

People of Persistence Keep On Pumping



Ruritan

Volume 75, Summer 2010

What Could We Accomplish If We Were Excited About the Next Day?

Well, summer is upon us and I believe most of us are excited about the things it brings. Not many of us go without a vacation and we always plan to get the most out of it as possible. To do that we will decide in advance where we'll go, sometimes even where we'll eat, and what we'll do for excitement or relaxation.



With all this preparation going on, at work and at home, you will make a list of the things you will need to accomplish just so you can get away. Because of the anticipation of all the fun you're about to have, the *day before* will be the most productive day of the year.

Just think how much we could accomplish every day if we were excited about the next day.

I believe if we will use some of that excitement and sense of purpose in Ruritan the result would be unequaled success. On March the 31st we had our "Make a Record Day". The record for membership for one day is now **53 members**.

The member with the most new members for that day was Chad Aspinwall of the **Port City Philanthropy** (NC) Club in Cape Fear District. Chad received the \$500 gift certificate from StubHub. Great work, Chad!

The District with the most new members was Lower West Virginia, which means they will be up front during business sessions in Knoxville's 2011 convention. I know we can do better than 53 members in a day, so there is another opportunity to break that record on September 30th. I ask that you participate. It can actually be fun and we all benefit and make Ruritan stronger.

In the time since the convention I have had the opportunity to attend several club anniversaries and they have been a ball! Meeting members who have served their communities for 50 years and beyond has been such an honor. They all have a few things in common. They view their club as an extended family, love their community, and know the greatest joy in life comes from serving others.

Besides visiting clubs, attending the state rallies is great fun and an opportunity to meet the leaders of Ruritan who are usually leaders in every endeavor. In the country the saying has always been "the cream always rises to the top" and that was considered the most valuable part.

As National President I will always be encouraging you to grow. Growth means teaching others how to do what you're doing. The projects you put your time and energy into are what make you proud to be a member. A new community down the road would also benefit from your experience. It's kind of like the story about teaching someone to fish instead of just giving them a fish. Teach them how and they will never hunger again.

This time of the year also includes a couple of great events: the adult leadership conference in June and the youth leadership conference in July. From either conference you will go away with new information and will have benefited from spending time with other individuals with attitudes of service. You'll have fun, too.

All of our national committees are working to make our organization better. I am convinced that as we get better we will also get bigger. Our information technology (IT) development has and will continue to improve how we collect, record, and archive information to make reporting and communication more efficient. Our Risk Management Committee has been successful in developing new policies that will make Ruritan better prepared for the future.



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Ruritan

Volume 75, Summer 2010

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HCMS Ruri-Teens made an impressive donation to Hunters for the Hungry. See page 16.

Special Features

Holland Monument Featured 7
Beautiful pictures of the monument commemorating the first Ruritan club in 1928 in Holland, VA is now featured on the national office wall.

Who's Who..... 8
The Ruritan National Board approves a new program to recognize the special Ruritan's in your community.

Reserve Your Room in Knoxville, TN for 2011

Choose either the Holiday Inn (closer to the convention center) or the Hilton Inn – a two block walk using a covered walkway that crosses safely above the busy Henley Street intersection. The Ruritan room cost at the Holiday Inn: \$89 plus tax/single, double, triple, quad; room cost at the Hilton: \$92 plus tax/single, double

Reservation # for Holiday Inn is (865) 522-2800 (24 hrs. a day) Say you are with Ruritan National and use code "RNC" to get the Ruritan rate. For the Hilton call (865) 523-2300 or direct (865) 251-2578 (8 a.m. – 4 p.m.) or call toll-free (800-Hiltons). Use code "RUR" to get the Ruritan rate.

Cover photo art: Ruritan National Board of Directors demonstrates the 2010 theme "Keep on Pumping" during the April board meeting. Pictured (l-r) first row: Vice President Jayson Duncan, President Jerome Rodes, Executive Director Mike Chrisley; second row: Frank Dodson, Anne Hillard, Kay Pearson, Morris Clyburn, Steve Mullis, Secretary JoAnn Wenger, Dennie Clemmer, Karen Palette, Carroll Lowe, Guy Cox; third row: Don Yeargan, Bob Reece, Joe Jaynes, Ray Lautzenheiser, Parliamentarian Gary Swink, Robert Newton, Larry Blount, Treasurer Dale Bricker, Eddie Henderson, James Zehr, Robert Burton, 2009 National President Donald Worrell, Foster Parrish, Roy Maloy.

Ruritan Values Leave a Lasting Legacy

He was a good man.

That was the sentiment that was expressed over and over at Curtis Graham's funeral. It was true. I wonder if most Ruritan's knew how devoted and committed Curtis was. He was



a good Christian, father, husband, friend, mentor,

employee, a good Ruritan.

Curtis served both in a volunteer capacity and in a professional capacity for Ruritan. He served in most positions on the club and district level and as a national director. He was an employee through four executive director tenures, working tirelessly the whole time to grow Ruritan. He took with him a vast amount of knowledge that is likely only available in bits and pieces in so many of the members he touched, recruited or taught.

He loved Ruritan. He loved it because he saw and knew the value it has to people. He knew the value it brought to a community. He understood that a community without a Ruritan club needed Ruritan. That is what drove him.

There is no doubt that Curtis was involved in the formation of hundreds of Ruritan clubs either directly by forming them himself or indirectly by encouraging and mentoring club builders and giving them the guidance that he knew would help them be successful. Even more important, Curtis touched the lives of perhaps thousands of people through the

volunteer service provided by the clubs he formed or influenced others to organize. Curtis helped people through Ruritan who will never know he helped them or even know his name. Nevertheless, he helped them. Curtis Graham recruited me into my first Ruritan club.

*That is what Ruritan represents
... giving what you can back to a
community that needs it.*

Today I am a member of a small club made up of good people having fun together and accomplishing good things. I sat in my last club meeting and felt very proud as we gave money away to

nearly 20 recipients totaling over \$6,000. We don't always have that much to give but we always give what we have. That is what Ruritan represents ... giving what you can back to a community that needs it.

I was also proud that Curtis was given the first ever **Ruritan Who's Who** designation in Ruritan. You can read more about the Who's Who program on page 8 and more about Curtis on page 9 of this publication. **Who's Who** is a way to honor any Ruritan who has given much but who may not always receive the accolades that they deserve. Living recipients will receive a pin and all recipients will receive a picture and 500-word biography on the Ruritan website.

Ruritan is good. Be persistent. Recruit that member, form that club, help those who need you. You most certainly **will** be making a difference.

Michael T. Chrisley
Ruritan Executive Director

New Clubs for 2010

New Ruritan Clubs, Sponsors & DRMS*

(January 1, 2010 -- May 1, 2010)

New Club Name	District	Sponsoring Club	DRM
Bridgewater College	Rockingham	Bridgewater	Glen Thomas
South Range Ruri-Teen	Ohio	Greenford	Jeff Fishel
South Chatham	Rocky Mt.-Durham	Tri-County (NC)	Debby Hussey
Pioneer Ruri-Teen	Davy Crockett	Conklin/Washington College	Allen D. Jackson
Chowan Hawks College	Roanoke	Como	Donald Worrell

*DRM stands for Distinguished Ruritan Member, who is the person most responsible for organizing the new club.

Persistence: *Ask and Keep On Asking*

We are well into the year 2010. Time is certainly not standing still.

We all know the saying, "Time waits for no one." The older we get, the more we hear ourselves say, "Where has time gone?" We, as Ruritans know all these sayings to be all too true. We also know that we cannot wait any longer to help grow our fine organization. There is no better time than the present to expand Ruritan.

The current year started out with the question: "Will 2010 BE a Growth Year or will we just stand still?"

We need to re-phrase this. We need to think this as a positive statement, not a question: "Do not stand still. Make every year a Ruritan **growth year**."

What happens when you stand still? You get passed by.

What happens when you get passed by? You fall farther and farther behind.

We, Ruritans, don't need to stand still as individuals or as clubs. We don't need to get passed by or passed over by potential members and we don't need to fall behind for any reason.

What is the reason a club is not growing? There should not be any reasons or excuses.

Our organization has numerous pins and coins to reward growth, to provide recognition, and to create incentives to grow.

We have all the tools in place to assist – from flip charts to CD's. We have the best story line to tell. It's a message of "Fellowship, Goodwill, and Community Service."

We have everything we need to make growth happen. All we need to do is **ask** someone to be a Ruritan and **keep asking**.

Be persistent. Keep pumping up Ruritan.

Make *today* a growth day. Make *this month* a growth month. Make *this year* a growth year. Make every year a growth year for Ruritan – for tomorrow will soon become yesterday.

Good luck and great growing!

– 2010 National Growth
and Development Committee

New Alexander Ruri-Teen Holds Flag Ceremony

At the **Alexander Ruri-Teen** (NC) charter meeting, in 2009, a flag folding ceremony program was held. Miranda Jansen and Bailey Ingle told the meaning of the flag folds and why there are so many steps.

Vanessa Jansen and Tanner Ingle are shown folding the flag.

