



Ruritan

Volume 79, Spring 2014



Let's Get Excited About Ruritan



(This 2014 convention will go down in Ruritan history as the first where a sitting President is elected to serve a full term.)

Past National Presidents, Ruritan National Officers, and my fellow Ruritans, Thank you for your faith in electing me as your 2014 National President. Some other

individuals and groups I want to thank as well include my home club, the Abingdon Ruritan Club, and my home district, Chesapeake. They have given me their unwavering support over the years.

I also thank YOU, as individuals and as clubs, for all the hospitality shown to Sandra and me while being on this great journey in Ruritan Land.

I need to pay special thanks to Betty Jo and her family for being more than just close Ruritan friends and for allowing me to be with them for the most difficult time in their family's life.

I would be remiss in my duties as your President if I did not let you know how close Past President Dennie Clemmer and I were. The continuity in our approach to fulfilling our roles together in Ruritan was because our communication line was never severed. After the 2013 election results were in, we began talking about how we would communicate. I asked him if he wanted me to email him, but he said no, that he wanted to talk so that he could see what was in my eyes.

Folks, that was farmer talk meaning "I WANT TO HEAR WHAT YOU ARE SAYING." Our communicating continued even to the day of his passing. Folks, this union has made Elliott Hogge a better Ruritan.

Next, I would like to thank my family. As so many of you Ruritans know, we give time to our clubs and communities and we ask our families to wait until the chowder is done or the stew is done or the chicken is 'queued. Part of my family is here with me tonight, and I would like to introduce them to you: My daughter, Andrea Cooper; son-in-law Tommy Cooper; grandson and director of the Gloucester High School Ruri-teen Club, Stephen Blake; granddaughter and secretary of the Gloucester High School Ruri-teen

Club, Lauren Blake; and grandson David Cooper, who just turned seven this week.

I hope to have the rest of the clan with me when we come to Greensboro next year so that you can meet them, too: my son, Jeff Hogge; grandsons Austin and Jeff Jr.; and granddaughters Brittney and Katie.

Lastly, I thank my wife who stood by me 100 percent from day one when I started on this national trip. I assure you that without both of us working as one unit, this adventure could not be smoothly completed.

One of the first things a leader must do is marshal his assets and take stock of the people, materials, and processes that will enable him to accomplish his mission.

I just took an oath of office as your national president. Let me repeat that oath for you:

"I hereby promise that I will, to the best of my ability, carry out the duties and responsibilities of my office, and will uphold the bylaws of Ruritan National, and with the help of God and my fellow Ruritans make every effort to promote fellowship, goodwill, and community service throughout America."

"WITH THE HELP OF MY FELLOW RURITANS...."

Folks, Ruritan's greatest resource is sitting right in front of me:

YOU. You and the other 28,000 plus members are the heartbeat of Ruritan. YOU and the other 28,000 plus members are the very soul of Ruritan, and as a team we can and will grow our beloved Ruritan organization.

Last year President Dennie's goal was to grow Ruritan through revitalization and plant the seeds of Ruritan. This year my goal is to grow Ruritan through you, me, and our membership getting excited about Ruritan. We must continue planting the seeds for Ruritan growth. That's planning Ruritan continuity.

We need to be excited planting the seeds of Ruritan. Put on your Ruritan hat, wear your Ruritan shirt or blouse, or your Ruritan pin when you shop, go to work, or just to meet with your friends. This says volumes about how you feel about Ruritan and it's a super way of starting a conversation about Ruritan.

Your Ruritan excitement will cultivate these seeds. "Planting Seeds for Ruritan Growth."

Another resource we have is our motto of Fellow-

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Ruritan

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Contest for the Fall 2014 RURITAN Magazine Cover

National President Elliott Hogge's special emphasis this year is "Service to Veterans." To honor our veterans the Ruritan National Publications Committee is sponsoring a Ruritan Magazine Cover Contest. Send photos of your club's **veterans events** for a chance to be on the cover of the Fall 2014 Ruritan Magazine. Submitted action photos must be in color and high resolution (at least 300 dpi) and include a caption or identification of the members pictured and a brief description of the event. Send your photo by mail or email no later than August 1, 2014 to: COVER CONTEST, P.O. Box 487, Dublin, VA 24084 or email to media@ruritan.org. For the subject line use "cover contest."

On The Cover: 2014 National President Elliott Hogge is a member of the **Abingdon** (VA) Ruritan Club. The family portrait was taken at the Abingdon Club building. Pictured on the back row (l-r) are Stephen Blake, Jeff Hogge, and Austin Hicks. Pictured in the middle (l-r) are Lauren Blake, Katie Whitcomb, Andrea Cooper, and Tommy Cooper. Pictured on the front (l-r) are Brittney Hicks, Elliott Hogge, David Cooper, Sandra Hogge, and Jeffrey Hogge, Jr.

New Year Opportunity for Fresh Start



Welcome to 2014! We just returned from a great convention in Branson, MO. While the numbers were down we still had a great convention with lots of good food, great speakers, entertainers, and informative workshops. But most importantly the delegates took care of the business of electing our new board

members (see photo below) and making changes to the bylaws of Ruritan. All in all a great convention... we just wish more of you had been able to attend. President Elliott Hogge was elected President again for 2014, becoming the first sitting President to ever be re-elected to the post. Because of the vote of the delegates Bobby Burton was elected the first ever President Elect.

