

## *January 2013*

At the start of a new year, I am pleased to report that the V.I.A. Board, upon recommendation of the Bylaws Committee, voted to add the Designer House to the standing committees reporting to the board. The chairmen of Bylaws, Designer House, Finance, Fundraising, James-Lorah Memorial Home, Membership, Public Relations, and Welfare are voting members of the board, as are the V.I.A. officers.

The Designer House Chairman will now take part in monthly meetings of the V.I.A. Board so that there is a continuous flow of information between the two, thus providing support for the Designer House Chairman and giving the board a better understanding of the chairman's responsibilities, committee procedures and financial matters

As I mentioned in earlier reports, our committee chairmen have been discussing how to include more members in the work of the V.I.A. There are many opportunities for members to take on responsibilities and keep our organization functioning smoothly. In the near future, the newsletter will contain Help Wanted Ads with descriptions of certain projects or tasks for which positions are open. Please look for the ads and bring your experience to the projects. We have a core of women who have taken on numerous responsibilities and many newer members who have much to offer. We hope that the want ads will inspire women to come forward to fill the positions.

On January 8<sup>th</sup>, V.I.A. members joined Doylestown Hospital and Doylestown Hospital Health Foundation Board members for a dedication ceremony unveiling the tile mural installed at the newly named Richard A. Reif Heart Institute. The new History Box in the main lobby of the hospital was also presented. Past President Kathy Lambert spearheaded the creation of the shadow box as her legacy to the hospital. An anonymous donation funded the project. Kathy was assisted by Pat Berry, Jean Leister and Joan Parlee working together to bring to life important events that took place from 1995 to the present. The history of the V.I.A. and Doylestown Hospital is reflected in these beautiful shadow boxes on display in the hospital lobby.

In December Community Response Committee Chairman, Kathy Meyer, awarded three grants to area non-profit organizations. Special Equestrians received \$6,000 for a Round Riding Pen. The sixty-foot diameter pen will provide a safe, controlled space for therapeutic riding programs. United Veterans of Doylestown received \$2,500 to fund two years of expenses associated with the Doylestown Memorial Day Parade. Bucks Beautiful received \$2,500 to help fund the planting of 170,000 daffodil bulbs along the new Route 202 Parkway and Route 202 Bypass. The three recipients will acknowledge the V.I.A. in marketing literature and in the case of Special Equestrians; a plaque in honor of the V.I.A. will be placed on site. Thank you to the Community Response Committee for their commitment to meeting the needs of our community.

I wish you many blessings, good health and happiness in the New Year.

*Marianne Chabot*

President

**February 5, 2013 – Tuesday, 1:00 p.m.**

**JLMH Auditorium**

**“Attracting Birds to Your Back Yard”**

Presenter	Michael & Jeanne O’Shea
Program Coordinator	Terrie Mooradd
Greeters/Tea Servers	Susan Pajer & Ginny Beyer
Meditation	Nancy Cook
Hospitality Captains	Mary Bachman & Martha Lummus

### **Program Preview**

*Linda K. McIlhinney*

Don't let the cold and snow prevent you from coming out and enjoying our February 5th program "Attracting Birds to Your Backyard". Michael and Jeanne O'Shea owners of a local treasure, "Wild Birds Unlimited" in Buckingham Greene, will speak to us on everything birds, and how we can attract a varied array of beautiful birds to our winter backyard as well as how to keep them coming for all seasons. Stay healthy and see you soon.

#### **PICK UP LOCATION**

Shuttle pick up for the February membership meeting will be on **LEVEL 1** at the Broad St. entrance at 12:30 p.m.

*Liz Fetterman* - Coordinator

### **1895 Society – Now, Then, Forever**

*Joan Parlee*

Thank you to all who have donated and pledged to the Then, Now & Forever Campaign. In December \$1,120.00 was added bringing the campaign to almost \$11K.

It is important that every V.I.A. member contribute to this effort to build the unrestricted endowment of our organization and ensure it's future.

