

DPOA News & Events

Official Newsletter from Your
Diamante Property Owners Association

June, 2023

Dear Neighbors!

"Summertime...and the livin' is easy" from George Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*. For many, summer is usually the season of traveling, vacationing, and swimming, as well as playing golf, tennis, and pickleball, and it is the season during which fruits and plants fully develop. At Diamante, summer is known for golf tournaments, social events, and lots of fun with our friends, neighbors, and fellow members.

One upcoming event is the **DPOA Cocktail Party Fundraiser** on Saturday, July 22, 2023, from 4 to 7 PM. This event will be hosted by both the Diamante Property Owners Association (DPOA) and the Couple's Golf group and will conduct a silent auction and door prizes that will benefit future DPOA projects. Please join us for an early evening of fun, bidding, and making a difference (see pages 12 and 13 for more information and for the event's Registration Form). The DPOA has dedicated its time and spirit to making the best possible financial decisions that provide value for our properties. We are working with the Diamante House Committee and Diamante's Board of Directors to determine which projects are feasible this year. If you want the DPOA to

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consider a project, please send an e-mail message to one of the DPOA Board members (see page 13 for members' contact information).

Plants are the most beautiful and vital part of nature, supporting life on earth. They provide us with oxygen, fruits, and shelter for birds and animals. They also prevent global warming, provide fertility to the soil, and maintain sustainability and life for every human being on this planet. The DPOA has completed plantings along Diamante Boulevard with these goals in mind. The selection of the right plants, the support of soil health, and the proper maintenance are all key objectives when the DPOA considers purchasing additional plantings. If you have noticed an area in any of the Diamante neighborhoods that you believe need additional plantings, please notify one of the DPOA Board members.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to Janice Tarver for serving as the creator of the DPOA's Welcome Baskets. Board service is one of the toughest volunteer roles, and Janice greeted and delivered the welcome baskets to new property owners over the past 2 years.

Finally, I want to thank all the DPOA members who attended this year's DPOA Annual Picnic, and I want to recognize the tireless work of the Diamante staff for the picnic buffet, which kept everybody happy! A special thanks is also extended to the Colt and the Old 45s band for providing music from the 60s and 70s. As the President of the DPOA, it is a real pleasure to work with all the DPOA board members, whose contributions were critical in organizing this year's annual picnic. ♦

—*Heidi Hilbert, DPOA President*



Treasurer's Report

As of June 10, 2023

Membership

As of June 10, 2023,
194 members have paid their
DPOA dues for 197 of
the 270 eligible properties.

Fund Balances

Funds available for operations:

\$ 10,012.83

Reserve (emergency) funds:

\$ 7,500.00

Total funds:

\$ 17,512.83

Invoices for the 2023 annual dues were mailed to all Diamante property owners in early January. If you have not already done so, please renew your DPOA membership by mailing your \$75.00 annual DPOA dues to Nancy Webb at 31 Elcano Drive, Hot Springs Village, AR 71909.

NANCY WEBB



The DPOA News & Events newsletter is published monthly and, after the April issue, it is only sent to dues-paying DPOA members. If you have questions, need information, or would like to submit an article of interest, please contact your editor, Dana Peick, or one of the DPOA Board Members.

FUN AND GAMES WERE HAD BY ALL!

Fun-Filled Activities and a Tasty Buffet at the 2023 DPOA Annual Picnic!



The Diamante Property Owners Association (DPOA) Board members organized another memorable and fun-filled annual DPOA Picnic on Monday, May 22nd. We are extremely thankful to approximately 75 property owners who attended this fun-filled event. What a wonderful time to meet some of our new neighbors and reconnect with friends who we haven't seen for a while. This popular annual Picnic provides the opportunity for us to let our new neighbors know that they are now members of a very special family of friends and neighbors who support and care for one another.

We had a great turn out and are grateful for our amazing Diamante staff members who made everything very special, especially a tasty hamburger and hot dog buffet. A grateful "THANK YOU" is also extended to the Colt and

the Old 45s band who provided live musical entertainment, during which the dance floor was filled with talented dance moves.

