



The Greg Gephart Fund  
for youth field hockey

# Newsletter

www.ggfonline.org

Fall 2015 - Number 10

## From the GGF Board

The Greg Gephart Fund was created in 2000 to honor the memory of a man who loved and coached the sport of field hockey for many years and who passed away unexpectedly in December 1999. His impact on players (and their parents), coaches (in the United States and abroad), and so many others was enormously powerful, and lasting. After his passing a number of his close friends wished to honor Greg's memory and at the same time create a vehicle that would provide support for the development of field hockey among young players in the United States, which was a major interest of his.

Thus, the birth of the Greg Gephart Fund. In the early years and continuing today Greg's friends and admirers make annual contributions to the Fund, which is managed by the Triangle Community Foundation in North Carolina. The Greg Gephart Fund Field Hockey Clinic, which saw its ninth iteration at The Kinkaid School in Houston, Texas, on February 21-22 this year, also makes periodic contributions to the Greg Gephart Fund.

On behalf of the GGF Board of Directors (Jim Johnson, Liz Tchou, Amy Vitt, and me), I want to thank the organizers and hosts, the coaches and officials, and all the players for their participation in the ninth GGF Field Hockey Clinic. As you will read in this newsletter, it was a terrific success, and it is so very gratifying to the GGF Board of Directors to witness the continued support of and excitement around this Clinic. We also want to thank those donors to the Fund during 2014.

The total Fund Balance for the Greg Gephart Fund on December 31, 2014 was \$125,690.93. This year the GGF Board of Directors voted to make a \$6000 award to the United States Field Hockey Association in support of the development of youth field hockey. Most of this grant will provide travel, lodging, and honoraria for college coaches traveling to Futures sites in the Southwest. A portion of this grant will provide support for the creation of a training video that the USFHA plans to make available to coaches.

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**GGF Clinic #9 was EXTRA FINE!**  
#10 will be in 2017

In spite of Texas' stormy weather, spirits weren't dampened at this year's Greg Gephart Clinic in Houston, Texas! On February 21 and 22, The Kinkaid School hosted the 9th GGF Field Hockey Clinic for more than 150 players from Texas, Missouri, and Oklahoma, with 25 coaches representing colleges and universities from coast to coast. Again this year the GGF Clinic encouraged the development of high school and middle school players, their coaches, and area officials and enhanced the growth of the game in Texas and across the Southwest.

Clinic Co-Directors Christy Utter and Amanda Janney not only enlisted the help of fellow college field hockey coaches from Division I, II, and III field hockey programs from around the country, but also organized the challenging and fun curriculum appropriate for each level of play. The Kinkaid athletic staff, along with the GGF

*(continued on page 2)*



Advanced Camp



Beginner Camp

*(GGF Board continues)*

We remain grateful to the Triangle Community Foundation for its continued stewardship of the Greg Gephart Fund, to the generosity of all who contributed to the GGF during 2014, to all who planned for and participated in the GGF Field Hockey Clinic this year, and to the USFHA for its work on behalf of all who love the support of field hockey.

Many thanks to all.

Don North on behalf of the Board of Directors



*Camp Directors*

*(Clinic #9 continues)*

Clinic committee, led by Cindy Hanan and Kara Mings, set up the clinic venue and organized the field logistics at The Kinkaid School. This year, 4th-5th graders were invited to attend a special Saturday morning clinic designed specifically to introduce beginners to field hockey. Over 25 eager young players took to the fields some of the best college coaches in the country.

The GGF Clinic began early Saturday morning on February 21st. Parents and players were invited to attend two special seminars – *Field Hockey 101* and *Field Hockey Recruiting*. After a lunch break, players were divided into teams that rotated through skills stations set up by the coaches. Everyone went home that evening excited AND exhausted! On Sunday morning, the players returned to play practice games, and at the end of the morning they were treated to an All-Star Scrimmage with the coaches playing against the high school players in a full-field game.

