

Athena Society



B R I E F I N G S

June, 2018

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
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ATHENA SOCIETY

P.O. Box 10813
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33679

Upcoming Meeting

WHEN: Thursday, June 7
5:30 p.m. – Cash bar
6:15 p.m. – Dinner



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

MENU: Grouper 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 2018-19 budget
Election of Officers/Directors
Election of 2018-19 Nominating
Committee
Passing of the gavel; Installation

RSVP: By June 4 – 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

Well, June is here and in the life of Athena, it signals some beginnings and endings. As your president, it is the end of what has been a year to remember. Now it is time for me to hand the gavel to President-Elect **Betty Castor** and the end of my being able to say proudly, "I am your president." Even in moments like these, there is so much to be shared, celebrated, recognized and applauded about Athena 2017-18. As I did in the May newsletter, I want to continue to honor and express gratitude to the other committee leaders and members for your impressive work, your unbridled energy and the noteworthy results that have made us so proud to be an Athenian. The salutes continue!

Thanking You for an Amazing Year

One of the ways we are renewed, energized and strengthened as an organization is through the welcoming of new members. Thank you to this year's Membership Committee headed by **Jeanette Fenton**, VP Membership, and committee members: **Keri Eisenbeis**, **Yvonne Fry**, **Denise Jordan**, **Susan Leisner**, **Mindy McLaughlin**, **Becca Tieder**, and **Tina Tenret** for naming 10 outstanding women who have a commitment to Athena's mission and purpose. Welcome and Congratulations, Class of 2018!

Gwynne Young and Amanda Samsone as leaders of the Hospitality Committee are indeed "hostesses extraordinaire"! Compliments to committee members, **Karen Arnold**, **Susan Bucklew**, **Molly Crews**, **Ana Cruz**, **Julia Freeman**, **Linda Fries**, **Susanna Grady**, **Gail Holtzman**, **Michelle Schofner**, **Caroline Sikorske**, **Barbara Twine Thomas** and **Elizabeth Walters** for celebrations that were memorable and kept us always waiting for the next time!

Our 2017-18 Program Committee lead by VP **Belinda Wilson** continued the tradition of outstanding programs, expert speakers and timely and relevant topics that led us to actions, partnerships and service. Thank you to **Belinda** and **Libby Jenkins** for your support and leadership and to members **Ruth Bell**, **Yvonne Fry**, **Jessica Muroff**, **Mindy Murphy**, **Jane Peppard**, **Laura Tibbals** and **Kem Toole** for a dynamic year!

Bylaws and Procedures surely are neither exciting nor fun, but they are necessary! The Bylaws and Procedures Committee, led by President-Elect **Betty Castor** is to be applauded for their work. Committee members are **Sylvia Carley**, **Molly Crews**, **Robin DeLaVergne**, **Susan Leisner**, **Penny Parks**, **Mimi Stamps**, **Elaine Terenzi**, **Natalie Thomas**, **Kem Toole**, **Marketa Wills**, **Gwynne Young** and **Andrea Zelman**.

A special thank you to the Philanthropy Committee leaders **Elizabeth Frazier** and **Amelia Campbell** and committee members **Karen Arnold**, **Rachelle Bedke**, **Robin DeLaVergne**, **Julia Freeman**, **Ann Ross**, **Marlene Spalten**, **JoAnn Urofsky**, **India Witte**, **Xiao Zhang** and **Cynthia Zinober** for helping keep alive the giving and sharing spirit of Athena members. **Dianne Jacob** is the board liaison. What a year it has been for programs that benefit from our members' generosity.

Though a small committee, **Jean McNally** and **Nancy Vaughn**, the Communications Committee leaders and member **Sylvia Carley** have made Facebook among the ways we stay connected. Emails continue to reign as the number one way we get our information, but warm smiles and friendly hellos are what create the sisterly affection.

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President's Message *continued*

Finally, to all of you, I express my heartfelt gratitude for your part in making our 40th year and my term as president so very special. Thank you **Eleanor Hubbard** for three decades (plus) of service, loyalty, love, and dedication and welcome **Johanne Castagan** to Athena. Well, Betty, now it is your time; best wishes and congratulations!

A Salute to Eleanor

The following tribute was written in honor of Eleanor Hubbard and presented to her during the recent PAC luncheon. Written by Linda Goldstein, it is just so fitting that we share it with the membership, as I suspect that many of the sentiments expressed are among those you have also appreciated and admired about Eleanor over the years. Thank you, Linda.

