



A message from WPF President, Amy Meinecke

Last week we celebrated Memorial Day, a holiday that signals the unofficial start of summer: the first beach trip, the first backyard barbecue, the opening of community pools. But beneath those traditions lies a more solemn purpose. Memorial Day was established to remember and honor the Americans who fought and died for this country, for their families, and for their communities.

When we think of those memorials, our minds often turn to the tens of thousands of brave men who served and died in combat. Their sacrifice deserves every honor we can give. But they are not the whole story.

Throughout our nation's history, women have also served, and women have also died.



Amy Meinecke
WPF President

It was women, in fact, who created the very tradition of Memorial Day. After the Civil War, Ladies' Memorial Associations organized the first formal observances, decorating the graves of fallen soldiers with flowers in the spring of 1866. It was also a woman, Moina Michael of Georgia, who gave us the red poppy as a symbol of remembrance for those lost in World War I.

The full count of women who have died in service to this country is difficult to know. Many served in unofficial capacities, such as nurses, spies, telephone operators, and caregivers. Despite this service, their deaths were never formally recorded. Based on available records, well over 1,000 women have died in service since World War I alone. Some succumbed to illness, like the nearly 400 military nurses who died treating soldiers during the 1918 Spanish Flu epidemic. Others were killed in the line of duty. In World War II, more than 430 women died in service. Early in our history, women's roles were limited to nursing and communications, but over time, they have expanded to include aviation, logistics, intelligence, military police, and combat support.

With those expanded roles have come greater risk. In 2004, Army Captain Kimberly Hampton became the first female pilot shot down and killed by enemy fire in U.S. military history, during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

As we remember the brave soldiers who paid the ultimate price for our freedom, let us be intentional about also honoring the women who stood alongside them and paid that same heavy price. Their courage and sacrifice deserve to be seen, named, and remembered.

~Amy



June Meeting
Wednesday, June 10
12:30pm - 1:30pm
Starmount Country Club

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

EMERITUS & SUPPORTING MEMBERS, RSVP to attend.
Lunch fee \$35.
Cash, Check, PayPal, or Zelle

MEETING RSVP

WPF
2026 Board of Directors

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Christine Byrd
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Susan Gutterman Foundation President

Neena Ballard
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Dee Blake
Director at Large

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Past President & Nominating Chair

Sherry Barr
Administrative Assistant

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

Newsletter Archives

Special Interest Groups

WPF Member Directory

WPF Facebook Page

What's for lunch in June?

- Summer greens salad with strawberries, goat cheese and candied almonds & Champagne Vinaigrette
- Caprese Pesto Chicken Pasta with Grilled chicken tossed with fusilli pasta, fresh mozzarella, cherry tomatoes, and a creamy basil pesto sauce, garnished with a drizzle of balsamic reduction
- Warm yeast rolls & whipped butter
- Berry cobbler with whipped cream



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 Janice Lanier at janice.lanier88@gmail.com with your 4 min special for a newsletter and we will include it during this year.

June Program

Growing up spending summers on the family farm in Ashe County, North Carolina fostered Palmer's love for nature. She first joined the Piedmont Land Conservancy in 1996 as the Program Manager, and has held various positions since then, including Executive Director, Board Member, and now, as a part-time Conservation Planner. Palmer also leads the NC Great Trails State Coalition, a statewide group advocating for state funding for trails. Palmer served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in West Africa and has a Masters of Regional Planning from UNC Chapel Hill. She and her husband have three college-age children and she enjoys hiking, gardening, and spending time on their Ashe County farm, which is forever protected by a conservation easement.



Palmer McIntyre
Conservation Planner
Piedmont Land Conservancy

WPF Foundation News

A message from Susan R. Gutterman,
WPF Foundation President

Reflecting on the May Meeting, our members should be proud of the generosity of all members who have contributed over the years. Your support is not just a donation; it is a powerful affirmation and recognition of the enduring legacy our grants have on organizations that uplift women and girls in our community. Your giving also demonstrates a deep belief in the WPF Foundation's mission, established over 40 years ago, and a desire to see that mission thrive for many decades to come. Thank you for your continued commitment!

