

# DPOA News & Events



Official Newsletter from Your  
Diamante Property Owners Association

August, 2023

## Dear Neighbors!

**A**ugust is known for many things, including the “dog days of summer,” Lammas Day (August 1st), National Watermelon Day (August 3rd), and National Smile Week (August 5th through the 11th). However, many other fun facts are associated with the last full month of summer. August is the start of an old harvest holiday, Lammas Day. Did you know that August was named after a major figure of the ancient Roman world, Augustus Caesar (23 September, 63 BC to 19 August 14 AD)? Although he never claimed the title, Augustus Caesar was the first Roman emperor. The previous ruler, Julius Caesar, named July after himself. August 1st, traditionally known as Lammas Day, was an old festival that marked the annual wheat and corn harvest. Lammas Day was somewhat similar to Thanksgiving (harvest time) in Great Britain. Lammas also marked the midpoint between the summer solstice and the autumn equinox. August is the eighth month of the year in today’s Gregorian calendar, but it was the sixth month (Sextilis) of the year in Roman times. Augustus had the month of Sextilius renamed after himself in 8 BC. It was the month of some of his greatest military victories.

Diamante will also be hosting the UALR Women’s Collegiate Tournament from October 21st to the 24th. Watching these

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## Talking Points

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young ladies play golf at Diamante, while representing the college they attend, is extremely rewarding. Please consider opening your home to host these young women athletes.

Save the date of April 8, 2024, for next year's DPOA Picnic. Yes, the picnic is now scheduled to be held in April, during which we will also celebrate the Solar Eclipse with many festivities marking this date. More information will be forthcoming regarding this special event.

As we move forward with new projects, we must never forget the importance of maintaining the beautiful surroundings of Diamante that we all enjoy. As you may have noticed, five new homes are either under construction or the lots are being cleared for the building of new homes. Those who are relocating from out of state have expressed considerable interest in living in one of the Diamante neighborhoods because many are moving to the Village with private club experience. Since we need to capitalize on this trend, the DPOA is taking on several new projects to enhance the experience of living in Diamante. For example, we are in the process of refacing the monument at Estado Estates in the next few months. We will be using the same granite that was used to reface the entrance of Diamante Boulevard and the guard house. Through your continued support, the DPOA can fund projects such as the refacing of our entrances, outdoor fans, and security cameras. If you have a project that you would like the DPOA to consider, then please contact any of the DPOA board members listed on the last page of this newsletter.

Finally, I want to express my sincere gratitude to each and every one of you for your contributions to the DPOA. Undoubtedly, your support helps make our community the most attractive place to live in Hot Springs Village. ♦

—Heidi Hilbert, DPOA President



## Treasurer's Report

As of August 9, 2023

### Membership

As of August 9, 2023,  
194 members have paid their  
DPOA dues for 197 of  
the 270 eligible properties.

### Fund Balances

Funds available for operations:

**\$12,628.77**

Reserve (emergency) funds:

**\$7,500.00**

Total funds:

**\$20,128.77**

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, 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.**

# 2023 Diamante Intercollegiate Meet Another Five Teams!

**W**e would like to introduce five teams that will be joining us in October to compete in the annual University of Arkansas/Little Rock (UALR) tournament: Ball State University, Bradley University, Georgia State University, Missouri State University, and Wichita State University. We have already introduced and

highlighted eight of the teams in the last two DPOA newsletters. In addition, to complete the field for this tournament, the September newsletter will showcase three Arkansas teams and an additional Texas team. You will note that this group of teams boasts a significant number of athlete scholars!



**BALL STATE UNIVERSITY**

women's golf team was represented by the following five student athletes.

The 2022-23 Women's Golf Coaches Association (WGCA) All-American Scholar Team was announced in July with 1,401 women's collegiate golfers from 378 programs recognized with this prestigious honor. The **Ball State University**

Payton Bennett earned her second All-American Scholar honor, and Madelin Boyd, Peyton Broce, Jasmine Driscoll, and Sarah Gallagher each earned their first accolades. The Cardinals landed at least four golfers on the All-American Scholar Team for five consecutive seasons.

In April, the women's golf team finished seventh for the Mid-American Conference Championship. Jasmine Driscoll led the Cardinals and tied for 24th.