Doretha

❧ To Eleanor – A Tribute ❧ By Linda Goldstein

You've been with us for decades on a journey that's been special
From our ERA beginnings as Athena found our way
When our group was so much smaller, at a very different time
As we developed and expanded to the group we are today.
It's been a fun-filled journey and we've had our share of laughs
And we've also had our issues like the Book and Yacht Club meet
And our episodic conflicts, as we confront our "raison d'être"
But you've helped steer us together, which is not an easy feat!
You've always been there for us, just one phone call away
To answer any question, to keep everything on track
Though the road has gotten bumpy at times as we've "expressed"
Through all that we have been through, you've had Athena's back.
You were there when we defined our purpose and our mission
And you've seen our numbers grow to the size that we now are
And luckily, you've been on board, to make sure it all gets done
Through Meetings, Retreats and Functions, you've been our shining star.
As we enter our next Chapter, it's hard to believe you won't be there
As our Administrator Extraordinaire, so often called our "glue"
But the great thing is, you WILL be with us, though in another role
So dear Eleanor, you don't leave us – you're Athena through and through.



Proxy Voting

Members will be voting on the items shown on page one. If you don't plan to attend the June 7 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 6.

Sunday, June 24 – Party Time!

Our annual party to honor new members is scheduled for Sunday, June 24, 5 to 7 p.m. at the home of **Barbara Bachman**, 3000 Hawthorne Road, 33611. For the first time it will be a members-only party so we can spend more time getting to know our ten new members and to connect and re-connect with others. Come as you are (casual dress) and feast on a delicious Sunday supper style menu. RSVP by June 20 online or by emailing ewhubbard@aol.com.



Puttin' on the Ritz!

Please join us July 27-29 for an elegant weekend of exploration, camaraderie and rejuvenation at the Sarasota Ritz-Carlton. Our weekend begins with a wine'd down happy hour featuring local chamber musicians and an elegant dinner. Following a delicious buffet breakfast at the hotel, our Saturday morning program will explore our environmental and climate issues, followed in the afternoon by a guided house tour conducted by the Curator of the Ca'd'Zan. The two homes we'll visit will provide an interesting compare and contrast: one will be in the style of the Sarasota School of Architecture - characterized by its adaptation of modern architecture to the Florida climate - compared with one of the most iconic Mediterranean style homes in the region. Saturday night we'll enjoy a casual buffet at the Ritz-Carlton Beach Club which will include live music as we dance the night away! Before our send-off, we'll enjoy a scrumptious breakfast buffet at the historic Field Club.

\$325 fee covers Friday wine & dinner; Saturday buffet breakfast, Saturday program/house tours, evening entertainment, wine and dinner; Sunday brunch. Transportation to the house tours and the Beach Club will be included. Discounted room rate (single or double) of \$249 + tax, payable upon checkout with rates extended 3 days prior and post retreat. The \$30 resort fee has been waived. For those with cars, valet parking has been reduced to \$18 per night. Registration is available online; we will process the reservations for both the event and the hotel.

Suzanne McCormick/Penny Parks
2018 Retreat Co-Chairs



News About Members

Betty Castor recently received the annual Architect of Change Award at “She’s the Change Annual Conference” of Ruth’s List Florida. The award was presented to Betty to highlight her esteemed career and for being a trailblazer for women across the state. It was presented by her daughters, Congresswoman **Kathy Castor** and the Honorable Karen Castor, which made the ceremony extra special.



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 7 meeting:

Erin Aebel - Attorney, Partner, Shumaker Loop Kendrick LLP

Trimeka Benjamin - President & CEO, Swim Digital Group

Andrea Floyd - Chief Technical Officer, OpGenix LLC

Rena Frazier - Attorney, Rena Frazier Law PLLC

Kari Goetz - Director of Marketing, Tampa International Airport

Charlene Honeywell - District Judge, US District Judge

Pat Kemp - Hillsborough County Commissioner

Carolyn Kurtz - Harbor Pilot, Tampa Bay Pilots

Claire Lessinger - Director of Special Events, Tampa Bay Sports Commission

Kathleen Mary Moore - Archdeacon, Episcopal Diocese of SW Florida

WELCOME! WELCOME!





Election for Nominating Committee

Preliminary voting at the May meeting resulted in the following 12 members being selected:

Patti Breckenridge
Moira Burke
Bonnie Carr
Fentrice Driskell
Katherine Essrig
Susan Leisner

Bonnie Saks
Bemetra Simmons
Juel Smith
Mimi Stamps
Jeanne Tate
JoAnn Urofsky

To determine the final committee, members will be asked to vote for six at next week's meeting.

2018-19 Proposed Board of Directors

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

President
President-Elect
VP/Membership
VP/Programs
VP/Community Action
Secretary
Treasurer (2 yr. term)

Betty Castor*
Lorna Taylor
Keri Eisenbeis
Diane Egner
Kem Toole
Tina Tenret
Zoe Gustafson

BOARD MEMBERS

Second year of 2 year term

Fentrice Driskell*
Mary Gamble*
Dianne Jacob *

Imm. Past President **Doretha Edgecomb ***

Two year term:

Bonnie Carr
Carlye Morgan
Mindy McLaughlin

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Second year of 2 year term:

Susan Leisner*
Tina Tenret*
Becca Tieder*

Alternate: **Ann Miller**

Two year term:

Sylvia Carley
Lee Essrig
Chantal Hevia