

PRESS RELEASE

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Greeneville, Tenn. – The Sports Council of the Greene County Partnership hosted recognition Dinner for the Host Families of the teams for the 2011 NAIA Women’s Golf National Championships on Tuesday, May 31. Those in attendance received goodie bags compliments of the Tourism Department of the Partnership as well as food and a large cake with the inscription, “Thank You NAIA Host Families,” as well as door prizes donated by many local businesses.

The agenda included a welcome from Tammy Kinser of the Partnership and Butch Patterson of Greeneville Parks and Recreation, co-directors of the Championships. The families were asked to fill out a survey that would list ideas and suggestions for 2012. They were also asked if they would like to participate in both the Fall Preview coming up in October of this year and for the May 20-25 event next year.

The room was filled with families that shared ideas of what they did with their teams such as taking a tour of Paint Creek, having cook outs at their homes, met teams at the airport when they arrived, gave flowers to the teams, some did laundry service for the ladies, made goodie bags that included local souvenirs, snack foods and homemade fudge and pies. When asked, many of the host families had contacted their teams since the tournament to wish them well and make sure they had made it home safely.

“Over all, a great event,” stated Lowell and Loretta Easterly, host family for Wayland Baptist. “It was very enjoyable for the girls and for us as a host family, we enjoyed it greatly.” Jim and Jo Christensen, host family for Midland University stated, “It was a great experience!”

Host Families for this year's event and their teams are as follows: Bob and Karen Gay with TN Wesleyan out of Athens, TN and the host college for the tournament; Bill and Debbie Smith with Embry-Riddle out of Daytona Beach, FL; Joy Rader and Jerry and Kristy Bird with Shorter College out of Rome, GA; Jan Kiker with Northwood University out of Cedar Hill, TX; Lisa Fisher and Betty Scott with Lubbock Christian out of Lubbock, TX; Tim and Gina Shelton with Northwood University (FL) out of West Palm Beach, FL; Courtney and Amy Hutcherson with Williams Woods University out of Fulton, MO; John and Joy McGuffin with Minot State University out of Minot, ND; Jim and Joe Christensen with Midland University out of Fremont, NE; Terry and Rose Bellamy with Lindenwood University out of St. Charles, MO; Stan and Sue Ritter with Lee University out of Cleveland, TN; Tom and Frances Gregory with Ashford University out of Clinton, IA; John and Patsy Dority with Dakota Wesleyan University out of Mitchell, SD; Tom and Elaine Janaskie with Lindsey Wilson College out of Columbia, KY; Tim and Paula Bowman with California Baptist University out of Riverside, CA; Irma and Ken Miller with Indiana Tech University out of Fort Wayne, IN; Joyce and Don Hyde with Westminster College out of Salt Lake City, UT; Will and Darlene Hurley with University of British Columbia out of Vancouver, British Columbia; Steve and Soozie Shore with Concordia University out of Portland, OR; Dave and Freda Wright with Savannah College of Art and Design out of Savannah, GA; David and Louise Crum with South Carolina-Beaufort out of Beaufort, SC; Butch Patterson with Bethel College out of Mishawaka, IN; Lowell and Loretta Easterly with Wayland Baptist University out of Plainview, TX; John and Hilda Pickering with University of Victoria out of Victoria, British Columbia; Tom and Terry Ferguson with Oklahoma City University out of Oklahoma City, OK; Bill and Jane Brown and Max Cox and Janet Malone with the four individualists with - Dickinson State University out of Dickinson, ND, Grand View University out of Des Moines, IA, Madonna University out of Livonia, MI and Southwestern College out of Winfield, KS.

“Our host families worked very hard, spent lots of their time and their own money to make this an enjoyable event for the girls,” stated Tammy Kinser with the Partnership. “The Sports Council feels that it was the true hospitality of these host families that truly took this event over the top.”

A Fall Preview is scheduled at Link Hills this coming October that will once again feature several teams from across the United States with NAIA that will make the trip to play the course in preparation for a prospective birth in the 2012 Women’s Championships that will take place May 20-25.

For more information on this event, how to be a sponsor or host family or volunteer, please contact Kinser at tkinser@greenecop.com.