

# DPOA News & Events

**DIAMANTE**  
A PRIVATE MEMBERSHIP GOLF CLUB

Official Newsletter from Your  
Diamante Property Owners Association

August 2022, Issue 8

## Dear Neighbors!

**A**s we strive to move forward with new projects, we must never forget the importance of maintaining the beautiful surroundings that we all enjoy. As many of you already know, the DPOA contracted Bryan Bean Masonry in early March to repair or replace tiles that were falling off of the structure at the Maderas Drive entrance. Age and weather had allowed water to get behind the stones, which deteriorated the bond. The total cost to replace or repair the stones, apply weatherproof grout, and seal the structure was \$3,350. John Paul generously paid \$1,500 for materials. We all owe John a huge "Thank you!" for this support.

A few weeks ago, I met with Bryan Bean to address the need to repair the walls at the Diamante Boulevard entrance and the structure at the Realeza Court Diamante Villas entrance. Both structures need stones replaced, new grout, and the back of the walls repaired with new stucco. The cost to repair the walls at the Diamante Boulevard

*Continued on page 2*

## Talking Points

inside this issue

- 2 Treasurer's Report
- 3 Celebrating Our Neighbor—Joe and Mary Jane Stafford
- 4 Garth Warbler—10 Years Later!
- 5 Welcome Eight Returning Teams—15th Annual Little Rock Golf Classic—October 16-18
- 6 Maintenance—Improving Street Safety!
- 6 Do's and Don'ts for Displaying the American Flag
- 7 Wood Patterns Made Into a MASTERPIECE
- 8 Los Tres Diablos
- 8 Volunteers...the Heart of Our Community
- 9 POA Board of Directors
- 9 Did You Know?



entrance will be \$7,500. The DPOA board members voted to use existing funds, and they authorized this work to proceed. The repair of the structure at the Diamante Villas entrance will be \$2,000. A majority of the Board members suggested that this expense be deferred until the status of the order for the new patio furniture is verified. Understandably, the consensus was that this repair on Realeza Court must be done as soon as possible, hopefully by the end of September or, at the latest, after our Fall fundraising event. Updated information on this fun-filled fundraiser will be included in next month's DPOA newsletter.

I firmly believe that we don't get a second chance to make a first impression. As friends and guests visit our beautiful community, the impression that we keep things maintained and in good repair must always remain obvious. I hope you agree, and I welcome all comments or questions regarding these vital neighborhood-enhancing projects.

I cannot close without extending a big "thank you" to Neal Phalen. When Tom Ellers contacted me about the Village POA having additional funds for road repairs, Neal quickly wrote a letter to the POA regarding the deeply sunken areas on our Loyola streets. Repairs have been completed on some, and other repairs will follow. Thank you, Neal, for your quick action on this project.

The DPOA Board is very thankful for each of your continued support as we strive to keep this community the little slice of heaven that we all know it to be.

As always, **LET'S KEEP MOVING FORWARD!** ♦

—Donna Fleharty, DPOA President

## Treasurer's Report

As of August 10, 2022

### Membership

To date, 214 DPOA members, of 267 eligible properties, have paid their annual dues.

### Fund Balances

Funds available for operations:

**\$22,487.14**

Reserve (emergency) funds:

**\$7,500.00**

Total funds:

**\$29,987.14**

Invoices for the 2022 annual dues were mailed to all Diamante property owners the weeks of January 7th and 14th.

If you haven't already done so, please consider becoming an active DPOA member with payment of your \$75.00 annual DPOA dues.

**NANCY WEBB**



The DPOA News & Events newsletter is published monthly and sent only 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.

## Joe and Mary Jane Stafford

Mary Jane and Joe were both raised in Greenwood, Arkansas, and started dating in high school. Mary Jane grew up on a farm and raised a "show herd" of cattle, which she showed around the country. Her winnings paid for her college, and she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in education from the University of Arkansas. Joe also attended the University of Arkansas, was the captain of the Razorback baseball team, and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration. Joe worked for insurance companies in Arkansas, Nebraska, and Connecticut. Mary Jane was a teacher and also worked in the insurance industry. In 1977, they moved back to Arkansas when Joe assumed a senior position for a risk-management firm.

Mary Jane and Joe have been married for 57 years and have two daughters and four phenomenal grandchildren. As many of us already know, they both love to travel, as well as attend on-stage musical concerts. However, their overriding passion has always been for the Arkansas Razorbacks, and they attend a number of sporting events in Fayetteville each year. In fact, Joe served as President of the HSV Razorback Club.

