



# NEWSLETTER

Women Making a Difference in Business and the Community

## 2019 TPG Board

### President

Mary Magin

### Executive Vice President

Rhonda Parker

### Treasurer

Marianne Spencer

### Recording Secretary

Danika Haselden

### Ex-Officio/Nominating

Kathleen Fenninger

### Committee Chairs

#### Breakfast Meeting Coordinator

Cindy Jennings

#### Guests & Member Services

Kate Gabriele

#### Member Communications

Deb Korkmas

#### Networking

Linda Bridges

#### Philanthropy/MAD

Pamela Longley

#### Programs

Claudia Ruggiero

#### Social Media

Lauren Becerra-Gongora

#### Special Interests & Events

Norma Guillen



Mary Magin  
President 2019

## Letter from the President

EMBRACE, ENGAGE,  
ENCOURAGE

Goodbye Summer! Hello School traffic and Fall festivals. 2019 is waning; only three months left. What was on your 2019 To Do list? What remains? This is a good time to take stock and think about what you want to do and what's holding you back. I read an article that suggested that we're worrying too much about getting things perfect and not enough about simply moving on. I know I use perfectionist tendencies to remain in one place. Look! It's safe and I'm killing myself to get this thing PERFECT! Not necessary, according to my friends and advisors.

TPG has had a wonderful year (so far). New members and old have enjoyed great Breakfast speakers, wine tasting, programs at Angela House, Houston tours, great restaurants for Houston Restaurant Month and there's more to come. Sign up for Afternoon Tea on Sunday, October 20th and TPG Game Night on Friday, October 25th. Keep your eyes peeled for the Holiday event being planned by the Special Events Committee.

## Letter from the President (cont.)

TPG recently joined the FHPW (Federation of Houston Professional Women). This membership includes all TPG members who are encouraged to participate in the FHPW. Their next meeting is Monday, October 21, 2019, 5:30 PM at Norris Conference Center, 816 Town & Country Blvd., Houston 77024. Look at their website at [fhpw.org](http://fhpw.org) for more information.

You'll soon see a survey request from TPG 2019. Please give us all your feedback, good, bad and ugly. The 2020 Board needs your input to better serve you. Help me help the Board.

Wishing you a Fall full of beautiful colors and new beginnings that you never imagined.

## Congratulations to our 2020 Board!

President	Rhonda Parker		Guests & Member Services	Kate Gabriele	
Executive Vice President	Teresa Doyle		Member Communications	Deborah Kormas	
Recording Secretary	Kristie Manning		Networking	Liana Hillendahl	
Treasurer	Heather McConnell		Philanthropy/MAD	Vicki Brooks	
Programs	Martha Raymond		Social Media	Lauren Becerra-Gongora	
Breakfast Meeting Coordinator	Cindy Jennings		Special Interests & Events	Danika Cline	
Ex-Officio/ Nominating (Immediate Past President)			Mary Magin		

## NEWS FROM THE M.A.D. COMMITTEE

We received a letter from Molly Hittinger of Angela House, letting us know that \$1,180.00 of the \$2,000.00 grant given to the organization was spent for 4 residents to get certified as a Recovery Coach at the Center for Recovery and Wellness Resources. They are now eligible to become interns at non-profits with recovery programs.

Here are the comments from the recipients:

J: "This was so important to me. It will help me stay in recovery because I will be helping other people to get well."

M: "Now I can get my certification with the State of Texas in being a recovery coach and help others the way people helped me. Recovery is a life-long process and in order for me to continue to stay sober, helping others is a must."

D: "Recently I completed my classes to become a Peer Recovery Support Specialist. The course was a 46 hour training. It started me on the path to accomplish not just a goal that I set for myself, but is also the first step for me on a lifelong journey to help restore some of what I helped destroy in my past. I enjoyed the classes greatly and am looking forward to my future career helping others to find the peace and clarity Angela House has helped me to find!"

