



"Grow With US"
Established 1982

The November 2017 Newsletter

Please join us Tuesday, November 7, 2017

Guest Speaker:

Nick Nicholson, award-winning film critic.



Nick Nicholson is the Film and Entertainment Critic for HCC-TV, News 92 FM, CNN Houston, The Fort Bend Star News, Focus Magazine, Pearland Focus, Focus on Women Magazine and the Absolute! family of periodicals. In addition, his reviews can be seen and heard in numerous other print/media outlets across the country. Segments of his reviews have been quoted on both the Jay Leno and David Letterman television shows. Mr. Nicholson is in great demand as a speaker to both public and civic organizations on the subject of film and the entertainment industry. He has served as a consultant on numerous film projects, independent and otherwise. Mr. Nicholson holds the distinction of being the only film critic in the State of Texas that votes for both the National Film and Television awards.

Register at www.tpghouston.org

The purpose of The Professional Group is to provide women of diverse professions with opportunities for building relationships and networks of personal and business associations through informative monthly presentations, professional development programs, educational and social activities, and philanthropic endeavors.

President's Message



New Opportunities

In October, at our members-only business meeting, we elected a new slate of officers — the TPG leaders for 2018. In addition to the voting agenda, our 2017 VP Guests and New Members, Sally Andrews, thanked TPG members for bringing new professional women into our organization and gifted some with plants, symbols of growth to represent our theme this year, Grow with Us.

It may seem out of order to speak of new growth in November instead of springtime, but isn't every season a time for growth and opportunity?

I have owned a marketing and event planning business for over 30 years and had semi-retired a year-and-a-half ago. After Hurricane Harvey changed the lives of so many people in our beloved city, the storm also brought along a new opportunity for me.

Through a family connection, I received a call to work with a company involved in disaster recovery. This firm facilitates and monitors rapid infrastructure repair and time-critical debris management.

They advise and guide municipalities through comprehensive financial management, community resilience, and economic redevelopment phases of disaster recovery.

We never know when disaster will come our way or what opportunities may arise out of it. Although the work I am doing now is significantly different from my previous work, I am enjoying it, learning many new things, and using my business experience — in short, I'm growing.

I want to welcome and thank our 2018 TPG board members for stepping up to an opportunity for growth and service. And, I'd like to challenge all TPG members to get involved by joining one of the committees that these ladies will lead.

Your opportunities await....

2018 TPG Board of Directors

Kathleen Fenninger	President	Kathleen.fenninger@comcast.net
Mary Magin	Executive VP	mary.magin@gmail.com
Marianne Spencer	Treasurer	marianne.k.spencer@gmail.com
Susie Richards	Secretary	susiecrichard@gmail.com
Claudia Ruggiero	Programs/Speaker	cgwoods@gmail.com
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Danika Haselden	Networking	danika.haselden@gmail.com
Lauren Miller	Guests and New Members	lmiller@bentransact.com
Lynda Broussard	Ex Officio	lynda@broussard-ad.com

Kind regards,
Lynda Broussard
2017 TPG President

The Professional Group 2017 Board of Directors

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VP Special Projects	Claudia Ruggerio	cgwoods@gmail.com
Recording Secretary	Lauren Miller	lmiller@bentransact.com
Ex-Officio/Nominating	Julie Barry	jbarry@moodylawgroup.com

November is American Diabetes Month.®

Visit

<http://www.diabetes.org/in-my-community/american-diabetes-month>

for more details about the disorder
and how to help.

Meetings are held at **The Junior League, 1811 Briar Oaks**, on the **first Tuesday of each month** except as otherwise scheduled. Join us for a breakfast buffet and conversation at **6:45 a.m.** Free parking is available in the attached garage. As a courtesy to our speaker and others in the audience if you have to leave early, please sit at a table in the back of the room during the breakfast meeting. *Professionally Speaking* is distributed monthly by The Professional Group for its members and current guests. All submissions to the TPG Newsletter need to be sent in a Word document to **Kim Jenkins, VP/Newsletter**, kjenkins@bentransact.com by the due date—always the Thursday following the Breakfast Meeting. Please mention TPG in the subject line. *The deadline for submission of articles and advertising for the December 2017 newsletter is at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 9, 2017.* *Professionally Speaking* is designed and published monthly by **Vicki S. Henrichs of Henrichs Publishing**. Contact vicki164@yahoo.com Visit the site www.letterwise.net

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MAD COMMITTEE NEWS

ANGELA HOUSE:

The interview preparedness workshop led by **Angela Vabulas** on September 23, 2017 was a great success! TPGers **Carol Desenberg, Pam Longley, Trish Felt, Liana Hillendahl, Teresa Doyle** and **Kate Gabriel** were on hand to assist in role-playing with the 10 residents who attended. Several of the volunteers received emails from the women thanking them for their help.