Attendance at our conventions has been declining over the last 20 years. In cases where we don't meet negotiated room blocks or food and beverage minimums, we are financially penalized. We realize that there are a number of reasons that convention attendance is down, not the least of which is the cost. You might remember that a few years back we conducted a convention survey that was sent to

several different groups including members who had attended several conventions, members that had only attended one and never returned, and members who had never attended a convention. We gathered a lot of data. Over the last three years we have had the opportunity to test the data by offering conventions in different formats to see what works best for you. Because of what we have learned and because we have had time to experience more conventions, some built around your suggestions and others that were not, President Elliott has decided to take another look. A committee will begin to analyze ways to make convention more member-friendly and to reduce costs. This committee will work the better part of this year to determine what recommendations to send to the board of directors. We are excited about the work of this committee and the positive changes we know will come from their work.

One of the best things about a new year is that we take the opportunity to start fresh. The slate is clean. Begin now to make this year your best year... Ruritan's best year. The board of directors approved extending the "WANTED" program for 2014. This program generated nearly 800 new members last year. There were 12 unique winners (no winners were duplicated) in 2013. Help us make Ruritan a growing organization again in 2014.

Finally, as soon as one convention is completed,

we begin to get ready for the next. Please plan to join us in the heart of Ruritan for our Convention in Greensboro, NC. President Elliott has appointed Jimmy Bristow and Gary Taylor to co-chair next year's convention. They are already planning a fun-filled program for you!



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ship, Goodwill, and Community Service. Some of you picked up buttons at my candidate table that had a smiley face on them. We need to put on our smiley faces to show our enthusiasm and excitement for Ruritan while doing fundraisers and have FUN. We have to smile and be pleasant regardless of whether we have worked six or eight or ten hours that day. We need to make Fellowship our number one objective in our clubs, districts, and associations.

Our Ruritan founders knew when starting this organization that two building blocks, Fellowship and Goodwill, would be a fire starter for Community Service.

I say this with all the love and respect for my fellow Ruritans, clubs, districts, and associations. It is time we take a cursory look at ourselves, our clubs, our districts, and our associations to see what we could do within ourselves to make our organization a place where people not only want to join but they want to stay.

My fellow Ruritans, over the past 86 years some things have changed. Numbers grow tall and get small. But one thing has not changed: FELLOWSHIP, GOODWILL, and the desire to create great community service is still key to growing membership numbers in our organization.

I want to re-emphasize that this is a team effort. We have a national board that will assist you and also our National Staff. National Staff, please stand.

At this time, my fellow Ruritans, let's show our staff, who are Ruritans and practice what they preach, some Ruritan love.

In the middle of your table are envelopes. If you have not already done it, open them. This is our motto for this year: "Let's Get Excited About Ruritan."

We hope each of you will wear a pin and promote Ruritan excitement and make Ruritan fun.

Also, in the envelope are some stickers, bearing my resemblance and our motto. Use these as a reminder.

Place them on your books, club bulletin boards, and wherever you go to remind everyone to get excited about Ruritan and spread the Ruritan growth message.

Take advantage of the WANTED program.

One of my irks is losing a member of the club and hearing someone say, "Well, I guess we'll have to get another member."

"Why not get two?" Get two new members and receive the Golden Key Award.

We are RECRUITERS FOR RURITAN.

The WANTED Program and the Golden Key Program are fantastic programs for recruiting new members.

At the next convention I will recognize Golden Key holders and winners of the WANTED Program.

Also a great program for your clubs is the three R Program - Recruit, Retain, and Reclaim - old but still relevant.

Although Ruritan has no national program, it is customary for each new PRESIDENT to announce a special emphasis for the coming year. My special emphasis is "Service to Veterans." Many clubs already have programs in place to serve veterans.

I encourage all clubs to make an effort to learn about the needs of veterans in their own communities. I encourage everyone to take advantage of the opportunities listed on the Veterans Administration's website to learn about needs of veterans in their state. The needs are many and range from providing personal care items to patients to donating money to various special funds at each VA facility.

In the District Governor Training on Thursday, your district governor was told about this program. Each time a club has a fundraiser to benefit veterans or does something to benefit veterans, they will send a note to their district governor, so that each quarter he can send it directly to me. I will compile this information and report to you at the 2015 National Convention in Greensboro.

And folks, as in any club fundraiser, have information about Ruritan and your club on display, so that it is available to encourage people to come and join your Ruritan club.

Start a veterans' program in your club. They need us!

My fellow Ruritans, we have had a great convention. We have rekindled old friendships and made new ones. I pray that each of you has safe travels home, and may God bless you.

Thank you Roy Snowden (the individual who asked me to join Ruritan).



2014 National President Elliott Hogge (center) takes his oath of office at the 2014 National Convention from 1966 National President Buddy Ragsdale (left) as 2014 First Lady Sandra Hogge looks on.

