

MARCH 2015

This year, March roared in like a lion. Thankfully, spring is just around the corner.

We are grateful to Donna Walker for her coordination of our March 3rd program. Sisters Doreen and Judith Stratton of Doylestown presented, "Out of Slavery", an extremely informative presentation about the history of slavery in the United States and the active role our area played in the Underground Railroad. We especially enjoyed Judith's presentation of their family's rich heritage.

Keep your eyes on the Designer House calendar. Chairman Jean Upton's enclosed article will update you on the latest details and needs for this year's 40th Designer House. We appreciate your help with our largest fundraiser of the year.

Despite snow, sleet, and cold temperatures, 200 hearty souls attended the March 1 Empty House Party at Villa d'Braccia. Every detail of the day was meticulously planned by Chairman Phyllis Morris, Co-Chair Debbie Thorne, and their committee. Thank you to everyone for a very enjoyable day.

Look for your Preview Gala invitation in the mail and invite family, friends, and guests to this spectacular evening. Thousands of Designer House brochures have also been mailed announcing the viewing days for this year's unique show house.

March has been named Doylestown History Month by our local community. Upon an invitation from the Doylestown Historical Society's President Stu Abramson, I will be giving an informative presentation about the VIA and its vital role in the history of Doylestown. Join me at the Doylestown Bookstore on Saturday, March 14 at 3:00PM.

Inside this month's newsletter are many articles inviting you to participate in a wide array of events. Won't you consider attending at least one of these special spring festivities?

Lastly, remember to wear your hat and gloves to our next membership meeting on Tuesday, April 7 as we celebrate our 120th Anniversary in style. See you there!

Linda McShinney

President

April 7, 2015 - 12:00PM - JLMA

"VIA 120TH ANNIVERSARY"

Presenter Joan Parlee/Cory Schroeder
Kimberly Cambra
Program Coordinator Joan Parlee/Cory Schroeder
Meditation Jacquelyn Kennedy
Hospitality Captains Donna Walker/
Maureen Chadwick

Program Preview

Cory H. Schroeder

Our April program is to celebrate our 120th Anniversary! Joan Parlee and I will be welcoming VIA member Kimberly Cambra who, along with videographers Secret Assembly, created a documentary "Then, Now and Forever, 120 Years of the VIA." This will be the first showing of the film, giving us a chance to make additions or changes as some important events may have been missed (of course, not ALL our history can be included in 20-25 minutes!) We expect this to be very exciting, and very much appreciate Kimberly doing this as an act of love for the VIA.

The funding for this project has come from the generosity of our Presidents, and we have nearly realized our \$15,000 goal. Anyone wishing to make a donation to help us reach this goal can still do so. Your name will be added to the credits.

In addition to the program, we have a few other surprises. We ask that all ladies wear their hats and gloves, reminiscent of our forbearers who never left home without them! Think vintage, Ascot or Kentucky Derby or in between. Joan is willing to open her hat closet for those who would like to borrow, and I have a few. Prizes may be awarded!

We are hoping for a very good turnout that day, and PRAY that there will be no snow!

SHUTTLE for Membership Meeting

Shuttle service from the parking garage, Broad Street entrance, Level 2, to the JLMA will be available from 11:30AM to 12:00PM. After the meeting, the driver will make **ONE** trip from the JLMA to the garage.



WWW.VIA-DOYLESTOWN.ORG

Les Miserables

Diana Hazzard

Join the revolution in this soaring and unforgettable musical that will capture your heart on Wednesday, June 24, at DeSales University. Show starts at 2:00PM. Tickets can be purchased for \$38 balcony or \$41 orchestra seats. Make your check payable to the PA Shakespeare Festival. Bring your check to the April VIA meeting to confirm your reservation and plans for lunch.

Lunch options include, meeting at the Copperhead Restaurant at 11:30am, the Shakespeare Cafe outside the theatre, where you can bring your own picnic and bottle of cheer, or you can purchase lunch "on the green." This menu includes, artisan sandwiches, salads, fresh fruit parfaits, and delectable sweets. Don't miss this sensational musical afternoon!

Treasurer's Report

Ruth Carlson

For the month ending January 31, 2015

Current Assets ytd \$72,830.00

Total Net Assets ytd \$348,559.00

Total Income ytd \$61,401.00

Total Expenses ytd \$33,406.00

Total change in assets ytd \$24,824.00

GOURMET IS BACK ~ JOIN THE CLASS!

For an instructional and tasting event at
Carlow Cookery - March 24 - 11:00am
Sign up - Marilyn Jones at 215.822.1109

Newsletter Staff:

Marie Johnston, Editor Joy Anderson

Phyllis Morris Karen Simon

Barb Thompson Betty Trossett

Fundraising Committee

Sharon Orr

The committee is working on a few projects for the coming year. One is an event for the fall. This would be a great opportunity to get involved. Contact Sharon Orr at 215.353.3117 for more information.

