

## April 2015

The VIA ladies of 1895 would have felt right at home attending our April 7<sup>th</sup> member meeting. In the spirit of our 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration members and visitors alike arrived wearing stunning hats both big and small, as well as gloves short and long. What a privilege to celebrate our courageous and innovative founders.

Special thanks to program coordinators Cory H. Schroeder and Joan Parlee for arranging the days' agenda. First and foremost we were honored to have our past presidents in attendance and thank them for their service and commitment to the VIA. Local dignitaries joining us were Doylestown Mayor Ron Strouse, Bucks County Commissioners Charlie Martin and Rob Loughery, Doylestown Township Supervisor Board Chair, Barbara Lyons and PA Representative, Marguerite Quinn. Congratulations and proclamations were presented to the VIA and we thank our special guests for this recognition. The high point of our day was the premier viewing of the documentary "Then, Now and Forever", a history of the VIA. Special thanks to VIA member and CB Cares Executive Director Kimberly Cambra for her vision and spear-heading this project. Spreading the word about the VIA is an honor and a privilege I enjoy as president.

This spring, among a few of the community events I attended were the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Women's History Month Award held in our own James-Lorah Auditorium. This year Maggie Groff received the award for her contributions made to our community. Another exciting event, The Gourmet Get-Away, sponsored by the Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce Women in Business group, is held every year to raise scholarship funds for women striving to improve their lives.

A proud community milestone occurred on April 8<sup>th</sup> which was proclaimed Founders Day for the new Delaware Valley University. Congratulations ye old Farm School! I have fond memories of the school from the 1950's when my father taught there. We often had student farmers at our dinner table on weekends and holidays. They've certainly come a long way. As I write this letter, I have just returned from the hospital's annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon. This uplifting event not only thanks the over 900 volunteer staff for their selfless service to our hospital but also awards student scholarships and gives special recognition to hospital staff and departments.

Our Designers and Landscapers are putting the finishing touches on their areas to ready the 40th Bucks County Designer House and Gardens for its unveiling at the April 24th Preview Gala, with opening day Sunday, April 26. Don't hesitate to sign up to lend a helping hand wherever needed. It's a wonderful opportunity to meet new people, make new friends and have fun.

For our May meeting we will be the guests of Doylestown Hospital where a luncheon at the James-Lorah Auditorium is planned. Remember there are a limited number of reservations for this meeting; be sure to get your ticket.

Happy spring to all!

*Linda McShinney*

President

May 5, 2015 – Tuesday, 11:30 am

**Hospital Luncheon: “Fragility and Fractures”**

At the James-Lorah Auditorium

**Reservations Required. Limited Seating.** To reserve your seat, contact Janet Troiano at 215.345.2347 or [jtroiano@dh.org](mailto:jtroiano@dh.org)

Program Presenter	Dr. Michelle Horn Cheryl Talamo
Program Coordinator	Barbara Botto
Meditation	Barbara Jaczun
Hospitality Captains	Clara Smith/ Pamela Good

**Program Preview**

Cory H. Schroeder

May is always a treat – it’s the Hospital Luncheon! Held at the James-Lorah Auditorium, we will be dressed for spring as the hospital caterer Sodexo provides us with a scrumptious lunch.

On the agenda will be “Fragility and Fractures”, presented by Dr. Michelle Horn and Cheryl Talamo, involving bone density testing, osteoporosis and fractures. Dr. Horn is with the Buckingham Family Medicine practice on York Rd in Buckingham. Cheryl is a Nurse Practitioner in this practice. The topic of bone density is important to all of us, especially as we age. Have YOU had your baseline test yet?

Our lunch will include an Uptown Bread Basket, a bisque soup with crème fresh and herbs. The plated entrée will be turkey breast, cranberry and apple with poached asparagus, fresh mozzarella, and balsamic tomatoes over spring mix salad greens. A choice of three dressings will be on the table.