Please make checks payable to the V.I.A. with TN&F on the memo line and send to the V.I.A. office. Also, please indicate whether yours is a single donation or a three year pledge. For more information or questions call me at 215.348.3249.

Thank you

### **HELP WANTED - WEBSITE MANAGER**

V.I.A. Member needed to lead team and be responsible for determining content to be included on site, as well as overall site structure, look and design. Person will work in conjunction with V.I.A. administrative support, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, and technical support.

The V.I.A. website was created to provide an online presence for the Village Improvement Association of Doylestown. It provides information on

- 1) Activities – meetings, events, fundraising efforts
- 2) History, mission and current initiatives
- 3) Community outreach, e.g., community response, welfare, scholarships
- 4) Connected entities such as Doylestown Hospital and Pine Run. Please contact Mary Gerczyk.

## *Veterans Committee*

*Jan Cope*

Welcome to 2013, ladies! The Veterans Committee has been busy spending the **\$2,600+** you donated this year! What an amazing group you are! Thank you. For the Mary Walker House, footlockers and telephones for each woman in the program were provided. For our Guard and Reserve members at Horsham Air Base, they received \$1,200 in gift cards to Giant and Wawa. The cards will be distributed by the Family Readiness Group's director, based on recommendations from unit leaders. We currently have about \$400 remaining, which we will distribute as we find out what the Walker House and the air base still need. Finally, check out our committee's activities pictures in the JLMH foyer: in November, we represented the V.I.A. at both the YMCA Veterans Day luncheon and the Manion Foundation's CARE package preparation day.

### **V.I.A. Veteran Families**

*Karen Simon:* My dad was drafted during WWII and served in Louisiana and the Pacific. He didn't see me until I was two! I was delivered at Doylestown Hospital: my mother got a discount because my dad was overseas! I also had an uncle with Patton in the Bulge, one uncle in occupied Germany, and one on a ship. My 2 cousins served in the Air Force during Korea and my husband was in the Navy during Viet Nam.

*Sharon Fetterolf:* My husband, Howard, served in the US Army EOD for 3 years. He speaks highly and with fondness of the time he served and the men he met.

*Carol Trunzo:* My husband, Nick, fought in Korea. My son, Tom, was in the Air Force, stationed in Guam and California.

### *From the Treasurer*

*Barbara A. Kieffer*

Starting with the New Year, I am asking that **ALL** requests for checks be requested on a **CHECK REQUEST FORM**. They can be obtained in the V.I.A. office and can be scanned into your computer. I check my mail at least twice a week, so they will be processed quickly. Thanks for your consideration in this matter.

## *James-Lorah Memorial Home*

*Phyllis Morris*

The committee wishes you all a year of good health and happiness!

We want to report how pleased we were with the response to our Holiday Open House on December 8th. We had close to 100 visitors who toured our beautifully decorated home and enjoyed cookies and warm cider for refreshments. Several books of "A Treasured Legacy" were sold, as well as Randolph Bye Prints of the JLMH. Our V.I.A. docents did a fantastic job informing our visitors of the history and contents of each room. **If you are interested in joining a committee of JLMH docents please contact Jo Page for information.**

Events in 2013 will include our major fundraiser "An Evening at the Theatre" April 17<sup>th</sup> and an open house in the Spring. House maintenance is, of course, on going with our goal to have a refurbished auditorium restroom by September 2013.

**Please note we will be extending the raffle for Sally Steinbach's quilt through February with the drawing after the Empty House Party which is February 24<sup>th</sup>.** Raffle tickets will be available at our January and February meetings as well.

Once again, a huge thank you to all V.I.A. members and friends who have supported the JLMH committee.

We want to extend our deepest sympathy to our caretaker Barb Darr and her family with the passing of her mother over the holidays.

### *Inclement Weather Alert*

In the event of winter weather conditions such as ice or snow, membership meetings will be cancelled if the schools are closed in the Central Bucks School District. You can also call the V.I.A. office at 215.345.2347.

