

Athena Society



B R I E F I N G S

January, 2017

2016-2017 OFFICERS

PRESIDENTJEANNE TATE
PRESIDENT-ELECTDORETHA EDGECOMB
VP/MEMBERSHIPDIANNE JACOB
VP/PROGRAMSTINA TENRET
SECRETARYMINDY McLAUGHLIN
TREASURERSHANNON REID
IMM. PAST PRESIDENT.....KIM DeBOSIER

BOARD

SIMONE BAREFIELD
JANE CASTOR
YVONNE FRY
AMANDA SANSONE
LORNA TAYLOR
GWYNNE YOUNG

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

BONNIE CARR
KERI EISENBEIS
KATHERINE ESSRIG
JEANETTE FENTON
DENISE JORDAN
SUSAN STERN
ALTERNATE: BECCA TIEDER

ADMINISTRATOR/EDITOR

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

ATHENA SOCIETY

P.O. Box 10813
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33679

Upcoming Meeting

WHEN: Thursday, January 5
11:55 a.m.



WHERE: Centre Club
Westshore at Kennedy

PROGRAM: Operation Road Trip: Innovators Creating
Hope Through Action Around the U.S.

SPEAKER: Jan Roberts

MENU: Fennel-Dusted Salmon
Veg plate available on request when reserving.

COST: Guests - \$30

RSVP: By January 3 – Register online
or email ewhubbard@aol.com

OPEN MEETING – GUESTS WELCOME

Begin 2017 with an uplifting look at economists, educators, artists, farmers and community developers nationwide and their initiatives to improve the well-being of people, communities and the planet.

Jan Roberts captured their video stories on a road trip that covered more than 13,000 miles, lasted two and a half months, resulted in six car problems and consumed 1.75 liters of rum and countless glasses of red wine!

Jan has been a social change agent for more than 40 years, serves as president and founder of the Cultural Innovations Agency and founded Earth Charter US to establish national sustainability programs.

A great program for guests!



President's Message

My Athena Sisters, as you read this message we're on the verge of a new calendar year; however, as I put pen to paper - actually, more correctly, keyboard to computer - it's still 2016 with Christmas, Hanukkah and the New Year to come. It indeed is a lovely time of the year. Here's to family and dear friends! And whatever the New Year holds, may it be a healthy, safe and joyous one for each of us, our loved ones and our beloved country.

By nature I am the glass-half-full person, the optimist for whom tomorrow always hold promise. I believe strongly that my optimism has been a key to my positive emotional and physical health. I am adaptable and wired to navigate life's strong head winds. I think overall, on a macro level, our country has a similar DNA. This was the sense I had last month, when I wrote how encouraged I was by the initial post-election comments. Several weeks later my optimism endures and this is thanks in no small measure to the gracious words of President Obama himself, who gives lie to the notion that rancor, divisiveness, partisanship, are - and forever shall be - the order of the day, to-wit: *"The point though is that we all go forward with a presumption of good faith in our fellow citizens, because that presumption of good faith is essential to a vibrant and functioning economy. That is how this country has moved for 240 years."*

Regardless of which side of the political aisle you find yourself, these comments forging unity and promoting coalescence should give us all confidence that our great country shall move inexorably forward through a peaceful and orderly transition of power, its vibrancy and freedoms in full bloom.

November 7th, the day before the election, America lost a true giant; a giant not because this person stood just north of six feet tall or became the first woman to serve as Attorney General but a giant because of her unwavering principles, unassailable ethics, steely resolve and the-buck-stops-here honesty. This was Janet Reno, Florida's daughter, career prosecutor, public servant extraordinaire and a role model for all who aspire to do the people's work in the most public of public squares. She had the courage to soldier on with a debilitating illness (Parkinson's) whose symptoms were on full display during much of her tenure as Attorney General and ultimately claimed her at age 78.

For those of us female professionals finding our way, especially ones like me from South Florida, Janet Reno was a titan in what historically was a man's world. For our younger Athena sisters, just Google Branch Davidians, Elian Gonzalez, the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing, the "Unabomber" or the 1993 World Trade Center bombing to gain a glimpse of this incredible woman. Rest well, Janet Reno. Thank you for service to country and to the Sunshine State. We Athena women are enriched and ennobled by your trailblazing work.

Sunday, December 11th was our Athena holiday party and it was exquisite! **Sandy Murman** was our host, welcoming us into her beautifully appointed home, and **Gwynne Young** orchestrated what can only be described as culinary choices on the level of divine, sublime! Sandy and Gwynne, thank you so very much for an unparalleled gathering. The venue was stunning, the company incomparable and the camaraderie one for a lifetime!



Athena Housekeeping

The 2017 edition of our membership directory will be distributed at the January and February luncheons; thereafter, those not in attendance will receive theirs by mail.

Deadline for membership nominations is March 4; forms may be requested from **Eleanor Hubbard** at ewhubbard@aol.com. All members may participate in the process with the exception of those inducted in 2016.

Save the Date: March 10. The Helen Gordon Davis Centre for Women is holding its “Waves of Change” Leadership Luncheon at the Hilton Tampa Downtown. Honorees are Sheila Johnson (national) and Sandy Freedman (local). Details later.

Another important Save the date: March 21. Congratulations to **Doretha Edgecomb** and **Cathy Lynch** who will be honored as Women of Distinction by the Girl Scouts of West Central Florida. Details later.

Bonus Activities

Some great outings planned.....mark your calendars!

January 18 - Dine Around - Cafe Sono, Tampa Museum of Art. **Kem Toole** is the contact person.

February 25 - Folk Artist Ruby Williams, Black History Month Celebration, soul food and Plant City at its best. More details to come **from Lorna Taylor, Fentrice Driskell** and **Bonnie Carr**.

March 29 – 6 p.m. tour of Tampa Bay Lightning facilities. **Leslie Stein** is the contact person.



News About Members

Miriam Mason announces that effective January 1 she will continue the practice of Marital & Family Law as a shareholder at the firm of Allen Dell PA. Her office address and contact information will be: Allen Dell PA, 202 S Rome Avenue #100, Tampa, 33606, MMason@allendell.com, 813/223-5351.

Jeanette LaRussa Fenton has retired after over 41 years of public service, 20 years with Hillsborough County and the last 21 with the City of Tampa. Although Jeanette has retired from city employment, she plans to continue working as a consultant and to enjoy more time with family and friends. She may be contacted at jlfen@verizon.net or 813/610-2653.



2017 Calendar

January 18 – Bonus – Dine Around at Tampa Museum
February 2 – Luncheon
February 25 – Bonus – Folk Artist, Black History Month
March 2 – Luncheon
March 29 – Bonus – Tampa Bay Lightning tour
April 6 – Luncheon (YWP)
May 4 – Luncheon (Career Asst. Grants)
June 8 – Dinner (Annual Meeting)

Mentoring Committee

President **Jeanne Tate** created the Mentoring Committee to provide outreach opportunities to students, graduates and Young Women of Promise (“YWP”) participants to foster professional and educational growth, career development and personal fulfillment. After consultation with YWP Co-Chairs **Michelle Schofner** and **Katherine Frazier**, the Mentoring Committee decided that Jeanne’s vision of helping and inspiring young women would be best served by offering mentoring opportunities to all 28 YWP applicants, not just the YWP candidates who are selected. Those not selected may, in fact, have greater need for the mentoring guidance and support of our Athena members.

The letters to YWP applicants in February informing them of the results of the selection process will include information about the mentoring program. The letters will also include separate questionnaires to be completed by those applicants who are interested in participating in the program. The questionnaire will help the Mentoring Committee identify the applicant’s educational and career goals and interests so that the Committee can match each applicant with an Athena member who has already achieved those goals or has similar interests.

As Mentoring Committee Co-Chairs, we are excited to implement this program and hope that you will agree to serve as a mentor. Please let us know if you are willing to serve. Also, please contact us if you have questions or ideas about this new mentoring initiative. Thank you!

Amy Farrior and Gail Golman Holtzman

January Birthdays

Birthday wishes to the following members who celebrate in January:

Jean Amuso	Cynthgia Gandee-Zinober	Miriam Mason	Michelle Schofner
RoseAnne Bowers	Judy Genshaft	Barbara Reeves	Deborah Skyrms
Patti Breckenridge	Linda Gibbs	Lisa Robbins	Nancy Vaughn
Noni Brill	Laura Kolkman	Lesley Rudolph	Elizabeth Walters
Susan Casper			



Community Action Committee

In connection with the Community Action Committee's (CAC) Time and Talent Call to Action Initiative, please join us on Friday afternoon, February 17, for a time and talent call to action activity at The **Helen Gordon Davis** Centre for Women ("The Centre for Women"), 305 S. Hyde Park Avenue. This will be a fun "community action activity" while providing much needed volunteer resources.

While we sit, talk and laugh at each other's creativity or lack of, our task will be to help with assembling table centerpieces for The Centre for Women's **Helen Gordon Davis** Waves of Change event on March 10. We'll start at noon and end when we're finished. Any amount of time you can commit during the afternoon will be greatly appreciated. Light refreshments will be served between noon and 3 p.m.

RSVP is not necessary; however, feel free to call The Centre for Women at 251-8437 to confirm your participation. **Kem Toole** and The Centre for Women staff will assist those of us lacking in creative talents and needing directions.

As most of you know, The Centre for Women was founded by **Helen Gordon Davis** who was a champion for women and civil rights. **Ann Madsen** is the Executive Director and Athena members currently serve or have previously served on The Centre's board. The organization's website is www.thecentre.org. The centerpieces that we'll assemble will support the Waves of Change event theme.

If this call to action activity is successful, the committee may recommend making this initiative a recurring CAC activity to benefit and showcase one of our nonprofit community organizations each year. We hope you'll participate in support of this CAC call to action activity.

Bonnie Carr, Chair
Community Action Committee



Members' Projects

Athena members are invited to join **Laura Waller** on her opening night, January 27, for her solo exhibition "Port Side: New Paintings by Laura Waller" from 7 – 9 p.m. at Clayton Galleries, 4105 South MacDill Avenue. The show will run until March 11.

Becca Tieder is co-chairing the Women of Temple B'nai Israel's Main Event, Warriors Rising, an evening with Glennon Doyle Melton. Melton is a NY Times best-selling author whose nonprofit, Together Rising, has raised millions for women and girls worldwide and her *Love Warrior* was a recent Oprah book club selection. Tickets (\$40) for the Clearwater event on January 8 can be purchased at warriorsrising2017.com.

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Upcoming Meeting

- WHEN:** Thursday, February 2
11:55 a.m.
- WHERE:** Centre Club
Westshore at Kennedy
- PROGRAM:** Retirement, Athena-Style
- MODERATOR:** **Linda Goldstein**
- PANELISTS:** **Bonnie Carr**
Molly Crews
Jane Peppard
Laura Waller
- MENU:** Chardonnay Citrus Chicken
Veg plate available on request when reserving.
- COST:** Guests - \$30
- RSVP:** By January 30 – Register online
or email ewhubbard@aol.com
- 

OPEN MEETING – GUESTS WELCOME

We come together in Athena as women who have succeeded in our professions. But what happens when we retire? Who are we when no longer defined by what we do for a living ... and everyone is still talking about office achievements?

Four of our esteemed members will share personal stories: why and when they chose to retire, what surprised them and how they overcame, accepted, or continue to face unexpected challenges.

Linda Goldstein will moderate what promises to be an insightful look into our retirement, Athena-style.



President's Message

The New Year is in full swing, the college football championship shined its brightest light on Tampa Bay—we looked marvelous!—the new President is in his first 100 days, movies are front and center, an award season is upon us (I commend each of you to take in *Jackie*, *Hidden Figures*, *La La Land* and *Lion* as these films have outstanding, Oscar-worthy, female acting performances) and our busy lives just keep going on and on and hopefully all for the good.

