



MAKE A LASTING CONNECTION IN 2015!



Connections Professional Networking

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Luncheon Friday, March 11, 2016

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Please join us for a wonderful networking experience!

Petroleum Club Lunch Buffet | \$18

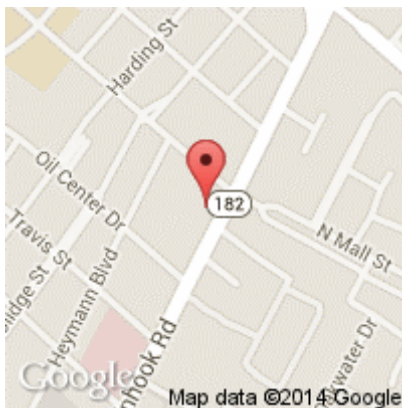
Please RSVP by noon Wednesday, March 9th.
It is important that you let us know if you plan to attend.

You may RSVP via [e-mail](#) or on our [website](#).
Email: connectionsprofnet@gmail.com

To prevent Connections from being charged by the Petroleum Club for no-shows, if you need to cancel your RSVP please do so by 10:00 am on the Thursday prior to the meeting. We need to confirm our numbers with Petroleum Club by 11:00 am the day before.

To cancel, please send email to connectionsprofnet@gmail.com or call 658-9590.

Connections accepts cash or checks. Please have your check made payable to Connections prior to arriving at the meeting to expedite registration.



Petroleum Club

111 Heymann Boulevard (Oil Center)

Buffet lunch \$18

Please bring cash or **preferred method of payment check.**

Meetings are being held in the lounge on the 1st floor, near the arch driveway, down the hall from the buffet.

Networking begins at 11:30 a.m.

Meeting begins at 12:00 Noon.

Connections Annual Career Achievement Award Program



**Deidre Toups
President of HB Rentals**

Connections will be honoring its Career Achievement Recipient and we want you to be a part of this celebration! Please join us as we recognize the Connections 2014 Career Achievement Award Recipient, Deidre Toups, President of HB Rentals.

The Connections Career Achievement Award is an honor presented to women in the Acadiana area who represent the epitome of professional accomplishment and achievement, and who present themselves as desirable role models. These women have received peer professional recognition based on achievement or advancement in their particular field of endeavor and demonstrated their willingness to share their skills to enhance their own professional reputation and growth.

Deirdre Toups' history of professional accomplishments and success over the years, as well as her involvement mentoring others are truly an inspiration for all women. Many qualities and commitments often make up career achievement. As you join us to honor Jessica, you'll learn more of those things which have made her such a successful individual in her field and our community.

President's Message



With winter exiting and spring beginning, our weather seems to be equally confused. This time of year brings about many colds, allergies, and sinus problems. Luckily this transition of seasons is short lived and consistent warmer temperatures are coming. For fans of the outdoors, this signals more farmers markets and free outdoor concerts at various venues. If you have never attended these regional outings, I highly encourage you take advantage and experience some of our regional uniqueness. Farmers markets bring us up close and personal to the local agriculture. Outdoor concerts, like Rhythms on the Rivers (River Ranch), Downtown Alive (Lafayette), and Sugar Jam (Sugar Mill Pond), offer glimpses of our rich social culture. Nice weather, great music, and dancing are a winning combination!

So everyone take care to keep these seasonal allergy symptoms at bay and enjoy the bounty of social connection this community offers. Happy March!

Deirdre Detraz

Connections President 2015-2016

Business Spotlight



Director: Karen Rue

Phone: (337) 205-9649 | Fax: (337) 988-7155

1001 W. Pinhook Rd, Bldg #3 Suite 212,
Lafayette, LA 70503

Meet Karen Rue, independent owner and operator of your local Griswold Home Care office. Karen is the very kind and caring leader of the Acadiana office whose ultimate goal is to give you and your family the best experience possible when navigating the difficult search for affordable, quality care services.

Karen employs her professional and personal experiences having cared for the elderly, as well as her marketing knowledge toward her home care business. She has 40+ years of diverse experiences in the “field of helping people.”

When she is not working, Karen remains active in her local community. She is the parish nurse at her church and is involved in professional committees at the local, state and national level. Karen has been presented the Citizen of the Year Award by the March of Dimes and received Louisiana’s Great 100 Nurses recognition in 2005. Most importantly, Karen provides care to her own aging parents.

The Acadiana Griswold Home Care team is composed of close-knit and very experienced individuals. Together, Karen and the Acadiana team are committed toward providing your family with the attention and affection that you deserve, and referring the caregivers that you need.