### *Welcome New Members!*

Carole Medoff

(215) 886.6128

Lynne Welsh

(215) 317.3329

# House Sitters Wanted

Maureen Chadwick

Please consider volunteering a few mornings or afternoons to house sit at the Designer House in March and April while the decorators work their magic. Get to see the transformation and pick up a few design tips for yourself at the same time. To date, only two have responded to this request. Contact me at 215.230.0270 or [maureen.chadwick@verizon.net](mailto:maureen.chadwick@verizon.net) Please note the DOT between my first and last names in the email address.

## February Birthday Greetings to:

Beverly Banks	2/27	Linda McIlhinney	2/16
Carole Burpee	2/19	Connie Rininger	2/11
Nancy Cook	2/11	Greta Senno	2/04
Arlene Ferguson	2/01	Jeanne Sypawka	2/19
Elizabeth Fetterman	2/25	Judith Taylor	2/06
Shirley Gabler	2/07	Chris Thompson	2/19
Mary Gerczyk	2/11	Carol Tranter	2/02
Pamela Good	2/20	Constance Valimont	2/19
Maryann Kaczmar	2/17	Liz Westcott	2/03
Marie Mark	2/28		

## April Night on the Town!

Cory H. Schroeder

Mark your calendars for **April 17<sup>th</sup>** as the curtain goes up on our JLMH fundraiser.... A trip to Town and Country Players (Buckingham) to see **The Pajama Game!** And it just happens to be right around National Pajama Day, so we will be offering some fun tie-ins, raffles, giveaways and more!

**The Pajama Game** is a musical based on the novel *7½ Cents* by Richard Bissell and features a score by Richard Adler and Jerry Ross. The story deals with labor troubles in a pajama factory, where worker demands for a seven-and-a-half cent raise are going unheeded. In the midst of this ordeal, love blossoms between Babe, the grievance committee head, and Sid, the new factory superintendent. Popular songs from the show include "I'm Not At All in Love", "Hey There", "Steam Heat" and "Hernando's Hideaway". Watch for more details. For tickets, contact Cory Schroeder 215-297-8057.

## START YOUR YEAR OFF HEALTHY!

The V.I.A. and Cornerstone Health Clubs are joining together for a special corporate rate. As a V.I.A. member you will receive a special rate of \$55.00 per month with the same rate for a second family member which will be honored at all 3 club locations. If you are interested, contact: Kathryn O'Hara, Membership Advisor at [Kathryn@cornerstoneclubs.com](mailto:Kathryn@cornerstoneclubs.com) or 215.918.5900.

## Home Life Committee

Marilyn Mele

The Home Life Committee would like to thank all who donated to the Pine Run Bake Sale on December 11<sup>th</sup>. The sale was a huge success and your generosity made it possible for the committee to give a gift to every resident on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> floor at Pine Run.

We gave comfy socks and goodies (put together by Terry Steinberg) to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor residents and fleece robes and flannel shirts to the people on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor. By giving of your time to make the baked items, there were many smiles on Christmas morning.

Our next project will be assisting Pine Run with bingo on Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m. and movies at 2:00 p.m. on Saturdays. We also need people to man the candy cupboard at Lakeview on Mondays from 1:00 to 2:00 p. m. If anyone would like to help out with these projects please contact Marilyn Mele.

## Hostess Volunteers

We welcome all V.I.A. Members and Hospital Associates to play an important role in the success of the 2013 Bucks County Designer House & Gardens - The Clement Doyle House. Without the support of hundreds of hostess volunteers, such as you, this event would not be possible. You are cordially invited for coffee or tea and a brief hostess orientation session at the James-Lorah Auditorium on Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. or 7:00 p.m. If you are unable to attend an orientation session but are willing to volunteer as a hostess please call or e-mail Rosemary at 215-348-1453 [lekmd@aol.com](mailto:lekmd@aol.com) or Mary Lou at 267-247-5362 [mldgrag3@aol.com](mailto:mldgrag3@aol.com)