As many of you know, I was raised in South Florida, Oakland Park, Broward County, to be exact. Last month I wrote warmly of Janet Reno and how her passing stirred my treasure trove of memory for that part of Florida I called home. When we recall our childhood, we conjure up images and hearken back to many special, sometimes magical, places—many of which are in a lobe of our brain—but, amazingly, race back into focus when we walk these same grounds or have occasion to access them as adults.

One magical place for me growing up was our local airport where I used to gaze skyward at massive birds in the sky, wondering how something that enormous gets off the ground and, equally puzzling, how it ever lands safely. Moreover, our airport was where my family and I greeted loved ones who just arrived from the sky, thanks to these big birds, and where we then chatted excitedly at baggage claim, waiting impatiently to lug those large Samsonites (sans wheels back then) to our car.

It is against this backdrop that I took in last month's horrific shootings at Terminal 2 of the Ft. Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport. This was still another unspeakable, random act of violence where sweet innocent people collided with a person bent on mayhem and murder, and all in a venue where I have been all my life, where my family flies into and out of and will continue to do so and where many of you and your loved ones pass through when flying as well.

This event is not hitting “too close to home”; it is as if it has hit home to an aviation location near and dear to me and many of you, I am sure. These grieving families now must navigate a shattered landscape they never envisioned. And for those of you, like me, who know this airport well, this event has bulldozed a searing image we never imagined and re-enforced for us just how fragile and fleeting life can be.

This is exemplified as well by the December passing of Debbie Reynolds and Carrie Fisher one day apart. Mother-Daughter bonds are extraordinary, they are timeless, indeed they endure—no matter their tumultuous dynamic. Given when we grew up, what captivated us could have been Debbie Reynolds gliding along with Gene Kelly in *Singin' in the Rain* or Carrie Fisher as Princess Leia in *Star Wars*, whose strong female character was one we strove to emulate. Maybe we had the privilege to enjoy both of these screen luminaries during their amazing time in the public square.

Of course, neither was without her foibles, weaknesses, personal challenges, all of which were on display for the public, like it or not, fully illuminated. And how many of us can say our relationship

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President's Message *continued*

with our husband inspired him to pen a song, let alone an album, but Carrie Fisher can; just give a listen to Paul Simon's *Heart and Bones*.

Regrettably, work out of town precluded my attendance at January's "New Year, New Hope" luncheon which featured our own **Jan Roberts** but thanks to **Tina Tenret**, I understand Jan's captivating presentation not only was overwhelmingly well received - and by a record number of attendees who showed their appreciation to Jan with a standing ovation - but also that Jan's remarks were made all the warmer by **Lorna Taylor's** personal, insightful introduction.

Jan crisscrossed the country on a 3-month journey of 13,000 plus miles, along the way interviewing inspiring, passionate people making deep seated changes in their communities. Talk about the quintessential road trip! You can read all about Jan's incredible odyssey in her book: *Operation Road Trip: How a Video Camera, a Bottle of Run and A Car Renewed My Faith in the Future*, available through Jan's website, www.operationbonappetit.org. Better yet, invite Jan to your home, workplace, civic organization, and/or House of Worship where Jan can share her uplifting experience.

Athena Housekeeping

Please join Athena on Facebook at "Athena Society members." This is a closed group and will allow us to share more fun and member projects.

February Bonus

In honor of Black History Month, the Bonus Committee has planned a very special outing to the Bealsville community in Plant City where we will hear from local folk artist Ruby C. Williams. The event will take place on Saturday, February 25, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the historic Glover School and Museum located at 5104 Horton Road, Plant City 33567. Bealsville is a historic African American town that was founded by five freed slaves, one of whom was Ms. Williams' great-grandmother. Ms. Williams' work, which has been exhibited at the Smithsonian, features brightly-colored paintings that draw on her heritage and the role that farming has played in her family's history. Original pieces will be available for purchase via cash or check at the event and a soul food lunch will be served. We hope you'll join us for this special Bonus open to both members and guests. Please RSVP to **Eleanor Hubbard** at ewhubbard@aol.com by February 15.

Additionally, did you know that several of our fellow Athena members are pioneers in their professional fields and living examples of black history? Here are some highlights for your review:

- **Simone Gans Barefield** has owned and operated her own nationwide executive search and consulting firm for 30 years. Simone also was the sole African American woman to serve as an organizing director of NorthStar bank in Tampa.

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February Bonus *continued*

- In 1989 **Bonnie Carr** established her own CPA firm in Chicago where she trained and endorsed at least six other African American accountants to become Certified Public Accountants and maintained an active practice until 2009. Ms. Carr also was the first and to date only African American female to serve as Chief Financial Officer for Hillsborough Community College which served over 40,000 students and had a total budget in excess of \$400 million during her tenure.
- **Hon. Marva Crenshaw** is the third African American and second African American woman to sit on Florida's Second District Court of Appeal. Judge Crenshaw also is a founding member of the George Edgecomb Bar Association.
- **Fentrice Driskell** was the first African American valedictorian at her high school and the first African American woman to be elected as President of Harvard's student government. At the time she made partner at the Carlton Fields law firm, she was one of only six African American women to have done so in the firm's history.
- **Doretha Edgecomb**, a lifelong educator and champion of public education, was only the third African American and the second African American female to be elected to the Hillsborough County School Board. Mrs. Edgecomb also served for three terms as a director of the Children's Board of Hillsborough County and is the honorary chair of the George Edgecomb Society at the Moffitt Cancer Center.
- The first African American lawyer in Polk County, **Senator Arthenia Joyner** also was the first African American female attorney in Hillsborough County, Governor's appointee to the Hillsborough County Aviation authority, member of the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce, officer and board member of the Hillsborough County Bar Association, and chair of Bay Area Legal Services. Senator Joyner was the first African American female elected to the Florida House of Representatives and the Florida Senate from Hillsborough County and the first African American female elected as Democratic Leader of the Florida Senate. She also is the first African American member and a founding member of the Tampa Bay Partnership and the first African American female chair of Bay Area Legal Services.
- **Hon. Mary Scriven** was the first African American woman partner at the Carlton Fields law firm. Judge Scriven also was the first African American woman to sit on the federal bench in Florida and only the second to serve the federal judiciary in the Eleventh Circuit which covers Florida, Georgia and Alabama.
- **Dr. Juel Smith** is the first African American woman to establish an official Institute at the University of South Florida: The USF Institute on Black Life. She founded the Center for Africa and the Diaspora at USF and established a USF and African Agreement with Gabon, Africa. She also envisioned and established the USF Women in Leadership & Philanthropy Program and served as its Founding Executive Director. A native Oklahoman, she was a member the first Class to integrate Sapulpa High School (1962). Dr. Smith also is proud to have been elected the first African American woman to serve as president of the Athena Society.
- **Dr. Miriam Stamps** was the first African American female to be tenured in the College of Business at the University of south Florida, the first (and only to this point) African . American department chair in College of Business at USF. Dr. Stamps also was selected to be in the Hall of Fame of the PhD Project, a national group that encourages African-Americans, Hispanics and Native Americans to pursue PhD degrees in business-related fields, for her contributions over the years in accomplishing that goal.
- **Hon. Barbara Twine Thomas** was the first African American judge to win a runoff in a general election in Hillsborough County and is only the second African American circuit court judge to be elected in Hillsborough County.

Please join us in saluting these members and their outstanding contributions!



Waves of Change Luncheon

The **Helen Gordon Davis** Leadership Award at the second Waves of Change luncheon will be presented to Sheila Johnson, co-founder of Black Entertainment Television. Sandy Freedman, Tampa's first female mayor, will be the first recipient of the Waves Award which pays tribute to a local woman who has turned the tide for women's leadership in the Tampa Bay community. The celebration will be held at the Hilton Tampa Downtown, March 10 at 11:30 a.m. Tickets may be purchased at www.thecentre.org. If you'd like to sit at an Athena table, please contact **Eleanor Hubbard**.

News About Members

Our deepest condolences to two of our sisters who suffered recent losses: **Stella Thayer's** husband Bronson passed away on December 24 at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore; **Patti Breckenridge's** mother Eula Breckenridge passed away on January 8 in St. Petersburg.

Reminder that **Doretha Edgecomb** and **Cathy Lynch** will be honored as Women of Distinction by the Girl Scouts of West Central Florida on March 21. The luncheon will be held at the Bryan Glazer Family JCC; tickets are \$75 and can be purchased at www.gswcf.org. If you'd like to sit at an Athena table, please contact Eleanor Hubbard.

Career Assistance Grants

Applications for the **Phyllis Marshall** Career Assistance Grants are out! Submission deadline is March 10th and grant recipients will be selected in April and honored at our May luncheon. Applications have been forwarded to representatives from the following agencies listed below. Please contact **Elaine Terenzi** or **Ann Miller** at athenagrants@gmail.com if you would like to distribute an application or add a representative to our contact list.

Thank you for generously supporting the Marshall grants. Some of our community partners have already contacted us to let us know how much these grants mean to the women in our community, and the grants are a direct result of your support.

Alpha House
Bay Area Legal Services
Brewster Technical Center
Corporation to Develop Communities
Erwin Technical College
Hillsborough House of Hope
Hillsborough Community College
Tampa Housing Authority

The Centre for Women
The Spring
Tampa Crossroads
Career Services of Tampa Bay
Metropolitan Ministries
University of South Florida
Women's Resource Center of Tampa





2017 Calendar

February 17 – Time/Talent at Centre for Women
February 25 – Bonus – Folk Artist, Black History Month
March 2 – Luncheon – Topic: Public Transportation
March 29 – Bonus – Tampa Bay Lightning tour
April 6 – Luncheon (YWP)
May 4 – Luncheon (Career Asst. Grants)
June 8 – Dinner (Annual Meeting)



February Birthdays

Birthday wishes to the following members who celebrate in February:

Ruth Bell
Jan Cornelius
Ana Cruz
Stephanie Ferrell
Mary Gamble

Nancy Hutson
Arthenia Joyner
Susan Leisner
Maryanne Rouse
Marlene Spalten

Community Action Committee

Reminder of the time and talent gathering at the Helen Gordon Davis Centre for Women, 305 S. Hyde Park Avenue on Friday, February 17, from noon until we're finished assembling centerpieces for the Waves of Change event that is being held on March 10. This call to action activity will be fun and productive. Any amount of time you can commit during the afternoon is appreciated. Wine and cheese will be served to motivate the group. RSVP isn't necessary; however, feel free to call the Centre at 251-8437 to confirm your participation.

Bonnie Carr, CAC Chair

Athena Society



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TREASURERSHANNON REID
IMM. PAST PRESIDENT.....KIM DeBOSIER

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GWYNNE YOUNG

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DENISE JORDAN
SUSAN STERN
ALTERNATE: BECCA TIEDER

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Upcoming Meeting

WHEN: Thursday, March 2
11:55 a.m.

WHERE: Centre Club
Westshore at Kennedy

PROGRAM: Public Transportation

SPEAKER: Katharine Eagan, CEO
Hillsborough Area Regional Transit
(HART)

MENU: Old Fashioned Pot Roast w/red skin potatoes
Veg plate available on request when reserving.

COST: Guests - \$30

RSVP: By February 27 – Register online
or email ewhubbard@aol.com



OPEN MEETING – GUESTS WELCOME

Next week's program, spearheaded by the Community Action Committee, will explore the challenges and plans for public transportation in Hillsborough County. While most of us may not use the public transportation system, it is an integral part of the quality of life for those who do.

CEO of HART, Katharine Eagan will address concerns for accessibility and availability of service for women commuting to work and day care as well as for the elderly and disabled. She'll also share ideas to accommodate the anticipated growth in specific areas of the county.

Katharine Eagan was named one of the Business Women of the Year by the *Tampa Bay Business Journal* in 2016 and is the only female leader for transportation in our community.



President's Message

As I compose my monthly President's Message for March, I do so in anticipation of Athena's February 25th Black History Month celebration at the Glover School and Museum whose history as a school dates back to 1873. The Glover School is listed on the United States National Register of Historic Places and is included in Florida's Office of Cultural and Historical Programs. While supposedly in Plant City, in actuality the Glover School is in Bealsville, one of America's first African-American-founded communities dating back to its establishment in 1865 by twelve (12) freed slaves.

