



*Connections Professional Networking*



**MAKE A LASTING  
CONNECTION IN 2016!**

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Upcoming Meeting  
Friday, December 9, 2016

**Please join us for a wonderful networking experience!**

Petroleum Club Lunch Buffet | \$18

Please RSVP by Wednesday, November 7th.  
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](mailto: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 10:00am on the Thursday prior to the meeting. We need to confirm our numbers with Petroleum Club by 11:00am the day before.

To cancel, please send email to [connectionsprofnet@gmail.com](mailto:connectionsprofnet@gmail.com).

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 am.**

**Meeting begins at 12:00 Noon.**

## **Connections Holiday Gift Exchange**



It's that time of year again - the annual Connections Holiday Gift Exchange!

In the spirit of the season, please bring a **wrapped \$15 gift** to the luncheon (no door prizes this month). We will have a **“White Elephant”** gift exchange.

Everyone who brings a gift will be able to pick a gift or steal one from someone else.

**We always have a joyous time and lots of laughs. We hope you will come and enjoy it too!**

**Meeting Details**

**Location: [Petroleum Club of Lafayette](#)**

**Date: December 9, 2016**  
**Time: 11:30am - 1pm**  
**Cost: \$18 (pay at the door)**

**Please bring cash for a special treat. We will have Poinsettias, a signature drink, for the Christmas Party. It will be a cash bar. It will be \$5 per drink.**

## President's Message



Hello Connections Ladies,

This is the time of year when we are all running at break neck speed to get everything done for our friends and families. There are all kinds of parties to attend... office parties, club parties, all sorts of parties...not to mention the school play that your little angel has been practicing in front of you for weeks. Of course we have the class parties that you get to bake your child's favorite whatchamacallit!!! And then don't leave out the teacher gifts. Oh My! My daughters were adamant about getting just the right thing when they were little. We are all searching for the perfect present for everyone until we finally give up and grab the last thing on the shelf. It's nuts!

Then somehow, one day you wake up and just stop. Silence. You are in the house alone. No children, no husband and no parents. This is your one moment in time for reflection. How happy are we for the many blessings that were bestowed on us this year. It really was a good year after all. It's all the little things and all the little moments that make up the year. It's all those little things rolled into one that make this thing we call life so spectacular. No - it's not the money we make. It's not the car we drive. It's not the perfectly decorated home. It's the people we love. It's that special look they give you. It's that time driving in the car and everyone is laughing hysterically. It's that time that everything just worked out perfectly and you had nothing to do with it... someone or something else bigger than you had made it happen. That's a good day. Christmas is that good day. It's one of the best days of the year if you let it. So what if everything is not perfect.

My wish for all of you is that you have a special holiday season and that you get that one moment by yourself to enjoy. Be still. Be silent. Be good to yourself. You are a fabulous child, mother, sister, co-worker and friend. Take the time for yourself and remember the moments that made a difference this year. You all have made a difference for me and I am grateful for each of you.

Merry Christmas.  
Cynthia Beslin

## Business Spotlight



**Jeannine Barnes Prather**

**Bookkeeper**

Jeannine Prather  
[337-278-3359](tel:337-278-3359)

I am originally from Texas, but have been living in Louisiana since attending USL in the 70's. I am married, with 2 grown children and 3 grand children. We live in the country and raise horses and chickens, along with our dogs, cats, and parakeets.

I have been doing bookkeeping for over 30 years. I was the Business Manager at Teurlings Catholic High School for 14 years. Since 2006, I have been doing part-time bookkeeping for various businesses. I am experienced in small business bookkeeping and insurance agency bookkeeping. I like helping small/micro businesses with keeping track of their financial transactions. I especially like being able to do virtual bookkeeping online where my clients can be located just about anywhere.

A good referral for me is a small business that only needs a little bit of help tracking their financial transactions. Someone that only needs a couple of hours a week or a couple of hours a month.

# 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 - [anita@stpierrepromos.com](mailto:anita@stpierrepromos.com)

Business Portrait/Headshot

Do you need to update your current headshot/business portrait or do you need to have one done for the first time? Is your LinkedIn Profile or website missing a professional quality photo of you?

Look no further. We are interested in getting Danny Izzo, Certified Professional Photographer, or Nouveau Photeau to come in and take these photos in January. We are missing

## **Connections Board Vacancy**

**We are currently seeking members for a key role on our board. We are seeking members interested in participating in the Secretary position on the Connections Board for the 2016/2017 year. Please see Cynthia Beslin, Connections Board President, if you are interested in this vacancy.**



Connections Supports

## Giving for Faith House

Let's support our women in need.

Let's give a helping hand to our Faith House Families this Christmas,  
by giving **unwrapped** presents to their young children.

*Suggested Presents to Bring to this month's meeting on Friday:*

arts and crafts, board games, dolls (dark skin), skates,  
skate boards, super heroes, children's movies, puzzles, toys, etc.

Thank You.



## **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/blankers, 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**

Connections' Book Club will be starting in January! If you are interested in joining, please contact Paige Beyt at [pcbeyt@gmail.com](mailto:pcbeyt@gmail.com) or at [337.446.5161](tel:337.446.5161).

## **Mark Your Calendar!**

### **Our next Connections meeting will be on January 13th**

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:**

#### **January 13th**

### **CONNECTIONS PURPOSE AS BY OUR CONNECTIONS CONSTITUTION**

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

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

### **2016 / 2017 Board Members**

#### **Connections Officers**

Cynthia Beslin - President  
Rebecca Taylor - President Elect  
Eugenia Shedrick – Newsletter VP  
Anita Link – Public Relations VP  
Paige Beyt – Membership VP  
Debra Billeaud – Treasurer  
Lana Fontenot - Program VP  
Deirdre Detraz – Board Member at Large  
Pat Sonnier - Career Achievement  
Joann Pugh - Scholarship Chairperson  
Lisa David - Arrangements Chair

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

SECTION FOUR: TO PROVIDE MODELS FOR  
THE COMMUNITY.

Enjoy yourself at our meeting!!

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](mailto:eugenias@worknet2k.com). If you would like to become a member of CONNECTIONS, contact Paige Beyt, Membership Vice-President at [pcbeyt@gmail.com](mailto:pcbeyt@gmail.com).

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