



NEWSLETTER

Embrace, Engage, Encourage

2019 TPG Board

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Letter from the President



Mary Magin
President 2019

Dear TPG Members,

Happy New Year! At the end of each year, I look back and I look forward. It's the way I calibrate. Where do I add focus? Release pressure? Give up? What should I try for the first time? Making these adjustments requires a foundation, a creed or at least a general idea of my desired destination. Similarly, the TPG Board decided to use the TPG Charter as a starting point for the 2019 Planning Meeting. This is the TPG Charter:

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

We spent last Saturday together working on plans for 2019. It was an amazing effort, full of energy and at the end I was exhausted! There are lots of activities in various stages of planning including the April networking breakfast, happy hours, game nights, wine tasting (back by popular demand!) along with the Book Club and Movie Nights. We'd love to have your help! Contact a Board Member to get involved. (cont.)

Letter from the President (cont.)

Last year the breakfast venue was changed to the tea room. This provides a more intimate space and saves the group money. There were wonderful breakfast meetings, interesting speakers, intimate happy hours and many special events. In 2019, our aim is to offer a variety of speakers, networking and educational activities along with opportunities for involvement so that the membership is well served. This is the spirit that prevailed as we settled on the 2019 TPG Theme: **Embrace, Engage, Encourage.**

Join us! 2019 is going to be fun!

What's Going On



TPG Volunteers!

TPG members offered a lot of support to the CanCare marathon packet stuffing on Friday and Saturday, January 11 and 12.

TPG members Nan McCreary and Pat Hogan were in charge of the event.

TPG Book Babes

The TPG Book Babes had their annual Holiday Party with "White Elephant" book exchange. It was a fun time with great conversation, food and laughter! The party had extra holiday touches with the beautiful table scape by Corine Prieto!

If you enjoy reading and participating in great conversation about books, then join the TPG Book Babes in 2019.

The Reading Selection List for 2019 is posted in Monday Announcements and the Quarterly Newsletter.



What's Going On (cont.)



NEWS FROM THE M. A. D. COMMITTEE

Members of the M.A.D. committee presented a Brunch and Learn event at Angela House, a residential home for women who have previously been incarcerated, called “Hope, Gratitude and Inspiration” on November 10, 2018. TPGers attending were Sally Andrews, Trish Felt, Pam Longley and Theresa Sewell. Also attending were Teresa Doyle, who is the Interim Director, and a group of 12 residents of the facility. We all crafted uplifting messages on colored cards and decorated them with stickers and sequins and the women were invited to leave the cards in places where they might be found by someone who could use a little hope and inspiration, including grocery stores, drug stores and other public places. We all had a great time sharing, laughing and connecting! Extra thanks to Anne Swanson, who purchased the supplies we used for the event.



New to TPG? Join a Committee!

TPG has many committee opportunities open to all members. Committees are an essential part of this organization for planned events throughout the year. These committees are a great way to get involved and meet other TPG members. If you have interest in being on a committee please contact the committee chair.

Communication · Deb Korkmas · dkorkmas@edens.com

Guests & Member Services · Kate Gabriele · kategabriele@yahoo.com

Meeting Coordination · Cindy Jennings · cjennings@carltonstaffing.com

Networking · Linda Bridges · Bridges_linda@swbell.net

Philanthropy/MAD · Pam Longley · pamlongley@sbcglobal.net

Programs · Claudia Ruggiero · cgwo@chevron.com

Social Media · Lauren Becerra-Gongora · lbb5626@gmail.com

Special Interests and Events · Norma Garza Guillen · norma@normastouch.com

Upcoming Events

January 26, 2019
OPENING NIGHT!
 Seats are \$43 on
 the TPG website.

Other dates are
 available. Use
 Discount Code:
WOMEN20



February 5, 2019 Breakfast Meeting with speaker **Judge Vanessa Gilmore**

In 1994 when Judge Vanessa Diane Gilmore was sworn in, she was then the youngest sitting federal judge in the nation. The native of Silver Spring, Maryland was also the youngest member of her freshman class at her alma mater, Hampton University in Virginia. Gilmore decided to undertake a career in law after she represented herself and won a minor civil lawsuit. She graduated from the University of Houston Law Center in 1981.

In 1982, Gilmore began a 13-year tenure at a Houston law firm known as Vickery, Kilbride, Gilmore and Vickery where she specialized in civil litigation. Gilmore also became an active member of the Houston civic community, serving on the boards of a number of civic and charitable organizations including a term as president of the YWCA of Houston. She also became involved in the Texas political arena while serving as counsel and teacher in the area of election law.

Her civic activities outside of the courtroom brought her to the attention of Governor Ann Richards who in 1991 appointed Gilmore to the Texas Department of Commerce Policy Board, where she also served as chairperson from 1992 to 1994. Her appointment to that board made Judge Gilmore the first African-American to serve on this board responsible for increasing business, promoting tourism and developing job

training in Texas. In 1993, she also served as chairperson of Texans for NAFTA. In this capacity, she worked regularly with diplomatic leaders, including the President of Mexico, to increase U.S. trade opportunities. Judge Gilmore was nominated to the federal bench by President Bill Clinton in 1994 and became the first University of Houston graduate to be appointed to the Federal bench.

