

# WIDOWED PERSONS SERVICE NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2024

Office Hours: 10 AM to 2 PM M-F

Phone: 817-551-2922

Fax: 817-551-2377

Website: [wpstc.org](http://wpstc.org)

Facebook: Widowed Persons Service of Tarrant County (closed group – contact office for access)

Email: [wpstc@att.net](mailto:wpstc@att.net)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Another year has flown by so fast. I hope you have given some thought as to what you want to partake of this holiday season. So prepare yourself. I am sure there will be many invitations to you from family and friends. It is up to you whether you accept these invitations. Just remember you must take care of yourself. It is OK to say “no” without an explanation.

- **When** you receive this newsletter, our annual Christmas Banquet will be over, and everyone will have had a great afternoon of visiting with friends and making new friends. This event could not have happened if we hadn't had members who realized that all the things we offer could not happen if members didn't participate in our fundraisers. We don't charge for our Grief Support sessions, Holiday Grief session, or Memorial Candlelight Service, meetings that help so many people.
- **Our** expenses include the newsletter (paper, printing, postage) and office space, where so many things begin.
- **Our** board members can't do everything. We need our members to **volunteer** as hosts for breakfasts, lunches, and dinners and attend our fundraisers, such as dinners at a special restaurant, dances, and the annual drawing for wonderful prizes.
- **So**, hopefully, when you are made aware of an event you will **volunteer**. There is always someone to help you.
- **We** are always looking for hosts for breakfasts, lunches, and dinners in many areas.
- **What are some suggestions you have for prizes at our annual drawing?**
- **Of** course, we are always looking for a place to hold our general meetings that will not charge for room use.
- **We** need you as **members** to **make suggestions** as to what we can do for fundraisers, something new and different. So, share your ideas on what your organization can do to improve and continue to offer things that you will attend and give you a place to go and enjoy life.
- **Hope** you **have an enjoyable holiday**. We're looking forward to a great NEW YEAR for WPS in 2025!

*Phyllis Weisheit,*

President

## OUTREACH GRIEF SUPPORT

My dear WPS Family. December is here with the special Holidays that come with this last month of the year, Christmas, and New Years Eve. Each celebration brings families and friends together.

For many, along with the joy of the season, there is also sadness. It is impossible to experience the death of a spouse without a spiritual struggle and a sense of separateness while all the “Holiday Joy” surrounds us.

We **can** surrender to **sadness** and believe that **nothing** good can come from this terrible loss and **believe** that there can **never** be love or happiness in the future. I have read in many books, and I believe it to be true... “Whatever beliefs we create for ourselves, we will gather evidence to support them.”

The author, Henri Nouwen, offers this thought though, “Those who expect joy to come out of sadness can discover the beginnings of a new life in the center of the old.”

We cannot change our past, but the remarkable thing is, we have a choice to believe that our life is worthy of warmth, love, friendship, and happiness.

What is life?...Life is an opportunity; benefit from it...Life is beauty; admire it...Life is bliss; taste it...Life is a dream; realize it...Life is a challenge; meet it...Life is a duty; complete it...Life is a game; play it...Life is a promise; fulfill it...Life is a sorrow; overcome it...Life is a song; sing it... Life is a struggle; accept it...Life is a tragedy; confront it...Life is an adventure; dare it. Life is luck; make it...Life is too precious; do not destroy it...Life is life; fight for it...*Mother Teresa.*

Give yourself the Christmas gift of choosing to give yourself a life that goes forward by going to one or more of our Grief Support Series starting in January 2025. If you feel you cannot attend alone, bring a friend or family member with you. As members of WPS, each of us can be thankful for the support, love and understanding of this incredibly exceptional group of widowed people who have helped us to learn to live in this new life we did not ask for.

My wish to all of you is that behind all the holiday chaos there will be a time of quiet reflection filled with special memories bringing peace and joy. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Hugs! *Ruth Turner*

**Outreach Chairman and  
Certified Grief Support Facilitator**

**NOTICE: The next Board meeting will be held at the WPS office on Saturday, January 4, at 10:30 AM.**

**The next Grief Session is at Pleasantview Baptist Church on January 12, 2025. See Grief schedule page 3**

**WAYS & MEANS**

**Dances:**

Debbie Smith and Eula Plummer hosted a WPS Dance on Wednesday November 13, 2024, at the Arlington Elks Lodge. There are no WPS Dances scheduled for the month of December.

