

Athena Society



B R I E F I N G S

March, 2014

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

ATHENA SOCIETY

P.O. Box 10813
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33679

Upcoming Meeting

- WHEN:** Thursday, March 6
11:55 a.m.
- WHERE:** Centre Club
Westshore at Kennedy
- PROGRAM:** “Opportunities and Challenges –
A 2013 Update of the City”
- SPEAKERS:** The Honorable Bob Buckhorn
Mayor, City of Tampa
- MENU:** Pan Roasted Salmon w/Dill Cream Sauce
Veg plate available on request when reserving
- COST:** Guests - \$25
- RSVP:** By March 3 – Register online
or email ewhubbard@aol.com.

OPEN MEETING – GUESTS WELCOME

Former Tampa Mayor **Sandy Freedman** will introduce Bob Buckhorn who was sworn in as Tampa’s 58th mayor on April 1, 2011. He’ll address many topics including the downtown development boom and how Tampa is leading Florida out of the recession by producing more jobs than any other metropolitan area. As Tampa’s mayor, Buckhorn is committed to creating a more connected, livable city by focusing on our underutilized riverfront, generating a strong mix-use pedestrian environment, building links between our neighborhoods and developing an urban pattern that supports transit. To that end, he has invested in the urban core, working to restore the street grid, foster new retail opportunities and worked to attract new high density residential development.

Join us for what promises to be an enlightening half hour.



President's Message

I am anxious to hear Mayor Bob Buckhorn speak about the status of Tampa at our March meeting. He's a passionate proponent of developing a vibrant city where people work, live and play. I'm grateful for his vision (and **Pam Iorio's** vision) to improve downtown Tampa.

In 1996, I moved to Harbour Island and discovered how much I like living in the city. The urban lifestyle is quite a contrast to the small town in southern Indiana where I spent my childhood. My father was a professor at Hanover College in Hanover, Indiana. The town had one stoplight and a population of 3000. The closest big city (a 45 minute drive) was Louisville, Kentucky. My Harbour Island home is one mile from my office in the Bank of America building. My husband laughs when I describe a new route to work that shaves 30 seconds off the commute. The short commute is definitely a benefit, but there are many other reasons I embrace living in the city.

One of my favorite activities is walking along the Riverwalk with my neighbor, **Miriam Mason**. There are always events at the Convention Center, Marriott Waterside Hotel, History Center and Curtis Hixon Park. One morning we were surprised to find circus elephants walking down Water Street by the Tampa Bay Times Forum. Another time we watched dragon boat races. What an interesting place to exercise! The Convention Center is headquarters for car shows, home shows, volleyball tournaments, cheerleading competitions, political conventions, thespians and business conventions. It's fun to guess what event is taking place at the Convention Center based upon the clothing of the participants.

Every time I step foot in Curtis Hixon Park, I thank Pam Iorio for this treasure. It is a wonderful gathering place for children, families, yoga, concerts and other outdoor activities. The Straz Center is also a Tampa jewel. Like many of you, my husband and I are subscribers to the Broadway Series and enjoy living close to the theatre. My family loves the Tampa Bay Lightning and attends many hockey games. We belong to a small group of fans in the U.S. who walk to a National Hockey League game from home. The small scale Publix on Bayshore is a convenient place to shop, but finding a parking space is a challenge. My first question for Mayor Buckhorn is: When will there be a grocery store in the Channel District? My second question: When will Channelside Bay Plaza be redeveloped? I'm certain that you have questions for our mayor, too!

March Bonus

Spring is just around the corner and a great way to launch it (even if it's early) is to visit the Museum of Fine Arts in St. Pete for "Art in Bloom" on Saturday, March 8. A community favorite, the event will showcase more than 50 professional florists and talented hobbyists creating imaginative floral arrangements designed to interact with individual artworks in the museum's collection. Additional information is available at fine-arts.org. The exhibit opens at 10 a.m. and members wishing to carpool should register on our website. The exhibit will be open to the public through March 11 and on Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m. floral designers will be in the galleries to discuss their creations, inspiration and techniques.



