

May 2013

The hospital's Annual Volunteer Luncheon was held on April 18th. More than 300 were in attendance, representing over 900 kind, giving volunteers who help to make Doylestown Hospital so special. Along with the hospital's teen volunteer scholarships, this year the V.I.A.'s 1st Annual Richard A. Reif Culture of Caring Scholarship was given. Rich presented the award to Anthony Formicola, a young man who has provided patient care that is especially sincere. In his essay Anthony wrote "As a Patient Transporter, one day I discharged a new mother and her lovely new baby boy mere minutes before taking an equally adorable 99 year old woman back to her room. Where else can someone witness these extremes of life, this fragility mingling with wonder?" We wish all the graduating volunteers success as they begin their college careers.

I've found that the works of the V.I.A. are well known and appreciated among community organizations. Last month, Welfare Co-Chair Louise Woodruff and I were present at Child, Home & Community's Supporter Appreciation Brunch. CH&C provides free support programs to pregnant and parenting teens and young adults. We met CH&C board members and leaders of various community groups and were able to show appreciation for the services they provide as well as to speak about the history of the Village Improvement Association.

Next came an invitation to join celebrity judges Dr. Rod Green, Superintendent of Central Bucks School District, and Rhe Lowenthal, Costumer for the movie "Secretariat", at the Roxy Reading Therapy Dogs "Strut Your Mutt" parade in the center of town. How could I say no? Since it was also Kentucky Derby Day, owners and pooches wore appropriate hats and vied for prizes. It was a fun way to support a cause that enhances the experience of learning and brings comfort to kids.

Of course, the outstanding event of all was the Gala for the 38th Bucks County Designer House & Gardens. On a beautiful Friday evening, a festive crowd enjoyed being together to celebrate the opening. Congratulations to Chairman Jo-Ann Cuning, Vice Chair Joyce Hanson, Gala Chair Sara Moyer and all who helped to make the Gala a success.

The V.I.A. officers, board, committee chairmen and members continue to focus on our mission, be it in meetings, or at social events. We are a group of hard working women.

Marianne Chabot

President

***June 4, 2013 – Luncheon - Noon
Doylestown Country Club***

Event Chairman	Marilyn Mele
Co-chairman	Anne Sweeney
Greeters	Kathy Achorn & Betsy Payn
Meditation	Donna Walker

Program Preview

Linda K. McIlhinney

Please join us for our Annual June Luncheon which will be held at The Doylestown Country Club on Tuesday, June 4th at 12 noon....(please note the member book states 11:30 a.m.). Reservation slip enclosed.

Thank You to our Chairman Marilyn Mele and co-chair Anne Sweeney for taking care of all the arrangements for this wonderful day.

This year we will be awarding the (3) Haddock- Pollock Education Scholarships, The Ruth Boland Nursing Scholarship Award, the HOBY scholarship and our Community Recognition Awards.

Many Thanks to the Education Committee for reviewing the many applicants. Louise Woodruff and the Community Recognition Committee for their selections this year.

Looking forward to seeing you on June 4th.

Old Photos Wanted for Website

Do you have old photos of V.I.A. events, like the Memorial Day Parade or a general Membership Meeting? If you would like to share them, we would like to post them on the website we are redesigning for the V.I.A. To share your photos, please contact Nancy Gimbol, ngimbol@eastburngray.com or 215.345.7000.

Friendly Reminder to All Committee Chairman

Linda K. McIlhinney

It is time to prepare the membership book for 2013-2014. Please review and update your member list and contact each member to verify her willingness to serve another year. As there are a number of new members who have expressed interest in joining various committees, as openings occur please welcome these new ladies to join your committee. Copies of their applications are on file. I will be happy to provide you with names and phone numbers.

And new members, please don't be bashful...do not hesitate to speak with the chairman of the committees that interest you. Participating in our committees is the best way to get to know one another and also become aware of the many areas where the V.I.A. touches our community.

Theater Committee

Janet Punzak

The Bucks County Playhouse is back again, and better than ever. A group attended the 40's Musical Revue, "In The Mood" on April 24th. The music & the performers were wonderful. A group will see "Mame" on May 30th, featuring Andrea McArdle. The playhouse has more shows scheduled throughout this season.

We will be scheduling a play for the fall, depending on interest, either "The Dining Room" at the Town & Country Theatre in Buckingham or "The Woman in Black" (an English ghost play) at Act II Playhouse in Ambler.

We car pool to the shows, and have lunch before at a nearby restaurant. If you have interest in being involved with the Theater group, call or e-mail Janet Punzak, 215.230.8873 or janetpunzak@gmail.com.

Veterans Committee

Jan Cope

We have selected our new charities for the 2013-2014 club year: the Horsham Air Guard Station's Family Readiness Program and the Bucks County Veterans Van.

The Family Readiness Group/Key Volunteers Group is a volunteer organization committed to providing support to military families. (The FRG is the military side. The Key Volunteers Group (KVG) is the associated civilian side.) The FRG/KVG provides financial, social, and professional help to military members and their families, including a small food pantry. In 2013, your generosity provided them \$1,200 in gas and grocery gift cards for individual families and an additional \$350 in groceries for the food pantry. We are delighted to say that they will be our guest speakers at the November Petite Luncheon as well as one of next year's charities.

