



**Official Newsletter from Your
Diamante Property Owners Association**



Dear DPOA Neighbors!

"Spring is nature's way of saying, 'Let's party!'"
—Robin Williams

May is known for being a month with amazing weather and for a variety of celebrations that include Mother's Day, May Day, Cinco de Mayo, and Memorial Day. The Diamante Property Owners Association (DPOA) promises many fun filled events starting in June with the DPOA Picnic held on June

2. The popular Colt and the Old 45s band and Joe Stafford will provide the music. Fun & Games will include a putting competition for the ladies and gentlemen(bring your putters), a 50/50 raffle, door prizes, and more! Bring your own lawn chairs to ensure that we have plenty of seating for everyone. Reservations and payment should be made and mailed to Ford Williams. The 2025 Membership Dues form and the Picnic Reservations form are included further down in the newsletter for your convenience.

Watch for a future DPOA announcement for our fundraising event that's in July to coincide with the Couples' Golf tournament. This event will help fund future projects for the Diamante Country Club and for our Diamante neighborhoods. If you have any suggestions for projects you would like to consider, please contact one of the board members.

If you have not noticed, the Estado Estates landscaping project is now completed. Committee Member Doug Zook and neighbors refreshed the plantings and landscaping for the DPOA (page 8). A well-designed landscape project adds beauty to the Diamante neighborhood and if you haven't had a chance to see the finished result, take time to drive by Estado Estates.

In closing, the board would like to express our gratitude to all of the DPOA members for their ongoing support, which includes both financial contributions and volunteering their time throughout the entire year. *-Heidi Hilbert, DPOA President*

MAY SCORECARD

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DPOA Newsletter

May 2025

News & Events

DPOA Membership Update



As of May 8th, 186 members paid \$16,125 in DPOA dues and additional contributions for 2025.

THANK YOU for your continued support!

A list of 2025 members based on payments received on or before May 8, 2025 is available on the Members only website, then click on the DPOA tab.

If you would still like to become a 2025 member of the DPOA, please send your payment of \$80, payable to "DPOA" to:

Ford Williams, DPOA Treasurer
8 Aventura Trace
Hot Springs Village, AR 71909

Note: DPOA dues are voluntary and are not tax deductible.

Financial Report

The financial report thru April 30, 2025 is included on page 19 of this newsletter.

MEME of the Month!



I sure would like to meet the stock boy who thought it was a good idea to put the back pain medications on the bottom shelf!





DPOA Newsletter

May 2025

News & Events

DPOA Board

Heidi Hilbert

President

Annual DPOA Picnic

hhilbert@eicc.edu

Lana Prosen

Vice President

Neighborhood Watch

lane80@att.net

Karla Sebastiani

Secretary

kks2467@aol.com

Ford Williams

Treasurer

ford.williams@me.com

TBA

Assistant Treasurer

DPOA Committees

Bill Toney

Webmaster

zamazing@att.net

Bruce Gasaway

Maintenance

bruce.gasaway49@gmail.com

Greg Hilbert

Exterior Lights
Christmas Décor

hilbe49@gmail.com

Doug Zook

Diamante Neighborhood
Flags and DPOA Picnic

doug.zook@sbcglobal.net

Jeanne Ballard

Welcome Baskets

floballard@sbcglobal.net

Jim Baker

DMC Liaison

pjamesbaker@gmail.com

Craig Staley

Newsletter Editor

csbc801@gmail.com

eMails to the Editor

Friends, as I began preparing this month's newsletter, I knew it would be published post Mother's Day, so I want to take this opportunity to wish our female Members a Happy 'post' Mother's Day. Hoping your day was filled with lots of loving memories, surprise phone calls and visits from your loved ones, and that your stomachs are out of recovery from that amazing Diamante Brunch!

Lots of Club happenings in the upcoming days, and I've outlined our 'Big 7' in this newsletter. If you can't attend all 7 events, *6 is an acceptable number!* Our various committees are outdoing themselves in May and early June. Attend, enjoy and remember to thank our staff—and your neighbors who volunteer to make these events happen!

The one upcoming event that commands everyone's attention and respect is Memorial Day. Aside from religious holidays, the end of each May is perhaps our most solemn holiday as a nation. It's the day we remember all of the women and men who have served in our armed forces, and selflessly given their lives in defense of the liberties and freedoms that each of us enjoys today—and everyday of our lives.

