



WPF *orum* NEWS

A Publication of the Women's Professional Forum • P.O. Box 4221, Greensboro, NC 27404-4221 • www.wpfforum.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Carol Williams-Gilbert



It is Friday morning, and since most businesses observe casual dress days on Fridays, I decided to follow suit, and I showed up in my office in jeans!

Of course, I had to run to an emergency hospital visit, and several members of my congregation dropped by the office on "business". I tried to hide

behind by PC in my jeans, thinking no one would notice, until one visitor asked for my business card, and I went to pull it out of the pocket of my jeans. It had lint and dog hairs glued to the Starbucks coffee stain from my latte this morning....I had no idea that there is a web site for business card exchange protocol, but this is my fact I learned from this visitor. The other fact I had cemented in my brain was to heck with dress down casual days on Friday or any other day.

After the visitor left, I got on this business card etiquette site! Did you realize one is supposed make a positive comment about the card(ie; logo design, quality of paper, color,etc.) ??? And when presenting a card, the card is to be face up, clean and crisp! I loved the word crisp! It reminded me of the days of Easter Sundays, 1958

when my mother had spray starch my pinafore The final comment on the business card etiquette is : " Never leave home without your business cards." At least I got that part right. Under this educational information was a registration form to a workshop with Gloria Starr to be held in downtown Charlotte on March 17th& 18th of this year! Gloria, is a nationally known "Global Success Strategist " who teaches business women about everything

March Meeting:

Wednesday, March 14 @ 11:30am

The Painted Plate - 2001 N. Church St, Greensboro

Cost:

Active members are prepaid;
Supporting or Emeritus members and
Guests, \$15.00

Reservations:

Please contact **Carol Matznick** at **605-9108**
or **carol4wpf@aol.com** if:

- You are a Supporting or Emeritus member and would like to make a lunch reservation
- You would like to invite a special guest
- You are an active member and need to cancel your reservation

Cancellation of reservations is a membership requirement

WPF Board Members

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Next WPF Board Meeting

March.22, 11:30 am- 1:00pm @ Guilford College United Methodist Church

WPF Foundation Board Members

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APRIL Newsletter Deadline

March 23, 12:00 noon
Carol Matznick
carol4wfp@aol.com

from; cell phone manners, to wardrobe basics 101, and how to meet, greet, mingle and smooze ! This is for me, I thought!

I scrolled down and there was ONE reservation left for that Saturday and Sunday workshops in Charlotte ! I knew it was not a coincidence I was reading about Gloria Starr! I was looking at hotel listings in Charlotte, when my eye glanced at the down payment of \$1,500.00. Maybe this was not providential after all... This modern day finishing school is \$4,000.00 for two days, but Gloria's five books were included in the price!

I closed this web site, got out a new stack of business cards without coffee stains, and was very thankful I had signed up to go...away...next week-end...to the mountains...with a group of women...from WPF...for the minimum price of \$75.00, and that included two breakfasts!!!

All this was to remind all WPF'ers to be aware of our business etiquette...respond to RSVP's, return phone calls within an appropriate time, meet all deadlines, use the right fork at WPF luncheon meetings, and elude confidence ! Even when you have coffee stains on your business card, and you are wearing jeans. After all, we are the Women's Professional Forum. For anyone interested WPF members...there is ONE reservation left for Ms. Starr's March workshops....I am hoping I'll get to meet, greet and mingle the first week-end in March with many of you in the Mountains!!!

Hope you will be able to meet and greet our four new members and one returning member at our March meeting!!

“Diversity Through the Eye of a Needle”

Judy Garner, Programs

Meet Susan Feit

Susan is the new Executive Director of the National Conference for Community & Justice of the Piedmont Triad. Susan brings a winning combination of mission-related experience, belief in the value of honest, open dialogue, and the courage to confront the dynamics of power and privilege that support unfairness. Across two continents, she has dedicated her life to building inclusive, just societies.

Raised in the Chicago area, Susan lived in Israel for over twenty years before returning to the United States in 2004. Having worked extensively with Arabs and Ethiopian Jews in Israel, Susan brings with her international experience in racial and ethnic relations. She also worked in foundations for eleven years, including eight years as the Director of the Israel office of the Moriah Fund, a foundation dedicated to helping all people attain justice, equity and self-sufficiency. In this capacity, Susan established and chaired foundation affinity groups and nonprofit coalitions focusing on minority rights and was appointed by the former Israeli Minister of Education to co-chair a committee to improve educational opportunities for the Ethiopian-Israeli community.