Judge is Gilmore is the co-author of "A Boy Named Rocky", a book for the children of incarcerated parents and is a frequent speaker on issues related to these children and their families. She has worked on initiatives to help these families with access to resources for their children, including the development of a legal clinic at Texas Southern University. Gilmore is the author of three other books including "Saving the Dream", a fiction novel that Gilmore hopes will encourage other families and single people to pursue their own dreams of parenting through adoption. She is the recipient of numerous civic awards for community service. She spent seventeen years on the board of trustees of Hampton University, has recently completed a term on the board of trustees of the River Oaks Baptist School, and currently serves on the board of First Tee of Houston.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Nikki Lawell will be here to take your COMPLIMENTARY head shot at our meeting. Please plan to arrive a bit early if you wish to take advantage of this generous offer.

Register at TPGHouston.org

Happy Birthday!



1/8	TJ Jeter-McAvoy
1/8	Maureen Sanders
1/12	Angela D Vabulas
1/12	Carol Desenberg
1/14	Kathleen Knolle
1/17	Jan LeBlanc
1/18	Sharron Mapel
1/20	Pamela S Longley
1/21	Anne Swanson
2/2	Cindy Jennings
2/4	Cheryl B Watkins
2/8	Claudia Ruggiero
2/10	Cathlin M Webster
2/11	Gale Y Evans
2/12	Norma Garza Guillen
2/16	Joellen Snow
2/21	Sarah A Ward
2/23	Carla Vigilante
3/5	Susan B Loberg
3/5	Sally S Andrews
3/9	Sue Liska
3/27	Karen A Smith
3/27	Lorry F Harju
3/30	Susan V Missiha
4/3	Deborah A Korkmas
4/4	Donna Boyer
4/4	Regina R Williamson
4/12	Susan C Smith
4/24	Kathleen T Gabriele
4/24	Amelia Alder
4/30	Dayna Burnett

Is your birthday missing?
Update your profile on
TPGHouston.org or send us an
email at
membership@tpghouston.org

TPG Book Babes Reading Selection for 2019



January 26th - "Lilac Girls" by Martha Hall Kelly

February 23rd - "When Maidens Mourn" by C.S. Harris

March 23rd - "Holy Ghost: A Vergil Flowers Novel" by John Sandford

April 27th - "Us Against You" by Fredrik Backman

May 25th - "Transcription: A Novel" by Kate Atkinson

June 22nd - "The Other Woman" by Daniel Silva

July 27th - "A Quiet Life in The Country" by TE Kinsey

August – December – TBA

For more details or questions please contact Corine Prieto or Rhonda Parker.

Note: Reading selections are subject to change with notification via Monday
Announcements & Newsletter.



TPG Star Pin

Congratulations to the
most recent recipients of
the Star Pin!

Quarter 4 (2018)
Dayna Burnett

Quarter 1 (2019)
Claudia Ruggiero

Caring and Concerns

If you or someone you know in TPG has an immediate need due to illness or other critical circumstances, please contact Caring and Concerns at tpgcaring@yahoo.com.

CARLTON STAFFING



Here's what employers will be facing in 2019...