With that said, I tried to make this newsletter a bit more special by asking one of our living vets his opinions about his service to our country. I hope you'll read on about our local heroes—he's also one of the most interesting people you'll ever meet. His storytelling is much more engaging than mine. As Diamante celebrates its 30th birthday, Paul Day has been here for 28 of them. Hopefully, this edition will honor both.

A brief history of what Memorial Day should mean to Americans—why it should mean more than a day off work or a family picnic or the first long weekend of the summer:

600,000+ lives sacrificed during the US Civil War

405,000+ lives sacrificed during World War II

116,000+ lives sacrificed during World War I

58,000+ lives sacrificed during the Vietnam War

36,000+ lives sacrificed during the Korean War

382 lives sacrificed during the Persian Gulf War

4,600+ lives sacrificed during the Iraq-related Operations

2,400+ lives sacrificed during the Afghanistan Operations

The Diamante Social Committee has put together a moving tribute to our fallen Veterans, slated to begin at the Clubhouse patio on Memorial Day, at 4 pm. Please plan to attend and help us to salute the women and men of our Armed Forces. They are the best of us, and have sacrificed the most to Keep America Great, Amen!—CS



In Flanders Field

**In Flanders Fields the poppies grow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place. While in the Sky
The larks still bravely singing, fly
Unheard, amid the guns below.**

**We are the dead, Short days ago
We lived, felt dawns, saw sunsets glow;
Loved and were loved – but now we lie
In Flanders Field**

**Take up our quarrel with the foe!
To you from falling hands we throw
The torch, Be yours to bear it high!**

**If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep tho' poppies blow
In Flanders Field.**

AROUND THE CLOCK

Member Profiles | Fun & Games | Volunteerism | Personnel



DPOA MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT:

PAUL DAY

With Memorial Day fast approaching, I thought it would be fitting to feature one of our DPOA Members who served our Country. Mindful that Memorial Day commemorates those who've died in combat vs. Veteran's Day that honors all military veteran.

To understand what Memorial Day means to those who've served, I wanted to gain some insights into what serving in the military was like. I thought of **Paul Day**.

I actually found Paul by accident. I met Paul a month or so ago when my neighbors invited me to a St. Patrick's Day dinner. Paul was also a guest that night, and I really enjoyed getting to know him. He turns 89 this year. He's quiet and calming. You sense his wisdom in his storytelling. What follows is part of my conversation with Paul, and some of his stories that I followed up on with him for this interview.

Paul Day was born in Enid, Oklahoma. He's an alum of Oklahoma State University, where he majored in Economics. It was at OSU that he became the Wing Commander in the Air Force ROTC program. As a result of that commitment, he found himself post-graduation, in Amarillo, TX, attending supply school and training.

From Texas, he found himself in another southern state, in Palm Beach, FL, where his mission was to close a base there and convert it into Palm Beach's future International Airport. As that mission was accomplished, Paul was headed to the Asia-Pacific corridor, and eventually to the island of Okinawa, where he became an aide to the base commander. This was prior to Okinawa becoming a Japanese island, so at the time, Okinawa had it's own Royalty Family. Paul's base commander eventually married into that family. Naturally, Paul was invited to the wedding—a real treat—set in the original Teahouse of the August Moon.



(Paul Day, continued)

It was also during that deployment that Paul was part of a training mission to Taiwan. Shortly after the Civil War in China, the Nationalists, who'd lost the war and 1.2 Million of their followers fled the mainland, eventually re-treating to Taiwan. Led by Chang Kai-shek, they made Taipei their capital. The U.S. had backed the rebels and began to furnish military support to the Kai-shek regime. That's how Paul and his fellow soldiers found themselves on the island. As he tells the story, they had circled the airport for a bit due to heavy influx of American military planes. Once landed, their plane was met by rebels rolling out the red carpet. At the end of the carpet stood the rebel leader himself, with his wife by his side. As the American soldiers deplaned, the rebels were inquiring "Generals?" "Generals?" Once the Taiwanese discovered there were no Generals on Paul's plane, they quickly rolled the red carpet back up and Chang Kai-shek disappeared, waiting for the next plane to arrive with American Generals. Unknowingly, Paul was a character in an early chapter of a story that continues to be written today.

