

## From the GGF Board

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Greg Gephart Fund, I want to thank the organizers and hosts, the coaches and officials, and the players for the great field hockey clinic that took place at The Kinkaid School in Houston in February. This was the eighth GGF Field Hockey Clinic held, and it was another resounding success. Though the founders of the Greg Gephart Fund and the GGF Field Hockey Clinic remain involved with Clinic, it has been deeply rewarding to witness the energy, organizational skill, and hard work that the "next generation" of leadership is bringing to the Clinic. Kudos and thanks to all!

The Board of Directors of the Greg Gephart Fund continue to be Don North, Liz Tchou, and Amy Cox Vitt. The Board met the week before the GGF Clinic this year to review past Fund grants and determine this year's grant. The Board again decided to send the United States Field Hockey Association a grant of \$5000 in support of the Futures program in parts of the country where college coaches cannot easily get to Futures sites and need support for airfare and lodging. While the Board is inclined to again make this a multi-year grant, it decided to review the grant and its use(s) on a year-by-year basis.

The Board also invited a fourth member to join, and I am pleased to report that Jim Johnson, who has had extensive involvement in field hockey for more than twenty years as the parent of two players at the University of Michigan, a member of the Board of Directors of the USFHA, and an early leader in the GGF Field Hockey Clinic, has agreed to join the Greg Gephart Fund Board.

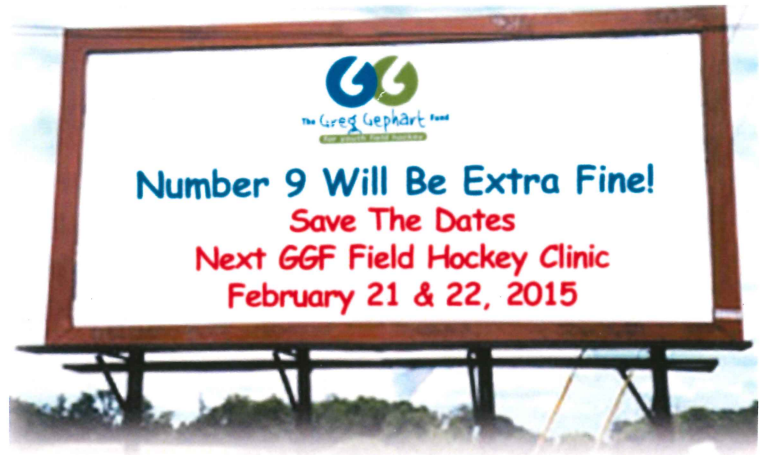
The 2013 year-end report from the Triangle Community Foundation in Durham, North Carolina, which houses and invests the Greg Gephart Fund, stated that the value of the Fund was \$126,585.50. We are grateful both for the stewardship provided by the Triangle Community Foundation and the continued generosity of donors to the Fund.

Many thanks to all.

Don North on behalf of the Board of Directors



2014's players, coaches, umpires, and instructor coaches



## GGF Clinic #8 was GREAT! Number 9 will be EXTRA FINE!

On a perfect Texas weekend in February, Greg Gephart Fund hosted the eighth field hockey clinic for players, coaches, and officials at the Kinkaid Schools in Houston. The goal for GGF clinics is to encourage the development of high school and middle school players, their coaches, and area officials in order to further the growth of the game in Texas and across the southwest. The 2014 clinic involved over 120 players, coaches and officials representing schools from Texas and Oklahoma.

Christy Utter and Amanda Janney organized the clinic curriculum for players. The United States Field Hockey Association (USFHA) organized the clinic for the coaches and the umpires. Kara Mings, the Kinkaid athletic staff, and the GGF Clinic committee set up the clinic venue at the Kinkaid School. Coach Utter and Coach Janney enlisted the help of fellow college field hockey coaches from Division 1, 2, and 3 field hockey programs around the country. They all volunteered their time to the clinic and made every minute worth it.

Diane Chung and Liz Tchou, from USFHA, organized the coaches' clinic while Steve Horgan, also from USFHA, ran a certification clinic for umpires.

*(continued on page 2)*





(Recap continues)

On Saturday, the players were divided into teams that rotated through skills stations set up by the coaches. Saturday afternoon, Shelley Johnson presented a thought-provoking talk about sports leadership. As Director of the Baddour Carolina Leadership Academy at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Shelley presents at leadership conferences all over the country. She encouraged the girls to develop and nurture their character and inclination to “do what’s right” at the same time they are developing their field hockey and athletic skills.

On Sunday morning the players returned to play practice games and at the end of the morning we were treated to a coaches versus players full-field game.

The Houston GGF Clinic Committee did an excellent job of recruiting participants and setting up the venue. Kara Mings chaired the clinic committee. Committee members include: Stacey Manela, Mary Dyer, Karen Thurman, Melissa Eggleston, Jana Wells, Judy Ann McCartney, Eva Martire, Pam Fullenweider, Jill Deutser, Anita Gaylor, Jim Johnson, Tina Edmonds, Todd Graham, and Bing Hague. They made arrangements for T-shirts, reserved accommodations, set up the hospitality room for coaches, arranged lunch for everyone. David Shutts photographed it all. Heather Farlow and Angie Nickens organized the clinics on the Kinkaid side. Jennifer Haynes donated her time to be the official onsite trainer. Fortunately her trainer-services were not needed for more than ankle taping and new mouth guards