New Officers for 2014 Installed in Branson



National President
Elliott Hogge



President Elect
Robert "Bobby"
Burton



National Director
Terry Call



National Director
Joe Jaynes



National Director
Sara Kelly



National Director
Frances Long



National Director
Michael Morrison



National Director
Michael Myers



National Director
Maynard Yoh



Foundation
President
Danny Privott



Foundation
Trustee
Jayson Duncan

Awards Presented in Branson

Three important awards, commemorating three very special members, were presented to Ruritan members in Branson. The 2013 Rudy Youth of the Year, Emily Ours of the **North Fork Club** in the Upper WV District, has been a member of Ruritan since 2001. This young person not only attends club meetings, but has also spent over 2,000 hours on club projects. Some of the projects she worked on included volunteering at a local hospital and working on a Make A Wish benefit.

The Ruri-Teen of the Year Award is a very important way to recognize the young Ruritans who are active in the Ruri-Teen clubs in their schools and communities. The Ruri-Teen of the Year for 2013 is Katherine Leaman of the **Turner Ashby Ruri-Teen Club** and the **Belmont Community** Ruritan Club in the Rockingham District. Katherine has attended all club meetings, visited area clubs, and held four club offices during high school. She has been

to four national conventions while she was in high school. Over 200 hours have been spent on club projects and she worked especially hard raising \$67,000 for St. Jude's Children's Hospital. She is also a member of FFA and has volunteered at a local retirement center.

The star Ruritan for 2013 – the Ruritan of the Year – was Mrs. Katharine Allen of the **Rewastico Creek Club** in the Demarva NJ District. Katherine has been a faithful Ruritan for almost 30 years and has encouraged Ruritan membership for multiple generations of her family. She has held many club offices, including 18 years as club secretary. She faithfully attends district and national conventions and has spent almost 1,000 hours on her club projects just this year. In the past year, she has spent time visiting 10 other clubs in her district.



Delegates Approve Post of Ruritan National President Elect



President Elect Robert "Bobby" Burton is shown being pinned by his wife Linda Burton during the Installation Banquet.

In one of two amendments to the Ruritan National Bylaws, delegates to the convention in Branson in January overwhelmingly approved renaming the Ruritan National Vice President as Ruritan National President Elect. This action was to take place immediately upon delegate approval, so the office to be held by Robert "Bobby" Burton for 2014 is that of President Elect.

ARTICLE V of the National Bylaws – **Officers -Section 1** read as follows: "The elected officers of Ruritan National shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and 21 National Directors. Once elected the officers must remain active members of Ruritan National."

Following the delegate action, the article now reads: "The elected officers of Ruritan National shall be a President, a President-Elect, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and 21 National Directors. Once elected the officers must remain active members of Ruritan National."

Also approved by the delegates was the addition the following, under **Section 1. of Article XII: Discipline of Clubs/Members, subsection G.** which will read as follows: "Any club which shall be as much as nine (9) months in arrears in the payment of national dues may be temporarily suspended pending action by



A color guard from the College of the Ozarks High School ROTC program presented the American flag at the 2014 Ruritan National Convention Veterans Breakfast.

the National Board of Directors. Any club so suspended shall not be entitled to send delegates to or participate in any district or National Conventions, nor receive literature or other benefits from Ruritan National, and shall remain on such suspended list until restored to active status by payment of its dues. Any club in arrears of national dues as much as 15 months shall forfeit its charter upon action of the National Board of Directors."



*2013 First Lady Betty Jo Clemmer received a brick paver in memory of 2013 National President, the late Dennie Clemmer, from the **Wadlow Gap** (VA) Ruritan Club. Pictured (l-r) are Betty Jo Clemmer, Paul Babb, and Kathy Babb. This paver will be larger than the others and feature special artwork such as Rudy Bear and President Dennie's signature boot logo.*



In Branson, newly installed 2014 District Governors participated in a training which included topics such as their legal responsibilities as Ruritan leaders, IRS 990 tax issues, insurance liability for Ruritan clubs, and ways to grow the organization.

Get Excited About Ruritan!



The 2015 National Convention is in the heart of Ruritan: Greensboro, NC January 15 - 18, 2015



Attn: _____
Fax# _____

SHERATON GREENSBORO HOTEL

336 292 9161 (DIRECT) 336 294 3516 (FAX)
Reservations: 800 242-6556
Ask For Ruritan

REQUEST FOR MULTIPLE ROOMS

Must have complete information on all **

**Contact Name _____ **area code and telephone number _____

** Your Company Name _____ email address _____

**Address _____ **City _____ **ST _____ **Zip _____

Ruritan 1/15-19, 2015

**Credit card to guarantee _____ exp date _____

**Name on credit card _____

Ruritan Room Rate \$110.00 Plus 12.75% Tax for King or Double Room

PLEASE COPY THIS FORM TO PROVIDE ROOMING INFORMATION FOR ALL ROOMS REQUESTED

Room #1	Arrival date	Departure date	Guest(s) names for this room	Room Type

Room #2	Arrival date	Departure date	Guest(s) names for this room	Room Type

RESERVATIONS WILL BE BOOKED AND VERIFICATION SENT UPON RECEIPT PLEASE CHECK YOUR PREFERRED CONFIRMATION FORMAT

- ☐ CheckBox1 email address _____
☐ CheckBox2 fax _____
☐ CheckBox3 mail to address above

For office use only
Res co-ordinator:
SENT DATE/03/29/12

1981 National President Robert Davis Passes



Ruritans are remembering 1981 National President the Rev. Robert K. Davis of Knoxville, TN, who died on November 26, 2013. He was diagnosed with ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease) on December 30, 2011.