A special thank you goes out to the Houston GGF Clinic Committee, who spent countless hours designing flyers, setting up the registration website, hosting breakfasts, lunches, and dinners for the visiting coaches, ordering T-shirts, arranging hotel accommodations, and otherwise supporting our many guests. Committee members include: Hague Bing, Jill Deutser, Tina Edmonds, Melissa Eggleston, Pam Fullenweider, Todd Graham, Traci Graham, Cindy Hanan, Steve Hanan, Jim Johnson, Sarah Ledbetter, Stacey Manela, Eva Martire, Judy Ann McCartney, Kara Mings, Melinda Mogas, Mary North, Debbie Pedrick, Karen Thurman, and Jana Wells. A special thank you also goes out to David Shutts, who photographed all the activities, and to Jennifer Haynes, our official onsite trainer, who graciously volunteered their weekend to support the Greg Gephart Fund.

Thank you to everyone who donated his or her time in honor and in memory of Greg Gephart. Only a few of our volunteers knew Greg personally, and some only knew Greg through their involvement with the GGF Houston Clinic. All of these great players, former players, coaches, and volunteers are dedicated, as Greg was, to encouraging players to learn and grow through playing field hockey by “paying it forward.”

GGF Clinic Coordinators:

Christy Utter – *Head Coach Holland Hall*

Amanda Janney – *Head Coach Temple University 2014*

*Head Coach Indiana University 2015*

Kinkaid Clinic Superstars:

Andy Martire - *Kinkaid Headmaster*

Bob Beeman - *Kinkaid Athletic Director*

Jackie Cicone – *Kinkaid Varsity Field Hockey Coach*

Angie Nickens - *Kinkaid Coach*

Jennifer Haynes - *Kinkaid Athletic Trainer*

Visiting Volunteer Coaches:

Brown University - *Jill Reeve, Head Coach*

University California at Berkeley - *Austin Pile, Assistant Coach*

Columbia University - *Marybeth Freeman, Head Coach*

Davidson College - *Catherine Ostoich, Assistant Coach*

Temple University 2014, Indiana U 2015 - *Amanda Janney, Head Coach*

James Madison University - *Christy Morgan, Head Coach*

University of Maryland - *Missy Meharg, Head Coach*

MIT - *Kelly McManus, Assistant Coach*

Providence University - *Di Madl, Head Coach*

Rhodes College - *Breanne Lowe, Assistant Coach*

Southern New Hampshire University - *Julie Munson, Head Coach*

Stanford University - *Pat Cota, Assistant Coach*

Stevens Institute - *Emily Beach, Head Coach*

Tufts University - *Tina McDavitt Mattered, Head Coach*

Vassar College - *Michael Warari, Head Coach*

University of Virginia - *Shawn Hindy, Assistant Coach*

University of Virginia - *Annie Zincavich, Assistant Coach*

Washington and Lee - *Kylie Cale, Assistant Coach*

William & Mary - *Tess Ellis, Head Coach*

Previous Player – University of Michigan - *Stephanie Johnson*

College Players - *Erin Best, Rhodes College*

College Players - *Lindsay Graham, Wake Forest University*

College Players - *Celia Lewis, Tufts University*

College Players - *Carson Peacock, Middlebury College*



*College Coaches*



## CONNECTIONS

*The Connections column is the place for personal memories of Greg Gephart. The Greg Gephart Fund for Youth Field hockey came into being in 2000 when Greg passed away unexpectedly of complications after surgery. Greg enjoyed widespread connections to the field hockey both nationally and internationally. His deepest connections come from teaching and coaching at The Kinkaid School in Houston, Durham Academy in Durham, North Carolina, and his involvement with NFHCA....*

*Missy Meharg has been head coach of the University of Maryland Terrapin field hockey program for 27 years, along the way building a program rich with a winning tradition. Voted National Coach of the Year an unprecedented nine times, Meharg has exemplified the tradition of excellence Maryland field hockey has become known for, a program with eight National Championships and 10 conference Championships - solidifying the Terrapins' position among the top programs in the nation.*

*Missy was also one of Greg Gephart's many field hockey friends. In 2015 she came to contribute her expertise to the players and coaches at the Greg Gephart field hockey clinic.*

