



**Durham
Woman's Club**

SINCE 1923

FRIENDSHIP, SERVICE, MAKING A DIFFERENCE.



INSPIRING VOLUNTEERISM • CREATING

October 2026



OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2026

Social Time: 10:45 am

Meeting: 11 am

Program: What is the Walltown Children's Theatre?

Speaker: Cara Williams, Executive Dir.,
Walltown Children's Theatre

Bennett Pointe Grill
4625 Hillsborough Rd.

*Lunch is available following the meeting.
If you need to leave before lunch,
please feel free to do so.*

Please respond to the Paperless Post so we
know how to arrange the room.
If you don't receive a Paperless Post, please
RSVP to this email.

October is **CyberSecurity Month**.

Security organizations around the world highlight reducing human-related cyber activity by improving daily security behaviors. Check out the DWC, Facebook page for tips on how to be safe while online.



**HAPPY
HALLOWEEN**



Time Change

Fall Back

Nov. 1, 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 10/06:** Book Club, 2 pm
- 10/07:** Welcome Baby, 1-3 pm
- 10/08:** Little River & Book Harvest Give Away
- 10/10:** District Meeting, Clayton
- 10/14:** General Meeting, 11 am
- 10/16-22:** Little River Book Fair
- 10/15:** Coffee & Chat, 10 am
- 10/20:** Membership Event
- 10/22:** Little River Reading Fair
- 10/28:** Board Meeting
- 11/01:** Time Changes
- 11/03:** Book Club, 2 pm
- 11/04:** Welcome Baby, 1-3 pm

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Iceland is an amazing place, very unique in geology and history. I hope that tourism and the added attention they are receiving will not change them. A country of 400,000 people gets 2 million visitors a year. Their lava fields are much different than our prairies. If you want to know more about Iceland, please come talk with me.

Our first Sunflower District meeting is October 10. I look forward to seeing how things will be different. We have new club members to meet and work with now. Our scholarship interview will take place in a different place in February.

You'll notice the newsletter has a new look. Publisher has been retired so I'm learning to use Canva. It's very different and will take me a while to get the hang of it and decide what works best.



The club year has gotten off to a great start. Welcome Baby, Bingo at the nursing home, Teacher Notes, etc. Think of ways we can get the word out about our Meet & Greet on Oct. 20. Recruiting new members is a goal for the year! Thanks for all you are doing for our community!

Lynn Odom, President



The 2026 Fall Plant Sale went well. Eight club members participated in the sale. That's only 40%. What can we do to get more participation, ladies? Shirley Colpitts was our highest seller. Becky Jarman was the 2nd highest. Thanks ladies! The profit made was \$254. For this year so far, we have raised \$378.

Our next fundraiser is the December Craft and Bake Sale. Please think about the items you would like to provide for this sale.

Anyone who would like to donate to the club, please make the check payable to DWC and mark on the check as "Plant Sale" donation.

Kathy Elkins, VP of Fundraising
kitkat1153@aol.com

"Autumn shows us how beautiful it is to let things go."
Unknown Author

"Fall has always been my favorite season. The time when everything bursts with its last beauty, as if nature had been saving up all year for the grand finale."
Lauren DeStefano



Lynn Odom, President
, VP of Programs
Shirley Colpitts, VP of Membership
Kathy Elkin, VP of Fundraising
Stephanie Taylor, VP of Hospitality
Newsletter Editor
Lynn Odom

www.durhamwmc.org
Durham Woman's Club on Facebook

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH CSP

Thank you to everyone who donated prizes and participated in the BINGO for the residents at University Health & Rehab on September 21. It was a big success! The residents had fun and appreciated our club members for making time to brighten their afternoon. The next bingo volunteer opportunities will be in February and April.

Welcome Baby will be **Wednesday, October 7**, from 1-3 pm. Join us as we bundle children's clothing for needy families. Please let me know by Tuesday the 6th if you plan to be there so I can give Cindy Riley an idea of how many volunteers will be coming. If you park in the back lot, ring the doorbell or call Cindy at 919-698-0561 to open the door.

For October and November, we are collecting food to give to Student U families to have during the holidays. If you would like to participate, please bring any items to our meetings, Book Club, or Coffee & Chat and I will get them to my contact at Student U. Thank you!