Newsletter Staff:

Marie Johnston, Editor    Joy Anderson  
Phyllis Morris              Karen Simon  
Barb Thompson             Betty Trossett

You should have received a letter from me announcing that Jim Brexler is our new CEO. Many of you met Jim at the December membership meeting and he proved to be a good sport when Ruth Doyle pulled him up to do the Mummers Strut. Jim is a very nice man who seems to totally buy into the culture and history of this amazing organization. He is very excited about working for Doylestown Hospital and believes that we can be a model for the future of health care. He will officially start work on the 21<sup>st</sup> of January and I look forward to working with him. It will be a change for us who are so used to Rich and his leadership and vision and we will miss him greatly. I do believe that Jim, based on his experience and beliefs, also has both leadership and vision to bring to us. I ask you all to make him and his young family feel welcome.

I hope many of you got to the Farewell for Rich held on January 8<sup>th</sup>. We really can't do enough to show this man how much he has meant to this Hospital and how much we will miss him. The public also got a chance to wish him well later that day. I know we all wish him a wonderful and fulfilling retirement.

The Hospital Board of Directors was given a presentation on the Pine Run reinvestment plan and the Health Center improvement project. The renovation of the Health Center is first because that revenue will help pay for the major part of the plan. No decisions were made at that meeting since it's only fair that Jim have an opportunity to study that plan before any action is taken. It sounds like a good plan and exciting but the funding is, as usual, a challenge.

I was happy to introduce State Representative Marguerite Quinn who patiently sat through the Pine Run presentation. She graciously expressed her admiration for Doylestown Hospital and called us the "jewel of the community". She was there to acknowledge Rich's contribution to the community with his "vision, dedication and charm". She presented Rich with a citation signed by the entire Bucks County delegation of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. He was also given a State flag.

For the month of November, the excess of revenue over expenses was 4.5% above budget and income from operations was 25.7% above budget. Inpatient discharges were 6% above budget but Observation discharges were 15.3% above budget. Observation cases continue to be a problem for hospitals nationwide. Even though the treatment is exactly the same as for an inpatient, the reimbursement is considerably lower. I am happy to say that our operating margin for the month of November was a healthy 3.5%, though year-to-date it's 1.68%.

Recently I was given some interesting information regarding Medicare data. Back in 2008, Medicare revised the DRG patient classification system to better measure the severity of illnesses and payment accuracy which showed that hospitals are successfully dealing with more complex cases. However, now Medicare doesn't want to pay for those results. Chronic disease is rising among Medicare patients and despite the better system picking up more and sicker patients, they want to pay as though it were under the old system. The government is challenging its own data. They have already taken back billions of dollars from hospitals calling it a change in documentation and coding. The AHA is challenging them and suing the government saying, "enough is enough".

From the Foundation Board:

- We have a new marketing Director, Becky Stewart.
- The Hospice auction made over \$100k despite the lower attendance. The new auctioneer probably helped, pulling in \$17k with the new paddle call.

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday and I wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year.

*Carolyn Della-Rodolfa*  
Vice President, Health Services

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*January*

15	JLMH Committee Meeting	JLMH	10:00 a.m.
15	Designer House Committee	JLMH	9:30 a.m.
24	Veterans Committee	JLMH	1:00 p.m.
29	V.I.A. Board Meeting	Conf. Room "K"	
29	Bylaws Meeting	Conf. Room "K"	10:30 a.m.

*February*

5	Membership Meeting	JLMH	1:00 p.m.
12	Designer House Committee	JLMH	9:30 a.m.
13	Welfare Meeting	Conf. Room "B"	9:00 a.m.
10	Fundraising Meeting	Conf. Room "A"	10:00 a.m.
19	JLMH Committee Meeting	JLMH	10:00 a.m.
26	V.I.A. Board Meeting	Conf. Room "K"	9:00 a.m.
26	Bylaws Meeting	Conf. Room "K"	10:30 a.m.