

Rotary



Club of Sylva

Years of Service

Sunita Wright
01-13-2011
14 Years
Benjamin J. Pendry
02-02-2018
7 Years
Chelsea S Allman
02-02-2023
2 Years
Ray Roberts
02-01-2024
1 Year

Birthdays

Joyce M Pope
October 8th
Larry Hinton
October 15th
Christina H Paxton
October 16th
Todd Vinyard
October 20th
Sunita Wright
October 28th

Wedding Anniversaries

Courtney T Umphlett
October 30th

Club Leaders



Joyce M Pope
President



Michael G. Wade
Past President
President



James M. Spiro
President-Elect
RYLA Point of
Contact
Past President



Holly Guyer
iPast President



Matt Saenger
Rotary Foundation
Chair
iPast President



Nancy G McConnell
Secretary
Past President



Ann M Pearre
Treasurer

News for October 10, 2024

Greetings to the Greatest Rotary Club in the World (and the Center of the Universe),

We hope this message finds you and your families safe after Hurricane Helene. While Western North Carolina has some rebuilding ahead, our community is resilient, and together, we will persevere. It's no surprise to see many of you already involved in the recovery efforts, and there will be more opportunities to serve in the coming days.

Join us this Thursday at noon for a club assembly at First Baptist Church in downtown Sylva. We'll provide important updates and outline our plans for the year ahead. This is a great meeting to bring guests to hear about the work we do and are going to do. And yes—there will be **FREE pizza!**

Please note: There will be no meeting on October 17th. Instead, we encourage all members to participate in **Hands On Jackson**, a day of service in our community.

Mark your calendars for our social event on **October 24th**—location to be announced soon!

Looking ahead to November, we've lined up some fantastic speakers:

- **November 7th:** WCU's new basketball Coach, Tim Craft
- **November 14th:** Jackson County Board of Elections Director, Amanda Allen
- **November 21st:** Jackson County Public Schools Chief Technology Officer, Greg Stewart

We hope to see everyone this Thursday as we talk and make plans to do good in our community.

See you Thursday,
Mike

Quote:

“To everyone battling a difficulty or under attack right now, smile, keep your head up, keep moving and stay positive, you'll get through it.” Germany Kent

Hurricane Helene update

No Rotary meeting today Oct.3rd. Please be safe and check in on our Rotarians. If you need help please reach out to another member. Our hearts are with our Western North Carolina community, employees, neighbors, friends, and families affected by Hurricane Helene's devastation. We are inspired by the outpouring of support and are grateful for everyone's efforts during this challenging time.

Rotary international has set up a way to donate to help those affected by Hurricane Helene at <https://www.rizones33-34.org/disaster-relief/>

Please watch this site <https://www.sylvarotaryclub.org/> for future scheduling updates.

Be safe!



David R. Baker
Membership Chair



Jay Pavey Jr.
Sergeant-at-Arms



Todd Vinyard
Club Public Image
Chair
Past President



Eddie Wells
Club Service Chair
Past President



Scott Baker
Past President
Webmaster



Charles William
Wolfe
International
Service Chair
Past President

Club Meeting

Sylva
Meets at First Baptist
Church of Sylva Fellowship
Hall
669 West Main Street
Sylva, NC 28779
Time: Thursday at 12:00 PM

WCU Chancellor Brown speaks to club

We were thrilled to have fellow Rotarian [WCU Chancellor Kelli R. Brown](#) speak at the 'Greatest Rotary Club in the World' about the 'Greatest University in the World' - [Western Carolina University](#)! Thank you, Chancellor Brown and WCU, for being [#PeopleofAction](#) and for your incredible impact on our region and beyond. Weâ€™re excited for [Mountain Heritage Day](#) on Sept. 28th. Go CATS!
Pictured: Chancellor Brown (right) and Club Membership Chair Dave Baker.



Jackson County Tourism Development Authority Executive Director Nick Breedlove speaks to club

Our club always appreciates the work [North Carolina Mountain Towns of Cashiers, Cherokee, Dillsboro, and Sylva](#). Jackson County Tourism Development Authority Executive Director Nick Breedlove and the group do to promote tourism, our area, and the economy. Thank you so much to Nick for speaking to us. Thank you, Jackson County TDA, for the difference you make in our community! Pictured are Co-President Mike Wade and Nick.



JCPS Education Foundation speaks to club

We appreciate JCPS Education Foundation Chair Laura Dills, and Executive Director Melissa Lewis speaking with us. Thank you to [Jackson County Public Schools](#) Superintendent, and Club member Dr. Dana Ayers for being with us. The JCPSEF was created to bring together a strong community of advocates for educational excellence. They are a 501(c)(3) certified non-profit that is 100% volunteer-based with no paid staff. The primary goal is to obtain supplemental funding for JCPS through various streams, some of which are only available to certified non-profits. Thank you to this group for their efforts, and we encourage all who can to join the work; for more information, visit <https://www.jcpsef.org/>. Thanks, JCPS for all you do for our community!

Pictured - Club Co-President Mike Wade, Jackson County School Superintendent and Club Member Dr. Dana Ayers, JCPSEF Chair Laura Dills, and JCPSEF Executive Director Melissa Lewis.



WCU Football Coach Kerwin Bell speaks to club/GO CATS!

Big thanks to WCU Football Coach Kerwin Bell for speaking to our club today! His message of 'It's Our Time' on the journey to a championship resonated with us, and we're proud to echo the team's commitment: 'All In.' We're fired up and ready to be loud supporting Catamount football! Special shoutout to Past President Eddie Wells for an energizing rendition of the WCU Fight Song. Go Western! Let's pack the stands—grab your tickets at www.catamountsports.com. GO CATS!