Later, I asked him to complete the following sentence: "War is _____", and after some thought, he replied "inevitable". When asked 'why?' he replied, "because the Bible says so. The Bible says that we'll continue to have wars until the second coming of Christ".

When I asked him 'how', as a service member, he honors his fallen countrymen during Memorial Day, Paul responded "through prayer". He said that he's too old now to make the journey back to Oklahoma, where he used to place wreaths on the graves of his family's military members who had passed away (he had one family member who served under General Patton). Now, he prefers to attend the Memorial Day services at The Woodlands. He and his wife bought one of the "bricks" with their name on it, and it's laid in the sidewalk that advances to the War Memorial. He especially likes their annual tribute on Memorial Day because past programs have included Generals and Colonels conducting the service. He added, "It's very well done and respectful".

I asked Paul if he thought there were any differences between the men and women today vs. the types of soldiers in his day? He didn't question a modern day soldier's commitment or bravery. But he did share an observation about the younger generation in this 'age of entitlement'. He said the attitudes of some of today's youth can be 'dangerous' and that if they don't work or don't have any real commitments—then life, and their life choices—don't mean as much. He added that "sacrifice for the good of our Country rarely exists anymore".

We discussed briefly how many men and women have given their lives in service to our Country, from the Civil War to our modern day military. An interesting insight that he shared as we discussed the WWII casualties was that he didn't think America would've joined that war effort had Japan not attacked Pearl Harbor. But once committed, he thought it was important for American forces to win at all costs, and that the "winner always gets to rewrite history". He holds no animosity towards the Japanese peoples as he concluded that 'none of the civilian population had anything to do with the treatment of American POWs during that war'.



DPOA Newsletter | **Memorial Day Feature** | **News & Events**

(Paul Day, continued)

Between his service in the Air Force and his civilian life, Paul recounts that he's journeyed to 56 countries and spent time in all 50 of the US states. That's an enviable travel log by anyone's standards. You'll have to ask Paul about his preferences...

I ended with the question I always ask—how he stumbled upon the Village, and Diamante? He said that he and his first wife, Patty, had vacationed in Hot Springs. Hearing about the Village, they drove out to see the new community firsthand—but they couldn't get in. A couple years later, they visited again. That time, they were enjoying a Cooper 3-day package deal, and enjoyed their time at the golf school Cooper had established by then. It was where the Magellan course is situated today.

He discovered Diamante during that trip and eventually purchased a lot on Princesa Drive. At the time, there was only a hint of a future golf course, as only the trees had been cut away in his 'backyard' to make way for a future fairway. He and his wife built their home in 1997. Widowed 10 years ago, Paul still lives in that same house, but now with his new bride, Sylvia. Paul has been an active Diamante Member for 28 years. His involvement in the Club, the Village and the County will make for more great stories, perhaps over an iced tea or lemonade later on this summer?

Thank you for your service, Paul.

DPOA Member Paul Day recounts his many life missions from his home at 29 Princesa Drive.



***"Our flag does not fly because the wind moves it.
It flies with the last breath of each soldier
who died protecting it."***

—Anonymous



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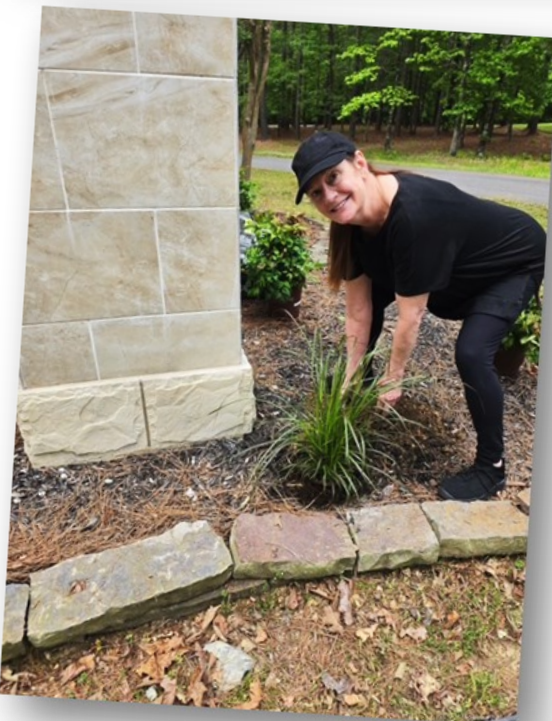
Your DPOA dollars and Neighborhood Volunteers in action...