The club was chartered in the Western North Carolina District and sponsored by DRM Shelby Earp.



Ruritan 'Nourish Your Community' Food Drive Sept. 11

Ruritan would like to encourage all clubs to participate in an organization wide day of service on September 11, 2010 by conducting a food drive for your local food bank. In Virginia we will once again cooperate with AARP of Virginia on this food drive.

Clubs may set up a collection point for food delivery, have members available to receive the food, and to publicize this event to your members and local community. Your club decides which local food bank gets the collected food. Ruritan National would like to keep a master list of clubs planning to participate in 2010. **If your club is interested please email office@ruritan.org or call toll free at 877-787-8727 to be added to the list.**

In 2009 Virginia Ruritan clubs piloted the program, working with AARP on an October food drive. Ninety-five Ruritan Clubs in the state collected 27,478 pounds of food, and \$4,511.00 in cash donations.

Youth Clubs Dominate Early 2010 Growth Efforts

Of the five new clubs organized early in 2010 – four are either Ruri-Teen clubs or college clubs. The first Ruri-Teen club in the Davy Crockett District, was organized and chartered January 12, 2010. The **DeBusk** (TN) Ruri-Teen club had 16 charter members and met at the DeBusk Volunteer Fire Hall. Davy Crockett District Governor Larry Taylor, Lt. Governor Patsy Shelton and Past National President Bob Bailey were in attendance. Club members are pictured at right.



On March 3, 2010 the **Bridgewater College** (VA) Ruritan Club was presented its charter by Ruritan National President Jerome Rodes. The **Bridgewater** (VA) Ruritan club is the sponsoring club and the club is the fourth Ruritan college club in the nation. Pictured are Jerome Rodes and members of the club.



In addition to new club growth – youth clubs continue to reach out to potential members. In March, 2009 National President Donald Worrell visited the **Severn-Pendleton** (NC) Ruritan Club and presented an award for the largest percentage of growth in 2009 to club president R.P. Watson. The club's percentage of growth exceeded 200 percent. R.P. Watson is shown with new member Stephanny Marshall after he presented her Ruritan pin.

Regular Ruritan clubs are not to be left behind – they are also inviting members of the community to be a part of our organization. The **Brownsburg** (VA) Ruritan Club announced the induction of four new members in January. According to Club

President Pat Patterson, "this year we are concentrating on bringing new talented individuals to the forefront of our local chapter. We are pleased to accept our newest members based on their commitment to serve the local community. That is what Ruritans are all about." Patterson, who took office officially on January 1, said he has big plans for the club this year.



MILITARY SERVICE

U.S. Military personnel who are also Ruritans and who might be unable to attend regular meetings should not be counted as absent according to the Ruritan National Board of Directors.

If your club has a member currently serving in active duty, your club secretary should count him or her as "present" at meetings so that his or her absence doesn't penalize the member or cause the club to fall short on attendance percentages.

The Board cited the National Constitutional provision for using "four hours of community service" as the equivalent of a make-up meeting -- a substitution that members of the U.S. Military are surely qualified to use.

Committee Targets Next Round Of Projects

The Ruritan National Capital Replacement Committee, in a letter to all Ruritan clubs, has extended heartfelt thanks for the generosity shown during the last 16 months of fundraising to make improvements at the National Office.

The Capital Replacement Committee met this spring to review the second round of improvements. While the new windows will save money on heating and cooling, the committee has received bids to insulate above the ceiling with fiberglass insulation and has placed this project at the top of the list for the second round of improvements.

The second priority is to reconfigure the existing bathrooms to add handicap facilities in both the restrooms, as well as, changing stations for families that have children who visit the office. Currently, there are no handicap facilities at the National Office. The final priority in this round of improvements is to add new more efficient lighting to the National Office.

The committee noted, "Again, we believe that this will save members money for years to come. We are considering a number of options including LED lighting that is very energy efficient."

The committee, which consists of chair Joe Hul-

ver, and members Calvin Shelton and 1988 National President Willis Overby, put the goal for this second round of fundraising at roughly \$45,000 to add to the \$12,000 still in the capital replacement fund for a total projected cost of \$57,000 for these three projects.

Recent donors to the fund are listed below:

CLUBS

Damascus Ruritan Club,
Bowmantown Ruritan Club,
Nolachuckey Ruritan Club,
Amelia Ruritan Club,
Mt. Pleasant Ruritan Club,
Aarons Creek Ruritan Club,
Keedysville Ruritan Club,
Benhaven Ruritan Club,
Leetonia Ruritan Club,
New London Ruritan Club,
Studley Ruritan Club,
Yoder Ruritan Club,
Whitsett Ruritan Club,
Holston Ruritan Club,

DISTRICTS

Peaks of Otter District,

INDIVIDUALS

Margaret T. Schmidt - in
memory of Dick Schmidt,
Howard L. Snell,
Frank and Linda Dodson,
Frank and Janet Kinsey

Spirit of Holland Memorial Comes to National Office



The site of the Holland Memorial – which commemorates the first Ruritan Club, begun in 1928 – is now a part of the National Office, thanks to the efforts of 2009 National President Donald Worrell and two dedicated Ruritan volunteers. Large panels showing the three sides of the monument – as well as a fourth panel showing the historic road marker in Holland, VA – now hang on the walls of the Ruritan National Office in Dublin, VA. The beautiful photos are the work of Daniel Trevors, a member of the Durants Neck Ruritan Club (pictured at the bottom left) while Andy Morris of the Whaleyville Club, who built the frames holding the pictures, is shown (top right) with President Worrell.

Who's Who Honors Special Ruritans

The National Board of Directors passed the motion in April to establish an electronic Ruritan Who's Who. This new program will recognize any individual members of Ruritan for their lasting and significant contributions to the local community, club, zone, district and/or national organization. The application must be

accompanied by a \$100 payment made out to Ruritan National as well as a good quality photograph. (Submissions are limited to 500 words or less.)

Recipient biographies and pictures will be featured on-line through the Ruritan website and a computer

at the National Office will be dedicated to allowing visitors to scroll through the Who's Who honorees. Each living Who's Who recipient will receive a special pin.

The application fee will go into the capital replacement fund to be used to maintain the national office.

If the fund reaches \$100,000,

additional money will be put into a certificate of deposit to be used for emergencies as approved by the Ruritan National Board of Directors. The first Who's Who recipient is the late Curtis Graham.

Accomplishments should be listed in detail including offices held at every level, years of service, significant projects worked on/completed, special activities, organizing or assisting to organize new clubs, new members recruited, and more.

Ruritan National Electronic Who's Who Application

Name: _____ Member Dates (if known): _____ to _____

Club(s) service and accomplishments: _____

District service and accomplishments : _____

National service and accomplishments: _____

Please provide a digital or high quality photo of the individual

All accomplishments should be listed in detail with dates. These should include offices held, Club/District/National Ruritan of the Year, years of service (including perfect attendance), committees, significant projects worked on/completed, special activities, organizing or assisting to organize new clubs, new members recruited, etc.

Use additional sheets if needed

Submitted by: _____ Date Submitted: _____

Send to Ruritan National, P.O. Box 487, Dublin, VA 24084 with \$100

Longtime Ruritan Employee Curtis Graham Dies

Former Ruritan employee and 1965 New River District Governor A. Curtis Graham, died on March 4 at the age 87. He was a veteran of W.W.II having served in the U.S. Navy, was a graduate of Virginia Tech class of 1949, and was an avid Hokie fan for over 60 years. Curtis retired from Ruritan National with over 30 years of service, having served as Assistant Executive Secretary, and Acting Executive Director for a period of time. He was a charter member of the **Ruritan Road** (VA) Club, and a member of the **Dublin** (VA) Ruritan Club and served in all major club offices. He is survived by his wife of 59 years: Helen Smith Graham of Dublin, a daughter Sandy Myers and her husband Keith of Roanoke, a son Robbie Graham and his wife Jaime of Dublin, and a sister and brother-in-law of Radford. He is also survived by two grandsons, Scott Myers and Gregory Myers.



Funeral services were held at the Dublin Presbyterian Church with Ruritan leaders serving as pall bearers and with a Ruritan tribute given by 1993 National President Wayne Bettis. Memorial contributions may be made to the Ruritan National Foundation P.O. Box 487 Dublin, VA 24084.

After almost 50 years as a Ruritan, 28 of those as a paid staff member, Curtis retired from the national staff in 2001, where he most recently had held the position of special assistant to the executive director – primarily focusing on club growth. Reflecting on those years of service, Curtis noted at the time of his retirement that he was “100 percent pleased” with the sum total of his life’s work and his efforts to build a better Ruritan organization. “It has motivated me to be better informed and a better communicator,” he said, “I have improved over the years to allow me to enjoy my work role and my community involvement.”

