

## SEPTEMBER 2015

As we reflect back on the VIA's 120th Anniversary year, we see that Doylestown Hospital has now become Doylestown Health. This new name more accurately reflects the true strength and depth of our Doylestown Health network, namely the Hospital, the Pine Run Retirement Community, Pine Run Lakeview, The Health and Wellness Center at Warrington, the Richard A. Reif Heart Institute, the Cancer Institute, the Orthopedic Institute, the VIA Maternity Center and our new Della Penna Pediatric Center. And the list goes on. I'm convinced the fourteen founding ladies of the VIA would stand in awe if they could see how their Emergency Hospital at Pine and Oakland Streets has grown into this impressive Health System.

The VIA will be participating in the Doylestown Arts Festival on the weekend of September 12th and 13th, labeled as Bucks County's biggest weekend. One highlight of the weekend is Sunday's Pro-Women's Bike Race, sponsored again this year by Doylestown Health. Don't miss the excitement this race generates.

Our 2016 Designer House Chair, Joy Levy is actively pursuing a wonderful home. All VIA members are invited to join the Designer House Committee where you'll enjoy working with many wonderful women. Don't miss Joy's message inside.

Congratulations to Jean Upton and her committee for completing the final year of our five year \$1 million pledge to the VIA Maternity Center.

Our New Member coffee will be on September 29th at the JLMH. Those in attendance will view our new documentary. Special thanks to fellow VIA member and CB Cares Director, Kimberly Cambra for spearheading the creation of this inspiring production. Thank you also to all who contributed to this project.

Enjoy reading the many informative articles inside this month's newsletter. I look forward to seeing everyone at our October 6th Member meeting at the James-Lorah Auditorium.

*Linda McElhinney*

President

**Tuesday, October 6, 2015  
11:30 a.m.**

**“RE/DISCOVER DOYLESTOWN”**

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*Cory H. Schroeder, Program Chairman*

Presenter: Jennifer Jarrett  
Program Coordinator: Jeanne Sandusky  
Hospitality Captains: Mary Lou Gehring & Gerry Hinkle  
Meditation: Joanne McDonald

**Program Preview**

Our October program will showcase the interesting architecture of Doylestown, presented by Jennifer Jarret. She will ‘walk’ us through our beloved town and describe the buildings, their history, and their quirks. Learn more before or after at [www.jenniferjarret.com](http://www.jenniferjarret.com).

Her company, **Jarret Preservation and Design**, was started to combine an innovative, thoughtful design approach with attention to the historic foundations of the built environment. Says Jennifer, “Historic materials aren’t good because they’re old; they’re old because they’re good!”

**Shuttle Bus**

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Shuttle service from the parking garage to the JLMA will be available from 11:30 - 12:00 noon. **Meet at the Broad Street Entrance, Level 2.** The driver will make ONE trip from the JLMA to the garage after the meeting.

**Newsletter Staff:**

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

**Newcomers: Meet me at the Stage!**

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*Cory H. Schroeder*

If you are a new or relatively new member and would like to learn more about the VIA, join me at the corner of the JLMH stage beginning at 11:30AM before the Member meetings. Ask questions, learn more about committees. Committee chairs or vice-chairs are welcome too.

Welcome back for another year of service with the Village Improvement Association of Doylestown. Don't hesitate to join one of our many committees and join in helping us as we continue to make a difference in our community.

**Eat -In or Out & Raise 20% for the VIA**

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*Cory H. Schroeder*

**“Doughraiser at UNOs”**

Route 611, Warrington  
Thursday, October 22, 2015

Tell your friends! Order lunch for the office or take-out for home! Stop by for Happy Hour, Dinner or both! All food and beverages (including alcohol) qualify us for 20% of the proceeds to benefit the VIA! Look for the coupon or mention the VIA so that we receive all your support!