As a follow-up to the workshop, **Angela Vabulas** went back to do some one-on-one help with four of the residents on October 14 and plans to have a monthly program for them.

There is still a need for size 2x clothing and sizes 8 and up shoes at Angela House.

KIPP:

Reading mentors **Kathleen Knolle, Martha Raymond** and **Pam Longley** began work with children at KIPP Sharpstown College Prep School the week of October 16 to help them reach their grade's reading level. Most are 1-2 grade levels behind. The Girls' Leadership Program began on October 16 and will be led this semester by **Angela Vabulas, Liana Hillendahl** and **Pam Longley**. This program is for 7th and 8th grade girls who have been nominated by their teachers.

In addition, the school administrators have asked us to do an etiquette class for the entire 7th grade, separating the boys' class from the girls'! This would be about 100 students. We will be scheduling that for January, 2018.

**Your committee news and photos
belong here!**

**We love to highlight our TPG
activities and accomplishments.**

Send to Kim Jenkins by

**Thursday, November 9 for the
December issue.**

NEW

MEMBER

SPOTLIGHT

Kathy Long has sponsored **MICHELLE WISE**. Michelle has worked many years as a Geophysicist Technical person in Oil Exploration and Production for BH Billiton, Greystone and Yuam, and is currently looking for work in the same type of position. Michele is originally from Austin, moving to Houston in 1976. She loves to travel, read and for many years has done needlework (cross stitching). She has enjoyed meeting the other TPG women and thinks highly of the overall Mission of the group. She is interested in becoming an active member and wants to explore the different TPG committees.

KARLA MACHADO

President & Owner, Kscholastic Inc.

Sponsored by TPG member, **Lorry Harju, KARLA MACHADO** joined TPG to network with other professionals, and to participate in TPG business activities.

Karla was born in Valencia, Venezuela and moved to Houston, Texas with her immediate family in 1995. After attending the University of Houston for Spanish, Education, and Psychology, Karla taught Spanish at Episcopal High School in Bellaire for three years. In the summer of 2012, she founded Kscholastic Inc. Tutoring Services. She currently employs about 20 tutors, ranging from teachers and college students, to an architect tutoring part-time. Her tutoring services are geared toward K-12+ students in the Houston area, and adults wishing to learn conversational Spanish or French. Kscholastic Inc. offers all-subject homework help, standardized test prep, organizational help, and study skills.

In her spare time, Karla enjoys volunteering at the Houston Food Bank, attending U of H football games, traveling to visit family overseas, and taking spin classes with Lorry Harju!

 <p>Greymark Construction Company <i>Design+Build/Remodel</i></p>	<p>2211 Norfolk #626 Houston, Texas 77098 713.722.7226 tel 713.722.9269 fax 832.788.0086 mobile sandra@greymarkconstruction.com greymarkconstruction.com</p>
<p>Sandra Crook Sales/Design</p>	



<http://greymarkconstruction.com>

UPDATE: TPG BOOK BABES

If you enjoy reading, or want to add to your social calendar, then you need to check out the TPG BOOK BABES.

It's a wonderful group of ladies who enjoy discussing books, having fun and forming new friendships!

Guests are most welcome! Registration is open on the TPG website. For questions or more information, contact **Corine Prieto, T.J. Jeter-McAvoy,** or **Rhonda Parker.**

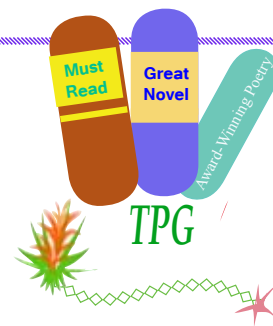
SPECIAL NOTE: Location for meetings change due to Harvey recovery. Please check the TPG website for updated meeting locations for each event.

