



VIM VOICE



**Greater Bluffton
Jasper County**
VOLUNTEERS IN MEDICINE

**September
2026**



Note from our Executive Director:

A few weeks ago, I was invited to attend the **Community Outreach Symposium**, sponsored by the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) in Charleston. What I didn't realize was that I was arriving right in the middle of **move-in day at the College of Charleston!** It took over an hour to park, followed by a long wait to check into the hotel and finally catch an elevator to my room. There were people everywhere! After struggling to find a place to eat, it finally dawned on me why Charleston was so busy—students were returning "home" for another school year.

That experience reminded me that summer is coming to an end, and just as the students are returning to Charleston, many of our **"snowbird" volunteers will soon be returning to the Lowcountry and to BJVM!**

Welcome back! We have missed our doctors, nurses, administrative volunteers, and all those who spend part of the year away from us. We hope you had a wonderful summer and are ready to reconnect with friends, learn about some of our new clinic programs, and resume the important roles you play at BJVM.

We're so glad to have you back and look forward to another great season together!

—Pam

Brunch



Please join us for Brunch Drop In from 12-2 on Friday September 18 at Pam's house as we say goodbye to Sandy, our very special friend and pharmacist. Parking is a bit limited so carpool if possible. Please RSVP by signing the sheet on the bulletin board as you will need a gate pass. Please RSVP by September 11th.

175 White Oaks Circle, golf side of Rose Hill

CELEBRATING TEN YEARS OF CARE IN JASPER COUNTY



**OYSTER ROAST
LOWCOUNTRY BOIL
BRISKET & FIXINS'
BEER & WINE**

We will be hosting a special fundraising event to celebrate and benefit our **Ridgeland Clinic**.

Guests will enjoy:

- Fresh oysters and delicious BBQ catered by **Smokin' Valley Chef**
- Beer and wine served by **Lowcountry Taps**
- Live music
- A raffle featuring a fun weekend getaway to Charleston
- Opportunities to purchase beautiful gift baskets and premium bourbon

Event information:

Date: October 22

Time: 6:00 pm — 9:00 pm

Location: Lakeside at Blue Heron
(153 James Taylor Drive, Ridgeland)

Ways the team can pitch in to make this a memorable evening:

- Buy tickets (see Stephanie).
They are only \$75 each!!!
or
- Volunteer (see Barb) for the evening
or
- Purchase and sell raffle tickets (see Stephanie)

Thank you for helping us make this a memorable evening while supporting the important work of our Ridgeland Clinic!

MUSC Community Outreach Symposium—From Pam

BJVIM was invited to attend the MUSC Community Outreach Symposium. As we continue to grow our relationship with MUSC I am excited to learn we will be invited to more programs sponsored by the university. Currently we participate in MUSC's OPTOS diabetic retina telemedicine program, a pilot mental health program, and soon to begin a remote program to monitor patient blood pressure. We now have access to enter their patient record portal to receive reports on BJVIM patients who utilize their services. While attending the symposium I brought back information for Kim on patient care opportunities, outreach services that will aid Maribel in helping patients navigate their MUSC appointments and information that will help Stephanie with grant applications. I hope I will receive information a little sooner on next year's event so that a group of us may participate in this worthwhile symposium.

Welcome new volunteers!!!

Dr. Benner	Diana	Violet	Teresa	Lorna
Ophthalmologist in Ridgeland	Nurse in Bluffton	Admin in Ridgeland	Admin in Bluffton	Admin in Bluffton

August Lunch & Learn

Special thanks to **Nancy McInroy from the Novant Foundation** for sharing the impact the NOVANT Hospital system has on our community and their plans for the future at the August Lunch & Learn. *Please let Barb know if you have an idea or know someone who would like to speak at a Lunch & Learn session.* Look out for future programs. All are welcome to sign up and attend.

Clinic Director

As the clinic grows so do the responsibilities of staff members. Dr. Casey now oversees the medical care of two clinics, Kim not only manages nurses at the Bluffton clinic but coordinates with nursing programs in Ridgeland and the office manager's job has greatly expanded. Building on the hard work of Lee McSalveny, and working with our admin volunteers, Barb has strengthened the patient intake program and the annual patient renewals. She has ensured that we meet a quality assurance objective to hold quarterly admin meetings. She is now working with our Community Health Program to coordinate programs for those patients aging out of our clinic. Barb trains new volunteers and is working with Sara (in Ridgeland) and Raquel to better handle patient schedules and incoming and outgoing reports. In addition to these duties, she is also assisting with some QuickBooks financial programs and planning the monthly Lunch & Learn programs. As you can see this job has morphed into much more than we had ever envisioned. In collaboration with staff and volunteers, Barb does direct the daily activities of the clinic and will now hold the title of our Clinic Manager. Thank you, Barb, for making BJVIM even better than ever!

Italian Heritage Festival—Saturday, October 17, 2026

You can buy your tickets here at BJVIM from Joe or Barb. When you purchase your \$8 tickets through us, **\$4 from every ticket sold will be donated to BJVIM**, in addition to the club's generous **\$250 donation**.

Thank you for supporting this wonderful event and BJVIM!



September

September is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. In an effort to raise awareness among our team and patients, Maribel is asking all non-clinical staff to wear **light blue**, the color representing prostate cancer awareness, during the week of **September 14th through September 18th**, if possible.

Thank you for helping us show our support and bring awareness to this important cause!

Other September facts :

- ◆ BJVIM will be closed on September 7th in observance of Labor Day
- ◆ The name comes from septem, the Latin word for "seven" because it was the 7th month in the early Roman calendar
- ◆ The ancient Romans dedicated the month to Vulcan, the God of fire