P: "Having an opportunity to attend Recovery Coach training has been an uplifting, motivational experience. It has given me the opportunity to give back to those who have freely given to me."

Pam Longley is pictured with 3 of the recipients at Angela House.



In preparing for a Mentoring Program for the residents at Angela House, a mixer/brunch has been scheduled for Saturday, October 26, 2019 at Angela House from 10am-noon. More details and registration are on the TPG events calendar.





TPG Members enjoy Houston Restaurant Week at Brennan's of Houston



TPG Members at the Wine Tasting Event. Participants enjoyed the following wine's at the event:

NV Tutela Prosecco DOC, Treviso, Italy  
 2018 Apaltagua Rosé, Colchagua Valley, Chile  
 2018 Calcu Sauvignon Blanc/Semillon, Chile  
 2018 Borgo Boschetto Pinot Grigio – Friuli, Italy  
 2018 Tercos Malbec, Mendoza, Argentina

Bonus Wines with Dinner  
 2017 Three Otters Pinot Noir, Willamette Vly, OR  
 2015 Inconceivable Cabernet Sauvignon, WA



We congratulate Cindy Jennings as TPG's nominee for this year's Women of Excellence!



Norma Garza Guillen awards the Star Pin to Marianne Spencer. Thank you, Norma and Marianne for all you do!



### School Supply Drive

Here's a pic of what we've collected for the school supply drive, and it does not include three branches or what will be purchased with donated funds! Thanks again to all who contributed to this amazing collection!!!





### Mr. McKinney's River Oaks Christmas Lights Tour

One (1) hour bus tour - the River Oaks Christmas Lights.

Saturday evening, December 7, 2019

Early Bus: 7:30 PM until 8:30 PM

Late Bus: 8:30 PM until 9:30 PM

BYOB with your own Snacks are welcomed.

This is an Adults Only event.

Reservations are now open! \$40.00 for members; \$50.00 for non-members

Note: Non-members reservations will open on November 11.

Please meet at the Whole Foods Market on Kirby at W. Alabama, **30 minutes prior to departure time. Bus will leave promptly at start time.**

There are many restaurants in the area of the Whole Foods Market, so if you would like to have dinner prior to or after the tour, please feel free to make your own reservations.

### TPG Book Babes Reading Selection for 2019



- October - "The Skeleton Road" by Val McDermid
- November - "The Price of Time" by Tim Tigner
- December - Book Club Holiday Party
- January - "Ticker" by Mimi Swartz

\*Reading list is subject to change. Please see Monday Announcements for current list\*



# The Professional Group Afternoon Tea

*Come have a Traditional Afternoon Tea with Us*

**Date/Time:** Sunday, October 20, 2019 – 2:00 PM

**Location:** Your Cup of Tea & Tresors – 2620 Fondren Rd., Houston, TX 77063

**Afternoon Tea Menu:** Toast to Champagne, Unlimited TEA in TEXAS specialty teas, Fruit cup, Assorted Finger Sandwiches, Praline Pecan Scone with a Salted Caramel Sauce and a Chocolate Cup filled with Chocolate Mousse

**Special Guest Speaker:** Penny Ward, Certified Etiquette Instructor / Tea & Etiquette Consultant

**Giveaways:** Texas Afternoon Tea Cookbook, Party favors and Prizes

**Reservations:**

\$45.00 Members - RSVP by October 6, 2019

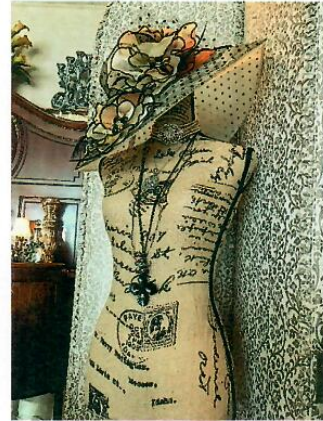
\$55.00 Non-Members – RSVP will open after October 6, 2019

