

# Rotary



## Club of Sylva

### Birthdays

James M. Spiro  
March 15th  
Lexie Franklin  
March 18th  
Matt Saenger  
March 22nd  
Lisa Ann Leatherman  
March 22nd  
Eddie Wells  
March 28th

### Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding Anniversaries Found

### Speakers

#### March 02, 2023

Jackson County Chamber of Commerce

Happenings in Jackson County from Executive Director Julie Spiro Donaldson and Assistant Director Kelly Donaldson

#### March 16, 2023

Southwestern Community College

Southwestern Community College speaker about all the great things happening at our community college.

#### March 23, 2023

WNC Farm To Table - Lisa McBride

Program about Nonprofit and online ordering system for local food in Jackson County - WNC Farm To Table

#### March 30, 2023

People of Action Recognition Day

Recognition of People of Action in our club.

## News for March 2, 2023

By Scott Baker on Wednesday, March 1, 2023

Dear Rotary Friends,

Our first meeting of March will be a fun one! the "Greatest Chamber of Commerce in the World" speaks to the "Greatest Rotary Club in the World" on Thursday at noon at First Baptist Church in downtown Sylva. Jackson County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Julie Spiro Donaldson and Assistant Director Kelly Donaldson will update us on wonderful upcoming events, along with bringing some great Chamber new products to share.

Julie and Kelly do an amazing job promoting Jackson County. We're so fortunate to have them as Rotary members and partners in so many efforts like Flags for Heroes. I know many of you are members of the chamber, and we all appreciate all the chamber does in our area. For more on the chamber, visit <https://www.mountainlovers.com/> Hope you can be with us on Thursday!

Food is available from Mad Batter to be ordered and delivered. Orders can be made at <https://www.madbatterkitchen.net/>. Delivery is possible if ordered by Wednesday at 3 p.m. using the process below:

1. Tap Checkout
2. Scroll to the bottom of the screen
3. In the box at the bottom where it says: "Add a note for the seller," type in "Thursday Rotary."

Or orders can be placed and paid for by calling 586-3555 and telling the Mad Batter staff it is for Rotary Thursday. It is also possible to order on Thursday. Food ordered that day would need to be picked up at Mad Batter. Thank you very, very much to Jeannette Evans and the Mad Batter staff for working to make these food options available. The club will provide bottled water. It is not necessary to order food to join us.

Upcoming dates to remember – March 25th, Rise Against Hunger at Sylva United Methodist Church, and April 14th, Pancake breakfast at Sylva United Methodist Church.

Also, our 7670 District Conference is coming up! April 21-23 in Columbia, SC. Our club pays for a member who has never been to the District Conference to attend, so please reach out if that is of interest. It is a fun weekend that really reminds us why we are in Rotary! To register, visit <https://bit.ly/3KNhQnV> Please reach out with any questions. We would love to have as many people from our club who can attend!

If you could help us with transportation for RYLA students in March please contact Co-President Todd.

Appreciate all you all do to keep the "Greatest Rotary Club In The World" spirit going!

## Club Leaders



Todd Vinyard  
President



Michael G. Wade  
President



Matt Saenger  
President-Elect



Nancy G. McConnell  
iPast President  
Secretary



Ann M. Pearre  
Treasurer



Micah Carter  
Rotary Foundation  
Chair



Vance Davidson  
Rotary Foundation  
Chair



Jay Pavey Jr.  
Sergeant-at-Arms



James M. Spiro  
Membership Chair



Scott Baker  
Webmaster



Eddie Wells  
Club Service Chair



Joyce M. Pope  
Club Fund Raising  
Chair



Courtney T. Umphlett  
Youth Services  
Chair



Roy Warren Burnette  
Club Public Image  
Chair

James Montsinger

Yours In Rotary Service,

*Mike & Todd*

## Ella Ledford - Student of the Month (Smoky Mountain High School)

By Scott Baker on Friday, February 24, 2023

It was a great day to honor the "Greatest School System in the World" - [Jackson County Public Schools, NC](#). The Rotary Club of Sylva Student of the Month, Ella Ledford, amazed us today.

