

# VIM VOICE



## NOTES



### Fall is upon us!

With cooler temperatures and a little less tourist traffic we know that Fall Events are just around the corner. The clinic gets very busy this time of year with returning volunteers, recertification of medical staff, distribution of flu vaccines, new patient applications, mid- year grant reports and new grant applications! Halloween, Thanksgiving, and the anticipation of the Christmas Season add to the Fall pressures. Please take some time

to rest, rejuvenate and reflect on the import part you play in the daily service of BJVIM. None of the work that takes place at both clinics could not be done without you! Please always

remember your gifts of time and talents make a difference in the lives of so many.

- Pam



**HAPPY HALLOWEEN**

October 2023

### Volunteer Recruitment

As always, we continue to look for volunteers. Recently Gail and Donna helped us at recruitment fairs in Margaritaville and Hampton Hall. Now we will wait to see if those who stopped by our booth will become part of the BJVIM Family. Colleton River recently invited us to tell their donors about how we use their generous donations. In 2023 their funds helped pay for special orthopedic supplies for patients. An unexpected donation from Colleton River allowed us to purchase a prosthesis for a patient who lost his lower leg.



### Save the Date!

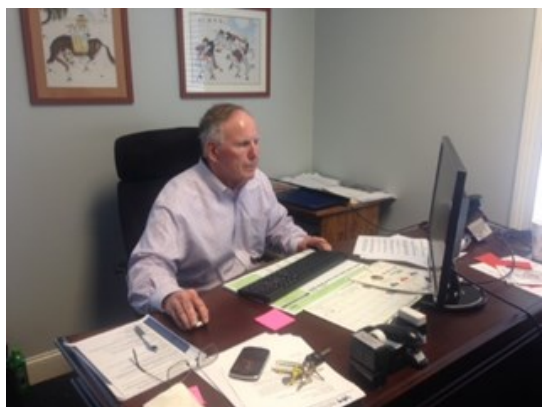
**Thursday, December 7 is our annual volunteer meeting.** Join us at Downtown Deli (1223 May River Rd. Bluffton) to learn about all the new programs offered at BJVIM and the Volunteer of the

### Saturday Meeting

Special thanks to Linda Wolff from the dental department who made a presentation to the Women's Club of Low Country Methodist Church.



## Dennis is Retiring



At the end of October Dennis will be retiring after being the Development Director for the past five years. In the early days of the clinic, you will remember the development department was staffed by hard-working volunteers. As the clinic grew with additional services and patients it was apparent that we needed a dedicated staff member to help us raise funds. We wrote a grant to the Community Foundation and received funds to expand the Resource Development Department which included hiring staff and expanding the donor management program. Dennis has raised over 4 million dollars since joining our team, which included \$350,000.00 for the dental clinic and \$500,000.00 for the Ridgeland Clinic. Added to his workload was the unusual circumstance that he had to work with his wife! The Community Foundation was very skeptical of this arrangement and so Dennis reported to the Board of Directors. We cannot thank Dennis enough for his hard work and dedication to our mission. Raising funds is a hard job, filled with lots of challenges and some setbacks especially when you write a grant that is not approved, but Dennis has done a remarkable job in all phases of resource development, and we thank him so much. Happy retirement Dennis!

**Please drop in for lunch on Thursday, November 2 from 12-1pm to thank him for his dedication to BJVIM.**

## Ridgeland Clinic Updates

September was an exciting time in the development of BJVIM!! After almost a year of looking for a new location for the Ridgeland Clinic the board negotiated the purchase of the building that houses the BJVIM clinic!! A huge thank you to Dennis who worked with a donor in securing \$245,000.00 which was used as the downpayment for the building. Dennis also secured a grant from the SC Physicians Cares Charity for \$50,000 to go toward the building principal. These contributions allowed us to have a manageable monthly mortgage payment. In addition, the Beacon of Hope Child Development Center will pay rent for the two units they currently occupy. We will be expanding the clinic into the fourth unit of the building sometime in the New Year. We are currently working with Court/Atkins on the design. Be on the lookout for updates!



## Dental Program

Our dental Program is expanding to include providing dentures for our patients. For this new venture they will need a small lab. The current bathroom next to the dental clinic will be remodeled into a lab and storage area in January. Watch out for the completion of this new project in January!



The patient in this picture received his new dentures and was so excited with his new look. Not only was he pleased but was overheard saying his employer would be so happy with his new look!

## Welcome Andrew!



On October 2, Andrew Kriner joined our staff as the new Resource Development Director. Andrew comes to us with a varied background which includes work in event management and marketing, data base software, leadership, budgeting, and board relations. He has a bachelor's degree in business from Seton Hall

and a Juris Doctorate from the University of South Carolina. Andrew has been working with Dennis in learning our donor management system and in the few short weeks he has been with us he has written two grants, found new grants to apply for and is developing the annual appeal letter. He will also be helping to make a presentation to the Community Foundation of the Lowcountry for funds to purchase a sonogram machine for echocardiograms. Andrew, his wife Allyssa, and daughter Mia moved to the Lowcountry about two years ago. We are so very fortunate to have Andrew with us. Please welcome him into our BJVIM Family!

## New Scrubs

Hope you have noticed the blue scrubs that many of our nurses are wearing. These scrubs are monogrammed with our BJVIM logo. BJVIM will pay for a full set of scrubs (blouse and pants) for our nurses and dental staff. If any doctors would like a monogrammed white jacket, please let me know. Grant funds once again have allowed us to offer these scrubs to our staff and volunteers!



## Farewell Lee

Dear BJVIM staff and volunteers,

It is with a heavy heart that I have resigned my position of office manager at BJVIM.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working with everyone at BJVIM for the past three years. I have spent quite some time considering my decision to retire as I will very much miss working with such a wonderful team.

It is very unfortunate that my ill health presented and accelerated so quickly. I received a cancer diagnosis just days before I was due to fly to England. On the advice of my surgeon, the trip was cancelled and surgery scheduled, leaving no time to properly prepare for vacating my position. I'm recovering very well from abdominal surgery but I no longer have the energy needed to continue in my role. I hope that a fabulous new office manager can be appointed as soon as possible, and health permitting, I'll make myself available to help with transitioning and onboarding.

I am most grateful for everyone's support, prayers and words of encouragement, that have helped me feel truly blessed.

With all my very best wishes.

Lee McSavaney



**Happy Birthday** to all our Fall birthday Volunteers!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



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