



Happy Autumn WPF Sisters,

I find there is something transforming about October. As autumn arrives, the world around us begins to transform in subtle yet profound ways. Outdoors, woodsy scents fill the air, evoking a sense of warmth and nostalgia. Indoors, we start reaching for fall spices, filling our homes with comforting aromas that signal the changing of the season.



Lorri Yaskiewicz
WPF President

The air feels clearer, and the light takes on a more golden hue, casting everything in a gentle glow. Along with these weather-related changes, the pace of life also shifts. Nature reminds us that growth doesn't always mean moving faster; sometimes, it is about taking the time for a deliberate reset. The most impactful moves can happen in quieter moments of reflection.

Spending time outside often leads to my best ideas. Recently, I have found myself asking where my energy is best spent, using one of my favorite seasons as an opportunity to refocus on what matters most. May we all take some time for reflection before the busy holiday season and end-of-the-year planning.

We have so many wonderful opportunities to network within WPF, and to let your voice be heard. If you have not already signed up for our 2025 WPF Fall Small Group Gatherings, please do so; I know we have several planned in October. We will gather your input and report back to the group.

Warmly,

~Lorri



**ACTIVE & ACTIVE RETIRED MEMBERS RSVP ONLY
if you can NOT attend**

**EMERITUS & SUPPORTING MEMBERS, RSVP to attend.
Lunch fee \$30.
Cash, Check, PayPal, or Zelle**

MEETING RSVP

**WPF
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WPF is committed to supporting and endorsing equal opportunities for all people without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability or genetics.

Upcoming Events

Special Interest Groups

WPF Member Directory

WPF Facebook Page



OCTOBER PROGRAM



Dr. Kelly Leggett

Dr. Kelly Leggett is a dedicated volunteer with She ROCKS, a local ovarian cancer charity, whose mission is to bring awareness and attention to ovarian cancer through funding ground breaking research and helping patients who are undergoing treatment in our communities. Dr. Leggett will be speaking about ovarian cancer, including the risk factors and symptoms. 1 in 78 women will be diagnosed with ovarian cancer in the United States, with the majority being diagnosed in a later stage.

NEWS & UPDATES

Greeters and 4 minute Specials

Please consider being a greeter or sharing a 4 min special for an upcoming membership meeting this year.

Greeters: Arrive to the monthly meeting of your choice around 11:50am. Sherry will provide you the purple greeter sash. Grab your nametag, stand near one of the entry doors and welcome your fellow WPF sisters. [SIGN UP HERE](#)



4 Min Special: If you have never done one please consider signing up for one of the dates available. This is a chance for you to tell us about you, not just your work but what makes you-you! This year 4 min specials will be given after the program and we ask that you try to keep them to a few short min. Not comfortable speaking to the group? No problem, write a 4 min special to go in a newsletter.

Email Marleegfoster@gmail.com with your 4 min special for a newsletter and we will include it during this year.

FALL SMALL GROUP GATHERINGS!

It's time to sign up for the WPF Fall Small Group Gatherings!

Almost half of our gatherings are full, with many others 50% or more filled!

[SIGN UP TODAY](#) to reserve your spot!

We have 13 members who have graciously agreed to host events from October 1 – 30. There are many options including lunch, dinner, and afternoon tea. Click on [this link](#) to register (please only select 1 event to attend). In addition to fun and fellowship, these gatherings are a facilitated opportunity for members to provide important input for WPF and the WPF Foundation.

If you have questions, please contact the host of your event or coordinators [Laura Burton](#) or [Jeanie Duncan](#).

WPF Foundation News

**A Note From Chandra Hackenbruch,
WPF Foundation President**

The Season of Giving is Upon Us!

As the air turns crisp and we settle into the beauty of fall, we're thrilled to kick off an exciting time for our community: the **Foundation Grant Application cycle is officially OPEN!**

We're looking to sow the seeds for impactful change in Guilford County. The application cycle runs from October 1, 2025, through January 31, 2026.



Your mission: Please share this exciting news far and wide with any organization in Guilford County that empowers women and girls. We're eager to review the applications and award another amazing group of recipients who will light up our community with their work!

Keep an eye out for our official press release coming soon! Ready to start?

Click here to find the application: <https://wpforum.org/womens-professional-forum-foundation/grants/>

Party with a Purpose: Help Us Fund the Future!

You're invited to a fantastic evening where fun meets fundraising!

On **Saturday, November 2, 2025, from 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm** at the **Van Dyke Performance Space**, you can sip delightful drinks from **1618 On Location** and enjoy the incredible sounds of the **Ladies Auxiliary Band**. The best part? **Every penny raised** will support the next round of transformative grants for women and girls in Guilford County—following up on the **\$30,500** we awarded this year!

Action Steps to Amplify Our Impact:

- **Purchase Your Ticket Immediately:** Don't miss out! Tickets are limited and are the core of our funding efforts. <https://wpforum.org/event/rock-the-night-away-2025/>
- **Spread the word:** We want the whole community there! Please share this invitation widely with friends, family, and your professional network outside of the Women's Professional Forum. Let's make this the biggest night yet!