This event also featured a putting contest that was won by Linda Fulton and Mike Prosen. In addition, a 50/50 raffle was also included, which raised an impressive \$800.00. The winner, Greg Hilbert, exemplified the generosity that defines the DPOA community by selflessly donating his winnings back to the DPOA.

This annual event exemplified the DPOA's commitment to fostering community and providing residents with a delightful day of food, music, friendly competition, and an opportunity to support the Association's initiatives through the raffle. It was a celebration of the vibrant spirit of Diamante, and we appreciate all residents for their support! ♦

—**Doug Zook**

2023 Diamante Intercollegiate

The Texans Are Coming!

The 16th annual women's golf tournament, which will be played at the Diamante Country Club from October 21st to the 24th, is now called the **Diamante Intercollegiate** in recognition of the status of the tournament throughout our region and beyond. A full roster of 18 teams are planning to attend, and a waiting list is being compiled. That is a compliment to both the sponsor, the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR), and its partnership with Diamante, which provides an exceptional tournament for women's intercollegiate activities.

Each month, leading up to this year's **Diamante Intercollegiate** women's golf tournament, your DPOA newsletter, **DPOA News & Events**, will include articles that will introduce the teams that will be participating in this amazing and fun-filled event. To begin, the following article highlights the returning Texas teams that will be playing in the upcoming October event.

If you are an alumnus of any of the following teams, we hope you will enjoy reading about their accomplishments during the 2022–2023 season.



Formerly known as Houston Baptist College, the **Houston Christian University (HCU)** Huskies finished third at the

2023 Southland Conference Tournament at Hyatt Hill Country Golf Club. HCU fired rounds of 304, 312, and 311, for a total of 927. The Huskies were led by senior, Elise Parel, who finished fifth.

The Huskies finish the championship season with two wins—the 2023 Islander Classic and the 2023 University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) Invitational, finishing inside the top-ten in all ten events of the season and inside the top-five in nine tournaments.

HCU senior, Elise Parel, and sophomore, Jackie Nguyen, were both named Southland Conference All-Academic first-team members in May. Parel's honor makes it 3 years in a row as a first-team honoree, and



Elise Parel



Jackie Nguyen

Nguyen earned her first academic honor. HCU will bring five players and two coaches to the Diamante event in October.



Founded in 1923 in Nacogdoches, Texas, **Stephen F. Austin State University (SFA)** has established a set of Athletics Core Values and Standards of Behavior, which are stated with the following acronym, "AXE 'EM"

Accountability—Be responsible

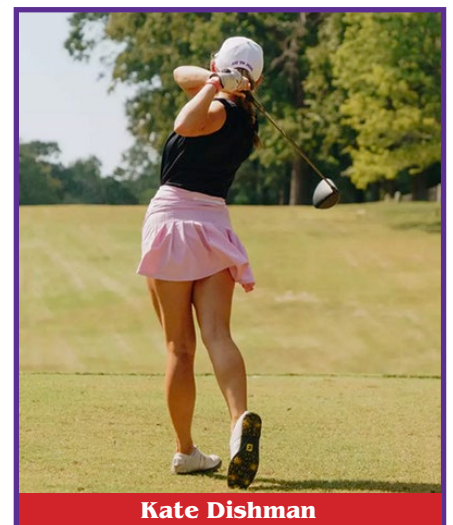
Excellence—Be the best

Integrity—Be true

InnovativE—Be different

Teamwork—Be unified

The Ladyjacks placed 11th out of 16 teams in the 2022 tournament that was played at Diamante. SFA was led by senior Kate Dishman who shot 222 and finished tied for 18th. Freshman Rylie Cerny, who finished tied for 36th, was the second strongest performer for the Ladyjacks. SFA will bring five players and two coaches to Diamante in 2023.



Kate Dishman

Continued from page 4—2023 Diamante Intercollegiate

THE TEXANS ARE COMING!



