

# Rotary



# Club of Sylva

## Years of Service

Scott Baker  
03-01-2001  
23 Years

Larry Hinton  
03-07-2002  
22 Years

Michael G. Wade  
03-10-2005  
19 Years

Phil Haire  
03-23-2016  
8 Years

Susan Kerns Clements  
03-08-2018  
6 Years

Nancy G McConnell  
03-05-2020  
4 Years

Joyce M Pope  
03-04-2021  
3 Years

Ann M Pearre  
03-10-2022  
2 Years

Christina H Paxton  
03-23-2023  
1 Year

## 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

Jace Franklin Stowe  
March 18th

## Club Leaders



Matt Saenger  
President



Holly Guyer  
President



Joyce M Pope  
President-Elect

## News for March 14, 2024

Dear Rotary friends,

We hope everyone is having a great week. Reminder **no noon meeting this week.**

We will be meeting again on March 21<sup>st</sup> with a special guest - Western Carolina University Women's Soccer Coach Chad Miller. In fall of 2023, Miller directed the Catamounts to their first Southern Conference Championship since 2008. Miller became the second WCU coach in program history to earn SoCon Coach of the Year honors. His team also participated in our outstanding Rise Against Hunger Event last year.

**Rise Against Hunger for this year will be March 23<sup>rd</sup>** at Sylva United Methodist Church. Hope you will join us for this meaningful event!

### Meeting Schedule for the Remainder of the Year:

- March 21st
- April 4th & 18th
- May 2nd & 16th
- May 30th: Grant \$\$ day - We give money to local non-profits based on funds we've raised this year!
- June 6th & 20th

**Service Opportunity** - March 16 at 8:30 a.m. at Cullowhee United Methodist Church at 416 Central Drive, Cullowhee. Project FIRE to deliver firewood to those in need in our community. Volunteers will be provided Bojangles, B&A's lunch along with coffee and coca. Join in if you can!

Thank you, everyone, for embodying the spirit of "The Greatest Rotary Club in the World." Looking forward to seeing you on Thursday!

Yours In Rotary Service,  
Matt & Holly

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**Nancy G McConnell**  
Secretary



**Ann M Pearre**  
Treasurer



**Micah Carter**  
Rotary Foundation  
Chair



**Jay Pavey Jr.**  
Sergeant-at-Arms



**James M. Spiro**  
RYLA Point of  
Contact  
Membership Chair



**Eddie Wells**  
Club Service Chair



**Roy Warren**  
Burnette  
Club Public Image  
Chair



**Todd Vinyard**  
iPast President



**Michael G. Wade**  
iPast 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

## A Special Visit from JCPS Teacher of the Year Kristin Holt!

A Special Visit from [Jackson County Public Schools, NC](#) Teacher of the Year Kristin Holt! At our Thursday meeting, the Rotary Club of Sylva was truly honored to host Kristin Holt, JCPS Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Holt, a dedicated science teacher at Jackson County Early College, shared insights into her teaching style and emphasized holistically guiding students toward their contributions within the community.

Her message was inspiring and a powerful reminder of how teachers like her care for and prepare students for a brighter future. A heartfelt thank you to Mrs. Holt and all the incredible educators in Jackson County Public Schools for their unwavering dedication to students, families, and our community. We appreciate you, Mrs. Holt, and all at JCPS for all you do daily!

Mrs. Holt is pictured with Club Co-Presidents Matt Saenger and Holly Guyer in one picture and Jackson County Early College Principal Melanie Jacobs in another. Thank you to Rotary Club member and Jackson County Public School Superintendent Dana Ayers for the great introduction of Mrs. Holt.

Happy dollars were collected and went to the Kenny Nicholson Smoky Mountain High School Service Above Self Scholarship our club supports.



## Birthstone Wellness Center part of great club meeting!

A Greatest Rotary Club in the World type meeting. No surprise that would take place with the Greatest Rotary Club in the World this week. Super presentation by Brandi Harrison, owner of Birthstone Wellness Center in Downtown Sylva. Birthstone is a perinatal wellness center dedicated to a revolution in wellness among young families. The guests were Andy Buckner (guest of Jay Pavey) and Dr. Camilla Hoitenga (Rotarian from Germany). Thanks to all who joined us.



## Kenny Nicholson Smoky Mountain High School Service Above Self Scholarship/Thank you Kenny!

"The Greatest Rotary Club in the World" is excited to officially recognize the naming of the Kenny Nicholson [Smoky Mountain High School](#) Service Above Self Scholarship. Kenny is an amazing Rotarian, community member, and former [Jackson County Public Schools, NC](#) principal, including at Smoky Mountain High School. He is truly one of our best [#PeopleofAction](#). We deeply appreciate all his efforts, especially for so many generations of young people in Jackson County. Thank you to Kenny and his wife Karen for being with us at the announcement and we greatly appreciate JCPS and SMHS administration helping us make this scholarship opportunity for students possible. It is wonderful to see future generations of students at our high school SMHS be inspired to service by Kenny's terrific example.  
Go Mustangs!

