# What's It All About?

### **General Meetings**

The WWC Club Year runs from September through August, and we have regular meetings on the **first Tuesday of the Month.** The Oct - Nov and Jan - Apr meetings are from **7:00pm - 9:00pm** and feature social interaction and a guest speaker. The Sep, Dec, and May special meetings are from **6:00pm - 8:30pm** and feature a Pot-Luck, social activities, and information about the year's events. Whenever possible, the selected charities sponsors are invited to attend the final general meeting in May.

In Club Year 2025-2026 we are observing our 40th Anniversary which we will celebrate formally at our December gathering with a Pot-Luck, games, trivia, photos, stories, and event highlights over the last 40 years.

You are welcome to attend two meetings or activities before joining the club. If you are interested in attending one of the groups' activities before joining, please send email to "membership@woodcroftwomensclub.org" to request the group chair contact information.

## **Community Service**

The Woodcroft Women's Club supports selected charities throughout the club year with donations and some volunteer participation. Additionally, members offer their support and services to local community projects and activities. All members are invited to participate in some or all projects, and are encouraged to suggest other community support activities for consideration.

The Club regularly supports three local charities During each month with a club meeting, we collect and distribute donations for one of the charities, rotating among the three which allows for three collections per charity per club year.

**Families Moving Forward (FMF)** - a Durham program which assists families to 'move forward' out of their current homeless situation. For many years the WWC has provided Families Moving Forward support in a variety of ways including collecting needed items for families for the <u>Barrels of Joy</u> program, and participation in the <u>Dine and Learn</u> program where volunteers prepare and take a simple meal to serve to the families.

**Durham Crisis Response Center (DCRC)** - Since 2006, the Woodcroft Women's Club has been collecting donations for DCRC, a shelter which provides a safe place for women and children of domestic or sexual violence. The shelter houses over two hundred women and children every year, requiring many items to keep the household running and DCRC relies on gifts from the community to make stays at the shelter as comfortable as possible.

**Food Bank Food Drive** - The Food Bank of Eastern North Carolina is grateful for donations of food supplies based on a list of current supply needs. The club sponsors regular Food Drives during the club year and collected items are delivered to the Food Bank of Eastern North Carolina.

The club assists in the **Epworth Backpack project** which supplies food for the weekend for children with food insecurity so they will not be hungry while not in school. Volunteers can participate in setup, packing, or delivery. Dates and times are set by the Epworth Backpack project.

Last Updated: September 2025 Page 1

In addition to the three supported charities, the Woodcroft Women's Club participates in other community support programs during the club year.

Adopt-A-Trail - this group meets one day every other month to clean a section of the American Tobacco Trail that runs through Woodcroft and neighboring communities. We have a strong desire to keep our Durham community beautiful and inviting to nature lovers.

**Share Your Holiday** - The WWC purchases, wraps, and delivers gifts for 10 local elderly women each club year. Local families in need have been receiving gifts from Durham residents for over 30 years through the Share Your Holiday program sponsored by the Durham Co. DSS, The Volunteer Center of Durham, and The Durham Herald-Sun Newspaper.

**Recycling/Pay It Forward** - Our goal is to take care of our planet for the next generations by keeping as much out of the landfills as possible. We maintain a comprehensive listing on our website of ways to recycle, where to recycle, how to reuse or donate, suggestions for repurposing, and use of alternate eco-friendly products.

#### **Fundraisers**

The Woodcroft Women's Club members enjoy several fundraising activities throughout the Club Year. Two of our popular fundraisers are the **Annual Yard Sale** and the **Ladies English Tea**. Members are invited to provide baked goods and beverages for the events, volunteer as a support worker, or participate in the activities. Fundraisers are open to the public, or limited to members or members' guests depending on the activity.

**Year End Contributions** - At the end of each club year, monies collected from fundraisers and donations are distributed among 3-4 charities selected by voting members.

### **Interest Groups**

The Woodcroft Women's Club members enjoy gatherings geared toward specific interests. Each group is organized and supported by one or more Group Chairs who can provide more details about their group offerings. Members meet on a regular or occasional basis - some in-person, some via Zoom. The newsletter is a great resource and contains current information about each group's activities. These groups meet all year, not just the months with meetings.

**Bead It Here** - This group is supported by an experienced member who specializes in jewelry making and repair. Members should attend a separate training session with the Group Chair before attending the regularly scheduled in-home meetings.

**Book Club** - The Book Club meets each month <u>except July</u> to discuss the chosen book of the month. Currently the meetings are twice a month on the **second Wednesday** - **in person** at **2PM** and **via Zoom** at **7PM**, and the agenda/book is the same for each meeting. If you can't attend one gathering, feel free to join the other. Nominations for the next year's books are accepted starting in August, and the October meeting is to vote on book selections for the following year.

**Book Study** - The group reads one book slowly together through and spends time discussing it as the reading progresses. The ideal book selection is one which asks us to change some of our behaviors to improve the quality of our lives. The Book Study group meets on the **first** and **third Tuesday** of the month from **noon until 1:30 PM via Zoom**. We hope to be able to meet occasionally at members' homes safely.

Last Updated: September 2025 Page 2

**Exploring -** This is the group for you if you want to have fun exploring and learning while making new friends. Members will receive an email with details about each planned event. This group meets when an occasion rises so gatherings can be once or more often a month.

**Games n Giggles** - Games n Giggles is a great way to relax and meet to play some games, eat some snacks, and just have FUN. We play different games, e.g. Bingo, Family Feud, Yahtzee, 20 Questions, Scattergories, etc. This group provides a wonderful opportunity to learn how to play new games and laugh. Join us and bring your suggestions for games! Jokes welcome too. This group meets **once a month** in person.

**Gourmet** - You are invited to join this group for a culinary adventure. The group will gather **each month** at a different restaurant, offering a diverse range of dining experiences. Occasionally, we host themed dinners where members contribute dishes that complement the chosen theme.

**Mahjongg Mavens** - We play the Chinese version: no jokers, no cards to purchase, just a combination of luck and strategy. If you are interested in learning how to play, experienced players are willing to teach you! New players are always welcome. Warning: The game is addicting! We have two groups - a **2nd and 4th Tuesday evening** group and a **Friday morning** group.

**Mugs n Muffins** - Mugs and Muffins members **meet once a month** at a local restaurant or a member's home to catch up and enjoy some delicious fare. It is a great way to gather in a small group to socialize and to experience local food offerings.

**Tech Tips** - As we are living in a technical world, let's explore it together. Do you have questions? Do you want to understand concepts in the news? We will post some techie stuff on our webpage each month that might be of general interest. Drop us an email if you have a question.

Visit our website for more information about upcoming activities, general meetings, speakers, and fundraisers!

http://www.woodcroftwomensclub.org
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Last Updated: September 2025 Page 3