Our Athena Bonus - which will take place this Saturday - will be a repast melding and blending all the delicious flavors for which soul food is known and beloved. The luncheon also will have given those of us attending the distinct privilege to meet, listen to and admire the artwork and business acumen of Ruby C. Williams, a fourth generation Bealsville native whose great-grandmother, Mary Reddick, was among Bealsville's original founders. Ruby is a self-taught painter, children's book illustrator (*I am Ruby*), business owner of a self-built fruit and vegetable market on her property and wordsmith whose "sayings"-like "Hey, This is My Life"-appear on many of her paintings. Ruby is the recipient of the 2005 Florida Folk Heritage Award and was one of the featured artists in the Smithsonian's Anacostia Museum exhibit titled "On Their Own-Selected Self-Taught Artists." Ruby's art and produce business also were spotlighted by Florida author and native Jeff Klinkenberg in his book, *Seasons of Florida*.

And on the important topic of Black History and Black History Month, what I believe history shall record as a watershed event in the African-American experience in America - and what I hope shall become an integral part of Black History Month going forward - is the Sept. 24th opening of the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of African American History and Culture. Prominently situated just to the east of the Washington Monument, the Museum, an architectural marvel of a building comprised of three inverted trapezoids, is a testament to the vitality of our country's African-American brothers and sisters.

Finally, on Feb. 26th movie history could be made and, if so, also could figure prominently in Black History Month going forward. Films focusing on the African-American experience, like *Moonlight*, *Hidden Figures* and *Fences* already have been honored with a slew of Academy Award nominations. Each is nominated for Best Picture, Supporting Actress and Adapted Screenplay and have been showcased in many pre-Oscar award season events. Moreover, Ruth Negga of the film *Loving* is nominated for Best Actress and three (3) African-American-themed films - *I am Not Your Negro*, *O.J.: Made in America* and *13th*- are nominated for Best Documentary Feature. Plus the Oscar for Best Director could make history if bestowed upon *Moonlight's* Barry Jenkins. These nominations - let alone that any of these fine films should win - not only put to bed (hopefully forever) the shameful stain that was the not-so-long-ago "Oscars So White" but also give voice to other aspiring and established African-American artists and give Black History Month more prominent milestone(s) to highlight in the years ahead.

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President's Message *continued*

In closing, every five years we have the opportunity to examine our progress towards advancing Athena's purpose, relevancy and sustainability into the future....no small feat. This year we have elected to tap this opportunity by conducting a very comprehensive Long Range Planning effort.

- Since late January the Long Range Planning committee has been conducting interviews with current board members to identify those themes that best describe both the current and future state of Athena.
- The Past Presidents have already provided their input and the members of the Young Women of Promise committee have met with Long Range Planning Committee members to provide their perspectives.
- During March, all members will have an opportunity to participate in an electronic survey.
- Should you have specific input to provide to the Long Range Planning Committee, please do not hesitate to email your thoughts directly to the Chair, **Mary Gamble** at maryggamble@aol.com.
- Look for the Committee's preliminary findings and recommendations in April.

A special thank you to Mary and the Long Range Planning Committee members: **Karen Arnold, Robin DeLaVergne, Linda Devine, Doretha Edgecomb, Elizabeth Frazier, Susan Leisner, Ann Madsen and Katherine Young.**

Athena Housekeeping

Membership nomination forms are due by March 4. Questions regarding any aspect of the process may be directed to **Dianne Jacob** (Dianne.jacob@pnc.com).

If you see articles in trade papers, professional journals, regional editions of the TBT or anywhere else, pass them on to **Eleanor Hubbard**. As always, we're striving to make the chronology of our year as complete as possible.

The Lightning! – March Bonus

Be the Thunder and join Athena for a Lightning Bonus at Amalie Arena at 6 p.m. on March 29. There'll be a panel discussion with **Elizabeth Frazier** and several of her female colleagues about working in the sports and entertainment industry in one of the busiest arenas in the country. We'll have heavy hors d'oeuvres and a tour of the facility after the panel discussion. This is one event that you won't want to miss. We extend a special thank you to Elizabeth and the Lightning for sponsoring this Bonus. As space is limited, you'll need to make a reservation with **Eleanor Hubbard** on or before March 20. Parking instructions will be emailed at a later date.



Women's Hall of Fame

The Hillsborough County Women's Hall of Fame Class of 2017 will be honored on Friday, March 24, at the Tampa Convention Center. The Hillsborough County Commission on the Status of Women will induct Dr. **Gwendolyn Stephenson** posthumously in addition to Carol Morsani and Geraldine Twine. Tickets may be purchased at info@FriendsofCOSW.org.

Waves of Change Luncheon

The **Helen Gordon Davis** Leadership Award at the second Waves of Change luncheon will be presented to Sheila Johnson, co-founder of Black Entertainment Television. Sandy Freedman, Tampa's first female mayor, will be the first recipient of the Waves Award which pays tribute to a local woman who has turned the tide for women's leadership in the Tampa Bay community. The celebration will be held at the Hilton Tampa Downtown, March 10 at 11:30 a.m. Tickets may be purchased at www.thecentre.org. If you'd like to sit at an Athena table, please contact **Eleanor Hubbard**.

Our Retreat – Captivating!

Excitement is growing as work progresses on plans for our annual retreat, July 14-16. The committee, under the leadership of **Jeanette Fenton**, has selected the South Seas Island Resort on Captiva Island as our playground for a weekend of fun and relaxation. You'll hear details at next week's meeting and registration information will be distributed in March.

News About Members

Congratulations to **Arthenia Joyner** who will receive the 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award presented by the League of Women Voters of Hillsborough County on March 1. The luncheon will be held at the Doubletree Hotel, 4500 W. Cypress. Tickets are \$50 each and may be purchased at hclwv.org. If you'd like to sit at an Athena table, please contact **Eleanor Hubbard**.

Our esteemed President-Elect **Doretha Edgecomb** is racking up kudos everywhere! Last week she was given the Community Impact Award by the Tampa YMCA "for her dedication and positive impact on Tampa Bay residents."

And she expressed her gratitude for another award: A special thank you to my Athena sisters for your vote and support. I am honored to share with you the good news that I am now a member of the Florida State Fair Wall of Fame. With a grateful heart, **Doretha Edgecomb**.

A reminder that she and **Cathy Lynch** will be honored as Women of Distinction by the Girl Scouts of West Central Florida on March 21. The luncheon will be held at the Bryan Glazer Family JCC; tickets are \$75 and can be purchased at www.gswcf.org. If you'd like to sit at an Athena table, please contact Eleanor Hubbard.



2017 Calendar

March 29 – Bonus – Tampa Bay Lightning tour

April 6 – Luncheon (YWP)

May 4 – Luncheon (Career Asst. Grants)

June 8 – Dinner (Annual Meeting)



March Birthdays

Birthday wishes to the following members who celebrate in March:

Linda D'Aquila

Dianne Jacob

Judy Dato

Bonnie Saks

Fentrice Driskell

Susan Steen

Sandy Frye

Natalie Thomas

Gwynne Young



Dottie MacKinnon Woman of Influence 2017 Award

Though there's not much time, please consider nominating a fellow Athena member for this prestigious award which was created to annually recognize a woman whose leadership has made a positive impact on Hillsborough County. It pays tribute to an individual who exemplifies outstanding professional values, demonstrates the ability to go above and beyond the normal expectations of a leader and serves as an inspiration to the community. The award, established by the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce's Women of Influence Committee, will be presented at a luncheon on April 13 at the Hilton Tampa Downtown. Previous recipients include Dottie herself, **Judi Lisi**, **Jane Castor** and **Judy Genshaft**. Nominations are due March 1.



A Refocus on Women

March is designated as Women's Month. With this in mind, the Community Action Committee is encouraging us to refocus on women and the purpose of Athena as we serve in our communities. The recent march in Washington, D.C. and other cities was a reminder that many of the issues that prompted the formation of Athena still persist today. While there were many different groups involved and many agendas presented, there was an overall and consistent interest in refocusing on women's issues. To support our refocusing and recollection of positions that Athena has approved on several public issues, following is an abbreviated list of those positions: (The full list is published on the Athena website.)

Affirmative Action - The Athena Society favors ongoing action to remove barriers and secure access to the full range of educational, employment and economic opportunities for all people.

Choice - The Athena Society supports the position that the decision to have an abortion is a personal one. Further, this decision should be an informed choice. Consistent with this position, Athena opposes any governmental interference with an individual's right to decide when or if she should bear children.

Day Care - Concerned with the ongoing need for day care programs outside the household and schools and an anticipated increase in those needs due to our economy, where it is common for both parents to work and for children to grow up in one-parent families.

Educational Funding - Recognizing that the strength of our democracy is based on the strength of our educational system, the Athena Society supports fully funding programs that allow all students the ability to maximize their potential; and providing resources for teacher salaries that attract and retain the best and brightest.

Equal Rights Amendment - The Athena Society supports the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Indigent Health Care - The Athena Society supports access to quality, uninterrupted health care for all citizens.

Non-Violence - The Athena Society supports a stand against violence through activities and the dissemination of information aimed at changing this course.

Pay Equity - Athena Society believes that a system of pay equity or comparable worth should be instituted in government, industry, and the professions in all positions which lend themselves to objective ranking.

Tolerance - Concerned with acts of hatred and prejudice in our community, the Athena Society rejects activities that promote intolerance and dissension; embraces policies and actions that value and promote diversity, understanding and the acceptance of differences in race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation and gender; and promotes the eradication of prejudice and bigotry whenever and wherever it is encountered.

Bonnie Carr, CAC Chair

Athena Society



B R I E F I N G S

April, 2017

2016-2017 OFFICERS

PRESIDENTJEANNE TATE
PRESIDENT-ELECTDORETHA EDGECOMB
VP/MEMBERSHIPDIANNE JACOB
VP/PROGRAMSTINA TENRET
SECRETARYMINDY McLAUGHLIN
TREASURERSHANNON REID
IMM. PAST PRESIDENT.....KIM DeBOSIER

BOARD

SIMONE BAREFIELD
JANE CASTOR
YVONNE FRY
AMANDA SANSONE
LORNA TAYLOR
GWYNNE YOUNG

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

BONNIE CARR
KERI EISENBEIS
KATHERINE ESSRIG
JEANETTE FENTON
DENISE JORDAN
SUSAN STERN
ALTERNATE: BECCA TIEDER

ADMINISTRATOR/EDITOR

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

ATHENA SOCIETY

P.O. Box 10813
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33679

Upcoming Meeting

WHEN: Thursday, April 6
11:55 a.m.

WHERE: Centre Club
Westshore at Kennedy

PROGRAM: Dr. **Sylvia Richardson**
Young Women of Promise – Class of 2017

MENU: Cobb Salad
Veg plate available on request when reserving.

COST: Guests - \$30

RSVP: By April 3 – Register online
or email ewhubbard@aol.com



OPEN MEETING – GUESTS WELCOME

Since 1981 Athena has identified young women of promise across Hillsborough County, and this year's program continues this fine tradition. Ten very special young women will be introduced, each outstanding in her own way. See page 3 for a list of those to be recognized.

Each honoree will comment on an accomplishment that has given her great satisfaction. You'll be inspired and impressed by their stories. Please join us and bring friends who would enjoy meeting some truly incredible teens.



www.athena-society.com



President's Message

Like many of you who attended our March luncheon, I have been concerned — and that may be too mild a term — by the absence of foresight and vision displayed by our many of our elected officials in the arena of public transportation. That is why I was so interested to hear our guest speaker's luncheon remarks and, indeed, HART CEO Katharine Eagan gave us a litany of options to consider. Here's to an expanded funding for HART and for the similar entity across the bay, the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA).

