

View from the Porch

News from Friends Home in Kennett

Summer 2007



Photography on the Porch

On July 6th Friends Home in Kennett held a Photography Show, which coincided with Kennett Square's First Friday Art Stroll. An estimated 300 guests browsed their way across our wrap-around porch to view our residents' original photography.

Many of the Home's residents participated in a special project offered by the Home's Activities Program. Chris Barber, editor of the Kennett Paper, brought the idea to Patrice Bradour, Activities Director in March. Informal classes began in May, and were open to all residents and staff of the Home. Chris patiently taught photography basics, and encouraged everyone to try taking pictures without fear of making mistakes. "This is for fun. I want you to enjoy it," she said during one of the sessions.

Residents took pictures of various subjects: scenes around the Home, friends and family members, nature settings, and historic sites. After all photographs were developed, residents gathered and, with help from Chris and Friends Home staff members, chose their favorites. Those photos were enlarged, matted and framed for the Photography Show. Following the Show, residents got to keep their framed photos.

In addition to offering informal classes, Chris also approached a group in the community, asking for their support of the project. Her presentation to the group

outlined the project's needed supplies and costs, which were estimated at \$500 to \$600. The generous group, which asked to remain anonymous, responded with over \$1,100 in donations. These gifts provided one-use cameras for all residents, photo developing, framing supplies, and materials for display boards.

This project gave our residents a unique opportunity to learn more about photography, to get to know each other better, and to share their original photography with their families and the greater community. We are grateful to Chris Barber and her daughter, Alice Barber for bringing this creative idea to us.



An estimated 300 guests viewed the 75 resident photographs on the Friends Home porch

Welcome

Linden Hall's New Administrator



Terry (r) visiting with resident Anita Bahtle

In May, Friends Home in Kennett welcomed Terry O'Connell, NHA. Terry earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Millersville University in 1989 and entered the elder care field in 1995. Working in several different facilities, she has held a variety of positions, including Social Services Director, Admissions Director, Alzheimer's Unit Director, and Assistant Administrator. Terry was first licensed as a Nursing Home Administrator in 2002.

"I am thrilled to be here and I look forward to working with residents and their families," said Terry. "Linden Hall has a unique, intimate setting for a nursing home. Its small size allows us as a staff to get to

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Life at the Home

The below articles have been used in the Home's recent advertising. You may have seen them in the Daily Local News and the Kennett Paper.

Two residents tell their stories



"It hasn't always been easy but I have been lucky."

That is how 95-year-old Assisted Living resident Joe Giaquinto sums up his life experiences.

To hear of his early beginnings, lucky might not be the first word that comes to mind.

Joe's mother passed away when he was just seven years old and his father could not work and take care of three small children. The children were separated, each going to various relatives in New York and New Jersey, with Joe spending a number of years in an orphanage in the Bronx. They were eventually all re-united at a home in Brooklyn near Coney Island when Joe's father re-married.

In 1939, Joe says he was extremely lucky because that was when a wonderful event occurred.

"I met my wife Jean and it changed my whole life," he says. "I didn't know what joy was until then. We were married for 66 years."

While living with his wife and their first baby in Brooklyn, Joe got drafted and ended up in the Navy for the last 26 months of World War II.

"Again I was lucky because I was in combat in the South Pacific at Okinawa," he explains. "But I was never injured and got to come home to my family."

When he returned, Joe settled into a career as an accountant, a job he kept until retirement. When he retired, he and his wife moved to South Carolina to be near their daughter and granddaughter.

They loved South Carolina, but as they got older it was clear that Joe and Jean needed to be somewhere that offered assisted living. But they couldn't find any place in South Carolina that was right for them.

Then their other daughter Pat, who lives in Kennett Square, recommended Friends Home.

"We fell in love with it here right away," he says. "Jean knew immediately this was it."

"It wasn't stiff and formal like so many places we had visited," he continues. "It was a very warm, relaxed atmosphere that felt like home."

The Giacquintos lived together in a studio apartment at FHIK for four years until Jean passed away in 2005. Joe decided to stay in the same apartment that had been such a happy home for them.