Dessert will be lemon velvet cake w/Chantilly cream and fresh raspberries, served with coffee, tea, or brewed decaf. Iced teas, lemonade, and spring water will be served with the entrée salad.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

Event: ANNUAL JUNE LUNCHEON  
Date: June 2, 2015  
Place: Warrington Country Club  
Time: 12:00 noon  
Cost: \$35.00

**[WWW.VIA-DOYLESTOWN.ORG](http://WWW.VIA-DOYLESTOWN.ORG)**

**Veterans**

Jan Cope

Ladies, as we close out our year, I think it's nice to hear what the recipients of your generosity have to say. The VIA has received several thank you letters for this year's donations. Here are a few:

Mr. Whitey, Director of the Washington Crossing National Cemetery, wrote to say "because of your outstanding support . . . we will be able to beautify the national cemetery in accordance with national shrine standards."

Trish Shallenberger, of A Soldier's Hands, sent a thank you card and e-mail for our \$400 donation, and included a note from the group that received earlier care packages we helped pack. The airman stationed overseas said, "I would like to thank you for the gifts and love. . . . I can guarantee it will bring many people joy. . . ."

The Ride2Recovery program at the Horsham Air Guard Station was thrilled to receive your donation, and set up a special meeting with the wounded warriors, who demonstrated the custom bicycles the program provides.

Finally, two VA hospital programs wrote to thank us for books we sent to their patients. "Your thoughtfulness reflects the concern that you feel for our Veterans and for the service they provided to all of us while in service to our country."

Remember that we're still collecting *standard size* paperbacks at each VIA meeting. If you have quite a few or wish to donate during the summer, please contact me. And thank YOU for making all this possible.

**Help Wanted**

We need an assistant to help with retention of VIA records at the James-Lorah Memorial Home. This would include: financial records, historical material (minute books, newsletters, and copies of yearbooks), and storage of materials. Knowledge of historical processing & preservation would be appreciated. Please contact Carolyn Kozakowski at 215-491-3986 or email to [flashcsk@verizon.net](mailto:flashcsk@verizon.net).

## Strategic Planning Update

Cory H. Schroeder

We had our first meeting to review your input and begin our actions to develop a strategic plan for the short and long term. Many thanks to those of you who took the time to provide thoughtful input for this purpose, and special thanks to the committee who is working on this plan. I expect that we will have many great discussions. We are still in the info-gathering phase, so it will be a while before we have a plan developed. We will keep you posted as we move along.

## Les Miserables

Diana Hazzard

Don't miss this sensational musical afternoon with brilliant actors and Broadway quality! Tickets can still be purchased for \$38 balcony or \$41 orchestra seats. Make your check payable to the PA Shakespeare Festival at DeSales University campus off Route 309. We have reserved seats on **Wednesday, June 24 at 2:00pm**. Mail your check ASAP to Diana Hazzard at the VIA Office.

Lunch options include meeting us at the Copperhead Restaurant for lunch at 11:30. At the Shakespeare Cafe outside the theatre, you could bring your own picnic and bottle of cheer. You can also purchase lunch "on the green." A refreshing menu includes artisan sandwiches, salads, fresh fruit parfaits, and delectable sweets. Please confirm your plans for lunch at our May meeting.

### SHUTTLE for Membership Meeting

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

## James Lorah Memorial House

Phyllis Morris

Spring has arrived at the JLMH...finally! The bulbs have bloomed and our Spring Evening at the Theater fundraiser was held April 15<sup>th</sup>. It was a beautiful night and a great time. We are looking forward to work resuming on our home. Enjoy the warmth!

## VIA Book Club

Selection: "**The Girl on the Train**" by Paula Hawkins

When: Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00 a.m.

Where: Forest Ridge Clubhouse  
Bristol Road, Warrington

Questions: Marilyn Mele-215.343.6063

## DON'T LET THE PARADE PASS YOU BY!!

Join forces with other VIA members as we march or ride in the oldest Memorial Day Parade in the country...149 years strong! Meet at the old ER entrance at 8:15 AM Monday, May 25. We will have the Pine Run bus to take us to the staging area for the Parade kickoff at 10AM. We must be in our staging location by 8:30 AM with our bus and all convertibles riding in the Parade. It's lots of fun for all, and participants are invited back to the Legion following the Noon Ceremony for beer and refreshments.