Speaking succinctly and passionately, Katharine laid out a road map for the public transportation path forward and it is one Katharine suggests, now more than ever, must include a Tampa Bay region focus rather than a pure local-focus, which historically has been the mantra, but which direction clearly is shifting, an encouraging signal in and of itself. While many of us may not utilize public transportation day-in and day-out, it nonetheless is the transportation lifeline for many — most of whom are women — and it not only must be *affordable* but it also must be *accessible* and *available*, the AAA of public transportation.

Our elected officials, our transportation experts and all of us motivated to see change need not re-invent the wheel. Other cities have embraced the challenge that is public transportation in new and creative ways while still maintaining the tried and true options, even expanding them. Let's look once again at options that are over and above the bus, especially the mega bus. Orlando has Sun-Rail, South Florida has Tri-Rail and Miami its over-ground Metro system. Tampa has room for rail on I-4 and on I-275 between the airport and downtown. Moreover, Tampa has its trolley system and its funding sources, best use, even expansion, are on the front burner.

How do we make the Tampa Bay Cross Bay Ferry - which is a lovely and leisurely excursion - an affordable and viable transportation option? Take a virtual or, better yet, actual ride aboard Seattle's Washington State Ferries, NYC's Staten Island Ferry or San Francisco's Golden Gate Ferries to get a glimpse of what could be for the Tampa Bay area.

Whatever will be from among the plethora of transportation options available, our citizens must have options to get to their jobs, to their child's daycare, to their shopping venues, and it must not be a daily, hours-long odyssey. The hope is that when that single, working mom, child in tow, sets out for the bus, trolley, ride share vehicle, subway, light rail, train or ferry she safely and timely arrives at her final destination with an *AAA* experience.

BTW, native Florida daughter and loyal Florida Gator that I am, nonetheless, I salute the FSU film school and its proud alum, Barry Jenkins, a native Florida son, whose exquisite film, *Moonlight*, received the Academy Award as Best Picture for 2016 and who, along with playwright, Tarell Alvin McCraney, also a Florida native, received the Academy Award for Best Adapted Screenplay for *Moonlight*, adapted from Mr. McCraney's original play, *In Moonlight Black Boys Look Blue*.



2017 YWP Recipients

Samantha App	Middleton High School
Leigh Dittman	Gaither High School
McKenna Ebert	Berkeley Preparatory School
Shelby Ernst	Freedom High School
Mairyn Harris-Jones	Wharton High School
Jennani Jayaram	H B Plant High School
Courtney Lasman	Durant High School
Caitlin Shannon	The Academy of Holy Names
Vivika Sheppard	Robinson High School
Sarah Weinstein	Tampa Preparatory School

Athena Housekeeping

If you see articles in trade papers, professional journals, regional editions of the TBT or anywhere else, pass them on to **Eleanor Hubbard**. As always, we're striving to make the chronology of our year as complete as possible.



Retreat in July!

Mark your calendars for our annual retreat, July 14-16.....it'll be Captivating! The committee, chaired by **Jeanette Fenton**, has selected the South Seas Island Resort on Captiva Island as our playground for a weekend of fun and relaxation. Aside from our exciting agenda, you'll have a variety of activities to choose from: boating, kayaking, swimming, biking, golf, tennis, etc. We'll roll out all the details at next week's meeting.

News About Members

Margaret Mathews was recently selected as the recipient of the Hillsborough County Bar Association's (HCBA) 2016 Outstanding Lawyer of the Year Award. This honor recognizes lawyers who have made a significant difference in the practice of law and in the community with their personal and professional conduct. She was presented with the award by Senior U.S. District Judge **Susan Bucklew** during the HCBA's quarterly meeting.



Directory Changes

Lee Leavengood – leeleavengood@gmail.com

April Bonus

Deborah Kent's would like to invite you for a night of fun and fashion. Shop the latest trends from around the world while enjoying champagne and hors d'oeuvres. Local jewelry designer **Anne Kantor** will be on hand with her newest creations! In addition, preview the Fall 2017 Elliott Lauren collection at the Trunk Show, April 20, 5:30 -7:30 p.m., 2120 So. Dale Mabry.

2017 Calendar

April 20 – Bonus – Fun/Fashion at Deborah Kent's
May 4 – Luncheon (Career Asst. Grants)
June 8 – Dinner (Annual Meeting)
June 25 – New members' party



April Birthdays

Birthday wishes to the following members who celebrate in April:

Marsha Lewis Brown
Robin DeLaVergne
Anne Gormly
Maria Howey
Pam Iorio
Shannon Reid

Jan Roberts
Linda Saul-Sena
Bemetra Simmons
Eldra Solomon
Tina Tenret
Susan Zimmer



Athena Society



B R I E F I N G S

May, 2017

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DENISE JORDAN
SUSAN STERN
ALTERNATE: BECCA TIEDER

ADMINISTRATOR/EDITOR

ELEANOR HUBBARD
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ewhubbard@aol.com

ATHENA SOCIETY

P.O. Box 10813
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33679

Upcoming Meeting

- WHEN:** Thursday, May 4
11:55 a.m.
- WHERE:** Centre Club
Westshore at Kennedy
- PROGRAM:** **Phyllis Marshall** Career Assistance Grants
Class of 2017
- SPEAKER:** Dr. **Mary Key**, President
Key Associates Inc. (KA)
- MENU:** Pomegranate Glazed Chicken
Veg plate available on request when reserving.
- COST:** Guests - \$30
- RSVP:** By May 1 – Register online
or email ewhubbard@aol.com



OPEN MEETING – GUESTS WELCOME

In celebration of our scholarship recipients, organizational development expert **Mary Key** will speak about women in leadership, the successes and obstacles we share in common and strategies to continued accomplishment. KA is a consulting firm committed to the development of leaders and organizations and specializes in peer forums for executive women, CEOs and key leaders.

The following women will receive **Phyllis Marshall** Career Assistance Grants:

Khumari Barakzai – HCC
Linda Walker – Springfield College, Tampa
Yennie Gonzalez Marrero – HCC
Elena Harris – HCC
Mary Velasquez-Sullock – St. Petersburg College
Latonya Parker – HCC
Paola Delphin – HCC
Julie Lam – USF
Erica Robinson – HCC
Taiquana Dooley - HCC

The grants were made possible because of your generosity and the generosity of the **Beth Waters** Friendship Fund which has consistently supported this program. See story on page 5.



President's Message

It is no easy task to compose a monthly message to such an accomplished and respected group of women. The benefit of being bestowed the literary pen, however, allows me to write about most anything, including things that have struck an unharmonious chord with me personally. I feel compelled to share with you the revulsion I experienced regarding the recent chemical attack in Syria. Like many of you, I am a daughter, mother, grandmother. I consider myself a nurturer and believe in every fiber of my marrow that life is precious. Yet I have lived long enough to have seen inhumanity, cruelty; naïve I am not. Perhaps this banned chemical attack, brazenly undertaken and in violation of treaties and international norms of decency—to say nothing of Syria having pledged to the world in 2013 to do away with its chemical arsenal—shall galvanize the world against this abhorrent practice, bring sanction against those responsible and allow those affected by this horrific event to know that their loved ones did not die in vain. Pipe dream, I hope and pray it is not.

Below you will find comments emanated from Athena's Long-range Planning Committee (LRPC). Athena's long-range planning is vitally important and a solemn responsibility, which your Committee and the Board have embraced whole heartedly. The Committee members have done exemplary work and each deserves our thanks and appreciation, starting with Chair **Mary Gamble** and Vice Chair **Karen Arnold**.

Perhaps the most telling messages heard by the LRPC from the 100+ plus members who have participated in the planning process thus far were found in discussions about Athena's culture and Athena's long term market position summarized as follows:

“Often overlooked is the dual purpose found in Athena's Purpose Statement which describes Athena's shared purpose as both interaction and the promotion of equality and opportunity for women. It is the unique nature of this interaction that Athena members hold dear and describe as a “sisterhood.” This always present and unique nature of the organization itself serves as the foundation on which everything else Athena does rest. It must be preserved and nurtured.”

“Athena's future as the premiere professional women's group in Tampa Bay depends on Athena taking on greater advocacy and social action.”

Another message the LRPC heard from members is that of preserving those programs Athena does well, specifically the Dr. **Sylvia Richardson** Young Women of Promise and the **Phyllis Marshall** Career Assistance Grants. Finally, the LRPC recognized that in order to address these opportunities and challenges over the next five years, Athena will need certain operational and governance capabilities.

Accordingly, Athena's Draft 2018-2022 Long Range Plan which will be distributed to all members early in May has been built around four Strategic Pillars:

- * Membership
- * The Integration of Advocacy, Social Action and Lunch Programming
- * Scholarship Programs
- * Organizational Operations and Governance.

The Committee and Board encourage all members to review the specifics of the Draft Plan and to attend the Long Range Planning Discussion on May 4 immediately after the May luncheon. In the meantime or if you are unable to attend the May 4 session, members are encouraged to contact either **Mary Gamble** or **Karen Arnold** with questions or insights about the Draft Plan.



Dear Goddess

Q: I love our logo. Is it trademark protected?

A: Many thanks to **Maruchi Azorin** for raising this important topic. We have recently learned that our marvelous logo is not registered or protected from outside use, and attorney Ty Giltinan, of the Carlton Fields law firm has volunteered his time to register our trademark. Many thanks to **Gwynne Young** for orchestrating his services.



Retreat in July!

Mark your calendars for our annual retreat, July 14-16.....it'll be Captivating! Registrations are coming in at a brisk pace in anticipation of our "Early Bird" drawing at the May 4 luncheon.

To be eligible for the \$100 gift card, you must be paid by noon that day only for the \$295 registration. Fees for the optional Useppa Island Cruise and lunch may be paid prior to June 12. Words can't really do justice to the beauty surrounding our home base, the South Seas Island Resort. Check it out at www.southseas.com.

News About Members

'Tis the season for awards and, as usual, many Athena members are being recognized.

USF's 2017 Engineering Excellence Awards were recently presented at Palma Ceia Golf & Country Club; **Kim DeBosier** received the prestigious Dean's Distinguished Service Award.

Robin DeLaVergne was named the 2017 **Dottie Berger MacKinnon** Woman of Influence by the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce. The award pays tribute to an individual who exemplifies outstanding professional values and whose leadership has made a positive impact in Hillsborough County.

On May 5 **Betty Castor** and **Katherine Essrig** will be honored by the Junior League as 2017 Luminaries at the Hilton Tampa Downtown. What is a luminary? A person who inspires or influences others, especially one prominent in a particular sphere. Tickets for the luncheon can be purchased at jltampa.org/luminaries.

Reminder that **Sylvia Campbell** will be honored on May 9 by the USF Women's Health Collaborative. She'll receive the Remark-a-Bull Award at a luncheon at the Glazer Family JCC. Tickets are \$50 each and may be purchased at www.usf.edu/ua/rsvp. Please notify Eleanor Hubbard if you'd like to sit at an Athena table.



Election for 2017-18 Nominating Committee

We'll have preliminary voting at the May meeting for our 2017-18 Nominating Committee. Members will be asked to vote for 12; on the final ballot presented at the Annual Meeting, members will select 6. If you are unable to attend, you may vote by proxy. (Bylaws Article V, Section 10) It must be executed in writing, designated for the May meeting and should be emailed to **Eleanor Hubbard** by May 3.

May Bonus

If you're looking to have fun with your Athena sisters and a great meal you cooked yourself, don't forget the May 22 Bonus: cooking and dining at Sur la Table in Hyde Park. Cost of \$69 includes the dinner you prepare. To register call 800/243-0852 or sign up through their website at <http://www.surlatable.com/sku/3478955/Spicy+Latin+Favorites>. Act now.....class size is limited.