Sponsors are the Key to Unlocking Maximum Grant Dollars!

We rely on generous sponsors to offset the costs of the event so that **all ticket proceeds** can go directly into the WPFF grant fund. We still urgently need sponsors for these high-impact tiers: **one \$5,000 and one \$2,500**.

Will your business step up to ensure maximum community funding?

To learn more about becoming a crucial sponsor, See sponsorship opportunities here: <https://wpforum.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/2025-WPFF-at-Van-Dyke-Sponsors.pdf> or reach out directly to Frenesa Hall.

WPF FOUNDATION

2025 Board of Directors



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Ernestine Taylor

Sasha Trosch

Membership Update

Now that the 2025 WPF New Member cohort has been introduced and embraced into our fold, it's time to start thinking about the class of 2026! Remember that October is our last "regular" luncheon meeting for the year, as November is the bazaar (guests welcomed!) and December is our member-only business meeting.

If you have a potential new member for 2026, please reach out to the membership chair in advance of the application process to ensure that there are no concerns about maxing out the business category.

Building Belonging Update!

October Is National Disability Employment Awareness Month

October 2025 marks the 80th anniversary of [National Disability Employment Awareness Month](#), or “NDEAM,” an annual recognition of the contributions and strengths that workers with disabilities bring to U.S. workplaces and the economy..

NDEAM traces its origins to Public Law 176, which was enacted by Congress in 1945 and declared the first week in October as National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week. In 1962, the word “physically” was dropped to acknowledge the employment needs and contributions of individuals with all nature of disabilities. In 1988, Congress designated the commemoration as National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Since that time, NDEAM has evolved to acknowledge the importance of increasing workforce opportunities for people with disabilities, including those with mental health conditions and other nonvisible disabilities.

In 2001, the U.S. Department of Labor created the [Office of Disability Employment Policy](#) (ODEP) to administer NDEAM, including the selection and promotion of its theme each year.

In 2025, through this year’s official theme, “Celebrating Value and Talent,” NDEAM will acknowledge the value and talents that American workers with disabilities add to our workplaces and economy and highlight their past and present achievements.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, October 7

7:00 -9:00 pm

**Book: Peril at the Exposition
by Nev March**

Discussion Leader: Nancy Radtke

Host: Jennifer Thomas

Please RSVP to Jen at 336-254-4325

3004 Steepleton Colony Court
(1 mile past Bur Mil Park)



WORKING MOMS

Embur Fire Fusion

Tuesday, October 14

12-1:30 pm

Join us for Lunch!

Moms of all ages welcome.

RSVP to Marlee Foster at marlee.foster@conehealth.com.

Working Mom's group is part support group and part resource group. We learn so much from each other and have the chance to share the trials and tribulations of being a working Mom in this day and age. There is always laughter, an empathetic ear, and sometimes a great suggestion to help you when you thought you have exhausted all possible options.



WOW - WOMEN OF WALL STREET

Investment Club

Our Topic Meeting on Estate Planning will be **Thursday, October 16, at 5:30 pm** at **Mt. Pisgah Church** located at 2600 Pisgah Church Road across from Lowes on Battleground.

Amy Kincaid, who is a board certified estate attorney and CPA will be presenting. An opportunity to ask questions will be available after her presentation. Please email President Leigh Ann Klee at LeighAnn@Paceco.com by **Tuesday, October 14**, if you wish to attend. All members of WPF are invited to this meeting. Appetizers will be served.

Our final Business Meeting of the year will be on Thursday, November 20, at 6:00 pm at Mt. Pisgah Church. Please mark your calendars now to attend.

See you on October 16 at 5:30 pm!

BOOKS & ARTS

Saturday, October 18, 2025
7:30 pm
North Carolina Dance Festival

Please join Anne Morris and Michele Smith for the North Carolina Dance Festival on Saturday, October 18, 2025, in the Van Dyke Performance Space located on the first floor of the Cultural Arts Center in downtown Greensboro. The North Carolina Dance Festival is a production of the Dance Project and showcases artists in the field of modern dance from across the state. This year's Festival features six dances by North Carolina choreographers and features highly accomplished artists Alyah Baker, Chania Wilson, Eric Mullis, Jiwon Ha, Gavin Stewart, Vanessa Owen and Tara Mullins. The work presented by Gavin Stewart and Vanessa Owen was originally commissioned by and presented at the American Dance Festival in 2024.

The program, begins at 7:30 p.m. Anne has arranged for us to purchase tickets at the group rate of \$20.00 per person.

You're also invited to attend a Pre-Show Cocktail Hour, which will include a short spoken program, immediately prior to the performance. The Pre-Show Cocktail Hour will begin about 6:00 p.m. If anyone has an interest in gathering for a light dinner beforehand, we can meet at Café Europa about 4:30 pm or 5pm. We'll make plans for dinner based on interest.

Please reserve a ticket to the Dance Festival by sending \$20.00 by Venmo to Michele Smith (@Michele-Smith-369) and let her know if you would also like to attend the Pre-Show Cocktail Hour and whether you have an interest in getting together for dinner.

