

# Member of the Month

June 2017

It's not every day you meet someone who has spent 43 years as a football and basketball official. However The Pointe at Ballwin Commons is fortunate enough to call one such person a member of our facility. Rarely will you find such a humble, committed and passionate person as June's Member of the Month **Marvin Williams**.



Marvin has always loved athletics and while in college pursuing a Physical Education degree, he got his first taste of his future role. He started with a sports officiating class, then began refereeing intramural football, and eventually was invited to work on a crew with his professor during a game. "At first," he mentioned "I didn't really like it. I didn't like people yelling at me. Eventually I realized they weren't really yelling at me, they were yelling at the uniform and the authority. Once I accepted that, I was able to really enjoy it a lot more."

Starting his teaching career at Kirkwood and then the University of Illinois Extension Service, Marvin eventually settled at Parkway Central High School where he taught until he retired in 2005. In his time outside of refereeing, Marvin made sure never to bring what happened in a game home. "When you're at home you're a husband, wife, mom, dad etc. and when you're at work you're an employee, not a ref. You have to keep those separate. In fact, for a long time the principal at my school didn't even know I was a referee. I never wanted it to affect my job or my students."

"It's a tough job," he shared "and I wouldn't recommend it to everyone. It requires a lot of traveling and I've missed a lot of things over the years from weddings, holidays and the birth of grandchildren." Through all of this however, Marvin gives a lot of credit to his wife Jeanne. "She is incredibly supportive and very understanding. She knows I've always loved athletics, and there is just no way I could have pursued this type of career without her."

In order to keep pace in his role, Marvin devotes a lot of time to maintaining his physical shape. He spends many hours at The Pointe using the track, the weights and the pool. "I typically do more in one day than most people do in a week, and that's good motivation for me. At the end of a game I always make it my goal to be more exhausted than the players." He has good reason to be tired too. Last year he refereed a combined 38 football games and 61 basketball games at various levels!

Being a Pointe member for many years, Marvin has come to love not only the amenities offered in the facility but the people and the atmosphere as well. "There are wonderful staff members here at The Pointe, they're always smiling and when they greet you they mean it. People really care about you here, and there is no pressure to do things you don't want to. I've made so many friends while visiting with people upstairs. This place is fantastic and just has a neat atmosphere."

In his free time Marvin and Jeanne love to travel. They enjoy spending the winter in Arizona, and recently returned from the Kentucky Derby. One of their favorite pastimes is enjoying the company of their great grandchildren. Thank you Marvin for taking the time to share your story and for having such a positive impact on everyone you encounter at The Pointe. We're thrilled to name you June's Member of the Month.



*Know someone who deserves the title "Member of the Month?"  
Ask for a nomination form at The Pointe's Front Desk today!*