Debbie Smith and Eula Plummer will host a WPS Dance on Wednesday January 8, 2025, at the "Arlington Elks Lodge."

The next scheduled WPS DJ Dance is Friday January 24, 2025.

**Meet and Eat Fundraiser:** Ann Barnes is hosting a fundraiser dinner at On the Border, 13005 South Fwy, Burleson, TX 76028, Monday, December 16, 2025, at 3:30 PM. WPS will receive **20%** of the proceeds on your food bill. Flyer.

**Donate To Impact:** Our next donation period is scheduled January 20 thru February 2, 2025. Those members that are working as a drop-off will start accepting donations January 20, 2025. Please save your donations until then.

**2025 WPS Directory:** Each year WPS generates a WPS directory, as a fundraiser, which allows you to keep in touch with other WPS members, many that you have not seen in many years. An Ad and Member directory input sheets are included as flyers so that we can generate the 2025 WPS Directory. The Member and Ad directory input sheets are also available on our website, wpstc.org. The due date for input sheets has been extended until December 16, 2025.

**WPS Travel** First Travel of Burleson has set up WPS Caribbean Cruise for Oct 25, 2025, to Nov 1, 2025. Interior Rooms cost \$1728 for 2. A Balcony State Room is \$2368 to \$2428 for 2. The prices include Taxes, Fees and Port Expenses for two people. Bus is not available at this time, but that option will probably be added as an option later. Additional travel packages still in the planning stage for next year, are a March 2025, 3-day bus trip to Fredericksburg, Texas and a December 2025 bus trip to Branson, Missouri.

**Taxes** As we approach the end of the year, we need to think about filling out our income tax. If you are required to take a Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) from an IRA account, this distribution is taxed as earned income. If you do not need that income, by making a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD), which reduces your earned income. You can take advantage of this even if you take the standard deduction. See pg. 3 for more information.

*Ron Zembek*  
Ways & Means Chairman

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Doris Dibley Char Duncan-Flood  
Patricia Oeampo Kristine Holbrook

**MEMORIALS**

| <u>Name</u>    | <u>In Memory of</u> |
|----------------|---------------------|
| Kay Hall       | David Hall          |
| Ernest Leonard | Sandy Leonard       |

**DONORS**

Kristina Hendrickson Tom Myler  
Billie Brooks

**ILLNESSES**

Royce Mitchell

**DEATHS**

None Reported to the Office

**The WPS OFFICE will be closed Dec. 20 thru January 1. We will be open January 2**



**\*MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR\***  
**From the WPS Staff**

**WPS GRIEF SUPPORT SCHEDULE 2025**  
**2:30 to 4:30PM SUNDAYS\***

**\*NOTE:** Any changes to this schedule will be announced in both the newsletter and on our Facebook page, so check each month for any changes. For any other information on Grief Support, call the WPS office 817-551-2922 Mon-Fri 10AM - 2PM. or Ruth Turner 817-713-9372. If no answer at either number, please leave a voicemail, and your call will be returned as soon as possible. There will be 2 at the same time in June 1 in Hurst and 1 in Mansfield. Substitute Facilitator Arlyne Clements.

**JAN. 12,19, 26, FEB. 2, 9:** Pleasantview Baptist Church, 4400 Pleasant view Dr., Arlington. Facilitator: Merryl Kloster.

**FEB. 16, 23, MAR. 2, 9(Daylight Saving) 16:** First Baptist Church Burleson, 317 W. Ellison St., Burleson, Facilitator: Ruth Turner.

**MAR. 23, 30, APR. 6, 13, (skip 20) 27:** Pleasantview Baptist Church, 4400 Pleasant View Dr., Arlington, Facilitator: Marcia Devoll.

**\*JUN. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29:** St. John Lutheran Church, 1218 E. Debbie Ln., Mansfield, Facilitator: Phyllis Weisheit.

**\*JUN. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29:** Lucas Funeral Home, 1321 Precinct Line Rd., Hurst, Facilitator: Sharon Ellershaw.