If you have questions, contact Anne Morris at anne@danceproject.org or Michele Smith at msmith@hillevans.com. Additional information regarding the North Carolina Dance Festival is available at <https://danceproject.org/ncdf>. A promotional video is available for viewing at <https://youtu.be/un2f8jpQz88>

You're welcome to bring as many guests as you like.

FINANCIAL DIVAS
Wednesday, October 22, 9-11 am
(Two hours in October)
Weaver Park Center
324 W. Wendover Ave, Ste. 140

Join us in the "O" for a continued discussion of "Navigating Healthcare". There was so much great information from our WPF angel, Margaret Bertrand, who has volunteered to help others have successful outcomes since retiring as a radiologist at our September meeting that we wanted more! So this is your opportunity to not only learn a lot of things you had not thought about, but to also bring your questions! Learn how to better prepare to not only advocate for yourself, but also to step in to help a family member or friend generally research, interpret medical issues, better understand drugs, etc... Also, because Medicare open enrollment is from October 15 to December 7, those who want to learn about what's important to know about Medicare and retirement healthcare can stay for from 10-11 for me, Paula, to cover Medicare and the many changes there. Come to one or the other – or stay for both! There was just so much interest in both topics that the group wanted a two hour huddle in October. After all, your health is your wealth! For more information or questions, contact Paula McMillan at 336.337.9507 or pmcmillan@stearnsfinancial.com.

Wine Divas

Who is ready for a Spooky Good Time?

Join us for a **HALLO-WINE**

Wine Divas Event at Maria Hanlin's House as we pair the perfect wines with Halloween candy!

(...And of course we will have other yummy goodies as well!)

Thursday, October 23, 2025 at 6pm

5609 Tower Road, Greensboro

To RSVP, Venmo Susan Russell (@Susan-Russell-111) \$30



LADIES OF LEISURE

Greensboro Ghost Tour

Thursday, October 23

7:00 pm

The tour, **Nightmares Around Elm Street**, is presented by Carolina History and Haunts. All members and guests are invited to participate. Tickets are \$15 for individuals 13 and above, \$13 for children 7 - 12, and free for children under 7. The tour begins downtown at 7PM and lasts 90 minutes. To buy tickets go to carolinahistoryandhaunts.com/greensboro-home. If anyone has any questions I can be contacted at laurastroupe@yahoo.com or 336-337-1290.

DINING OUT

Wednesday, October 29

6:30 pm

Green Valley Grill
622 Green Valley Rd

Host: Jane Hewitt

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Questions: Amy Meinecke at diningout@wpforum.org

NEW SIG This Fall!!! Nonfiction BOOK CLUB

Date: Tuesday, Nov. 4th

Time: 7:00 pm hors d'oeuvres and social time

7:30–8:30 or 8:45 PM book discussion and planning

Location: Thomas Home: 3004 Steepleton Colony Ct. (Note: I live on the border between Summerfield and Greensboro so plan your driving time accordingly).



RSVP: Jen's Cell 336-254-4325. Email: jen@drjenthomas.com.

Note: If it works for you to bring an appetizer or a dessert, that would be great.

UPDATED: PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW BOOK SELECTION FOR NOVEMBER 4 Replaceable You by Mary Roach

One of Literary Hub's Most Anticipated Books of 2025
A Goodreads Readers' Most Anticipated Fall Book

From the New York Times bestselling author of *Stiff* and *Fuzz*, a rollicking exploration of the quest to recreate the impossible complexities of human anatomy.

Roach dives in with her characteristic verve and infectious wit. Her travels take her to the OR at a legendary burn unit in Boston, a “superclean” xeno-pigsty in China, and a stem cell “hair nursery” in the San Diego tech hub. She talks with researchers and surgeons, amputees and ostomates, printers of kidneys and designers of wearable organs. She spends time in a working iron lung from the 1950s, stays up all night with recovery techs as they disassemble and reassemble a tissue donor, and travels across Mongolia with the cataract surgeons of Orbis

International.

Irrepressible and accessible, Replaceable You immerses readers in the wondrous, improbable, and surreal quest to build a new you.

BOOKS & ARTS

2026 Annual Blowing Rock Summer Outing

Because of the high demand for housing in Blowing Rock, we are currently making reservations for our annual summer weekend in Blowing Rock (as opposed to the March Wild Women weekend-not to be missed!) for the weekend of July 16th through 19th. Our planned activities include attending the Chetola Symphony by the Lake on Friday night, the 17th, (cost probably around \$90), tubing on Saturday (weather permitting-cost around \$35), possibly a wine tasting, and other activities individuals want to enjoy, including spa visits, hiking, shopping, etc. We anticipate housing for the 3 nights to run approximately \$300 to \$350/person (varying according to accommodations). We are requesting a deposit of \$150 to secure your spot, since we have to pay a deposit on the houses. If you want to be part of this weekend and claim a spot, contact Kris Landrum (klandrum@tuggleduggins.com). It's lots of fun and a great way to get to know fellow members better! Don't miss it!



Women's Professional Forum, PO Box 38594, Greensboro, NC 27438

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