

Athena Society



B R I E F I N G S

June, 2014

2013-2014 OFFICERS

PRESIDENTAMELIA CAMPBELL
PRESIDENT-ELECT.....KAREN ARNOLD
VP/MEMBERSHIPLORNA TAYLOR
VP/PROGRAMS.....LORRAINE LUTTON
SECRETARY.....EDNA BROYLES
TREASURERBONNIE CARR
IMM. PAST PRESIDENT.....ELAINE TEREZI

BOARD

KIM DeBOSIER
CYNTHIA GANDEE-ZINOBER
LAURA KOLKMAN
AMANDA SANSONE
JEANNE TATE
REBECCA TIEDER

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

SUSAN BUCKLEW
ROBIN DeLAVERGNE
CAROLYN REED
AMANDA SANSONE
MICHELLE SCHOFNER
MIMI STAMPS
ALTERNATE: SIMONE BAREFIELD

ADMINISTRATOR/EDITOR

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ATHENA SOCIETY

P.O. Box 10813
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33679

Upcoming Meeting

- WHEN:** Thursday, June 5
5:30 p.m. – Cocktails (cash bar)
6:15 p.m. – Dinner
- WHERE:** Tampa Yacht & Country Club
5320 Interbay Blvd.
Valet parking available
- MENU:** Fresh Gulf Grouper Piccata
**(If you prefer sliced Tenderloin of Beef
or a veggie plate, please indicate.)**
- PROGRAM:** Business Meeting – Agenda to include:
Election of Nominating Committee
Approval of 2014-15 budget
Approval of Bylaws
Recognition of Philanthropy Donors
Introduction of new members
Election of officers/directors
Passing of the gavel; Installation
- RSVP:** By June 2 – 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.

Please bring a bottle of your favorite wine to “stock” the hospitality suite at the retreat at the Renaissance Vinoy, July 18-20. Put your name on it and why it is your favorite (even if you won’t be able to attend the retreat).



President's Message

During the annual meeting last June I spoke about focusing on two important goals in the upcoming year. The first goal related to membership. I asked you to identify women in the community who would add to the richness and diversity of Athena. The Membership Committee under the leadership of **Lorna Taylor** recommended eight nominees. At our final meeting on June 5th we will introduce our new members. Please remember to introduce yourself to these remarkable women and welcome them into Athena.

Renee Vaughn graciously hosted the new member orientation meeting at her lovely home in early May. Renee set a high standard for this event with fabulous food and tropical floral arrangements! Thanks so much to Renee for providing a warm welcome to our new members. And thank you to those who participated in the presentation that evening, including **Lorna Taylor, Carolyn Reed, Mary Scriven, Susan Leisner, Renee Vaughn and Karen Arnold**. Each of them spoke about different aspects of Athena and emphasized the importance of supporting women's issues and each other. They also emphasized how Athena has enriched their lives.

The second goal for the year was to increase our fund at the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay to \$100,000. This is the fund that provides **Phyllis Marshall** Career Assistance Grants to deserving recipients each year. I'm thrilled to announce that we've reached our **\$100,000 goal** as a result of contributions made during the year and investment returns! Thanks so much to the generous donors who made contributions this year!

Reaching this financial milestone gives substance to our fund and allows us to increase the number of grants we provide to women who are attending school and striving to reach their educational goals. At our May lunch meeting we recognized five students who received grants totaling \$6300.

Providing these grants on an annual basis is a signature program of Athena. This program shines a light on supporting women in need in our community. Please consider making a tax deductible contribution to the Athena fund at the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay in honor of an Athena member, a mentor or a friend who has assisted you in a time of need. As a reminder, your check should be made payable to: The Community Foundation of Tampa Bay and mailed to **Eleanor Hubbard**. Eleanor then sends all contributions to the Community Foundation along with instructions concerning gifts made in honor of or in memory of an individual.

Athena runs smoothly because of the dedicated members who serve as Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs. I'd like to especially thank **Karen Arnold, Lorna Taylor, Lorraine Lutton, Edna Broyles, Bonnie Carr, Elaine Terenzi, Kim DeBosier, Cynthia Gandee-Zinober, Laura Kolkman, Amanda Sansone, Jeanne Tate and Becca Tieder** for sharing their time and talent this year.

Athena also runs smoothly because of our administrator, **Eleanor Hubbard**. Every Past President understands the depth of experience and knowledge of the organization that Eleanor brings to the table. I'm grateful for Eleanor's assistance throughout the year.

Thank you so much for the opportunity to serve as President of Athena. It has truly been a rewarding experience.



Saturday, June 14 – Party Time!

Our annual party to honor new members is scheduled for Saturday, June 14, 4 to 6 p.m. at the lovely South Tampa home of **Margaret Mathews** and Scott Ilgenfritz, 4210 W. Beach Park Drive, 33609. The Hospitality Committee - under the direction of **Yvonne Fry** will present its usual delectable spread. There's no charge for members and one guest; additional guests are \$25. RSVP online or email **Eleanor Hubbard** prior to June 10. If you're bringing a guest, please leave a name. There's plenty of on-street parking, but anyone needing close parking because of a walking issue should contact Eleanor for special arrangements.