**JUL. 13, 20, 27, AUG. 3, 10:** To be announced Facilitator: Ruth Turner

**AUG. 17, 24, (skip Aug. 31) SEP. 7, 14, 21:** Lucas Funeral Home, 1321 Precinct Line Rd., Hurst, Facilitator: Sharon Ellershaw.

**SEP. 28, OCT.5, 12, 19, 26:** University Christian Church, 2720 S. University Dr., Fort Worth, Facilitator: Merryl Kloster.

**HOLIDAY GRIEF SUPPORT: NOV. 2 (Daylight Saving): 2:30-4:30PM** University Christian Church, 2720 S. University Dr., Fort Worth

**CANDLELIGHT MEMORIAL SERVICE: NOV. 9: 3:00PM,** St. John Lutheran Church, 1218 E. Debbie Ln., Mansfield.

**DONATION OPTIONS**

**for**  
**MEMBERS, FAMILY & FRIENDS**

1. **Cash or check to the WPS office.** Use the form below.
2. **Credit Card.** Access our website at wpstc.org and choose "Donations." Click on "use a credit card online" near the middle of the page and follow the instructions.
3. **Kroger Community Rewards Program.** Call 866-221-4141 or register online at kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow/ with your Kroger Plus Card number or alternate ID (your phone number). Enter Organization #IA786 (Widowed Persons Service of Tarrant County). To re-enroll (if "WPSTC" is not at bottom of receipt), use same procedure.
4. **Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD).** Contact your financial institution for details.
5. **Leave a Legacy.** Consider including WPS in your estate planning. Your thoughtfulness and generosity will enable WPS to continue helping other widowed persons into the future.

**BUSINESS PARTNERS**

- Donate 2 Impact
- First Travel of Burleson
- Hoopla Magazine
- Kroger Markets
- Mastercraft Printed Products and Services
- Spring Creek Barbeque

**EVENT VENUE PARTNERS**

- Arlington Elks Lodge #2114
- Burleson Senior Center
- First Baptist Church, Burleson
- First Methodist Church, Mansfield (games)
- Lucas Funeral Home, Hurst
- Pleasantview Baptist Church, Arlington
- St John Lutheran Church, Mansfield

**CASH OR CHECK DONATION**

To mail a donation to WPS, please provide the information below and mail to:

Widowed Persons Service of Tarrant County, 2906 SE Loop 820, Suite A, Fort Worth, TX 76140-1030

Amount of donation: \$25 \$50 \$100 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Specify if donation is a Memorial gift In memory of (name) \_\_\_\_\_

Specify where to send donation acknowledgement:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_



*Widowed Persons Service  
of Tarrant County*

2906 S E Loop 820  
Suite A  
Fort Worth, Texas 76140-1030

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U. S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
FORT WORTH, TX  
PERMIT NO. 2389

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**DATED MATERIAL: PLEASE DELIVER BY DECEMBER 1, 2024**

**2024 OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS  
WIDOWED PERSONS SERVICE OF TARRANT COUNTY**

**OFFICERS**

President: Phyllis Weisheit  
Vice-President: Ruth Turner  
Secretary: Judy Baker  
Treasurer: Mike Grissom

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Barbara Brickley Diane Bowman  
Arlyne Clements Margaret Davis  
Sharon Ellershaw Gary Frye  
Kay Hall Bob Howard  
Jane Morton Eula Plummer  
Nancy Sheffer-Poole Debbie Smith  
Carol Stacy Rom Zembek



Scan for WPS website

WPS of Tarrant County is a Grief Support Program for widowed persons of all ages

WPS of Tarrant County is a TAX EXEMPT NON-PROFIT organization funded by Donations, Memorials and Gifts

**WPS PURPOSE:** To aid bereaved men and women of all ages regardless of race, creed, and/or economic status to adjust more effectively to the loss of a spouse through death and to build a new life.

## **RECURRING EVENTS**

### **Hosts Needed for Arlington Dinner !!!**

Volunteers are ***still needed*** to host the Arlington dinner. For many newly widowed persons, WPS sponsored meals are their first exposure to WPS. Hosting a meal is simple and does not require a great deal of time but is rewarding and greatly appreciated. If you would be willing to host one of these events, please contact Diane Bowman at 817-996-2337.