Neighborhood Beautification

A small, but badly needed improvement to the signage at the The Estado Estates entrance. Special “thanks” to **DPOA member Doug Zook**, Jami Parham, and our newest Estates residents, Chap and Beverly Chancellor. Curb appeal is everything and this team’s effort is an example of the neighborhood pride that makes Diamante so special. Looking good!

Let us know if you’re for hire!



Special thanks also to **DPOA Members Bruce Gasaway & Jim Baker** for organizing the team that recently cleaned up trash along the Club entrance from DeSoto and along Clubhouse Drive. A thankless job, but another badly needed one! Their Band of Brothers included **Johnny Hibbs, Chuck Stofer, Phil Tyree, Jim Fulton and Mike Battle. Thanks guys!**



AROUND THE CLOCK

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DPOA MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT:

PAULA & JOHNNY HIBBS

With this month's Motown Showdown on the 24th, we thought it would be fitting to feature some Motown Trivia as this month's "Fun & Games". We hit a homerun when DPOA Members **Paula and Johnny Hibbs** stepped up to the batter's box! Talk about competitive! Hiding their answers from each other, trying to figure out who was in the lead after every round. Wow! I would not want to run into them on the pickleball courts! No surprise, they both scored amazingly high on the quiz although Paula did pull out a victory in the very end. The quiz, and their answers, are on the next page. See if you can beat their scores. But before you

begin, let's get to know these two DPOA Members a bit more. They're both natives of central Arkansas. Who new you could grow up in the South, sans an accent! They met on a blind date as Paula was interning with Johnny's sister at Baylor. Paula did agree to that 2nd date and in 2 months, they were engaged. They married 1 week after graduation and in May, they're celebrating their 46th year of marriage. Congrats!

They built and moved into their Diamante home in 2021, a decision made easier during their "Terri Tour" and she shared some of the Club's plans to expand Member activities and amenities—including pickleball. Pickleball wasn't easy, as many Members voiced concerns about talking money away from golf, but even the golfers can't argue with pickleball's gain in popularity worldwide. Other Members agreed that there was an interest in expanding Court Sports, and working with the BOD, the Hibbs and other Court Sports enthusiasts found several creative ways to raise the funds needed to get Diamante's pickleball efforts *off the parking lot* and onto the new courts. While proud of their efforts and accomplishments, the Hibbs are also quick to mention that lots of Members and Club visitors play on other courts in HSV, and nationwide from FL to AZ. Several have shared comments that Diamante's "are the best pickleball courts we've ever played on".

This sport's interest is also evident in the growing number of Court Sports memberships that Diamante is booking in 2025. Paula and Johnny agree on one thing from their experience: "Groups work better than individuals" when tackling these types of large-scale projects. We agree, and **thank you both** for your involvement and leadership. Now, not to rain on your parade...but you can't work on the Motown quiz together. Let the spousal competition begin on the next page!

DPOA Members Paula and Johnny Hibbs mix their 'dinks' in the 'kitchen' at 32 Loyola Drive.



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Motown Trivia	Johnny	Paula	Answers
1. Who is credited with being the founder of Motown?	Berry Gordy	Berry Gordy	Berry Gordy
2. Finish the lyric: "But it was just my imagination___"	running away with me	running away with me	running away with me
3. Who was 1st Motown act to appear on "The Ed Sullivan Show"?	The Supremes	The Supremes	The Supremes
4. True or False: Stevie Wonder signed with a division of Motown at the age of 11.	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE
5. Motown's #1 selling artist of all time?	Marvin Gaye	Stevie Wonder	Michael Jackson
6. Motown's #1 selling Single of all time?	Thriller	Thriller	Thriller
7. Motown's #1 selling Album of all time?	Thriller	Thriller	Thriller
8. Who were Gladys Knight's back-up singers?	Pips	Pips	Pips
9. Finish the lyric: "Why do you build me up ___"	Buttercup	Buttercup	Buttercup
10. How many members were in The Four Tops?	Four	Four	Four
11. True or False: Motown Records was actually headquartered in Lansing, Michigan?	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE, was Detroit, MI
12. Initially rejected by the Marvelettes, the song "Where Did Our Love Go" became the first US #1 hit for what group?	The Supremes	The Ronettes	The Supremes
13. The song "My Girl" was written by Smokey Robinson, but it hit the charts by another group. Name that group?	?	The Temptations	The Temptations
14. First group that Berry Gordy signed was also the first of Motown's artists to sell 1 Million singles. Name this group.	The Temptations	The Supremes	The Matadors, later renamed The Miracles. Song was "Shop Around"
15. Motown's two largest selling singles in the UK had to do with 'telephone' greetings, one by Stevie Wonder and the other by Lionel Richie. Can you name either song?	Heard It Through the Grapevine	Hello	Stevie: "I Just Called to Say I Love You"; Lionel: "Hello"
	11	12	