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
COMMERCE

For the first time in the program's history, the Texas A&M University–Commerce women's golf team took part in the 2023 Southland Conference Championships at Hill Country Resort Golf Club in San Antonio. The Lion's Henriette Stranda (Germany) carded her first top-five finish in her Texas A&M University–Commerce women's golf team career to finish third. In the team's standings, the Lions finished fifth among seven teams with a score of 952. Texas A&M–Commerce improved its team score in each round and finished 15 strokes behind Texas A&M–Corpus Christi.

Texas A&M University–Commerce women's golfer Benz Far-Arun (Thailand) was selected in May to play on the Southland Conference all-academic second team. She was among 10 women's golf student-athletes from the conference who were selected.

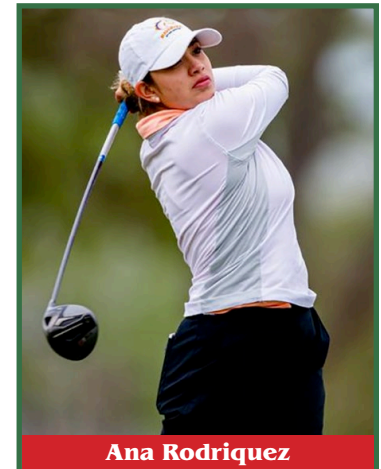
Texas A&M University–Commerce will bring five players and one coach to the **Diamante Intercollegiate** event.



The **University of Texas at Arlington (UTA)** women's golf team brought its 2022-2023 season to a close after a final round of 320 at the Western Athletic Conference Championship that was played at Semiahmoo Country Club in Blaine, Washington. Overall, the Mavericks finished in 11th place after turning in rounds of 318, 315, and 320. Freshman Madison Le paced UTA's lineup with a tied-38th finish across the 60-players field.

On April 11th, during the final round of the Oral Roberts University Spring Invitational, freshman Ana Rodriquez's made her first eagle of the season as the UTA women's golf team wrapped up tournament action at the Club at Indian Springs—River Course. Although UTA finished in 12th place, the Mavericks tied with Stephen F. Austin team with the 4th-best par-3 scoring average of 3.27. Across the 2-day event, the Mavericks turned in rounds of 311, 312, and 307 for a 54-hole total of 931.

UTA will bring five players and two coaches to the **2023 Diamante Intercollegiate**.



Let's Show Our Diamante Spirit!

Fred and Glenda are, once again, coordinating housing for the players and coaches and are in the process of reaching out to fellow members, neighbors, and friends to secure commitments of the hosts. As reported in last month's DPOA newsletter, the players and coaches appreciate and look forward to the great welcome that Diamante provides through host housing and the amazing experience it is to play our golf course. If you can assist by volunteering to offer host housing, which consists of providing sleeping accommodations and providing a light breakfast,

please don't hesitate to call us. Hosting is a wonderful experience with very little "hosting" required. Most of the athletes' time is spent on the golf course, recovering from play, and completing their studies...after all, they are all still students with courses to manage!

Volunteers will also be needed to support the tournament. David Howard, Diamante's Head Golf Professional/PGA Associate, will be coordinating these assignments. Future articles in the DPOA newsletter will provide additional information about how you can participate. We look forward to hearing from you. ♦

—Glenda and Fred Bean

Glenda Bean—E-mail address: gpbean@suddenlink.net; Telephone: (501) 626-2573

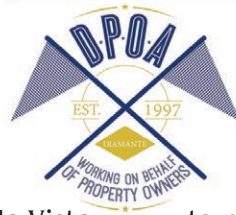
Fred Bean—E-mail address: fbean@suddenlink.net; Telephone: (501) 681-0243

Let's Get to Know
Karla Sebastiani

Secretary—Diamante Property Owners Association

John and I live in Arkansas, which was something I never thought I would say. I lived in Illinois all my life, had a summer home in beautiful South Haven, Michigan, and a blueberry farm 11 miles from Grand Junction, Michigan. Living in Arkansas never crossed my mind.

When Covid hit, I was given the option to work full time from home as the Fleet Manager for Abbott Laboratories. John took that opportunity to start looking at retirement areas. Our first trip was to Tellico Village, Tennessee, where we visited with some of his friends. Although a genuinely nice place, it didn't have the feeling of home. Before our next trip to Bella Vista in northern Arkansas, John found Hot Springs Village on the Internet and said, "We have a few weeks, why don't we check it out?" Well, that is when the fun began. We arrived in Hot Springs and decided to drive around to get a feel of the area.