Congratulations to this [Smoky Mountain High School](#) junior! Ella is already at the top of [#PeopleOfAction](#). We deeply appreciate her parents - Brad and Linda Ledford, Smoky Mountain Principal Evelyn Graning, Smoky Mountain High School music teacher Linda Haggard, Rotary member and JCPS Superintendent Dr. Dana Ayers. Thank you all!

Proud of Ella and all our JCPS teachers, students, and staff.





iPast President



William Swift  
Assistant  
Governor



## **Inga Sutton - 2022-23 Jackson County Public Schools Teacher of the Year**

By Scott Baker on Friday, February 24, 2023

It was our pleasure to hear from Jackson County Early College English Teacher Inga Sutton, the 2022-23 Jackson County Public Schools Teacher of the Year, at our meeting today. Ms. Sutton's passion for students and teaching shines through. Thank you to her Principal, Melanie Jacobs, for joining us. Rotary Club of Sylva wishes to thank all [Jackson County Public Schools, NC](#) teachers, for all they do for students and families in our community. Thank you to club member and Jackson County Superintendent Dr. Dana Ayers and all the staff in the system for all they do each day. We recognized Ms. Sutton as a Hero In Our Community. She and other teachers are heroes for sure in our book!





## Former District Governor Bill Biddle

By Scott Baker on Friday, February 24, 2023

Former District Governor Bill Biddle is truly a servant leader, as shown by his fantastic work with the wheelchair program to help people in need in the Philippines. Thank you to our club members who donated enough for three wheelchairs today! We appreciate all former DG Biddle does and how he does it. [#ServiceAboveSelf](#)





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## First Pitch for WCU Baseball - Past President Eddie Wells

By Scott Baker on Wednesday, February 22, 2023

Proud of our own past President Eddie Wells who threw out the first pitch at the [Western Carolina Catamounts](#) baseball opener Friday. The Catamounts won twice today to move to 2-1 on the season. Congrats to WCU coach Alan Beck on his first wins as head coach. The four-game, season-opening nonconference series concludes on Sunday afternoon with a 1 p.m. first pitch in Cullowhee. Go Cats!



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## Project F.I.R.E. Support - America's Home Place

By Scott Baker on Wednesday, February 22, 2023

Thank you to America's Home Place, Inc. of Franklin for a recent donation to the Jackson County Dept. on Aging. They donated \$500 to assist the Project F.I.R.E. program in delivering firewood to seniors in need. Thanks so much for all the support!



## Ruth Crawford (1923-2023)

By Scott Baker on Tuesday, February 14, 2023

Our club extends our thoughts and prayers to the family of Ruth Crawford. She had eleven and a half years of perfect attendance and was devoted to our club.

Thank you for your service, Mrs. Ruth.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/ruth-crawford-obituary?id=45034954>



We will miss you Ruth...





# Save the Date - March 25, 2023 - Rise Against Hunger Event

By Scott Baker on Tuesday, February 14, 2023

Save the Date - March 25th [Rise Against Hunger](#) at [Sylva First United Methodist Church](#). Starting around 9 a.m. with more information coming. Church groups, civic groups, and volunteers of all ages are welcome. You don't need to be a Rotarian to join us, just love being of service and having a good time doing it. We will have a fun time packing 10,000 meals to help fight hunger.

More about Rise Against Hunger at <https://www.riseagainsthunger.org/>

See you March 25th!



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## Thank you Ilda Restaurant!

By Scott Baker on Tuesday, February 14, 2023

Many, many thanks to [Ilda in Sylva](#) for a fantastic event to raise funds for [The CART Fund](#) and Alzheimer's research. Appreciate everyone who came out to support us! We included some photos of some of the Rotarians who participated. Ilda owners Santiago Guzzetti, Sommelier Crystal Pace, and their son Ciro presented the check for \$750 to Co-President Todd. Thank you, Ilda, for being such great community citizens. We appreciate you!