See you at the Motown Showdown!



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When Spelling Makes All the Difference in the World...

Is it Pickle Ball or Pickleball?

Court Sports Update

We will feature pictures of the recent Golf Tournament and Silent Auction in the June newsletter. The events were sponsored by the “Cover the Courts” campaign.

Until then, congrats to all of the winners and all of the high bidders!

Rumor has it that this fundraiser netted approximately **\$28K**—another successful Court Sports event!



Congrats to the winners of the Men’s Tennis Championships.





Nobody is ever 'too busy'. If they're interested—they'll make time!

So mark your calendars and make the time to enjoy these upcoming

Diamante's "Big 7" Events:

1.



Quit hiding under a shell, and come out and enjoy one of ours—soft shell or hard shell—your choice!

Taco Tuesdays are happening **every Tuesday on the patio**—starting at **3 pm!**

Bring your neighbors and wear your sombreros!

Reservations requested: 501-922-1114, and ask for Juan! (that ought to make the **Neyna** smile!)

2.



What could be more entertaining than watching Members showing off their putting skills after a few brewskis?

Q: What did one **complimentary hot dog** say to the other?

A: "You go girl! That mustard color looks *so good* on you!"

Join us TONIGHT on the Patio!

3.



May 20th, Lake Diamante is officially open!

Time to bring out those beach balls, those water toys, and those swim suits from last year—if they still fit!

Monday mornings will be reserved for Synchronized Swimming with Diamante's own **Rubbery Ducklings, but the rest of the week's schedule is *fair game*!**

Pool will be open to Members 7 days a week!



4.



May 24th, 2025—It's the Mowtown Showdown!

Don't take our word for it—come see for yourself—and see what Members will be talking about for years!

This is one of the Social Committee's premier events of the Summer, packed with great food, great music, contests and the best talent that Diamante has to offer. (you might want to keep those Woodlands season tickets!)

Seriously, wear some 60's or 70's garb. Your trusty editor will be one of the judges (and I am open to bribes!).

5.



Memorial Day—May 26th, 4 pm on the Club's patio.

Join us, as we pay our solemn respects to the fallen Women and Men of our Armed Services, who've given their lives to preserve the freedoms and rights that *all* Americans enjoy.

Lori McGhee's Social Committee is putting the finishing touches on this ceremony, as well as other weekend events. Watch for more information in **Kathi's weekly Club updates.**

Please note:

Because the Club will be open on Monday, May 26th, it will be closed on Tuesday, May 27th.

No Taco Tuesday on the 27th!

6.



May 29th—Dine with the Winemaker

This event is sponsored by the 30th Anniversary Committee, and sure to be another sellout! An evening of wine and cognac, paired with a 5-course dinner.

The wine tastings and special French cuisine should be enough enticement, but **Suzanne Iantosca's team has also paired all of this up with two special Int'l guests! Also, the DPOA will be giving away another of **Jeanne Ballard's** gift baskets! **Book now, or forever hold your grapes!****





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7.

DPOA PICNIC

DUES-PAYING DPOA MEMBERS

Monday, June 2, 2025, 4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Diamante Members Club Outdoor Patio



TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS

Make your check for \$25.00 for each dues-paying DPOA member and \$35.00 for each guest, along with "DPOA PICNIC RESERVATION" (see form on next page), to Ford Williams, 8 Aventura Trace, Hot Springs Village, AR 71909. Make your check payable to the DPOA. **Reservations should be made by May 27, 2025.**

Bring your own chairs and putters!