First Come First Serve - Seating is limited to 35

*(Food allergies and special dietary needs should be addressed in advance)*

**Hosted by** TPG Special Events Committee and TEA in TEXAS

**Contact:** Norma Garza (832) 877-7098 or [norma@normastouch.com](mailto:norma@normastouch.com) for any questions



*Kick Off Your Boots & Steep*



*Hats, Gloves and Pearls are Encouraged*



# Programs



**November 5**

## ***CEO Casey Morgan (Greater Houston Builders Association) Brings Her Government Affairs Experience To Her Leadership Role***

Greater Houston Builders Association (GHBA) is a trade association for a consortium of top homebuilding professionals: builders, residential developers, remodelers, and associate and affiliate members. The GHBA considers itself the voice of Houston's residential construction and remodeling industry. Its efforts in government affairs advocacy and member education are meant to enhance the business climate for more than 1,700 member companies across 11 counties in the region and to provide quality obtainable housing to the community.

Its CEO is Casey Morgan, who took the helm in February 2016. Morgan earned her bachelor of arts degree in journalism and political science in 2005 from Baylor University. Upon graduation, she moved to Washington, D.C., where she worked as a staff assistant to Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson. Shortly after, she moved to the White House in the Office of Legislative Affairs for President George W. Bush. In 2007, Morgan transitioned to the U.S. Department of Transportation working as a policy assistant to Secretary Mary Peters, and also began working on a master's degree in public policy from George Mason University, which she earned in 2011.

By the time she arrived at the GHBA in 2012, Morgan already had honed her skills in assessing the often technical issues that are a major part of government affairs, which she feels is the most important part of the GHBA's overall mission.

**December 3**

## ***Sylvia Quan, author and Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) and energy therapy.***

Sylvia L. Quan was born in the Seychelles and grew up in mainland China and Hong Kong before coming to the United States to attend college. She lived in Miami before settling in Texas, earning a bachelor's degree from the University of Houston. Sylvia subsequently taught Chinese language and culture to elementary school students before helping her husband, Gordon, start his immigration law firm in Houston. She continues to manage his law practice to this day. Together, they have three daughters and five grandchildren.

She published a promising book of health for families and new mothers. She imparts her invaluable knowledge and guidance for improving general health and women's postpartum recovery through her new book, *Nourishing Wisdom for Life*. At her daughters' urging, she developed this book to provide insights into and illustrate the fundamental principles of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) and energy therapy. She wishes to highlight these practices' unique cultural approach to health in terms of food and environment.

Published just this April, this excellent read delves into TCM theories and the corresponding foods that nourish, restore, and heal. The book also provides recipes for herbal soups and teas, as well as general tips and recommendations to promote the health of both new mothers and the entire family. Although the recipes are not gourmet, they offer vital care and healing for women who have just given birth and for people who have just gone through major illnesses or surgeries.

In addition to the recipes, readers will also find fascinating insights into the fundamentals of TCM as well as a crisp narrative of the author's life from childhood up to the present. Ms. Quan hopes that others will benefit from her sharing her knowledge and unique experiences.

Quote: Growing up, I was often enveloped by aromas from the kitchen of herbal soups which had been concocted by my mother and my aunts.