*Here Coach Meharg shares her connection to Greg.*

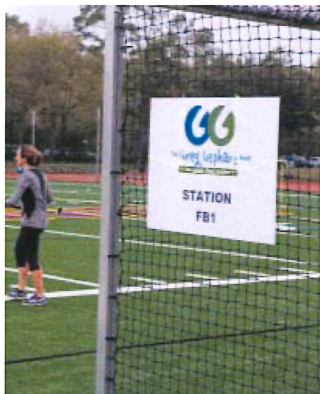
Without the loving and lasting memories of Greg Gephart, I may never have ventured to the great state of Texas. The GGF Clinic was simply an amazing gathering of great hockey coaches while meeting old friends and colleagues of Greg's.



Greg was a dear hockey friend, fan, mentor, teacher and - oh yes - evaluator. His deep-rooted passion for the game on all levels was unique. I vividly recall that during an *International Field Hockey Federation* (FIH) tournament years back, I missed a completely open goal; post game he suggested I try a DITA stick. *Gracious fella....*

Today, Greg is watching the circles of hockey people floating in and around each other's lives. Christy Utter, you served up a GREG dose of happiness and smiles. I cannot thank you enough for bringing Greg's memory back through a 48-hour hockey weekend. Let's be honest - Greg Gephart, just a guy from Tulsa, continues to grow the game today, having impacted hockey people from Oklahoma, Texas, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, to The Netherlands, Germany, Pakistan, and India.

This is a real legacy....



## Greg Gephart Fund supports USFHA FUTURES in Houston, TX

A continuing grant from the Greg Gephart Fund to United States Field Hockey Association (USFHA) FUTURES program has helped to build and legitimize the FUTURES program in Houston.

Tina Edmonds, the Region 10 South FUTURES Director, reports that this region has experienced tremendous growth in the FUTURES program with the newly approved Level 1 site, which was made possible with this grant. While initially running only one level in Houston for 100 players (6th - 12th grades), we now have two levels of play. By separating the girls by experience, we have the opportunity to expose the best players to a higher level of training not only to improve their skills, but also to give them a greater opportunity to be identified for National FUTURES Championship held in the summer.

The separation into 2 levels also encourages the younger Level 2 players to work toward participating in the Regional FUTURES Tournament with hopes of being identified as a Level 1 athlete the following year.

Fifteen (15) Houston area athletes attended the National FUTURES Tournament last year. Six (6) athletes have been recognized as part of the FUTURES Elite Academy, one of which is on the Under-19 national team. We also have one athlete on the Under-21 national team who is part of a separate elite training program.

Overall, the grant from the Greg Gephart Fund has helped to build and legitimize the FUTURES program in Houston. We are currently in our second year of the Levels 1 & 2 program and expect continued growth in our program. The funding has been integral to the development of the FUTURES Program in Houston.

For more information about USFHA FUTURES programs, visit the official web site:

<http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Field-Hockey/FUTURES>



All gifts to the Greg Gephart Fund will be acknowledged for tax purposes by the Triangle Community Foundation, a 501-(c)-(3), charitable, tax exempt organization. The fund advisors will be notified of your generous contribution. A copy of the license to solicit charitable contributions as a charitable organization or sponsor and financial information may be obtained from the Department of Human Resources, solicitation licensing branch, by calling 919-733-4510. Registration rules do not imply endorsement, approval or recom-

Durham, NC 27701

324 Blackwell Street, Suite 1220  
Triangle Community Foundation

Please remove and fill out above card and send along with your gift to:

For gifts made with a check, please write Greg Gephart Fund in the lower left corner of the check. With donation questions, contact Melchee Johnson at the Triangle Community Foundation at 919-474-8370 or melchee@trianglerecf.org.

Enclosed is a gift payable to the Triangle Community Foundation. Please print - we depend on this information to acknowledge your donation correctly.

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Let's continue Greg's vision!



The Greg Gephart Fund  
10034 Inwood Drive  
Houston, TX 77042