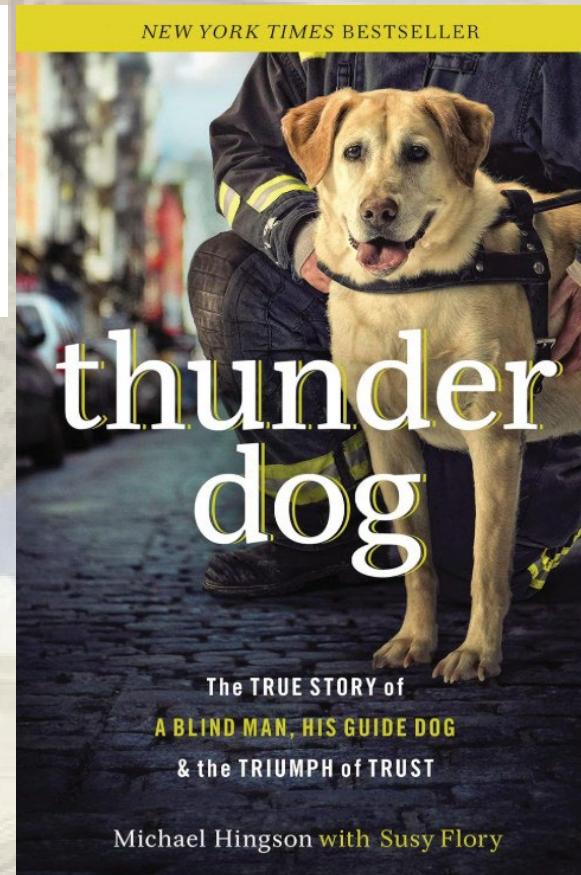


Presents An Athenian Leadership Dialogue



Thunder Dog: The True Story of a Blind Man, His Guide Dog, and the Triumph of Trust

AUTHOR:	Michael Hingson	FACILITATOR:	Stephanie Smith, MMC
WHEN:	Wednesday, March 18, 2026 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM	WHERE:	Orange County Sanitation District Headquarters Board Room 18480 Bandilier Circle Fountain Valley, CA 92708
ABOUT THE BOOK	<p>When one of four hijacked planes flew into the World Trade Center's North Tower on September 11, 2001, Michael Hingson, a district sales manager for a data protection and network security systems company, was sitting down for a meeting. His guide dog, Roselle, was at his feet.</p> <p>Blind from birth, Michael could hear the sounds of shattering glass, falling debris, and terrified people flooding all around him. But Roselle sat calmly beside him. In that moment, Michael chose to trust Roselle's judgment and not to panic. They were a team.</p> <p>As you relive that fateful day in September 2001 alongside Michael and Roselle, you'll learn:</p> <p><i>The ways that grief and loss can lead the way for change How the rare trust between a man and his guide dog can inspire your own unshakeable faith The healing power of telling your own story</i></p>		
ABOUT THE FACILITATOR	<p>Stephanie D. Smith, Director of Elections Services for Best, Best & Krieger, is a Master Municipal Clerk and has served on the Executive Board for the City Municipal Clerk's Association, most recently as President in 2018-2019. With 33 years' experience in municipal government, she has worked for the cities of Paramount, Perris, Lake Forest, and Murrieta before retiring from City employment and moving to the private sector, where she heads up the firm's Election Services division, providing Municipal Clerks with election advice and redistricting demographic and public hearing services. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Management and is a 30th Anniversary Year graduate of the Advanced Leadership Program through Continuing Education for Public Officials (CEPO). She is also a graduate of the CEPO Training for Trainers Program. Stephanie is the author of over 100 published articles on a variety of topics, including workplace change initiatives, personnel issues, business management, work/life balance, and financial planning. Her first book, 'Values-Based Goal Setting: How to Dream Big and Live the Life You Were Meant to Live' was an Amazon #1 bestseller in the Vocational Guidance and Business & Money Short Reads categories.</p>		
FEE	\$150.00 for CMCA Members \$250 for Non-CMCA Members		
POINTS	Attendees are eligible for three (3) CMC/MMC points on completion of an assessment once approved by the IIMC.		

[Cancellations are subject to the CMCA Attendee Cancellation Policy](#)