

## Oct 5th Couples Outing and Family Weekend.

By Brett Grams, WGCSA Chapter Manager

Since 1984 the WGCSA has held a Couples Golf Outing. It was once part of a weekend long getaway which started on Friday evenings with a hospitality reception, golf on Saturday, followed by a Dinner Dance on Saturday evening. The WGCSA leaders have tried to modify the event to better accommodate the desires of attendees and to encourage more members and spouses/significant others to join us. These couples weekends have been held all over Wisconsin and sometimes in very inclement weather but everybody always remembers the fun had by all. This year we tried a new format which included the option for couples to bring their children and make it a family weekend as well.

This year we chose the Wilderness Hotel and Golf Resort in the WI Dells. The expansive resort has accommodations and attractions to suit almost everyone. We also decided to hold the always fun and never too competitive 9 hole golf outing on the Woods Family Golf Course. This course is what remains of the former Woods Golf Course after the 2008 opening of the fantastic Wild Rock Golf Club on the Wilderness Property. The Woods Course is a family/executive 9 hole course it is par 31 layout with challenging Par 3 and 4 length holes. We condensed the weekend down to a single day event with options to make it a day trip or an entire weekend based on the couples schedules and desires. Our former Friday night hospitality reception was changed to Saturday afternoon after golf. We held our reception at one of the beautiful condo cabins on the resort property which adjoins one of the three indoor waterparks at the resort.

I am happy to report that we had some new couples join us for the first time this year. Some of them made it a family weekend



View from the tee of the island green hole, Lake Delton is in the background hidden in the fog and mist

by taking in the resorts water park on Friday evening. Saturday the rest of the couples gathered at the resort. The weather was very humid with a heavy fog but thankfully it was a warm day for early October and the rain stayed away until after golf. The Woods Golf Course is managed by John Gallus who is on the staff of WGCSA member Mike Blazich. The event and planning for the day was also organized by Chris Goodwick who is the Director of Golf. Everyone enjoyed the challenging layout which includes dramatic elevation changes, water hazards, forests, open vistas, and plenty of bunkers. The golf outing is a Chapman style with each couple teeing off but then choosing which ball to play and alternating shots until the hole is completed. Some couples shoot very well while most just play for fun and camaraderie.




Many of the couples and families that were at the hospitality reception after golf joined for a picture.



After golf all attendees eventually made their way back to the Condo Cabin where we had complimentary food, snacks, and beverages courtesy of our generous sponsor companies. The golf and flag events along with a door prize for all the ladies that attended were also provided to the attendees. We presented the Mr. and Mrs. Mow Travelling Trophy to Scott and Lisa Bushman who succeeded in defending their title from last year shooting a 35. New comers Kevin and Brooke Knudtson and perennial contenders Greg and Lynn Kallenberg tied for second place with a 36. Flag winners were Jodi Baus with closest to pin for the ladies, Scott Bushman closest to pin for the men. Long drive for the ladies went to Lisa Bushman while Rick Weiterman claimed long drive for the men.



Although our attendance at the event continues to be low we have heard many positive comments and people reported to having a fun time. For many of the spouses this is one of the few times or only time that they get to meet the other wives and renew the friendships. The great thing about the weekend is that the vendor companies continue to support this great little event. Also, thank you to my wife Nancy, our two sons Nick and Spencer, and a family friend Andrea Lemkuil for looking after the little kids while the couples played golf. If you have never attended please join us. If you used to attend please join us once again! 



John Gallus who oversees the Woods Family Course with the Framed Flag for his office wall.



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