Music provided by the Colt and the Old 45s and Joe Stafford.

Putting contest, door prizes, and much more. . . .



Featuring Diamante 'All-American' Picnic Favorites:

Grilled Black Angus burgers, all beef franks, grilled brats, brioche buns, lettuce, tomato, onions, pickles, assorted sliced cheeses, assorted condiments, baked beans, chips, pasta salad and several dessert selections.



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Musical Guests: Colt & the Old 45's and Diamante's very own Joe Stafford!

DPOA PICNIC RESERVATION

Monday, June 2, 2025—4:30 to 8:00 PM

Person sending enclosed check—*print full name*

Check #

Dollar Amount

Dues-Paying Members—\$25.00 each

Guests—\$35.00 each

Full Name

Full Name

Full Name

Full Name

Full Name

Full Name

Full Name

Full Name

Full Name

Full Name

Full Name

Full Name

Signature



Please make your check payable to DPOA,
and mail your check to
Ford Williams, 8 Aventura Trace, Hot Springs Village, AR
71909.

NOTE TO ALL ATTENDEES:



1. Bring your own chairs
2. Each member receives 2 drink coupons. Bring CASH if you'd like to purchase more drinks.
3. You'll also need CASH to buy tickets for the 50/50 drawing.
4. Bring your own putter for the putting contest!
5. No admission charge for children under 12



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Proof: Tea Time's not just for Golfers!

Diamante recently hosted its most colorful Social Event of the Spring—Easter Tea! Hosted by Mary Ellen Laursen, and her amazing herd of bunnies. The DPOA donated a lovely Gift Basket as a doorprize for this most auspicious occasion.





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Run for the Roses—and a run on Bonnets!

Not to be outdone by the Ladies Easter Tea, the **Social Committee also hosted a Kentucky Derby Watch Party** at the Clubhouse. We'll never know exactly how much Diamante Members won or lost on the Derby, but a safe bet is that the ladies' bonnets and outfits probably cost more! The men's—not so much!





AROUND THE CLOCK

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DPOA VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: FORD WILLIAMS



Ford Williams is a native of Monroe, LA. His college years found him studying Accounting at Centenary College in Shreveport, LA. With his CPA accreditation in hand, Ford's career with Big 8 accounting firms took he and his wife, and their two sons, to Houston. And eventually on to Coppell, TX, where they settled in for 20 years. It's in Coppell that we were practically neighbors and didn't even know it! The world just keeps getting smaller!

Ford and his family are no strangers to Hot Springs or the Village. His wife's family originally came here for a golf tournament, and their family's been coming here for holidays since the 70's. Ford started joining those family trips around 1981.

Probing to discover if he was linked to a famous 'Henry', 'Ford' is his preferred name, but it's actually his middle name. But it is *his mother's maiden name*. So, that mystery continues! (I also forgot to ask what make of car he drives).

It's uncanny to find a CPA with a great sense of humor...but, when asked about his interest in golf, Ford replied, "for as much as I play, you'd think I'd be better at it!" He does play several times a week, from his church scramble, to the men's high handicap group at Diamante, and even an occasional Saturday round. Of Diamante's handicap group, he credits another Member for saying that they've been passing around that winning \$5 bill for years. Ford also credits golf as one of the things that got him thru the pandemic, as the local courses were amongst the only things open in the Village a few years back.

Ford's been serving as the DPOA Treasurer since JAN '24. Although they reside on the Magellen course, his role and their lot ownership keeps Ford and his wife active in the Clubhouse. They enjoy Sunday brunches at the Club, Christmas & NYE parties and last year's Cheeseburger in Paradise. He says that 'hands down', the Club is the best place to eat in the Village!

His musical tastes are centered around Classic Rock: Chicago, The Eagles, Michael McDonald, and any kind of jazz. And who knows—maybe on the 24th—we'll finally find out if 'this Ford' has any Motown roots!

Ford and his wife, Kelly, give back in other ways too. They're supporters of P.E.O., an organization to benefit women in educational advancement and in support of a women's college in Nevada, MO. Together, they are also active in their local Church.

DPOA Member Ford Williams calculates paid DPOA memberships on his abacus at 8 Aventura Trace in the Village.