The Staffords have been members of Diamante for 26 years and are lifetime members! Interestingly, both were avid tennis players and didn't begin playing golf until they became members. Both have been active in the Guys & Dolls couples golf group, serving as its presidents for 2 years. Mary Jane has been an active member of the Diamante Women's Golf Association and served as an officer for a number of years. Joe served on the Diamante Board for 3 years as the Chair of the Social Committee, which may have been the beginning of his infamous role as "DJ Joey."

Their involvement in and contributions to Diamante's social and entertainment events are nothing short of amazing. Joe has played the character of "DJ Joey" for over 60 social events that included "MASH Party," "Diamante's Got Talent," "Joey and the Hot Flashes," and "Joey and the Stafftones," among many other sold-out events. In addition, Joe has been the DJ for most holidays—Valentine's, Cinco de Mayo, Mardi Gras, St. Patrick's, Halloween, Christmas, and New Years—or any theme event, such as two DPOA picnics, the "Happy Days" parties, Cart Barn Dance, and "Diamante Bandstand." He developed a music playlist for each event... an estimated 1,500 to 2,000 "rock 'n roll" songs from the 50s, 60s, and 70s! Mary Jane has been Joe's "Roadie," which has involved setting up the sound equipment and providing dance instruction during several of these occasions.

Their contribution to the Diamante social events do not end there! Joe has been a contributor to Faith Heinrich's movies by writing the zany commercials. Joe will once again star as Garth Warbler in her upcoming movie, "Garth Warbler—10 Years Later!" which is scheduled for October 4, 5, and 6 (see page 4).

If you have ever wondered about the financial implications to the Club for all of these social events, the answer is quite simple. All have been well attended or even sold out and, as a result, have made money for our Club with no additional expense for the hours of entertainment. Despite the fact that the Staffords lend their Bose sound system, high-definition video projector, sound mixer, and sometimes their 100-inch screen, as well as a number of cables and wires for the production of the movies, Joe's motto continues to be, "I am free and well worth it!"

In closing, please join us in celebrating our neighbor, Joe and Mary Jane, and in remembering them as a couple who have contributed to our Diamante family  
**IN SO MANY FUN-FILLED WAYS.**

Joe & Mary Jane



Celebrating Our  
**NEIGHBOR**



**Y**es...the performance dates for this year's Diamante movie have changed to **October 4th, 5th, and 6th!** Mark your calendar to ensure that you don't miss a fun-filled night for viewing "**Garth Warbler-10 Years Later!**"... the final movie produced by Faith Heinrichs.

Consistent with the first Garth Warbler movie that was performed for the members a decade ago, this sequel will star Joe Stafford as Garth Warbler, and many of your friends and club members will star as country music performers.

Movie-theatre concessions and drinks will be offered before the movie, which will be shown at 7:30. Since this movie is still in production, the Club will notify members when reservations will be taken. Save your preferred date on your personal calendar **NOW!**



Fred Noblett receives an earful when he takes his wife, Stephanie, on a Harley ride in the Toby Keith music video, "I Wanna Talk About Me."



Jeanne Ballard receives lots of attention from the Diamante fellows when she wins \$11 million in the Mary Chapin Carpenter music video, "I Feel Lucky."



Guy Parker checks out the Diamante ladies in his Brad Paisley music video, "Me Neither."



UA LITTLE ROCK



# Welcome Eight Returning Teams 15th Annual Little Rock Golf Classic October 16-18

**O**n October 16th, we will welcome the 15th annual UALR Women's Golf Classic to Diamante, a premier women's regional golf tournament. In last month's DPOA newsletter, we introduced the new 2022 players. This month, we are introducing you to the returning teams.

During the tournament, the teams will play a practice round on Sunday, October 16th, and 36 holes on Monday, October 17th. The final round will be played on Tuesday morning, October 18th.

In the next few weeks, we will finalize housing for the teams. The annual UALR Golf Classic is one of the few women's tournaments that provide host housing, and we are known for our hospitality and warm reception. Host housing is not restricted to Diamante...we have hosts from all over the East end of the Village and welcome anyone who would like to participate. Host housing consists of sleeping accommodations and providing a light breakfast. Most of the athletes' time is spent on the

golf course, recovering from play, and completing studies. We look forward to hearing from you. If you would like to volunteer as a backup host, please contact us.