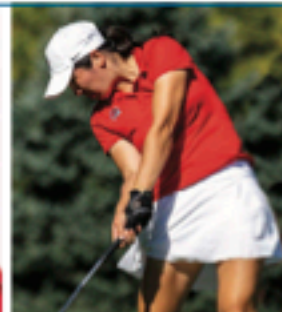
**Payton Bennett**



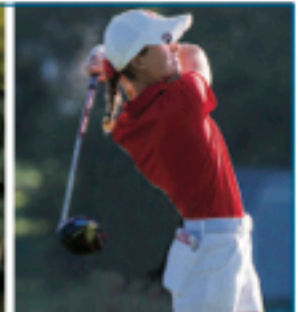
**Madelin Boyd**



**Peyton Broce**



**Jasmine Driscoll**



**Sarah Gallagher**



Junior, Grace Aromando, of **Bradley University** finished one shot off the lead at the Missouri Valley Conference Championships held in April at Annbriar Golf Course in Waterloo, Illinois. Aromando just missed the three-way tie at the top of the



leaderboard at 15 over and was named to the All-Tournament Team. As a team, Bradley University finished seventh with a team total score of 966.



In July, Maria Perakis, Megan Welch, Allison Pacocha, and Mara Flaherty, were named Women's Golf Coaches Association (WGCA) All-American Scholars. Welch and Flaherty received the award for a fourth consecutive year, Perakis earned her second consecutive nomination, and Pacocha earned the honor for the first time. Bradley has had at least four WGCA All-American Scholars each of the past 5 years and seven of the last eight seasons.

Continued from page 3—2023 Diamante Intercollegiate

## MEET THREE MORE OF THE FIVE TEAMS!



Senior Ari Acuff was the top finisher for the **Georgia State University** women's golf team at the 2023 Sun Belt Conference Championships, held in April at the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) International in Daytona Beach, Florida. The Panthers finished ninth in the team standings, finishing with a 54-hole total of 910 (+46) on the Par 72, 6,134-yard layout on the Hills Course at the LPGA International.

Georgia State University women's golf coach, Jessica Steward, stepped down in June after four seasons and was the second women's Golf Head Coach in Georgia State history when she took over the program in 2019 and 2020. Ket Vanderpool has been named to replace Coach Steward.



In May, the **Missouri State University (MSU)** women's golf team competed in the National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA) Regional tournament in San Antonio. The Bears were part of a 12-team regional event that was held at the Tournament Players' Club (TPC) San Antonio Oaks Course, on May 8th through the 10th. Other

teams included Texas A&M, Auburn University, Pepperdine University, Oklahoma State University, Southern Methodist University (SMU), University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), the University of New Mexico, Denver University, University of Illinois, Sam Houston State University, and University of Louisiana/Monroe. The Bears wrapped up play at the NCAA Women's Golf Regional, finishing in 12th place in the field of a dozen teams.



**Wichita State University's** women's golf concluded its 2022-23 season after the American Athletic Conference

Championship, finishing the 3-day tournament in 10th place with a total score of 46 strokes over par, 910.

Another outstanding year on the green and in the classroom landed six Wichita State women's golfers on the WQCA 2022-23 All-American Scholar list. Seniors Megan Lucas and Kenni Henson, junior Mar Vidal, sophomore Sarah Lawson, and freshmen Brooklyn Benn and Mackenzie Wilson, were all named as WQCA Scholar Athletes.



Megan Lucas



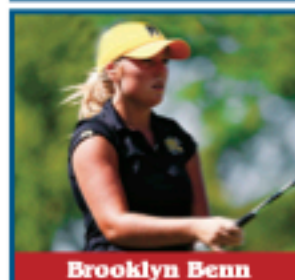
Kenni Henson



Mar Vidal



Sarah Lawson



Brooklyn Benn



Mackenzie Wilson

## Let's Show Our Diamante Spirit!

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



# WHAT DOES THE THE AMERICAN FLAG MEAN TO AMERICANS?

The word, *America*, brings different images to mind. Perhaps many will think of a backyard barbecue with a grill full of hot dogs and hamburgers, whereas the colors of red, white, and blue may, for many, fly into their stream of consciousness at the thought of the United States.

The American flag is a symbol of everything that our country represents. It is not to be disrespected or dishonored, which is why Americans proudly fly their flags. In this article, we are going to walk through the different meanings that the American flag carries for the American citizens.

## VALUES THE AMERICAN FLAG HOLDS

If 500 Americans were asked what the American flag means, the responses would include many different answers. However, a few core values and meanings will occur more than once, no matter who is asked. Let's examine these centralized values.

