

LIFE@ WESTERN CAROLINA

2021 Spring Schedule
Cullowhee & Biltmore Park Groups
Wednesdays, 10am – 12pm

1/19/2021 (TUESDAY)

Jim Stokely, “Wilma Dykeman”

Biography:

Jim Stokely was born in Asheville, North Carolina, and grew up in Newport, Tennessee. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Yale University with exceptional distinction in American Studies. He later received an MBA from Stanford University, then embarked upon a 25-year corporate career in Human Resources for The Hay Group, Brown Corporation, and Sylvania. In 2011 Jim and his wife Anne moved back to the southern mountains and now live in Weaverville, North Carolina. As President of the Wilma Dykeman Legacy, Jim produces local lecture series and other events in order to sustain the values of his mother Wilma Dykeman. With Wilma, he wrote Mountain Home: A Pictorial History of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Jim also edited Wilma's memoir of her first 14 years entitled Family of Earth: A Southern Mountain Childhood, published by The University of North Carolina Press.

Presentation Outline:

- PowerPoint entitled "Who Is Wilma Dykeman?" 40 minutes
- Q and A -15 minutes
- Break
- Readings from a selection of Wilma's books (30 minutes, if read as one) + discussion following each reading (5 minutes following each reading or 30 minutes total)

1/27/2021

Erin Adams, “The Truth About Downsizing: Living the Dream in a Tiny Home”

Biography:

Erin E. Adams is a Full Professor and Program Coordinator for Interior Design at Western Carolina University. Her research areas of interest include historic preservation and sustainable design/ construction methodologies, specifically focusing on preserving natural resources, reducing carbon emissions and providing affordable, healthy and downsized housing options. In further support of her own research agenda, Professor Adams sold her traditional 1200 square foot home in 2018 and downsized to a 265 square foot tiny home that she custom designed to fit her individual needs.

Presentation Outline:

In the presentation entitled, The Truth About Downsizing: Living the Dream in a Tiny Home, Adams will discuss the benefits of downsizing, the challenges encountered in the reality of day-to-day living in a space that could fit inside most people's traditional living rooms.

2/3/2021

Dr. David Moore, "Hernando de Soto and Juan Pardo: Sixteenth Century Spanish Expeditions in North Carolina"

Biography:

David G. Moore teaches archaeology at Warren Wilson College in Asheville, North Carolina. He received his BA from the University of California at Berkeley and his MA and Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He has conducted archaeological research in western North Carolina since 1978.

Presentation Outline:

1. A very brief introduction to 16th century European invasion of North America.
2. Why is it so difficult to know exactly where Hernando de Soto and other Spanish entradas actually travelled in the southeastern US.
3. Brief discussion of de Soto's likely route in NC.
4. More lengthy discussion of the 2 expeditions by Juan Pardo from the coast of South Carolina through South and North Carolina and into east Tennessee ~~1566-1567~~
5. Talk about the discovery of Pardo's Fort San Juan, the earliest European settlement in the interior of the United States. Located at the Native town of Joara (at the Berry site outside of modern day Morganton, NC) Fort San was built in January ~~1566~~ 1567 and destroyed by the natives in the spring of 1568.
6. Discuss the interactions between Native Americans and the Spanish, especially diplomacy and resistance.

2/10/2021

2/24/2021

David Madden

3/3/2021

Emiko Suzuki, "Traditional Japanese Tea Ceremony and Ikebana"

Biography:

Emiko Suzuki is a Senior Professor 2nd Grade of Ikenobo School of Ikebana and has Bonten certificate of Omotenke both headquartered in Kyoto, Japan. She taught ikebana and the tea ceremony to students in Japan before she came to Western North Carolina in August 2007. She began studying the tea ceremony and Ikenobo ikebana in 1986 Japan.

3/24/2021

Jamie Ager, "Hickory Nut Gap Farm"

Biography:

Jamie Ager is a fourth generation farmer at Hickory Nut Gap Farm. Jamie, in partnership with his wife Amy, built Hickory Nut Gap into a well established regional brand and

Chancellor Kelli R. Brown

Full Biography

Kelli R. Brown is Chancellor of Western Carolina University, a regional comprehensive university that serves more than 12,000 students with a wide range of bachelor's degrees across the spectrum of arts and sciences disciplines and professional programs in business, education, health care, and engineering; more than 30 master's degree and certificate programs; and five professional doctoral programs.

Dr. Brown took office as the 12th Chancellor of WCU in July 2019, becoming the University's first permanent woman chancellor. She previously served as provost and senior vice president for academic affairs at Georgia College & State University. In July 2016, Chancellor Brown was appointed interim president of Valdosta State University, a regional comprehensive university in southern Georgia. She served in that capacity until a permanent president took office in January 2017, at which she then returned to her position at Georgia College. In addition to her leadership at Georgia College, she has

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