

Athena Society



B R I E F I N G S

November, 2012

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ATHENA SOCIETY

P.O. Box 10813
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Upcoming Meeting

- WHEN:** Thursday, November 1
11:55 a.m.
- WHERE:** Centre Club
Westshore at Kennedy
- PROGRAM:** Diabetes - Bringing Science Home
- SPEAKER:** Nicole Johnson, MPH, MA, PhD candidate
USF Health
- MENU:** Honey Pecan Crusted Tilapia
(veg plate available on request when reserving)
- COST:** Guests - \$25
- RSVP:** By October 29 – Register online or
email ewhubbard@aol.com.



OPEN MEETING – GUESTS WELCOME

Nicole Johnson is an award-winning television journalist and an avid writer. Her articles on living with diabetes and wellness have appeared in *Guideposts Magazine*, *Diabetes Forecast*, *Diabetes Health*, *USA Today* and on various websites related to diabetes. She has written seven books, including her autobiography, *Living with Diabetes*, and the recently complete *Pathway to Independence guide* for young adults with diabetes. Diabetes is reaching epidemic proportions and, sadly, many who have it don't know it. This is a topic we all need to learn more about; consider inviting a friend or family member who might benefit from Nicole's expertise.



President's Message

The Gift of Sponsorship

I first learned about the Athena Society when **Adelaide Few** invited me to a luncheon. It was the energy that first caught my attention: the buzz as the room filled quickly, greetings, introductions, focused conversations, and then – gone – back to work. Wow! You do this every month?

Caught up in the frenetic work, travel, parent, care-for, organize, find and fix days, Athena provided an oasis, a place where similarly over-scheduled women would come together – even if just an hour for lunch – to recharge and refocus. The programs provide concentrated information in the style of the coffee mug slogan, “be brief, be bright, be gone.” Perfect!

I still enjoy the energy that ushers in our monthly meetings with such purposeful companionship, but Athena has given me much more than a brief respite in an otherwise taxing month. Because of Athena, I have a much greater appreciation and investment in Tampa history, culture and politics. Great cities don't just happen, and Athena has given me the opportunity to meet many of the people responsible for the aspects of Tampa I most appreciate. I have a greater appreciation for the inequities that women still face in business and government and a forum through which to make a difference. Katherine Young underscored this point in her presentation on the status of women in corporate leadership. Her statistics regarding the profitability edge of diverse corporations are outcome measurements worth celebrating and repeating.

The friends who sponsored and supported my membership gave me a gift that has grown over time but they also made sure that I understood that joining Athena was a privilege *and* a responsibility. We are at the beginning of the member nomination season. What a wonderful opportunity to enhance our organization and share the gift of membership with someone else.





News About Members

We extend our deepest sympathy to **Moira Burke** for the recent loss of her husband, Dr. Bernie Hochberg, and to **Maria Howey** for the loss of her sister, Connie Speronis Cave.

Helen Gordon Davis continues to be recognized for her good works. At the Hillsborough Democrats' Kennedy-King Dinner earlier this month, she was taken completely by surprise (really!) when called before a capacity crowd at the Tampa Convention Center to be recognized as the "Champion of Equality." The honor was bestowed by the Pride Union of Florida State University for reasons they related: In 1982 a letter requesting support of gay rights was sent to 160 legislators; Helen was one of five who responded positively and is now the last one living; they wished to publicly express their appreciation.

Candy Olson is fully immersed in the business of education as is obvious from reviewing her activities. In addition to serving as Chair of the Council of Great City Schools (an organization of 60+ large city school districts providing research and advocacy to improve education for urban children), she has been named to the joint board of National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and Teacher Education Accreditation Council. The two are merging into a single entity for accrediting schools of education - to be known as the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation.

Calendar

October 25 – Bonus - Ybor Ghost Walk

December 5 – Bonus – Plant Museum Holiday tour

December 16 - Holiday party

January 3 – Luncheon meeting

February 7 – Luncheon meeting

March 7 – Luncheon meeting



November Birthdays

Birthday wishes to the following members who celebrate in November:

Caroline Black
Amelia Campbell
Pat Frank
Jeanette Fenton
Julia Freeman

Susan Freeman
Adrienne Garcia
Kassie Grizzard
Libby Jenkins
Anne Kantor

Margaret Mathews
Luanne Panacek
Amanda Sansone
Renee Vaughn
Andrea Zelman



Athena Housekeeping

For your convenience in scheduling, please note the following luncheon program topics:

January – Mary Jane Saunders, President of Florida Atlantic University

February – **Betty Castor** and **Doretha Edgecomb** - How I Got Where I Am

March – Community Action Committee program

Under the direction of Chair **Amanda Sansone**, planning for Retreat 2013 is in full swing! Mark your calendars for July 26-28 at the fabulous Palm Beach Ritz-Carlton. It's a retreat you won't want to miss.

Though it hasn't been mentioned in quite awhile, we continue to welcome your leftover hotel toiletries for residents of Alpha House, The Spring and the Ronald McDonald House. Feel free to bring your donations to any luncheon meeting.



Bonus Activities

To get in the spirit of Halloween, **Linda Saul-Sena**, will guide us on a Ghost Walk of Ybor City on October 25. We'll meet at 5:50 p.m. at Centro Ybor on 7th Avenue in front of the statue of Don Vicente Ybor and guests are welcome. Parking is available at the garage across from Centro Ybor. The fee is \$10 which Linda has graciously offered to donate to the Athena education fund. If you'd like to stay for a "dutch treat" dinner afterwards at the Don Vicente, please indicate when RSVP'ing to **Eleanor Hubbard** by October 23.

Join Teddy Roosevelt and your Athena sisters for a charming Victorian Christmas Stroll on Wednesday, December 5, at the University of Tampa's Henry B. Plant Museum. Enjoy the social hour on the veranda from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. followed by a stroll through the beautifully decorated museum. Guests are welcome and the fee is \$17.00 per person. Register online or RSVP to Eleanor by November 30th.