

Athena Society



B R I E F I N G S

December, 2017

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ATHENA SOCIETY

P.O. Box 10813
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33679

Upcoming Meeting – Holiday Party!

WHEN: Sunday, December 10
5 - 7 p.m.

WHERE: Home of **Virginia Covington**
2901 So. Beach Drive, 33629
(Driving directions to come later.)

COST: Member and one guest – complimentary
Additional guests - \$30

RSVP: By December 6 – Register online
or email ewhubbard@aol.com



Note from Hospitality Chair **Gwynne Young**: Athena sisters – now is the time of year we come together to celebrate friends. We're preparing for our annual holiday party at the beautiful waterfront home of **Virginia Covington** on Sunday, December 10, 5 - 7 p.m.

Come prepared for an elegant holiday atmosphere, festive setting on the water and a delicious buffet. There will be outdoor seating for those who want to enjoy what is expected to be still-perfect weather.

We have an opportunity to share the joy of the season with children in the Wimauma area by joining with an organization called "Enterprising Latinas," an organization whose mission, among others, is to improve the status of women. See <http://www.enterprisinglatinas.org> for additional information. To get in the spirit of the evening, please feel free to bring an unwrapped new toy for a child of any age.

We extend a special invitation to those members who find it difficult to attend luncheon meetings. You've been missed; it would be a treat to have you join us.



President's Message

"It's the most wonderful time of the year..." and in many ways it is. However, it is also a time of stress, moments of unrealistic and idyllic images of what the season should be and days full of hustling, bustling and over-scheduled events and promises. We fret about finding and giving the perfect gifts, give ourselves a headache about whether or not to send cards and to whom and if we decide to do it - we worry if we missed someone. We get caught up in decorating and planning, ordering and waiting, checking the lists over and over and all the while driving ourselves crazy. I know you get the idea. Perhaps I sound a bit like Scrooge with my descriptions of the "other side" of the holidays.

No matter where we are in our life's journey - as women - we take on so much and much too often we put ourselves last; not just during the holidays but in our daily living. I wanted this newsletter to validate the importance of being good to ourselves. So, I decided to ask your suggestions on how to make the upcoming season less stressful and extra special for ALL OF US! I wanted suggestions on how to better take care of ourselves, how to put ourselves at the top of what matters, to rethink what the season means and most of all to encourage us to take off our **SUPERWOMAN** cape and find ways to create and enjoy some personal time for ourselves!

There were so many wonderful suggestions that I am not able to include them in the newsletter, so look for them as a separate email later this week. **Subject: Gifts of Support and Caring from your Athena Sisters**

Thank you for being so generous with your suggestions. I hope each of you will find some time in your busy moments now and in the hurried days ahead - to **stop and embrace these "gifts" and enjoy the rewards of being good to yourself.** Hey! No excuses!

*Wishing you a holiday that will make you smile,
bring you peace, give you joy
and
allow you to relax and celebrate the best of you!*





Directory – December 13 Deadline

Because of the holiday activity and everyone's busy schedules, we've extended the directory update deadline to December 13. As all the information is taken from your webpage, please make sure that yours is accurate, especially email and phone contacts. If you need help, contact **Jean McNally** (jmcnally@revtrans.com) or **Eleanor Hubbard**.

Athena Housekeeping

Membership VP **Jeanette Fenton** has announced the deadline for membership nominations will be March 3; the form will be available next week. All members can participate in the sponsorship process with the exception of those inducted in 2017.

If you're travelling during the holidays, remember that we welcome your leftover hotel toiletries for The Spring, Alpha House and Ronald McDonald House. Feel free to bring your donations to any Athena function or call **Eleanor Hubbard** to arrange for a pickup.

A few Athena scarves are still available for \$35. Contact **Eleanor Hubbard** if you'd like to reserve one.

No luncheon meeting in December; January 4 is the date of our next one.

2018 Retreat – Save the Date!

Retreat Co-Chairs **Penny Parks** and **Suzanne McCormick** have announced the committee's decision on when and where for next summer's funfest: "Sarasota Stylin" at the Ritz Carlton, July 27-29. Anyone interested in working on the program portion is encouraged to contact the chairs.