We were on Highway 7 and passed a business named Masterbaiters. I thought, "There is no way that I am going to live here!" We continued on our drive and were able to check into our hotel with a view of Lake DeSoto. Unfortunately, the water was down so that people could work on the docks. We decided to go to the grocery store, get a bottle of wine, dinner, and eat in the room, but it was Sunday, so we could not buy any wine. Arkansas was not looking good! That evening, while I was on the Internet trying to change our flights home, Candy Adams called and offered to show us the Village and some available homes. Although I was still a little leery, we agreed to meet her the next day. Candy showed us around the Village and the Diamante neighborhoods. I started to feel a lot better about Arkansas. That evening, we put in an offer for a home in the Diamante community, and it was accepted. We both have loved living here ever since. ♦



DATE	DAY	EVENT
08/12/23	Saturday	Monte Carlo Night (Charity Event)
09/30/23	Saturday	Pool Party With Performance by "Triple Crown"
10/28/23	Saturday	Halloween Country Cart Barn Dance; Costume Contest
11/10/23	Friday	"Sip & Paint" (Diamante Women)
11/23/23	Thursday	Diamante Thanksgiving
12/09/23	Saturday	Diamante Christmas Party
12/25/23	Monday	Diamante Closed on Christmas Day
12/31/23	Sunday	Diamante New Year's Eve

Our Neighborhood Crime Watch Program

Home Watch—Residential Security Checklist

Not only should citizens be concerned with the security of their neighborhoods, but they should also make their own homes as secure as possible.

Removing the opportunity for crime will reduce the amount of crime. One half of all home burglaries occur during the day when alert neighbors could spot thieves and call the police.

CHECK THE LOCKS

- Ensure that every external door has a sturdy, well-installed deadbolt lock with a minimum of a 1½" bolt.
- Secure sliding glass doors with commercially available locks, or use a broomstick or wooden dowel in the track to prevent the door from being pried open.
- Secure double-hung windows by using key locks or by sliding a bolt or nail through a hole drilled at a downward angle in the top corners of the inside sash and part way through the outside sash.
- Do not hide keys in mailboxes, planters, or under doormats. Give an extra key to a neighbor who you trust.
- If you just moved in a new house or condominium, change the locks.



REMEMBER
Good locks, simple precautions, neighborhood watch programs, and common sense can help prevent property crimes.

CHECK THE DOORS

- Make sure that all exterior doors are metal or solid, 1¾" hardwood.
- Doors should fit tightly in their frames with hinge pins on the side.
- Install a peephole or wide-angle viewer in all entry doors to enable you to see who is outside without opening the door. Do not rely on door chains for security.

CHECK THE OUTSIDE

- Trim shrubbery that hides doors or windows. Cut tree limbs that could help a thief climb into windows.
- Turn on outside lights after dark, and outside timers or install motion detectors.
- Keep your yard maintained.
- Clearly display your house number, so the

police and other emergency vehicles can quickly find your home.

- Keep up the appearance of the neighborhood. Work with your local government and your neighbors to organize community clean-up days.
 - If you are planning to go on vacation, put lights and a radio on timers to create the illusion that someone is home. Arrange for a neighbor to pick up your mail and remove newspapers and circulars.

Home Watch—Residential Security Checklist—cont'd

If you are locked out of your home, can you still get in through an unlocked window in the back or by using an extra key that is hidden under a flowerpot or up on a ledge? If you can break into your

home, then so can a burglar! Although this checklist will not make your home burglar proof, it will provide suggestions that may help improve your home protection.