He was a member of the East Tennessee Presbytery, retired pastor of Kirk Hills Presbyterian Church, 1954 graduate of Hastings College in Hastings, Nebraska, 1959 graduate of McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, IL, with a Masters of Divinity, and a US Army Veteran of the Korean War.

He served churches in Chicago and St. Louis before coming to East Tennessee in 1965 where he served as Director of Sunset Gap Community Center in Cosby, TN. He was a member of the Farragut Ruritan Club and served as the Ruritan National President in 1981. He was a Scout Master of Troop 291 for 27 years with the Boy Scouts of America and was preceded in death by his parents, Guy and Vida Davis; brothers, Marvin, Clinton, and Don Davis; and sister, Lois Annan.

Survivors: wife, Kaye Louise Johndreau Davis; daughters and sons-in-law, Christina Kaye and Patrick Camp of Bell Buckle, TN, Rebecca Sue and Tom Slone of London, KY; son and daughter-in-

law Daniel Keith and Mona Davis of Knoxville; grandchildren, Rachel Slone, Ellie Camp, Anna Claire Camp, and Christopher Davis; and sister Barbara Davis of Lynden, Washington.

Anyone wishing to remember Past President Bob may want to make a donation to the Robert K. and Kaye Davis Educational Fund in the Ruritan National Foundation.

Past National Director Jack Kilpatrick Passes

Ruritan also noted the passing of a past National Director (61-63) Fred Jack Kilpatrick of Turtletown, TN. Jack died on November 20, 2013. He was a member of the McCaysville First Baptist Church. He was a Veteran of WWII serving as a Staff Sergeant in the Army Air Corp from 1942 until honorably discharged in 1945. He retired from Tri State Electric Membership Company after thirty plus years of service as office manager. He was a faithful member of the Turtletown Ruritan Club. Jack was also preceded in death by his loving wife, Guinn Ellen Kimsey Kilpatrick; son, Kent Kilpatrick; great-granddaughter, Carah Kimsey; brother, Jim Kilpatrick; brother-in-law, Leroy Rogers; and sister-in-law Jayne Kilpatrick. For those desiring donations in memory of Jack, they may be made to the Gideons International or to the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperation Program, 901 Commerce Street, Nashville, TN 37203.

Club and District Growth Awards from DRM Luncheon

New Club	District	Sponsoring Club	DRM
Bristow Run Elementary	Rappahannock	Gainesville	Ken Hinkle and Rudy Youth Ruri-Teen
Patriot High School Ruri-Teen	Rappahannock	Nokesville/Bristow	Catherine Melusen and Kayla Fyock
Romney	Upper WVA	Augusta	Joe Pancione
Headsville Countryside	Upper WVA	Upper WVA District	R. Eugene Tasker
Deep Creek High School Ruri-Teen	Holland	Deep Creek	Nikki Keegan and Donna Silberholz
CHS	Cherokee	North Lee	Joyce Johnson
SMALL DISTRICTS-500 MEMBERS OR LESS: Tall Corn District with a growth of 8.40%			
MEDIUM DISTRICTS-501-1000 MEMBERS: Upper West Virginia with a growth of 5.34%.			
LARGE DISTRICTS-1001+ MEMBERS: Rockingham District with a Growth 2.05%			

Founders' Day Weekend
A Time for Ruritans to Celebrate Their 86th Anniversary
May 16-17, 2014 in Holland VA

Founders' Day Weekend Registration Options

Option 1 Golf Tournament - May 16

Player 1 (captain): _____

Player 2: _____

Player 3: _____

Player 4: _____

\$75.00 X _____ persons = \$ _____
(includes dinner, drinks on the course, and golf cart)

Friday Buffet Dinner at golf course for those not playing: \$12.00 X _____ persons = \$ _____

Club: _____ District: _____

Contact: _____

Phone: _____

Golf Schedule

11:00-12:45 Check-in & putting contest

1:00 Golf Tournament (shotgun start)

5:00-6:00 Claim Door Prizes

5:30 Buffet Dinner/Awards Presentation

Mail Golf form and check to:

Chuck Myers, Founders' Day Golf

7141 Birchwood Circle

Prince George, VA 23875

email: mandspr@verizon.net

Lodging

Guests may book rooms at the Hilton Garden Inn in Suffolk, VA (757) 925-1300. Mention Ruritan Founders' Day for a special rate. Make reservations before May 9, 2014, to get Ruritan Rate.