The 2026 theme is Building Resilience, Expanding Opportunity. The list of grant recipient organizations are as follows:

AAUW Greensboro Branch - \$4,000 for STEM Education for Girls
Women's Resource Center of Greensboro, Inc. - \$10,000 for Women to Work
She Built This City - \$10,000 for Taking Up Space: A Seat at the Table
Communities in Schools of Greater Greensboro - \$5,636 for GEMS: Trauma Informed Care for Adolescent Girls
OPERATION XCEL - \$10,000 for Girls Academic & Leadership Enrichment Program

These are the type of transformative and empowering programs we are dedicated to supporting with our grants.

You had the opportunity to connect with and hear directly from the visionary leaders of these grant-awarded organizations. We were honored to have the following panelist representing the 2026 grantee organizations at our May meeting:

Jenice Abdul-Razzaq, AAUW Greensboro Branch
Jimmi Williams, Communities in Schools of Greater Greensboro
Desiree King, Operation Xcel
Eboni Ford, She Built This City
Heather Schneck, Women's Resource Center of Greensboro

Additional organizational representatives joined us:

Angie Williams, Operation Xcel
Mary Catherine Chauvin, AAUW Greensboro Branch
Dr. Sebrina Cooke-Davis, Communities in Schools of Greater Greensboro

These inspiring programs, which are actively transforming and empowering the lives of girls and women, are made possible by your contributions. As the panelists so clearly articulated, these vital initiatives prepare these women and girls with the skills and abilities to create meaningful change in Guilford County and beyond. We are an integral part of a mission that empowers women and girls by supporting:

- opportunities for women and girls to aspire to or further their careers;
- education and leadership development of women and girls;
- education of the public on the status and rights of women; and
- recognition of achievements and contributions of women.

A special thank you to the 2026 Board, the Grant Committee, and all others who have helped for their tremendous dedication throughout the grant process, culminating in a successful May Meeting. I am so honored to work alongside such a talented, creative, and committed group!

2026 Grants Committee

Sasha Trosch, Chair
Kellie Burgess

Laura Burton
Marlee Foster
Susan Gutterman
Dawn Kane
Denny Kelly

Brenda Madden
Jen Mencarini
Kate Panzer
Martha Peddrick
Terri Shelton
Jody Susong
Beverly Williams
Jeri Whitfield

WPF FOUNDATION 2026 Board of Directors

Susan Gutterman, *President*
Chandra Hackenbruch, *Past President*
Laura Burton, *Vice President*
Neena Ballard, *Secretary*
Jody Susong, *Treasurer*

Directors at Large

Melissa Burroughs

Christine Byrd
Beth Fischer
Karen Foster
Maria Hanlin
Kim Marriott
Amy Meinecke
Martha Peddrick
Ernestine Taylor
Sasha Trosch



Call for Vote: President-Elect Position

As many of you are aware, our 2026 President has recently resigned. In accordance with our bylaws, the President-Elect **Amy Meinecke**, has assumed the role of President,

creating a vacancy in the President-Elect position.

Per our bylaws, this vacancy must be filled by a vote of the membership within 60 days. The Board of Directors is pleased to present **Christine Byrd** as a nominee for the role of President-Elect.

We will be conducting a vote of the membership directly following our meeting on **June 10th** to fill this position.

If you have any questions or would like to submit additional nominations in accordance with our procedures, please reach out.

Thank you for your continued engagement and commitment to WPF.

WPF Nominating Committee

Erica Parker

Jody Susong

Ronnie Grabon

2026 Summer Social

Mezze, Rosé & Spritz

Summer is officially here, and it's time to unwind with great company and fabulous flavors. Join us for an evening of vibrant conversation, crisp drinks, and delicious bites at our annual WPF Summer Social!

We are leaning into pure summer vibes with a curated spread of fresh, artisanal **mezze**, chilled **rosé**, and refreshing **spritzes** (with plenty of other fine wine and non-alcoholic options on hand, too!).

Whether you're catching up with long-time friends or forging new professional connections, it's the perfect way to celebrate the season.

