



## **THE PROFESSIONAL GROUP HOUSTON**

**Women Making a Difference in Business and the Community**

**“Stepping In & Stepping up to our Strengths”**

**Established 1982**

**The February 2018 Newsletter**

**Please join us Tuesday, February 6, 2018**

**GUEST SPEAKER: Patricia Ward, M.S.**

**TOPIC: What you should know about genetic testing in 2018**



**Patricia Ward, M.S., is a Certified Genetic Counselor and Associate Professor, Baylor College of Medicine. Pat received her undergraduate degree in Zoology from Connecticut College. After working in a research laboratory for four years, she discovered the new profession of Genetic Counseling and was fortunate to be accepted in the graduate program at the University of California, Berkeley where she completed her master's degree. She has clinical experience in prenatal, pediatric and cancer genetics but has spent the largest part of her career working as a laboratory genetic counselor at Baylor. Her early publications documented in the use of new evolving molecular testing techniques which improved the care provided to patients with genetic disease and their families. More recent publications illustrate the significant impact of use of large-scale genomic testing platforms which have ended the diagnostic odyssey for many more families. Throughout her career she has maintained interest in the psychosocial aspects of genetic testing arguing that patient education and counseling are key elements in decision-making about testing and personal comprehension of the significance of test results.**

**Register at [www.tpghouston.org](http://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.

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# President's Message

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## 2018 Theme: "Stepping In & Stepping up to our Strengths"

Your 2018 Board had a successful retreat and reviewed the results of the TPG annual survey. VP's will continue discussions with their committee and you will gradually notice some changes. Guests and New Members and Meeting Coordinator will work together at the same table in February. Sponsors and networking will be on the other side. More photos will be used on our website. Several other committees will look at ways of working closer. We will focus on communication especially to new members. Stay tuned for more. Thank you to Salata at Richmond/Weslayan for opening their doors early for us at no charge.

Thanks to Angela Vabulas for presenting the summary reports of our StrengthsFinder Themes. She said our team shows great balance and embodies 26 of the 34 strengths within the four domains of Executing, Influencing, Relationship Building, and Strategic Thinking. Sheryl Sandberg has said women need to "Lean In." The board realized that both in personal and business lives, we must also step in and up to find our strengths.

Networking is very much stepping out of our comfort zones. This week I heard a speaker say women make a big networking error by always having their business cards in their "other" bag. So, put them in your car so they will always be handy. Before you leave a meeting, if you've been having a great conversation with someone – book your next meeting right then. Plan to attend our TPG networking events and hand out those business cards at our next breakfast meeting.

This is a good reminder to check your TPG profile. Once you log in, just click on your photo (don't have a photo – we'll take care of that soon!). Make sure the month/day of your birthday is filled in. You can also add your LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram accounts to your profile.

We had great feedback on our January speaker, Chief Art Acevedo, whose candidness was impressive and refreshing. Our February speaker is ABGC Certified Genetic Counselor Patricia Ward, Associate Professor, Molecular and Human Genetics, Baylor College of Medicine. Her topic is "What you should know about Genetic Testing in 2018"

Don't forget to come early on February 6th to have your photo taken by Nikki LaWell, our professional photographer. If you give us approval, we will even update your TPG profile for you.

Enjoy the few days of winter and keep warm

Kathleen Fenninger

President 2018

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# The Professional Group 2018 Board of Directors

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Kathleen Fenninger	President	<a href="mailto:Kathleen.fenninger@comcast.net">Kathleen.fenninger@comcast.net</a>
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Kim Jenkins	Newsletter	<a href="mailto:kjenkins@bentransact.com">kjenkins@bentransact.com</a>
Danika Haselden	Networking	<a href="mailto:danika.haselden@gmail.com">danika.haselden@gmail.com</a>
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Lynda Broussard	Ex Officio	<a href="mailto:lynda@broussard-ad.com">lynda@broussard-ad.com</a>



## Photos!!!

**Members,**

**Please come early to have your complimentary photo taken by TPG member and professional photographer, Nikki LaWell.**

**Thank you to Nikki for providing this wonderful service to our group!**

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](mailto: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 March 2018 newsletter is at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 8, 2018. The TPG Newsletter is designed and published monthly by Vicki S. Henrichs of Henrichs Publishing. Contact [vicki164@yahoo.com](mailto:vicki164@yahoo.com) Visit the site [www.letterwise.net](http://www.letterwise.net)*

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**City of Houston Chief of Police Art Acevedo offered a dynamic presentation at the January monthly meeting.**

**Many thanks to the busy Chief for his dedication of time and information to our TPG members and guests.**

## YOUR TPG LOGIN AND PASSWORD

By Anne Swanson

Sometimes, if you've upgraded your computer, or made changes, you will lose your automatic login for our website.