Highlights of the Weekend

- Friday, May 16, 2014 – Golf at Nansemond River Golf Club, Suffolk, VA. The format is Florida best ball. Practice begins at 11 a.m. with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. A buffet dinner is included.
- Those who don't golf can spend Friday shopping or visiting antique shops in the area.
- Saturday wreath-laying ceremony at 9:45 a.m. to celebrate the founding of Ruritan in 1928. Parade at 11:00 a.m. followed by a Barbeque Cook-off and afternoon entertainment.
- Saturday evening dinner in the Holland Ruritan Club at 5:00 p.m. followed by special entertainment.

Option 2 Saturday Night Banquet Dinner
Holland Ruritan Club House - May 17

Name: _____

Spouse/Guest: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

\$20.00X _____ Persons = \$ _____

Mail Banquet Form and check to:

Holland District

Clay Byrum

30799 Hunt Club Rd.

Carrsville, VA 23315

email: aba123321@aol.com



Plan to Send Young People to the 2014 Youth Camp at Ridgecrest Conference Center Ridgecrest, NC

What is it?

We hope your club will be able to sponsor young Ruritans and Ruri-Teens (either from your club or from other clubs in your district) to take part in this fantastic opportunity for fellowship while learning leadership skills and increasing their enthusiasm for serving their communities through their membership in Ruritan and/or Ruri-Teen.

This event is **July 18-20, 2014**, and will be held at the **Ridgecrest Conference Center**, located in Ridgecrest, NC. You can see more about the facility at <http://ridgecrestconferencecenter.org>. This camp is for students **up to the age 19**. Students that are younger than **age 9** must be accompanied by a parent. This facility does have/offer family accommodations. Please contact Craig Whitt at the Ruritan National Office if family accommodations will be needed.

What will the Camp Include?

Climbing Tower, Low and High Ropes Course (High Rope Course is for **age 10** and older), Laser Tag, Softball, Basketball, Tennis, Miniature Golf, Disc Golf, Zip Line, Fishing (bring your own equipment,) and Hiking Trails. Youth will be able to catch up with old friends and make new ones.

From the Youth Committee:

The Youth Committee of the National Board of Directors is asking for your help. There is nothing in Ruritan more important than our youth. Without them there is no future for Ruritan. We do not want any youth left behind because they could not afford to be a part of this exciting event that could shape their future and the future of Ruritan. The Youth Committee's goal is for these young people to build their leadership skills while they learn more about Ruritan and community service. We will wrap all this great education in a fantastic, fun time full of fellowship and joy. The facility provides a safe and inviting space for all of this to take place.



*See reverse side for registration form.

*If you have questions or suggestions, please contact Craig Whitt, Ruritan National Member Services toll free at 877-787-8727 ext. 312 or at service@ruritan.org



2014 Ruritan Youth Camp Registration Form July 18-20

The 2014 Ruritan Youth Camp will be held at the Ridgecrest Conference Center. The Ridgecrest Conference Center is located in Ridgecrest, NC, approximately 17 miles east of Asheville, NC. Registration forms, completed paper work, and payment of \$140 per person are due by June 13th.

Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Male ___ Female ___

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Preferred Badge Name _____

Roommate Choice _____

T-Shirt Size (adult sizes, circle one)

Small Medium Large XL 2XL 3XL

I am registering as (circle one option on each line) Non-Member Member
Adult Youth

I am adding \$5 to my registration fee to send one Rudy Bear to the 2014 Youth Camp. _____

Parent/Guardian Name (please print) _____

Parent/Guardian signature _____

Please do the following:

Complete the registration form above and mail it along with your check or credit card information to Ruritan National, P. O. Box 487, Dublin, VA 24084. Also, please e-mail Craig Whitt at the Ruritan National Office service@ruritan.org or call Craig toll free 1-877-787-8727 extension 312 to request the forms that are required.

*You may visit the Ridgecrest Conference Center's website at: <http://ridgecrestconferencecenter.org> to get more information about this new and exciting location.

Plan to Attend the 2014 Summer Leadership Conference

All 2014 Ruritan district lieutenant governors should plan to attend the 2014 Summer Leadership Conference in Dublin, VA, at New River Community College on June 19 - 21 2014. 2014 National President Elect Bobby Burton is building enthusiasm for Ruritan's "Revitalization" and "Get Excited About Ruritan," with his theme of "Walk the Walk for Ruritan."

All members of the district cabinet and Ruritan leaders in other levels of leadership are invited and encouraged to attend this conference for a nominal fee. Classes will be tailored to the needs of registered attendees, but there will be classes to benefit all, no matter what their positions.

The conference gives Ruritan leaders the opportunity to learn more about their responsibilities, share ideas, express concerns, and plan for the future of the organization. It also provides an opportunity for leaders to learn about responsibilities of a higher position and encourages them to move up in their leadership roles. Information on the conference content and cost will be sent to district governors and Lt. governors later this spring.

