

VIM VOICE

October 2018



<u>Patients Seen in Sept.</u>	
Bluffton	145
Ridgeland	52



Notes from Pam

Thanks to all the volunteers who attended our 5th Annual Volunteer Meeting. Highlights included presentations by Barbara Talley from DHEC who spoke on the Best Chance Network (BCN); a women’s health initiative tied to early detection of breast cancer and health education; Thomas Perkins from NAMI who told of his mental health issues and the importance treating those with mental health problems; and Yajaira Benet Uzcategui from PASOs who works with our Latino Community. Year service pins were presented to volunteers Donna Rhodes, Gail Temple and Deb Hicks were given 5-year service pins. Volunteer of the Year awards were presented to Deb Hicks for her continued management of the BCN program, Gail Temple for her services to our GYN department and community outreach, Jessica Saucedo as a translator and her help in the administrative department, and Nancy Harris for her help with grants and her willingness to work in any administrative area of the clinic.



Mark your calendar for next year’s meeting on Friday, September 20, 2019.

Pampered Chef

Many of us had the opportunity to purchase items from the Pampered Chef Fundraiser. Cindy Sample, a Pampered Chef representative, held this event at the annual volunteer meeting, posted information our website and also on Facebook. Thanks to those who participated; all proceeds will go toward our dental program.

New Office Ribbon Cutting

On Friday, September 28th members of the community joined Board members, staff, volunteers and patients to dedicate our new home! The Hilton Head/Bluffton Chamber of Commerce acted as master of ceremonies first speaking about the history of our clinic. They then introduced Mayor Sulka who spoke about the importance of the clinic to the community. George David, BJVIM Board Chair, thanked the Community Foundation of the Low Country for their generous gift of \$120,000 and then introduced Denise Spencer, Executive Director of the Community Foundation. Rev. Renty Kitty offered a prayer as we dedicated the building and invited over 70 people to tour our new home. Kevin Smith, VP of Grants at the Community Foundation left us with these thoughts; “All I can say is Wow! It is an amazing place. I am so pleased that you and your volunteers have such a lovely new home in which to do your work. Congratulations”



VIM VOICE



Long Cove Charitable Foundation Grant

Thanks to the Long Cove Charitable Foundation who recently gave us a \$2,800 grant. This money will be used to purchase a tablet and software system to track patient satisfaction and ER visits. This information is needed for reports to national funders when applying for grants. Presently we record this information in paper form and then calculate the results, which is very time consuming. Thank you, Long Cove Charitable Foundation!!

In House Accounting

We are now handling our accounting in house with the help of board member Deborah Burt. Pam is taking online training to make this transition possible...you *can* teach old dogs new tricks! ☺



We continue to update our Facebook account. Please like us and pass the BJVIM information along to your friends. Search for Bluffton Jasper County Volunteers in Medicine in Facebook.

Bourbon & Bubbly

Our Bourbon & Bubbly gala fundraiser chair Lynn Blahuta is in need of volunteers to help set up the event on the morning of November 3rd. Many helped with the set up last year and had a lot of fun! Also we need help in monitoring the silent auction tables and help attendees fill out the "Fund -a-Need" papers. Please let Hannah know if you are interested in helping out!

Hannah also has information on event tickets. Tickets are \$150.00 and include an oyster roast, open bar and 5-course dinner. A table for eight can be purchased for \$1,000.



VIM VOICE

November & December 2018



Patients Seen in Oct.

Bluffton 379

Ridgeland 75



Notes from Pam

Before you know it, the holidays will be upon us. This newsletter is late for the 1st of November and early for the 1st of December, so this issue will be a combination! We seem to get busier and busier each month! Thanks to help from our wonderful volunteers, the clinic keeps movin' on! Our 16 departments, each with their own expertise, keeps us in fine tune. I am hopeful all computers are now working, Excel has been installed in the new ones and the tablet in Ridgeland is functioning! A lot continues to happen since our grand opening in September and hopefully this issue will recap some of those events.

Chippin' In for BJVIM was another successful golf event thanks to the hard work and dedication of Susann Keil and Linda David. With 90 plus golfers and great weather, the October event proved once again that we have wonderful supporters who love to play golf!



Lots of happenings in Ridgeland recently. On Saturday, October 6th the *Smile Mobile* parked outside the clinic seeing eight of our patients for dental care. Thanks to a collaborative effort on the part of Access Health, Beaufort Jasper Hampton Comp. Health, Beaufort Rotary and BJVIM, the van visits our Ridgeland clinic quarterly. Then the following Saturday with the help once again of Access Health and the Health Department, we joined forces to bring a health fair to Ridgeland. Special Thanks to Gail Temple who manned our booth and gave away breast cancer and diabetic health information. With the help of Lois Hadinger and the Ridgeland administrative volunteers, Dr. Stokoe can run a full day clinic on Mondays. Dr. Peter Frank will soon be joining the Ridgeland staff seeing patients on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. Dr. Keil sees cardiac patients on the third Wednesday of each month and Dr. Kondor, our ophthalmologist, sees patients on the second Thursday of the month! AND we must not forget that Med -I- Assists is in the clinic every Tuesday morning to assist with coupons for medications and eye exams, plus we have the Pregnancy Van parked in the parking lot!