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 5 meeting:

Felicia Harvey – Sr. Dir. Marketing/Comm., Tampa Chamber
Nancy Hutson – VP Entertainment, Busch Gardens
Kim Jowell – CEO, Girl Scouts of West Central FL
Catherine Lynch – M.D., Professor Ob/Gyn USF
Carlye Morgan – Dir. Gov. Relations, Tampa Chamber
Shannon Reid – Dir. Retirement Solutions, Raymond James
Marlene Spalten – Pres./CEO, Community Foundation
Ven Thomas – Dir, County Family/Aging Services Dept.

WELCOME! WELCOME!

Nominating Committee Election

At the May meeting, members were asked to vote for 12 individuals eligible to serve on the 2014-15 Nominating Committee. As the result of the preliminary ballot and due to a tie, additional choices are being presented.

Barbara Bachman
Rachelle Bedke
Susan Bucklew
Moira Burke
Sylvia Carley

Molly Crews
Kim de la Parte
Linda Devine
Lee Essrig
Adelaide Few

Susan Leisner
Lorraine Lutton
Margaret Mathews
Carolyn Reed
Mary Scriven

The final election will take place at the June meeting at which time six members will be selected to serve until the annual meeting in 2015. If you do not plan to attend the June meeting, you may wish to implement Article V, Section 10 of the bylaws: Proxies.



News About Members

Congratulations to **Julia Gorzka Freeman** and her husband Brett, the proud parents of Jack Truman. Jack was born May 2 at St. Joseph's Hospital weighing in at 6 lbs, 6 oz.

Doris Weatherford will be the keynote speaker at The American Forum, which is held this year at the University of Bialystok in eastern Poland. Sponsored by the American Embassy, the forum is in its eleventh year, and this is the first year that it will feature the history of women. Attendees teach American history in European universities, and Doris is especially pleased that the woman who invited her, Dr. Halina Parafinowicz, knows Doris only through her books. She and her husband also plan to visit Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia and parts of Russia during June.

We are sad to report that former member **Marylou Harkness** passed away on May 13. A memorial service will be held in the University Village Ballroom on Saturday, May 31, at 1 p.m. followed by a reception in the dining room. Sympathy cards may be sent to Marylou's stepdaughter, Judy Groleau at 29094 Oxmoor Court, San Antonio, FL 33576.

Yvonne Fry has been elected Chair of the Florida Commission on the Status of Women (FCSW) for 2014-15. (She also serves as Chairman of the Hillsborough County Commission on the Status of Women.) The FCSW is a nonpartisan board consisting of 22 members appointed by the Governor, President of the Senate, Speaker of the House and members of the Florida Cabinet.



Plan to Retreat!

Reminder that the Athena Retreat will be July 18-20 at the Renaissance Vinoy in St. Petersburg. Themed Being Athena: Women of Wisdom, Strength and Enlightenment, the programming will showcase each of these qualities of great women and we have some memorable surprises planned. You won't want to miss it! Reservation deadline is June 16 so register/pay online NOW at the Athena website: <http://www.athena-society.com> Questions? Call Renée Vaughn at 416-4146.





2014-15 Slate

The following slate has been proposed by the Nominating Committee:

President.....**Karen Arnold**
 President-Elect**Kim DeBosier**
 VP/Membership.....**Robin DeLaVergne**
 VP/Programs**Betty Castor**
 Secretary.....**Lagretta Lenker**
 Treasurer**Susan Casper**
 Imm. Past President.....**Amelia Campbell**

BOARD MEMBERS

Second year of
 Two-year term:
Laura Kolkman
Amanda Sansone
Rebecca Tieder

Two-year term:
Doretha Edgecomb
Mindy McLaughlin
Lisa Robbins

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Second year of
 Two-year term:
Amanda Sansone
Carolyn Reed
Susan Bucklew

Two-year term:
Simone Barefield
Chantal Hevia
Dianne Jacob

Alternate: **Susan Stern**
 (one year term)

Athena Housekeeping

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

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



NYC Bonus Huge Success

Margaret Miller organized a visual art-centric trip to New York that 10 of us were lucky enough to join. We had wonderful guided tours at the Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum (selected Biennial pieces) and six private art galleries. All of us attended these and some of us went on to the Neue Galerie for an exhibit of “Decadent Art” from Germany or to the Metropolitan Museum of Art to view the costume collection of Charles James.