Since coming to Greensboro two years ago, Susan has worked as a consultant to foundations and non-profit organizations, including United Way of Greater Greensboro. In her spare time, Susan serves on the Board of Jewish Family Services. She also enjoys the spending time with her family, the outdoors and is an avid dancer and traveler.

MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Kris Landrum

Once again we welcome a fantastic group of intelligent, talented women into our WPF organization! Please join your board and membership committee in celebrating the addition of the following new members of WPF:

Terrance Zepke - Terrance is a freelance journalist and author who has written twelve books and hundreds of articles in her 10 year career. Many of us met her first when she spoke to our WPF group about North Carolina ghost stories, one of her many topics. She also works as a lecturer and consultant and teaches travel classes. Her sponsors are Judy Garner, Carol Williams-Gilbert and Brenda Morris.

Kate Weaver - Kate is currently Vice President of Major Gifts for the United Way of Greater Greensboro and previously served as Development Associate, Grants Coordinator and Development Officer. Other steps in her career included the positions of Alumni Program Coordinator for the Visiting International Faculty at Chapel Hill, and United Arts Council Development Office. Outside of work, her interests include performing arts, travel, cooking, and outdoor activities. Her sponsors are Bonnie McAlister, Jeanie Duncan, and Valerie McMurray.

Joni Moffitt - Joni is Key Account Manager for Entercom Communications where she is one of five managers overseeing the top billing accounts for six radio stations. She has worked in the fields of advertising, marketing, sales and event management for more than 20 years, working over the years with the Greensboro Coliseum marketing, the Carolina Theatre and private radio companies and advertising agencies. Her sponsors are Anne Willson, Sandra Mayfield, and Sue Kennedy.

Laura Pitts - Laura is Assistant Vice Chancellor for Development at UNC-G where she currently leads fundraising efforts for Constituent Programs of the College of the Arts and Sciences and the six professional schools. Her career has kept her at UNC-G since 1990, working in many capacities, including as Director of Planned Giving, Reunion Gifts Officer/Director of Development for the School of Nursing, and Reunion Coordinator for the Alumni Office. Her sponsors are Judy Piper, Susan Larson, and Brenda Madden.

We also are delighted to welcome the following returning members:

Meg Sternberg - Meg is president, CEO, and owner of Heart of Living Gallery, a fine art, furnishings, gifts and design gallery. Her previous careers included more than 20 years as a senior executive and one of the founders of United HealthCare of NC. Meg was a member of WPF for approximately 10 years and is returning to active membership.

Special Interest Group

Anything Goes -
Madge Megliola - 286-3441

Bennett College Mentoring -
Sandy Doyle Jones
852-1495 (work) 272-9126 (home)

Books and Arts -
Rose Lindsay Pfaff - 274-1426
Rose Pfaff - rosepfaff2000@yahoo.com

Dining Out -
Kris Landrum - 271-5243

Eating In -
Debbie Devine - 393-2056

Golf -
Sherry Thorne - 294-3232

Reverse Parenting -
Pat Boswell
373-2600 (office) 282-6500 (home)

Women of Wallstreet (WOW) -
Peggy Ward - 834-6950

Working Mothers of Young Children -
Laura Burton - 378-5566



Linda Carlisle - Linda was an active member from 1980-1995 and is returning as an emeritus member.

Our new members will be introduced at the March meeting, but your best chance to meet them is at our new member social. This is a perfect time to welcome our new members and get to know other members better. We'll be serving appetizers and wine (water, too), and enjoying the hospitality of Aesthetic Images Photography where there will undoubtedly be some interesting photographs to view as well. SEE BELOW FOR DETAILS!

NEW MEMBER SOCIAL:
DATE: March 29, 2006
TIME: 6 to 7:30 p.m.
LOCATION:
Aesthetic Images Photography
401 State Street

DINING OUT

Our March Dining Out event will be at Southern Lights Restaurant, 105 Smyres Place, on Wednesday, March 28th, at 6:30. Southern Lights is a long-time favorite of our group. Please plan to join us for an evening of great food and conversation! Please email me at klandrum@tuggleduggins.com to reserve a spot!

MY TRIP (REPORT) IN 4 MINUTES

Anna Fesmire



Having spent a good portion of my adult life either traveling or working in the travel industry, I tend to think of places as destinations and people as my traveling companions. That being said . . .

I sailed into life with the first wave of Baby Boomers and disembarked at the Emory University Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia. My early traveling companions were my mother, father and a raft of aunts, uncles, and cousins who were good stand-ins for the siblings I didn't have.

My father had picked up smatterings of languages in the Merchant Marine and I have happy memories of sitting on his knee singing songs and reciting little verses in French and Spanish. The language gene was apparently turned on as I learned that internal journeys of the mind are just as interesting and important as the external journeys our bodies make in space and time. To speak a foreign language while traveling in a foreign country is a double dip!

