

# GOLF REPORT



With its instructional golf clinics, tournaments and scholarship program, the Ohio Girls Golf Foundation introduces girls to countless educational, recreational and career opportunities through the game of golf.



We are fortunate to have such a loyal and enthusiastic group of board members, volunteers and supporters. The OGGF is especially grateful to Terry Fergus of FSM Capital Management for his commitment as Title Sponsor of our Open the past decade.

When the economy turns sluggish, we all step back and evaluate where every dollar is going. Allow me to give you a few points on the value of the OGGF's efforts in opening up doors of opportunity...

• We have given more than 100 college scholarships over the years. These are based on a golfer's achievement, community service, leadership and financial need.

• Through our statewide instructional clinics, girls are introduced to golf by PGA & LPGA Professionals. With the Ongoing Instruction Program, they can continue to take lessons from the professionals, partially underwritten by the Foundation.

• At the OGGF Open, LPGA professionals Barb Mucha and Amy Alcott remarked how much opportunity there is now for girls in golf. They both had to play on the boys' teams in high school. Since the OGGF was founded in 1994, girls high school teams in Northern Ohio have grown to two divisions with more than 250 teams.

Have we "come a long way baby"? You bet we have!

— Teen Burke,  
OGGF President

## OGGF Open celebrates 10th year

As part of our 10-year anniversary of hosting the OGGF Open for high school girls, Tournament Director Tom Rider caught up with past champions to answer the question, "Where are they now?" We are proud to have touched the lives of not only these tournament winners, but the hundreds of girls who have participated over the years.

**2002** — Kelly Baytos of JFK H.S. played golf four years at Elon University. She is a 2010 graduate of OSU Law School and passed the Bar Exam last October.

**2003** — Christine Suchy of Strongsville H.S. played golf two years at Florida Southern University and two years at Ashland College. She graduated in 2009 with a degree in creative writing/journalism.



LPGA Professionals Barb Mucha and Amy Alcott flew into town to host a golf clinic for the girls prior to the 2010 OGGF Open.

**2004** — Rachel Levi of Padua H.S. will graduate from Xavier University in 2011 with a degree in communications after playing four years of golf. She plans on entering LPGA Qualifying School.

**2005** — Lindsay Salsburg of Fairless H.S. signed to play golf at Kent State University, but she was in an auto accident and never played college golf.

**2006** — Lisa Kocin of Padua H.S. graduated from St. Francis in 2010 after playing golf for four years (seen above). She will graduate as a physicians assistant in May.

**2007** — Katie Rogner of JFK H.S. will graduate from Youngstown State University in 2011 with a degree in Industrial/Systems Engineering after playing golf for four years. She was named YSU Woman athlete of the Year 2010.

**2008** — Ariel Witmer of South Range H.S. was also the 2008 Ohio High School Girls Champion and is playing



golf at Longwood University in Virginia, majoring in Biology.

**2009** — Taylor Lanning of Perry H.S. is playing golf at Methodist University while studying in the golf management program.

**2010** — Caitlin Kempton of Shaker Heights H.S. is playing golf at Mercyhurst College. She is majoring in Education.

And the legacy continues as the Foundation hosts the 2011 OGGF Open at Avon Oaks Country Club in Avon, Ohio on July 17 & 18. Visit [www.oggf.org](http://www.oggf.org) for registration information.



# ANNUAL FUND DONORS

The Annual Fund helps support our mission. As a non-profit organization, we rely on individual and corporate donations. To save on postage, we are including a donation envelope with this newsletter instead of sending out a separate fundraising letter.

And to make it even easier, you can now also donate online at [www.oggf.org](http://www.oggf.org).

Thank you to the following individuals and groups who donated in 2010 to help support girls golf in Ohio:

Jeanie Belhobek  
Mary Ann Bierman  
Brookside Women's Association  
Cleveland Women's Golf Association  
Sally Conley  
Jean Conrad  
Nancy & Drew Forhan  
Patricia Gliha  
Lynn Grisham  
(Bedford Trails Golf Course)  
Lake Forest Women's Association  
Taylor Lanning & Family  
Deb Manns  
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Dominic Vannucci  
Marie Walzer  
Carolyn Wilson

## From the Executive Director



By Judd Stephenson

It's thrilling to celebrate our 10th year of the OGGF Open and 17 years as a Foundation. Wow, what an accomplishment!