UPCOMING BOOK BABES EVENTS:

- November 25 — **"The Dry", novel by Jane Harper.**

We will start discussing reading suggestions for 2018, so bring your reading suggestions. Please check the TPG website for location or contact T.J. Jeter-McAvoy or Rhonda Parker.

- December 16 — **TPG Book Babes Holiday Pot Luck and White Elephant Book Exchange Party.** Please bring a gift-wrapped book to participate in the book exchange. For more information, please contact **Corine Prieto** or **Rhonda Parker.**



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Third Quarter 2017 Star Pin Award

CONGRATULATIONS
to **MARY MAGIN**,
who received the
award from **KIM**
JENKINS at the
October meeting.



REMINDER FROM THE TPG CARING AND CONCERNS GROUP

**The Chair for the Caring and Concerns
Committee,**

a sub-committee of Philanthropy,

is Kim Jenkins.

**She can be reached by email at [tpgcar-
ing@yahoo.com](mailto:tpgcar-ing@yahoo.com) (checked daily)**

**If you need assistance, or if you know a
member who may have a need,
please let her know.**

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This is what TPG HUMP DAY HAPPY HOUR looks like! Members enjoyed the October 11 gathering at Caracol on Post Oak. Check the Monday Announcements for updates on these and other great TPG events.

Hurricane Harvey Didn't Stop TPG

TPG Strong/ HoUSton Strong

by Mary Magin

My birthday is August 27 and my sister's is August 28 (several years later). This year we decided to celebrate together in Ohio, so I was there when Hurricane Harvey visited the Gulf.

As the rains got serious, my husband left our home in Katy to be with two of our sons and their families in The Woodlands.

Eventually, our neighbors had to be rescued by air boat. The airboat couldn't handle the weight of all ten of them and their pets and their valuables and it ran aground in our yard. Our house is at the high end of the block and was safe from the rising water.

The neighbors asked the airboat driver, "Where do we go from here?". The driver answered, "You'll be bused to Morton Ranch High School where you'll be issued an air mattress and MRE's". My friend Linda replied, "We're getting off here" and pointed to my house. They retrieved the "hidden" key and made themselves at home.

I'm so happy that they accepted our absentee hospitality.



CAROL GRADZIEL

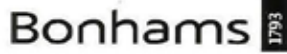
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HAPPY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY TO TPG MEMBERS

Patti H. Bailey	November 1
Sonya J. Scott	November 8
Abbie J. Brothers	November 21
Honey Leveen	November 29
Marlena J. Berger	November 29

Did we miss listing your birthday?

We really want to congratulate you.

We need your help in updating the TPG Website!



You Too Can Highlight

Your Business or Service!

There is space available for advertising in our monthly newsletter! Advertise your business for the low cost of \$25 a month or reduce the cost further by paying \$125, in advance, for six months of advertising.

The standard ad size is that of a business card. At no additional cost you may include a link to your website which will be printed below your business card ad.

Not only are you able to network with fellow TPG members, your advertising dollars help to defray the cost of our newsletter and website.

If you are interested in exploring an ad in the monthly TPG Newsletter, please email:

Kim Jenkins,

kjenkins@bentransact.com

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Breakfast Reservation Form – Tuesday, November 7, 2017

Coffee and Networking at 6:45 a.m. Buffet served promptly at 7:00 a.m.

Register for the breakfast online at www.tpghouston.org by **Friday, November 3, 2017** The process is easy and very user friendly!

PLEASE NOTE

Club Express Tips:

- You will receive two emails: an email confirmation of your reservation and a second email with confirmation of your online payment. If you do not receive two confirmations after registering online, please contact **Cindy Jennings** at cjennings@carltonstaffing.com
- If you don't see the "Register" box, scroll to the right, or scroll down. If you cannot remember if you have registered, click on "Registrants" on the event page and you can see all who are registered.
- If you have trouble, change your browser. Close out and open Mozilla Firefox rather than Internet Explorer.

NOTE: Online reservations end at midnight on FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2017.

Reservations are not transferable to another member or guest and cannot be made by telephone. No reservation will be accepted after the deadline without approval of the Meeting Coordinator, on a space available basis. To request approval after this deadline, email cjennings@carltonstaffing.com

The Professional Group

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