Thank you Heidi Melancon of ULL's Small Business Development Center for info on all of the resources within our reach to make our businesses successful.





Thank you to all of our awesome members that gave door prizes at the January meeting.

Reprint from January:

Gail Wolf

Nanette Heggie - Heggie Investment Partners (Raymond James)

Rose Moss - Mary Kay

Rodlyn Cochran - KATC

JoAnn Pugh

Pat Sonnier

Frances McIntosh - Sweet Treats



**Bring a door prize!
It's a GREAT way to
promote YOUR business!!**

February Meeting:

Eileen Menard Martin - Duson

Elementary

Gail Wolf

Gwen Doucet - JD Bank

Nanette Heggie - Heggie Investment Partners (Raymond James)

Jane Boudreaux - Mary Kay

Rose Moss - Mary Kay

Pat Sonnier

Agnes Cappello - Savoir Faire

Rodlyn Cochran - KATC

Cynthia Comeaux - Xtra Hands

News & Announcements

NEW Connections website:

<http://www.connectionsforwomen.net/>

Members... You can bring marketing materials, business cards and brochures/flyers to the meeting and place on the door prize table to promote your business!!

Members... You can email announcements, accomplishments, business tips or share good news to Rebecca Taylor and she will share on Connections Facebook page.

Send to: Rebecca@AcadianaProfile.com

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Ladies mark you calendars for upcoming connections luncheons.
Feb 12, March 11, April 8th & May 13.

We will be holding a Membership Drive from February through to May.
Let's grow our membership!! Bring guests to meetings.

The member who brings the most guests to the luncheons/referrals and they become members by the end of May will win a \$100 gift card (VISA/MASTERCARD).

Winner of the \$100 gift card announced in the JUNE 10th meeting....

Faith House, an organization we have donated to, has a list of immediate needs for their shelter.

Immediate Needs: Laundry detergent, dish washing liquid, paper plates, utensils, bowls and cups, towels and washrags, floor cleaner, brooms/mops, diapers (size 4 and 5), sanitary products, ethnic hair care products, Lysol, sheets and blankets (Twin Size)

For women moving out of the shelter, they are also seeking: Furniture (Sofas, beds, dressers, etc.) sheets/blankets, pots/dishes/utensils, kitchen tables/chairs, carseats, fans, and suitcases.

Please contact Mary Usner at (337) 234-2715 for donations or questions.

Bookin' It Book Club

We will be seeking books to be added to the library for the month of February. If you have any books you wish to add to the book club, please bring it into the next Connections meeting.

How does it work?

Bring in a book you would like to donate to the library. We would be seeking professional development books. It can be one that has helped you in your career and in your work. It will be added to the library and members will be able to check out the books at meetings. The book would be due back at the next meeting. Any donations anyone would like to make to it would be great.

Mark Your Calendar!

Connections Meeting – March 11th

Networking and business card exchange begins at 11:30 a.m.
Meeting starts promptly at 12:00 noon at the Petroleum Club.

Future Connections' Meetings:

April 8

May 13

June 10



Connections Officers

Deirdre Detraz - President
Cynthia Beslin - President Elect
Eugenia Shedrick – Newsletter VP
Rebecca Taylor – Public Relations VP
Lana Fontenot – Membership VP
Debra Billeaud – Treasurer
Rodlyn Cochran - Program VP
Jane Boudreaux - Secretary
Nanette Heggie – Board Member at Large
Pat Sonnier - Career Achievement
Joann Pugh - Scholarship Chairperson

CONNECTIONS PURPOSE AS BY OUR CONNECTIONS CONSTITUTION

SECTION ONE: TO PROVIDE A PROFESSIONAL ,
EDUCATIONAL AND PERSONAL SUPPORT NETWORK
FOR CAREER-ORIENTED WOMEN.

CONNECTIONS is a monthly newsletter published by the members of CONNECTIONS. For consideration of all information and articles, contact Newsletter Vice President and Editor, Eugenia Shedrick at 337-852-3027 or eugenias@worknet2k.com. If you would like to

SECTION TWO: TO PROVIDE AN ARENA IN WHICH CAREER-ORIENTED WOMEN CAN MEET ONE ANOTHER.

SECTION THREE: TO PROMOTE PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS OF WOMEN IN THE COMMUNITY.

SECTION FOUR: TO PROVIDE MODELS FOR THE COMMUNITY.

Enjoy yourself at our meeting!!

become a member of CONNECTIONS, contact Lana Fontenot, Membership Vice-President at лана.fontenot@solacc.edu.

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