Treasurer's Financial Report

	4/30/25	4/30/25	12/31/25		4/30/24
	Actual	Actual	Estimated		Actual
	Month to Date	Year to Date	Remaining	Forecast	Year to Date
Member dues	640.00	11,600.00	6,100.00	17,700.00	12,880.00
Additional dues	100.00	440.00	1,460.00	1,900.00	1,040.00
Total dues revenue	740.00	12,040.00	7,560.00	19,600.00	13,920.00
Landscape Maintenance	-	(4,156.40)	(8,943.60)	(13,100.00)	(4,803.00)
Sprinkler repair	-	-	(1,900.00)	(1,900.00)	-
Electrical repair	-	-	-	-	-
Flags	-	(151.53)	(48.47)	(200.00)	-
Holiday décor	-	-	(100.00)	(100.00)	-
Welcome baskets	(47.19)	(72.24)	(1,327.76)	(1,400.00)	(359.00)
Storage unit	-	(515.00)	(85.00)	(600.00)	(515.00)
Administrative costs	-	(146.00)	(454.00)	(600.00)	(134.00)
Total operational expenses	(47.19)	(5,041.17)	(12,858.83)	(17,900.00)	(5,811.00)
Net operating revenue (expense)	692.81	6,998.83	(5,298.83)	1,700.00	8,109.00
Net picnic	465.00	465.00	(165.00)	300.00	(214.00)
Net cocktail party	250.00	250.00	1,650.00	1,900.00	
Other fundraising	-	0.31	1,100.00	1,100.31	-
Net fundraising	715.00	715.31	2,585.00	3,300.31	(214.00)
Net revenue (expense)	1,407.81	7,714.14	(2,713.83)	5,000.31	7,895.00
Beginning Cash	1/1/25	14,816.50			
Net revenue (expense)	YTD	7,714.14			
Ending Cash	4/30/25	22,530.64			
Emergency Reserve		7,500.00			
Cash available for operations		15,030.64			

Membership Update

As of May 8, 2025, 186 members paid \$16,125 in dues and additional contributions for 2025 compared to 162 members and \$14,000 as of May 8, 2024.

Dues payments support DPOA's mission as a community benefit organization. DPOA provides enhanced landscape maintenance for the neighborhood common areas including maintenance of sprinkler systems, landscape lighting, flags and flag poles. DPOA also provides holiday decor at neighborhood entrances, provides welcome baskets to new neighbors, publishes the neighborhood newsletter, and sponsors the annual neighborhood picnic and other social events.

If you have not already joined your neighbors in support of DPOA for calendar year 2025, please write a check in the amount of \$80 payable to DPOA and mail it to Ford Williams, DPOA Treasurer, 8 Aventura Trace, Hot Springs Village, AR 71909.

Note that dues and contributions to the DPOA are voluntary and are not deductible as charitable contributions.



DPOA Newsletter

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Diamante Property Owners Association -- 2025 Dues Invoice

Property Owner Information:

First Name	
Last Name	
Preferred Email Address	
Mailing Address – Street	
Mailing Address – City, State, Zip	
Diamante Property Address if Different	

Dues Information:

Please complete this form and send it with your check payable to “DPOA” for \$80 to:

Ford Williams
DPOA Treasurer
8 Aventura Trace
Hot Springs Village, AR 71909



You can still make plans to attend the DPOA Annual Picnic on June 2nd by submitting your 2025 dues TODAY. While the picnic is open to all Diamante property owners & their guests, there is a \$10 discount for paid DPOA members attending the picnic.



AROUND THE CLOCK

Member Profiles | Fun & Games | Volunteerism | **Personnel**



UP CLOSE & 'PERSONNEL':

WILL OWENS

If you drive a couple hours northeast of Conway, you'll run into Greers Ferry Lake, Sugar Loaf Mountain and its mineral waters, and the small town of Heber Springs—which just happens to be Arkansas' other health resort/town. It's also the boyhood home of **Will Owens**.

Will had big dreams of becoming a baseball player and that found him tending to the ball fields during his early high school years. But at the age of 18, Will found himself living with his grandparents and needing a job. His uncle had some connections at Chamberlyne Golf Resort in Danville. He got a job, and in Will's words, "I fell in love" and "in 27 years, I've never looked back".

