



**MAKE A LASTING
CONNECTION IN 2017!**

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Upcoming Meeting
Friday, August 11, 2017

Please join us for a wonderful networking experience!

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

You may RSVP via [e-mail](#) or [online](#).

To prevent Connections from being charged by the Petroleum Club for no-shows, please cancel your RSVP by 10:00am on the Thursday prior to the meeting. Our deadline to confirm our numbers with Petroleum Club is by 11:00am on the Thursday prior to the meeting.

To cancel, please send email to connectionsprofnet@gmail.com.

Petroleum Club
[111 Heymann Boulevard \(Oil Center\)](#)

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 am.

Meeting begins at 12:00 Noon.

Buffet lunch \$18

At the luncheon payments can be made by check or cash.

Payments may now also be made in advance via [PayPal](#).

****Luncheon payments completed online the day of the event will require proof of payment. You can take a screenshot of the payment on your cell phone, have a receipt sent to you via Facebook or print out the receipt.**

Guest Speaker



Sharon K. Moss
Moss Motors
CEO

Sharon Moss began her entrepreneurial experience as a teenager when she worked for her father in one of his retail businesses. She began packing groceries in his grocery store, later graduated to selling clothes and later on women's shoes. Her father was an Automobile Dealer as well and she worked in the dealership's office, where she learned quickly that customer service was vitally important to success in retail. Later she worked for Lafayette's Oil Center, first as a secretary, then later as an oil buyer for a major oil company. Her last formal job was with a local television station as an account representative selling advertising. During this time, she also handled Moss Motors advertising as well. Her ability to please customers, while producing commercials garnered her the top sales position during her tenure at KADN television.

Sharon's involvement in the community has always been an important part of her life. She was first docent at the Lafayette Natural History Museum and Planetarium, and later served on its board of directors.

Sharon has also served as a board member of Acadiana Center for the Arts, American Cancer Society, University of Louisiana Foundation, Smith Family Teen Center, Acadiana Symphony

Women's League, University Art Museum, Hospice of Acadiana, Acadiana Cares, Spay & Neuter Clinic, Women's Leadership Council and she has graciously been involved with the Boys & Girls Club as a major sponsor for the Running of the Ducks for 16 years. Sharon was the Philanthropist of the year and Moss Motors garnered the Better business Bureau's Integrity Award for large business. She was Chairman for the American Heart Associations Go Red for Women Luncheon, Chairman for the American Cancer Society Viva La Cure and the American Cancer Society White Linen Gala. She has served as a mentor for Young Business Professionals of the 705 Club.

Her professional affiliations include the Lafayette Automobile Dealers Association, Louisiana Automobile Dealers Association and American International Automobile Dealers Association.

Sharon was nominated for dealer of the year for the state of Louisiana in 1998 and again in 2007, and was named Dealer of the Year for the State of Louisiana for 2007. She says this award is her most prestigious award, as she is the first woman ever in our state to receive this award. Sharon was also nominated for dealer of the year for 2 years in a row with the American International Automobile Dealers Association.

Sharon was a recipient of the Business Hall of Fame Laureate Award.

Sharon also served as Chairperson for the Go Red for Women Luncheon to benefit American Heart Association. Through her efforts they were able to raise the most money in the state of Louisiana.

Sharon has served as secretary- treasurer for the Lafayette Automobile Dealers Association. She was highlighted in Honda's "Insight Magazine" as a female dealer who has achieved top sales volume in her market consistently and also was spotlighted in Lafayette's Acadiana @ Work as CEO of the month, and was named to the Independents "Women Who Mean Business". Sharon was actively involved with the Tennis Associations of Lafayette Ladies (TALL) and was chairperson of their annual style show for two years. In April of 2010, she was profiled as one of Lafayette's leading ladies in L Magazine and she graced the cover of Face Magazine with a story about her overcoming adversity as a women in business.