Mary Jo Harrod, CSP Chair
mjharrod26@hotmail.com

Student U Holiday Food Drive

No glass containers, please!
Suggested Food Items

Canned tomato sauce
Canned soups
(low-sodium, if possible)
Ragu sauce
Applesauce
Peanut butter
Jelly
Rice
Dried beans
Tuna
Oatmeal
Masaca
Instant potatoes
Pasta



ENVIRONMENT CSP

Important Dates to Remember

October 5 World Habitat Day The focus is on sustainable urban development and green housing. This is also **Energy Efficiency Day**, which highlights practical ways to save energy and lower carbon output.

October 10 World Migratory Bird Day and advocates for the conservation of migrating birds and their ecosystems.

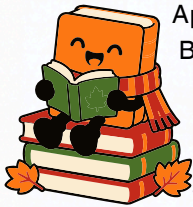
October 16 World Food Day addresses sustainable food security and reducing agricultural waste.

Please continue to bring can tabs, empty prescription bottles, and empty flower containers to me for recycling. I am usually at every General Meeting, Coffee & Chat, and Book Club meeting. Thank you to everyone who is participating in this project! If you have suggestions for other environmental projects, please let me know. I welcome any ideas.

Mary Jo Harrod, Environment CSP Chair
mjharrod26@hotmail.com

EDUCATION & LIBRARIES CSP

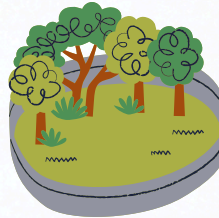
Little River Montessori School and Book Harvest are teaming together to donate 10 books per student in the lower grades. Durham Public Schools approved volunteers can meet in the Media Center at Little River and assist students as they choose their books. What a great opportunity to share our excitement about reading with little ones! The event will occur on **October 8th between 8:30 am and 2:00 pm**. Volunteers are asked to sign up for 1 - to 2-hour blocks. Please, let me know which block you would like to work ASAP.



Approved volunteers are also needed to support the Book Fair at Little River **October 16-22**. Sign up for 1- hour slots on any of these days between 8:30 and 2:30. There are two slots per hour if you would like to work with a friend. Please let me know which time slot(s) you would like to work ASAP.

For those who do not wish to go to the school, we have something for you too! Transition to a Montessori method of teaching has been quite a challenge for Little River staff. A significant increase in the amount of hands-on materials are needed. The materials are created but need to be cut, sorted, placed in baggies, etc. This project type is perfect for those who want to get together with some friends or just work on it while you're at home watching TV. This will be an ongoing need throughout the year, so, please, I let me know if this interests you and I can connect you with the materials.

The garden area behind Little River is a real mess! It has been neglected but organization is evident. Weeding and mulching would make a huge difference. If you are dividing your plants this fall, please consider giving some plants to this garden area. They have outdoor seating and really want classes to be able to use it. Let me know if you are interested in this.



Carrington Middle School has a Community Coordinator who is an employee of Student U. Student U realized the need in several of our schools to support the families of students. The Community Center Room is scheduled to open by the end of October. Last Monday, time was spent painting the room. They are collecting comfortable furniture and shelving. I shared that we would have some school supplies for them in January. We would like to collect



food, clothes, ethnic hair care products and hygiene supplies. I am happy to gather things like this from you all and take them to Carrington for their Community Center Room. Please don't feel burdened by this, but if you are able to support this need, please let me know.

Carrington Middle is also what our Teacher Notes are going this year. Arlene Bagin and I have gathered goodies and notes for September.

**To Volunteer in Schools,
you MUST be
DPS Approved.
[Click HERE.](#)**

**They simply do a
background check.**

Lynn Odom and Katie Wegstaff are scheduled for October. I am happy to deliver these for club members or you can do it yourself. I will pass around the sign up sheet again at the next meeting because we still have some openings for members to sign up.



I'm so excited at the opportunities that are becoming available for us. Remember to let me know about the book giveaway and the book fair by this Friday. What a blessing it is to be a part of this club and make such a difference in our community!!! Every one of us does that by sharing our gifts with our community. 103 years strong!!

