



Official Newsletter from Your Diamante Property Owners Association

May 2024

Dear Neighbors!

May is known for being a month with amazing weather and for a variety of celebrations that includes Mother's Day, May Day, Cinco de Mayo, and Memorial Day. The days are getting longer, there is more sunshine, and summer is just around the corner. As Smokey Robinson once said, "I've got sunshine on a cloudy day. When it's cold outside, I've got the month of May."

One upcoming event is the **DPOA Cocktail Party Fundraiser** on **Saturday, July 20, 2024, from 4 to 7 pm**. This event will be hosted by both the Diamante Property Owners Association (DPOA) and the Couple's Golf group and will conduct a silent auction, 50/50 drawing, and door prizes that will benefit future DPOA projects. Please join us for an early evening of fun, bidding, and making a difference (see pages 2 and 3 for more information and for the event's registration form). The DPOA has dedicated its time and spirit to making the best financial decisions that provide value for our properties. We are working to determine which projects are feasible this fiscal year. If you would like the DPOA to consider a project, please send an e-mail message to one of the DPOA Board members.

We have a great community, and this does not happen without fantastic people. Communication and input are vital. I encourage you to let us know how we can work together to keep our community moving forward. I continue to be encouraged by the kind words and tireless efforts of my fellow Board members—they are our best asset! If you get a chance, please let them know that they are appreciated.

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

—Heidi Hilbert, DPOA President



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DPOA COCKTAIL PARTY FUNDRAISER

Saturday, July 20—4 to 7 pm

The **DPOA COCKTAIL PARTY FUNDRAISER** is the first event in a fundraising weekend that also offers a Couples' Golf tournament **FRONT NINE vs. BACK NINE** on Sunday, July 21st.

During the DPOA Cocktail party, door prizes will be awarded. A silent auction will be held in the Diamond Room, and hors d'oeuvres will offer the following tasty selections:

- (1) Pork and vegetable egg rolls with sweet chili sauce;
- (2) Cajun cocktail shrimp shooters;
- (3) Hummus, grilled pita bread.

All property owners, Diamante Club members, and their guests are invited to attend whether they play golf or not. All donations will support future projects to repair, replace enhance, or improve the Diamante neighborhoods. In addition, your donations will also help support the future projects that are being carefully evaluated by the DPOA.

SILENT AUCTION Bid, Donate, and Support!

Treasurer's Report

As of May 8, 2024

Membership

As of May 8, 2024,
162 members paid \$14,000 in
DPOA dues and additional contributions.

Fund Balances

Funds available for operations:

\$9, 103

Reserve (emergency) funds:

\$7, 500

Total funds:

\$16, 603

If you have not received your invoice, please send your payment of \$80 payable to DPOA to:

Ford Williams
8 Aventura Trace
Hot Springs Village, AR 71909

Email: ford.williams@me.com

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

Volunteers . . .

The Heart of Our Community

All readers are invited to consider volunteering for one of the vacant position on the DPOA Board of Directors.

Newsletter Editor: The editor of this newsletter is responsible for soliciting materials to be published; determining the features of publication; setting deadlines; making a final determination about what will be published in an issue; and coordinating the frequency of the monthly publication.

Administrative Note

We have made an effort to insure all recorded DPOA members and their spouses are on the distribution list for our DPOA Newsletter. If your spouse did not receive a newsletter, please send an email to the TrustyScribe@att.net with the name and email address to be added.

If your neighbor says they didn't receive, DPOA Newsletter, let them know they should inform us as above. If you wish to be removed from the distribution list, have an email address change, whatever, please let us know. Even a suggestion or two as a property owner is welcomed.