We received our second check from Amazon, for online orders placed through Amazon Smile. Please continue to support the VIA by purchasing through Amazon Smile.

Veterans

Jan Cope

We've completed delivery of our major donations to the Washington Crossing National Cemetery (\$800), A Soldier's Hands (\$400), the Bucks County Veterans Van (\$800), and to the new Project Hero cycling program for wounded warriors (\$1025). Thank you to Tara Bryant-Gray, Joan Logrando, Maureen Marron, Edi Eisenbraun, and Pat Skowyra for their help with deliveries while my broken ankle heals. VIA members should congratulate themselves. You've given over \$3,600 for veterans' causes just this year.

Thank you also to Ginny Beyer, who collected items from committee members and created a wonderful Italian goodie basket as our committee's donation to the Designer House's Empty House Party. Molto bello!

Trips! We are planning a carpool trip to tour the Washington Crossing National Cemetery sometime in the spring. (If and when spring arrives?) If anyone is interested in joining us, please let me know and I will copy you on our schedule when plans are finalized.

Don't forget that we're also still collecting regular sized paperback books for Operation Paperback. Our committee is always open to new members: just ask.

James-Lorah Memorial Home

Phyllis Morris

Plans for our annual "Evening At The Theatre" fundraiser are underway. Don't miss this year's show, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, at the Town and Country Players Theatre on April 15. Please bring along family and friends for an enjoyable spring evening. Your reservation will include refreshments, raffles, and a great time. Additional information and reservation flyer is included in this month's newsletter.

A reminder to our current VIA members and any new members who may not have our book "A Treasured Legacy...Stories of the James-Lorah Memorial Home." The history and photos of our JLMH are fascinating. Thank you to author Kathryn McKenna for this beautiful book. If interested you may purchase a copy in the hospital gift shop.

Pediatric Library & Scrapbook

Grace McGinniss

Our committee requests that you forward any VIA activities or newsworthy articles, especially photographs, to the Library Committee for possible placement in our entry breakfront at the James-Lorah House for all members to enjoy. Likewise, If you wish your event to be recorded in the President's Scrapbook, please submit said material to the VIA office and place in my folder. Thank you.

2015 Bucks County Designer House & Gardens

Jean Upton

Designer House

On Sunday, March 1, the Designer House season kicked off with the Empty House Party. Snow, sleet, and rain did not deter the hearty crowd that made their way to Villa d'Braccia to enjoy La Dolce Vita. Spirits were high as everyone enjoyed the wonderful food and desserts and participated in the numerous auctions and raffles. Many thanks to the Empty House Party Committee Co-Chairs, Phyllis Morris and Debbie Thorne and their committee - Carolyn Kozakowski, Anne Sweeney, Ginny Mester, Barbara Jaczun, Joan Foster, Joy Anderson, Barbara Thompson, and Jeanne Sandusky, with contributions from the Design and Landscape Committees, details and upkeep, marketing, and our treasurers. A high point was the presentation by Joe Cowhey, on behalf of the Cowhey Family ShopRite of Warrington and ShopRite Pharmacy at Doylestown Hospital, of a check in the amount of \$32,500. This donation brings our sponsorship collections to \$124,000 to date. Thanks to Cory Schroeder, Joan Parlee, and Joyce Hanson and to the Marketing Committee, for soliciting all our print and grant sponsors. All in all, a great start to an exciting 2015 Designer House.

Upcoming Events

Thanks to Joyce Hanson, invitations have been mailed for the Preview Gala on Friday, April 24. The 2015 Gala is a unique opportunity for us to recognize the 120th Anniversary of the VIA and the 40th Designer House. Marianne Chabot, Sara Moyer, and their committee, are working to create an incredible event catered by Jamie Hollander along with music by the Chatterband. The menu offers raw bar specialties as well as spectacular passed hors d'oeuvres and prepared foods. RSVP Quickly! **The deadline to be listed in the Guidebook is March 16.**

The Mediterranean Culinary Event will be held May 3 from 5:00-7:30pm at Villa d'Braccia. Tickets are limited and are \$75pp. Advance reservations will be accepted with payment from VIA members on a first come first served basis until March 29. On April 1, any remaining tickets will be sold to the public on the Designer House website. See additional information in the enclosed flyer.

The annual Fashion Shows are Thursday, May 7 from 6:30-8:30pm and Friday, May 8 from 11:30am to 1:30 pm at the Doylestown Country Club. Tickets are \$35pp and include the Fashion Show and meal. Tickets to the Designer House are not included. This year's events will feature "haute couture" styles from Doylestown native designers as well as national brands and local favorites. See the enclosed insert for additional details. Don't miss this rite of spring and get your tickets early.