The conference brings Ruritan leaders together to discuss concerns and plan for the future of the organization. Attendees will also learn the latest information about Ruritan programs and procedures. 2014 district governors are also invited to attend this training with the stipulation that expenses will be reimbursed for the lodging cost of one person and one travel per district, plus food. Allowances will be made for distance and gender-related exceptions. District officers should also note that 2014 district Lt. governors (according to policy, only if you become the incoming district governor for 2014) and the 2014 district governors will be paid ½ of their expenses to the 2015 National Convention in Greensboro, NC, provided the following are met:

- * They attend the June 2014 Summer Leadership Conference (unless excused in writing by National President);
- * They attend Governors' Training at the 2015 National Convention;
- * They attend substantially all meetings at the 2015 National Convention;
- * Forms R-35 and R-36 are received by Ruritan National no later than December 31, 2014, and
- * Expense vouchers are submitted within 90 days after the 2015 Convention. Lodging rooms will be blocked for this conference at the Dublin area hotels.

May is "Ruritan Awareness Month."
Visit the ruritan.org website for more information.



Top Clubs With Greatest Percentage Increase		
LARGE CLUBS		
SILK HOPE	ROCKY MT-DURHAM	3.75%
JEFFERSON, MD	POTOMAC	5.94%
ABINGDON	CHESAPEAKE	7.76%
BETHESDA, NC	ROCKY MT-DURHAM	10.59%
HARRISON	CHEROKEE	15.83%
MEDIUM CLUBS		
GIBBS	SMOKY MOUNTAIN	17.50%
CATAWBA VALLEY	NATURAL BRIDGE	19.51%
KEEDYSVILLE	POTOMAC	22.22%
WHITE HALL	RAPIDAN	22.22%
SMITHFIELD	HOLLAND	76.19%
SMALL CLUBS		
BENHAVEN	CAPE FEAR	56.25%
MCGAHEYSVILLE	ROCKINGHAM	57.14%
BROOKLYN	TALL CORN	57.69%
OAK HILL (CALDWELL)	WESTERN NC	75%
EATON CROSSROADS	SMOKY MOUNTAIN	113.33%

Message From 2014 Foundation President Danny Privott



Let's Go To The Beach

Thank you for giving me the honor and privilege of serving as President of YOUR Ruritan National Foundation.

The Foundation enjoyed a very successful year under the great leadership and dedication of 2013 President Norman O'Dell. Thank you, Norman. Thanks also go to Trustees David Freshly, Fred Payne, and Pat Davis for their dedication to YOUR Foundation. Thank you to Michael Chrisley for supporting the Trustees efforts and to Tina Lawson for providing information, maintaining records, mailing, receiving and logging grant applications, and other actions involving Foundation business.

I would like to extend a special welcome to newly elected Trustee Jayson Duncan from North Carolina. Welcome, Jayson. With the support and help of ALL Ruritans, 2014 will be successful.

The Foundation auction in Branson, MO, was a huge success - silent auction results were \$1,898 and live auction, \$5,140 for a total of \$7,032. Thank you to everyone who donated items and to the ones who bought items. The live auction was special because so many volunteers helped, and those that were in the audience were terrific when it came to bidding. You were so generous and anxious to support the Foundation. A special "thank you" to auctioneer Wayne Bettis for being as good as I have ever seen him, and to spotters Roger Gammons, Morris Clyburn, and Calvin Shelton plus past and present Foundation Trustees. All together it was a TEAM effort which provided success for the Foundation. Thanks go to Susan McIver of the Woodrow Wilson Ruritan District for stepping up and handling the computer work in the absence of Tina Lawson.

Let's go to the beach. Yes, the 2014 Ruritan National Foundation Fellowship weekend is going to be Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, September 12, 13, and 14 in Kitty Hawk on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. Hilton Garden Inn Outer Banks/ Kitty Hawk will be the host hotel. It's about five years old, built on the coast of the Atlantic Ocean with a complimentary fishing pier for registered guests. Every room is fully equipped and has a view of the ocean and/or the courtyard garden at the rear of the hotel. 1994 Foundation President Joe Hulver, Jr. will coordinate a golf tournament, so sign up to play. Hospitality rooms will be provided. So come to the beach to have fun and fellowship but leave the dress clothes home (no suits and ties and no dressy outfits for the ladies). Wear beach attire, dress comfortably, and come for fellowship and fun.

Group Name: Ruritan National Foundation / Group Code: RNF14 / Hotel Name: Hilton Garden Inn Outer Banks/Kitty Hawk / Hotel Address: 5353 N. Virginia Dare Trail; Kitty Hawk, North Carolina 27949; Phone Number: 1-252-261-1290. Rates are good from September 7, 2014, until September 17, 2014. Come early and see the sites. These special room rates will be available until August 15 or until the group block is sold out, whichever comes first. Access the hotel's reservation site at <http://tinyurl.com/2014Foundation> to register online and receive the special Foundation Fellowship weekend rates. Additional information will be in the summer issue of Ruritan Magazine.

Ruritan National FOUNDATION

2014 Board of Trustees

President: Danny Privott

Vice President: David Freshly

Secretary: Fred Payne

Treasurer: Pat Davis

Promotion Chair: Jayson Duncan



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

Donation Amount \$: _____ Name of Fund to Credit: _____

From: _____ Club: _____

Address: _____ District: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Pay by check or Credit Card (Visa/Master Charge)

Credit Card #: _____

Expiration Date: _____

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

Ruritan National Foundation News continued

Goals of YOUR Foundation for 2014:

*Make 2014, the last of the five-year program, one of the best years for donations to the \$\$\$Million Dollar Club\$\$\$.