### Returning Teams for 2022

The following eight teams are returning:

- ♦ University of Arkansas at Little Rock (sponsor)
- ♦ Utah Tech University—formerly Dixie State (Utah)
- ♦ Houston Baptist University (Texas)
- ♦ Missouri State University (Missouri)
- ♦ Stephen F. Austin University (Texas)
- ♦ University of Louisiana Monroe (Louisiana)
- ♦ University of Texas at Arlington (Texas)
- ♦ Wichita State University (Kansas)

If you are an alumnus of any of these schools, then get ready to show your team spirit during the tournament! In the September issue of the DPOA newsletter, we will tell you how you can follow your favorite teams, so stay tuned... more details will come! ♦ **—Glenda and Fred Bean**

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



**University of Arkansas at Little Rock**



**Utah Tech University**



**Houston Baptist University**



**Missouri State University**



**Stephen F. Austin University**



**University of Louisiana Monroe**



**University of Texas at Arlington**



**Wichita State University**



# Maintenance

## Improving Street Safety!

Hello to all of our fellow DPOA members. We have received a positive response from the Village Property Owners' Association (POA) to our request that the potholes and sunken places in our roads need to be repaired. Interestingly, these areas were caused several years ago when the utility companies ran cables and pipes under our streets. Although several sunken places and potholes have already been repaired, those responsible at the Village POA for managing the condition and safety of the Village streets have promised to repair more in the near future.



On another maintenance-related subject, we have a lot of weeds that are growing in our road ditches as a result of the rain that fell in recent weeks. We have contracted for our ditches to be mowed, and you should see the crew at work in the next few days. The POA will mow them again in the early Fall. We hope you are having a great summer. ♦ **—Neil Phelan, JR.**

## DO'S AND DON'TS FOR DISPLAYING THE AMERICAN FLAG

In 1923, the U.S. National Flag Code was created and distributed nationwide. The code became public law in 1942 and became the U.S. Flag Code that we know today. The U.S. Flag Code provides the ways to display and respect the flag of the United States.

In the upcoming weeks, American flags will be displayed across the nation in celebration of the Labor Day holiday. The following "Special Rules" will help ensure that you are properly displaying "Old Glory."

### Special Rules

- ★ Do not let the flag touch the ground.
- ★ Do not fly the flag upside down unless there is an emergency.

- ★ Do not carry the flag flat or carry things in it.
- ★ Do not use the flag as clothing.
- ★ Do not store the flag where it can get dirty.
- ★ Do not use it as a cover.
- ★ Do not fasten it or tie it back. Always allow it to fall free.
- ★ Do not draw on or otherwise mark the flag.

### Illumination Guidelines

Per the U.S. Flag Code, Section 2, paragraph (a), displaying the flag only from sunrise to sunset on buildings and on stationary flagstaves in the open is the universal custom. However, when a patriotic effect is desired, the flag may be displayed 24 hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness. ♦ **—Heidi Hilbert**





# Wood Patterns Made into a MASTERPIECE

In 1973, Chris Gleason went to work for John Deere Des Moines Works in Ankeny, Iowa. In addition to being a buyer for the production line, his job also included overseeing the casting wood patterns that were used to make molds for parts on John Deere equipment. When Chris was asked to destroy some of the outdated patterns, he asked permission to keep some of the wood patterns. He envisioned displaying them in some form as a way of preserving the past. He brought the wood patterns home and placed them in a large box. For over 47 years, the box moved with Chris and Dianna from home to home. During the last 11 years, the box was stored in the attic of their Diamante home.

Let's fast forward to a few weeks ago when Chris visited Doug Zook's Diamante home. After he saw the wooden gristmill pattern hanging above Doug's fireplace mantle, he remembered the box in his attic and described the old wooden patterns to Doug. After Doug said that he would like to see them, Chris and Dianna brought the box of wooden patterns to his home.

After Doug showed Chris and Dianna his own woodturnings that he crafted from wood from all over the world, they began to discuss the size and scope of a desired project. As a result, the idea that Chris had been holding onto for all of the past 47 years was born.

Doug emptied the box in his woodturning shop. During his research, he learned that many of the wooden patterns were worth between \$1,000 to \$2,000 each. He studied how they were hand crafted by woodcrafters who,

at that time, were paid a significantly higher wage than a welder, assembler, and even a machinist, due to the fact that these handmade wooden patterns had to be precise molds for John Deere parts. After handwashing each pattern, Doug taped off a 20" x 24" diagram on the floor of his shop, which was the size of the final product that the Gleasons wanted. As any artist would do, Doug spent hours determining which patterns would be included and how to showcase them. After completing the design on the floor of his shop, he developed the idea of how to create the piece of art. Unsurprisingly, Doug spent several days working late into the nights.

