

Rotary



Club of Franklin Daybreak

No story selected for story_1

Club Leaders



Benjamin Joseph Rodriguez
President



Rick VanGilder
Secretary
President-Elect



Clint Kendall
President-Nominee



Angela Dills
Past
President
Treasurer



Rachel Hoskins
Membership
Chair



Arlene J Jones
Membership
Chair



Kristy Firkins Smith
Club Admin
Chair



Ronald F. Winecoff
Rotary
Foundation
Chair



Luke H. Smith
Club
Service
Chair



Beverly Mason
Club
PolioPlus
Chair



Fred Jones
Diversity
Equity &
Inclusion
Past
President



Vicki Lawrence
Youth
Services
Chair
RYLA Point
of Contact
Interact
Club
Sponsor
Youth
Protection
Officer
iPast
President

Dr. Melissa Wargo talks about growth at WCU



Dr. Melissa Wargo, Chief of Staff for Western Carolina University, presented to the Rotary Club of Franklin-Daybreak on the morning of Jan. 23. Dr. Wargo is a member of the Sylva Rotary Club and has served WCU for the last 18 years.

Western Carolina University is our regional university and has a profound impact on our local community. WCU has a total enrollment of around 12,000 students and recently inducted its third-largest freshman class ever. Dr. Wargo presented the financial aid programs available to students, specifically pointing out the NC Promise and Catamount Commitment programs. The NC Promise program reduces tuition for WCU undergraduate students to only \$500 per semester for North Carolinians, and \$2500 per semester for out-of-state residents. The Catamount Commitment applies to North Carolina residents and awards up to \$3000 annual awards based on a student's high school GPA. These programs allow students to attend classes and earn their degrees without having to worry about the crushing debt that often comes with a college diploma.

Dr. Wargo also spoke about renovation projects going on at the campus. Three new resident halls were recently completed, and a new project in the works will see a completely renovated Moore Building. This building is 100 years old, and upon completion will house the General Academic classes. On top of these projects, the NC State Legislature recently awarded WCU with a \$100 Million budget to update and improve its engineering program.

Dr. Wargo concluded her presentation by highlighting the variety of sports programs, especially the Catamounts Basketball and Football teams, and spoke highly of the Marching Band. The "Pride of the Mountains Marching Band" is also commonly referred to as "The Baddest Band in the Land" has been invited to perform at the Annual St. Patricks Day Parade in Dublin, Ireland.

There are great things going on at Western Carolina University, and they take pride in being a regional resource for our community.



[Emily West](#)
Youth
Services
Chair



[Keith E. Bowers](#)
Club Public
Image Chair

Meetings & Events



We've got some exciting Rotary Programs scheduled for the next month and we'd love to see your faces. Remember we meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Angel Medical Center Cafeteria.

Jan. 30: Program - Dana Murray, Greeter - Rachel Hoskins, 50/50 - Ronnie Beale, Invocation - Billi Black.

Feb. 10: Save the Date: Mint to Be, Feb. 10, 6 p.m., @ Discover Church. Food tasting, live auction, music. Benefits Together We Can. See Kellie Burns if you can volunteer, provide food items, sell tickets.

Events

No Events found

Birthdays



[Ward Collins](#)
February 8th

Wedding Anniversaries



[Dana Murray](#)
January 28th



[Teresa Murray](#)
January 28th



[Fred Jones](#)
February 10th

Years of Service



[Roger Plemens](#)
26 Years



[Charles Sutton](#)
26 Years



[Teresa Murray](#)
9 Years



[Ward Collins](#)
6 Years



[Gregory L. Mullins](#)
3 Years



[Keith E. Bowers](#)
1 Year



[Robert W. Cook](#)
1 Year