### ★ **Pride**

Whether we look at our nation's flag to check the direction of the wind, while reciting the Pledge of Allegiance or while listening to the national anthem, most of us feel a sense of pride. Being an American means belonging to a land of democracy, freedom, and opportunity. We are lucky to belong to a nation that values our input and ideas.

### ★ **Sacrifice**

Since America's beginning, citizens have sacrificed for the greater good of the country.

Today, American war veterans sacrifice their time, their bodies, and some sacrifice their lives to serve and protect our country. Such sacrifice is remembered on Veterans Day, during which we honor the men and women who served in our Armed Forces. Their sacrifices enable our safety, promote our progress, and support the growth of our democracy. Sacrifice functions under the notion that we serve our country without a guarantee of personal reward. Simply stated, sacrifice is about devoting oneself to a higher public cause. Serving in the United States Armed Services is a noble act that requires sacrifice on many levels, and it is representative of the attitudes on which this country is based.

### ★ **Opportunity**

America is synonymous with the words, "Land of opportunity." Since its conception, the United States has been a place where people go to build new and better lives. Millions of immigrants leave their homelands in search of a better life in America, and they usually find what they are looking for; that is, they find an opportunity to succeed. The United States offers jobs and freedoms that are not easily accessible in other countries.

### ★ **Hope**

Although hope is a less obvious theme, it is one of the most important premises. The Declaration of Independence enforces the notion that all men and women are born and created equal. Through the existence of a document such as the Declaration of Independence, hope is

Continued from page 5—What Does the American Flag Mean to Americans?

instilled in most Americans that it will, one day, be achieved. For many, the United States of America is a “beacon of hope.” Hope may not be the first theme that comes to mind when a citizen thinks of an American tradition; he or she may think of parades, fireworks, and/or apple pie. However, hope has been a tradition of our country since it was founded.

Although hope may be a less obvious theme, it is one of the most important premises. For example, the Declaration of Independence enforces the notion that all men and women are born and created equal. Through the existence of this document, most Americans hope that the concept of equality for all men and women will, one day, be achieved.

### ★ **Strength**

Strength is one of the primary pillars of America. Recognizing America’s dominance on a global scale as a function of America’s powerful military and governmental bodies is easy.

The tradition of strength, coupled with cooperation, is a motif throughout America’s history. After World War II, the United States leaned on global institutions for trade and security. This decision proved to give America a globally strong network of allies. Americans are strong and know how to work together for the greater good of the United States. Strength and cooperation have historically been the key to American prosperity.

### ★ **Freedom**

America means freedom, and countless songs and poems affirm this characteristic of the United States. Lee Greenwood says it best, “I’m proud to be an American where at least I know I’m free, and I won’t forget the men who died and gave that right to me.” Freedom means the power or right to act, speak, or think as one wants without hindrance or restraint. America has abided by the terms of freedom and is founded on that very construct.

### ★ **Historical Symbolism of Red, White, and Blue**

The colors of America are ingrained into the identity of every American citizen. “Why those colors?” one may ask. Red, white, and blue, each, have a very intentional meaning for our country.

#### **Meaning of Red**

Red signifies hardness and valor. It basically refers to the great courage our veterans display in the face of danger, especially in battle. Some say that red represents the blood shed by patriots in battle. Red can also signify the readiness to sacrifice.

#### **Meaning of White**

White symbolizes purity and innocence. In addition, pure intentions and ideals are at the core of the American belief system.

#### **Meaning of Blue**

Blue means vigilance, perseverance, and justice. As American citizens, blue is meant to remind us to carefully watch for possible dangers or difficulties. Importantly, the color blue also reminds Americans that they will be able to make it through those difficulties.

The blue in the American flag honors the importance of a just and fair country. Without justice, perseverance, and vigilance, America would not be the country that is known and loved today.

### ★ **What Do the Stars and Stripes Represent?**

Let us not forget the stars and stripes. The 50 white stars represent the 50 states in America. The last star that was added to the flag design on July 4th, 1960 represented Hawaii.

The seven red stripes and six white stripes on the American flag pay tribute to the original 13 states, which are also known as the former British colonies. Both the stars and stripes mean even more. The stars are meant to represent the heavens, whereas the stripes are meant to emulate light from the sun. ♦ —*Heidi Hilbert*



# Couples Invitational Tournament Backspin into the Future

The first Diamante **Couples Invitational Tournament** was a huge success with 43 couples coming from six states—Arkansas, Florida, Illinois, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas!