Joe says it is very important to him that he stay active both mentally and physically. And the evidence of that is all around his apartment.

The exercise bicycle he rides every morning is plainly in view as is the electronic piano he plays and many issues of the New York Times, The Economist, Newsweek and Smithsonian...

"I love current event events and keeping up with things," he says. "It is important to always be learning something new. It keeps your mind open. I also still do my own taxes."

Joe says he is also very proud of his seven grandchildren (and notes they all went to college) and his 12 great-grandchildren.

"I have had a very full, charmed life he says. And I'm still enjoying it," he concludes. "Friends Home lets me do that."

A room of one's own without being alone.

That is the beauty of living at Friends Home in Kennett according to 93-year-old resident Alma Struble.

"Everyone on the staff goes out of their way to be helpful and encouraging," she explains. "They anticipate what you may need. They look out for you and will do as much or as little as you want."

"For example, I am in Assisted Living but I insist on making my own bed every day."

Originally from Philadelphia, Struble lived for 80 years in a Marlborough farmhouse with 12 acres near Unionville where she and her husband raised their four children.

A graduate of Middlebury College in Vermont, Alma taught Latin and French at Unionville High School for five years before stopping when she had her first child. But she didn't exactly stop teaching altogether.

The Struble's property contained a very large pond that was perfect for swimming. So she organized a program, with a few other mothers in the area, to teach any child who wanted to learn how to swim.

"I think every kid in the 'greater Marlborough area' went in that pond at one time or another," she says with a laugh. "Those were fun days and great memories."

One day in 2006, however, living alone in the big farmhouse became impractical. Struble was in the hospital recovering from a cracked pelvic bone that was the result of a fall.

"My balance was bad and I needed to use a walker," she says. "There was no way I could go back home by myself. Thankfully, one of my sons knew about Friends Home."

"I moved in directly from the hospital and I liked it immediately," she continues. "You feel



Many Thanks to our 2006 Donors

The following individuals and companies made donations to the Friends Home in Kennett between January 1 and December 31, 2006.

Evelyn V. Andrews
 Shirley Annand
 Mary Ann and James Armstrong
 Louise Bair
 Jane Barth
 Mary Beck
 Marilyn R. Becker
 Barbara G. Beddall
 Kenneth L. Berry
 Margery Blumenthal
 Brush & Palette
 David Carter
 Centre Monthly Meeting
 Alfred and Georgia Conard
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 Marsha Corum
 DNB First
 Judi and Robert D'Antonio
 Bob and Janet DeVry
 Leonard DiFilippo & Aida Stainback
 Cherrie Di Matteo
 Beatrice E. Dodson
 Astrid Dorsey
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 Steve and Ann Hutton
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 Charles Jones and Jill Cowperthwaite

Peggy and Pownall Jones
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 Nora Keating
 Kennett Square Inn
 Paul and Bonnie Kerr
 James and Christine Kimmel
 D. Gary and Jann Lamborn
 London Grove Monthly Meeting
 Low-Rise Elevator Co., Inc.
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 Thomas and Brenda Macaluso
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 Philip and Dannette Pusey
 Frances R. Pyle
 James Reamer and Michele Sullivan
 Jonathan E. Rhoads Trust
 Brenda J. Riehl
 Carmen Rios
 Stephanie Roberts
 Charles and Pat Robertson
 Mary Louise W. Ruggieri

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know residents well and give them the best possible care.”

Linden Hall's administrator oversees the skilled nursing unit, assuring that each resident receives a high quality of care. To accomplish this, the administrator keeps in close contact with care staff, family members of residents, and residents themselves. The administrator also assures that all operations adhere to the Pennsylvania Department of Health regulations for nursing homes. The Director of Nursing, Activities Director and Social Services Designee each report directly to the administrator. A staff of registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, and certified nursing assistants provide direct care to residents. The entire staff works together to ensure that each resident's medical, social and mental needs are met.

