

**MAKE A LASTING
CONNECTION IN 2015!**

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***Connections Professional
Networking***
Luncheon Friday, February 6,
2015

Guest Speaker

Tracy Wirtz



KATC TV-3/GMA Anchor

Tracy Wirtz joined the KATC family in 2005. She began her broadcasting career in radio in 1988, and still works part-time for Townsquare Media in the Lafayette and Tuscaloosa, AL, radio markets. The oldest of seven children, she received her Bachelor's Degree in Mass Communications from UL Lafayette (then USL) in 1992. She, her husband Kevin, and her three children (Bonnie, Terryn, and Cory) live in Crowley, where she has lived all her life. She also has one grandchild, Braylie Jane, who calls her "Gigi." Tracy says she feels fortunate to be able to get up in the morning (even before the sun!) and know she will be doing what she loves.

When she's not at work, she enjoys spending time with her family. And she loves to shop, especially for sales!

Tracy has served on many boards of community service organizations over the years. Currently, she gives much of her free time to helping with special projects with the children who are served by St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, a cause which is very near to her heart. Tracy heads up the St. Jude Dream

Home Campaign each year for KATC and is proud of Acadiana for its overwhelming support of the project.

Please join us for a wonderful networking experience!

Petroleum Club

Lunch Buffet \$18

Please RSVP* by noon Wednesday, February 4. It is important that you let us know if you plan to attend.

email: connectionsprofnet@gmail.com or

RSVP on
website <http://www.connectionsforwomen.net/>

To prevent Connections 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.

President's Message



Be Passionate!

In this Valentine's Day month, I invite you to be passionate! Not the romantic kind of passion, but the passion that helps you focus on those things that are important to you and are truly part of your life's mission. With true passion, there is no room for fear. There is boldness, courage, and determination. I recently read that when we focus on a goal passionately, there is no room left in our brain for fear or laziness or procrastination--- passion pushes those negative thoughts and tendencies out. Once we get rid of our fears and laziness, we have removed 99% of the barriers between us and our goals.

Last month we learned that 2 of our Connections members, Realtor - Ree Mere and Attorney - Paige Casselman Beyt, both took the bold and passionate step and opened their own businesses. I faced this same challenge in 2009 when my partners and I opened our own Raymond James office. Becoming a business owner is a leap that takes courage, focus, passion, and a lot of

hard work. Ladies, we wish you all the best on your new ventures!

Finally, please note that our **February 6th** and **March 6th** meetings will be on the first Friday of the month, but our **April 10th** and **May 8th** meetings will be on the second Friday of the month this year due to scheduling conflicts. In fact, we are considering moving the Connections meetings to the 2nd Friday every month, and welcome your feedback on this idea.

I hope you too will put your passions to work for you this month...See you on the 6th!

**Nanette Soileau
Heggie
Connections
President
337.889.0255**

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

Annual Career Achievement Award nominations are currently being accepted. It is an honor for a business women in our area to be named for this award.

For more information about the award visit our [website](#).

If you know of an outstanding person you would like to nominate, please click on the link for an [application](#).

Spotlight on Business

Vonda Broussard/AMG Integrated Healthcare Management Director of Humane Resources

AMG was founded in 1999 and has grown into a leading specialty hospital organization, becoming a Top 5 post acute hospital system nationally. We are a privately-owned provider of post-acute health care services. Through our long-term acute care hospitals we provide a continued acute level of care for patients suffering complex medical conditions. Our inpatient rehabilitation facilities provide intensive physical rehabilitation to patients recovering from injury, illness, or surgery. We are dedicated to providing our patients the most appropriate medical care and support to help them return to health.

101 LaRue France, Suite 100/Lafayette, LA 70508

Ph: 337-269-9566

vbroussard@amgihm.com

www.amgihm.com

Bring your business card and at each meeting we will draw a name. Your business will then be "Spotlighted" in the next monthly newsletter.

Mark Your Calendar!

Connections Meeting –February 6

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

Connections Monthly Board Meeting:

Monday, February 9

11:30 am at Abacus Restaurant on Pinhook

Deadline to submit articles to be included in the next Connections Newsletter is the 15th of the month.

Future Connections' Meetings

March 6

April 10

May 8

[Read More](#)



Petroleum Club
111 Heymann Boulevard (Oil Center)

Buffet lunch \$18

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

Networking begins at 11:30 a.m.
Meeting begins at 12:00 Noon.

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

Door Prizes



Thank you to our members and guests for the door prizes donated at the January meeting!!

Gail Wolf...retired

Nanette Heggie...Investment Partners of Acadiana

Lourdes Broussard...Lynn Wood & Associates

Pat Sonnier...retired

Stacy Delatte...Melaleuca Wellness Company



\$1,000 Connections UL Lafayette Scholarship

Connections Professional Woman's Networking Organization awards a minimum of one UL Lafayette Scholarship per year with preference given to a mature woman student between the ages of 24 and 55 - one either returning to college for a career change, or a mature first-time student. Selection is based on academic merit, cumulative GPA 2.5 or higher, and professional promise by the Connections Scholarship Committee. Should you know of a woman meeting the criteria above, please encourage her to contact the UL Lafayette Scholarship Office in Martin Hall for a Connections Scholarship Application.

You may contact JoAnn Pugh for more information at joannpugh@hotmail.com.



Connections Officers

Nanette Heggie- President
Deirdre Detraz- President Elect
Connie Marcantel – Newsletter VP
Rebecca Taylor– Public Relations VP
Cynthia Beslin – Membership VP
June Brillhart – Treasurer
Fritzie Fine- Program VP
Vonda Broussard - Secretary
Rodlyn Cochran– Board Member at
Large and Career Achievement
Joann Pugh-Scholarship Chairperson
Renee Box - Arrangements Chair

CONNECTIONS is a monthly newsletter published by the members of CONNECTIONS. For consideration of all information and articles, contact Newsletter Vice President and Editor, Connie Marcantel at 406-2650 or connie@acadiana.bbb.org. If you would like to become a member of CONNECTIONS, contact Cynthia Beslin, Membership Vice-President at 232-1737 or cynthia.beslin@prudential.com.

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.

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

SECTION FOUR: TO PROVIDE MODELS FOR THE COMMUNITY.

Enjoy yourself at our meeting!!

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