



2019 Annual Report

The **Bella Vista Foundation's** eighth year of operations continued on the successful platform for supporting projects which benefit the Bella Vista community established by previous Boards of Directors.

The **Foundation** received a grant from the Walton Family Foundation for the creation of an Arboretum at Blowing Springs Park and participated in the Arboretum opening dedication on March 18th (Arbor Day). The **Foundation** continues to accept funding from the Walton Family Philanthropy Group and work with the City and POA to coordinate tree plantings on Bella Vista trails.

Foundation Directors once again participated in the Spring Expo held by the Bella Vista Business Association on March 14th. The Expo provided an opportunity to promote the **Foundation's** involvement with the Cooper Communities NWA Charity Classic golf tournament, and our handout materials included promotion and support for the Master Plan for Trails and Greenways in Bella Vista and solicitation for donations to purchase trails furniture. Several sponsors for the charity golf tournament were obtained at the Spring Expo. The **Foundation** also participated in the Spring Senior Expo presented by Village House on April 25th.

The **Foundation** is continuing to seek funding for trail furniture to be placed along the Back 40 and 11 Under trails. Donation order forms are currently available on the **Foundation** website as well as links from the City of Bella Vista website. To date, a total of twenty-two trail benches have been donated by organizations and individuals. We thank and appreciate the dedicated service of Director Bill Long, as Secretary and Vice President, over the last 4 ½ years and his active support of the Bella Vista trails.

Tom Pyatt was elected as an "Associate Director" of the **Foundation** to continue to assist with the Cooper Communities NWA Charity Classic golf tournament. The **Foundation** was the Charity Partner for the inaugural 2017 Cooper Communities NWA Classic golf tournament hosted by the Bella Vista Property Owners Association with assistance from the City of Bella Vista at the Highlands golf course. This event was one of the first community-wide activities in Bella Vista that involved the POA, City of Bella Vista and Cooper Communities, Inc. The 2017 event resulted in net proceeds of \$21,000 which were distributed by grants to the Boys & Girls Club of Benton County, The First Tee of NWA and the Bella Vista Animal Shelter. Building upon the success of the 2017 tournament, the **Foundation** renewed our commitment as the Charity Partner for the 2018 Cooper Communities NWA Charity Classic golf tournament which again took place in Bella Vista at the Highlands golf course.

The 2018 event featured a Silent Auction and Junior Clinic along with the Pro-Am Tournament and the four-day tournament for the professional players. The 2018 event generated net proceeds of \$35,000

(more than a 50% increase from 2017) for grants to charities and a reserve for the 2019 tournament. The Boys & Girls Club of Benton County, the Bella Vista Animal Shelter, and the Bella Vista Courtesy Van were recipients of \$23,500 in grants from the **Foundation** to fund projects associated with the Bella Vista community. The **Foundation** held \$6,000 in reserve for a joint project between the Bella Vista POA and the Boys & Girls Club to install a golf training area at the Bella Vista Boys & Girls Club facility which was completed in June.

The 2019 Cooper Communities NWA Charity Classic golf tournament, the tournament's third year, featured a change in the tournament location to the classic Bella Vista Country Club golf course and took place June 10-15th. 130 golfers participated in the tournament, and the Bella Vista Country Club course record of 63 (9 under par) was set during the tournament. 47 Teams participated in the Pro-Am Tournament and more than 200 individuals volunteered to help during tournament week. The Pro-Am Party & Silent Auction generated proceeds of more than \$12,400, with total revenue for the tournament exceeding \$90,000. The **Foundation's** partnership with the Bella Vista Sunrise Rotary Club to assist with sponsorship solicitation and silent auction donations for the Pro-Am Party and Silent Auction and soliciting Pro-Am Tournament teams significantly contributed to the tournament's success. Tournament proceeds were distributed in grants from the Foundation in the total amount of \$30,000 to the Boys & Girls Club of Benton County, Bella Vista Animal Shelter, Bella Vista Courtesy Van, Bella Vista Village House and the Bella Vista Sunrise Rotary Club, with \$15,000 held in reserve for the 2020 tournament. The Bella Vista Sunrise Rotary Club gave a \$10,000 donation to the Bella Vista Library Foundation for the library expansion project, with the majority of the funds generated from Rotary's involvement with the charity golf tournament.

Planning is underway for the 2020 Cooper Communities NWA Charity Classic golf tournament scheduled for the week of June 22-27 at the Bella Vista Country Club golf course. The Bella Vista Sunrise Rotary Club will again be participating as charity associate and sponsorship solicitation partner. Support for the 2020 tournament continues from Cooper Communities, Inc., Discover Bella Vista, Visit Bentonville and the Bella Vista POA. Charity participants for the 2020 tournament are Boys & Girls Club of Benton County, Bella Vista Animal Shelter, Bella Vista Courtesy Van, Bella Vista Community Television along with the Bella Vista Sunrise Rotary Club.

The **Foundation** awarded a grant of \$500 to the Bella Vista Woodcarvers Club for its July 27th Artistry in Wood Show.

The **Foundation** looks forward to expanding its services to the community by staying involved to provide unique services in accordance with the **Foundation's** stated purpose of serving the Bella Vista community.

Serving the Community of Bella Vista, Arkansas

PO Box 5261, Bella Vista, AR 72714

VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT www.thebellavistafoundation.com