Hard to believe some of our past winners have already gone through college and are forging into the real world. And so many of our young clinic girls have moved on to become fierce competitors in

high school.

I'm proud to report the OGGF is on the grow!

Sites across the state will be offering the Spring Clinic Series for girls 8-18 the last four Saturdays in April. Check out all the details and register online at [www.oggf.org](http://www.oggf.org). And after the clinics are over, girls can take advantage of our Ongoing Instruction Program and continue taking lessons with a PGA professional, partially underwritten by the OGGF.

Our committees are busily preparing for the 2011 Open,

set for July 17 & 18. We have a lot of surprises in store for you to celebrate our 10th Open!

Lastly, I'd like to express my deepest thanks to all the donors, volunteers, board members, golf professionals, coaches, parents and players who have been a part of our family all these years. Your ongoing generosity, hard work, creativity and inspiration has helped this organization stay true to our mission.

Here's to the next decade and the one after that and the one after that...

## Apply now for 2011 scholarships, financial aid to attend tournaments

The pursuit of higher education and a higher level of competition have always been hallmarks of the OGGF.

Each year we provide thousands of dollars in college scholarships and financial assistance for girls to attend tournaments locally, regionally and nationally.

All Ohio high school senior girls are eligible for the scholarships. OGGF reviews every application and rates each candidate based on financial need, academic/extracurricular achievements, golf participation, community service and a written essay.

"Over the past 14 years, \$88,000 has been awarded to more than 85 girls," says Scholarship Committee Chairperson Margaret Swope.

And over the past four years, girls have received an additional \$500 OGGF/Medicus Scholarship. Thank you to Medicus RMG for their loyal and ongoing partnership.

You can download forms for Scholarship



Congratulations to our 2010 scholarship recipients pictured here with OGGF committee member Sara Swope: Steffanie Camarata, Cleveland State University; Melissa Hershberger, Coastal Carolina College; Audra Kohler, Otterbein College; Stephanie Koval, Lake Erie College; Amanda Orr, Tiffin University; Mariah Groner, Youngstown State University.

and Financial Assistance at our website, [www.oggf.org](http://www.oggf.org). Contact Swope at 330-335-5136 or [mwo724@yahoo.com](mailto:mwo724@yahoo.com) with scholarship questions, and Judd Stephenson at 440-871-4638 or [juddstephenson@yahoo.com](mailto:juddstephenson@yahoo.com) for Financial Assistance details.

The deadline for Scholarship Applications is March 15, 2011.

Financial Aid Applications are accepted year-round on a quarterly basis.

# OGGF Open crowns victors

Girls from across the state rose to the top of a full field of players at the 2010 OGGF Open at Avon Oaks Country Club. In a hard-fought competition, only one stroke determined both the individual and team champion.

Individual player Caitlin Kempton from Shaker Heights won by shooting a 79. Coming in one stroke behind was Allison Mitzel, who played for Poland Seminary, and third place was Lia Labate from Magnificat. Six golfers tied with a score of 83 to round out the top golfers.

The team competition was closely contested too coming down to a stroke difference, as Canfield (355) won top honors, followed by Magnificat (356) and Avon (365). Other schools participating

included Bay Village, Perry, Avon Lake, Brecksville-Broadview Heights, Cuyahoga Falls, Laurel, Nardonina and Warren JFK.

Headlined for the past decade by LPGA Tour Professional and Cleveland native Barb Mucha, this year the Open also featured LPGA Hall of Famer Amy Alcott — a friend of our sponsors Jack & Sherry Kahl. The LPGA pros flew in from Florida and California to share their golf wisdom with the younger generation here in Ohio to motivate and inspire them to improve their game.

“Tournaments are really won or lost by the short game,” said Mucha. “No matter how far you drive the ball, if you can’t get up and down without problems, you won’t

win the event.”

