

Athena Society



B R I E F I N G S

May, 2013

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ATHENA SOCIETY

P.O. Box 10813
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Upcoming Meeting

- WHEN:** Thursday, May 2
11:55 a.m.
1:15 p.m. – Post luncheon program (see below)
- WHERE:** Centre Club
Westshore at Kennedy
- PROGRAM:** Sex Trafficking: Perps, Pimps and Survivors!
- SPEAKERS:** Gregory Christopher
FBI Special Agent, SE Region
Stacie Harris
Asst. U.S. Attorney, Middle District FL
Connie Rose – Victim/Survivor
- MODERATOR:** Holly Tomlin – FBI Advisory Committee
- MENU:** Blackened Salmon Salad
(veg plate available on request when reserving)
- COST:** Guests - \$25
- RSVP:** By April 29 – Register online or
email ewhubbard@aol.com.

OPEN MEETING – GUESTS WELCOME

Did you know that Florida is 3rd in the nation for the sex trafficking of children and teens? And that recently we were in national news because **Mary Scriven** sentenced a pimp to life in prison and a South Tampa massage parlor was shut down for sex trafficking?

The victims of human trafficking are woven throughout our community. Victims include troubled or abused kids and adults, runaways and foster children, domestic servants in homes and hotels, nannies and au pairs, farm workers and immigrants, etc.

Join us to learn more about this horrific multibillion industry, how and why the Tampa Bay area has become a hotbed of illicit activity and what we can do about it. If your schedule permits, plan to stay after lunch (1:15 to 2:30) to meet with individuals from the Clearwater/Tampa Bay Area Task Force on Human Trafficking and the Tampa Sex Trafficking Collaborative to learn more about the people who are working to stop and prosecute these crimes, raise awareness, build shelters, change legislation and more.



President's Message

Happy Mother's Day !

Waiting for firsts. Longing for lasts. Fleeting moments. Gone too quickly. Joy. Sorrow. STRESS. Motherhood!

How is it that the time with our children is so fleeting yet the time with our parents seemed so substantial? Between work, homework, sporting events...well, you know the drill – there is barely enough time to feed, clothe and clean. Are we able to influence too?

One of the many amazing things about my mother is the way she subtly suggested new ways to think about things. She would say no to buying an impulse toy by reminding me of the special feelings of holidays. They wouldn't be special if they happened every week. She wasn't saying no to the toy, she was preserving Christmas! Time at the dining room table studying was an investment. Education is the only thing that no one can ever take from you. You can be naked in the street and still have it! That vision of being naked in adversity, with my head held high and my mind filled with Education, really stuck. Don't be afraid to take a position and stand up for what you believe. He who sits in the middle of the road gets hit by both sides. And when I sobbed at the airport because I would miss my sister who was travelling overseas for an extended trip, she told me to be thankful. Be thankful that you have people to cry for and those who would cry for you.

My mother laughs when we go through her litany of Momisms and claims she doesn't remember saying that, but then follows up that it's good advice.

As parents, it seems like we just don't have enough time before our kids are gone – to their own decisions, devices and relationships. To a teenager, the time with us can be unending as they wait for their shot at independence. This time distortion of childhood works in our favor. Every moment counts. Those Momisms become mantras that guide our life.

Celebrate our mothers; celebrate us. Happy Mother's Day.





May Bonus Activities

May 1, 6 to 7 p.m. - Tampa Bay History Center - Florida Wildlife Expedition. The 1000 mile trek over 100 days was made by three men and one woman. Come hear Mallory Lykes Dimmitt's environmental exploration of this amazing journey. Free with cash bar. Register via our website or by calling 228-0097. Enjoy dinner afterwards in Columbia Café at the History Center. Questions may be directed to lleavengood@tampabayhistorycenter.org

May 4, 10 a.m to noon - One of the real jewels of our community is the Riverwalk and on May 4 you'll have an opportunity to enjoy it and learn about its beginnings and plans for the future. We'll gather at the Straz Center at 10 a.m. to view a new statue of Eleanor (Ella) Chamberlain, leader of Florida's right-to-vote campaign in the 1890s. **Susan Dellinger** will portray Ella. You'll then be transported to the convention center where **Simone Barefield** will portray Clara Frye whose statue faces Tampa General; she founded Tampa's first hospital for African Americans in 1908. **Pam Iorio** will speak about the entire Riverwalk project which runs more than two miles along the Hillsborough River. The convention center's Bay Bistro will cater lunch and you'll be taken back to the Straz at noon. The \$30 registration fee includes lunch and transportation and the event is open to the public. Please register at Athena's site or with **Doris Weatherford**, doris@dweatherford.com.



Community Action Committee Report

By Dena Leavengood, Chair

This has been a busy year for the Community Action/Public Issues Committee! Our focus has been to support Hillsborough County's Commission on the Status of Women (COSW) annual project regarding the sex trafficking of minors in the Tampa Bay region. Their 2012 Fall Forum on the Sex Trafficking of Minors (notable speakers included **Pam Iorio**) catalyzed the coming-together of community organizations and individuals as the Tampa Sex Trafficking Collaborative (STC). STC is a local action group working under the Tampa Bay Campaign Against Human Trafficking, an arm of the Clearwater/Tampa Bay Task Force on Human Trafficking, to share information and leverage resources. In just six months this initiative and its partners have built significant momentum, hosted numerous meetings and community events, heightened community awareness, increased media coverage, built partnerships, developed strategic plans and action priorities and brought us to our May 2 luncheon on sex trafficking with some of the most involved, knowledgeable and powerful forces addressing the problem. This is a very serious and growing issue in the Tampa Bay region. It destroys lives! Learn more about it and join us in helping to stop it.



Monthly Tech Tip - #2

Gaining Access

Forgot your User Name or Password to get into the member side of the Athena website – no problem. www.athena-society.com will bring you to the public page of our website. On the upper right hand side of the page (above the boxes for user name and password) are the words *Lost Password?* If you click on the question it will lead you to a page to enter your user name (if you remember it) or the email address used to send you Athena emails. An email will be sent to that email address with your user name, password and a link to change your password.

News About Members

We extend sincere sympathy to **Kathy Castor** whose father, Judge Don Castor, passed away on April 9.

The World Trade Center Tampa Bay will present **Judy Genshaft** with the **Betty Castor** Lifetime Achievement Award honor at their 3rd Annual Director's Luncheon on May 14. The group stated that "recognizing her significant role in encouraging and enriching international research, education and culture in the Tampa Bay Area made her an ideal choice." Betty Castor received the inaugural award and established the standard for women in international relations, trade, education and commerce. The May 14 presentation will be at Palma Ceia Golf & Country Club with registration at 11 a.m., the luncheon and awards program from 11:30 to 1:30 p.m. Tickets are \$60 per person and can be purchased online at <http://wtctbgobulls.eventbrite.com/?ref=estw>.

Calendar

- May 1 – Bonus – Tampa Bay History Center
- May 4 – Bonus – Riverwalk Tour
- June 6 – Dinner meeting - Tampa Yacht Club
- June 15 – New member party
- July 26-28 – Retreat, Palm Beach Ritz-Carlton

May Birthdays

Rachelle Bedke
Susan Bucklew
Sylvia Carley
Betty Castor
Denise Chavez
Lee Essrig
Katherine Frazier

Linda Fries
Ann Giles
Kathleen Heide
Gail Holtzman
Denise Jordan
Mary Key
Lagretta Lenker

Winnie Marvel
Mindy McLaughlin
Jane Peppard
Anne Strozier
Elaine Terenzi
Louise Thompson
Rhonda Trainor
JoAnn Urofsky