DPOA Board

Heidi Hilbert

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TBD

Newsletter Editor

DPOA COCKTAIL PARTY FUNDRAISER

Saturday, July 20 — 4 to 7 pm

DPOA Cocktail Party Reservation

Printed full name of person sending check Check # Dollar amount

**All Diamante and DPOA Members and Property Owners—\$16.00
Guests—\$20.00**

Full name

Full name

Full name

Full name

Full name

Full name

Full name

Full name

Full name

Full name

Full name

Full name

**Please make your check payable to the DPOA
and mail your check to by July 13, 2024:**

**Ford Williams
8 Aventura Trace
Hot Springs Village, AR 71909**



Course & Court Conditions

Check daily conditions at diamantecc.com

diamantecc.com/course-conditions

diamantecc.com/tennis

diamantecc.com/pickleball

Nine Things You May Not Know About Memorial Day

1 Memorial Day and its traditions may have ancient roots.

While the first commemorative Memorial Day events weren't held in the United States until the late 19th century, the practice of honoring those who have fallen in battle dates back thousands of years. The ancient Greeks and Romans held annual days of remembrance for loved ones (including soldiers) each year, festooning their graves with flowers and holding public festivals and feasts in their honor. In Athens, public funerals for fallen soldiers were held after each battle, with the remains of the dead on display for public mourning before a funeral procession took them to their internment in the Kerameikos, one of the city's most prestigious cemeteries. One of the first known public tributes to war dead was in 431 B.C., when the Athenian general and statesman Pericles delivered a funeral oration praising the sacrifice and valor of those killed in the Peloponnesian War—a speech that some have compared in tone to Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address.



2 One of the earliest commemorations was organized by recently freed African Americans.

As the Civil War neared its end, thousands of Union soldiers, held as prisoners of war, were herded into a series of hastily assembled camps in Charleston, South Carolina. Conditions at one camp, a former racetrack near the city's Citadel, were so bad that more than 250 prisoners died from disease or exposure and were buried in a mass grave behind the track's grandstand.

Three weeks after the Confederate surrender, an unusual procession entered the former camp: On May 1, 1865, more than 1,000 people recently freed from enslavement, accompanied by regiments of the U.S. Colored Troops (including the Massachusetts 54th Infantry) and a handful of white Charlestonians, gathered in the camp to consecrate a new, proper burial site for the Union dead. The group sang hymns, gave readings and distributed flowers around the cemetery, which they dedicated to the "Martyrs of the Race Course."

3 The holiday's 'founder' had a long and distinguished career.

In May 1868, General John A. Logan, the commander-in-chief of the Union veterans' group known as the Grand Army of the Republic, issued a decree that May 30 should become a nationwide day of commemoration for the more than 620,000 soldiers killed in the recently ended Civil War. On Decoration Day, as Logan dubbed it, Americans should lay flowers and decorate the graves of the war dead "whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land."

According to legend, Logan chose May 30 because it was a rare day that didn't fall on the anniversary of a Civil War battle, though some historians believe the date was selected to ensure that flowers across the country would be in full bloom. After the war Logan, who had served as a U.S. congressman before resigning to rejoin the army, returned to his political career, eventually serving in both the House and Senate and was the unsuccessful Republican candidate for vice president in 1884. When he died two years later, Logan's body laid in state in the rotunda of the United States Capitol, making him one of just 33 people to have received the honor. Today, Washington, D.C.'s Logan Circle and several townships across the country are named in honor of this champion of veterans and those killed in battle.

4 Logan probably adapted the idea from earlier events in the South.

Even before the war ended, women's groups across much of the South were gathering informally to decorate the graves of Confederate dead. In April 1886, the Ladies Memorial Association of Columbus, Georgia resolved to commemorate the fallen once a year—a decision that seems to have influenced John Logan to follow suit, according to his own wife. However, southern commemorations were rarely held on one standard day, with observations differing by state and spread out across much of the spring and early summer. It's a tradition that continues today: Nine southern states officially recognize a Confederate Memorial Day, with events held on Confederate President Jefferson Davis' birthday, the day on which General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson was killed, or to commemorate other symbolic events.