Becky Jarman, Chair
rebeccajarman@gmail.com

Little River Community Center Room Needs

tooth paste and brushes
pads and tampons
deoderant
shampoos
ethnic hair care products
peanut butter, jelly
oatmeal
canned or boxed food
used clothes, any size




INSPIRING VOLUNTEERISM • CREATING POSITIVE CHANGE • SERVING DURHAM

SAVE THE DATE

BRING A FRIEND!

MEET & GREET

A PROSPECTIVE MEMBER GATHERING

Come discover friendship, service and community.

TUESDAY
OCTOBER 20, 2026
2:00-3:30 PM

CAROLINA ALE HOUSE
3911 Durham Chapel Hill Blvd.
Durham, NC

Complimentary hors d'oeuvres | Drinks available for purchase

RSVP BY OCTOBER 16 | Shirley Colpitts | colpitts2@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP

Happy Fall! We have several ladies that have expressed interest in joining the club and a couple of former club members who will be returning. Welcome back Lorraine-Johnson Graham! We are so glad to have you!

This month we are looking forward to our "Meet and Greet" on **October 20th from 2-3:30 pm** at the Carolina Ale House at 3911 Durham-Chapel Hill Blvd. This will be a great way to introduce prospective members to our club. Each CSP chair will provide a display, sampling some of the projects we are doing.



All club members are invited to attend. We will provide some nice hor d'oeuvres. Drinks will be available for purchase. Please invite a friend or someone you know that might be new to the area. We'll send out a Paperless Post for a headcount of clubmembers. It will be a fun time! Enjoy this cooler weather.

Shirley Colpitts, Membership Chair

We welcome Lorraine back into the club. She took a short hiatus so her contact info is not in the yearbook. Please add to your yearbook

Lorraine Johnson-Graham
781-630-1125
712 Constitution Dr.
Unit C
Durham, NC 27705

BD Dec 18
Member since 09/2026





MEMBER SPOTLIGHT JANET CELKO

In 1968 an Army veteran returned home and went to college. In line in the snack bar, he turns and almost knocks over the girl behind him (me). Sparks fly and the next day he asks me out. We had several dates. There was a definite connection, but the differences in age and life experiences eventually led to us drift apart. He moved to Florida. My life led me to NC and my 41-year love and marriage. As I dealt with grief after my husband's death, I began volunteering and helping others. I met Lynn Odom at a Meals on Wheels volunteer appreciation lunch, and she invited me to the DWC.

Then Covid hit and I was home with nothing to do. On June 22, 2020, I was very relaxed, just scrolling through Facebook when a voice told me to look up Dick - that Army veteran. "I can't. He's not on Facebook. Why should I be the first? What will happen if I do?" Finally, I looked him up. He was a widower! Then I panicked! What do I do now? Eventually I calmed down and sent a friend request. He responded immediately.



I had to talk myself into sending a message. We quickly exchanged phone numbers and began texting. Then, we moved to FaceTime. We tried to get together in early July, but both of us had to go through a 14-day quarantine beforehand. When we were reunited, it was like 50 years evaporated. He moved from Florida to NC. We got married on April 24, 2021, in a beautiful fantasy wedding as we celebrated new beginnings. We celebrated our first anniversary by going to St. Lucia. Our life has been very blessed. In 2023, we moved into a new apartment at Croasdaile Village. We have made many new friends and connected with old friends. Our activities keep us very busy and healthy.

BOOK CLUB



October 6, 2 pm

The Tattered Cover
by Ellery Adams

Triangle Coffee Shop
3109 Shannon Rd.

November 3, 2 pm

They Left Us Everything
by Plum Johnson

Leader, Arlene Bagin,
abagin@comcast.net



Early Voting
Oct. 15-31

Election Day
Nov. 3



Coffee & Chat

Oct. 15

Bull & Bean
3710 Shannon Rd.



Oct. 6 Shirley Colpitts

DWC FINANCE REPORT

Check Bank Balance — Aug. 20, 2026 \$2,692.34

Receipts

Plant Sale	340.06	3,032.04
------------	--------	----------

Disbursements

Sept. Speaker Honorarium	25.00
Reimburse LO for yearbook	91.92
Eno River Farm for plants	235.80

Check Book Balance - Sept. 30, 2026 \$2,679.32