*Grow OWC to \$200,000; the month of April is OWC Challenge Month for ALL Ruritans.

*Grow the total value of the Foundation to \$5,000,000 (to provide more funds for scholarships).

With the help and support of YOU and ALL Ruritans, each of these goals is achievable.

I look forward to working with all the Trustees to manage the resources of YOUR Foundation and will provide strong, dedicated, and positive leadership.

Operation We Care News

April is "OPERATION-WE-CARE" (OWC) Challenge Month throughout Ruritan. Let's give and show how much we care for others in our Ruritan Communities.

What is "OPERATION-WE-CARE" (OWC)? A Ruritan National Foundation Program serving to assist people affected by a declared state/federal disaster.

What is its goal? Increase the effectiveness of the Ruritan National Organization in accomplishing its community service mission through giving aid to declared state/federal disaster victims.

How was it begun as a Foundation program? Through the combined actions and/or approvals by Past Ruritan National Presidents Wayne Bettis and Earl Buchanan, the National Executive Committee, and the Board of Directors resulted in the appointment of the National Special Disaster Program Development Committee in 1993. The Special Committee's mission was to research, study, evaluate, and formulate an effective and workable National Disaster Program. This program has the symbolic title of "Operation-We-Care" (OWC) and the program was then developed between 1993 -1995 with an initial donation of \$818.26 made to Upper West Virginia District in March of 1996 for victims of a disaster.

Since then, because of the generosity and caring of all Ruritans, this Ruritan National Foundation program has helped many individuals and families recover from damages done during a disaster in their community.

How does it work? Administration of the "Operation-We-Care" (OWC) Program is handled by the Ruritan National Foundation through the five elected trustees. They disburse the funds as Disaster Relief Forms are received and approved by them.

1. When a disaster is declared by either state or federal officials, the Ruritan District Governor or their representative should survey their district, zones, and clubs to determine if Operation-We-Care (OWC) relief assistance is needed.
2. When assistance is determined to be needed, Ruritan district officials shall notify the Ruritan Foundation at (504) 674-5431 or toll free (877) 787-8727 #302. The Foundation representative will notify the Foundation Trustees and forward materials and guidance to the district leaders.
3. After gathering data about the relief assistance that is needed, the district representative will send the information to the Ruritan National Foundation Home Office to be forwarded to the Foundation Trustees for action.

Anyone who is affected by a state/federal declared disaster can be eligible to receive assistance.

Please note that OWC funds are disbursed to victims after other relief agencies such as FEMA, Red Cross, State Disaster Assistance Teams, etc.; it was never intended to be a "first response" action for disaster relief.

"OPERATION-WE-CARE" (OWC) balance is \$82,011.94.

Remember the goal for 2014 is to have a balance of at least **\$200,000** available to disburse when a disaster strikes in one of our Ruritan communities. Then after the funds are disbursed, Ruritans will continue giving to prepare for the next disaster. That's what Ruritans do - care for and help someone in need.

Foundation Promotion Chairs, please help meet the goal by asking members and clubs in your individual districts to make a donation to OWC especially in the month of April.

April is "OPERATION-WE-CARE" (OWC) Challenge Month throughout Ruritan. Let's give and show how much we care for others in our Ruritan Communities.

Central Brunswick Donates to Fire Department



Central Brunswick (VA) Ruritan Club Treasurer Linwood Johnson is shown presenting \$200 donations to Lawrenceville Volunteer Fire Department Chief Kevin Pair, Brunswick Volunteer Rescue Squad G.I. Vaughan, Liberty Church Pastor Shawn Haws, and Relay for Life representative Sylvia Allen. Donations were also made to Southside Virginia Community College Scholarship Fund and the Dolphin Volunteer Fire Department.



Amelia Celebrates Its 75th Anniversary



Amelia (VA) Ruritan Club celebrated its 75th anniversary recently. National Treasurer Corky Camin presented an anniversary plaque and installed 2014 Club Officers. Club President Don Shreffler spoke about how the club has donated \$7,000 to support local organizations and provided scholarships to students. Club member Norm Goulding (left) was named Amelia Ruritan of the Year. Pictured below (l-r) are National Treasurer Corky Camin, Club President Don Shreffler, Club Vice President Ruth Anne Lawson, Club Secretary Paul Folliard, Club Director Dick Whitmore, Club Treasurer Pam Conyers, and Club Directors Norm Goulding and Howard Hayghe.



Kenbridge and Keysville Present Checks



Kenbridge (VA) Ruritan Club celebrated its annual Ladies Night dinner to recognize the wives of members and the surviving spouses of deceased members. The event was catered by Mildred's Meals. Perfect Attendance Awards were presented to Eddie Edmunds (11 yrs), John Scales (13 yrs), John Washburn (24 yrs), Littleton Barnes (36 yrs), and Frank Warren (42 yrs). The club also presented checks to Margie Powers of Kenbridge Salvation Army for \$200 and Elizabeth Dunn a \$600 scholarship. The evening was closed with a program

of Christmas carols and songs presented by local singers Liz Hamlett and Crystal Word.

