

BRIEFINGS

June, 2013

2012-2013 OFFICERS

BOARD

BETH BERNITT
KIM DEBOSIER
CYNTHIA GANDEE
LORRAINE LUTTON
JEANNE TATE
BELINDA WILSON

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Barbara Bachman
Robin DeLaVergne
Denise Jordan
Michelle Schofner
Mimi Stamps
Lorna Taylor
Alternate: Amanda Sansone

ADMINISTRATOR/EDITOR

ELEANOR HUBBARD 813/251-9172 ewhubbard@aol.com

ATHENA SOCIETY

P.O. Box 10813 Tampa, Florida 33679

Upcoming Meeting

WHEN: Thursday, June 6

5:30 p.m. – Cocktails (cash bar)

6:15 p.m. – Dinner

WHERE: Tampa Yacht & Country Club

5320 Interbay Blvd.

MENU: Fresh Gulf Grouper Piccata

(If you prefer NY Strip Steak or a veggie

plate, please indicate.)

PROGRAM: Business Meeting – Agenda to include:

Election of Nominating Committee

Approval of 2013-14 budget

Recognition of Philanthropy Donors

Introduction of new members Election of officers/directors Passing of the gavel; Installation

RSVP: By June 3 – Register online

OR call **Eleanor Hubbard** (251-9172)

OR email ewhubbard@aol.com.

CLOSED MEETING – MEMBERS ONLY

Please join us to show your support for those who have led this year and those who will lead during the next 12 months.

Saturday, June 15 - Party Time!

Our annual party to honor new members is scheduled for Saturday, June 15, 7 to 9 p.m. at the lovely South Tampa home of Mike and **Rachelle Bedke**, 817 So. Roxmere Road. The Hospitality Committee - under the direction of **Yvonne Fry**, **Jeanette Fenton** and **Linda D'Aquila** - will present its usual delectable spread. There's no charge for members and one guest; additional guests are \$25. RSVP online or email **Eleanor Hubbard** prior to June 11. If you're bringing a guest, please leave a name.



President's Message

The year started with a song at retreat, and ends with preparation for the Career Assistance Awards in September. In between is a cacophony of activity, events, meetings and discussions. Somehow, within all of the committees and commotion emerges a polyphonic harmony that is Athena. OK – enough with the music metaphor – our musicians are probably cringing - but you get the picture. Beneath the regular monthly meetings the menu of awesome Bonus activities are a lot of member hours, energy and coordination. It is the energy and enthusiasm that has carried the organization throughout the decades. Having seen behind the curtain, I have a whole new appreciation for Athena.

Last month's meeting was a good example. The presentations on sexual trafficking in our community were informative and compelling, but the hour and a half presentation was just one point in an extensive network of preparatory meetings and follow up activities. Each monthly meeting has been rich in content because of the planning committee and rich in fellowship because of your attendance. Remarkable young women inspired us, and we recognized Ernest Hooper as our first "Young Man of Promise" for his mutual support of our goals. Hospitality brought us together for a perfect December evening of gentle music and balmy weather that was an oasis during the frenetic holiday season and Bonus activities offered something for everyone: culture, history, art, theater and even orangutan toys!

The foundation of our organization is, of course, our membership. The energy of the membership process culminates in the enthusiastic welcoming of our new members. And, as this is occurring, the Nominating Committee ensures the longevity of Athena by recommending new officers to the Board.

Now I join the group of past presidents – relieved to be "passing the gavel" to **Amelia Campbell** in June – with a much greater appreciation for all that is Athena and the very special women who collectively create the music.

Hospitality Committee Needs YOU!

Yvonne Fry, **Jeanette LaRussa Fenton and Linda D'Aquila** are working together to make the New Member Party on Saturday, June 15, a success and ask for your help to bring it all together.

A favorite saying of **Elizabeth Howarth** was always..."Many hands make light work," and that's our mantra! We know there are many who always step up and bring long time favorites and we are counting on you to delight everyone with your traditional dishes. We also welcome anyone else who wants to try her hand at a culinary delight to step up as well.

For those not wanting to cook but could easily pick up an item, we have some ideas for you as well...just let us know your willingness to help. Please email Jeanette.Fenton@tampagov.net with your dish or intention to bring something. We'll note it and be back in touch with a reminder before the event. Special thanks to **Rachelle Bedke** for opening her beautiful home to us for this event. We appreciate your help and are looking forward to a delightful evening together celebrating our new Athena sisters.



New Members to be Introduced

We're pleased to announce the following women have accepted Athena's invitation to membership and will be formally introduced at the June 6 meeting:

Anita Caballero – Assistant U.S. Attorney
Virginia Covington - U.S. District Court Judge
Amy Farrior – Shareholder, Buell & Elligett PA
Elizabeth Frazier – Exec. Director, Lightning Foundation
Zoe Gustafson – COO, Florida Holocaust Museum
Dee Jeffers – Maternal Health Consultant
Ann Miller – COO, Advanced Healthcare Partners
Deborah Skyrms – Owner, Deborah Kent's



WELCOME! WELCOME!

