

WPF *orum* NEWS

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PRESIDENT'S PEN

by *Patty Aiken*



Hello Everyone!

Welcome to April and the April edition of the WPF Newsletter. As I was thinking about what I wanted to write about this month, I kept thinking about Spring and how it's such a "fresh" season. The trees this week are just coming out of their winter blues. It's just so refreshing to see a beautiful Bradford Pear tree full of its fluffy white blooms and the cherry trees with their beautiful soft pink blooms. My husband and I live "kind of" in the woods and there is this creek below our house. When our dog and I were taking our morning stroll down by this creek the other day, there was a "lone daffodil" blooming on the creek side—stands out like a sore thumb.....I just find that incredible since I have absolutely no daffodils in the yard anywhere. History has proven that the deer eat them all! How in the world did that one make it? I kind of relate all of this to the tenuous time we live in right now and how a pretty Spring day or one little sign of Spring may help us escape if only for a little while and appreciate those little wonders. So, not to get too poetic on everyone, I thought I would share a few spring time quotes to maybe help boost our moods a bit....here they are....

"In the spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt."

-Margaret Atwood

"In the spring I have counted one hundred and thirty-six different kinds of weather inside of four and twenty hours."

-Mark Twain

"The sun was warm but the wind was chill. You know how it is with an April day."

-Robert Frost

"If I had my life to live over, I would start barefoot earlier in the spring and stay that way later in the fall."

-Nadine Stair

Ok..enough, right? Well, I want all of this to lead into our wonderful program for our April meeting. Dr. Julianne Malveaux, President of Bennett College, will be our guest speaker and what a wonderful time of year to hear from the leader of such a great Greensboro institution. I am looking forward to hearing about her background and accomplishments and about the current happenings at Bennett College. I am sure all of us will learn from her and will leave proud of what the College does for young women. This program will be truly refreshing and energizing for us all.

I want to make mention of the work that is being done on our WPF website...thanks to Matilda Kirby-Smith. We are working on making our website more user friendly and self managed including giving each of our members the capability of updating their own information as well as submission of updated photos. We are going to Beta Test the site with the Board and a few

April Meeting

Wed., April. 8 @ 11:30am
The Painted Plate
2001 N. Church St,
Greensboro, NC

Cost

Active members are prepaid.
Supporting or Emeritus
members and Guests - \$15.00

Reservation

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.

Next WPF Board Meeting

April 15, 11:30am - 1:00pm @ Mid Carolina Bank Conference Room

2009 WPF Board Members

President: WPF Foundation Board Liason

Patty Aiken
294-0081 ext. 301
Patty.aiken@homeinstead.com

First Vice President Holiday Bazaar Coordinator

Katrina Solomon
273-3456
Katrina@orgstepbystep.com

Second Vice President

Dee Todd
285-4375
dstodd@ncat.edu

Secretary

Laura Burton
378-5566
Laura.Burton@smithmoorelaw.com

Treasurer

Kris Landrum
271-5243
klandrum@tuggleduggins.com

Membership Committee Chair

Paula Pile
273-3116
imagolady@aol.com

Director at Large Summer Social/Small Group Dinner Coordinator

Mebane Ham
273-7448
mebane@lycos.com

Ashley Wigglesworth
230-0071
Ashley@trifiadv.com

Past President/Nominating Committee Chair

Brenda Morris
375-5876
Brenda_Morris@ncsu.edu

WPF Foundation President

Maureen Hartigan
852-5600
mfhartigan@triad.rr.com

Executive Assistant

Carol Matznick
605-9108
Carol4wpf@aol.com

MAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

April 17, 12:00 noon
Carol Matznick
carol4wpf@aol.com

members first to get some of the kinks worked out. Then, we will Beta Test the site from early June through early July with the entire membership before we completely roll things over. We are excited to have the opportunity to have a very well functioning website that is easy for all of us to use and certainly takes a load off of Carol Matznick! The next time you see Matilda, please thank her for all the work she is doing for us on this!

See you in April 8! Remember, we like to get started promptly at noon so that we can have adequate time for all of the agenda!

APRIL'S GUEST SPEAKER- THE NEW PRESIDENT OF BENNETT COLLEGE

Our speaker this month is Dr. Julianne Malveaux, President of Bennett College. Dr. Malveaux's topic will be "Top Issues Facing Women Today."

