

View from the Porch

News from Friends Home in Kennett

Fall 2004



Welcome to the Friends Home in Kennett!

For over 100 years the Friends Home has been a quality, affordable residence for older adults, most of whom come from Chester County. We are proud to continue this tradition of service today: 20 people live in our nursing home, Linden Hall, which offers 24 hour skilled nursing care, and 60 live in Friends Home, where they receive a variety of personal care and other services provided by our professional staff.

Our residents enjoy the convenience, comfort and care that the Friends Home provides. Whether involved in their own activities with friends or family, sharing a summer afternoon on our spacious front porch, or participating in the events, trips, and gatherings the Home provides, residents benefit from the diversity of living in an active community. For example, this summer a group of residents enjoyed a

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cruise on the Spirit of Philadelphia, produced a talent show, and grew a variety of flowers, vegetables and herbs, some of which were served in our dining room. Patrice

Bradour, Activities Director, commented, "The garden is our own little piece of heaven."

Another group of people who make the Friends Home a special community is our Board of Directors, who give of their time and talents to ensure that the Friends Home is a quality resource for older adults and their families. Board members attend monthly meetings to set policy and provide oversight on all operations of the Home; each also participates in one or more standing committees. All members of the board are members of the Religious Society of Friends, and represent a variety of neighboring Quaker meetings of the Western Quarter



One of the many activities at the Friends Home, the Ladies Luncheon brings families together. Here resident Norma Hood, center, hosts her nieces, from left, Peg Richards, Anna McCarter, and Ruth Farmer, and daughter, Joanne Patton.

of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. These include: Centre, Fallowfield, Hockessin, Kendal, Kennett, London Grove, Marlborough, Mill Creek, Newark, New Garden and West Grove.

We also enjoy the volunteer assistance of many community groups and individuals, who regularly visit and help with activities and special projects. Each person contributes his or her unique talents and caring, whether it be gardening, crafts, working in the library, enjoying friendly conversation with residents, or helping with trips. One volunteer noted, "As a result of helping out at the Home, I discovered talents I didn't even know I had!"

So, welcome to the Friends Home, a special community brimming with a rich diversity of older adults, dedicated volunteers, and a top quality, professional staff who really care.

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Making a difference every day

The staff of Linden Hall

“We have a wonderful, caring staff. It is unusual to find a skilled nursing facility where *everyone* – from CNAs to the Director of Nursing – genuinely cares about the residents.” Suzanne Butler, NHA, Linden Hall Administrator, is quick to point out the facility’s strengths. “The staff takes pride in giving high quality care and creating a nurturing, resident-focused home.” Throughout the Friends Home in Kennett, staff members work together to give residents the best possible services.

Linden Hall is a nursing home with a pleasant, homelike atmosphere. The staff gives individual attention to residents and makes every effort to involve their families. Many family members visit regularly and take part in planning for the care of their loved ones.



Residents Marguerite Sturgis and Eloise Harvey enjoy the challenge of a jigsaw puzzle on Linden Hall's porch.

Most staff members live in the Kennett Square area, which helps to make Linden Hall a part of the community. Residents receive visits from individuals and groups in the community, including musicians and church groups.

An interdisciplinary approach is used to provide care that is customized for each resident. Nurses, Certified Nursing Assistants, a licensed Nursing Home Administrator, an Activities Director, a Social Services provider, housekeeping and dietary staff all work together to ensure that each resident lives a safe and happy life.

Improvements are needed to make Linden Hall more comfortable and attractive. Specific items include:

- New dining room furniture appropriate for nursing home residents. Chairs cost approximately \$270 each and tables \$330 each.
 - New state of the art electric beds, \$1,000 each
 - New lighting fixtures and new dressers for resident rooms.
- For details about giving a donation to Linden Hall, call Brenda Riehl or Suzanne Butler at (610) 444-2577.



Activities Director Kim Dziembowski and resident Mary Haw take a break from their exercise session.