**Treasurer’s Report**

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*Ruth Carlson*

Month ending August 2015

<b>Current assets year to date</b>	\$67,595
Investments long term assets year to date:	\$273,744
Total Long Assets year to date	\$341,330
Total income year to date	\$22,963
Total expenses year to date	\$2,636
Total change in assets year to date	\$17,607

## **2016 Bucks County Designer House & Gardens**

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*Joy Levy*

The 41st Bucks County Designer House & Gardens is starting! The search continues for a venue for the VIA's largest fundraising event. Though many properties would be good – or even great – to date we lack an interested homeowner. Keep your eyes and ears open for potential properties and *please* send me the information. Our committee is shaping up and I think we will have a great group of well-seasoned veterans and several new comers; getting to know everyone is the best part of this effort. I'm excited to work with this great committee and grateful for all the time and effort you will invest over the next several months. **We still have a few vacancies for committee chair and co-chair positions as well as committee members and volunteers. So don't hold back and step on up!** Contact Joy at [joylevy@yahoo.com](mailto:joylevy@yahoo.com) or 908-883-0386).

## **Membership Committee**

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*Lee Scheeler*

The Membership Committee would like to invite anyone who has joined the VIA since Sept of 2014 to a new member orientation meeting on Sept 29, 2015 at the James-Lorah Auditorium at 10:30 am. This meeting is also open to any potential new members. If you would like to attend please contact Lee Scheeler at 215-348-4466 or [lee5maple@verizon.net](mailto:lee5maple@verizon.net).

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

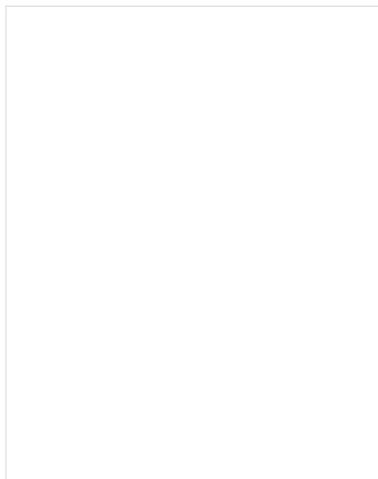
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*Jean Upton*

The 2015 Designer House at Villa d'Braccia was a wonderful success thanks to the generosity of our community, our loyal guests, the support of the hospital administration and associates, and the dedication of the 2015 Designer House Committee along with the many VIA members who volunteered at the house during the month of May.

Each year, proceeds from the 2015 Designer House are used to continue the longstanding VIA tradition of fundraising to support Doylestown Hospital. For the past five years, these funds have been designated towards our \$1MM pledge to the VIA Maternity Center at Doylestown Hospital. In addition, Designer House funds go to support the VIA mission through financial support of the James Lorah Memorial House, Women's Scholarship, Welfare and Community Outreach committees.

**Members of the 2015 committee are invited to attend the allocation meeting on September 17 in Conference Room J at the hospital.** Gathering time is at 9:30 am and the meeting will start at 10:00am. I am looking forward to seeing you there.



## **Pediatric Library**

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*Grace McGinniss*

This August the committee presented 32 books oriented to various age groups to the new Director of Emergency Services, Mary Whelan. Hopefully the gift of a book to each patient will bring a smile to their faces.

The Pediatric Library Committee also presented six XBOX 360 game cassettes to Kathy Donahue, LDRP Nursing Director for the Carol & Louis Della Penna Pediatric Center. The various computer games will give enjoyment to the hospitalized children.

Both projects were accomplished under budget.

## **James Lorah Memorial House**

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*Phyllis Morris*

The summer was very busy at the James-Lorah Memorial Home. Repairs and restoration continued during June, July and August. We now have a new emergency lighting system in the auditorium. The back porch is being restored and we had repairs done to the roof and front steps. Our home is looking fabulous!

The History/Archives subcommittee has been working on the preservation of JLMH and VIA documents. We thank them for this important work.

Our first meeting for this calendar year will be September 15th at 10am in the JLMH auditorium. We will begin planning our holiday open house which will be December 5th. Save the date for family and friends. More information will follow this fall.

Anyone interested in more information about our committee please contact Phyllis Morris, Chairman. Our dedicated committee is looking forward to another exciting year.

## **Veterans Committee**

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*Jan Cope*

Ladies, Marianne Chabot sent this message to our committee members last month and agreed to share it with you: "*Yesterday I was at Doylestown hospital and while waiting for the elevator observed a touching moment. A young mother stood with her son who looked to be 12 or 13 years old. She took one of the veterans cards from the holder and read it to him. As she reached to put it back, he placed his hand on her arm to stop her. He then stood at attention and saluted before they quietly walked away.*"

Our VIA Get Well cards are a very simple, little thing. They thank the veterans, wish them well, and tell a little about the VIA and the hospital's history. The 1500 cards we initially bought cost less than \$100. But the impact far exceeds that. And YOU made this happen.