Yes	No	Exterior of Home
		Is your address clearly visible from the street?
		Are entry areas free of shrubbery and other items to permit visibility by your neighbors?
		Are trees and shrubs trimmed to eliminate hiding places?
		Can lights be compromised by simply unscrewing the light bulbs?
		Are lights controlled by motion detectors?
		Does outdoor lighting cover the entire perimeter of your home?
		Does outdoor lighting illuminate your house numbers?
		Have you removed anything with your name on it from the outside of your home?
		Are telephone and electrical lines located in a way that makes them easily accessible?
		Are outside service boxes, such as telephone and electrical lines, among others, secured?
		Are structures, such as garages and sheds, properly secured and locked?
		Are there privacy fences that offer too high of a degree of seclusion? If so, have you taken precautions such as installing an alarm system?
		Are alarm signs visible?
		Are alarm company decals on windows and points of entry?
		Does your property have a well-maintained appearance?

Yes	No	Windows
		Are all of your windows equipped with locks or are pinned?
		Can windows that are left open for ventilation be secured?
		Are windows properly locked and firmly mounted?
		Do you keep the windows locked when they are shut?
		Are there window air conditioning units?
		Are window air conditioners anchored to prevent removal from the outside?
		Have screws been installed in the tracks of sliding windows to prevent them from being lifted out?
		Do you have curtains or blinds covering garage windows?
		Are there good, secure locks on garage windows?

Home Watch—Residential Security Checklist—cont'd

Yes	No	Doors
		Do your doors fit tightly within their frames?
		Have the locks been changed or re-keyed since the last occupant?
		Are the locks in good working condition?
		If there is an alarm, does it cover the perimeter, windows, and doors, as well as motion?
		Are all the keys to the house accounted for?
		Are exterior doors solid core construction?
		Are there 180-degree wide-angled viewers on the exterior doors?
		Are all the doors, including those on an upper floor, properly secured?
		Have sliding doors been tailored to keep them from being lifted out of the track?
		Can the overhead garage door be properly secured with a padlock at the very least?
		Do you lock the garage door leading to your house?
		Are garage door openers left in cars that are parked outside of the garage?
		If there are glass panes in or near doors, are they reinforced to prevent them from being shattered out?
		Do doors and windows allow an easy escape in the event of an emergency?

Yes	No	When You Are Leaving Your Home
		Do you leave in such a way that the typical person would not be able to tell that you are leaving? (For example, park the car out of sight.)
		Do you notify someone to watch your home?
		Do you arrange for friends or a neighbor to pick up your mail, newspaper, and other deliveries?
		Have you left both work and/or vacation numbers with a trusted individual so that you will be contacted in case of an emergency?
		Have you made provisions for lawn care or snow removal?
		Are timers in place for interior lighting and radios?
		Do you turn the telephone ringer and answering machine down to low volume when you leave?
		Do you park halfway down your driveway so that it looks like someone is home and to make it more difficult for thieves to load up things?
		Have valuables been placed in uncommon areas instead of obvious spots?

Home Watch—Residential Security Checklist—cont'd

Yes	No	Miscellaneous Issues
		Do you keep an inventory of valuables, and is it secured in a safe place?
		Does your inventory include photographs and a record of serial numbers for valuable items?
		Do you have emergency numbers listed on your telephone?
		Do you shred personal information instead of putting it out in the trash?
		Do you maintain a cell phone?
		Do you practice safety drills with your family?
		Are firearms unloaded and safely locked away?
		Do you occasionally vary your daily routine?
		Are insurance policies kept up to date?

Neighborhood Crime Watch Program—Block Captains

Al Bowles	Granada Drive, all blocks; Granada Trace, all blocks Granada Lane, all blocks; Granada Way, all blocks Granada Loop, all blocks; Morro Lane, all blocks Granada Place, all blocks; Morro Place, all blocks
Winford Bradford	Alcazaba Way, blocks 1-13
David Clark	Cruzado Lane, block 24, lots 1-11
Chris Gleason	Juego Way, blocks 1-13
Heidi Hilbert	Princesa Drive, all of block 12
Keith Hughes	Loyola Drive, block 3, lots 1-18
Manny Machuca	Vera Lane, block 20, lots 1-5
Sylvia and John Matthews	Loyola Circle, block 1, lots 1-14; all of block 5
Neil and Marilyn Phelan	Loyola Place, block 1, lots 1-15
Ted Schramm	Realeza Court, block 1, all of the Villas
Jess Stephens	Darro Way, block 15, lots 19-31
Suzanne Stofer	Princesa Place, all of blocks 12 and 13 Princesa Trace, all blocks
Phil Tyree	Darro Way, block 15, lots 1-18
Bob Walker	Poema Way, all of block 21
Mike Walters	Loyola Way, Block 3, Lots 20-29
Doug Zook	Estado Circle, block 22, lots 1-16