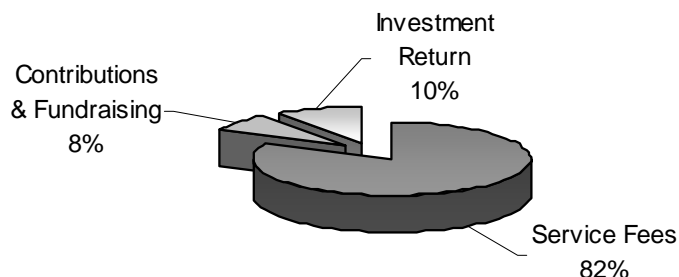
“The homelike atmosphere is unlike any nursing home I've seen. It is wonderful to be here, and to be immediately welcomed by the residents and staff,” said Terry.

June E. Scheffler
 Bob and Trish Scott
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 Southern Chester County
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 Scudder and Mary Claire Stevens
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Financial Summary *for the year ended December 31, 2006*

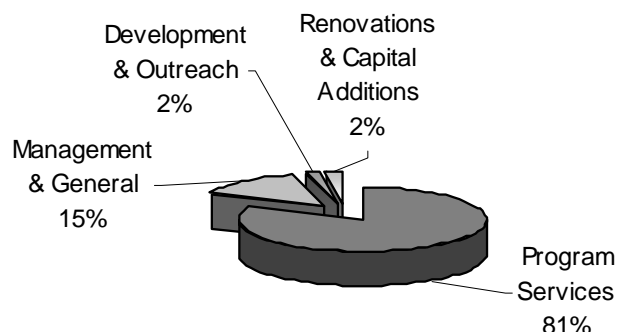
Revenues & Support

Service Fees	\$2,362,273
Contributions & Fundraising	\$220,722
Investment Return	\$297,378
Total Revenues & Support	\$2,880,373



Expenditures

Program Services	\$2,590,912
Management & General	\$463,894
Development & Outreach	\$65,777
Renovations & Capital Additions	\$67,422
Total Expenditures	\$3,188,005



Highlights for the 2006 Financial Summary

The financial position of the Home continues to be positive. The key factor pertaining to our income is the Home's census, and this has been steadily increasing in both skilled nursing and assisted living. This is largely due to the excellent efforts of Helene Quinones, our Marketing and Admissions Director.

As with all financial summaries, one year versus another year always shows significant differences. The Home's endowment is performing better and remaining stable in a difficult market. This is due to a change recommended by the Finance Committee in early 2006 to move the funds from one bank to two financial management companies. Our investment return in 2006 was 7.9%, a 100% increase from the previous year.

One of the significant differences between 2005 and 2006 was we received a large bequest in 2005 of almost \$500,000 and only \$6,000 in 2006. Such gifts are an integral part of our financial stability, as the interest from them is used to provide subsidies for residents.

The capital improvements to the assisted living rooms and ancillary areas ended in 2006; in all, almost \$500,000 in renovations were accomplished. Thus these expenses changed from 11% in 2005, to 2% in 2006. We will continue to make plans to upgrade the Home. In fact, the Board is presently engaged in planning for renovating the dietary area, which will feature a totally redesigned, upgraded kitchen and an enclosed walkway between Friends Home and Linden Hall.

The Home utilizes income from investments for resident subsidies. In prior years this amount was between 18 and 20% of the cost of care; in 2006 it was more than 25%. This figure is included in "program services" on the above graph. In the coming months the Finance Committee will be considering a variety of ways to restructure our resident subsidies, in keeping with our mission of providing quality care at a reasonable cost.

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the warmth as soon as you come through the doors. I have my own room, my own furniture – everything I want."

Struble says one of her favorite aspects of life at Friends Home is the extensive activities program she enjoys participating in with her fellow residents – many of whom she now calls friends.

"They have a great big calendar with all activities that are scheduled for every day of the month so you can plan everything you want to do," she explains. "I love the variety of games and the visits from the therapy dogs because I love animals. I also enjoy working in the Friends Home garden. We just have a great time here!"

When not engaged in activities, Struble, a self-described "outdoor addict" can often be found enjoying the fresh air on the porch. "It's never too cold to be outside," is her motto.