Retreat 2014

strength – noun

- 1 the quality or state of being strong, in particular:
physical power and energy
- 2 the emotional or mental qualities necessary in dealing with situations or events that are distressing or difficult
- 3 the influence or power possessed by a person, organization, or country

Being Athena – Women of Wisdom, Strength and Enlightenment
Don't miss the Athena Retreat July 18-20
Renaissance Vinoy Resort and Spa, St. Pete



News About Members

Michelle Schofner recently received the Transportation Professional of the Year Award from TBITE (Tampa Bay Institute of Transportation Engineers). With over 20 years' experience, Michelle has been working in the field of traffic engineering and traffic studies specializing in designing signals, signing & pavement marking and lighting. She is the first female to receive this award.

The careers blog created by **Patti Breckenridge** at Publix 2 years ago was just named one of the best in the country by a blogger who evaluates recruiting blogs and has been featured on ABC, CBS, Fox News Channel, Forbes and Fortune Magazine, etc. You may wish to view it at <http://www.bloggning4jobs.com/social-media/company-career-sites-blogs/>

Barbara Romano has co-authored a book entitled *Do You Know Where Your Granny Is?: Beyond the End of the Road With Two Midlife Grandmothers*. Available on Amazon, it's a tale of two women, both with families and jobs, who meet for the first time in their forties. They discover a mutual love of camping and boating, fishing and hiking, along with the need to occasionally 'get away from it all'. The book is the true story of their friendship and out-of-doors' adventures over thirty five years.

Doris Weatherford, author of our prized *Real Women of Tampa & Hillsborough County*, has a snazzy new website: <http://www.members.authorsguild.net/dweatherford>. Check it out; it's everything you've ever wanted to know about this award-winning author.



March Birthdays

Birthday wishes to the following members who celebrate in March:

Linda D'Aquila

Judy Dato

Sandy Frye

Dianne Jacob

Bonnie Saks

Susan Steen

Gwynne Young



Calendar

February 28 – Deadline for membership nomination forms

March 8 – Bonus – Art in Bloom

April 3 – Luncheon meeting (YWP)

May 1 – Luncheon meeting

May 14-18 – Bonus – NYC trip

June 5 – Dinner meeting - TYCC

July 18-20 – Athena Retreat, Vinoy

Members' Projects

The 18th Annual City of Tampa Women's History Month Celebration will be held Tuesday, March 4, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. at the Tampa Convention Center. This year's theme is: "Celebrating Women of Character, Courage and Commitment." Athena's own **Betty Castor** will deliver the keynote address. The Josephine Howard Stafford Memorial award will be presented to Frances Henriquez, City Clerk, 1973-1993. Several Athena members have received this award including this year's program MC, **Jane Castor, Sandy Freedman, Kathy Betancourt** and **Jane Siling**. Outstanding female military and civilian staff from MacDill AFB will also be honored. The event is free and open to the public. We hope you'll join us to celebrate Women's History Month and honor women's achievements. For more information please contact **Jeanette LaRussa Fenton** at 274-7427 or Jeanette.fenton@tampagov.net.

Chantal Hevia invites you to a behind-the-scenes tour of Ybor City's historic buildings, 5 to 10 p.m. on March 6. Many of the nearly 1,000 historically significant structures in Tampa's National Landmark Historic District are run by private businesses, meaning you rarely get the chance to explore them. Buildings Alive! Ybor City Architecture Hop is a tour of many of these historic buildings that have been preserved, rehabilitated or restored and adapted to meet modern needs. Each hop stop will provide food and beverages. Ride the Jolley Trolley or stroll through the historic district to move between the hop stops. You can also participate in the Buildings Alive! scavenger hunt for a chance to win prizes. The After Party will take place in the Ybor City Museum State Park Garden between 8 and 10 p.m and includes live entertainment, dessert and beverages.