Following his retirement, Curtis was interviewed by a Ruritan college intern where he outlined his “sales pitch” for the organization *“Three words describe Ruritan: fellowship, goodwill, community service. These would apply at any age. Speak about goodwill, whether it be economic or spiritual, in a community. We encourage the activities and the fellowship will never end ... Community service to your neighbors can apply to all of us ... Ruritan was so intelligently developed that you can talk about the advantages of Ruritan at any age or with any group, male or female.”* Curtis also explained what being a Ruritan leader had done for him personally over the years. *“When I was younger I was an inefficient active public speaker. Ruritan not only*

helped me become a better public speaker but it helped me to speak to all kinds of groups ... In these situations, I improved over time and Ruritan helped me master speaking in front of any size group and being more confident.”



National Board Visits Mt. Tabor Club

Ruritan National President Jerome Rodes presents former Ruritan Executive Secretary Ben Crawford, member of the **Mt. Tabor** (VA) Ruritan Club, a Power of Presentation 2010 bar. Mt. Tabor, along with **Belmont** (VA) Ruritan Club hosted a meal for the Ruritan National Board of Directors at the Board meeting in April.

Ruritan Staffer On The Mend

Ruritan club accountant Nancy Lester, who has been with the national office staff for over 35 years, is recovering from surgery for pancreatic cancer. Her surgery, on May 7, went very well and she was discharged from the hospital a week later.

Nancy noted that all of the cards, notes, and prayers from Ruritans were a blessing during the chemotherapy and radiation treatments that preceded her surgery. She said, *“Thank you so much for your cards, prayers, and concern since my diagnosis of cancer. My heart overflows with love for my family, my friends, my Ruritan family, and my church family. I am so blessed to have so many praying for me and I am so thankful for each and every one of you. I have faith that God does answer prayers and is answering yours and mine.”*

2011 Convention in Knoxville, TN

2011 Opening Ceremonies Moved to Afternoon!

General Agenda for 2011 Ruritan National Convention - Knoxville, TN

Day/Date	General Time	Event Name
Thursday, Jan. 27	After Breakfast	2011 District/Area Governors Training
Thursday, Jan. 27	Mid Afternoon	First Time Convention Attendees Welcome Reception
Thursday, Jan. 27	4:30 p.m.	Opening: Flag Ceremony/Memorial/Entertainment
Thursday, Jan. 27	After Opening	National President's Reception
Thursday, Jan. 27	After Reception	Foundation Dinner & Awards
Friday, Jan. 28	Early Morning	Breakfast Honoring Ruritan Veterans
Friday, Jan. 28	After Veterans Breakfast	Friday Business Session
Friday, Jan. 28	Lunchtime	Fellowship and DRM luncheon
Friday, Jan. 28	After Lunch	Foundation Live Auction (Immediately following meal)
Friday, Jan. 28	All Afternoon	Workshops
Friday, Jan. 28	Mid Afternoon	Election (voting)
Friday, Jan. 28	Buses Departs Late Afternoon	Optional Trip to Pigeon Forge Dinner Theater
Saturday, Jan. 29	Early Morning	Breakfast Honoring First Lady Marsha
Saturday, Jan. 29	After Breakfast with First Lady	Saturday Business Session
Saturday, Jan. 29	All Afternoon	Workshops
Saturday, Jan. 29	Evening	Installation Banquet & Closing of Convention & Entertainment
Sunday, Jan. 30	Early Morning	Worship Service

WELCOME RURITANS!

*We look forward to seeing you at the 2011
National Convention in Knoxville, TN!*



www.Knoxville.org
800-727-8045

2011 Convention in Knoxville, TN

Knoxville Convention Center

(January 27-30, 2011)

Tell Us Who Is Coming to Knoxville, TN

Please print or type

1st Attendee: _____ Club: _____ District _____

2nd Attendee: _____ Club: _____ District _____

Home Address: _____ Email Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Preferred Badge Name #1: _____ Daytime phone number: _____

Preferred Badge Name #2: _____

Check items below that apply:

___ I need vegetarian meals for these in my party.

(list names below)

GUESTS: As a fully registered attendee you may bring non-registered guests to meal functions only. List names below and pay for meals under "Extra Tickets" on reverse. They will only be allowed in events they've paid for.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

___ This is my first Convention _____

___ I need handicapped accessible seating at meals ___ I plan to be a delegate: _____

Reserve a scooter or wheelchair with Lamberts Health Care while you are in Knoxville by calling **865-523-1103**

___ I have 50 years or more perfect attendance. Name: _____ # of Years _____

Registration Details

Your convention registration includes:

- **Thursday Afternoon (4:30 p.m.)** Opening with Flag Ceremony, Memorial Service, and Entertainment
- President's Reception
- Friday and Saturday Business Sessions
- Friday Fellowship and DRM Luncheon
- Saturday Installation Banquet with Entertainment
- Name badge, printed program, workshops, entertainment, speakers, and more.

Registration must be paid in order to attend convention activities including workshops and business sessions. A registered convention attendee may purchase optional meals as well as extra meals for his/her non-registered guests. The deadline to

qualify for the early registration discount is December 26, 2010. Between December 27, 2010, and January 6, 2011, full registration fees will apply. After January 6, 2011, you may only register in person at the convention site.

Optional Events & Meals

There are several optional events that may be purchased separately for attendees or for their guests. These are listed on the back of this registration form.

We will be recognizing military veterans during the Friday Breakfast Honoring Ruritan Veterans. Please let us know your branch and era of service for special recognitions.

Veteran's Name: _____

(Check one in each column)

___ U.S. Army

___ WWII

___ U.S. Air Force

___ Korea

___ U. S. Marines

___ Vietnam

___ U.S. Navy

___ Desert Storm

___ U.S. Coast Guard

___ Operation Iraqi Freedom

___ Other (explain) _____

___ Peace Time Service

What Events Will You Attend At The 2011 Convention?

Convention Registration: Includes Fellowship and DRM Luncheon on Friday and Saturday Installation Banquet.

EARLY Registration DISCOUNT on or prior to 12-26-2010 # _____ @ \$175=+ \$ _____

Registration # _____ @ \$210=+ \$ _____

Sub Total Registration \$ _____

Extra Tickets and Optional Events: For any fully registered attendee or the guests of a fully registered attendee. These tickets will secure entrance to these events ONLY.

Thursday

Foundation Awards Dinner # _____ @ \$35=+ \$ _____

Friday

Breakfast Honoring Ruritan Veterans # _____ @ \$20=+ \$ _____

Extra Fellowship and DRM Luncheon** # _____ @ \$40=+ \$ _____

***Registered attendee gets this meal included in registration fee above*

Bus trip and meal at Smith Family Dinner Theater in Pigeon Forge (4:30 p.m.- 9 p.m.) # _____ @ \$45=+ \$ _____

Saturday

Breakfast Honoring First Lady Marsha Rodes # _____ @ \$25=+ \$ _____

Extra Saturday Installation Banquet** # _____ @ \$60=+ \$ _____

***Registered attendee gets this meal included in registration fee above*

Sub Total Extra Tickets: \$ _____

Other:

Rudy Bears - Large # _____ @ \$8.25=+ \$ _____

Rudy Bears - Small # _____ @ \$4.95=+ \$ _____

Pre-order your souvenir **80th Convention Mug** # _____ @ \$6.00=+ \$ _____
(if purchased on site the price increases to \$8 each)

Cash donation for food drop \$ _____

Sub Total Other \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

Ruritan's Charitable Efforts in Knoxville: Bring **childrens' shoes** (new or gently used) and all sizes of **disposable diapers** to Knoxville, TN for the Department of Children's Services. Also, sign up above to donate **Rudy Bears** to the bear drop in Knoxville! Have you given donations to your local **food pantry**? Don't forget to tell your district governor about your total donations.

How Will You Pay?

Ruritan National, P.O. Box 487, Dublin, VA 24084

Check payment type below:

NOTE: Aside from some limited special seating, everyone will be seated for meals on a "first come, first served" basis. If you want to be seated with specific attendees, you should send your registration forms in **together**.

_____ Payment made by check Check # _____

_____ Visa/Mastercard

Card # _____

Expiration date # _____

Check one option below

_____ Bill my credit card now

_____ Bill my credit card on December 1, 2010

Voices of Lee Highlight Opening Ceremonies

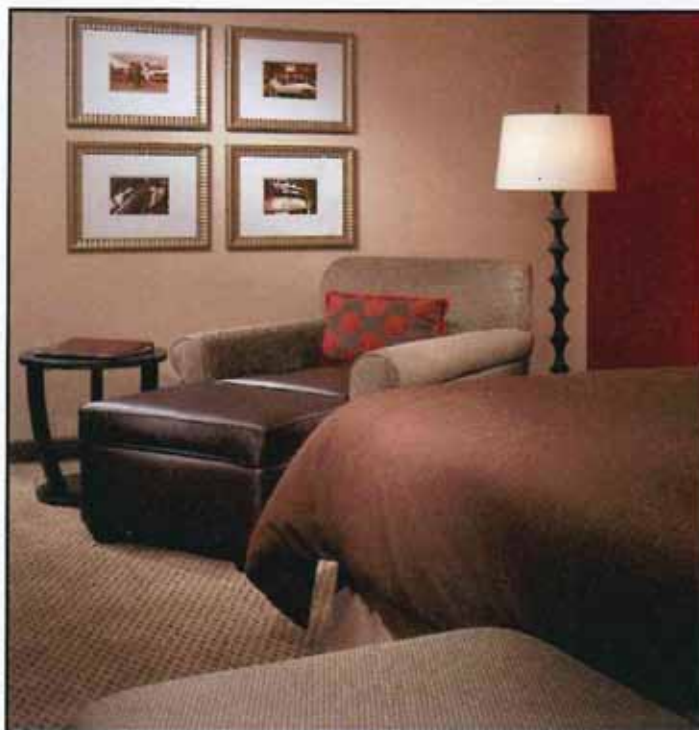
Excellence in harmony, spirit, and performance depicts the lush musical style of The Voices of Lee – always a Ruritan favorite. At the 2011 National Convention in Knoxville, TN the group from Lee University in Cleveland, TN, will be the finale of the opening ceremonies which will begin at **4:30 p.m.** on Thursday, January 27, 2011.