Athena Housekeeping

As usual, there will be no Athena meetings in July and August; luncheons will resume in September. We'll continue to adhere to our first Thursday of the month schedule including dinner in June.

As we're in the process of assembling our annual scrapbook, we'd appreciate receiving photos taken at Athena events (luncheons, Bonuses, etc.) as well as articles about members that have appeared in company magazines/organization newsletters, etc.

As you travel during the summer, remember that we still welcome your leftover hotel toiletries for residents of Alpha House and The Spring. Feel free to bring your donations to any luncheon meeting or call **Eleanor Hubbard** to arrange for a pickup.

Supporting and Encouraging Local Women

The Athena Education Fund at the Community Foundation has grown this year from approximately \$77,000 to a little more than \$81,000 as a result of improved investment earnings. The Beth Waters Foundation has also pledged \$2,300 in program support for this year. So that we are less impacted by market fluctuations, the Long Range Planning Committee and Philanthropy Committee both have fund growth as an objective to ensure sustainability of the Phyllis Marshall Career Assistance Grant initiative. Members who support either the Dr. **Sylvia Richardson** Young Women of Promise or **Phyllis Marshall** Career Assistance Grants at the \$250 level will be recognized at the June 6 dinner.



Nominating Committee Election

At the May meeting, members were asked to vote for 12 individuals eligible to serve on the 2013-14 Nominating Committee. Due to a tie, an additional choice is being presented as the result of the preliminary ballot.

Rachelle Bedke
Paddy Moses
Patti Breckenridge
Carolyn Reed
Bonnie Saks
Molly Crews
Kim de la Parte
Katherine Essrig
Renee Vaughn

Lorraine Lutton

The final election will take place at the June meeting at which time six members will be selected – five to serve as regular members and one to serve as an alternate until the annual meeting in 2014. If you do not plan to attend the June meeting, you may wish to implement Article V, Section 10 of the bylaws: Proxies.

Plan for the Palm Beach Retreat!

The Athena Retreat Committee has been busy planning a wonderful retreat for July 26-28 at the beautiful Ritz-Carlton Palm Beach. Last month, Eleanor circulated an informational flyer and the registration form to all members plus made those two documents available on the website. Here are some items and deadlines to consider when making your plans to attend the retreat:

- <u>Registration</u>. The deadline for registering and paying for your attendance at the Retreat is June 21; our block of rooms will be released thereafter. If you need another copy of the flyer or registration form, you may either visit our website or ask Eleanor to email another copy to you. The registration fee is \$230 per person and includes Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast and Saturday dinner. You may pay online through our website or by mailing a check payable to Athena, P.O. Box 10813, Tampa 33679. The discounted room rate of \$159 per night (single or double) is payable upon checkout.
- <u>Transportation.</u> For those who would like to make the trip to and from the Retreat an adventure, **Linda Saul-Sena** has graciously agreed to coordinate travel by train! Please contact her at <u>saulsena@aol.com</u> if you are interested in joining her. If you plan to drive and can offer a ride to someone or if you need a ride and would prefer to travel by car with another member, please contact our carpool coordinator **Mindy McLaughlin** at <u>mm@law-fla.com</u>.
- <u>Athena's Got Talent</u>. The feature event on Friday night will be our very own Athena's Got Talent show. This is your chance to share your talent (or spoof!) with your Athena sisters. We welcome any and every type of talent so please contact **Yvonne Fry** at vfry@yvonnefry.com with your talent entry.

We look forward to seeing you at the Palm Beach Ritz-Carlton! Amanda Sansone – Chair, 2013 Retreat



Monthly Tech Tip - #3

Digital and paper processes are in harmony in our online member directory. This year we will be printing the pocket member directory, but the information and layout will be automatically generated through our online directory thereby saving layout costs and providing an efficient way of collecting up to date information.

It is important that you visit your membership profile page, review and fill in the information. Only minimal information was added when we set up the website as a start with the intention for members to fill in the profile information in the same way that we used to review and add corrections to the paper profile pages that Eleanor Hubbard used to send out. In the upper right hand corner of the Member Welcome Page, click on "Update Profile" to bring up the form. Just fill in the information and click on "Save" at the bottom. If you need help, just reach out to Eleanor. Kudos to Technology Committee Chair **Carolyn Reed** who helped navigate this year's e-transition!

2013-14 Slate

The following slate has been proposed by the Nominating Committee:

BOARD MEMBERS

Second year of

Two-year term:

Kim DeBosier

Cynthia Gandee-Zinober

Jeanne Tate

Two-year term:

Libby Jenkins

Amanda Sansone

Rebecca Tieder

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Second year of

Two-year term:

Robin DeLaVergne
Michelle Schofner
Mimi Stamps

Two-year term:

Amanda Sansone
Carolyn Reed
Susan Bucklew

Alternate: **Laura Kolkman** (one year term)