Alma says she would never again want to live alone.

"I am definitely a member of a large extended family," she concludes. "And this is home in every sense of the word."

Memorial and Honor Gifts

Memorial and honor gifts may be made to Friends Home in Kennett at any time. An attractive card is sent to notify the honoree of your generosity.

Names of honorees are in bold type with names of donors listed under them.

This is a list of memorial and honor gifts made to Friends Home in Kennett from March 1 and July 31, 2007. We strive for accuracy, but sometimes make errors. If you notice a mistake or omission, please contact Brenda Riehl at (610) 444-2577 or briehl@kennett.net.

Memorials

Janet W. Heist

Jack and Anne Waldron

June and George Holton

Karen D. Halstead

Estelle Leaf

Nancy Leaf

Margaret C. Lockhart

Patricia Lockhart

Anna M. Mancill

Robert and Janet Mancill

Marjorie Nugent

Carol J. Murphy

Harrold "Hal" Parish

Philip and Dannette Pusey

Hazel Springer

Lydia and William Akerman

Dorothy Akerman and

Ruthann Vaganov

Judith Bonifacino

Jerry and Marie Dunn

Ellen Elizabeth Eastburn

Ruth Graham Conaghan

George and Nancy Hedrick

Lois Williams

Marie Valentino

David and Bernadette Arthur

Anthony and Mary Basilio

William and Janice Dempsey

Harvey and Sharon Journey

Joseph Mozzani

Anthony and Dolores Orzechowski

Marianne and Francis Rossi

Andrew and Connie Valentino

David Wham

Joseph Vogel

Virginia G. Nolte

Honoraria

David T. Smith

Karen and George Klaus

Admissions and Marketing Update



Over the years, the operation of Friends Home in Kennett has been adapted to meet the needs older adults in the community. At its inception in 1898, a boarding home setting was most appropriate for serving those needs.

Eventually, the Home became licensed to provide assisted living, and later added a skilled nursing unit. The mission of caring for the aging in a homelike atmosphere at a reasonable cost has remained at the heart of the Home's service.

Continuing the tradition of providing a high quality of life for residents while progressing along with the eldercare industry, the Home created a new position in 2005 to increase the Home's visibility. In May 2006 Helene Quiñones began her work as Admissions and Marketing Director. Helene has worked in healthcare for 12 years, in a variety of positions ranging from Home Care Aide Manager to Program Director of Brandywine Hospital's Acute Rehabilitation Unit.

Since her hire, Helene has been working to improve the visibility of Friends Home in Kennett. She represents the Home at health and senior fairs, attends weekly networking meetings, fields calls from potential residents and their families, and helps potential residents determine if Friends Home in Kennett is right for them. "It is an interesting job because I never know what my day will be like. I talk to people from around the state and around the country who need placement for a loved one or for themselves," said Helene. "I often help to educate families about assisted living and how it differs from skilled nursing, Medicare/Medicaid concerns, and what makes Friends Home in Kennett different from other retirement communities." Helene offers families and individuals assistance with completing the admission application, understanding the resident contract, and adjusting to life at the Home.

Helene has increased the admission rate significantly through outreach to individuals and groups in the community. "Our census is near capacity in assisted living, and in skilled nursing. We have started a waiting list," said David Carter, Executive Director.

Friends Home in Kennett is unique, offering residents a high quality of life; a cozy, historic building; and rates among the most affordable in Chester County.

Friends Home in Kennett

Friends Boarding Home of Western Quarterly Meeting

147 West State Street

Kennett Square, PA 19348

www.friendshomeinkennett.org

address correction requested

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Did you know?

Many individuals and community groups visit Friends Home in Kennett.

We welcome all sorts of programs and projects – from musical to educational to artistic to recreational.

If your group would like to visit, please contact Activities Director Patrice Bradour, ADC at (610) 444-2577.

Mission Statement



The Friends Home in Kennett is dedicated to providing quality care for the aging in a homelike atmosphere at a reasonable cost.

We encourage independence and respect the individuality and dignity of all in keeping with the concerns of the Society of Friends.