Directed by Danny Murray, the group is characterized by their unique variety of lush vocal harmonies, high-energy patriotic numbers, fun-filled audience participation, as well as heart-felt gospel favorites. Most recently the Voices of Lee were featured finalists on the NBC program "Sing-Off". On page 10 of this issue a mini-schedule of the major 2011 convention events is featured. Items on the agenda are listed in their general order to help attendees plan for travel, although specific times will be announced later. Of particular note are the following items:



- **Opening Ceremonies begin at 4:30 p.m. Thursday**
- **Lots of free evening time** –Knoxville representatives will be available at a special concierge desk in the convention center to help you make reservations at local restaurants and theaters so you can enjoy your free time in small groups with your special Ruritan friends.
- Optional meals and outings include a Thursday evening **Foundation Dinner** that is sure to be a hit, the **Friday Breakfast honoring our Ruritan Veterans**, a Friday evening bus trip to the Smith Family Dinner Theater in Pigeon Forge, TN, and the **Saturday Breakfast honoring First Lady Marsha Rodes**.

Also included in this issue, on pages 11 and 12, is the official convention registration form. Convention registration will also be a feature of the Ruritan Member Management System (MMS) – members will be able to register on line for the 2011 Ruritan National Convention.



We are pleased to announce that the Holiday Inn World's Fair Park, Knoxville's premier hotel location, has been purchased by a local investment group.

2010 will bring many exciting changes. In fact, construction has already begun and will include total renovation of guest rooms, lobby area, parking garage, restaurant, bar and meeting space.

In addition, the Holiday Inn has acquired an additional 12,700 sq ft of meeting space, including a grand ballroom and 12 meeting rooms.

We look forward to serving you!



525 Henley Street, Knoxville, TN 37902

865.522.2800

We Can Do More With YOUR Increased Support

Fellow Ruritans:

The Ruritan National Foundation has two major areas of emphasis. One is Operation We Care (OWC) and the other is the educational fund. The OWC fund operates with a very simple philosophy of collecting funds, holding them until there is a need, and then distributing the funds based on federal or state declared disaster areas. Since OWC funds are simple collection and distribution events, these funds need to be replenished.



Richard Keener
2010 Foundation
President

The education fund operates by collecting contributions and investing them with the income being used for the Build Your Dollars program and the growth used to fund the regular education foundation grants.

Contributions to the education fund are needed so we can increase the amount of each Build Your Dollar Grant. Your Ruritan National Foundation Trustees met April 7-9, 2010. The trustees are: Bruce Thompson, Cleve Wright, Norman O'Dell, Danny Privott, and myself. There were 361 applicants for the "Build Your Dollar" grants and an additional 20 scholarship grants were awarded by the trustees. The amount for each BY\$ grant was a \$230 addition to the original \$300.

Your Ruritan National Foundation Fellowship Weekend is September 17-19, 2010 and will be held at Cherokee, NC. Make your reservations at the Holiday Inn. Call (828) 497-9181 and mention the Ruritan rate of \$89. Each Holiday Inn registration will receive a chance on a free two-night stay at some other time during the year.

The end of the first year is fast approaching for your foundation's program to raise funds. The challenge for each year is for every Ruritan and Ruri-Teen to save ten cents per day and have a total of \$36.50 by September

30. In that way your Ruritan National Foundation could receive over ONE MILLION DOLLARS in tax-deductible donations. This initial five-year program may be extended beyond the first five-year period.

What a great asset this could be for granting more and larger scholarships in the years ahead, providing our membership responds to this challenge. Remember this is a volunteer program. Each year in April, and 2010 was no exception, your foundation trustees meet to evaluate grant applications received. There are always a large number who do not receive scholarship grants. This year approximately one-third received grants and the remainder were not funded.

Why? Because we did not have sufficient funds to generate the income necessary to support the full number of requests. This is why it is so important that every Ruritan and Ruri-Teen consider supporting your foundation in this very small way - only 10 cents per day - in order to help fund these unanswered requests. The challenge is before each of us and your positive response is requested.

2010 Foundation President,
Richard Keener

Ruritan National FOUNDATION

2010 Board of Trustees

President: Richard Keener

Vice President: Bruce W. Thompson

Secretary: Norman O'Dell

Treasurer: Robert "Cleve" Wright

Promotion Chair: Danny Privott



\$\$\$MILLION DOLLAR CLUB\$\$\$

Coupon

Ruritan National Foundation Inc.

Donation Amount \$ _____

From _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

Name of Fund to Credit _____

Club _____

District _____

Mail to: Ruritan National Foundation, Inc. P. O. Box 487 Dublin, VA 24084-0487

2010 Foundation Fellowship Weekend

Make plans now for the 2010 Foundation Fellowship Weekend, September 17-19, 2010, in beautiful Cherokee, NC. Immerse yourself in Native American culture at the Holiday Inn of Cherokee hotel, nestled in the beautiful Great Smoky Mountains, in the heart of the Cherokee reservation. Call today to reserve your room, 828-497-9181, and tell them you are with the Ruritan National Foundation to get the Ruritan room rate of \$89 plus tax.

Your \$40 registration fee includes Saturday banquet and entertainment and access to the **Ruritan Foundation Hospitality and Game Room** where refreshments and fellowship will be available from noon to close Wednesday through Friday and noon until 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Mail completed registration (below) and payment to: Ruritan National Foundation, P.O. Box 487, Dublin, VA 24084; Fax (540) 674-2304. Make your reservations by August 20, 2010, to qualify for the early registration fee.

Full Package Registration

Before or on August 20, 2010

Registration \$40 X _____ persons = \$ _____

Full Package LATE Registration

After August 20, 2010

Registration \$50 X _____ persons = \$ _____

Saturday Morning Golf Interest:

of golfers _____ If there is sufficient interest, Saturday morning golf can be arranged. Pay at golf course.

Deadline for registration is August 20, 2010. Pre-registration before August 20, 2010, is **\$40** per person. Late Registration after August 20, 2010, is **\$50** per person.

Name: _____

Badge Name: _____

Spouse/Guest Name: _____

Badge Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP _____

Phone + Area Code: _____

Club: _____

District: _____

Enclosed is my payment:

Check No. _____

Visa # _____

Visa Expiration Date _____

Mastercard # _____

Mastercard Expiration Date _____

Charter Member Honored with Downing

Capon Valley (WV) Ruritan Club was busy in December 2009. They sent stuffed Christmas stockings to the troops, held a Christmas bazaar and bake sale to help build the club's funds, and partnered with the Marine Corps Reserve and their Toys for Tots program.

With all of these activities going on, the club still found time to honor one of their charter members, Carroll Long with a the Ruritan National Foundation's prestigious Tom Downing Award. Carroll is pictured at right with several club members.



HCMS Ruri-Teens Make Generous Donation

HCMS (VA) Ruri-Teen Club recently made a \$1,000 donation to Hunters for the Hungry. The school performed a play called "Escanaba in da Moonlight," and saw this as an excellent opportunity to have a fund-

raiser. One weekend they sold Brunswick stew and the next weekend they sold hickory smoked BBQ. Nine clubs from the Dan River (VA) District donated the desserts for the event, **Hycro Road, Cluster Spring, Aarons Creek, Turbeville, Union, Wilson Memorial, Dan River Community, Bethel Community, and Mount**



Laurel. They raised \$2,000 from this fundraising event. After the gift to Hunters for the Hungry the rest of the money was used to send the youth to the Ruritan National Youth Leadership Conference. Club advisor Bonnie Bowen would like to thank all of the clubs in the Dan River District that helped make this fundraiser a huge success.

News From Ruritan: Smoky Mountain District

Edwina (TN) Celebrates 40th Anniversary

Edwina (TN) Ruritan Club celebrated its 40th anniversary this past November. The club was presented a plaque in honor of the anniversary by Smoky Mountain District Governor Roy Wallen and was also presented with a copy of the original charter from Past National Director Roger Carter.