The final event of the 2015 Designer House, the Blue Jean Bash, takes place on Saturday, May 30 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm at Villa d'Braccia. Say Arrivederci to the 2015 Designer House and enjoy the music of the Cherry Lane Band, while feasting on an old fashioned barbeque menu. Tickets are \$40 per person.



The VIA is happy to announce that the James Lorah Memorial Auditorium is "hot"! Not just warm and cozy, but WiFi activated. There are two accounts that will show in your settings. The password for one is **1895society**, the second is **100broad**. Both are all one word, lower case. The strongest one is the one for James Lorah Auditorium, using **100broad**.

Access is for the benefit of all our members as well as anyone who has rented our facilities. The password will be posted but should not be shared outside our organization.

VIA Book Club

Selection: "ALL THE LIGHT WE CANNOT SEE"
by Anthony Doerr

When: Monday, March 30th @ 1:00 p.m.

Where: Forest Ridge Clubhouse

Questions: Marilyn Mele-215.343.6063

Last month, after the Hospital Board meeting, the various System Boards were invited to a mini retreat where we were given a crash course on various financial arrangements that will be a part of how we are reimbursed in this new world of health care. We are blessed with an accomplished and astute group of Board members who, I am sure, can understand and continue to guide us as we progress through this quagmire of new rules and regulations with which we are confronted. I know I count on their sage advice, and we must be thankful that they are willing to give their time so generously.

When I speak of financial arrangements, there are various terms you will hear as we move on to value over volume. Terms like Bundled Payments, ACO (Accountable Care Organization), Pay4Performance (P4P) and Value Based Purchasing will become common to us in the future. I will do my best to keep you informed and up to date as to what they mean and what they mean to us as a Health System. With the newly formed Doylestown Health Partners, our joint hospital/physician network, we look forward to better contracts with commercial insurers. Time will tell how these will all play out.

Dr. Levy reviewed the Clinical Quality report, which shows that our 30 day readmission rate is down significantly as are infection rates. He also reported on the interesting outcomes attributed to early mobility. We all remember when “bed rest” was the usual prescription, however, now doctors want you up and moving as soon as possible and out of the hospital quickly. As a result, not only are lengths of stay down, outcomes are much improved. The Orthopedists have been encouraging this for awhile and now we are finding that it is even true in the ICU. “Move to Improve” is designed to get patients up and moving early. Dr. Levy also reported that hospital wide inpatient discharges have increased in the last few months with length of stay and mortality rates remaining about the same with no increase in readmissions.

I found it interesting to read that C-diff is becoming ever more common in the community setting. We know it usually happens in hospitals but it seems the use of antibiotics is causing this deadly infection to occur even after their use for common preventions. We all know people who have been affected by this horrible infection, and we must all be aware that the cause is often that “benign” drug we depend on for help with other types of infections. Be sure to discuss this with your doctor when he prescribes.

With the increase in volumes we have seen an improved financial result. Our operating gain for the seven months ending January 2015 is 11% above budget and compared to last year is 43% above. Inpatient discharges are 5.4% ahead of FY14. Pine Run, for the seven month period ending January 2015, shows a positive variance of \$221,534. We are continually reminded that inpatient volumes will not be coming back but while we are seeing them we are grateful for the financial boon.

Our stroke program was recertified on January 30th with the surveyors commenting that the staff did a wonderful job. According to CEO Jim Brexler, “excellence in stroke management and care is a recognized result of coordination, communication and expertise.” You can take great pride once again in our fine clinicians and our programs of excellence.

I spoke to you about measles last month, but recently discovered that today’s young doctors have never seen any cases so they have a difficult time recognizing and diagnosing it. I have also heard that there is an increase demand for vaccinations since the outbreak. While I have no doubt that it is difficult to change how one perceives something, I hope that reason will prevail and our children will be protected.

Carolyn Della-Rodolfa

Vice President, Health Services

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Doylestown PA 18901

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March 2015

17	JLMH Committee	JLMH	10:00 AM
18	Marketing Meeting	Conf Room H	11:30 AM
24	VIA Board Meeting	Conf Room K	8:30 AM
24	Bylaws Meeting	Conf Room K	10:30 AM
26	Fundraising	Conf Room C	10:30 AM

April 2015

7	Membership Meeting	JLMA	12:00 PM
8	Welfare	Conf Room A	9:00 AM
9	Fundraising	Conf Room A	9:30 AM
14	Designer House Meeting	JLMA	10:00 AM
15	Marketing Meeting	Conf Room H	11:30 AM
21	JLMH Committee	JLMA	10:00 AM
28	VIA Board Meeting	Conf Room K	8:30 AM
28	Bylaws Meeting	Conf Room K	10:30 AM