They both noted the changes and successes in the game for women.

“When we both played golf in high school, we had to golf on the boys’ team because there were no girls’ teams,” Mucha said. “It is great to be at an event like this and see how much the opportunities in girls golf have really grown over the years.”

The OGGF Open will celebrate its 10th anniversary this year with special events. Register early to ensure your spot at the 2011 OGGF Open set for July 17 & 18 at Avon Oaks Country Club.

You can download a registration form on [www.oggf.org](http://www.oggf.org), or email [juddstephen@yaho.com](mailto:juddstephen@yaho.com) for details.

## Top individual scores

Caitlin Kempton, Shaker Hts. - 79

Allison Mitzel, Poland - 80

Lia Labate, Magnificat - 82

Caroline Kennedy, Village - 83

Corynn Kreig, Avon Lake - 83

Ali Nageotte, Magnificat - 83

Kaitlin Neumann, Avon - 83

Amanda Orr, Canfield - 83

Kelsie Teaberry, Warren JFK - 83



First and second honors went to Caitlin Kempton of Shaker Heights and Allison Mitzel of Poland, who shot 79 and 80 respectively. Above, they are congratulated by LPGA Pro Barb Mucha and OGGF Executive Director Judd Stephenson.



Taking home all the crystal for the best team was Canfield High School, seen here with Coach Diane McCall and LPGA Pro Barb Mucha.

## Thanks to our sponsors...

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The mission of the OGGF is to encourage, sponsor and support the game of golf for girls by providing college scholarships, golf training programs and financial assistance to attend designated golf tournaments.

## Spring Clinics geared to every skill level

Girls ages 8-18 can get a great start on their golf game at the OGGF Spring Clinics on Saturdays in April. Clinics will be held on April 9, 16, 23, 30, from 10-11 a.m. at all locations, except 2CLUB Golf & Learning Center where they are from noon-1 p.m.

These instructional clinics conducted by PGA and LPGA instructors are geared to inform, educate and expand girls' knowledge in all aspects of golf. The format includes instruction for every skill level from beginner to advanced and examines all of the game from full swing to short game to putting.

Girls can participate in one clinic (\$15) or the entire series (for a special package deal of \$50). The deadline to sign up is April 1.

You can pick up a form at one of the locations, register online at [www.oggf.org](http://www.oggf.org) or contact OGGF Executive Director Judd Stephenson at 440-871-4638.

April clinic locations are:  
**West Pines Golf Range**  
34455 Chester Road  
Avon  
(440) 871-1414

**Golf Improvement Center**  
116 Medina Road  
Medina  
(330) 239-3500

**Shamrock Golf Club**  
4436 Powell Road  
Powell  
(614) 792-6630

**Pine Lakes Golf Club**  
6233 West Liberty Street  
Hubbard  
(330) 534-9026

**South Toledo Golf Club**  
3915 Heatherdowns Blvd.  
Toledo  
(419) 385-4678

**2CLUB Golf & Learning Center**  
1511 E. Aurora Road  
Macedonia  
(330) 467-2040

And girls who participate in our Spring Clinics will have the opportunity to continue improving their game through private lessons with PGA Professionals, partially funded by the Foundation.

When you sign up for the Ongoing Instruction Program — a series of four private or semi-private lessons — you pay \$50 and the Foundation pays the remaining \$50.

For a list of participating Golf Professionals throughout the state, check out [www.oggf.org](http://www.oggf.org).



## OGGF OPEN July 17-18 Avon Oaks Country Club

The Ohio Girls Golf Foundation is bringing together high school girl golfers, the corporate community and an LPGA tour professional for one of the area's premier golf events.

On Sunday, selected high school girls will golf with corporate sponsors in a fun 9-hole format. Then the full field gathers on Monday for a golf clinic by LPGA Pro Barb Mucha and an 18-hole tournament for high school girls at Avon Oaks Country Club in Avon, Ohio.

Cost: \$60 per player or \$300 per team. You may sell raffle tickets to defray entry fee. Download an entry form at [www.oggf.org](http://www.oggf.org) or call Judd Stephenson at 440-871-4638 to register.