News From Ruritan: Delmarva/NJ District

Burrsville (MD) Celebrates 50th Club Anniversary

The **Burrsville** Ruritan Club celebrated their 50th Anniversary on December 10, 2009 at the Harrington Volunteer Fire Company banquet hall. Special guests included Naional Director Larry Blount, District Governor George Whitehead, Lt. Governor Ernst Arndt, First Club President Frank Zeigler, and Robert T. Collins, the only active charter member with 50 years of service. Also in attendance were three other charter members, Robert Holloway, Frank Bradley and Wayne Geisel. Members from three other Ruritan clubs also attended, **Cedarfield, Idlewild and VCF.**

A total of 91 were in attendance. After a short talk by Frank Zeigler, Ernst Arndt presented four gold and one silver community service awards to Club President Sam Trice. Larry Blount made a special plaque presentation in honor of 50 years of service.

Little Pungo (VA) Club Takes Part In Carnival



***Little Pungo** (VA) Ruritan Club participates each summer in the Wachapreague Fire Company's Carnival. The carnival raises funds for the fire company and the club's community projects. A check from this event was presented to the president of the club.*

News From Ruritan: Appomattox District

Boydton Takes on Construction of Horse Park

The **Boydton** (VA) Ruritan Club is pleased to announce the realization of a dream. For 49 years the club held an annual one day horse show. They erected a portable ring, wishing they had a piece of land to put the ring up permanently.



Wilson-Hebron-Ford (VA) Ruritan Club president **Samuel Winn** is shown presenting

Albert Mathias a Golden Key Award for recruiting two new members.

That was a couple of years and several horse shows ago. The club since, has obtained a piece of land from the board of supervisors that once called the area county poor farm.

After applying to the Tobacco Indemnification Commission for a grant and receiving one, they are now in the process of starting the



actual construction, first comes an archaeological study to delineate the cemetery located on the poor farm property. After that is determined, the club will preserve it as part of the county's history and start the bricks and mortar. Project manager Ron Haines said, "It is hoped that the word Ruritan is heard loud and clear and that in some way all Ruritan clubs will benefit from its notoriety. Let me add that our club membership is below 20 so dream big with your club projects and live your Club's dream."

Pictured (l-r): Cultural Recourses Inc. Dane Magoon, Club President Gerald Wrenn, committee member Dr. Dave Eason, Director Tom Learned, Vice President Bettie Herbert, Director Ron Haines, and Appomattox District Governor Wally Hudson.

News From Ruritan: Rappahannock District

Sumerduck Donates To Social Services

Donna Arellano (left) and **Laura Smith** (right) of the **Sumerduck** (VA) Ruritan Club present gifts to **Jennifer Costa** of the Fauquier County Social Services. The club learned of six needy children. Community participation and support enabled the club to provide a great Christmas for those children.



News From Ruritan: Greenville/Goldsboro District

Ponzer Club Celebrates 50th Anniversary

Ponzer (NC) Ruritan Club celebrated its 50th club anniversary recently. National Director Karen Pallette was in attendance and presented them with an anniversary certificate. The club's biggest fundraiser is a handmade pork sausage sale which is in January, February, March and November. The club starts with a whole hog and club members and members of the community process the sausage. In February the clubs had nine hogs and sold 1,500 lbs. of sausage.



Maury Greets Youngest Member

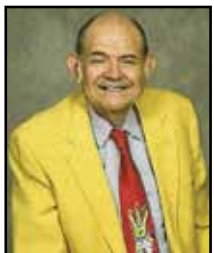
Roy T. "Bud" Forrest, the last active charter member of the **Maury** (NC) Ruritan Club, recently greeted the club's youngest member Daniel Jarman. Daniel assisted Cub Scout Den Leader Dawn Jarman at a club meeting and spoke on the different awards the Scouts can earn. The club is a sponsor of the Cub Scout Pack 310.

Pactolus Celebrates 65th Anniversary

2009 National President Donald Worrell was the guest speaker at the **Pactolus** (NC) Ruritan Club 65th anniversary celebration. Worrell encouraged the club to share Ruritan and congratulated them for their 65 years of service to their community.

Ruritans Forever Number Nears 300

As this issue of RURITAN goes to press there have been 299 Ruritans named as Ruritans Forever since the program's inception in 2001. Ruritan Forever is a plan for the payment of national dues by members who wish to make a long term investment in Ruritan. The Ruritan Forever plan allows a member in good standing to pay \$600 and become a life-time participant of the national organization. A Ruritan Forever endowment may be purchased by a member in good standing, or may be purchased for a member in good standing. A Ruritan Forever endowment may be purchased to honor a non-member provided they are brought into a club as an associate member at the same time. The lifetime endowment may also be purchased in memory of an already deceased Ruritan, ensuring an ongoing contribution to the operation of Ruritan in his or her name. Upon payment of the fee, the Ruritan will receive a certificate, a permanent life participant card and a pin.



Two of the most recent additions to the Ruritan Forever program are Past District Governor Jerry Gallman and former Ruritan National First Lady Lou Rader. Gallman (pictured left) was honored by the **Georgia - North Alabama District** while Rader was recognized by the **Bonsack/Blue Ridge (VA) Club**. She's pictured at right with Club President Bob Kilpatrick. Rader's husband, 1982 National President Jim "Corky" Rader was made a Ruritan Forever by the club in 2008.



News From Ruritan: Potomac District

Rudy Bear Meets Bob The Builder



In March, Zone 1 of the **Potomac District** manned a table at a Home Show held in the local mall. Their goal was to promote Ruritan and get all the information they could out to the public. Rudy Bear also made a visit and was excited to meet Bob the Builder.

John Martz Earns Attendance Pin

John Martz, left, a past president of the **Hamilton (PA) Ruritan Club**, received a 40 year perfect attendance pin at the club's 40th anniversary recently. Pictured on the right is Past National President Kelly Chapman who gave him the pin.



Continued from page 2

The Capital Replacement Committee continues to identify and move toward completing projects at the Ruritan National Office that will make our facility more energy efficient and updated to a standard it deserves. We can only do that with your help. You have been gracious in your contributions and I know those will continue.

It is an honor to be your National President and

the joy of meeting you and hearing what you do is tremendous. You have demonstrated that you are a "People of Persistence" so "Keep On Pumping".

Jerome Rodes
2010 National President

Ruritan Road (VA) Donates \$8,000 to Charity

Ruritan Road (VA) Ruritan Club made a unanimous decision in 2009 to apply for Virginia bingo license. The license was approved and the club started their game in August. In less than a year, the club has donated over \$8,000 to the community. At the clubs April meeting, they voted to donate an amount according to the need. At this time, Beulah House Hospice was in desperate need so the club donated \$1,000 to this facility. Beulah House is an intensive assisted-living facility providing care and comfort measures for persons who have a life-limiting illness and who do not have a willing and able caregiver. Pictured at right are club member Betty Alley and Beulah House founder Judy Epperly.



Heritage Cares Food Pantry received a check for \$467. One of the volunteers from the Food Pantry told President Bonnie Westpfahl, that one dollar buys five cans of food, so in essence the club bought over 2,300 cans of food.

Free to Talk Ministries, Inc. received \$350 for a fishing trip for children who have been removed from abusive homes and are currently living in transitional housing.

A young lady in the community with cerebral palsy was in need of a "barrier free" shower. A donation of \$450 was given, so she will not have to be lifted into the tub anymore by her caregivers. Tears of joy shown in her eyes and the eyes of club members when she received the check.

"This is only a few donations that we have given," said Club President Bonnie Westpfahl. "This is what it's all about! We kicked the year off right! The best is yet to come because our club is working together and we are going to 'keep on pumping!'" Pictured (l-r) above: Heritage Cares Food Pantry representative Harriet Berry, President Bonnie Westpfahl, Club Secretary Iris Williams, and Free to Talk Ministries, Inc. founders Heather and Thomas Harris.



Rocky Gap Club Celebrates 60th Anniversary

Rocky Gap (VA) Ruritan Club celebrates its 60 year club anniversary in April with a narration and slide presentation of the clubs history. Club projects over the years included securing a telephone system, helping establish a fire department, widening and paving of Rt. 61 from Narrows to Tazewell (VA), membership in the Great Lakes to Florida Highway Association and impacting the I-77 bridges spanning Laurel Fork Creek as opposed to the planned culverts which many feared could "bottle neck" the Laurel Fork Community, and erecting a welcome sign.

Tribute was paid to club member George Johnson who was the first leader of the New River District (1963-1964) and a national director (1976-1979).

Pictured above Club President David Taylor receives a certificate from National Director Morris Clyburn for 60 years of service.

Pictured left (l-r): Rocky Gap Club charter members Eddie Sutphin, Mack Davidson, Manley Andrews and Club President David Taylor.



RULLY K Program Encourages Early Reading

Everyone in the room – from volunteers to educators – agreed: the earlier children fall in love with books, the better their odds are at reading well in school. And reading, they also agreed, is the lynch pin of a good education. The gathering was the kick-off press conference for **RULLY K** (Ruritan Unrestricted Library Loan program for Young Kids) the brainchild of **Bonsack/Blue Ridge** (VA) Ruritan Jim Ruhland. The project, complete with a business plan, has garnered sponsorships and donated services in excess of \$10,000 to provide 1,600 preschool level books for the local library. The collection will be housed in a separate section and is available for pre-school children to check out without going through the traditional library loan process but instead using an honor system with no fines for unreturned books. The club understands some books will not be returned – but is prepared to replace books as needed to keep the system work-



ing. Not only has the club been willing to put forward a financial commitment, they have invested time – reading every book and placing labels in them.