Nine Things You May Not Know About Memorial Day — cont'd

5 It didn't become a federal holiday until 1971. Americans embraced the notion of "Decoration Day" immediately. More than 27 states held some sort of ceremony that first year, with more than 5,000 people in attendance at a ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. By 1890, every former state of the Union had adopted it as an official holiday. But for more than 50 years, the holiday was used to commemorate those killed just in the Civil War, not in any other American conflict. It wasn't until America's entry into World War I that the tradition was expanded to include those killed in all wars, and Memorial Day was not officially recognized nationwide until the 1970s, with America deeply embroiled in the Vietnam War.



6 It was a long road from Decoration Day to an official Memorial Day. Although the term Memorial Day was used beginning in the 1880s, the holiday was officially known as Decoration Day for more than a century, when it was changed by federal law. Four years later, the Uniform Monday Holiday Act of 1968 finally went into effect, moving Memorial Day from its traditional observance on May 30 (regardless of the day of the week), to a set day—the last Monday in May. The move has not been without controversy, though. Veteran's groups, concerned that more Americans associate the holiday with the first long weekend of the summer and not its intended purpose of honoring the nation's war dead, continuing to lobby for a return to the May 30 observances. For more than 20 years, their cause was championed by Hawaiian Senator—and decorated World War II veteran—Daniel Inouye, who until his 2012 death reintroduced legislation in support of the change at the start of every Congressional term.

7 More than 20 towns claim to be the holiday's 'birthplace'—but only one has federal recognition. For almost as long as there's been a holiday, there's been a rivalry about who celebrated it first. Boalsburg, Pennsylvania, bases its claim on an 1864 gathering of women to mourn those recently killed at Gettysburg. In Carbondale, Illinois, they're certain that they were first, thanks to an 1866 parade led, in part, by John Logan who two years later would lead the charge for an official holiday. Even two dueling Columbus challengers (one in Mississippi, the other in Georgia) have battled it out for Memorial Day supremacy for decades. Only one town, however, has received the official seal of approval from the U.S. government. In 1966, 100 years after the town of Waterloo, New York shuttered its businesses and took to the streets for the first of many continuous, community-wide celebrations, President Lyndon Johnson signed legislation, recently passed by the U.S. Congress, declaring the tiny upstate village the "official" birthplace of Memorial Day.

8 Wearing a red poppy on Memorial Day began with a World War I poem. In the spring of 1915, bright red flowers began poking through the battle-ravaged land across northern France and Flanders (northern Belgium). Canadian Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, who served as a brigade surgeon for an Allied artillery unit, spotted a cluster of the poppies shortly after serving as a brigade surgeon during the Bloody Second Battle of Ypres. The sight of the bright red flowers against the dreary backdrop of war inspired McCrae to pen the poem, "In Flanders Field," in which he gives voice to the soldiers who had been killed in battle and lay buried beneath the poppy-covered grounds. Later that year, a Georgia teacher and volunteer war worker named Moina Michael read the poem in *Ladies' Home Journal* and wrote her own poem, "We Shall Keep the Faith" to begin a campaign to make the poppy a symbol of tribute to all who died in war. The poppy remains a symbol of remembrance to this day.

9 Memorial Day traditions have evolved over the years. Despite the increasing celebration of the holiday as a summer rite of passage, there are some formal rituals still on the books: The American flag should be hung at half-staff until noon on Memorial Day, then raised to the top of the staff. And since 2000, when the U.S. Congress passed legislation, all Americans are encouraged to pause for a National Moment of Remembrance at 3 p.m. local time. The federal government has also used the holiday to honor non-veterans—the Lincoln Memorial was dedicated on Memorial Day 1922. — **Barbara Maranzani**

Is Your Neighborhood Ready to Resist Crime?

The prevention of crime, particularly crime involving residential neighborhoods such as Diamante, is a responsibility that must be equally shared by both law enforcement agencies and private citizens. However, the impact of law enforcement on crime prevention is minimal, when compared with the power of private citizens who work with law enforcement agencies and with their friends and neighbors in their communities.