He was talking about golf—and golf courses. That love got him through a pretty grueling schedule: mowing greens and fairways at 4:30 am, then heading off to finish school. After school, working a parttime job at a cardboard manufacturing plant into the early even-

ing—and then, starting all over again on just a few hours of sleep.

Working on a 9-hole course, without a superintendent, Will showed real initiative by joining the Superintendent's club in AR, and earning key national accreditations. He gained further expertise while at Chenal Country Club in Little Rock, where as a new assistant, he gained much of his invaluable grass experience.

In 2008, the job opened at Diamante, and Will found himself working as an assistant under 3 different superintendents in his first 5 years. He says that the biggest improvement he's seen in his 17 years here is when the Members bought the Club. Club Corp had required approval for everything, but with the change in ownership, they were able to get new bunkers, new equipment and put a lot of good ideas into play.

When asked if it was more difficult to maintain a course played by lots of retired golfers, Will said 'no'. He added, "they deserve the best course they can have". He realizes that many members belong to other Clubs as well, and play courses around the country. He just hopes they realize what a gem Diamante truly is given our seasonal rains, droughts, and budgets.

As an employee, Will said he enjoys the golf benefit the most, but freely admitted that he's only had the opportunity to golf twice this year. And that's been late afternoons, with other staff, when the course is void of Member rounds. When asked about his favorite food on the Diamante menu, Will, almost apologetically responded that, "I've never eaten here". But he loves anything Cajun, and at home, he loves anything off the grill. No surprise, his favorite movie is "Caddy Shack". He's an avid camper and he loves to water ski. He's also taken up 'off roading' in his Jeep.

We're grateful to Will, and his team, for keeping Diamante one of the most pristine, scenic and challenging courses in Arkansas. Will's a real Diamante gem. **Thank you Will, for everything you do.**

Diamante Employee Will Owens makes his kids cut the grass at their home on the west side, in HSV.





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If it's Tuesday, it must be Ladies Golf Day!!





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You know you're getting old when 'friends with benefits' means having someone to drive you home!



2025 DPOA Member

May Birthdays*

3rd Wade Herguth

4th Enid Collie

6th William Klein-
schmidt9th Jackie Paul
David Koch14th Heidi Hilbert
Michael Kindred

18th Michael Vickery

21st Jerry Sullivan
Sherry Newman
Kevin McMillin

23rd Debbie Monaghan

28th David Clark
David Weatherly

"I'm at an age where my back goes out more than I do!"

—Phyllis Diller

*If your birthday is coming up in June and you wish to age in private, please send a note to the Editor and you'll be excluded from receiving celebratory wishes from your Diamante family.



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30th Anniversary Committee Updates:



Jim Bodge

Two more lucky winners of the free drink coupons, hidden by the 30th Anniversary Committee around the Diamante Golf Club—with dozens more unclaimed—**and more scheduled to be hidden on May 30th.**

Does Diamante have the worst scavenger hunters in Hot Springs Village, or what?

Maybe the Committee just needs to start taping them to the golf carts or dinner plates?

Less Golf! More Hunting!



Jim Fulton

Dancing Under the Stars – A Night to Remember

On the evening of October 11th, Diamante Country Club will come alive in celebration of a remarkable milestone — our 30th Anniversary Gala. Members and friends will gather under the stars for an unforgettable night filled with joy, elegance, and shared memories.

The celebration will begin at sunset, with cocktails on the patio and the sound of laughter echoing across the grounds. As the sky darkens and the stars begin to sparkle, guests will make their way to the outdoor pavilion adorned with soft lights and elegant décor. The setting will be breathtaking — a perfect backdrop for an evening of fine dining, live entertainment, and heartfelt connection.

Members will be treated to a gourmet dinner crafted to delight, celebrating the culinary excellence that defines the Diamante experience. As the music begins to play, the dance floor will welcome everyone — couples, friends, and generations of members swaying together beneath the open sky.

It will be an extraordinary night, where memories will be made and the spirit of the Diamante family will shine brighter than ever. Together, we will toast to the past, celebrate the present, and look forward to the future.



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Up Next Month:

Learn 'how' and 'where' Golfers can weave their carts in and out of the Village's hiking trails—to get from course to course—thus, avoiding long lines and traffic delays during this Summer's road construction.

You see those vehicles taking an alternate route over there? We need to start construction over there too