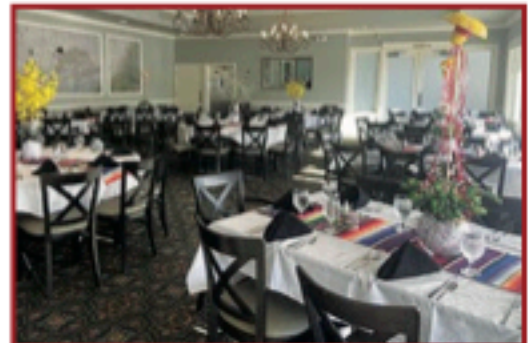
In addition to the purchases that players made before the tournament began, 35 couples played a Friday practice round. Both the practice round and the players' purchases earned the Diamante golf shop over \$3,500.00. Importantly, over \$8,600.00 in green fees were collected from those who played in this invitational tournament.

Through generous donations from our members, the tournament's registration committee members were able to give each playing couple a \$25.00 golf shop gift certificate, which generated another \$1,075.00 of revenue to the golf shop. As a bonus, Diamante members from Trademark HSV Real Estate provided Ditty bags that included cooling towels for each player, maps of the Diamante neighborhoods, and maps of the Village, along with some promotional items.

"We were so privileged to have the help of so many of our members," reported Janice Stephens. "They volunteered to help players through the check-in process, to sell raffle tickets and bar tickets, to help the guests load their golf bags, and to keep coolers



This Welcome banner was donated by the Stephens and the Bergfelds.



The dining room tables were decorated by Lori McGhee for Saturday's dinner.



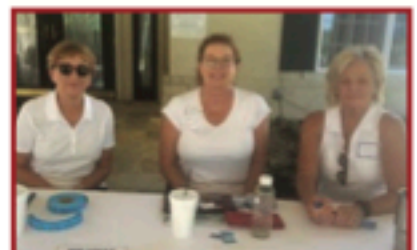
Manny Machuca and Bob Hinckley managed the cooling station between holes 7 and 8.



Kim Fennell, Kathi Price, and Pam Sullivan sold 50/50 raffle tickets.



Nora Bergfeld and Carol Bodge offered gift certificates at the check-in table.



Belinda Gemme, Alice Hinckley, and Andrea Woodside sold drink tickets.

Continued from page 7—Couples Invitational Tournament—BACKSPIN INTO THE FUTURE

# Couples Invitational Tournament Backspin into the Future

filled with water, Gatorade, and Ice.” Members also volunteered to circle the course, providing ice and water as needed, as well as take pictures, spot holes, and be available for the needs of the players. Several members set up cooling stations out on the course on their respective holes to serve cold drinks and snacks, as well as welcome the players.

Many positive words and appreciative phrases about the members, the Damante staff employees, and especially the food were heard. Needless to say, the players totally enjoyed playing the Damante golf course.

Finally, in addition to the Saturday afternoon tournament, several couples enjoyed dinner at the club on Friday night and lunch on Saturday before play. With their entry fees, tournament participants were served a fabulous Fajita buffet with all the fixings on Saturday night, and Neyna Pattison extended Sunday brunch to accommodate the golfers.

Importantly, every penny that was paid out to the players was put right back into the club, thanks to everyone who contributed to this successful tournament by either donating money or by volunteering to help in the extreme heat that we had. The chairs for this committee, Janice and Jess Stephens, Nora and Randy Bergfield, and Alice Hinckley, could not have successfully met their responsibilities without the help of our family of Damante members. ♦ **—Janice Stephens**



Janice Stephens, Connie Vaden, and Nora Bergfield helped manage the welcome table.



LeAnn Newcomb and Jan Coggins volunteered to manage the cooling station on hole #12.



Volunteers included Jim Bodge, Jess Stephens, Randy Bergfield, Tom Ellers (rear), Tom Koskle, and Manny Machuca.



Jim Bodge, Jess Stephens, and Randy Bergfield helped stage carts and shuttled guest players.



Alice Weatherly (rear), Laurie Rushing, Ken Henderson, Rusty Adams, and Candi Adams volunteered to manage the Trademark cooling station.



Doug and Irene Picano were cooling station volunteers.

# MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS BILL AND LORI MCGHEE

**Bill and Lori are native Arkansans.** In fact, neither one of them has lived anywhere but in the Natural State. Bill was born in Little Rock and raised on a small farm close to Humphrey, Arkansas, where he graduated from high school. Bill entered the insurance business at 24 years of age and spent 37 years in the industry. He opened his own independent insurance agency in 1999, which became the largest automobile and home insurance provider in the state of Arkansas. When he sold the agency in 2016 to retire, there were seven offices throughout the state. His hobbies include golf, hunting, and fishing.

Lori was born and raised in Dumas, Arkansas, where she lived until she graduated from high school. She attended the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville and graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Finance. Her first job was with a commercial real estate mogul in Little Rock as a receptionist. She immediately knew commercial real estate management would be her career path. After several years working in Dillard's real estate department and in a small firm in downtown Little Rock, she ultimately joined Cushman & Wakefield Sage Partners, a leader in commercial real estate, where she was a partner before retiring earlier this year. She is proud of the 32 years that she spent in the real estate business and the many people she mentored along the way. In 2007, she obtained her Arkansas real estate broker's license, which is active today with Trademark HSV Real Estate.

When Lori is not golfing or selling real estate, she loves to cook, read, travel, and play the piano.

Bill and Lori met on a blind date arranged by their mutual accountant on January 30, 2009, and they got married on September 23, 2011. Their blended family consists of two sons, one daughter, and seven grandchildren, all of whom live in Benton or Little Rock. They also love their "family" at Balboa Baptist Church, which they joined earlier this year. Although Lori and Bill joined Diamante 4 years ago, they did not move into one of the Diamante communities from Benton until November of 2022. ♦



***"When we are asked why we selected the Diamante community to live after our retirement, we quickly repond by saying that we moved here because of the beauty, but we are staying because of the people!"***

# Our Neighborhood Crime Watch Program Reporting Suspicious Activities

## What is a suspicious activity?

Residents are often uncertain whether they should report an activity and the reasons why they should or should not. After reviewing this article, the volunteers of our Neighborhood Crime Watch Program and the Diamante residents and property owners will know the appropriate who, what, when, where, and how to report a suspicious activity.

Residents often ask, "Why should I get involved?" or "How am I going to benefit from reporting a suspicious activity?" Although the answers to these questions may be obvious, a very important fact must be clearly communicated:

### **Residents are essential components in protecting their community.**

Because residents receive mixed signals about when and what to report, it is important to first provide the meaning of a "suspicious activity."

A suspicious activity can refer to any event, individual, or activity that seems unusual or out of place.

Considered the following examples:

- ❑ A stranger loitering in your neighborhood, or a vehicle repeatedly cruising the streets;
- ❑ Someone peering into cars or into the windows of a residence;
- ❑ A high volume of traffic going to and/or coming from a home daily;
- ❑ Someone loitering around the clubhouse, golf course, an uninhabited residence, or a secluded area;
- ❑ Strange odors coming from a house, clubhouse, or vehicle;
- ❑ Open or broken doors and/or windows at an unoccupied residence;
- ❑ Someone tampering with electrical, gas, or sewer systems without an identifiable company vehicle;
- ❑ Persons arriving or leaving from homes in your neighborhood at unusual hours;
- ❑ Multiple persons who appear to be working in unison and exhibiting suspicious behaviors; and/or
- ❑ Signs of forced entry or tampering with security or safety systems. ♦

## REMEMBER

**Residents only serve as the extra "eyes and ears" of law enforcement and should report their observations of suspicious activities to their Block Captains. Residents should never try to act on their observations. Trained law enforcement officers should be the only ones to act.**



Let's Get to Know

## Nancy Webb

### Treasurer—Diamante Property Owners Association

I love living in the Village...I find it simply amazing! Before moving here, I always thought of myself as a "city girl." Finding an incredible life in what I referred to as "the middle of nowhere" was simply a surprise. In addition, my decision to take up the game of golf was remarkable. As a child, I was always the kid who was picked last in physical therapy; consequently, I never played any sport.

I was born in Texas and graduated from the University of Texas and still think of myself as a Texan. One day, my late husband, Dan, and I were discussing where we would retire in Texas, but a friend told us about Hot Springs Village. When he talked about the numerous golf courses, Dan was very interested, but I was not. At that time,



we were living in Memphis, only a 3-hour drive from the Village. So we visited on a Labor Day weekend to check it out. I do not know what happened, but I fell in love with the Village. We bought a lot that weekend, and only 1 month later, we decided to buy a small weekend house. After a year, we moved into our weekend house while we built our first home. We then joined Diamante Country Club, which was the best decision we could have made. I started playing golf, which turned out to be a smart decision, because I met several wonderful ladies

who were encouraging, and I made many friends. I believe that Diamante is not simply a Country Club, a subdivision, or a neighborhood, it is a family! ♦

## Did You Know?

Diamante members have always been active and fun-loving. Let's take a trip down memory lane to check out the activities during which our members participated during a few months in 2004!