Activities Wish List

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| • construction paper | • paint brushes | • washable paint |
| • sketch pads | • tacky craft glue | • Elmer's glue |
| • wreaths | • scissors | • markers |
| • stencils | • large bead | • beading supplies |
| • art pencils & charcoal | • flower arranging supplies | • low temperature glue guns |
| | | • slide projector and carousel |

Our residents enjoy a variety of activities, including art and craft projects. Your donation of supplies will help to keep resident rates low.



The Home

by Margaret B. Jones

When someone says, "The Home," to me, I instinctively think of the Friends Home in Kennett.

From my childhood, the Home was where many elderly Friends and members of our extended family lived out the end of their lives. In the years when our children were young, the Home was where we went weekly to visit my husband's grandmother. How much she loved her room which was like a retreat; here she delighted in her independence and in the closeness of her friends. In Grandmother's day, the Home was primarily a boarding home. After meals residents retired to their rooms and engaged in their own pursuits.

Since those days, life at the Home has changed; the building has been enlarged and a nursing home wing added. However, the friendly homelike atmosphere remains. Here residents view themselves as part of a large family. **This sense of family is what distinguishes the Home from other homes for the elderly.** A family atmosphere is hard to quantify, but residents will tell you it is very real and present.

Registered nurses and other professional staff members give residents and their families the security of knowing quality care is always available. Our Activities Directors and their volunteers guarantee something interesting is always happening. Combine these services with the feeling of a family home and you will have a picture of what life is like at the Home. As a Board member walking the corridors, I'm proud of what many people working together have been able to achieve, not just an assisted living facility or nursing home, but a genuine home for the elderly.

Capital Campaign a Success

The Campaign ended on December 31st and raised over \$1.1 million. Donations came from 248 individuals, organizations, businesses, foundations, trusts and Monthly Meetings - an unprecedented gesture of community support for the Home.

Building on the success of the campaign, we have hired a Fundraising Director, Brenda Riehl, who is building a fund development program that includes an annual appeal, foundation solicitation, and community outreach. **This Fall we will conduct the Home's first Annual Appeal. We are hopeful that the community will continue in its generous support of the Home.**



The Board Development and Nominating Committee: (standing) Jody Shoemaker, David Carter, Executive Director, Bob McKinstry, Clerk, (seated) Helen Profita, Peggy Jones, and Janet Heist. The "BD & N" Committee is charged with bringing new members to the Board and overseeing the Board's nine committees.

Board of Directors

William Powell, President
Willard Smedley, Vice President
Margaret B. Jones, Secretary
Scudder G. Stevens, Treasurer
Peter Weygandt, Assistant Treasurer

Julia Bloom
Janet Heist
Charles E. Jackson
William Jones
Paul Kerr
Thomas C. Marshall, Emeritus
Robert B. McKinstry
Lawrence Parrish
Helen Profita
Barbara Pusey
Joann Shoemaker
Katherine Yerkes

Executive Director

David B. Carter, NHA

Did you know?

Friends Home in Kennett began its mission in 1898 in a rented house on Linden Street in Kennett Square.

Friends Home in Kennett

Friends Boarding Home of Western Quarterly Meeting
147 West State Street
Kennett Square, PA 19348

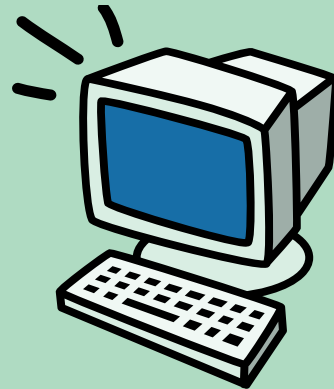
address correction requested

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First Class Mail
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PAID
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Kennett Square, PA

Friends Home in Kennett is now on the web!

To view our new website go to
www.friendshomeinkennett.org

Thanks to Marie Moss, of Moss Design, for her work on our website, and for design of the masthead for this newsletter.



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.