WHEN	Thursday, June 18, 2026 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM
WHERE	Marcus T. Johnson Alumni House 404 College Ave, Greensboro, NC 27412
RSVP BY	Friday, June 12, 2026

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP ONLINE](#)

Or copy and paste this link into your browser:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054AAEAA2AA0FBC52-64263048-womens>

Questions or Trouble Registering?

We are here to help! If you experience any technical difficulties or have questions regarding the event, please reach out to:

Event Coordinator: Neena Ballard | **Phone:** 303-523-4835 | **Email:** ballardmwb@gmail.com

Event Coordinator: Dee Blake | **Phone:** 919-395-0959 | **Email:** uhmanoal@gmail.com

Event Coordinator: Kelly Burgess | **Phone:** 336-706-0982 | **Email:**

kburgess@musicacademync.org

We can't wait to toast to the summer with you!

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

SIPPIN' SISTERS

Thank you to all who joined the May event at Gia!

We are currently planning the **July** event. The date and further details will be shared soon.

WOW – WOMEN OF WALL STREET

Investment Club

The WOW Investment Club will not meet in June or July as there are many on vacation. Our next meeting will be in August.

Enjoy the summer!

WINE DIVAS

Our next gathering is officially set, and we are getting ready to taste our way across the globe. Space is limited, so secure your spot early!

Event Details

- **Date:** Thursday, June 11th
- **Time:** 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- **Location:** Ronnie Grabon's Home [119 Nut Bush Rd](#) W, Greensboro, NC, 27410
- **Cost:** \$30 (Please send payment directly to Ronnie, 336.706.1621)
- **RSVP Deadline:** Friday, June 5th

Please note: Ronnie's home can host a maximum of 20 people, so spots are first-come, first-served!

A Wine Tour Around the World

Join us in June as we explore the impact of warm and cool climates on our favorite staple varieties. We will discuss how changing weather patterns affect the wines we love most. Delicious pairing snacks will be provided to complement each pour. This is an event you will not want to miss!

Meet Your Host

This month's session is hosted by local Greensboro wine connoisseur, Ranata Reeder. Ranata holds her WSET Level 2 wine certification and brings a wealth of passion for teaching and learning about wine.

[!\[\]\(2b9000c261447981d88674ebdb52dc1e_img.jpg\) Click Here to Sign Up!](#)

SERVICE TO OTHERS
Saturday, June 13, 11am-6pm
Dunleath Porchfest
Volunteer Today!

SIGN UP HERE

The Dunleath Historic Neighborhood will turn its porches into stages when it presents Dunleath Porchfest on Saturday, June 13th from 11-6 pm.

Porchfest is a unique event in which neighbors offer their porches, musicians volunteer their talents, we pair the two, and guests can stroll from house to house enjoying performances and Dunleath hospitality in a festival-like atmosphere.

Dunleath Porchfest has become recognized by many as a grassroots event that celebrates performing arts, a sense of community and goodwill, and local history. Admission is free and open to all.

The event will feature:

- Performances throughout the afternoon in all areas of the neighborhood. There will be something for everyone's taste -- country, rock, pop, bluegrass, old-time, jazz, blues, Latin, dancing, and more.
- Food vendors
- A free children's instrument-making activity
- Food collection for the Triad Health Project food pantry
- Event t-shirts for sale, with all proceeds benefitting Dunleath Porchfest
- A single finale performance in Sternberger Park at 5 pm.

Mebane Ham is looking for volunteers for the Kids Area at the 2026 PorchFest. They could use volunteers from 11-4 pm. Anyone who does volunteer is invited to hang around for a fun afternoon with some great music. Mebane has also graciously invited the volunteers to her home, 675 Percy St, for a cool sip of something and the use of a real bathroom.



WORKING MOMS
Pho Hien Vuong
Tuesday, June 16

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.