2017 Calendar

May 22 – Bonus – Sur la Table
June 8 – Dinner (Annual Meeting)
June 25 – New members' party, Home of **Jeanne Tate**

May Birthdays

Birthday wishes to the following members who celebrate in May:

Rachelle Bedke
Susan Bucklew
Sylvia Carley
Betty Castor
Denise Chavez
Lee Essrig
Katherine Frazier
Linda Fries
Ann Giles

Karla Hartley
Kathleen Heide
Gail Holtzman
Denise Jordan
Mary Key
Lagretta Lenker
Catherine Lynch
Winnie Marvel
Mindy McLaughlin

Ann Miller
Jane Peppard
Anne Strozier
Elaine Terenzi
Ven Thomas
Louise Thompson
Rhonda Trainor
JoAnn Urofsky
Vicki Vega
India Witte





Phyllis Marshall CAG Program

This was an exceptional year for the Marshall Grant Committee. As a direct result of your generosity, we are providing grants to ten striving and deserving women in our community and giving nearly \$13,000 in tangible support to help them meet their educational and career goals. What an outstanding expression of the values of the Athena Society in action and it could not be done without your generosity.

It is fitting that this is the 20th anniversary of the Career Assistance Grant program, which was started under the leadership of **Paddy Moses**, then president of Athena, along with the founding committee members **Nancy Ford, Linda Hanna, Juel Smith** and **Susan Bucklew** to help striving and struggling adult women establish a more hopeful life for themselves and their families. It was renamed to honor **Phyllis Marshall** and her commitment to women and education.

Each year the Phyllis Marshall CAG Committee reaches out to community organizations and schools to identify motivated and deserving local women struggling to succeed. The women selected to receive awards are amazing. At the awards luncheon this year we will celebrate their strength and resilience – the grit that allows them to persevere in the face of obstacles.

The Marshall grant program has grown over the years in other ways. This year we have two returning award winners, Mary Velasquez-Sullock and Erika Robinson, who are successfully continuing their education. A third woman, Linda Walker, was awarded a Marshall grant in 2015 but was diagnosed with breast cancer before she was able to use it. She is back, cancer free, and ready to pursue her goals. This will also be the first luncheon at which we will have a former award recipient attending as a guest to support a newly selected award recipient. How Athena-like and fitting for this 20 year anniversary.

I could fill the newsletter with their amazing stories but instead I will share just a couple. Khumari Barakzai came to the US from Afghanistan in 2013 as a bride in an arranged marriage. After teaching herself to speak English by watching television, her husband allowed her to attend school at HCC. There she met people who helped her escape from an abusive marriage and plan a different life for herself and her daughter. She is an exceptional student pursuing a degree in computer science with a dream to return to Afghanistan and teach other women that education can be a path to freedom and independence.

Latonya Parker's application was at first confusing. Although she is only 26 years old, she has 6 dependents. Her references explained that she lost her mother in 2013 and her father in 2016, leaving her to care for her son, her siblings and a niece. She maintains a stellar academic record while making sure her sister has an outfit for career day at school and that her siblings were able to visit their father during a protracted hospitalization prior to his death. She assumed this matriarch role with grace, kindness and strength. Her goal is to become a registered nurse.

Twenty-seven women were eligible and deserving of grants this year. The ten women selected for awards are diverse. We have women retooling their skills to compete in today's world of work and young women on the brink of their careers. Although pursuing different goals, they share the characteristics of strength and determination. It is an honor to support their goals. Congratulations, Athena, on twenty years of supporting striving women!

Elaine Terenzi, CAG Co-Chair

Athena Society

B R I E F I N G S

June, 2017

2016-2017 OFFICERS

PRESIDENTJEANNE TATE
PRESIDENT-ELECTDORETHA EDGECOMB
VP/MEMBERSHIPDIANNE JACOB
VP/PROGRAMSTINA TENRET
SECRETARYMINDY McLAUGHLIN
TREASURERSHANNON REID
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DENISE JORDAN
SUSAN STERN
ALTERNATE: BECCA TIEDER

ADMINISTRATOR/EDITOR

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

ATHENA SOCIETY

P.O. Box 10813
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33679

Upcoming Meeting

WHEN: Thursday, June 8
5:30 p.m. – Cash bar
6:15 p.m. – Dinner



WHERE: Tampa Yacht & Country Club
5320 Interbay Blvd.
Valet parking available

MENU: Red Snapper Piccata

**(If you prefer Braised Boneless Short Ribs
or a veggie plate, please indicate.)**

PROGRAM: Business Meeting – Agenda to include:
Introduction of new members
Approval of 2017-18 budget
Approval of the Long Range Plan
Election of Officers/Directors
Election of 2017-18 Nominating Committee
Passing of the gavel; Installation

RSVP: By June 5 – Register online
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.



www.athena-society.com



President's Message

This is my final president's message as my term concludes with our Annual Dinner Meeting on June 8. My emotions, understandably, are all over the place. I run the gamut from a feeling of deep melancholy to one of great pride with a host of other emotions in between. I am grateful for my dedicated board, our committee chairs, Long Range Planning and all of those who volunteered to make this year a productive, successful and tangible one. We, indeed, got much done, thanks to all of our hard work and commitment, individually and collectively.

This year we restructured our committees, with clarity and purpose the objective. This paid great dividends across the board and will continue to do so. We launched our new mentoring program, a labor of love for many of us. Helping women advance and navigate life's complexities has been a personal calling of mine and our mentoring program brilliantly addresses this! I look forward to seeing this program soar under **Doretha's** leadership.

This year we have had quite a bit of fun as well with numerous gatherings, all of them good for the soul. Our cruise adventure was daring, imaginative and entertaining; the Bonus programs were a historical best with varied and engaging pleasure in small group settings; the food provided by our Hospitality Committee returned to our elegant roots; and hopefully some of you received amazing raffle give-aways (thanks to generous donors). Heck, we even had - if I say so myself - a hilarious roast of your past President!

This year, though, the accomplishment I am most proud of is the promotion and growth of Athena's philanthropic programs, like the **Phyllis Marshall** Career Assistance Grants (now in its 20th year), to the highest level of grants in Athena's history! This is a gift that literally will keep on giving as these recipients make their way in the world and we can know that Athena contributed in some small measure to the successes of these dynamic women.

This year, transparency and inclusion were front and center on my agenda and I hope you have enjoyed reading our Board minutes, posted promptly on our website, along with our financial balance sheets, actual and projected budgets.

As I pass the gavel to our accomplished President-Elect, **Doretha Edgecomb**, I do so with confidence. We are a strong unit of women, committed to our families, to one another, to our community, to our work and to our spirituality, however we individually express this. And, while we do so much for so many, we must not lose sight of the importance of nurturing our own self: that is essential! Be good to yourself, please. Replenish, pamper, indulge, luxuriate!

I close with gratitude to each of you, everyone. Being Athena President has been my honor, my privilege. As William Shakespeare wrote, "I can no other answer make, but thanks, and thanks."

See you all for our annual dinner on June 8th. And hope to see many of you at my home on June 25th for our new members' party. Finally, Captiva Island calls you to its South Seas Island Resort for our Retreat the weekend of July 14th.



Sunday, June 25 – Party Time!

Our annual party to honor new members is scheduled for Sunday, June 25, 5 to 7 p.m. at the home of **Jeanne Tate**, 106 Martinique. Join us at this lovely waterfront home on Davis Islands with beautiful views of Tampa Bay. The Hospitality Committee - under the direction of **Gwynne Young** - will present its usual delectable spread. There's no charge for members and one guest; additional guests are \$30. RSVP online or email **Eleanor Hubbard** prior to June 20. If you're bringing a guest, please leave a name.

Proxy Voting

Members will be voting on the items shown on page one. If you don't plan to attend the June 8 meeting, you may vote by proxy with a special form prepared for that meeting. You may request the form from Eleanor Hubbard (ewhubbard@aol.com) and return it to her no later than 5:30 p.m. on June 7.

2017-18 Proposed Board of Directors

* Those denoted with an asterisk are continuing in their terms of office and are not standing for election.

President	Doretha Edgecomb*
President-Elect	Betty Castor
VP/Membership	Jeanette Fenton
VP/Programs	Belinda Wilson
Secretary	Gail Holtzman
Treasurer (2-yr. term)	Shannon Reid

BOARD MEMBERS

Second year of 2 year term	Two year term:
Simone Barefield*	Fentrice Driskell
Jane Castor*	Mary Gamble
Amanda Sansone*	Dianne Jacob
Imm. Past Pres.	Jeanne Tate*

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Second year of 2 year term:	Two year term:
Bonnie Carr*	Jeanette Fenton
Katherine Essrig*	Keri Eisenbeis
Susan Stern*	Denise Jordan

Alternate: **Becca Tieder**



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 8 meeting:

Valerie Goddard – CEO of The Goddard Group - Proposed by Katherine Frazier; co-sponsored by Michelle Schofner and Doretha Edgecomb.

Amy Haile – Associate Director of Champions for Children - Proposed by Anne Gormly; co-sponsored by Pam Iorio and Jan Roberts.

Ya La'ford – Artist/Owner of Ya La'ford Fine Art - Proposed by Mindy McLaughlin; co-sponsored by Lorna Taylor and Rachelle Bedke.

Suzanne McCormick – President of United Way Suncoast - Proposed by Mary Gamble; co-sponsored by Karen Arnold and Gwynne Young.

Marian McCulloch – Attorney at Allen Dell - Proposed by Adelaide Few; co-sponsored by Miriam Mason and Renee Vaughn.

Anne-Leigh Moe – Circuit Court Judge for the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit – Proposed by Susan Bucklew; co-sponsored by Virginia Covington and Fentrice Driskell.

Jessica Muroff – CEO of Girl Scouts of West Central Florida – Proposed by Felicia Harvey; co-sponsored by Elizabeth Frazier and Betty Castor.

Mindy Murphy – President/CEO of The Spring of Tampa Bay – Proposed by Kim DeBosier; co-sponsored by Susan Leisner and India Witte.

Penny Parks – President/Owner – Links Financial – Proposed by Alex Sink; co-sponsored by Susan Dellinger and Molly Crews.

Marketa Wills – Medical Director of WellCare Health Plans – Proposed by Bonnie Saks; co-sponsored by Mimi Stamps and Juel Smith.

WELCOME! WELCOME!





Community Action Committee

Unfairness in the Workplace

Shortly after a popular TV personality was recently banished from a major network for improper advances toward women, the *New York Times* published an editorial summarizing some of the continuing and unfortunate conditions facing women in the workforce. As the *Times* pointed out, the high profile dismissal did not occur because of the continuing allegations of sexual harassment by the individual but because the program's advertisers could not afford the embarrassing aftermath and declining revenues.

It's certainly not the first nor will it be the last lament for our hardworking sisters. Nine years after the passage of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, (which **Kathy Castor** co-sponsored), serious inequities in compensation remain. Women are "simply paid less for being female," the *Times* opined.

Some of us recall the arguments for pay equity during the fight for approval of the Equal Rights Amendment during the late seventies. Although progress has been made in closing the salary gap in the years since, a recent analysis by the venerable American Association of University Women provides cause for alarm. According to the AAUW, if progress to close the gap continues at the current rate, women are not expected to reach pay equity with men until 2059!

Here are a few other facts presented in the AAUW analysis. Currently women earn 20% less than a male counterpart even considering education and experience.

- *Think 80 cents is bad? The gap is worse for women of color.
- *Women in every state experience the gap. (Florida is actually doing better than most.)
- *Women face a pay gap in nearly every occupation.
- *More education helps increase women's earnings, but it still doesn't close the gender pay gap.

Athena is in a strong position to work for improvement. We have held positions on pay equity and comparable worth since our founding. After member surveys were completed earlier this year, members indicated they want more action and visibility on our positions. Why not start with workplace issues, especially compensation?

The AAUW recommends activities like helping professionals learn how to negotiate better salaries and become more aggressive about promotions. Of course, legislative and Congressional action is important too. Convening other interested groups for greater collaboration among like-minded organizations is yet another practical option. There's no time like the present. Let's raise our voices for workforce fairness once more!

Betty Castor



A “Captivating” Athena Retreat

Don't miss the opportunity to join your Athena sisters for a “Captivating” retreat on beautiful, historic Captiva Island, July 14-16. The fun begins on Friday upon arrival at our hotel, the luxurious South Seas Resort. Relax and enjoy yourself as we gather for cocktails and dinner Friday evening with fun post dinner activities. Saturday morning you can participate in a health and wellness session or sleep in a little until we gather for breakfast.

