



Enhancing Community

2022 Annual Report

The **Bella Vista Foundation's** eleventh year of operation continued our successful platform of charitable activities focused on the Bella Vista community. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the **Foundation** Board began the year with a virtual Annual Meeting and Board meeting in January with subsequent in-person meetings the remainder of the year beginning in February.

Tom Pyatt and Bill Long continued as Associate Directors, and Jayne Lowe was elected an Associate Director. We added Ann Dahlke as an additional Director in January 2022 to complete our contingent of nine Directors on the **Foundation** Board, including Charlie Teal, John Flynn, Stu Sorensen, Linda Lloyd, Steve Hughes, Peggy Pfeifer, Katy Henkel and Bob Kronner.

Director John Flynn conducted an audit of the process and procedures related to the handling of donations and grants received by the **Foundation** and expenditures made by the **Foundation**. Director Flynn confirmed that appropriate procedures are in place and being followed to ensure that the **Foundation** appropriately accounts for all money received and expended.

The **Foundation** continues to accept funding from the Walton Family Philanthropy Group and work with the City of Bella Vista and the Bella Vista POA to coordinate tree giveaways and plantings on Bella Vista trails, with a grant of \$96,374 in 2022. Due to the lack of steel bench materials as a result of the supply chain crisis, the **Foundation** discontinued efforts to seek funding for steel trail benches and focused on stone benches to be placed along the Back 40 and Little Sugar trails.

The Foundation participated in the Bella Vista POA's Give Back Tuesday program at Highlands Pub on November 29th and received proceeds of \$45.98 from the POA. And the **Foundation** was awarded a \$1,000 grant from the Bella Vista POA Charitable Giving Committee. The Foundation continues to participate with the City of Bella Vista Arts Council on various projects in conjunction with our 2022 grant to the Arts Council.

The **Foundation** again partnered with the Bella Vista POA for the sixth annual Bella Vista Charity Classic golf tournament. The Bella Vista POA took the lead role in soliciting sponsors, Pro-Am Teams and conducting the charity tournament with the All-Pro Tour (APT) organization. The 2022 Bella Vista Charity Classic golf tournament took place on May 23-28, 2022 at the Highlands and Country Club golf courses with both WAPT women and APT men professional players participating. Unfortunately, persistent, heavy rain during the Pro-Am Tournament shortened the event to 9 holes. And the WAPT and APT Tournaments were shortened to 36 holes because of the persistent rainy weather.

The WAPT women's tournament had 72 players in the field with a first prize of \$10,000. Sock Hwee Koh from Singapore won with a 6 under par score. The APT men's tournament had a full field of 127 players with a first prize of \$21,000. Blaine Hale of Dallas, Texas won with a 10 under par score.

Because of the inclement weather the long drive contest scheduled for Tuesday, May 24th after the Pro-Am Tournament was canceled. There were 57 Teams in the Pro-Am Tournament split between the Highlands and Country Club golf courses with prizes for the winning Teams for each golf course.

Ruth Hatcher again coordinated volunteer needs on two golf courses and recruited her army of more than 200 volunteers. Rob Dressen, POA Maintenance Supervisor at the Country Club golf course and Greg Jones, POA Maintenance Supervisor at the Highlands golf course, had the golf courses in Championship condition. Player lodging director, Gary Mertz, solicited housing in Bella Vista homes. For 2022, Gary recruited more than 50 homes which hosted almost 75 APT and WAPT players during the Tournament. Discover Bella Vista (Bella Vista Advertising and Promotion Commission), Visit Bentonville (Bentonville Advertising and Promotion Commission) and the City of Bella Vista continued their long-standing support for the 2022 tournament, along with 35 business and corporate sponsors.

The Pro-Am Party and Silent Auction took place on Monday, May 23rd at Lakepoint Restaurant. The Auction Committee, Katy Henkel, Debbie Sorensen, Peggy Pfeifer and Tom Pyatt, again gathered a wide variety of donated items. More than 350 guests attended the Pro-Am Party and Auction and the event generated proceeds of more than \$20,400. Another amazing job with the Auction.

The Tournament enjoyed wonderful financial support from our sponsors, an almost sold-out Pro-Am Tournament and a very successful Pro-Am Party & Auction. Our designated charities for 2022; Bella Vista Courtesy Van, Bella Vista Animal Shelter, Bella Vista Historical Society, Bella Vista Community Television and Bella Vista Rotary Club divided \$38,480 from the **Foundation** from Tournament proceeds. Since this charity tournament began in 2017, more than \$200,000 in net proceeds from the charity tournament has been provided to Bella Vista charities.

In July, the Bella Vista POA advised the **Foundation** that the POA decided not to continue with a Charity Golf Tournament in 2023 and asked the **Foundation** to participate in a charity fund-raising event called The Longest Day of Golf scheduled for June 21, 2023 on all Bella Vista POA golf courses. The POA will donate all greens fees on that day and a Silent Auction and other fund-raising activities will take place on each golf course. The **Foundation** will select the Bella Vista charities who will benefit from this event.

The **Foundation** is developing a speaker's bureau to enhance the visibility of the **Foundation** in the Bella Vista community. And the **Foundation** is working on an update of the **Foundation** brochure provided to the public which explains the **Foundation's** activities and focus.

The **Foundation** looks forward to staying engaged with local charitable and community groups 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