The concept of a Neighborhood Watch program is based on cooperation, and nationwide statistics prove that it works. When citizens take positive steps to secure their own properties, and when neighbors learn how to report suspicious activity around their homes, such as burglary and related offenses, crime is dramatically decreased.

Our Neighborhood Watch is a crime prevention program that enlists the active participation of our residents in cooperation with local law enforcement officers and agencies. It reduces crime, solves problems, and improves the quality of life.

Let's all get to know and work with all of our friends and neighbors and learn how to:

- ❑ Recognize and report crimes and suspicious activities;
- ❑ Protect ourselves, our families, and our properties;
- ❑ Protect our neighbor's family and property; and
- ❑ Identify crime and problems in our Diamante neighborhood while working with Hot Springs Village personnel and law enforcement agencies to solve them. ♦

—Heidi Hilbert

Neighborhood Watch programs provide the opportunity for our residents to volunteer and work toward increasing the safety and security of our homes, as well as empower our citizens to become active in emergency preparedness and to fight against crime and community disasters.



Moo-ving Up in the Golf World

To be the best at what you do, you need to keep up with the latest technology and stay one step ahead of your competition. That's the philosophy at Diamante, where on April 29th, we contracted a private firm to aerate and fertilize the #6 green and greenside bunker. These professionals did a stellar job, completing their work in no time at all.

Enter the unexpected crew of 38 contractors from who knows where from the Goose Pond Road area—a herd of curious cows with a keen interest in golf course maintenance. These bovine visitors decided to make an unscheduled appearance, and their timing was impeccable.

Without missing a beat, our new helpers moo-ved straight to the #7 Tee Box area. Perhaps they sensed it needed a special touch, or maybe they just fancied a change of scenery. After a brief inspection, they concluded that the #6



putting green was where their skills were truly needed.

For about 10 minutes, these cows strutted around, "aerating" with their hooves and generously "fertilizing" the green in a way only cows can. They worked with a certain bovine efficiency, leaving no patch unpatrolled. Satisfied with their efforts, they decided to call it a day and left the course, no doubt feeling proud of their contribution.

The result? A #6 green that received more attention than ever anticipated, thanks to our four-legged friends. While their methods were unconventional, they certainly brought a unique touch to Diamante's pristine fairways.



Next time you're lining up your putt on the #6 green, take a moment to appreciate the combined efforts of our professional team and the impromptu help from our neighborly cows. It seems in the world of golf course maintenance, even cows can step up to the tee! = **Doug Zook**

May 9, 2024 Treasurer's Newsletter Report

	5/8/2024 YTD Actual	Remaining 2024 Budget	2024 Full Year Projection
Member dues	12,960	-	12,960
Additional dues	1,040	-	1,040
Total dues revenue	14,000	-	14,000
Landscape maintenance	(5,735)	(4,375)	(10,110)
Sprinkler repair	(460)	(1,000)	(1,460)
Electrical & lighting		(445)	(445)
Flags		(356)	(356)
Holiday décor		(105)	(105)
Storage unit	(515)	-	(515)
Welcome baskets	(359)	(426)	(785)
Office supplies	(166)	(282)	(448)
Total operational expenses	(7,235)	(6,989)	(14,224)
Net operating revenue (expense)	6,765	(6,989)	(224)
Picnic net revenue (expense)	(214)	-	(214)
Total net revenue (expense)	6,550	(6,989)	(439)



Diamante Property Owners Association -- 2024 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:

Annual Dues	\$80.00
Additional Contribution	
Total Paid	

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

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

ATTENTION NEW RESIDENTS! (AND THOSE WITH CHANGES!)

If you wish to be included in the 2024 DPOA Directory, please remember to send your updated contact information and photos to Sylvia Matthews at hotexans@att.net