BOOKS & ARTS

Cooking Class at Tastebuds Kitchen

Wednesday, June 17

6:00 PM

For our June Books and Arts activity, we have scheduled a cooking class at Tastebuds Kitchen in Winston-Salem (676 Hanes Mall Blvd)...about a 40 minute drive from Greensboro. The scheduled date is Wednesday, June 17. This will be a class just for us, and they can accommodate up to 30, so space shouldn't be an issue. Starting time is 6 pm. Cost is \$70/person. Alcohol is not provided, but we can bring our own. For the class, we will have a choice of the following class themes:

- Classic French Countryside
- Fresh Homemade Pasta
- Handmade Gnocchi
- Argentinian Steakhouse
- Mexican Fiesta
- Rockin' Moroccan
- Rustic Italian
- Sushi & Dumplings
- Tasty Thai

There is an option to add on appetizers, side salads, and dessert bites, plus lemonade and iced tea. Pricing for those are not listed, but we can check. It's also possible to buy an apron to take home.

For more information about the menu options, go to their website: tastebudskitchen.com and look at private party menu options. You will be able to see more detail on the menus listed.

We will arrange carpooling for those who want to participate.

Cooking classes are always great fun and should also insure a great dinner!

If you want to sign up for this outing, please email klandrum@tuggleduggins.com and indicate your first three choices for a menu option. Payment for the class will be required to confirm your spot.

FINANCIAL DIVAS

How to Maintain & Build Wealth in a World That Won't Stand Still: Strategies for Thriving in Uncertain Times

Wednesday, June 24, 9-10 am

Weaver Park Center, 324 W. Wendover Ave, Ste. 140

In a world of constant change, your financial confidence shouldn't waver. Learn practical strategies for staying resilient, adaptable, and opportunity-focused—even when markets, taxes, and life circumstances refuse to sit still. Expect fresh insights, real-world examples, and clear

next steps you can put into action immediately. For questions or more information, contact Paula McMillan at 336.337.9507 or pmmcillan@stearnsfinancial.com.

DINING OUT

Wednesday, June 24

6:30pm

1618 West

1618 W. Friendly Ave
Greensboro, NC 27403

Host: Kris Landrum

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Questions: Amy Meinecke at diningout@wpforum.org



LADIES OF LEISURE

Ladies of Leisure Tour of Linbrook Heritage Estate

Thursday, June 25

WPF members and guests, female and male, are invited to tour
Linbrook Heritage Estate!

Located just over the Guilford County line in Trinity, Linbrook (<https://www.linbrook.org>) was created by Jerry (who co-founded RF Micro Devices, now Qorvo) and Linda Neal and hosts charitable events and supports causes. It features the elegant 36,000-square-foot Linbrook Hall (Jerry himself hopes to lead this hall tour), The Neal Agricultural & Industrial Museum and Hoover House, which showcases rural families.

Tour registration and tickets are \$25 and go on sale June 2 through a special tab on <https://www.linbrook.org>. Deadline to register is Monday, June 22. We will leave via carpool at 9 a.m. from the Whole Foods parking lot. Tours will run from 10 a.m. until about noon, followed by an optional boxed lunch ordered separately from Apple Spice Junction. We should return to Whole Foods no later than 2-2:30 p.m.

Questions? Contact Margaret Bertrand at margaretbertrand49@gmail.com or Dawn Kane at daka1@att.net.



NON-FICTION ONLY BOOK CLUB

For our next meeting, we'll be reading: *Girl on Girl: How Pop Culture Turned a Generation of Women Against Themselves* by Sophie Gilbert

Date: Tuesday, July 7, 2026

Location: Kate Panzer's house: 604 Waycross Dr
Greensboro, NC 27410-

RSVP via email please: panzerkate@gmail.com

Time: 6:30 pm hors d'oeuvres and social time

7:00 – 8:00 or 8:15 pm book discussion

Sandra Boren will lead the discussion.

If it works for you to bring an appetizer or a dessert, that would be great. No signing up for snacks.

Running out of time to read the book? Please come anyway- we want to see you.

About our book for July:

What did early 2000s pop culture really do to us? In *Girl on Girl*, Atlantic critic and Pulitzer Prize finalist Sophie Gilbert takes a sharp, rigorously researched look at how the music, films, tabloids, and celebrity culture of the late '90s and 2000s dismantled a generation of feminist progress — selling girls and young women a distorted picture of themselves in the process. Gilbert traces how the energy of third-wave feminism collapsed into a regressive era of hyper-objectification and infantilization, and how that backlash fueled the rise of incel culture, trad wives, and the stay-at-home girlfriends of TikTok. If you came of age in that era, prepare to have your selective nostalgia challenged — and come ready to talk about what it all means for women today.