Women are poised to make major gains in the Obama Administration. Already, the gag rule has been lifted, allowing US funded organizations to provide birth control information internationally. And, the Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act was passed in late January. What else must be done to achieve a women's equality agenda? Dr. Malveaux will discuss the social, political and economic change that must take place before we can claim women's equality as a reality.

We look forward to having Dr. Malveaux!!

MOTHERS OF SMALL CHILDREN

Laura Burton

We have had renewed interest in putting this fun and informative SIG back together. This is an opportunity for moms of young (or young-ish) children to get together on a monthly basis, usually at lunch time, and hear speakers on topics of interest and have time to discuss (and occasionally complain about) current situations affecting their families and kids. If you would be interested in participating in this group, please contact Laura Burton at laura.burton@smithmoorelaw.com or 378-5566. Thanks!

COME SOCIALIZE WITH OUR NEW MEMBERS!!

by Beverly Gass

WPF members have the opportunity to give our new members a warm welcome at our new member social on Thursday April 23, 2009 from 6-7:30. This is a great time to not only meet your new sisters but to also reconnect with your WPF friends in a social atmosphere. Thanks to Jolaine Lanier and Allen Tate Real Estate for hosting us. The details are listed below:

New Member Social
When: April 23, 2009
Cost: Free
Time 6- 7:30 PM
Where: Allen Tate Realty
617 Green Valley Rd

We hope to see you there.

DO WE REALLY KNOW YOU??

Ashley Wigglesworth

Have you done something that not many of your fellow WPF'ers know about? Have you traveled to some exotic place, met the most interesting people? Are you a girl scout troop leader, sing in off-broadway plays? Read? Sew? Did you start out in the mail room of your company and are now President??

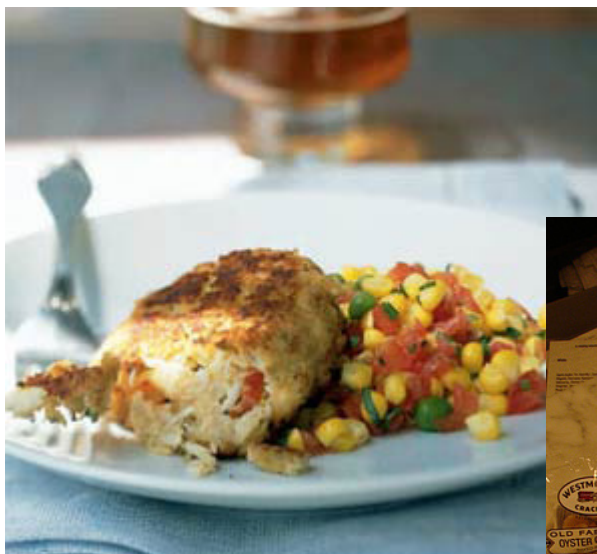
Whatever your story – we would love to hear it!! If you would be willing to do a 4-minute special, either written in the newsletter or spoken at one of our meetings, please let me know. Email me at Ashley@trifiadv.com Thanks!!

DINING OUT *by Kris Landrum*

Our Dining Out adventure for the month of April will be at Black Pearl Oyster Bar and Grille, 3706 High Point Road. Black Pearl Oyster Bar and Grille is a fairly new restaurant in Greensboro.

The goal of its chef is to “make you feel like you’re somewhere else on vacation.” The menu includes low country, Caribbean and Asian foods. Seafood is brought in daily and filleted in house and dressings and desserts are made from scratch. They also advertise an extensive martini and tropical drink list (definitely like being on vacation!).

Dee Todd is our hostess for the month and highly recommends the Black Pearl. Please join us in trying out this new restaurant at 6:30 on Wednesday, April 29th. To reserve your spot, please email Dee Todd, dstodd@ncat.edu before the end of the day on April 27th.