### **ARLINGTON**

**Breakfast: Every Saturday 8:00 AM, Skillet & Grill, 1801 W Division St, Arlington. Contact Suzy Flynn, 817-483-5518.**

**LUNCH: Dec 12 @ 11:45am. On The Border, 1121 W Interstate 20, Arlington. Contact Rita Sanders 817-907-7878.**

**DINNER: Cancelled Until Further Notice. Host needed for this event.**

### **BURLESON**

**Breakfast: Every Tuesday 8:30 AM, Our Place Restaurant, 950 N Burleson Blvd (I-35 service road), Burleson. Contact Diane Bowman, 817-996-2337.**

**LUNCH: Dec 16 @ 3:30pm, On The Border, 13005 South Fwy, Burleson. Contact Ann Barnes 817-774-6073 (FUND RAISER).**

**DINNER: Cancelled due to holiday. Will resume January 2025.**

### **GRAND PRAIRIE**

**BRUNCH: Every Wednesday 10:30 AM, Theo's Bar & Grill, 107 NW 8th St, Grand Prairie. Contact Debbie Smith, 469-684-9982.**

### **MANSFIELD**

**BREAKFAST: Every Saturday 8:30 AM, The Porch, 2771 E Broad St, Ste 201, Mansfield (across from Methodist Hospital). Contact Arlyne Clements, 817-366-0430.**

**LUNCH: Dec 6 @ 12noon, Suzushii Sushi & Grill, 2041 Hwy 287, Mansfield. Contact Judy Baker @ 817-320-3825.**

**DINNER: Dec 19 @ 4pm. Fish City Grill, 581 W Debbie Ln, Mansfield. Contact Mary Cobb 817-473-3619**

**GAMES: Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday 1:30 - 4:00 PM, First Methodist Church, 777 N Walnut Creek Dr, Mansfield. Contact Jane Morton, 972-977-7899.**

### **NORTHEAST**

**BREAKFAST: Every Saturday 9:00 AM, The Corner Café, 7901 Mid Cities Blvd, Ste 242, N Richland hills. Contact Sharon Wallace, 817-226-5095.**

**LUNCH: Dec 11 @ 12 noon, Sweetie Pie's Ribeyes, 6720 NE Loop 820 N Richland Hills. Contact Ann Marie Harmon 817-320-0240**

**DINNER: Cancelled due to holiday. Will resume in January 2025.**

### **SOUTHWEST**

**BREAKFAST: Every Thursday 9:00 AM, Cracker Barrel, 8010 SW Loop 820 (exit Winscott Rd), Benbrook. Contact Carol Stacy, 817-360-8066.**

**LUNCH: Dec 2 @11:30am. Cracker Barrel, 8010 SW Loop 820(exit Winscott Rd) Benbrook. Contact Ski Lieske 817-789-3778 if you plan to attend.**

**DINNER: Dec 17 @ 4pm. Olive Garden, 4700 SW Loop 820(across from Hulen Mall) Ft Worth. Contact Phyllis Weisheit @ 817-371-2151.**

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

**No Special Events Dances will resume in January 2025.**

# PUT MY AD IN THE 2025 WPS DIRECTORY

The Ways and Means Committee on behalf of WPS is publishing a Directory for the year 2025 with the following conditions:

- 1. Commercial advertising in the Directory is desired and encouraged. A business advertisement (half page 4"x5") is \$40.00, a double ad (full page 5"x8") is \$60.00.
- 2. The Directory will be available to WPS members only, advertisers will receive a bound listing of all ads placed in the Directory.

Attach the business card or other type ad to this form or check the box:

Use Same as Last Year  Available on electronic Media

And send along with Check # \_\_\_\_\_ and Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to WPS.

