. If quilting is your thing, or enjoying delicious food is, give Bishop Hill a look-see. Area quilters will exhibit their work.

Next month, [May 4th](#), the Ladies of the Lake meeting will return to the pavilion, where Nancy Nystrom and Mariana Schrader will be hostesses. Come and have some fun!