On hand for the kick-off event and pictured at the top were (l-r) National PTA President Chuck Saylor, Ruritan National President Jerome Rodes, Ruritan National VP Jayson Duncan, and Natural Bridge Governor John Murphy. Also present was National Secretary JoAnn Wenger and many club members as well as representatives from all of the sponsoring agencies. Clubs that would like to model the RULLY K plan should contact Ruritan Service for more information at service@ruritan.org.



Severn-Pendleton Holds Donation Luncheon



In January, the **Severn-Pendleton** (NC) Ruritan Club held a Donation Luncheon for little Hinton Meyers and his family. Through the generous donations of many individuals and businesses in the area \$12,500 was raised toward's Hinton's medical bills.

Hinton and his family were guests in February and were presented with the check. Hinton is shown on the left with his grandparents George and Deborah McGee and his mother Melissa McGee Myers and her husband Kevin.

Farm Life (NC) Celebrates 60th Club Anniversary

Pictured on the right is **Farm Life** (NC) Ruritan Club President Joseph Lilly and club charter members Wilford Griffin and Henry Leggett, holding the club's 60th anniversary plaque that was presented to them at their club anniversary celebration.



Bunnlevel Recognizes Three Charter Members

Bunnlevel (NC) Ruritan Club recognized Jack Allen, Thomas Allen and Roy Byrd for their 64 years of dedicated service to their community. The club chartered in 1946 and the three men still continue to be active in volunteering their time for club events.

Pictured (l-r): Jack Allen, Thomas Allen, Roy Byrd, and Past Club President Larry Edwards.



Cedar Fork (NC) Holds Successful Health Fair



Cedar Fork (NC) Ruritan Club recently held a very successful health fair in March. Approximately 30 members of the club and community came out to support the event. Several health care workers from the county, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and local hospital system were on hand to assist with health education, blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar checks, stroke education, CPR and the National Children's Study.



Gamewell Member Earns Perfect Attendance Pin

Howard Holman was the third man to sign the **Gamewell** (NC) Ruritan Club charter in 1955. He has had perfect attendance since club charter night. National Director Bob Reece had the privilege of pinning Howard for the past four years with his perfect attendance pin.

Howard has served as club secretary, treasurer and vice president through the years. Howard stated that he has enjoyed his years of service and he appreciates the difference that Ruritan clubs make across the country.



Gwaltney Scout Leader Honored With National Award

Tommy Daniels, member of the **Gwaltney** (NC) Ruritan Club received the Ruritan Scout Leader Award at a regular club meeting recently. Tommy is shown holding the Boy Scout of America square knot patch with Club President Billy Sprinkle. This award was introduced in 2005 giving local Ruritan clubs an opportunity to nominate Ruritan members to be recognized for their service to youth through scouting.



Moyock Club Honors Second Grade Teacher



Moyock (NC) Ruritan Club presented an award to the 2009 Outstanding Moyock Teacher of the Year.

The honoree Mrs. Joyce Metger, is a second grade teacher at Moyock Elementary School. She has been a teacher for 25 years and has mentored five teachers to receive accreditation. She is nationally board certified and has a Masters Degree in Education. She is also a student tutor.

Both the assistant Superintendent of the Currituck County Schools, Ms. Sandy Kinzel and Moyock

Elementary Principal Ms. Whitney Bisbing attended the presentation and strongly endorse Metger as an outstanding teacher and person. Kinzel and Bisbing both stated that Metger definitely deserves this award.

Chowan Adds Student Members



Pictured left is **Chowan** (NC) Ruritan Club student member Brittany Winslow serving as club secretary. There are two generations of club officers, Brittany and her dad Mark Winslow who is currently the club president. The club also brought in five new student members including: Katelyn Blanchard, Zachary Winslow, Haley Nixon, and Emily Berryman,.

Keezletown (VA) Club Celebrates 70th Anniversary

Keezletown (VA) Ruritan Club celebrated its 70th club anniversary with a social gathering. Over the years the club has purchased seven acres of land and constructed a clubhouse.

Every August, the club has their own chicken barbeque pit at the Rockingham County Fair which has become a major fundraising event. Ruritan National President Jerome Rodes and Ruritan National Secretary JoAnn Wenger attended the celebration. Rodes spoke about the dedication of the founding Ruritans and the persistence of officers and members of the Keezletown club over the past 70 years.



Hamburg Club Helps Students *Spring Forward!*

An after-school program has been started in Edinburg, VA sponsored by the **Hamburg** (VA) Ruritan Club and hosted at a local church in collaboration with local school officials who even provide bus transportation for the program. Students participating meet two afternoons a week in the spring with adult homework assistants and degreed teachers. As the students are prepared for the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) tests they are also mentored by caring adults and offered healthy snacks. There is even a fresh-air and exercise component to keep the tired youngsters energized and interested. From March to May 2009 over 60 hours of tutoring was offered at no cost to parents. In the spring of 2010 there is the potential for hundreds of hours of tutoring.

North Shenandoah Holds Auction

North Shenandoah (VA) Ruritan Club held their first ever community auction in April. Flyers invited attendees and solicited donations. Club Vice President, Dave Abrell was in charge of the logistics of the auction and the rest of the Ruritan members put in hard work in making this a complete success. Proceeds will benefit the club, the Lebanon Church Community Center, and the Compassion Cupboard Food Bank. The club plans to make this an annual event.

Community assessments conducted by Ruritan National report "after school tutoring" as one of the most critical needs in America's communities. Watch future issues of the RURITAN magazine for additional information on this program and instructions on starting a program in YOUR community.

Mt. Pleasant-Wilkes Holds Flag Raising Ceremony



Celebrating over 40 years of community service, the **Mt. Pleasant-Wilkes (NC)** Ruritan Club held a flag raising ceremony. Ward Eller presented a brief history of the formation of the club and spoke about its accomplishments. Each attendee was given a small flag in commemoration of the event.



The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1142 Honor Guard rendered a 21 gun salute and played taps for this event. James Richardson and Comrade Bill Thomas raised the flag. The ceremony concluded with the Pledge of Allegiance and singing of patriotic songs.

Leasburg (NC) Club Honors Citizens of the Year

The **Leasburg (NC)** Ruritan Club honored their Citizen's of the Year recently. Harold Gray (pictured below with Club President Dixie Vernon) and Charles Smith (pictured right in between club Vice President Tommy McDuffie, Jr.), were



honored for their selfless acts during 2009 in the Leasburg community.

Mr. Gray and Mr. Smith have devoted countless hours to help improve their com-



munity by volunteering in many ways. The club members note that the community is a better place thanks to their dedication and hard work.

Club Raises Money with Pinto Beans

Windsor's Crossroads (NC) Ruritan Club recently held a fundraiser supper in memory of deceased member and WW II veteran Paul Jurney. Friends, neighbors, and family turned out in support, consumed large quantities of pinto beans, cornbread, and "fixins" and donated more than \$1000. Jurney, who died in late 2009, was a decorated WWII veteran, and Ruritan members proposed the fund raiser to honor his life and his support of the club.

The money raised became a part of an ongoing effort to see that area WWII veterans get an opportunity to view the recently completed memorial in Washington, D.C. that honors their service to America. Dubbed the "Flight of Honor" by local press, groups of veterans from this area receive an escorted, all expense paid flight to Washington.

Not only do they visit the monument, but the day provides an opportunity to socialize with others who served, and to receive the thanks and accolades from fellow Americans. Donations from the supper event will provide a chance for two local individuals to participate.

Come Visit the Ruritan National Office

Traveling northbound on Interstate 81, take exit 98, turn left onto Rt. 100 (from southbound Interstate 81 turn right onto Rt. 100). At the second stoplight, turn right onto Rt. 682, cross over Interstate 81 and turn left onto Rt. 662.

Tours can be arranged by calling Debbie Southern at the National Office, toll free at 877-787-8727 ext. 18.

Harrison (TN) Receives \$10,000 For Renovation



Harrison (TN) Ruritan Club is in the process of remodeling its club building to accommodate events such as dances and the already-in-progress bluegrass concerts they are hosting each month. Thanks to the generosity of County Commissioner Bill Hullander the project received an additional boost with the recent presentation of a check for \$10,000. The completion of this renovation project will enable the club to dramatically increase fundraising efforts. Commissioner Hullander has been an instrumental figure with Ruritan Clubs for many years. And, on behalf of Hamilton

County, he has helped the community service organization provide various projects in the county. He provided a county donation of \$3000 a few years ago to remodel the restrooms in the club building. On behalf of Hullco, Inc, his family's business, he donated windows to the club during a renovation.

As the club joined Ruritan National efforts to build a Habitat for Humanity house in Chattanooga a few years ago, Hullco donated windows and doors for the project. Last year He donated a high-quality stainless steel flagpole for the display of the Tennessee flag. Two years ago, he assisted the Birchwood School in completing a fence around their playground which prevented neighborhood dogs from bothering children at play. This project led to the establishment of Hamilton County's newest Ruritan Club, **Tri-County** (TN) Ruritan Club. Pictured (l-r): Linda Hullander, Commissioner Hullander, and Harrison Club President Jim Holcolmb.