Must be in WPS Office by December 1, 2024

Advertisement \_\_\_\_\_

Advertiser's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

WPS Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to have an ad in the 2025 WPS directory, please include this form with your check Payable to 'WPS,' and Mail to:

Widowed Persons Service  
ATTN: Ways and Means Committee  
2906 SE Loop 820, Suite A  
Fort Worth, Texas 76140-1030  
or

Give it to a WPS Volunteer to deliver it to the WPS Office. If you have an ad on electronic media, you may e-mail it to the Ways and Means Chairman at [RIZEMBEK@SBCGLOBAL.NET](mailto:RIZEMBEK@SBCGLOBAL.NET)

Ad Attached  Available on electronic Media  Ad emailed



Meet & Eat "On the Border"  
Fundraiser



This Month's Fundraiser will be at On the Border of Burleson  
On the Border of Burleson will be Donating **20%** of your total  
food Purchase to WPS



ON  
Monday December 16, 2024, At 3:30 PM  
At

On the Border 13005 South Fwy, Burleson, TX 76028.

This fundraiser is open to all customers, the only requirement is  
that you be there at 3:30PM. Please also let them know you are  
with WPS



# PUT ME IN THE 2025 WPS DIRECTORY

The Ways and Means Committee on behalf of WPS is publishing a Directory for year 2025 with the following conditions:

1. You will be listed in the Directory **ONLY** if you send in this signed form as your permission.
2. The cost is \$10.00 per Directory. A copy(s) of the Directory will be delivered to you.
3. The full Directory will be available to WPS members only. Advertisers will receive only a book of advertisements.
4. If you check the same as last year box, please include your phone number.
5. If your address has changed you must also call the WPS Office at (817)551-2922 to update the Member Database.

If you wish to be included, please enter the appropriate information below, send this Form and \$10.00 for each Directory copy to the WPS Office by December 1, 2024.

*REQUIRED INFORMATION (your listing will not be accepted without this information & signature):*

**PLEASE PRINT**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname (opt.) \_\_\_\_\_

**CHECK ONLY IF ENTRY IS TO STAY THE SAME AS LAST YEAR**  ←

Primary Phone: (H, M) \_\_\_\_\_ Please circle H or M Month/Day of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Phone (M) \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Do you **want** your address to appear in the directory? **Yes** **No** If neither are circled, Yes is assumed

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IF YOU DESIRE: PLEASE PRINT**

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Interests: (Limited to ten (10) words) **WPS RESERVES THE RIGHT TO EDIT**

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I hereby give my permission to WPS, and request that WPS publish the above information in the Directory, which will be made available to WPS members only. By signing below, I am acknowledging that I agree I am acquiring this Directory for my personal use and will not make it available to anyone not a member of WPS, nor will I reproduce or permit anyone to reproduce my copy of the Directory.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**(Signature) ← Required**

The number of Directories printed will correspond with the response received from this announcement. If you wish to be included in the Directory, PLEASE INCLUDE THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO 'WPS.' MAIL TO: WIDOWED PERSONS SERVICE, ATTN: WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE, 2906 SE LOOP 820, SUITE A, FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76140-1030.

If you wish to receive an additional directory for an additional \$10 **Yes** **No** If neither are circled, No is assumed



## 7-Night Western Caribbean Cruise 2025 Carnival Cruise Line - Jubilee October 25 to November 1, 2025

### Departing from Galveston, Texas

- SATURDAY – Depart from Galveston, Texas (4pm Embark)
- SUNDAY – Fun Day at Sea
- MONDAY – Fun Day at Sea
- TUESDAY – Mahogany Bay, Roatan (8AM – 6PM)
- WEDNESDAY – Costa Maya, Mexico (8am – 5pm)
- THURSDAY – Cozumel, Mexico (8am – 4pm)
- FRIDAY – Fun Day at Sea
- SATURDAY – Arrive in Galveston, Texas (8am Disembark)

Deposit: \$250 Per Person

Final Payment Due: July 25, 2025

Package Pricing: Price is for 2 Persons (Based on Double Occupancy)

- Interior Room - \$1,728 - Price is for 2
- 8C – Balcony State Room - \$2,368 - Price is for 2 (Decks 10 or 11)
- 8E – Balcony State Room - \$2,388 - Price is for 2 (Decks 12 or 14)
- 8G – Balcony State Room - \$2,428 - Price is for 2 (Decks 15 or 16)

\*Price Includes: Taxes, Fees & Port Expenses

**"Without a Travel Agent, You are on your Own!"**

Optional cancellation insurance is available, due at time of booking

**CALL AMANDA & SHERRY FOR DETAILS**



FIRST TRAVEL OF BURLESON 817-447-8747