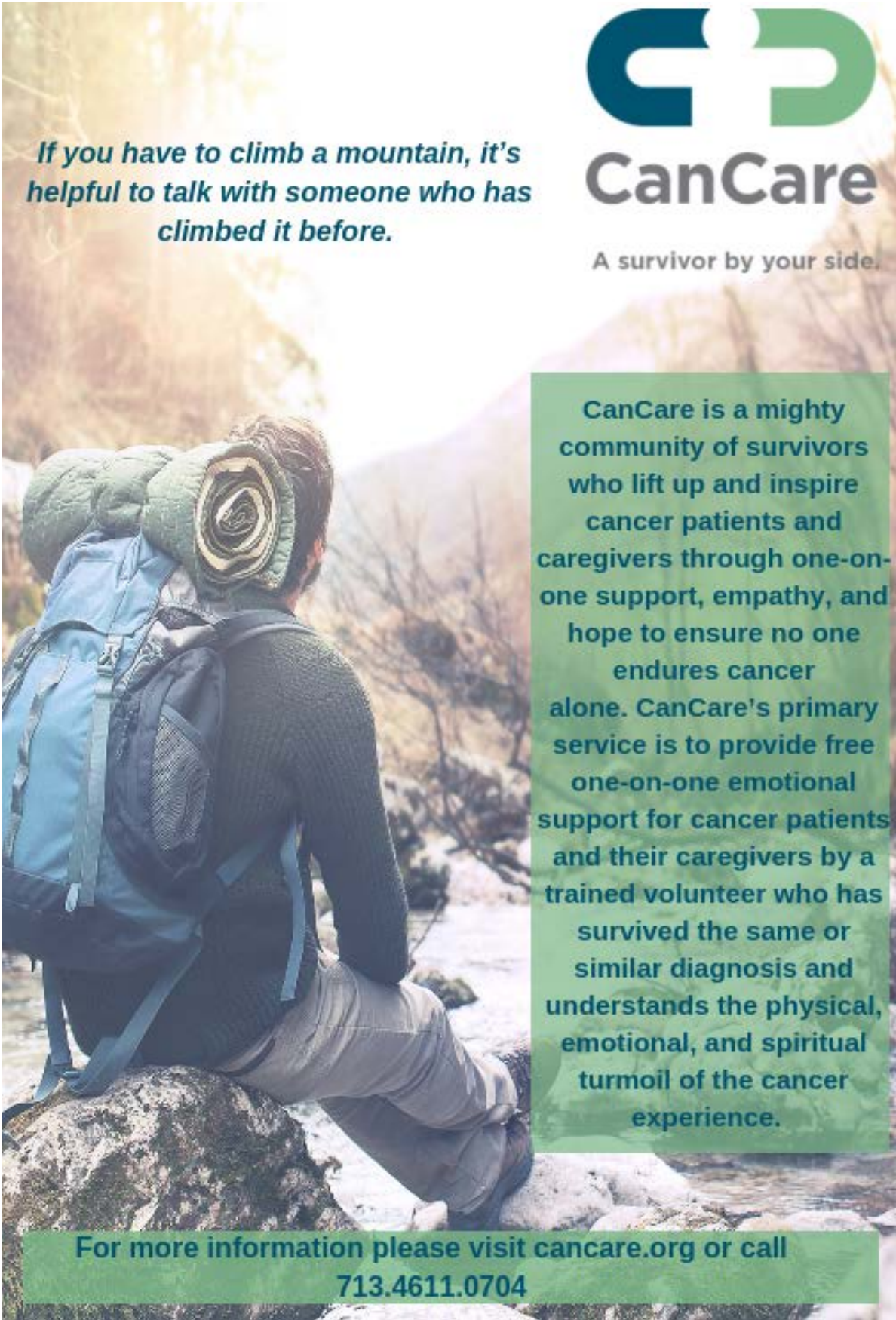
- Paid leave statutes are gaining momentum in the states, trending away from local laws.
- The Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs is issuing a number of new directives.
- Sexual harassment and gender identity laws will continue to create a complicated patchwork of employer obligations as federal, state and local governments take action.
- Medical and recreational marijuana bills and initiatives will continue to advance across the country, in stark contrast to the federal policy.
- Legislation is being considered to overturn the U.S. Supreme Court's stance on arbitration agreements in class action litigation.
- Federal agencies are continuing to focus on the immigration process, increasing workplace audits, workplace raids and deportations.
- Many localities raised their minimum wages above the federal rate.

Scary stuff! Are you ready to tackle these? Would it make sense to consider adding an award-winning staffing partner to your hiring resources so you can focus on growing your business? Let's chat!

Cindy Jennings

cjennings@carltonstaffing.com

713-358-7128



If you have to climb a mountain, it's helpful to talk with someone who has climbed it before.



A survivor by your side.

CanCare is a mighty community of survivors who lift up and inspire cancer patients and caregivers through one-on-one support, empathy, and hope to ensure no one endures cancer alone. CanCare's primary service is to provide free one-on-one emotional support for cancer patients and their caregivers by a trained volunteer who has survived the same or similar diagnosis and understands the physical, emotional, and spiritual turmoil of the cancer experience.

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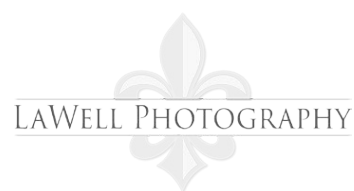
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TPG Membership Requirements

To become a member of The Professional Group, a woman must:

- Attend one breakfast and/or committee-sponsored event as a member-sponsored guest
- Have a background in either corporate or entrepreneurial profession. Retired women are welcome!
- Be sponsored by an existing member, fill out the online application and be approved by the Board

Don't have a sponsor? Have questions? Please contact our VP-Guests and New Members, Kate Gabriel, and she will be happy to introduce you to one of our members. Send email to membership@tpghouston.org

TPG Monthly Sponsor

TPG Monthly Sponsorship is a great opportunity to feature your business or organization at a Monthly Breakfast Meeting, in the Monday Announcements and TPG Quarterly Newsletter. For details please contact Rhonda Parker at rap@attorneyresource.com.

Guidelines:

- Must be a current TPG member.
- Sponsorship is on a first come basis.
- Registration for sponsorship is posted on the TPG website under Events Calendar. It is up to the sponsor to register for this event.
- The cost of sponsorship is \$100. The fee must be paid when reserving a sponsoring month and does not include the cost for the breakfast. You will still need to register for the breakfast as normal.
- Sponsorship is limited to one within a six-month period.
- Sponsor may not switch or trade with someone for another month without the Board's approval.
- Sponsors are responsible for their own items at the breakfast meeting. They may arrive at 6:30 am to set up. Items must be taken off the tables no later than 8:45 am.

Any changes to the sponsorship program or calendar must have board approval.



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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. For questions about The Professional Group, contact us at: info@tpghouston.org.