Westside Sends Letter and Ribbon to Soldiers in Iraq

Westside (TN) Ruritan Club was featured in their local newspaper recently for presenting Make a Difference ribbons to soldiers in Iraq. In an effort to lift the spirits of National Guard MP's deployed from Cleveland (TN) to Iraq, each soldier received a ribbon saying, "Who I am makes a difference," and a letter addressed to "Our Heroes." The letter reads in part: *(Every night we tuck our kids into bed and say our prayers together. We talk to God, thanking him for all he has blessed us with. Then we talk to him about "Our Heroes" that make a difference and stand up for what is right everyday. We ask him to watch over and protect each and every one of them. Those Heroes are YOU! We can never express to you in words how much you are appreciated and thought about everyday. Always remember YOU make a difference. God bless you and keep you under his care.)*

Wadlow Gap Presents Dictionaries to Three Schools



National Director Dennie Clemmer, Wadlow Gap (VA) Ruritan Club President Paul Babb, and Club Treasurer Kathy Babb, hand out dictionaries and Rudy Bear booklets to elementary students. Each student also received a Rudy stamp on their hand. The club plans to purchase dictionaries for more students during the next school year.



Pictured (r-l): National Director Dennie Clemmer, Club member Brenda Jones, Club Secretary Janet Edwards, and club members Rhetta Edwards and Jack Edwards.

Callaway Presents Certificate of Appreciation to Deputy

Five guests sparked the **Callaway** (VA) Ruritan Club's monthly meeting at the Piedmont Presbyterian Church in Callaway, VA earlier this year. Roger Hilfer, a member of Piedmont Presbyterian came to check out a meeting and was joined by Zone Governor Rick Hogue and his wife Jean as well as Deputy Stephannie Mills of the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. After sharing dinner with the club, Hogue spoke briefly about fundraising and upcoming events and then Club President Charles Beckwith gave a token of appreciation to him on behalf of the club. Deputy Mills then presented an informative PowerPoint presentation on the Franklin County Neighborhood Watch. Highlights of her presentation underscored the Neighborhood Watch Program as a highly effective and the most economical way of preventing crime while reducing fear and bonding residents into communities. At the end of her presentation, Deputy Mills was presented with a certificate of appreciation from the club by members James Siler and Maurice Holt.



District Distributes 800 Dictionaries to Schools

Several clubs in the Peaks of Otter District (VA) participate in the Verizon Telecom Pioneers Dictionary Project. **Brookville, Boonesboro, Burnt Chimney, Chamblissburg, Crossroads, Elon, Forest Hill, Goode, Huddleston, Leesville Road, New London, Redwood, Rustburg, Thaxton, Wirtz, and Waidsboro.**

This project has been ongoing by the Verizon Telecom Pioneers for a good number of years. In 2008 the Peaks of Otter District participated and distributed approximately 800 dictionaries. In 2009 over 2000 were distributed to third grader students in the area.

Wirtz Honors DECA Winner

Wirtz (VA) Ruritan Club congratulates their newest member Kamrin Johnson for winning first place in business and selling at a DECA competition. She will be going on to the district level state competition representing Franklin County High School.



We Regret The Error

*There was an error in the Spring 2010 Ruritan magazine. In the Peaks of Otter District, the **Evington** (VA) Ruritan Club was credited for honoring Raleigh Trent with a Tom Downing Award. It was the **Peaks of Otter District** who recognized Raleigh. We regret any inconvenience this may have caused.*

Club Honors Area Veterans in November 2009

Rock Camp-Wikel (WV) Ruritan Club held its second annual Veteran's Day Parade recently. Although it was cold and raining, it still didn't hamper the atmosphere and the crowd. Churches and individuals decorated floats. The high school band joined the efforts and a 21 gun salute was performed. WV Governor Joe Manchin pleased the club with his attendance in the parade. Over 300 spectators enjoyed the soup, sandwiches, desserts, and drinks that were furnished by the club.



Madison County Helps With Family's Medical Bills

The **Madison County** (KY) Ruritan Club received a letter thanking them for their generosity. It said, in part: *Thank you so much for your assistance to Brandi Coffee and her family. Brandi is a 32 year old woman who has lost her vision to diabetic retinopathy and more recently suffered an ankle fracture in a fall. This became infected, resulting in the amputation of her leg below the knee and a medically complicated recovery process.*

She has been hospitalized at Cardinal Hill Rehabilitation Hospital for an intensive therapy program as well as education for her family as to her care needs at home.

She has been discharged today, January 12, 2010, and this would not have been possible without the donation of materials for a ramp access to the home.

Her husband can now assist her in entering and leaving the home safely, especially if an emergency should occur. I speak for her entire therapy team in thanking your organization for this generous gift.

*Respectfully,
Suzanne Kelleher
Social Worker/Case Manager*

News From Ruritan: Davy Crockett District

Jonesborough Members Earn Golden Keys

Members of the **Jonesborough** (TN) Ruritan Club receive the Golden Key Award. Pictured (l-r) 2010 Foundation Secretary Norman O'Dell, Dana Rogers II, Janice Rogers.



Union City Holds Veterans Celebration

Union City (KY)

Ruritan Club held their fourth annual veteran's celebration. The club awarded the veterans with door prizes specific to their area of service and they chose their own prize.

The meal consisted of barbeque, beans, slaw and potato wedges, and a thank you cake prepared by the club.

Pictured (l-r) front: Carroll Sowers, Royce Murphy, Leo Conner. Second row (l-r): Billy Wall, Fred Lainhart, Robert David Eades, Robert Ellis Parke, Robert L. Eades, Walker Wall, Harold Smith Carter, Past National Director Roger Carter.



News From Ruritan: Rapidan District

Food Drive Plans Underway

Greene County (VA) Ruritan Club is getting a jump start on this year's "Nourish Your Community" food drive. The club has started donating monthly over 100 pounds of food and \$50 cash with a goal of donating over 1,200 pounds of food and \$600 in cash by the end of the year. Club members collaborate with the county's Women's Club and Department of Social Services (DSS) to stock the local food bank. For more information on the Ruritan food drive plans, see page 5.

Club member Louise Hayes is pictured with the Greene County DSS Director James Howard.



Salem (VA) Donates \$1,000

The **Salem** (VA) Ruritan Club was recognized in their local paper recently for donating \$1,000 to the sculpting of the Homage Statue. The statue is to memorialize Culpeper's veterans of World War II and the Korean War. The club held their annual July 4 raffle to raise the funds.

Virginia Gov. Bob McDonnell Praises Ruritan

When a snow storm arrived in Virginia Beach during the 2010 Ruritan National Convention in January, Virginia's Governor Bob McDonnell and Lt. Governor Bill Bolling were unable to attend and bring greetings to the convention attendees. Both McDonnell and Bolling are Ruritan members. Jean Barker, an **Ivor** (VA) Ruritan who had arranged for them to bring greetings at the Ruritan National Convention, contacted their offices and arranged appointments. She wanted Virginia leaders to know how honored Ruritans from throughout the commonwealth were to have them as members.

A group of eight, including 1995 National President Frank Guthrie, 1995 First Lady Janet Guthrie, Holland Governor Chuck Myers, Holland District First Lady Mary Myers, and Past Holland District Governors Vernon Teall, Bill Lewter, and Phyllis Lewter, accompanied Jean to Richmond. First they met with Lt. Governor Bolling. During the meeting he shared, *"When I was a state delegate, I attended many club meetings and fundraisers and was always most impressed with how Ruritans served their communities."*

Next came a meeting with Gov. McDonnell, who also praised Ruritans for their community service. Pictures were taken in both meetings and gifts of Ruritan pins and Virginia products including a ham were presented to the governor and Lt. governor. To round out this exciting trip to Richmond, the group was given private tours of the executive mansion and the capitol building.

Great Bridge Plants 250 Trees in Park

The **Great Bridge** (VA) Ruritan Club joined with scouts and other civic organizations in Chesapeake for Arbor Day 2010. These groups planted 250 trees at Centerville Park. The trees will add beauty and a natural buffer to the playing fields which they surround for many years to come. Pictured are Environment Chairman Joe Fitzpatrick with Scout Derrick Bradford and three-year old helper Charlotte Lewter. The club was recently awarded the Adult Community Service Award for its ongoing environmental practices, including maintaining an Adopt-a-Highway, three Adopt-a-Garden sites, and participating in the Great American Cleanup, Clean the Bay Day, and Arbor Day.



Meherrin Welcomes National President

It's tradition that every February the Ruritan National President visits the **Meherrin** (VA) Ruritan Club. This Year 2010 President Jerome Rodes encouraged the members to participate in his new program, "Make a Record Day," and praised the club for its accomplishments, and encouraged each member to be the most they can be. Past National President Bobby Wrenn chaired an event for "Stop Hunger Now."