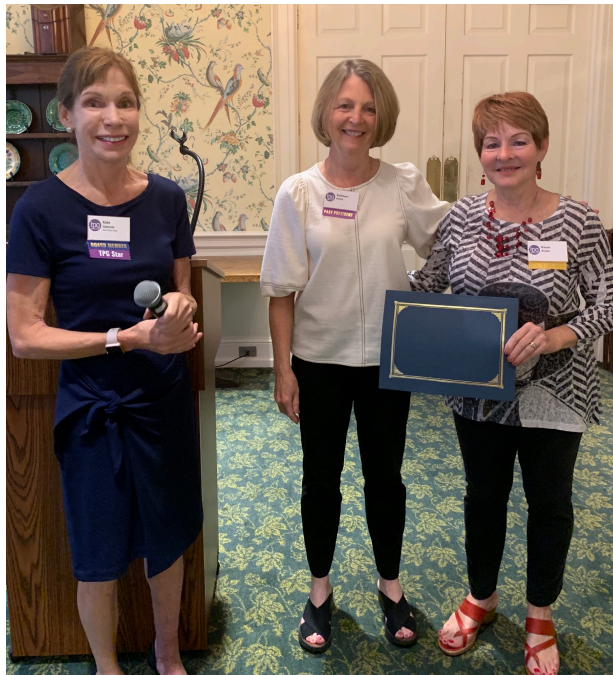


## Happy Birthday!



10/2	Cheryl Carpenter
10/6	Karen Sotallaro
10/7	Nan McCreary
10/7	Shirley A Downing
10/8	Vicki L Brooks
10/16	Margie Poole
10/16	Trish Strangmeyer Felt
10/20	Suzanne E Speak
10/28	Joyce Greenfield
10/30	Susan Parish
11/1	Patti H Bailey
11/2	Liz Cloud
11/4	Marianne K Spencer
11/8	Sonya J Scott
11/15	Mari Briz
11/18	Susie C Richard
11/21	Leona M Urbish
11/21	Abbie J Brothers
11/29	Marlena J Berger
12/5	Lynda Broussard
12/6	Pat Y Hogan-Korge
12/7	Kendra L Mahoney
12/15	Marilyn D Drane
12/16	Patricia Barry Rumble
12/21	Kristie Manning
12/29	Sandra Crook

## Welcome New Members



During the September 10th breakfast meeting, TPG welcomed its newest member: Karen Brown. Karen has a marketing background and enjoys many interests and volunteer activities. She is in a garden club with several other TPG members, including Kathleen Knolle, Sue Liska and Sue Loberg. A special thanks to Kathleen Knolle for serving as Karen's sponsor.

Recently our President, Mary Magin, was asked, "what does a TPG member get for her yearly membership?" This is Mary's reply:

For a membership fee they'll receive the opportunity to meet with other members at eleven breakfast meetings that includes one networking breakfast, one organizational breakfast, and nine breakfasts in which we hear from amazing and informative speakers. Additionally, TPG members can enjoy quarterly Happy Hours at a variety of Houston venues. Other special events are planned throughout the year. This year's events include a wine tasting, afternoon tea, Mr. McKinney's bus tours, game night and lunches at multiple venues during Restaurant Weeks. Additionally every February members are offered the opportunity for a professional headshot at no cost. TPG membership automatically conveys membership in the FHPW, as explained below:

FHPW stands for "Federation of Houston Professional Women." Twenty-seven (27) women's organizations are included in the Federation. The FHPW meetings are held quarterly.

The Federation's mission statement is: Uniting women from diverse member organizations to enrich personal and professional relationships, expand leadership, partnership, and education opportunities. TPG members can go to [www.fhpw.org](http://www.fhpw.org) for more information.

### **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

### **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 the chair of Guests and Member Services, Kate Gabriele, and she will be happy to introduce you to one of our members. Send an email to [membership@tpghouston.org](mailto:membership@tpghouston.org)

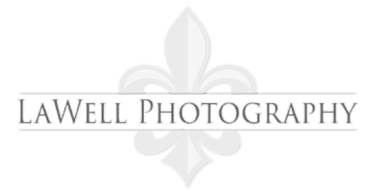
### **Caring and Concerns**

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](mailto:tpgcaring@yahoo.com).





LAWELL  
PHOTOGRAPHY  
WALL PORTRAIT DÉCOR  
NIKKY@LAWELLPHOTO.COM  
713.523.4916 •  
LAWELLPHOTO.COM  
HOUSTON, TX



### 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.



@TPGHouston

*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.*