And then we diverged according to our individual interests. We saw “Kinky Boots” and “A Gentlemen’s Guide to Love and Murder” as well as the NYC Chamber Ballet with an attendant tour of its costume shop. There was afternoon tea in the Palm Court of the Plaza, shopping at Bergdorf Goodman and other great uptown stores. There was hiking half way across the Brooklyn Bridge and back and walking the length of the High Line. It was a mile of experiencing lovely gardens and sculpture above the street in a wonderful example of re-use of an outdated structure (and seeing the construction site of the new Whitney location).

We enjoyed lots of good food and had a lot of opportunities to “walk it off”, but most of all we all had an opportunity to get to know and appreciate each other a little bit better. It was an unbeatable experience!

Paddy Moses/Judy Ryan



Hospitality Committee Needs YOU!

Yvonne Fry, Jeanette LaRussa Fenton and Linda D’Aquila are working together to make the New Member Party on Saturday, June 14 a success and ask for your help to bring it all together.

We know there are many who always step up and bring long time favorites and we are counting on you to delight everyone with your traditional dishes. We also welcome anyone else who wants to try her hand at a culinary delight to step up as well.

For those not wanting to cook but could easily pick up an item, we have some ideas for you as well...just let us know your willingness to help. Please email Jeanette.Fenton@tampagov.net with your dish or intention to bring something. We’ll note it and be back in touch with a reminder before the event. Many thanks!



Challenge from the Philanthropy Committee

By JoAnn Urofsky, Chair

For the past several years the Athena board has been focused on increasing philanthropic support for Athena's signature programs: Young Women of Promise and the **Phyllis Marshall** Scholarships. In addition to funds contributed by Athena members and by the **Beth Waters** Friendship Foundation, 10% of unrestricted funds at the end of the fiscal year are added to the Athena Education Fund at the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay.

This year, our president reports that your contributions and the 10% of unrestricted funds have helped us meet our goal of \$100,000! That's exciting news. It means that we can assist even more women in the coming year and positively impact their lives.

The Philanthropy Committee would like to recognize and thank the following members who contributed \$250 or more this year. They are **Karen Arnold, Amelia Campbell, Betty Castor, Robin DeLaVergne, Lee Essrig, Gail Holtzman, Margaret Mathews, Lisa Robbins, JoAnn Urofsky** and **Renee Vaughn**.

If you recall, at the beginning of the year the Philanthropy Committee issued the Birthday Challenge for 2014. As part of the challenge, we were counting the number of givers and the total value of the contributions by each birthday month. We're halfway through the year, and contributions have come in from members born in the months of January, April, May, September and November. As a May baby, I'm tickled that May is in the lead with four donors, and November is second with three.

You can boost your birthday month with a gift at any time. Contribute via the Athena website using PayPal when you give to support the Young Women of Promise program (not tax deductible) or send a check (payable to the Community Foundation) to **Eleanor Hubbard** to support the Phyllis Marshall Scholarship program (tax deductible).

This is a fun challenge if you play along, but the real gift is in the magic we can create in the life of a woman who needs money to improve the quality of her life and the life of her family.

This year's Philanthropy Committee members include **Robin DeLaVergne, Elizabeth Frazier, Juell Smith, Susan Stern, Anne Strozier, Cynthia Gandee-Zinober** and **Belinda Wilson** and we thank you for making this year a success.





Members' Projects

We will be 3 of 18 people going on a week-long medical mission trip to Honduras in late August. The group has 7 MDs - all women! - and will both staff an existing medical and dental clinic in San Francisco, Honduras, and participate in health fairs in neighboring small communities. At these fairs we do health screenings and give out health kits, so our group is responsible for putting together 1,000 kits to distribute: 500 for children and 500 for adults. These kits include wash cloths, toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, combs, soap, a few band-aids, nail clippers for adults and pencils and pencil sharpeners for the kids.

We'll also be taking some other items - things like crayons, flip flops and eye glasses. We would appreciate any donations, either of the items themselves or money to purchase the items. (The usual plan is to buy the toothpaste and soap there.). If you would like to help support us and this trip with a check, please make it payable to Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church and put "Honduras donation" on the memo line. You may give it to any of us or mail it to the church. If you have items you would like to donate, please contact any of us directly. Thanks in advance. Maybe we will host an Athena bonus after we return and make you look at our pictures!

Barbara Bachman, Moira Burke and Kem Toole

Beth Waters Friendship Fund

You're invited to attend the annual BWFF Luncheon on Friday, May 30, 11:45 – 1:15 p.m. at Timpano, 1610 W. Swann Avenue. Cost is \$75 per person and RSVPs can be made to Fred Bennett at 727/776-2151 or fjbennet@mail.usf.edu. All contributions are tax deductible and benefit the Athena Society, The Spring and Faces of Courage.

June Birthdays

Birthday wishes to the following members who celebrate in June:

Sylvia Campbell
Bonnie Carr
Cathy Clayton
Angela Crawford
Keri Eisenbeis
Linda Goldstein
Dena Leavengood

Barbara Romano
Casey Shear
Alex Sink
Leslie Stein
Vivian Reeves
Belinda Wilson
Xiao Zhang