Our new charity, the Bucks County Veterans Van, is the only completely free county-sponsored veterans shuttle program in Pennsylvania. The county buys and operates the busses, which provide daily (M-F) transportation to the Philadelphia and Coatesville VA Hospitals. The van is completely supported by community donations, not taxes. Donations pay for gas and other operating expenses, not for administration or other overhead.

Thank you for providing us so much support for our veterans during this year. You have truly made a difference.

Welcome New Members!



Ethel Blumberg	(215) 855-3499
Donna Duncan	(215) 272-9766
Marie Garner	(267) 880-0383
Ada Gauvreau	(215) 345-8286
Lynn Keating	(215) 862-1026
Roylene Wahler	(215) 441-0777
Elaine Whitman	(215) 862-4253

Anyone interested in being part of the Membership Committee please contact Lee Scheeler, 215.348.4466.

James-Lorah Memorial Home

Phyllis Morris

What a wonderful way to conclude the JLMH calendar year. Our annual JLMH fundraiser was a huge success. It was held at the Town and Country Playhouse and included a fabulous musical, a 50-50 raffle and gift baskets created by Terry Steinberg. One hundred guests enjoyed wine, refreshments and great conversation on a beautiful April evening. Our committee realized a profit of \$2544 which will go toward the renovation of our auditorium restroom. If you missed this year's Evening at the Theatre mark your calendar for April 2014!

The portrait of Nancy Chapman will be hung in the house and the auditorium restroom will be renovated this summer. Many great things to look forward to in the future.

It has been a busy year, with always more to accomplish in our beautiful home. Thank you all for supporting our efforts!

Fundraising Committee

Sharon Orr

Please join us for a guided tour of the Barnes Museum on Thursday, October 24th. Before the tour we will be going to the Comcast Center where you will have a selection of several places to have lunch. Bring your friends with you; we would love to meet them. Reservation form is enclosed.

Annual June Luncheon

Marilyn Mele

Please make your reservation for our Annual Luncheon on June 4th at the Doylestown Country Club. Social will begin at **12 NOON**. Cost is \$30.00. For more details, refer to the flyer in April's newsletter or call me, Marilyn Mele at 215.343.6063. Reservation deadline is May 29th.

Bucks County Designer House Hostess Committee

The Committee continues to request the support of its membership to assist as a Hostess on May 24, 25, or 26.

If you are willing to volunteer as a hostess please call:
Rosemary Burrage 215.348.1453 lekmd@aol.com
Mary Lou Gehring 267.247.5362 mldgrag3@aol.com

June Birthday Greetings to:

Alberta Brecht	6/12	Linda Thomson	6/09
Ann Benson	6/23	Linda Plank	6/01
Ann Rainey	6/30	Loretta Zlock	6/04
Audrey Groman	6/07	Louise Woodruff	6/24
Barbara Vaughn	6/28	Lucinda Wester	6/10
Bernadette McEnerney	6/21	Lynn Keating	6/2
Bettie De Francis	6/22	Marjorie Vansant	6/01
Carol Cunningham	6/21	Marlene Lavelle	6/12
Carolyn Kozakowski	6/22	Nancy Myers	6/12
Dorothy Foley	6/24	Pam Finley	6/12
Elaine Balderson	6/22	Patti Thomas	6/06
Georgia Ford	6/07	Peggy Swanstrom	6/04
Jane Edgar	6/16	Robyn Shegda	6/03
Jane Reiter	6/20	Sandra Cotlar	6/14
Jean Wilson	6/13	Sonja Irwin	6/25
Joyce Schaller	6/29	Susan York	6/07
Kathy Achorn	6/10	Terry Steinberg	6/24

1895 Society

Joan Parlee

As a follow up to the flyer enclosed in your March newsletter, may I remind everyone to make your contribution to the TN&F Campaign before June 30th to ensure your name is on the plaque. The campaign brochure is on the V.I.A. website at www.via-doylestown.org/files/broch-TNF.pdf.

Checks should be made payable to V.I.A. of Doylestown with TNF on the memo-line and sent to the V.I.A. office 595 W. State St, Doylestown 18901. Attn. Barbara Kiefer. Thank you.

Join Us on Memorial Day!

Please join us in honoring our American Heroes. Don't forget to sign up to walk or ride in the ***Doylestown Memorial Day Parade*** on Monday, May 27th, one of the oldest Memorial Day Parades in the Country. You will be greeted by thousands of your neighbors and friends as we stroll through the center of Doylestown joined by other local businesses and organizations that participate in this solemn day of remembrance. This event is sponsored by The United Veterans of Doylestown of whom our own Community Response Committee awarded funds to last fall 2012 to help keep this treasured hometown tradition alive. If you've never joined us before we'd love to have you make this year's parade you're first...so much fun and you'll be home by lunch!