Block captains needed for: (1) Alcazaba Way, block 14, lots 1-13
(2) Alhaja Way, block 16, lots 1-14
(3) Alhaja Way, all of block 18
(3) Alhaja Lane, block 17, lots 1-11

When Should We Fly the American Flag at Half-Staff?



Independence Day is fast approaching, and the American flag should be raised high! However, there are many occasions during which the flag should be displayed at half-staff.

The U.S. Flag Code says that the flag should be hung at half-staff during the following events:

- ★ 30 days after the death of a current or former president or president-elect;
- ★ 10 days after the death of a current vice president, current or retired chief justice, or current speaker of the House of Representatives;
- ★ From the day of death until the day of burial of an associate justice of the Supreme Court, a secretary of an executive or military department, a former vice president, the president pro tempore of the Senate, or the governor of a state, or territory; and
- ★ On the day of death and the next day for a member of Congress.

There are a few specific days when the flag is also flown at half-staff:

- ★ Until noon on Memorial Day;

- ★ All day on September 11th, in honor of Patriot Day, and in remembrance of the 2001 terrorist attacks;
- ★ Peace Officers Memorial Day on May 15, unless it is also Armed Forces Day; and
- ★ Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day on December 7.

The president can issue an executive order for the flag to be flown at half-staff when a notable person dies or when a tragic event occurs. For example, in 2014, after the school shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, President Obama issued a proclamation saying that the American flag would be flown at half-staff for 5 days.

Governors of the United States can order all American and state flags in their jurisdiction to be flown at half-staff in certain circumstances, as well as on the death of a former or current state official or a member of the armed forces who died while serving in active duty.

When raising the flag to be hung at half-staff, it should be raised to the top of the staff and then lowered. ♦ **–Heidi Hilbert**



DPOA COCKTAIL PARTY FUNDRAISER

Saturday, July 22 — 4 to 7 PM

DPOA Cocktail Party Reservations

Printed full name of person sending check

Check #

Dollar amount

**All Diamante and DPOA Members and Property Owners—\$ 15.00
Guests—\$20.00**

Full name

Full name

Full name

Full name

Full name

Full name

Full name

Full name

Full name

Full name

Full name

Full name

**Please make your check payable to the DPOA
and mail your check to
Heidi Helbert, 37 Princesa Drive, Hot Springs Village. AR 71909**

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DPOA COCKTAIL PARTY FUNDRAISER



Saturday, July 22 — 4 to 7 PM

The **DPOA COCKTAIL PARTY FUNDRAISER** is the first event in a fundraising weekend that also offers a Couples' Golf tournament, **FRONT NINE vs BACK NINE** on Sunday, July 23rd.

During the DPOA Cocktail party, door prizes will be awarded. A silent auction will be held in the Diamond Room, and a dinner buffet will offer the following tasty selections:

- (1) Pork and vegetable egg rolls with sweet chili sauce;
- (2) Cajun cocktail shrimp shooters;
- (3) Margherita flat bread pizza with grape tomatoes, mozzarella cheese, and basil; and
- (4) Asian chicken salad wonton cup.

All property owners, Diamante Club members, and their guests are invited to attend whether they play golf or not. All donations will support future projects to repair, replace, enhance, or improve the Diamante neighborhoods. In addition, your donations will also help support the future projects that are being carefully evaluated by the Diamante House Committee and may include the following:

- (1) Cappuccino/expresso machine;
- (2) Refinishing the hardwood floors in the entry;
- (3) Wine refrigerator; and
- (4) Recarpeting the club's floors.

To make your reservations, please fill out the **Reservation Form** on page 12 in this newsletter.

SILENT AUCTION

Bid, Donate, and Support!