A highlight of the Retreat is the not-to-be-missed cruise to Useppa Island. We board our private catamaran for the breathtaking cruise while learning the island's history along the way. This is a special opportunity as Useppa is a private island only accessible by members or authorized private cruise charters. We will lunch at the historic Collier Inn then roam the island or take in the museum before heading back to Captiva Island. For those not cruising to Useppa, you have your pick of island amenities and activities with a full menu provided for your pleasure. Saturday night we head to the Yacht Club for dinner then to the Hospitality Suite for a fun evening you won't want to miss. Our retreat concludes on Sunday morning with a visit to the Rauschenberg Gallery for breakfast, a tour and presentation by gallery director, Jade Dellinger. Our President will also address us before we depart for Tampa.

Sounds great, doesn't it? It's our time to rejuvenate, connect and form deeper bonds of friendship with our Athena sisters. You will regret it if you don't attend. Please register now on the website as the June 12 deadline is fast approaching. We are presenting a fantastic weekend for a registration fee of \$295 and discounted room rate of \$179 per night plus tax and \$10 daily resort fee. The cruise to Useppa Island and lunch is an additional \$78 and is limited to the first 40 registrants. See you on Captiva Island!



News About Members

Carlye Morgan has been named Director for Governmental Relations at the new public affairs firm, Shumaker Advisors, which is an arm of Shumaker, Loop and Kendrick, LLC.

Athena Society



B R I E F I N G S

September, 2017

2017-2018 OFFICERS

PRESIDENTDORETHA EDGECOMB
PRESIDENT-ELECT.....BETTY CASTOR
VP/MEMBERSHIPJEANETTE FENTON
VP/PROGRAMSBELINDA WILSON
SECRETARYGAIL HOLTZMAN
TREASURERSHANNON REID
IMM. PAST PRESIDENTJEANNE TATE

BOARD

SIMONE BAREFIELD
JANE CASTOR
FENTRICE DRISKELL
MARY GAMBLE
DIANNE JACOB
AMANDA SANSONE

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

KERI EISENBEIS
DENISE JORDAN
SUSAN LEISNER
MINDY McLAUGHLIN
TINA TENRET
BECCA TIEDER
ALTERNATE: YVONNE FRY

ADMINISTRATOR/EDITOR

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

ATHENA SOCIETY

P.O. Box 10813
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33679

Upcoming Meeting

WHEN: Thursday, September 7
11:55 a.m.

WHERE: Centre Club
Westshore at Kennedy

PROGRAM: What Are Today's Most Pressing Women's Issues? (What are 1-3 specific actions that we as individuals or a group can take right now to move them forward?)

MODERATOR: **Mindy Murphy**, CEO
The Spring of Tampa Bay

PANELISTS: **Betty Castor**
Jane Castor
Fentrice Driskell
Keri Eisenbeis
Nancy Vaughn

MENU: Marcus Salad
Veg plate available on request when reserving.

COST: Guests - \$30

RSVP: By September 4 – Register online
or email ewhubbard@aol.com

OPEN MEETING – GUESTS WELCOME

With this program, we are setting the culture and casting a vision with the challenge to be disrupters, breaking the perpetual cycle in these issues with better solutions just as Tom's Shoes paved the way for other companies to follow its lead. **Mindy Murphy** will lead a panel of experts in an open conversation, expressing and hearing a variety of viewpoints in a constructive environment. It will then be your turn, so we'll make time for Q&A.





President's Message

As we begin a new year and prepare to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Athena, there is no doubt that we are more relevant than ever and more united because we know the value of standing together and standing strong. I am proud and honored to serve as your president and I look forward to this year with you.

The words and voices of this newsletter are more yours than mine because these are some of your responses when I asked at the June meeting for you to share what gifts and talents you were willing to contribute to Athena. Read them and be inspired. Read them and be drawn into the love for Athena. Read them and you will learn how caring and committed you are. Read on and see how your own gifts mirror the ones I am sharing here. Read on and you will realize, as I did, that there is no better time than now to be an Athena woman.

“I am going to give Athena my ALL!” • “I want to lend my passion, energy, and leadership skills.”

“Count on me to share my energy and enthusiasm, my organizing skills,
and offer my philanthropic support.”

“I offer my friendship and my honest opinions.” • “I want to be a voice for social justice.”

“Call on me. I'll help and I will be engaged!” • “I want to share my enthusiasm
and energy for positive change.”

“Positivity, enthusiasm, optimism, and energy are my gifts.” • “I am ready to share my legal skills,
my writing ability, and my enthusiasm and appreciation for our organization!”

“My goal and commitment for this coming year is to share and foster new friendships,
use my talents to better our society, and encourage other women to get involved.”

“Collaboration. Respect. Vision. Solutions and Strategies. Let's Roll!” • “I am willing to share my
passion, concern, and empathy to create opportunities for women to be their whole self.”

“I want to share in those exercises that unite.” • “I am willing to share my organizational
and planning skills. It is going to be another fabulous 40 years!”

“I love this organization and I welcome our new members with friendship and caring.”

“I will contribute my dedication, love, and positive spirit to Athena
and do my best to make the new members feel welcome.”

Your responses clearly reflect your hopes and appreciation for Athena and her future. So many of you especially offered to be an active part of our **Phyllis Marshall** CAG activities as you recognize how critical it is to lift up and embrace all women. There was no shortage of your willingness to share your professional knowledge and skills. How lucky we are as an organization that service and selflessness are among our members most honored values.

As your president, you can count on me to give my all to continue to carry on the impressive leadership of our past presidents. I am committed to working with you to achieve our vision of improving the status and lives of women in our community while at the same time I join with you to continue to build caring and supportive relationships among our members. Finally, I am eager to stand with you to make Athena the leading organization of accomplished, civic-minded, and diverse women who are ready to use our voices and actions to make a difference.

Athena, our time is NOW!



Nominating Committee Election

At the June meeting members voted for six individuals to serve on the 2017-18 Nominating Committee. The following were elected:

Patti Breckenridge
Moira Burke
Susan Leisner

Paddy Moses
Juel Smith
Mimi Stamps

September 5 – First Bonus of the Year

First Bonus of the new year will focus on helping and supporting local women in our community. **Ann Madsen** and **Mindy Murphy** will discuss the current and future goals of the HGD Centre for Women and The Spring. Listen to their goals and challenges, share your knowledge and experience and support their work. Donations accepted to meet the greatest needs of these organizations: bottled water, diapers/wipes, gas and gift cards, bus passes, bath towels, twin sheet sets, pillows, socks, new children's books and board games, boxes of cereal, clothing.

Join us from 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, September 5 at the Clubhouse of the Regency Condo, 3435 Bayshore Blvd - parking next door behind the Virage sales center.

RSVP by September 3 to ewhubbard@aol.com or online.



40th Anniversary Party

Excitement is building as we anticipate the celebration of our 40th anniversary at Tampa Yacht & Country Club on October 5: great food, great band and best of all, great memories! Look for your invitation in next week's mail and note that guests are very welcome. If you haven't yet participated in the filming, you'll have one last opportunity next week from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., before and after – but not during – the meeting at the Centre Club.



News About Members

The **Jan Roberts** Sustainable Business Leadership Award was recently presented to the AACSB which is the accreditation body for schools of business around the world. The award was named for Jan in recognition of her dedication and work in the field of sustainable development. It is given to organizations and companies that promote and embrace the triple bottom line: people, planet and profit. **Lorna Taylor**, President/CEO of Premier Eye Care, was presented the award in 2014. The award is given on behalf of the University of Tampa's Center for Ethics.

After 20 years of distinguished service with Moffitt Cancer Center, **Susan Stern** retired on June 30 as Vice President of the Foundation. She's already enjoyed the summer by spending more time with her children - two teens still at home and a son back to college. Her future plans include travel, volunteering with several community organizations and a return to riding lessons, given up in the past due to time constraints. We wish her the best and look forward to seeing her more often

In May **Lisa Robbins** retired from her position as Senior Research Scientist at the U.S. Geological Survey. She and her husband then boarded their yacht for a dream cruise which is described on Athena's Facebook page. What a fabulous adventure - the kind you read about in magazines. It's really special because it comes from one of our own. Thank you, Lisa.

WLP to Honor Ann Ross

The 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to **Ann Ross** by Women in Leadership & Philanthropy at lunch on October 20 at the Hilton Tampa Downtown. WLP honors visionary leaders doing extraordinary things to make the Tampa Bay region a better place for women to live and work. Luncheon speaker will be Grace Byers, '06 USF alumna, featured on the hit FOX series "Empire" and anti-bullying champion for girls. If you'd like to celebrate the occasion and sit at an Athena table, please send your \$150 check – payable to Athena – to our P.O. Box 10813, Tampa 33679 by September 29.

Directory Changes

Pat Frank – (O) – patfrankclerk@icloud.com
Anne Kantor – (H) – 281-1113; (C) – 281-1112





2017-18 Calendar

September 5 – Bonus
October 5 – 40th Anniversary - TYCC
November 2 – Luncheon
December 10 – Holiday Party
January 4 – Luncheon
February 1 – Luncheon
March 1 – Luncheon
April 5 – Luncheon (YWP)
May 3 – Luncheon (Career Asst. Grants)
June 7 – Dinner (Annual Meeting)

September Birthdays

Birthday wishes to the following members who celebrate in September:

Karen Arnold
Maruchi Azorin
Dore Beach
Kathy Betancourt
Rose Brempong
Edna Broyles

Marva Crenshaw
Kim DeBosier
Mary Estes
Elizabeth Frazier
Yvonne Fry
Zoe Gustafson

Felicia Harvey
Chantal Hevia
Paddy Moses
Candy Olson
Jan Platt
Barbara Twine Thomas
Doris Weatherford



Members' Projects

Katherine Young invites you to attend “Corporate Game Changers: Why Gender Diversity Matters” presented by Women Executive Leadership (WEL) on September 12, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. at T Pepin’s Hospitality Centre. To register for the event (by September 5), go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/corporate-salute-2017-tickets-36129211444>.

One of our newest members, **Marketa Wills**, has been selected as a “Celebrity Dancer” for Tampa Bay’s “Dancing with the Stars” 2017. Sponsored by Hands Across the Bay, the October 7 event raises awareness and funds to combat domestic violence against women, child abuse, homelessness and discrimination against members of the LGBTQ communities. You can vote for Marketa and/or make a tax deductible donation at DancingforCharity.com/marketawills.

Athena Society



B R I E F I N G S

October, 2017

Athena's 40th Anniversary

2017-2018 OFFICERS

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PRESIDENT-ELECT.....BETTY CASTOR
VP/MEMBERSHIPJEANETTE FENTON
VP/PROGRAMSBELINDA WILSON
SECRETARYGAIL HOLTZMAN
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IMM. PAST PRESIDENT.....JEANNE TATE

BOARD

SIMONE BAREFIELD
JANE CASTOR
FENTRICE DRISKELL
MARY GAMBLE
DIANNE JACOB
AMANDA SANSONE

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KERI EISENBEIS
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TINA TENRET
BECCA TIEDER
ALTERNATE: YVONNE FRY

ADMINISTRATOR/EDITOR

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

ATHENA SOCIETY

P.O. Box 10813
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33679

Don't miss October 5th! This party happens only once every ten years! Your attendance will help make Athena's 40th Anniversary a celebration to remember. The committee has arranged a variety of pleasures – live music, a scrumptious dinner and most importantly time with friends.

The band Phase5, by the way, is so good that they played with Paul McCartney recently. There will be party favors in the form of photographs to take home and custom made chocolates. The beautiful Athena scarves introduced at the Captiva retreat will be available for purchase: \$35. The University of Tampa, the University of South Florida and Hillsborough Community College have all contributed to sponsorship of our anniversary celebration.

The Tampa Yacht & County Club has designed four food stations and there will be a variety of seating – bistro tables, dinner tables with chairs and comfy sofas. It is our hope that you will move throughout the rooms, eating, drinking, dancing, mixing and mingling.