After my father died in 1952 and my mother remarried, we moved to Greensboro. While my stepfather and I saw eye to eye on few things, he did believe that travel was an essential part of a good education, and we crossed the country up and down and side to side several times. I recall being an unaccompanied minor on a flight to California at the age of seven or eight, complete with hat and gloves and a plastic pouch around my neck that held my ticket. I also have pleasant memories of Manhattan, eating at the Automat, ogling Broadway, being in the audience for a couple of TV shows, and just generally being smitten with all things New York. I discovered the wonders of hotels, and to this day continue to be fascinated by the many forms they take.

Heading west to check out Las Vegas and Disneyland, we stopped off at the Grand Canyon, toured Carlsbad Caverns, took in the Indian Ceremonial in Gallup New Mexico, and a rodeo in Cheyenne, Wyoming. I even visited the Will Rogers Memorial in Claremore, OK and learned to appreciate his comic genius. It was, you'll recall, Will Rogers who said: "It ain't what we don't know that gives us trouble, it's what we know that ain't so." Nothing I've seen so far in life has caused me to doubt the wisdom of his words.

I wanted to be a cartoonist but couldn't draw. My stepfather wanted me to be an engineer or architect, so of course I wouldn't do either. Instead I majored in French, earned a BA and MA and had my first teaching experience as a graduate student at UNCG teaching Freshman French. A tough crowd. At the same time, I met my best friend Fran in our dorm

in 1963.

The language work did support my travel aspirations. I made first use of a passport on my honeymoon in 1968 when my husband Jim (I wonder if I married him because he had flown over a million miles when I met him?) and I spent 3 weeks checking out Dublin, London, Paris, Rome, and Athens on our honeymoon. When our son Julian joined the trip in 1974, we just packed an extra suitcase and hauled him along.

While serving as a board member of a national animal welfare organization I honed my presentation skills while putting more miles on my personal travel odometer delivering workshops across the country and doing research on conditions in animal shelters and zoos.

As Fran was working her way through two of her three husbands, she moved to Europe and our years of travel together began. We had covered thousands of miles together with our respective family groups (whoever happened to be in those at the time) when she died in 2001.

In 1985 I went into the travel industry, first planning meetings, then individual itineraries, then teaching others to sell travel. I joined a local travel school, revamped their curriculum and found myself on the authoring end of a couple of travel training textbooks. At the same time I figured out that to sustain my level of strength and energy I needed to move around more and began teaching water aerobics.

In the mid-nineties I went to work for a national nonprofit organization that offers certification and other educational materials for travel professionals. I was asked to develop and deliver workshops across the country on a variety of business-related topics.

By the time I began to work for myself in 2004 doing corporate training and consulting, I'd delivered a multitude of sessions on a raft of work-related topics and had visited 7 countries in North and South America, 2 in Africa, 7 in Asia, and 12 in Europe. I had also spent time in more than 50 major US cities. While I have lost beloved traveling companions like Fran, I've gained others like my granddaughters – now 4 and 2 -- and can't wait to pack their little passports and watch them as they gain an appreciation of many points of view and discover that while Greensboro is not the center of the universe, it is a truly wonderful place to come home to.

FOUNDATION BUZZ

Meryl Mullane, Foundation President



FOUNDATION GRANTS PROGRAM IN FULL SWING

This is always an exciting time at the WPF Foundation as it's time for us to discover appropriate applicants who might become the 2007 grant award winners. This year the grants will total up to \$10,000, a significant contribution to qualified organizations.

The grant awards further the purpose of Women's Professional Forum Foundation, Inc. to increase the organization's long-term impact on the role of women. The grants will support programs and/or services that have a long-term effect on the development of leadership in girls under the age of 18 and will enable recognition of the WPF Foundation as a sponsor. This year we continue the theme of "Nurturing Girls to Be Tomorrow's Leaders"

Sue Kennedy, Grants Committee Chair, reports progress to date on the grants program. So far, all the materials have been developed and we've mailed the grant information and application forms to more than 100 non-profit organizations in Guilford County. Information about the Grants Program has also been sent to the press for publication, and an e-mail broadcast message has been sent to all of you asking for help to spread the word about our grant opportunity.

We could use everyone's support and help to spread the word about our Grant purpose and funding availability. All of us have connections to non-profits – make sure yours is on the list. For an application and outline of criteria, go to www.wpforum.org. and click on the link.

Grant applications must be submitted by April 6th; they will be reviewed by mid-April and announced at the May 2007 WPF luncheon.