Sharon Moss has served and continues to serve her community with gregarious enthusiasm for life, and is always willing to go the extra mile and likes being creative in these endeavors. Moss Motors is present in many endeavors to raise funds for civic and cultural events as well as donations to causes, which benefit individuals. Sharon's belief in giving back to the community is strong and she believes that giving back is part of her success. Sharon says "I feel so honored to be able to give back to my community, and I thank God for all the blessing he has bestowed on me."

President's Message



There are many different reasons we all come to the Connections Luncheon. Connections gives us an opportunity to meet new women, be encouraged by one of our fabulous speakers, reach personal growth and network with some that intrigue us. Connections challenges us to become ambitious in the ways that matter, to strive for higher goals and to incorporate service in our daily life. For 32 years, Connections Professional Women's group has been making a difference amongst women. To keep our club strong we will continue to build our membership of innovative women. I encourage you to renew your membership by the deadline, and continue to grow with us.

"In order to be irreplaceable one must always be different." —Coco Chanel

Rebecca Taylor

Connections President - 2017/2018

Rebecca@acadianaprofile.com

May Luncheon



Thank you Savannah Vinsant for sharing your journey with us, from your triumphs as an Olympic Trampoline Gymnast, to your business endeavors as owner of Hangtime TNT Gymnastics. You are truly an inspiration and a true life tale of the value of never giving up.



**Thank you to everyone that gave door prizes for the July meeting.
Donating a door prize is a great way to advertise yourself and your business.**

Membership Renewals / New Memberships

Renew your membership or join our organization [today!](#)

Want to get more involved in Connections? Join a



committee! We have several opportunities for volunteers to work closely on multiple projects with the board. Simply check off which committees you are interested in when you fill out your membership renewal and/or application at <http://www.connectionsforwomen.net/join>.

**The Deadline to join to be included
(membership renewal or new guest) in our
annual
Directory is Friday, August 11th.**



Advertise your business in the Connections Directory! The directory is a great promotional tool, as it is given to all members in good standing. For available ad space and pricing, click [here](#).

To purchase an ad in the Directory deadline is August 31st. Please see [Paige Beyt](#) or email us at connectionsprofnet@gmail.com.



RSVP, pretty please?

Due to past difficulties in providing seating linked to lack of RSVPs we are graciously asking that all that intend to attend Connections Networking Luncheon RSVP for the event [here](#). This will allow us to have enough seating and space available for all of our members and guests attending each event.



Do you hate waiting in line?

Help us keep our lines down by paying in advance via [Paypal](#) or have checks/payments ready at the door. Our goal is to get you seated as quickly as possible so that you can begin networking and enjoy your lunch!

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 Anita Link and she will share on Connections Facebook page.

Send to: [Anita Link](#)

We are now accepting PayPal!



Connections is taking online payments for our luncheons and membership dues. You can find the payment link for our luncheons on each event page. To become a member or to renew your membership online, click [here](#).



Faith House, a women's organization that we support, 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, car seats, fans, and suitcases.

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

Mark Your Calendar!

Future Connections' Meetings:

September 8th

October 13th

November 10th

CONNECTIONS PURPOSE AS BY OUR CONNECTIONS CONSTITUTION

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

2017 / 2018 Board Members

Connections Officers

Rebecca Taylor - President
Anita Link - President Elect
Miriam Douglas – Newsletter VP
Sarah D'Avy – Public Relations VP
Paige Beyt – Membership VP
Jeannine Prather – Treasurer
Lana Fontenot - Program VP

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!!

Cynthia Beslin – Board Member at Large
Pat Sonnier - Career Achievement
Joann Pugh - Scholarship Chairperson
Debra Billeaud - Arrangements Chair
Eugenia Shedrick - Secretary

CONNECTIONS is a monthly newsletter published by the members of CONNECTIONS. For consideration of all information and articles, contact Newsletter Vice President and Editor, Miriam Douglas at miriam@miriamdouglas.com. If you would like to become a member of CONNECTIONS, contact Paige Beyt, Membership Vice-President at pcbeyt@gmail.com.

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