There will be a warm welcome by President **Doretha Edgecomb**, followed by the premier of our 40th Anniversary video – starring over 70 Athena members. Fried Egg Productions has done a superb job. If you have not already done so, please send your RSVP to Eleanor ASAP. Each Athena member is invited to bring one guest. The celebration begins at 6:30 pm and valet parking will be provided. Attire? FESTIVE!

Cynthia Gandee Zinober
Anniversary Chair





President's Message

Forty years of existence deserves recognition, celebration and a time to reflect on all things Athena. I wonder what our founder **Nancy Ford** would think of us today if she attended one of our dynamic monthly luncheon programs? What might have been her impressions if she watched and joined in the friendship and laughter and the fun and learning at our recent retreat? I bet she would marvel at the creative, interesting and unique offerings of our Bonus events. Would she applaud our efforts to make her vision a reality and yet feel a sense of disappointment that the ERA is still unfinished business? I somehow think her mood would quickly change and she would beam as she learned of the generosity and support given to deserving women through the efforts of the **Phyllis Marshall** Career Assistance Grants. Like us, she would applaud vigorously at the amazing young women we salute yearly as Young Women of Promise. I feel certain she would take time to encourage every committee and offer words of wisdom to all of us. She would extend a gracious thank you to **Eleanor Hubbard** for her loyalty and service. I just have to believe that she would take pride in the diversity of the women who are proud to be Athena women and cheer us on to continue to shake up the place with powerful and purposeful voices and to savor the lessons of the past 40 years!

I know, with a big smile and a bit of envy, that there are members who are not even 40. To all of my younger Athena sisters, I challenge you to use your talents and energy to heighten and improve your own life so that young women will want to be like you, and for sure, as you thrive, you **must** reach back and bring other women along with you on the journey. I have heard you, watched you and been energized by you- so I know you can do it!

For those of us who have experienced life way beyond 40 years, I challenge us to never forget the journey, remember it well as motivation to continue to push forward, and use those lessons that we learned to inspire and encourage others. We have come a long way, but there is so much yet to be done and without a doubt, we can use our experiences to continue to pave the paths that others will want to follow!

Frankly, there is no better place than in Athena to get things done. We are women of admirable strength and resolve. We are women who are caring and committed and how we work together can serve as a model for others to emulate. We are women whose actions speak louder than our words and others will look to us for directions and advice. We are women, who believe in the words of Maya Angelou, "When you learn, teach, when you get, give." Somehow, I just know that these words will be our marching orders for the next 40 years!

Happy 40th Anniversary, my sisters and a rousing thank you to **Cynthia Gandee Zinober** and the Anniversary Committee!



Bonuses Feature Theatre and Art

Help Stageworks celebrate “The Year of the Woman” by enjoying the Sunday, October 1, 3 p.m. performance of “The Marvelous Wonderettes.” This smash off-Broadway hit celebrates the growing empowerment of women through the bubble-gum songs of the 50’s to the explosive songs of the 60’s. To purchase tickets with a \$5 discount, go to stageworkstheatre.org, click on “buy tickets” tab, scroll down to Wonderettes on Oct. 1 and on the order form type in ATHENA in capital letters.

Second Bonus of the month will be 5 to 7 p.m. on Thursday the 26th at the Tampa Museum of Art: An evening with two exciting women artists - Susanne Bartsch and Mernet Larsen. The Bartsch show, “Art-a-Porter” features 40 fabulous fashion costumes including designs by McQueen, Gaultier and Vivian Westwood. These are really dramatic and straight from Manhattan. The Mernet Larsen show is our own (retired) USF Professor of Painting whose career spans 60 years of serious work shown at the Whitney, Walker and Carnegie Museums. Wine from Sono Cafe from 5-6 p.m. and tour at 6:15. RSVP online or to **Susan Dellinger** at drsusandell@gmail.com by October 20.

Enjoy another Sunday matinee performance at Stageworks on November 5 for “The Year of Magical Thinking” directed by **Karla Hartley**. In this beautiful adaptation of her award-winning memoir, Joan Didion transforms the sudden loss of her husband and daughter into a stunning and powerful and ultimately hopeful story. To purchase tickets with a \$5 discount, go to stageworkstheatre.org, click on “buy tickets” tab, scroll down to November 5 and on the order form type in ATHENAB in capital letters.

News About Members

Athena sisters extend their heartfelt condolences to **Stephanie Ferrell** and **Michelle Schofner** whose mothers recently passed away and to **Susan Freeman** whose father passed away on September 14.

Linda Saul-Sena continues to be in New York helping her sister, Julie Saul, who is battling acute myloid leukemia; Linda is her caretaker and stem cell donor. As she reads our newsletters, she says she realizes how much she misses everyone and gratefully accepts all positive thoughts and prayers.

Edna Broyles is the 2017-2019 Florida State Society DAR Scholarship Chairman and wants to alert members of the many scholarships available on both the state and national levels. For information: www.dar.org. DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) is a non-profit, non-political volunteer women’s service organization with several other Athena members including **Kim DeBosier**, **Ann Giles**, **Susan Grady** and **Elizabeth Walters** who is current Regent of her St. Pete chapter.

Karen Arnold and **Jessica Muroff** have been selected as members of the Leadership Florida Cornerstone Program. They’ll join fifty-three other leaders to participate in a thought-provoking program in 2017-2018 meetings throughout the state. **Dianne Jacob** (Leadership Florida Class XVIII) was selected to participate in the Leadership Florida Education program developed in partnership with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for the purpose of advancing K-12 outcomes in Florida.



Happy 40th Anniversary Athena!

As Athena celebrates 40 years of commitment to women's equality, the Community Action Committee (CAC) is gearing up for more social action integrated with our programs. The September 7 luncheon program, "What Are Today's Most Pressing Women's Issues?" provided a perfect opening for us to refocus on women's issues.

The CAC is responsible to evaluate and recommend projects, actions and procedures, which serve as an outreach of Athena's principles within the community. Typically the outreach is of a communication, networking or social service nature. The FY2017-18 CAC represents some of the most engaged and impactful women in our communities.

FY 2017-18 Community Action Committee Members:

Gail Auerbach
Rose Brempong
Simone Barefield, Bd Liaison
Cathy Lynch Buckhorn
Bonnie Carr, Co-Chair
Susan Casper, Co-Chair
Betty Castor
Fentrice Driskell
Diane Egner
Keri Eisenbeis
Yvonne Fry
Felicia Harvey
Kathleen Heide
Chantal Hevia
Lagretta Lenker

Joanne Lighter
Carlye Morgan
Sandy Murman
Mindy Murphy
Jan Roberts
Marsha Rydberg
Bonnie Saks
Eldra Solomon
Susan Steen
Anne Strozier
Barbara Twine Thomas
Louise Thompson
Kem Toole
Doris Weatherford
India Witte

Challenges remain in all of the areas that Athena has taken positions on. The CAC will focus on three of the positions this year: Women in Government, Pay Equity, Childcare and Early Learning. A focus on women is as important now as it was forty years ago because statistics show that women's equality has not been achieved. The next CAC article will help us to make an important objective assessment of where we have come from and where we are. This may be a solemn reminder to some and a lesson in history to others.

We are well poised to continue fulfilling the purpose and objectives of Athena as stated in the Articles of Incorporation dated October 26, 1977, forty years ago to: 1) Promote the acceptance of women in business, the professions and other positions of responsibility 2) Encourage the expansion of career opportunities for women 3) Encourage women to pursue careers in business and the professions by disseminating information and conducting educational seminars 4) Improve the status of women generally and 5) Do all other acts and things and carry on and conduct all other activities necessary and suitable ...to accomplishing the purposes set forth. Stay tuned.

Bonnie Carr, CAC Co-Chair



Members' Projects

Libby Jenkins notes that a fund has been established to help students at Lee Elementary School which caught fire on Sept. 12. Tax-deductible donations will go toward the replenishment of books, supplies and other essential items needed for the students and teachers impacted by the fire. Checks may be made out to the Hillsborough Education Foundation, 2306 No. Howard Ave., Tampa 33607.

The Second Annual Women's Conference of Florida is set for October 26-27 at the Marriott Waterside Hotel. The event features nationally-recognized speakers including Lori Greiner of ABC's "Shark Tank"; Jean Chatzky, financial editor for NBC's "Today Show"; Emmy-award winning TV host Samantha Harris and more. For registration information: www.WCOFFL.com.

October Birthdays

Birthday wishes to the following members who celebrate in October:

Gail Auerbach
Barbara Bachman
Marisa Belote
Beth Bernitt
Moira Burke
Linda Devine
Diane Egner
Amy Farrior

Lee Leavengood
Judy Lisi
Jean McNally
Mary Scriven
Susan Stern
Lara Tibbals
Becca Tieder
Louisa VanEepoel



Athena Society



B R I E F I N G S

November, 2017

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PRESIDENTDORETHA EDGECOMB
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TINA TENRET
BECCA TIEDER
ALTERNATE: YVONNE FRY

ADMINISTRATOR/EDITOR

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

ATHENA SOCIETY

P.O. Box 10813
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33679

Upcoming Meeting

WHEN: Thursday, November 2
11:55 a.m.

WHERE: Centre Club
Westshore at Kennedy

PROGRAM: Women in Government

MODERATOR: **Jane Peppard**
Former *Tampa Bay Times* executive

SPEAKERS: **Candy Olson**
Former School Board member
Rena Upshaw-Frazier, Former candidate

MENU: Chicken Francaise
Veg plate available on request when reserving.

COST: Guests - \$30

RSVP: By October 30 – Register online
or email ewhubbard@aol.com



OPEN MEETING – GUESTS WELCOME

One of Athena's founding principles is to promote women in government. Next week we'll explore some of the myths and realities of running for office. Helping to demystify the whys and hows of campaigning and serving the public will be **Candy Olson** who served on the Hillsborough County School Board for 20 years (including several terms as Chair).

Rena Upshaw-Frazier ran against an incumbent in 2016 for a seat in House District 59 while maintaining an active law practice as a partner with Quarles & Brady. She now serves as Chief of Policy and Communications for Hillsborough County State Attorney Andrew Warren.

If you're thinking of running for office, this is a session you won't want to miss. We'll allow time for Q&A.



President's Message

Some Thoughts - Some Afterthoughts - Some Thoughts to Ponder

I don't know about you but I am still savoring the success of our 40th Anniversary celebration and am almost wishing for a repeat of the evening; notice I said *almost*. I know how hard **Cynthia Gandee-Zinober** and her dynamic committee worked to make our 40th a memorable event and I am sure they are not ready for a repeat!

It was a night of fun and of deserved recognitions and expressions of appreciation especially for our remaining founder, **Susan Leisner** and to five of our charter members: **Dore Beach, Pat Frank, Linda Hanna, Lee Leavengood** and **Stella Thayer**. Delicious food, a great band and a first-class video added to the festivity. Members and guests enjoyed all of the meticulous planning and work of the committee. Congratulations and thank you to - **Emmy Acton, Rose Brempong, Amelia Campbell, Linda Devine, Yvonne Fry, Linda Gibbs, Jean McNally, Bemetra Simmons, Becca Tieder, Barbara Twine-Thomas, Holly Tomlin, Nancy Vaughn, Belinda Wilson, India Witte** and **Eleanor Hubbard**.

Not lost in all of the revelry were some reminders of why there is an Athena Society. Celebrating 40 years was the perfect time for us to recommit to our mission and energize our resolve to be voices that evoke change, offer hope and impact lives. We are well on our way to our 50th!

Minute Motivators for Leaders by Stan Toler is a pocketsize book of 157 pages that offers principles for leaders and leadership. Many of the ideas and quotes found in this quick read aren't new by any means; they are timeless bits of wisdom, still valuable for today's leaders. There are reminders of what really matters when working with others. Given are suggestions on how to encourage, inspire and build meaningful relationships in a world where this is becoming more and more difficult to do. Frankly, so many of the points he makes are simply good "stuff" for daily life and living. Whether leading, serving or living life to the fullest, I suspect that one of Toler's principles just might have special meaning for each of us.