One week after Doug received the box of the wooden patterns from Chris, Doug presented the shadowbox sculpture to the Gleasons. Each pattern prominently displays a John Deere part number, the history of which Chris remembers. Doug even included moving parts in the finished work of art, which allows the gears to be hand rotated against one another. The sculpture is valued at over \$10,000!

The pieces that were in the attic for 47 years are now in the Gleasons' living room, where

both can now enjoy the artistic value that Chris saw in them so many years ago. "Without a doubt, it is a huge conversation piece. Everyone who we've had at our home always asks about it and wants to know where it came from." ♦

—Jon Lilley



# LOS TRES DIABLOS

Twenty years ago, former member, Hap Peterson, coined the term, "Los Tres Diablos," for three of the most challenging golf holes on the Diamante Country Club golf course. His vision was to showcase the challenge and difficulty of holes 13, 14, and 15, similar to Augusta National's "Amen Corner." These three par 4 holes were named "Los Tres Diablos," which translates into "The Three Devils." They play an intimidating 1,439 yards from the championship tees, starting with the 481-yard 13th hole, known as "El Terrible," the 472-yard 14th hole, known as "La Muerte," and the 486-yard 15th hole, known as "El Infierno."

This collection of holes is one of the longest three-hole stretches of par 4s that are played anywhere, with large greens, difficult lines of ball

flight from the tees, and, to boot, they force players to hit accurate approach shots onto the greens. The members of the Diamante Country Club are proud to provide this unique golf experience to every player.

In 2019, a new game was born, Simply stated, the goal for any participating player is to see how low his or her cumulative gross or net score is achieved on these three holes. Diamante's website includes a leaderboard of those players who have achieved the lowest scores in both the Gross and Net Divisions (<https://diamante.com/los-tres-diablos/>).

In closing, on September 8th at 2:00 in the afternoon, a dedication ceremony is planned at the monument before the 13th tee boxes. Everyone is welcome to join the ceremony. ♦



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## Volunteers...the Heart of Our Community

**Y**our Diamante Property Owners Association (DPOA) is seeking a volunteer to work with a GREAT group of current board members! Specifically, we are looking for an individual with experience working with both the Word and Excel application programs.

If you are interested in volunteering to be next year's Secretary of the DPOA Board of Directors, then please don't hesitate to contact me at (402) 598-7101, or contact any of the Board members who are listed in the box on the last page of this newsletter. We look forward to hearing from you! ♦

—Paul Reinsch, DPOA Secretary



## DPOA Board

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**D**id you know that the 2008 Fall season saw a variety of activities at Diamante? From road trips to golf and from charity to bridge nights, our Club's members stayed active in October and November. Happy reading!

- 1** Thirty-four couples of the Diamante Guys & Dolls enjoyed their annual trip on October 14th and 15th—to Tunica, Mississippi, in 2008. Ruth and Jerry Kosoglow, the 2008 Co-Presidents, were honored at the awards banquet. The 2009 members of the Guys & Dolls committee included Mary Jane and Joe Stafford, Lorrie and Roy Lang, Ann and David Blankenship, and Nancy and Dan Webb.
- 2** Party time! Jeanne Ballard organized a Diamante bus trip to Murry's Dinner Playhouse in Little Rock to enjoy the sold-out performance of "Catch Me if You Can." Among those enjoying the evening were Clint and Frances Lunsford, Ron and Jimmie Hicks, Dick and Willie Emery, Ron and Barb Kohler, and Katy Emmert and her sister, Eloise Wiegand.
- 3** Two members made a Diamante hole-in one: Joan Irwin on hole #12, 102 yards with a 6-hybrid club on October 21st; and Rob Bowers on hole #16, 157 yards with a 6 iron on November 1st. Ed Simmons made an eagle on hole #6 from 80 yards with a gap wedge on October 31st.
- 4** The frost may have been on the pumpkin, but that didn't keep the Women's Golf Association, both the 9- and 18-hole leagues, from their annual Pumpkin Tournament on October 28th. Paula Eicher and Sissy Toney hit closest to the pin on hole #12. Mary Ellen Laursen and Faith Heinrichs won pumpkin-themed door prizes.
- 5** Diamante members love to give! Through the dining, tennis, and golf events, along with the silent auction, Club members raised \$13,106 for the Diamante Charity Classic. The proceeds were split among the Muscular Dystrophy Association, the North Garland County Head Start Center, and ClubCorp's Employee Partner Care Foundation.
- 6** November Bridge winners were the following couples:  
1st place—Linda and John Piette;  
2nd place—Sheila and Carl Ford;  
3rd place—Marcia and Dwayne Ballew;  
4th place—Joann and Tom Lewis. ♦

—Jeanne Godbold