He is shown with Dominic Alexander of "Stop Hunger Now". The meal packaging program is a volunteer based effort through which participant's package high protein, dehydrated meals for use in crisis situations. The club raised almost \$5,000 and they were able to package 15,224 meals.

Volunteers from the community included Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, church members, Rotary, and other community citizens. Pictured (l-r): 2009 Ruritan National President Donald Worrell, 1978 Ruritan National President Bobby Wrenn, 2010 Ruritan National President Jerome Rodes, Meherrin Club President Al Reavis, 2003 Ruritan National President George Winslow.



Grassfield Recognizes Charter Member



Pictured (l-r) are **Grassfield** (VA) Ruritan Club President Russell Gwynn and his father-in-law, the only living charter member left of the club, Eddie Vincek, who also celebrated his 85th birthday on the day of the Club's annual auction sale.

Beverley Manor Provides Support to Local School



Beverley Manor (VA) Ruritan Club members Marilyn Long and Charlie Drumheller pictured top left recently presented a tool chest to the maintenance department at Beverley Manor Elementary School. Receiving the tool chest were Russell Beverly and

Principal Dawn Young.

The club's patriotism committee sponsored a "What is Citizenship" essay writing contest for all Fourth grade elementary students. The four winners were Reagan Deitz, Kieland Chandler, Katie Harris, and Katie Foster. The winners were awarded a certificate, flag and a \$25 check. Members Robin Ruleman and Vicki Drumheller (pictured above) spoke with former Virginia Governor and U.S. Senator George Allen at the 62nd annual Shad Planking held in Wakefield Virginia earlier this year.

The bipartisan event is hosted by the **Wakefield** (VA) Ruritan club and raises funds to be used in the Wakefield community.

Mill Gap (VA) Operates 'Donut Factory'

Mill Gap (VA) Ruritan Club participated in the Highland County Maple Festival earlier this year. The club owns and operates a mobile donut factory which is a converted mobile home. At the four-day event the club turned out approximately sixty thousand maple flavored donuts. Following the festival the club rewards the workers with a steak and shrimp meal for their contribution to the community. Pictured (l-r): Stacy Newcomband, and Stephen Wimer fixing the donuts.



Middlebrook (VA) Club Celebrates 70th Anniversary

April was an exciting month for the **Middlebrook** (VA) Ruritan Club. A celebration was held in the Middlebrook Community Center in honor of the club's 70th anniversary and in recognition of the 46 men who had the dedication to start the club.

Today the club has 86 members ranging from age 3 to 92. Many awards were presented to deserving members and many memories shared.

Don Hanger, former Augusta County Supervisor and current member of the club, read a resolution presented by the Augusta County Board of Supervisors. Irvin Rosen (top right) received a 50 year badge from Ruritan National President Jerome Rodes. Irvin also



presented President Rodes a clock. Irvin is a master clock builder. Charlie "Monk" Beard (lower right) was presented a Ruritan tie tac with a 65 year tab. Presenting the pin are National Vice President Jayson Duncan and 2010 National President Jerome Rodes.



Clubs Work On Sign

Wes Maupin, member of the **Stonewall** (VA) Ruritan Club, chaired a community service project to erect a sign at the entrance of Highland county.

Members of the **Blue Grass** (VA) and **Mill Gap** (VA) Ruritan Clubs and members of the Monterey Lions Club supported this project and will erect more signs throughout the community.



Western Yell (AR) Tidies Up Havana City Cemetery

Western Yell (AR) Ruritan Club has sponsored and conducted three community service events this spring. In March the club sponsored its annual scholarship fundraiser dinner at the Western Yell County High School. Catfish, seafood, smoked ribs, and all the trimmings were served to several hundred with a profitable outcome. The club awards between \$3000 and \$4000 in scholarships each year to deserving graduates of Western Yell County Schools. This event has been on-going for over 25 years and club members say it has always been a great success.

They hosted a rally and pie auction in the community. Pies and cakes were auctioned with the club making over \$2400 at this event. Over 75 attended. Also the club performed a community service project at the Havana City Cemetery. Club members worked to clean and paint a pavilion, cleared brush along fencerows, and cleaned and repaired monuments, some pre-dating Civil War times.



Devon (KS) Celebrates 40th Anniversary

Devon (KS) Ruritan Club celebrates its 40th anniversary with a chicken and noodle dinner and an anniversary cake served by the Devon Methodist Ladies. Middle America's Area Governor Ed Carstedt congratulated this year's club officers for stepping up to the plate and keeping the club alive.

Lt. Area Governor Jim Kimball thanked the club as well and welcomed new member Trent Cummins into the club.

Block Community Helps Landscape Church

Block Community (KS) Ruritan Club and the Twin Valley 4-H Club worked together and completed 126 total working hours at the Trinity Lutheran Church. Twenty-six members of the clubs helped gather plants and landscaping materials, then planted and mulched all the plants that were purchased with memorial funds. Memorial stepping stones were placed throughout the landscaping.



News From Ruritan: Dan River District

Successful Fundraiser Held

Horsepasture (VA) Ruritan Club has not only added six new members and three associates this year; they have had many successful fundraisers. In January, they held a Brunswick stew sale which allowed them to make donations to the fire department and the rescue squad. From the proceeds from an annual spaghetti dinner they donated to Hunters for the Hungry, Haitian Relief, and are sponsoring three children and one counselor to 4-H camp. The club plans on providing three scholarships to deserving students later this year.

News From Ruritan: Chesapeake District

Chesapeake Holds Club Presidents' Meeting

The **Chesapeake District** held a presidents' meeting recently. All club presidents or a club representative and cabinet members attended with a motive to gather information from the convention, district, zone, and clubs events.

King George Donates to Fund

The **King George (VA)** Ruritan Club gave a donation to the Elaine "Michelle" Kosko Scholarship Fund in memory of Michelle who was a long-time Ruritan member. With the money given and the donation from the club, there was enough money to give four teachers a one-time scholarship of \$400 each.

The meeting was held at

the **Abingdon (VA)** Ruritan Club building and the club also provided the meal. Pictured (l-r): Past National Director Elliott Hogge, Gail Duncan, National Vice President Jayson Duncan, Foundation Trustee Cleve Wright, National Director Karen Palette, and Chesapeake District Governor Tommy Boschen.



News From Ruritan: Ohio District

Six Ohio Clubs Work Together to Help Family

The six Ruritan clubs in the West Branch School District of Ohio: **Beloit, Damascus, Goshen Center, Knox, West Branch Area Ladies, West Branch Ruri-Teen** worked together to help a family in need after the loss of their mother in a tragic accident last fall. Some of the father's classmates from high school also worked with the Ruritans who raised \$13,000 for this family and warming the hearts of everyone who participated.

Pictured (left) is Zone Governor John Biery greeting Brent Baker and his children Jacob and Madilynn when they attended a meeting of the Damascus Ruritan Club. Also attending were Brent's parents Gary and Caroline Baker.



News From Ruritan: Alabama - Florida District

Newton Holds Blood Drive

Newton (AL) Ruritan Club held a blood drive recently. Total amount of blood collected was 21 pints. Red Cross officials said for a community the size of Newton this was a large turnout. Pictured right is District Governor Lehman Irby hooked up to the ALYX machine which separates blood, pumping the plasma back into the body. This method yields the same as two pints which is ready to be shipped to hospitals immediately.



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New club officers for the **Paxton (FL)** Ruritan Club are shown (l-r): director Bill Perkins, Secretary Mary Perkins, Director Madge Reed, President Missy Bolen, Vice President Melanie McLaren, Director Alice McRae, and Past President Bill McRae.

News From Ruritan: Upper WV District

Fellowsville Recognized for Food Donations

Fellowsville (WV) Ruritan Club was recognized in their local newspaper for donating food to the Preston County Food Pantry. Pictured are (l-r) Don Post, National Director Guy Cox, Dick Strawser, Terry Hamilton, Ordain Ridenour, Don Ridenour and Ed Edmunds.



News From Ruritan: Tennessean District

National VP Takes a Turn At The Frying Pan

Ruritan National Vice President Jayson Duncan helps fry fish for the **Bloomington** (TN) Ruritan fish fry fundraiser. The sales exceeded \$2,000. Pictured front to back: Keith Ragsdale, Jayson Duncan, Kingfish Ralph Fields, and Jim Smallwood.



Two Members Recognized by Club

Two men were honored during recent club meetings at the **McPheeters' Bend** (TN) Ruritan Club. Secretary Keith McLain and President Jeff Thacker received a plaque for the club's "Ruritan of the Year." McLain received his plaque at the club's January meeting and Thacker received his at the December 2009 meeting.

News From Ruritan: Georgia - N/ALA District

*Jyana Smith, president of the **Spring Place** (GA) Ruritan Club, was featured in the local newspaper presenting toys to David McDaniel of Community Christmas as the club celebrates its 59th anniversary by contributing more than 50 toys and \$200 in cash to the cause.*



***Bryant** (AL) Ruritan Club members Marie and Mickey Schruder were honored by National Vice President Jayson Duncan for their 47 years of perfect attendance during the 47th club anniversary celebration recently.*



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