- 1 On November 6, 2004, Bill Gray shot his age, 68, and also made a hole-in-one during the same round of golf. While playing with his usual Saturday group, Bill made five birdies and then aced the 12th hole, which was his fifth lifetime hole-in-one shot.
- 2 The 2004 Guys and Dolls (G&D) season wrapped up with a fall outing to Sam's Town at Tunica. Eighty-four members made the trip. The Tunica National G&D Scramble 1st Flight winners were Ron Heinrichs, BJ Conner, Sissy Toney, and Rex Brewer. Tom and BJ Conner and Ruth and Jerry Kosoglow took home the 1st flight couples title from the G&D two best-ball net event held at the River Bend Links. Rob and Carolyn Bowers turned over the reins of the couples' golf association to the 2005 Co-Presidents, James and Kathy Williams.
- 3 Diamante's 2004 Road Rally was a big success! The winners with perfect scores on the 90-minute course were Dante and Joyce Barone, Craig and Fran Hennesy, Ron and Jimmie Hicks, Tom and Mickey Stant, and John and Peggy Sutey. Sixty-five Diamante members crossed the finish line and, afterward, enjoyed a Mexican buffet.
- 4 First place winners of the Mailbox Decorating Contest were: **Christmas Category:** John and Sylvia Matthews. **Humorous Category:** Ron and Jimmie Hicks. **Golf Category:** Barry and Jeanne Jacobsen.
- 5 The November 2004 Game Night winners were Raymond Bennett, Becky Puckett, Ed Simmons, Diana Dudleson, Dana Felck, Donna Williams, Patricia Harard, Joyce Brone, Vic Smyth, Jerry Kosoglow, and Carol Pettit. Jack Hartman won the gift certificate for the Chicken Buffet for two. ♦

—Jeanne Godbold

## DPOA Board

### Heidi Hilbert

President  
Annual DPOA Picnic  
Welcome Baskets  
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### Lana Prosen

Vice President  
Neighborhood Crime Watch  
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### Karla Sebastiani

Secretary  
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### Nancy Webb

Treasurer  
[nancyhsv@yahoo.com](mailto:nancyhsv@yahoo.com)

### Bill Toney

Assistant Treasurer  
[zamazing@att.net](mailto:zamazing@att.net)

### Neil Phelan, Jr.

Maintenance  
[phelanneil@sbcglobal.net](mailto:phelanneil@sbcglobal.net)

### Phil Tyree

Exterior Lights  
Christmas Decor  
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DPOA Newsletter  
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### Doug Zook

Diamante Neighborhood  
Flags and DPOA Picnic  
[doug.zook@sbcglobal.net](mailto:doug.zook@sbcglobal.net)

## Volunteer Needed

Welcome Baskets  
[e-mail address@xxx.com](mailto:e-mail_address@xxx.com)

### Chris Gleason

DMC Liaison  
[2retired.4.fun@gmail.com](mailto:2retired.4.fun@gmail.com)

*The CHI St. Vincent Cancer Benefit is fast approaching, and there is room for a few more teams. Thank you in advance for your support of this worthwhile fundraiser.*

## 4th Annual CHI ST. VINCENT CANCER BENEFIT @ DIAMANTE MEMBERS CLUB

Raise funds for a worthy local cause, and take chances for winning valuable prizes! Have fun!

### CHI St. Vincent Cancer Benefit

@  
Diamante Members Club

September 25, 2023

Hot Springs Village, AR

4-Person Scramble

30 Team Limit

\$200 per player

Winning Team @ Diamante advances to 2024  
National Finals Tournament @ Big Cedar Lodge

At Diamante, players receive valuable tee gift packages. Sink a hole-in-one for a St. Andrews trip and other valuable prizes. A Golf Channel's World Long Drive Pro hits a drive; sink a second shot and win a Pebble Beach golf package!

For more information and to register visit  
[golfgenius.com/ggid/CSZCHY/register](http://golfgenius.com/ggid/CSZCHY/register)