December Birthdays

Birthday wishes to the following members who celebrate in December:

Jane Castor
Susan Dellinger
Katherine Essrig
Valerie Goddard
Carlye Morgan

Donna Petersen
Gayla Russell
Stella Thayer
Kem Toole
Pam Wolf





December/January Bonuses

On Sunday, December 3, we'll meet at Sykes Chapel on the campus of the University of Tampa for the Holiday Concert. This is an ecumenical program of choral and instrumental music. It begins at 2 p.m. but seats fill early. We can reserve 10 until 1:30 but suggest you arrive before 1:30 and additional seats will be available.

Also on December 3 Athena members can enjoy the 3 p.m. show, "Avenue Q", at Stageworks Theatre with a \$5 discount. Winner of the Tony Award Triple Crown (Best Musical, Best Score and Best Book), "Avenue Q" is a laugh-out-loud musical that is packed with heart, a long-running Broadway hit just right for the holidays ahead.

Dr. Elizabeth Coachman, a retired physician, will speak on her recently published book, *Mary Jane Stafford, Indomitable Mite* at 6:30 p.m. on January 10 at the Tampa History Center. Dr. Stafford (1831-1891) began as a Civil War nurse, then studied medicine. She wrote prolifically on progressive reforms, race relations and temperance. Dinner will be available at the Columbia Restaurant on the property. Questions may be directed to **Anne Gormly** or **Doris Weatherford**.



News About Members

The passing of **Jan Platt** on November 3 was a huge loss to our sisterhood and to the entire Tampa Bay area. She will be missed as a friend and for her unique contributions to the community on many levels. Please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers.

The Florida Supreme Court has appointed **Elaine Terenzi** to membership on the Florida Board of Bar Examiners; her term goes to October 31, 2020. The Examiners implement the court's constitutional authority to oversee and regulate admissions of new attorneys to The Florida Bar.

Marsha Rydberg has been reappointed to the Federal Judicial Nominating Commission for the Middle District of Florida. She has served for the past eight years and the new term is for an additional two.

Under construction for almost a year but with completion in sight, the **Arthenia L. Joyner** University Area Community Library will be opening in early 2018 at 13619 No. 22nd Street. The partnership library with Muller Elementary Magnet School will serve as its Media Center during school hours and will be open to the public after school. For additional information, see <http://www.hcplc.org/hcplc/locations/ucl/>.

As reported in the media, Florida Senate President Joe Negron announced that **Gail Golman Holtzman**, a principal at Jackson Lewis, P.C. has been selected to serve as the lead investigator into allegations of sexual harassment by Senator Jack Latvala.



More Philanthropy Heroes!

The list last month of 92 donors to the Philanthropy Committee was impressive but incomplete. Several names were inadvertently omitted while others are being added for contributions this month. Our total comes to well over \$8,000 with the addition of these members: **Rachelle Bedke, RoseAnne Bowers, Rose Brempong, Susan Grady, Lagretta Lenker, Ann Madsen, Mindy McLaughlin, Elizabeth Walters, Doris Weatherford, Belinda Wilson and Joan Zinober.** If other acknowledgments are missing, please contact **Eleanor Hubbard.**

2017-18 Calendar

- December 1 – Athena Plus – Unveiling Riverwalk Statues
- December 3 – Bonus – Holiday Concert, Sykes Chapel, UT
- December 10 – Holiday Party, Home of Va. Covington
- January 4 – Luncheon (Early Childhood Education)
- February 1 – Luncheon
- March 1 – Luncheon
- April 5 – Luncheon (YWP)
- May 3 – Luncheon (Career Asst. Grants)
- June 7 – Dinner (Annual Meeting)



Members' Projects

Doris Weatherford invites members to attend a panel discussion assembled by Renee Warmack for a night of inspiration, advice and networking to help women get empowered and take action. Given the national conversation on all things women, you'll get an update on the latest laws and policies, the impact of gender bias and learn ways to make change. For tickets and more information: <https://WomenInAmerica.eventbrite.com>.