We are also continuing our shipments of books for service members and will continue to collect standard size paperbacks for future mailings. But we'd like to do a special October shipment of children's books to an overseas unit. The service members will then have something to read to/with their children on Facetime or Skype. If you donate, please keep our mailing requirements in mind and donate only small books!

Remember: we're always open to new members. Our next Committee meeting is Thursday, October 15, 1:00 pm, at the JLMH.

## September 2015

Good news! We have a Vice President of Development. Her name is Laura Wortman and she comes to us with an impressive background in the development world. Her most recent experience was with University of Maryland Medical System and before that with Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Most importantly, she has the right personality to fit our culture. We are hoping to expand the Foundation's development potential, and I believe Laura will be the right person at the right time.

Fifty years ago, President Johnson signed into law the bill establishing Medicare and Medicaid as the law of the land. Medicare has certainly made a difference in the health of our seniors, and Medicaid has transformed the care our poor and disabled have received. That care comes at a cost and today we spend \$1 trillion (nearly 5% of the economy) on both. That cost continues to grow and is projected to double in the next 50 years. Steps must be taken to make the programs more sustainable. That is where the idea of value based care comes in. With higher quality, less waste, and more cost effective care, it is hoped that the system will be more sustainable for the future.

In Patient Safety, Dr. Komasz reported on the Pediatric Center. Volume has been very steady with most admissions coming through the Emergency Department. The average age is up and the average length of stay is about two days. Callbacks are done by the Hospitalist within 48 hours of discharge. Patient/family satisfaction has been consistent with positive results. Overall satisfaction has been 98.3%

There were two sad losses to our hospital family in August. One was Seamus Cummins, a night administrative coordinator for the last 15 years. He was very much loved and will be missed by many. The memorial service for him in J was very touching and very crowded with the many people who loved him.

Just a week later we lost Doctor Frank Welsch who was with the hospital since the 1970's. Frank was much loved and respected by patients and colleagues alike. I heard it said a few times that he was never heard to say a harsh word to a nurse. A true gentle man and a gentleman. He will be missed by many.

Hospital and Health Networks magazine presented its annual "Stars of the Field." They were careful to point out that in a time when we are too quick with the kudos these efforts are truly worthy of high praise. I was pleased to see that HAP (Hospital & Health System Association of Pennsylvania) was recognized with an honorable mention for quality and patient safety. Hap's Pennsylvania Hospital Engagement Network (PA-HEN) through a three year partnership with Medicare and Medicaid saw a 37 % reduction in all cause harm and a 26% reduction in all cause readmissions. Our own Claire Edelmayer is very active with HEN and I know she brought her expertise from our infection prevention program with her to HEN.

*Carolyn Della-Rodolfa*

Vice President, Health Services

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**595 W. State Street**  
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**September 2015**

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29	VIA Board Meeting	JLMH	8:30 am
29	New Member Coffee	JLMA	10:30 am
29	Bylaws Committee	DH Conf. G	1:00 pm
30	Strategic Planning	VIA Office	9-11 am

**October 2015**

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1	VIA Board Retreat	Location TBD	8:00 am
5	VIA Finance Committee	DH Conf G	8:30 am
6	VIA Membership	JLMA	12:00 pm
8	Fundraising Committee	DH Conf A	9:30 am
13	Bucks County Designer House	JLMA	9:30 am
14	Welfare Coffee	JLMA	8:00 am
14	Strategic Planning	VIA Office	9 - 11 am
20	JLMH Committee	JLMH	10:00 am
21	Marketing	DH Conf H	11:30 am
22	Hospital Board	DH Conf K	8:00 am
22	VIA Fundraiser - Uno's, Warrington	Uno's Warrington	All Day
27	VIA Board	DH Conf K	8:30 am
27	Bylaws Committee	Following Board Mtg	
28	Strategic Planning	VIA Office	9-11 am

**Please refer to our website ([www.VIA-Doylestown.org](http://www.VIA-Doylestown.org)) for additional events!**

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