We are looking for **more convertibles**. If you have one, please volunteer to drive.

## Marketing

Nancy Gimbol

If you or your committee is hosting an event, we can help you promote the event by posting the event to the VIA website. We can even help you design appropriate materials for distribution.

When out in the community, representing the VIA, we can provide you with the tools you need to appropriately represent the association.

If you need our help, please contact me at: [ngimbol@eastburngray.com](mailto:ngimbol@eastburngray.com).

### Treasurer's Report

Ruth Carlson

For the month ending February 28, 2015

Current Assets ytd \$ 72,161.00

Investments Long Term

Assets ytd \$275,729.00

Total Net Assets ytd \$347,891.00

Total Income ytd \$62,153.00

Total Expenses ytd \$33,802.00

Total Change in assets ytd \$25,181.00

Total change in assets ytd \$25,181.00

## **2015 Bucks County Designer House & Gardens**

Jean Upton

April has arrived, the month where we celebrate the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the VIA and the opening of the 40<sup>th</sup> Bucks County Designer House & Garden. Events begin on Friday, April 24 with the Preview Gala. Jamie Hollander Catering will present a delicious bounty of shrimp, crab claws, and oysters along with Italian specialties like braised pork and eggplant caviar. Music will be provided by the Chatterband with cocktail music until 8:30 pm, followed by dance music until 10:00 p.m. Order Gala tickets, and all Designer House event tickets, online at our website [www.BucksCountyDesignerHouse.org](http://www.BucksCountyDesignerHouse.org) or by check at the VIA office. There is still time to make your reservation and assure your spot at this premier event.

Ticket orders are being accepted for the Fashion Shows on May 7 and 8 at the Doylestown Country Club. Tickets are only \$35 and include a meal and the show featuring local area designers along with nationally known brands. Tickets are also available for the Mediterranean Culinary Event on Sunday May 3. Watch as delicious dishes are prepared before your eyes. Enjoy the wine parings and operatic interludes. Tickets for this event are \$75. And last but not least, enjoy down home food and music at the closing Blue Jean Bash on Saturday, May 30. Tickets are available for \$40 per person.

The Designer House opens for tours to the public on Sunday, April 26 – the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the VIA's first meeting. VIA members are encouraged to volunteer to staff the house. There are many shifts available including opportunities that can accommodate seating. Proceeds from the Designer House help support the mission of the VIA so please help us make the event a success by volunteering your time.

Volunteers can sign up on line at:

<http://via.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer>

or can contact the following committee chairs:

### **CAPTAIN:**

LaFaun Reed-Kahn-215. 208.5326

LaFaunR@aol.com

### **CAFÉ:**

Kat Landis- 215.340.5938

KatLandis@aol.com

### **HOST/HOSTESSES:**

Charlotte Keenan- 215. 340.1195

camkeenan@msn.com

Heidi Phillips- 215.913.8172

SPHL@verizon.net

**[WWW.VIA-DOYLESTOWN.ORG](http://WWW.VIA-DOYLESTOWN.ORG)**

To volunteer for:

### **DAY TREASURERS:**

Sandy Cotlar- 215. 348.3529

sandycotlar@comcast.net

Mary Jane Mims-215. 348.7921

mjmims@verizon.net

### **DESIGNER SALES:**

Marilyn Mele- 215-343-6063

The Designer House café is in need of bistro tables and chairs. Anyone who has a set they would like to lend, please contact Kat Landis.

We are looking forward to opening the doors of the 40<sup>th</sup> Designer House and appreciate the support and participation of all VIA members to help in making it a success.

### **Bylaws Corner**

Georgia Ford

You've been hearing for a while that term limits are being looked into by the Bylaws Committee. Women are joining the VIA on a regular basis and they are eager to get involved by participating on a committee, but frequently the committee they choose is full and cannot accept new members. We want new members to be involved because they bring fresh ideas and experience, and are the future of the VIA. But the real goal is to have all members—new and existing—have an opportunity to serve on different committees, to share their expertise and experience.