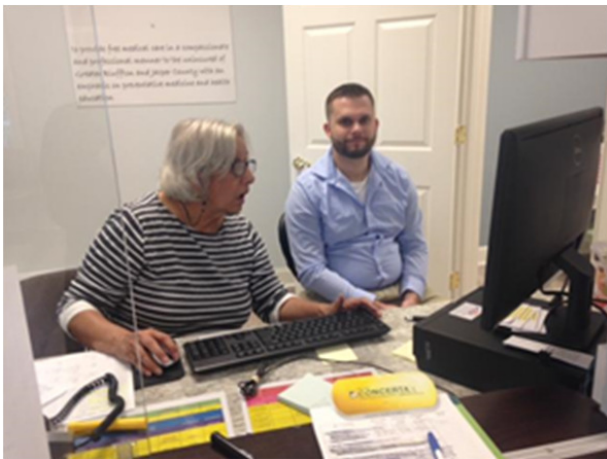


VIM VOICE



THE HOSPITAL AUXILIARY HILTON HEAD REGIONAL HEALTHCARE

We are most thankful to the Hilton Head and Coastal Carolina Hospital Auxiliary for their grant of \$9,000.00 to be used for medical supplies. We have been able to purchase additional diabetic testing strips, vaccines and medicines not supplied through the Dispensary of Hope.



Coming Soon

After postponing our regularly scheduled Volunteer Meeting due to weather alerts, we gathered a group of six for a meeting on October 18th. All in attendance completed their applications and are in the process of finishing their HIPAA tutorial and being trained. We will welcome them to the



Thanks to Peggy!

Words cannot express our thanks to Peggy Pantano for all her hard work as volunteer coordinator. Peggy has contributed countless hours to organizing volunteer recruitment. Under her guidance we have monthly notices in the paper for orientation meetings, an amazing front desk manual and organized files. And these are just a few of her accomplishments. Along with her volunteer duties, Peggy also maintains a regular front desk shift and trains new volunteers! We will miss Peggy's expertise and guidance, but she is not leaving us altogether and has promised to help new volunteer coordinator Shelly Martin in the transition! We will still see Peggy around, as she continues to volunteer with us!



Hope you have been watching the news.

Thanks to a contact made through board member Dot Jeger, BJVM has been on HHI news twice, CBS Savannah TV, *104.9 radio and had numerous newspaper articles written. It is also rumored that we have a piece in the Bluffton Breeze magazine. The community is eager to learn of all the wonderful things our volunteers do for the community. Thank you, Thank you!!

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New Equipment!

You may have seen a new piece of equipment at the clinic. In collaboration with MUSC we now have a new laser machine that will detect early eye disease in our diabetic patients. This machine eliminates the need to dilate the eye for exams. Ruth Spinello will take the lead in doing exams but we will be training others in the near future. In continuing to believe in collaboration, BJVIM will work with Good Neighbor Free Clinic on Lady's Island and Hilton Head VIM to screen diabetic patients. We hope to begin the program in early December.



Palmetto Bluff Health Fair

Hannah participated in the annual Palmetto Bluff Health Fair last week. Information was given out to attendees about programs offered at the clinic. We also had a display of health education brochures and baskets of apples! Thanks, Hannah, for helping to spread our mission!

Bourbon & Bubbly

Supporting our LowCountry heritage, we held our Second Annual Bourbon & Bubbly fundraising gala on November 3rd complete with an oyster roast, steel drums, Gullah choir and delicious food prepared by local chefs. The early part of the day was warm but even though the evening got cool a fun time was had by those in attendance. A very special thank you goes out to event chairman Lynn Blahuta for all her hard work in organizing this huge event! Lynn added a new twist this year with an online auction which took hours to prepare and raised over \$6,500.00!

On the day of the event 14 BJVIM volunteers joined Lynn in setting the tables and adding decorations, in addition many returned to help with the evening activities. We are so very fortunate to have people like Lynn and our volunteers who are willing to insure our clinic's sustainability.

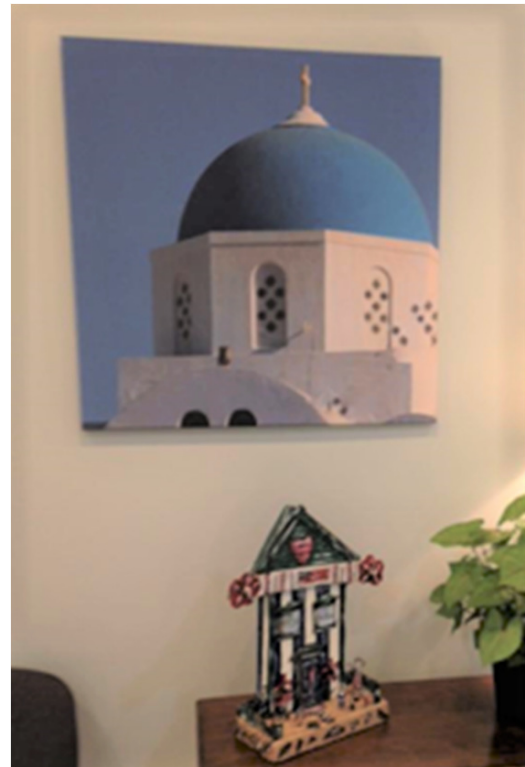


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Art in the Clinic:

We are so very fortunate to have many wonderful volunteers who not only share their time but also their talents with us. One such volunteer is nurse Lynn Weisman whose photography work you see on the walls throughout the clinic! Lynn is never very far from her camera when she and her husband travel. Lynn's portfolio ranges from pictures of the LowCountry to pictures taken worldwide. Lynn then has these pictures mounted on canvas and has so kindly donated over 20 pieces to BJVIM. Patients and volunteers alike have commented on how these beautiful pictures enhance the clinic! Thank you, Lynn.



Happy Holidays! As you travel this holiday season please be safe! As I mentioned in our annual meeting, for over 7 years our community has watched the work of our volunteers and hoped that we would succeed. It is through the oversight of our active and strong Board of Directors, combined with the efforts of all of our volunteers that BJVIM continues to be strong. I truly HOPE you know that the success of BJVIM is due to each and every one of YOU and I thank you!!!