- ***Leaders make everyone feel valuable.***
- ***Leaders grow leaders.***
- ***Leaders focus on the mission.***
- ***Leaders aim for excellence.***
- ***Leaders are enthusiastic about the future.***
- ***Leaders involve others and are team builders.***
- ***Leaders value team diversity.***
- ***Leaders understand "roll up sleeves" commitment.***
- ***Leaders forgive quickly.***
- ***Leaders are servants.***
- ***Leaders love to celebrate..... and we did at our 40th anniversary party!***

Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours!



www.athena-society.com





News About Members

Kudos again to **Ann Ross** who last week received the 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award presented by USF's Women in Leadership & Philanthropy. And to **Lorna Taylor**, the recipient of the prestigious Tampa Bay Ethics Award presented by the Univ. of Tampa Center for Ethics.

In case you missed it on Sunday (10/15) in the *Tampa Bay Times*, be sure to go online to read the fabulous feature on **Fentrice Driskell**....very comprehensive!

Felicia Harvey recently began as the Corporate Affairs Lead for Amgen's newly-opened capability center. She'll focus on developing the local philanthropy and volunteer programs and establishing the internal communication infrastructure. Amgen is one of the world's leading independent biotechnology companies with a presence in approximately 100 countries worldwide. Felicia can be reached at felicia.harvey@amgen.com, 813/392-3117 or 813/334-3462.

Message from **Julia Freeman**: "I'd love to say a special thanks to all my Athena sisters who inspired, advised, encouraged and helped me on my recent career move. I've stayed in philanthropy and moved into children's healthcare." Julia is now Senior Gift Officer for Regional Engagement for Johns Hopkins All Children's Foundation and can be reached at julia.freeman@jhmi.edu, 727/767-2748.

On October 28 **Becca Tieder** will be honored with the very prestigious Ludin Young Leadership Award presented by the Jewish Federation of Pinellas and Pasco Counties. The award goes to a recipient who is not only actively involved with the Federation but also in the broader Jewish and general communities. Impressive and interesting detail is provided at <http://m.jewishpresspinellas.com/current#.WeNPykEpCaM>. The presentation, open to the public, will be part of Catalyst 2018 featuring guest speakers Ben Cohen and Jerry Greenfield, founders of Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream. Program tickets (\$54.50) are available by calling 727/587-6793.

The Scarf...The Logo...The History

Our much admired scarf, created in honor of Athena's 40th anniversary, was designed by **Maruchi Azorin** and **Anne Kantor** and introduced at the Captiva retreat in July. Its introduction prompted interest in our logo and questions as to its history.

At one end the scarf features the head of a typical Greek woman and at the other, Athena's prized logo which was created during **Juel Smith's** term as president. The group had been in existence for 15 years with no identifiable symbol and all who were consulted agreed it was time. Juel, with the assistance of **Sandy Frye**, worked with a local artist who eventually came up with the perfect illustration that we now proudly display on everything Athena.

It was only when the scarf was being created last Spring that a member inquired as to the registration of the logo. Surprisingly, no one had ever suggested it but the Board took quick action to begin the process. We are indebted to **Gwynne Young** who volunteered the pro bono services of Carlton Fields so we're sure to be registered in 2018 for the logo's 25th birthday! The scarves, incidentally, will be available at the November 2 luncheon for \$35.



Philanthropy Heroes!

Dear Athena sisters,

As we enter the holiday season of giving thanks and celebrating loved ones, we want to take this opportunity to thank the 92 members (listed below) who generously contributed a total of \$7525 to support the Dr. **Sylvia Richardson** Young Women of Promise and the **Phyllis Marshall** Career Assistance Grant. Both of these programs are an expression of Athena's values in action. Our goal this year is to double the amount of transformational Career Assistance Grants, and your support is instrumental in helping to achieve that goal. Thank you! If you have not yet donated but still wish to do so, please make a check payable to Athena Society and mail it to Eleanor Hubbard at P.O. Box 10813, Tampa 33679. Thank you! If you are unable to donate financially, we encourage you to contribute your time or talent by volunteering for causes that support the advancement of women.

With gratitude, **Amelia Campbell & Elizabeth Frazier**, Philanthropy Co-Chairs.



Emmy Acton
Jean Amuso
Karen Arnold
Dore Beach
Ruth Bell
Kathy Betancourt
Marsha Lewis Brown
Edna Broyles
Susan Bucklew
Anita Caballero
Amelia Campbell
Sylvia Campbell
Sylvia Carley
Susan Casper
Jane Castor
Kathy Castor
Betty Castor
Cathleen Clayton
Nancy Cole
Marva Crenshaw
Molly Crews
Judith Dato
Kimberlee DeBosier
Robin DeLaVergne
Susan Dellinger
Fentrice Driskell
Doretha Edgecomb
Mary Estes
Amy Farrior
Jeanette Fenton
Stephanie Ferrell

Adelaide Few
Katherine Frazier
Elizabeth Frazier
Susan Freeman
Cynthia Gandee-Zinober
Linda Goldstein
Anne Gormly
Zoe Gustafson
Kathleen Heide
Gail Holtzman
Maria Howey
Pam Iorio
Dianne Jacob
Elizabeth Jenkins
Mary Key
Lee Leavengood
Susan Leisner
Judith Lisi
Catherine Lynch
Winnie Marvel
Miriam Mason
Suzanne McCormick
Margaret Miller
Paddy Moses
Mindy Murphy
Penny Parks
Jane Peppard
Donna Petersen
Jan Platt
Carolyn Reed
Barbara Reeves

Shannon Reid
Barbara Romano
Ann McKeel Ross
Maryanne Rouse
Lesley Rudolph
Bonnie Saks
Amanda Sansone
Linda Saul-Sena
Casey Shear
Caroline Sikorske
Jane Siling
Adelaide Sink
Juel Smith
Eldra Solomon
Susan Steen
Leslie Stein
Ann Strozier
Jeanne Tate
Elaine Terenzi
Stella Thayer
Natalie Thomas
Holly Tomlin
Betty Tribble
Barbara Twine Thomas
JoAnn Urofsky
Nancy Vaughn
Renee Vaughn
Gwynne Young
Katherine Young
Andrea Zelman



Community Action Committee

We recognize Athena's 40th anniversary this month and celebrate its founding in October 1977. I was asked to provide some historical context for this, especially thoughts related to women and government. The easiest way to do that, I decided, is pull out some of the bulleted news that I used for 1977 in my *Milestones: A Chronology of American Women's History*:

- When scientist Dixie Lee Ray is inaugurated as governor of Washington, she joins Ella Grasso of Connecticut – who took office in 1975 – as the first women to serve simultaneously as governors since the 1925 inaugurations of Wyoming's Nellie Tayloe Ross and Texas' Miriam Ferguson. That more than a half-century has passed since the precedent was set is indicative of feminism's slow progress.
- Jimmy Carter, Democrat of Georgia, is the first president to appoint two women to his Cabinet. Juanita Kreps, an economist at Duke University, heads the Commerce Department, while Patricia Roberts Harris, who served as an ambassador under Lyndon Johnson, is chief of Department of Housing and Urban Development. Harris is the first African-American woman on the Cabinet; the first woman was Frances Perkins under Franklin Roosevelt back in 1933. She developed Social Security, minimum wages, and other fundamentals of the modern economy.
- Indiana becomes the 35th of the 38 states necessary for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), but it is rejected in Virginia, Nevada, North Carolina, and Florida. Some of the votes are close: in Florida, it passes the House, but loses narrowly in the Senate. A Tampa senator who campaigned promising support will vote against it in 1982, and the ERA never is ratified.
- Some opposition to the ERA arises because it is increasingly tied to the issue of sexual orientation. When Florida's Dade County passes an ordinance banning discrimination against homosexuals, former beauty queen Anita Bryant leads a crusade for repeal. Her faction succeeds but her major advertising sponsor, the orange juice industry, is boycotted.
- A torch is lighted at the historic birthplace of the women's rights movement in Seneca Falls, New York, and is carried by a thousand female runners to Houston, where a giant meeting follows up on the United Nations' International Women's Year.

Those were indeed heady times! Athenians **Betty Castor**, **Helen Gordon Davis**, and **Pat Frank** were strong leaders in the legislature, and women made genuine progress. A backlash came soon, though, as the very next year, 1978, brought the abolition of the Hillsborough County Commission on the Status of Women. Now, in 2017, 37 years have passed since Florida elected a woman as a US senator; we lag behind other states in our failure to elect a woman as governor; and the US Senate never has ratified the UN's 1980 treaty that banned discrimination against women. Forward movement is not inevitable, and freedom is not free.

Doris Weatherford





2017-18 Calendar

October 26 – Bonus – Tampa Museum of Art
 November 4 – Athena Plus – Bowtie Ball Reception, Dinner
 November 5 – Bonus – Stageworks “Year of Magical Thinking”
 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
 February 1 – Luncheon
 March 1 – Luncheon
 April 5 – Luncheon (YWP)
 May 3 – Luncheon (Career Asst. Grants)
 June 7 – Dinner (Annual Meeting)



November Birthdays

Birthday wishes to the following members who celebrate in November:

Amelia Campbell
Jeanette Fenton
Pat Frank
Julia Freeman
Susan Freeman

Kassie Grizzard
Libby Jenkins
Anne Kantor
Margaret Mathews

Luanne Panacek
Amanda Sansone
Caroline Sikorske
Renee Vaughn
Andrea Zelman



Members' Projects

Jeanne Tate invites members to the annual fundraiser of Gift of Adoption Florida on Friday, November 10. “Come Together for the Kids” will be a fun evening featuring the peace, love and flower-power of the 1960’s! Costumes invited! For details, please contact Jeanne and consider supporting permanency through adoption for orphaned youth in the Tampa Bay area.

The second annual Women’s Conference of Florida is scheduled for October 26-27 at the Marriott Waterside and **Sandy Murman** has three complimentary seats open at her table. One thousand of the state’s most accomplished women will gather for this event to explore topics of interest to professional women - from entrepreneurship and leadership to relationships, personal finances, pay equity and more. For detailed information, click on <http://womensconferenceofflorida.com/2017-schedule/>. If interested, contact Sandy at Sandramurman410@aol.com.



Bonus Activity Update

October 26 - Tampa Museum of Art, 5:15 – 7 p.m.

Entrance Fee: \$15 (free to TMA members).....Featuring 2 exciting new Women Artists. Join us for wine upon arrival; tour by Curator at 6:15. Dinner at Malios (optional) after the tour. Register by October 23 online or to Susan Dellinger at drsusandell@gmail.com.

November 5 – Stageworks Theatre – 3 p.m.

“The Year of Magical Thinking” directed by **Karla Hartley**. In this beautiful adaptation of her award-winning memoir, Joan Didion transforms the sudden loss of her husband and daughter into a stunning and powerful and ultimately hopeful story. To purchase tickets with a \$5 discount, go to stageworkstheatre.org, click on “buy tickets” tab, scroll down to November 5 and on the order form type in ATHENAB in capital letters.

December 3 – Holiday Concert – University of Tampa – 2 p.m.

Our ten reserved seats in Sykes Chapel will be held only until 1:15 p.m. so arrive early. Parking is available in the adjacent garage.



Additionally, a new category has been created termed “Athena Plus.” Though not specifically planned by the Committee, they are suggested activities you might enjoy:

November 4 – Bowtie Ball Reception/Dinner – Poynter Institute Honoring Judy Woodruff at Hilton Carillon, St. Pete (Contact **Bonnie Saks** at brs331@gmail.com.)

December 1 – Unveiling of Riverwalk Statues – 11 a.m. on waterside of the Tampa Convention Center.

Happy Thanksgiving



Athena Society



B R I E F I N G S

December, 2017

2017-2018 OFFICERS

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BECCA TIEDER
ALTERNATE: YVONNE FRY

ADMINISTRATOR/EDITOR

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

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>.