These are the people who donated their time in honor and in memory of Greg Gephart. Only a few of them knew Greg personally and some only knew Greg through their involvement with the GGF Houston Clinic. All of these great players, former players, and coaches 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
- Bob Beeman..... Kinkaid Athletic Director
- Heather Farlow ..... Kinkaid coach
- Angie Nickens..... Kinkaid coach
- Jennifer Haynes..... Kinkaid Athletic Trainer
- Meagan Connolly ..... USFHA
- Diane Chung ..... USFHA
- Tina Edmonds .....Texas Pride
- Steve Horgan.....Umpire/Instructor USFHA
- Shelley Johnson .....Carolina Leadership Academy
- Liz Tchou ..... USFHA/ Coach

Visiting Volunteer Coaches:

- Natalie Barrett.....Old Dominion University Assistant Coach
- Laree Beans..... Lafayette College Assistant Coach
- Kylie Cale ..... Washington and Lee University Assistant Coach
- Pat Cota..... Stanford University Assistant Coach
- Bronwen Gainsford.....Smith College Assistant Coach
- Bre Lowe.....Rhodes University Assistant Coach
- Diane Madl..... Providence College Head Coach
- Julie Munson..... South New Hampshire University Head Coach
- Kristen O’Rourke..... University of Richmond Assistant Coach
- Kaitlyn Ruhf..... Davidson University Assistant Coach
- Cheryl Silva ..... Massachusetts Institute of Tech Head Coach
- Justine Sowry..... University of Louisville Head Coach
- Lucia White..... University of Michigan Assistant Coach
- Rachel Feig ..... Boston University player/Kinkaid Grad
- Sam Night ..... University of North Carolina player/St Johns Grad
- Lindsay Graham.. Wake Forest University player/Episcopal HS Grad



All photos courtesy of David Shutts Photography





## 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....*

*Currently Christy Utter is Head Field Hockey Coach and Director of Alumni Relations at The Holland Hall School in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She was a student and athlete at Holland Hall where Greg Gephart was her mentor and coach. She went on to play field hockey at the University of North Carolina where she led the team to two NCAA Championships. Christy has coached at the collegiate level and at several GGF clinics. Most recently, she was a co-director of the 2014 GGF Clinic.*

Mother Nature served up another beautiful weekend for the GGF Clinic on February 22 and 23, 2014. Greg seems to always be looking out for all of the players, coaches, officials, clinic organizers and founders. He always looked out for us until the day he passed away. Greg was selfless, kind, brilliant, creative and fun. He shared those qualities with everyone close to him and even those he had never met. You see, his influence was passed on by those whose lives he touched the most. He shared his knowledge and passion for field hockey to players both young and old, beginners to the most talented. He shared his time and always shared his money, no matter how shallow his pockets might have been at the time. Greg shared his contacts and connections with the athletes who otherwise would not have been seen. He made sure these players were not overlooked and helped so many players realize their dreams of playing at the next level. In short, he gave so many of us an opportunity.

I met Greg when I was a third grader at Holland Hall in Tulsa, OK. He shared an office with my dad so I saw him every afternoon before he headed out to field hockey practice. When I was a junior in high school, Greg helped guide me through the college recruiting process and helped pave the way for something I could not have imagined, the chance to not only play field hockey in college, but to play at the University of North Carolina. He supported me throughout my playing career and was the first person to contact me upon graduation. He was instrumental in helping me land my first coaching job, which set a foundation for the rest of my professional career. Greg did this for me and for so many others.

The GGF's mission is to continue Greg's legacy of growing the sport of field hockey, providing opportunities for athletes and continuing to spread and strengthen the sense of community that Greg always had around him.

Being a part of the GGF Clinic and seeing the energy and momentum it brings is both promising and inspirational. Seeing the GGF committee, coaches, founders and athletes is like serving up a dose of happiness and bringing on instant smiles. Greg Gephart and the GGF Clinic did that for me this year, as it has done every year since I was 9. I cannot say this enough, "Thank you, Greg".



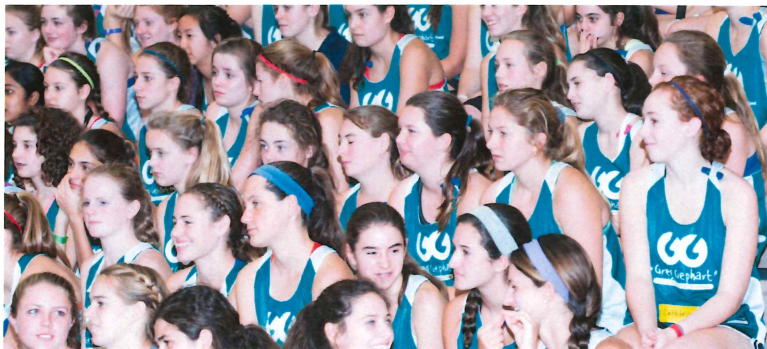
### Be a Part of Growing Field Hockey in Houston

As a result of the momentum of the Greg Gephart Clinic, a committee has been formed with representation from USA Field Hockey, Texas Pride, Houston-area high school /middle school coaches, and parents.

The goal is to increase knowledge of and participation in field hockey by offering clinics for players of all ages, by offering training for officials and coaches, and by encouraging special field hockey events the Houston area.

In June, we will launch a website at <http://fieldhockeyhouston.com>. This website will provide information about camps, clinics, USFHA Futures, and other helpful field hockey information.

If you are interested in learning more about how YOU CAN GET INVOLVED, please email Kara Mings at [k.mings@mac.com](mailto:k.mings@mac.com)





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-

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**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 Melchec Johnson at the Triangle Community Foundation at 919-474-8370 or melchec@trianglercf.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  
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