[Rotary District 7670](#)





## Firewood Project

By Scott Baker on Tuesday, February 14, 2023

Thank you to all who came out to our firewood delivery event last weekend! The weather was chilly but we were still able to provide 35 truck loads of firewood for the elderly in need.

Our next, and last, delivery event of the season will be on March 11th at the Cullowhee United Methodist Church, so please help us spread the word. There's plenty of wood to be split in the meantime!

[Cullowhee United Methodist Church](#)

[Sylva First United Methodist Church](#)

[Rotary Club of Sylva](#)

[WCU Center for Community Engagement & Service Learning](#)

[Faith Baptist Church](#)

[Webster Baptist Church](#)

[Tuckasegee Baptist Association](#)

[Tuckasegee Wesleyan Church](#)



## Welcome Chelsea Allman to the Rotary Club of Sylva!

By Scott Baker on Friday, February 3, 2023

Welcome, Chelsea Allman, to the Rotary Club of Sylva! We're thrilled Chelsea is joining our ranks of [#PeopleOfAction](#). Chelsea and her husband Zeb operate [Sylva Insurance Agency, Sylva, NC](#). [#HereWeGrowAgain](#) Rotary District 7670

Thank you Nancy McConnell for sponsoring and Membership Chair Jay Spiro for leading the great induction ceremony today. [#ServiceAboveSelf](#)





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## Southwestern Commission Executive Director Russ Harris

By Scott Baker on Friday, February 3, 2023

Excellent presentation by [Southwestern Commission](#) Executive Director Russ Harris today at our noon meeting. Russ and the Southwestern Commission do very



important work in our region, which we greatly appreciate. The mission of the Southwestern Commission is to improve the quality of life in its seven-county service area by assisting local governments in reaching their goals.

Thank you to these [#PeopleofAction](#) for all they do!



## "Shoot For A Cure" on Feb. 25th - WCU Women's Basketball

By Scott Baker on Friday, February 3, 2023

Greatly appreciate Coach Hill stopping by our meeting today with an update on the upcoming event with our super friends Great Smokies Health Foundation, "Shoot For A Cure," on Feb. 25th to support local cancer patients. Appreciate all the efforts of [Western Carolina University Women's Basketball](#) on and off the court. Good luck tonight and the rest of the season. Go Cats!



## Welcome to the Rotary Club of Sylva - Jenna Kranz!

By Scott Baker on Friday, January 27, 2023

Welcome to the Rotary Club of Sylva - Jenna Kranz! We are so excited to have Jenna with us. Her work with [Uncomplicated Kitchen](#) is such a great effort in our community. Glad she has joined our [#PeopleofAction](#). Welcome, Jenna!

Appreciate [Rotary District 7670](#) Assistant District Governor Bill Swift joining us to celebrate. [#HereWeGrowAgain](#) [#PeopleOfAction](#)





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## Western Carolina Catamounts baseball coach Alan Beck

By Scott Baker on Friday, January 27, 2023

Play Ball! Thank you so much to [Western Carolina Catamounts](#) baseball coach Alan Beck for the great presentation at our meeting. Excited to have him and his family back in [#CatamountCounty](#). Excellent job by former President Eddie Wells with a super rendition of the WCU fight song. Thanks to all who joined us, including WCU athletics marketing team members and [Catamount Club](#). Go Cats!

More on WCU baseball at <https://catamountsports.com/sports/baseball>





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## Woods Family Loses Home to Fire

By Scott Baker on Friday, January 27, 2023

Appreciate our club members' donation today to help this Jackson County family and the many offers of support, including our good friends with [Great Smokies Health Foundation](#) and others' offers of assistance.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/xuc9cf-lost-all-in-fire>



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## DACdb Mobile App

By Scott Baker on Thursday, November 18, 2021

Install on your mobile device and login using your DACdb credentials!



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## DACdb: Login

To log into DACdb, go to <https://www.dacdb.com/>

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