Next Up:

For our Sept. 1st meeting, we'll be reading *The Swans of Harlem: Five Black Ballerinas, Fifty Years of Sisterhood, and Their Reclamation of a Groundbreaking History* by Karen Valby.

Organizers:

Kate Panzer & Jen Thomas

Kate's Cell 336-420-1421

Jen's Cell 336-254-4325

Books and Arts

Blowing Rock Summer Trip

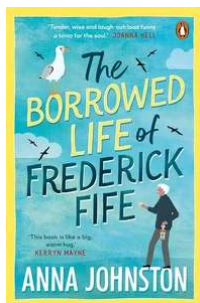
July 16-19, 2026

Spaces still available for our July weekend in Blowing Rock!!

"The 2026 Blowing Rock weekend (July 17th to 19th) is fully booked, but could probably handle one more participant and will maintain a waiting list for anyone else who wants to go." See following information. If you're interested, please reach out to Kris Landrum asap."

One of our 2026 activities is our annual summer trip to Blowing Rock. Since we have two houses and a condo reserved, we still have openings for the trip, scheduled for July 16th through 19th. Activity options will include the Chetola Symphony by the Lake on Friday night, the 17th (tickets around \$85), tubing on Saturday morning (\$35), and possibly a wine tasting. Other activities participants frequently enjoy are spa treatments

at Chetola, shopping in downtown Blowing Rock, and hiking on nearby trails. Prices for housing for the weekend range from \$200 to \$450 depending upon type of room/bath, sharing, etc., so, something for everyone. Dinner is generally at restaurants on Thursday and Saturday nights, with Friday night picnic at the concert, and breakfast enjoyed in our lodgings. Thanks to participants, there is never a shortage of food in the lodgings! If you want to join the 17 of us who have already signed up for this weekend, contact Kris Landrum (klandrum@tuggleduggins.com) for other details. A deposit of \$150 is required to secure your spot.



BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, August 2, 6:30pm

Our August book is "The Borrowed Life of Frederick Fife"

by Anna Johnston

Amy Baradell is hosting

2307 Walker Avenue, 27403

Mary Kelly Wetzel will lead the discussion at 7pm.

"A funny, heartfelt story about found family and seeing the silver lining in life. Fans of *A Man Called Ove* and *Remarkably Bright Creatures* will especially enjoy this new novel."—*Library Journal*

Please email RSVP's and any questions to nancy.radtke@allentate.com

Books and Arts

January 2027 New York City Trip!

Believe it or not, we are in the final stage of room reservations for our 2027 MLK weekend trip to NYC. We have signed a contract with WestHouse, our preferred place to stay, in order to get the benefits of a large group booking.

With a group contract and, currently, 15 rooms, our quoted prices are as follows:

Double Queen Room: \$279/night (before taxes): \$323.65 with taxes and occupancy fees

King Room: \$229/night (before taxes): \$266.28 with taxes and occupancy fees

These prices are consistent with (or lower) than 2025.

However, the kicker is that the \$55 plus tax resident fee was waived in '25 for a group booking. For '27, it is reduced to \$30/night, plus tax. This fee includes breakfast, evening light fare and alcoholic beverages, hi-speed Wi-Fi access, local and toll-free phone calls, 24-hour fitness and business centers and bottled water in rooms.

At this point, 27 women have signed up for the weekend. WestHouse has been very cooperative in working with us as room numbers have changed but would like to have a final number by June 15th.

We anticipate the format to be comparable with previous years. We'll look into food tours, do some group Broadway bookings, and explore the possibility of cooking classes, but the structure is loose. Lots of shopping, museum visits, etc. We're not in lock step, but there will be group activities available. Our current concern is securing the rooms that we think we'll need.

If you would like to join this group, please contact Kris Landrum at klandrum@tuggleduggins.com before June 15th and indicate whether you'd want a shared queen room or a king room. She'll need a \$150 deposit to secure your spot, because we have to guarantee the number of rooms reserved for a group booking and will have to pay for those who end up cancelling.



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