Dr. John Reiss, general counsel for Doylestown Hospital joined us at our March meeting to help us with this sometimes difficult issue, looking at any legal ramifications (there aren't any), and giving us a lot to think about when tackling how to move the discussion forward. His input led to an enlightened and interesting sharing of ideas.

If you have any suggestions about limiting the amount of time a committee member can remain on a particular committee, we would like to hear from you. Our Policies spell out the term of committee chairs; however, we have not been good stewards of this policy. We need to do a better job of holding true to our policies.

Newsletter Staff: Marie Johnston, Editor

Joy Anderson

Phyllis Morris

Karen Simon

Barb Thompson

Betty Trossett

For some reason the old movie title BACK TO THE FUTURE, keeps popping into my mind. I suspect it's because Dr. Levy reminded us at the March Hospital Board meeting about our health care many years ago. Those were the days when our care was the provenance of the family doctor. He was the health care provider who cared for us from birth to death. He saw us through all the childhood diseases and puberty. He was the one who knew us totally and based his care decisions on that knowledge. Then medical care became more specialized and consequently, more fragmented. This led to redundancy, waste and unnecessary expense. Now we focus back to a shift on population and patient management. A term you will be hearing more of is "clinical integration network". There will be obvious benefits to the patient who should have improved health as well as better patient experience. We are fortunate that Doylestown Health has had years of building on this network and we are ahead of many in the field.

Dr. Levy addressed patient satisfaction scores regarding physician communication. This is an area where there is not particular strength. Jefferson Medical School is taking this seriously enough that they are changing their admission process to emphasize communication and interpersonal skills.

Moving on to patient safety, we have found that a patient grievance has to do with not knowing who their doctor is because they see quite a few during their stay. It was suggested that perhaps a hospital directory and a picture of the doctor on the hospital information channel might help.

Matt Costello reported on the Surgery Center reminding us that it is licensed as an Ambulatory Surgical Facility and is 100% owned by the Hospital. As a result it must report to the hospital Board. The Surgery Center has high quality and high patient satisfaction scores, with a positive financial margin. The latest Department of Health surveys have had zero deficiencies. Orthopedics is trending upwards due to the hiring of a new hand specialist.

The finances for February were strong with the eight months ending February 28<sup>th</sup> showing an excess of revenue over expenses of \$7.7M which is 66% above budget and a \$3M improvement over last year. This gain from operations is due mainly to net patient revenue with strong growth in both Obstetrics and Pediatrics. Year to date inpatient discharges are 5% over budget and 6% over FY14.

The following doctors were approved for membership status:

Jeffrey Reich, M.D. Dept of surgery/urology  
Valeria Serban, M.D. Dept of medicine/Neurology  
Michael Kimzey, D.O. Coverage/ Infectious Disease

Also approved were the reappointments for April 2015

Joint Commission was in for accreditations and we did very well with no deficiencies for the Stroke Program and only a minor deficiency in the Congestive Heart Failure program. A surprise assessment from the Dept. of Health for Home Health/Hospice showed an excellent result.

An interesting piece has been showing up with Telehealth. That allows for health care providers to connect with patients virtually across a great distance. They can perform high tech monitoring without patients leaving home; it's less expensive and more convenient.

The meeting was ended with a resolution concerning serving alcohol at various Hospital sponsored events. Needless to say, that passed unanimously, so let the party begin.

*Carolyn Della-Rodolfa*  
Vice President, Health Services

## April 2015

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

## May 2015

5	Membership Meeting	JLMA	11:30 AM
13	Welfare	Conf Room A	9:00 AM
14	Fundraising	Conf Room A	9:30 AM
19	JLMH Committee	Conf Room A	11:30 AM
20	Marketing Meeting	JLMA	10:00 AM
26	VIA Board Meeting	Conf Room K	8:30 AM
26	Bylaws Meeting	Conf Room K	10:30 AM