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Cory H. Schroeder - 2nd Vice President

First, let me thank Tom Hebel and Bucks Country Gardens for his generous donation of not one but three containers to raffle. They were gorgeous and just the touch of spring we desperately needed at the time.

The raffle brought in \$500, thanks to the wide interest of the members.

Secondly, I'd like to thank all those who helped make The Pajama Game a successful fundraiser for the James-Lorah Memorial Home. But not without the help of our committee (Terry Steinberg and her wonderful baskets, Donna Walker, Linda McIlhinney, Joan Parlee and Phyllis Morris) and volunteers for the night (Georgia Ford, Mary Bachman, Marianne Chabot, Pat Yaroschuk, Jo Page, Woody Woodruff) and all of you who donated wine and delicious goodies. And thanks to Karen Thompson of Lace Silhouettes Lingerie for the models and greeters in their jammies! Thank you all!

Newsletter Staff:

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

Healthcare Transformation is the phrase you will hear over and over again as Obamacare is rolled out. It won't just concern how healthcare is delivered or how the providers are paid, it will also transform how the Governing Bodies or Boards will function. Trustees will be called on to do more than raise money (although that will always be an issue) but they will have to be more informed regarding just about every area in the Hospital. You have heard how volume drives our success but now we will be called on to create VALUE. There is a tremendous amount of fraud in healthcare but by turning the attention to inappropriate utilization and by measuring performance differently the hope is that there will be shared savings as well as improved care. How will this all work? I am not sure anyone knows for sure but there are a lot of experts working on this. I was fortunate to attend the AHA (American Hospital Association) annual conference last week with CEO Jim Brexler. Many of the seminars were directed to Trustees and I felt I learned a great deal. I also came home with a lot of reading material to digest and as I do I will try to share some of that with you over the next months. I will tell you that I believe our Hospital Board is excellent. We have members who are involved and willing to spend the time and effort necessary to be informed.

Exciting news on the Home Front! After many months of information gathering and deliberation and most important due diligence both Boards met (Foundation and Hospital) to approve a multi-million dollar improvement plan for Pine Run. Paramount to that decision was the renovation of the Health Center which will result in 16 additional skilled beds. This huge project should be finished in 2016. Perhaps you remember that a few years ago we actually contemplated selling Pine Run but that always seemed like the wrong way to go. As our Baby Boomers start to age there will be an increased need for the right place and the right care. We feel that place and that care is here at Pine Run. So, as the Cottages are spruced up and made much more appealing, so, too, will the Health Center. I am pleased to say Jim Brexler is a big supporter of this project and wants to see this part of our Community Care plan continue to flourish.

In Patient Safety it was reported that the Stroke Program is continually evolving. In 2012 we received the Gold Plus Performance Achievement Award from the American Heart/Stroke Association. This year we are working closely with the C.B. Ambulance squad to reduce the time to treatment. The quicker TPA is administered or the decision to operate is made the more success is seen in reversing the "injury" to the brain.

Patient falls remains one area where hospitals and nursing homes seem unable to find a reliable answer. Bed alarms, chair alarms, color coded files and even color coded socks have been tried, but nothing seems to work all the time. Realizing that often the nurse cannot respond to a call bell, the "No Passing Zone" was started in March. This allows ALL associates to respond to call bells to prevent falls.

Most of you are aware that April was Volunteer Recognition month. I'd like to remind you that our volunteers provided 125,644 hours of work this past year which equates to over \$2m in care. In patient transport, the huge amount of work done there is a paid position in other hospitals. Be sure to thank a volunteer when you see them.

What is the difference between Hospice and Palliative Care? Hospice is a program for those with six months or less for whom a decision has been made to eliminate curative treatment related to the illness. Palliative Care is specialized for those with very serious illness to provide relief from pain and other symptoms but also allows for curative treatment. Dr. Veronica Coyne described it as "a softer approach" rather than aggressive treatment with drugs and technology. Over 60% of hospitals our size have such a program in place. Doylestown Hospital should have a Palliative Care program in place to remain competitive.

I hope many of you got to the Heart Brunch April 14th. If you did you got some information at your seat explaining the new AFIB Center of the Heart Institute of Doylestown Hospital. AFib is the most common form of irregular heartbeat and is a risk factor for stroke and heart failure. If you have been diagnosed with this or suspect you may have the problem be sure to contact the Heart Center for an appointment with a specialist in this area. Doylestown's Heart Institute has the most advanced treatment options available.

Carolyn Della-Rodolfa
Vice President, Health Services

May

21	JLMH Committee Meeting	JLMH	9:30 a.m.
27	Memorial Day Parade		
28	V.I.A. Board Meeting	Conf. Room "K"	9:00 a.m.
28	Bylaws Meeting	Conf. Room "K"	10:30 a.m.

June

4	Annual Luncheon	DCC	noon
12	Welfare Meeting	Conf. Room "A"	9:00 a.m.
18	JLMH Committee Meeting	JLMH	10:00 a.m.
25	V.I.A. Board Meeting	Conf. Room "K"	9:00 a.m.
25	Bylaws Meeting	Conf. Room "K"	10:30 a.m.