If this happens, you can click on "Forgot my user name/ password" on the login screen. You enter your email address and the ClubExpress system will send you an email with your user name and a temporary password.

After you log in, you can change this password to something more memorable (but write it down anyway!) If you click the box "Save on this computer" below the login information, your automatic login should now work.

If you'd like to update your password occasionally (recommended), you can also go to "Profile" at the top right of the page and select "User Name/Password" from the Website section (second column) on the page. The site will fill in your User Name. There will be suggestions to help create a strong password.

If you ever have trouble on our website, please contact Anne Swanson and she'll be happy to help get you back online!



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## TPG BOOK BABES

If you enjoy reading and want to add to your social calendar, then you should 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 welcome!

Registration is open on the TPG website. \$10.00 cash will be collected at the meeting from each attendee for food and drinks. Registration is still required so that there is a headcount of attendees for food.

For questions or more information, contact Corine Prieto, TJ Jeter-McAvoy, or Rhonda Parker.

Reading List for the first quarter of 2018:

- February - "Palace of Treason" by Jason Matthews
- March - "Shadow of the Wind" by Carlos Ruiz Zafon

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## THE MAKING A DIFFERENCE COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU!

The MAD Committee is still in need of volunteers to assist with reading at the KIPP Academy.

Please contact

Pam Longley

for more information:

[plongley@oldrepublictitle.com](mailto:plongley@oldrepublictitle.com)

phone: 713-822-8234

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*First Quarter  
2018  
Star  
Pin  
Award*



**Congratulations to Lauren Miller, shown left, who received the honor at the January 2018 TPG monthly meeting. Among other duties, Lauren has served as Recording Secretary on the 2017 Board. Her 2018 board position is in charge of Guests and New Members. Shown right is previous winner Mary Magin, who is incoming Executive Vice President.**



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## February Monthly Sponsor

RIGHT MANAGEMENT is the global career and talent development expert within ManpowerGroup. We help organizations become more agile, attractive and innovative by creating a culture of career management and learning that nurtures future talent, motivates and engages people, and provides individuals with opportunities to increase their value throughout their careers. Our approach is centered on the fact that organizations thrive when the individuals are successful in their careers. We've spent the last 35+ years identifying workforce challenges and evolving innovative solutions, enabling our globally informed methods to be time-tested across more than 50 countries.

Services we provide are:

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### Career Development:

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Outplacement services

### Organizational Effectiveness:

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Workforce engagement, retention and talent strategy  
Facilitation of Leadership meetings, retreats

**Abbie Brothers**

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### Monthly Sponsorships Are Still Available

#### **\$100 to be a TPG Monthly Sponsor**

One (1) TPG Sponsor will be featured at monthly Breakfast Meetings. Such Sponsor will be able to present a 60 second "elevator speech" about their business and shall receive a full-page Company write-up and logo in the monthly TPG newsletter for such month. Sponsors may also place Company "swag" goodies with business cards at every table at their breakfast meeting.

Now accepting monthly sponsors for the remainder of 2018.

#### Guidelines:

- Participants may sign up for only one sponsorship within a six-month period.
- The \$100 fee must be paid when reserving a sponsoring month.
- The \$100 fee is non-refundable if the participant cannot fulfill their monthly commitment.
- Participants may not switch or trade with someone for another month without the Board's permission.

**For information, please contact Rhonda Parker  
at [rap@attorneyresource.com](mailto:rap@attorneyresource.com)  
or 972-984-0654.**



## **TPG Enjoys Lively Activities in Many Settings, Year Round!**



**The January 2018 TPG Board Retreat.**



**TPG Stars Movie Club.**



**Networking and engaging at the TPG monthly meeting.**

**The TPG January 2018 Happy Hour.**





## HAPPY JANUARY & FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY TO TPG MEMBERS

Alethea White	January 2	Kim Kelley	February 1
Maureen Sanders	January 8	Cindy Jennings	February 2
T.J. Jeter-McAvoy	January 8	Cheryl B. Watkins	February 4
Angela D. Vabulas	January 12	Gale Y. Evans	February 11
Kathleen Knolle	January 14	Norma Garza Guillen	February 12
Gloria Dowiak	January 15	Margaret H. Harrison	February 15
Jan LeBlanc	January 17	Joellen Snow	February 16
Sharron Mapel	January 18	Sarah A. Ward	February 21
Pamela S. Longley	January 20	Carla Vigilante	February 23
Anne Swanson	January 21		
Morag Everill	January 30		

Did we miss listing your birthday?

We really want to congratulate you.

We need your help in updating the TPG Website!

### 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 [tpgcaring@yahoo.com](mailto:tpgcaring@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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## Breakfast Reservation Form – Tuesday, February 6, 2018

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

### 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](mailto: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.

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](mailto:cjennings@carltonstaffing.com)

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