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Anything Goes

Madge Megliola
286-3441
madgemeg@gmail.com

Books & Arts

Rose Pfaff
274-1426
Rosepfaff2000@yahoo.com

Dining Out

Kris Landrum
271-5243
KLandrum@tuggleduggins.com

Golf

Judy Piper
286-9788
jrpiper@uncg.edu

WhINE DIVAS

Sandy Doyle-Jones
282-3412
sdoylejones@bellsouth.net

Women of Wall Street

Peggy Ward
834-6950
Peggy.Ward@ubs.com

Working Mothers of Young Children

Laura Burton
378-5566
Laura.burton@smithmoorelaw.com

WPF Foundation President

Maureen Hartigan
852-5660
mfthartigan@triad.rr.com

Vice President

Melanie Tuttle
370-8808
Mtuttle@sbaal.com

Corresponding Secretary

Gloria Thompson
288-8119
gloriathompson@triad.rr.com

Recording Secretary

Jeri Whitfield
378-5270
Jeri.whitfield@smithmoorelaw.com

Treasurer

Pat Price
294-4494
pprice@brccpa.com

Past President

Meryl Mullane
545-8838
meryl@mullanep.com

Directors:

Darlene Ball
299-3730
darleneball@triad.rr.com

Linda Carlisle
668-7919
Carlisle.linda@gmail.com

Sandy Doyle-Jones
852-1495
sdoylejones@lifespanservices.org

Beverly Gass
334-4822 xt 2434
abgass@triad.rr.com

Denny Kelly
275-7000
dkelly@bouveriekelly.com

Sue Kennedy
288-0044
suekennedycons@bellsouth.net

Nancy Radtke
510-1864
Nancy.Radtke@allentate.com

Michele Smith
379-1390
msmith@hillevans.com

Ruth Wooten
664-0444
Rwooten3@triad.rr.com



Young Artists Reach New Audiences at Artista

Brittany Sondberg in her own words: “I graduated from East Carolina University with a B.F.A. in Metal Design in 2004, since then I have gradually built up my studio and business. I guess you could say I have been working as a professional artist in the jewelry design/metal design field since about 2006.

I had 2 pieces on display at the Artista event, a bracelet and a matching pair of earrings. Both pieces were made using 100% recycled sterling silver, green enamel and clear faceted stones. The earrings sold for \$140. The Artista event was great, everything seemed to run smoothly, it was well attended, and the music was great! I have not been to an event just like Artista, compared to other shows or sales I have participated in, Artista was similarly successful and entertaining.

Karen Bjork-Dischell in her own words: “In January 2005, I rented a studio and dedicated myself to being a full time artist. Part of the process of becoming a professional artist is to create a strong, cohesive body of work; photograph it and keep records of titles and completion dates. Then I sent my work out to seek gallery representation. Now my goal is to find and enter juried shows, which will give to my work increased visibility.

I submitted two pieces, “Blue Trees” and “Night Tree” Both are oil paintings on canvas, 36”x18”. The paintings, completed in 2008, are from a series of paintings that I started in May of that year, and cannot foresee ending. My subject fascinates me.

The paintings did not sell that evening.

Artista was one of the most enjoyable shows that I have participated in because I was showing my work alongside the work of so many woman artists that I truly admire. In addition, Greensboro has a record of accomplishment in buying the work of local artists, along with supporting good causes. (Such as The Women’s Professional Forum) Add sparkling conversation, delicious food and drink, lovely music, and you have a great evening.

WPF FUNDING WOMEN IN POWER SYMPOSIUM



It was a grand evening on Thursday, March 19, when more than 50 high school girls braved the rain to meet and hear from elected women officials to discuss how they came to their positions and what they did in their working lives.

Pat Vreeland, Executive Director of Kids Voting in Guilford County, introduced our own Meryl Mullane, (shown here in the picture) who served as the moderator for his successful event. The panelists were The

Honorable Yvonne Johnson, Mayor of Greensboro, Kris Cooke (District 7) and Dr. Nancy R. Routh (At Large), both of the Guilford County Board of Education. State Senator Katie Dorsett and Representative Laura Wiley were also supposed to be on the panel, but unfortunately were detained returning from their session in Raleigh. Luckily Dr. Routh valiantly took the stage and helped us out. After the pre-set questions were asked of all the panelists, the floor was opened to the students in attendance. They had amazingly perceptive questions for the panelists and were very engaged in the entire evening. When the session was over, the panelists graciously stayed and chatted with the girls for a considerable period of time.

From the reaction of many of the girls, they would have stayed all night for the opportunity to meet the Mayor and other officials. Beverly Williams, a WPF member and employee of Guilford County, said later, "Last night was amazing – those young ladies make us proud." I agree with her – as President of the Foundation, it was gratifying to see that our funds were used for an activity that without our funding might not have been available to girls who might consider public service.

Kids Voting of Guilford County received a grant from the WPF Foundation to fund this symposium. This was the fourth time that the symposium was held and the second time it was sponsored by WPF.