# Symphony Snapshot

September Snapshot

"Beyond the Deal: How Private Equity Shapes Businesses, Markets, and the Future" Forum

Thank you to Andrew Kilpatrick, Matt Bodnar, and Jim Lynch for sharing their expertise at our September Symphony Six Forum.

They provided candid insights on the strengths and challenges of private equity, what makes a business investment-ready, and how to evaluate PE partnerships in today's market.



# Symphony Men's & Women's Adventure Trips

Shout out to the men and women of Symphony who emerged themselves into the opportunity of intentionally disconnecting for a long fall Smoky Mountain weekend.



#### **Featured Member**



Allan Leslie is the founder of Leslie CPA & Consulting, PLLC, where he is redefining the modern CPA experience. His firm is dedicated to equipping clients with strategies and foresight to make confident financial decisions. From cloud-based accounting to Fractional CFO services and comprehensive tax planning, Allan partners with established businesses, professionals, and entrepreneurs to help them gain clarity and long-term financial control.

With nearly two decades of experience across public, private, and nonprofit sectors, Allan blends technical expertise with innovative thinking. His career includes managing billion-dollar budgets, leading international operations, and driving process improvement— experience he now channels into delivering tailored, high-touch service that meets the unique needs of every client.

Allan is a Certified Public Accountant, Certified Fraud Examiner, and Six Sigma Green Belt in process improvement. Beyond his firm, he serves on nonprofit boards, sharing his expertise to strengthen organizations and the communities they impact.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS THIS MONTH**



**HAPPY HOUR** 

Join us for our monthly Happy Hour on October 2<sup>nd</sup> at The Harpeth Hotel from 5:30-7:30pm



**LUNCHEON** 

Join us for lunch on Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> at Cherry Bekaert from 11:30-1:00pm



**LUNCHEON** 

Join us for lunch on Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> at Oakworth Capital Bank from 11:30-1:00pm



**CIGAR NIGHT** 

Join us on for a Cigar & Bourbon on Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> at the Leiper's Fork Distillery from 5:00-7:00pm



CURATED
CONVERSATIONS &
COCKTAILS

Join us Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> for drinks in Jason's office from 4:30-5:30pm



**LUNCHEON** 

Join us for lunch on Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> at Lockton Companies from 11:30-1:00pm



**SYMPHONY FORUM** 

Join us on for lunch on Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> at Harbor + Union from 11:30-1:00pm for an exclusive conversation on Scaling Businesses



VIRTUAL FORUM

Join us for a virtual forum on Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> via ZOOM from 12:00 - 1:00pm featuring Eli Perkins with Interaworks. What would you do with 11 hours extra each week??



**HAPPY HOUR** 

Join us for our monthly Happy Hour on November 6<sup>th</sup> at The Harpeth Hotel from 5:30-7:30pm

## grace Edwards



Grace Edwards a Tennessee native and the CEO/Founder of Atworth LLC. Founded in 2022, Grace created Atworth with a singular vision: to bring refinement, ease, and discretion to the art of household staffing. Grace grew up in a large, bustling home—a foundation that shaped her natural understanding of family life and the rhythm of a well-run household. With over a decade of experience in the industry, she often recalls her own path: first a nanny, then a housekeeper, and eventually entrusted as a house manager. This progression gave her a rare perspective on every role within the home, and it is this insight that guides Atworth today.

Grace approaches every placement with both care and precision. She as well as her team at Atworth, look well beyond résumés, to understand the flow and values of each household, ensuring the professionals placed not only excel in their craft but also align seamlessly with the families they serve.

"Our offerings span every facet of home life—nannies, house managers, housekeepers, chefs, farm hands, and beyond—each carefully selected to elevate the everyday into something exceptional. Atworth does not simply provide staff. We curate enduring partnerships that bring balance, grace, and quiet excellence into the home."

Fun fact: Grace is one of seven children and was baking sourdough bread long before it became cool!

### **Member Achievement**

**Gary Aldridge's** milestone achievement of 2025 is publishing his first book, *Build for Sale!*—a practical guide to helping business owners maximize both immediate cash flow and long-term enterprise value when exiting.

With over 4.5 million businesses expected to transition in the next decade, largely due to retiring Baby Boomers, the need is critical. Yet, 70% of these businesses will close rather than sell. **Build for Sale!** equips owners with strategies to make their companies sustainable, marketable, and ultimately worth more.

Drawing on 30+ years of experience, Gary distills real-world challenges, solutions, and results into a clear roadmap. The book features over 60 stories—showcasing big wins and tough lessons alike—offering actionable insights for building a sellable business.

Gary aims to debut the book at the *Build for Sale!* Conference in Nashville on October 29, where these ideas will be front and center. Learn more at <u>buildforsaleconference.com</u>.



gary Aldridge









## FOR QUESTIONS & MORE INFORMATION



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### Our Commitment to Our Members



BUILD AUTHENTIC RELATIONSHIPS:

Connect with like-minded business leaders who value genuine connections. Our community is built on trust and mutual support.



Focused lunches, happy hours, and micro groups each month provide the perfect backdrop to expand your professional circle. Share insights, explore collaborations, and discover new opportunities.



RESOURCE- RICH ENVIRONMENT:

Access a curated list of resources to elevate your business. From industry insights to expert advice, Symphony Six. is your goto hub for valuable information.



Experience meaningful relationships beyond the boardroom. Symphony Six is a

place where professional connections evolve into lasting

relationships.

