

Athena Society



B R I E F I N G S

September, 2013

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ATHENA SOCIETY

P.O. Box 10813
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Upcoming Meeting

- WHEN:** Thursday, September 12
11:55 a.m.
- WHERE:** Centre Club
Westshore at Kennedy
- PROGRAM:** The Phyllis Marshall Career Assistance Grants
2014 Recipients
- MENU:** Sunburst Salad (mixed greens, berries,
tomatoes, etc. topped w/grilled Chicken)
Veg plate available on request when reserving.
- COST:** Guests - \$25
- RSVP:** By September 9 – Register online
or email ewhubbard@aol.com.



OPEN MEETING – GUESTS WELCOME

Athena awards Phyllis Marshall Career Assistance Grants annually to a handful of very deserving women in our community. This luncheon will provide an opportunity for members to become better informed about this wonderful program and the impact it has both on the grant recipients and Athena members.

Following a brief history of the grants, **Adrienne Garcia** will introduce this year's three outstanding recipients, each of whom will have the opportunity to make brief remarks. The women to be honored are Kossiwa Afoudji (The Beth Waters Friendship Fund recipient), Hilda Tanis and Tiffaney White.

This is a great meeting for guests.....an opportunity to be inspired by hard-working, goal-oriented women.



President's Message

Our annual retreat is an important tradition where we relax, spend time with close friends and bond with new friends. Last month we traveled to the Eau Palm Beach Resort and Spa for a memorable weekend. The Saturday program showcased two of our members, **Bonnie Saks** and **Susan Steen**, who spoke about intimacy, relationships and memory loss. Both skillfully mixed science with anecdotes to shed light on our relationships with others – and ourselves — throughout every stage of our lives. Listening to Bonnie and Susan's presentations reminded me once again of the depth of our member's expertise.

One of the highlights of the retreat was the scavenger hunt on the hotel grounds. Teams were randomly chosen during dinner on Friday night by selecting colored rings from a bag. **Miriam Mason** and I (the event planners) were concerned that the teams would not locate all of the items during the allocated hour for this activity. We certainly underestimated the competitiveness and creativity of Athena participants! Congratulations to the winning team, **Edna Broyles, Jeanette Fenton, Yvonne Fry, Judy Ryan** and **Amanda Sansone**! Soon you will see photos on the Athena website of the winning team proudly wearing their gold medals and all the teams competing in the hunt.

Thanks so much to **Amanda Sansone**, Chair of the Retreat Committee, and her committee consisting of **Margaret Matthews, Tina Tenret, Lara Tibbals, Yvonne Fry, Miriam Mason, Melinda Chavez, Bonnie Saks, Susan Dellinger, Mindy McLaughlin, Elaine Terenzi, Gail Holtzman** and **Maruchi Azorin** for their fabulous job planning the retreat and the amazing goodie bags. A special thanks to Maruchi for the beautiful Athena handkerchiefs and to **Deborah Skyrms** (Deborah Kent's) and **Winnie Marvel** (Alvin Magnon Jewelers) for the generous gift certificates.

We begin our monthly programs by honoring the recipients of **Phyllis Marshall** Career Assistance Grants. These annual grants are one of the tangible ways that we come together as a group to assist women. All of the recipients are struggling to become educated so that they can improve their lives. Many of them are single mothers raising children, working and attending school. They have desperate financial situations and little or no support from family and friends. We provide grants to these women from our fund at the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay. The fund was created in honor of Athena's 20th anniversary as a meaningful way for us to help women. Currently our fund has a balance of approximately \$85,000. Each year 10% of Athena's unallocated fund balance is added to the fund. Athena receives approximately 5% of the total fund balance each year to award grants. Another source of funds for the Career Assistance Grants is the **Beth Waters** Friendship

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President's Message *continued*

Fund (BWFF). Beth Waters was an active Athena sister who lost a courageous battle to cancer in 2006 at the age of 45. Following Beth's death, her friends and family formed the BWFF to honor and remember her. The BWFF currently provides grants to three organizations that were important to Beth: The Spring of Tampa Bay, Faces of Courage and Athena. This year we received a \$2300 grant from the BWFF which we will present during our September meeting. Beth's legacy continues by providing funds to educate and empower women.

Thank you to **Adrienne Garcia** for serving as Chair of the Phyllis Marshall Career Assistance Grants Committee this past year and to **Rachelle Bedke** for serving as Chair for 2013-2014. This Committee handles the grant application and selection process. Rachelle and I encourage you to join this committee and participate in this signature program. **JoAnn Urofsky** has graciously agreed to serve as Chair of the Philanthropy Committee for the upcoming year. Under JoAnn's leadership, the goal is to increase Athena's Community Foundation fund from \$85,000 to \$100,000. This will enable us to provide more grants on an annual basis to deserving women in our community.



News About Members

Moira Burke has been named Medical Director at Premier Eye Care with offices headquartered in Delray Beach and Tampa. The focus of her new position is to oversee the credentials of the physicians and the quality involved in the eye care of over two million people in 15 states. **Lorna Taylor** is the firm's president and CEO.

At the Annual Meeting in San Francisco this month, **Gail Holtzman** was elected Vice Chair of the ABA Section of Labor and Employment Law for 2013-14.

Congratulations to **Jeanne Tate** who just welcomed grandbaby #2: Hayden Amanda Healey born on August 26 at St. Joseph's Hospital. Her parents are Kevin and Erica Tate Healey and her big brother (18 months old) is Kevin as well.

We extend our sincere sympathy to **Adrienne Garcia** whose father, Mario Garcia, passed away on Wednesday.



September Birthdays

Birthday wishes to the following members who celebrate in September:

Karen Arnold
Maruchi Azorin
Dore Beach
Kathy Betancourt
Edna Broyles
Marva Crenshaw

Kim DeBosier
Mary Estes
Sandy Freedman
Yvonne Fry
Chantal Hevia
Alene Mahin

Paddy Moses
Candy Olson
Jan Platt
Sylvia Richardson
Doris Weatherford

Members' Projects

Paddy Moses invites Athena members to take advantage of the health programs being offered at Memorial Hospital. For the next three months it's "Mammograms & Martinis." In addition to mammograms, you can also get bone density/dexa screenings and calcium scores. This is a great opportunity to have dinner, drinks, massages and fun while monitoring your health; the hours are 5 to 7 p.m. To reserve your spot for September 24, October 29 or November 19, call 813/342-1420.

Pinellas resident **Elizabeth Walters** keeps us updated on cultural happenings across the bay and notes that September 28 is a special day: "ArtsAlive/Free Museum Day" from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in St. Pete. Participating museums include: Chihuly Collection, Creative Clay, Florida Craftsmen, Florida Holocaust Museum, Great Explorations Children's Museum, Mahaffey Plaza, Morean Art Center for Clay, MFA, Museum of History, the Dali and many more.

Calendar

October 3 – Luncheon
November 7 – Luncheon
December 15 – Holiday Party (4-6 p.m.)
January 9 – Luncheon
February 6 – Luncheon
March 6 – Luncheon
April 3 – Luncheon
May 1 – Luncheon
June 5 – Dinner
July 18-20 – Retreat