Keysville (VA) Ruritan Club presented a check to Keysville Volunteer Fire Department. The club's major donations go to the Charlotte County Rescue Squad, Keysville Volunteer Fire Department, Meals on Wheels, and the Randolph-Henry After Prom Party. Pictured (right) is member Gerry Pettus presenting the check to Chief Lynn Duffey.



Coinjock Donates to the Back Pack Program

John Murray and J.T Powers, members of the **Coinjock** (NC) Ruritan Club, presented a \$350 check to Currituck Co-operative Extension Center Ellen Owens for the Back Pack for Kids Program. The program currently ensures 153 school children will have enough food to support a weekend's worth of nutrition.

The club also presented a \$100 check to Currituck Senior Center Stacy Joseph to help with their Blankets for Seniors Program.



Albemarle District Cabinet Installed

Pictured (l-r) are the Albemarle District Cabinet being installed at the Albemarle District Convention: Zone 4 Lt. Governor John Crocker, Zone 4 Governor Ginny Crocker, Zone 3 Governor Mark Winslow, Zone 2 Governor Alma Hassell, Zone 1 Governor Ricky Laumann, Zone 1 Lt. Governor J.T. Powers, District Lt. Governor Doug Baily, and Zone 3 Lt. Governor Foster Parrish.



Pictured are **Rocky Hock** (NC) Ruritan Club members and Rudy Bear participating in the 2013 Edenton Christmas Parade.



Bethel (NC) Ruritan Club's 2013 President Dale Freeman (l) is shown presenting a \$500 check to Bethel Fire Department Chief Ray Copeland.

Most New Members Recruited in a Calendar Year

Linda Bradshaw Jefferson (VA) Club in the Rapidan District recruited 10 new members.
Trevella Foster Mt. Pleasant (MD) Club in the Potomac District recruited 10 new members.
Duane Orsbon of the Grays Creek (NC) Club in the Cape Fear district recruited 10 new members.
Priscilla Burge of the St. Clair (OH) Club in the Ohio District recruited 11 new members.
Jim McKinney of the Harrison (TN) Club in the Cherokee District recruited 14 new members.
Barbara Knowles of the Harrison (TN) Club in the Cherokee District recruited 16 new members.
Julia Hopkins of the Smithfield (VA) Club in the Holland District recruited 28 new members.

News From Ruritan: Hermitage District

Ramer Builds Monument to Honor Veterans



Ramer (TN) Ruritan Club honored their community veterans by building a veteran's granite monument near their meeting hall along Highway 57 at the Veteran's Plaza. The veterans' names are inscribed in the granite wall. A complete ceremony with speakers, band, music, and patriotic tributes to veterans was included in the service. 1977 National President Jerry Ellis, National Director Earl Smith, Hermitage District Governor Linda Dodson,

Club President Wayne Elam, and the committee who planned the monument participated in the service.

Pictured right are **Pinson** (TN) Ruritan Club members installing a new flag pole at the club building. Pictured (l-r) are Pepper Martin, Marion Smothers, 1977 National President Jerry Ellis, Jerry Newman, and Alan Eubanks. (Photographer was J.R. Maness.)



News From Ruritan: Davy Crockett District



Leesburg Provides Funds for Patient

Leesburg (TN) Ruritan Club was featured in its local newspaper for providing funds for six months of medications for a patient at the MSMG Family Medicine Facility in Johnson City. The facility contacted pharmaceutical companies for samples of the needed medication. They did receive some samples. When all of the medications weren't provided, the facility reached out to the club for assistance. Pictured (l-r) are Club President Carl Barker, Gina Barker (center), and Teresa Smith.

News From Ruritan: Rockingham District

Belmont Community Announces Club's Ruritan of the Year



Pat Raynes received the Ruritan of the Year Award from the **Belmont Community** (VA) Ruritan Club. Present with Pat are his daughter and her family, National Director Perry Marshman, and 2014 Rockingham District Governor Susan Greisz.

Ruritan Youth Leadership Awards		
Ruritan Scout Leaders	Club	District
Reuben A Howell	Windsor	Holland
Jeffrey Simmers	Tenth Legion-Mt. Valley	Rockingham
Ruritan FFA Leaders	Club	District
Ray Lighthall	Stockbridge Valley	New York
Erin McCaffrey	Stockbridge Valley	New York

News From Ruritan: Cape Fear District

Neils Creek Repairs Fence

Neils Creek (NC) Ruritan Club helped repair a privacy fence for the Harnett County S.A.F.E. facilities. Director Tonya Gray had previously spoken to the club of S.A.F.E.'s role of intervention in domestic violence cases in the community. Subsequent conversations with Gray revealed a need for repairs to the facilities' privacy fence. "We worked hard and finished the work in one afternoon and came in under budget at that," Project Foreman Billy Wimberly said. Pictured right (l-r) are Billy Wimberly and Roger Earp.



Pictured is **Anderson Creek** (NC) Ruritan Club member James Mobley receiving a 32-year Perfect Attendance Pin from Club President Donna Rigby.

News From Ruritan: Columbia District

Sandy Run Delivers Gifts at Christmas



Sandy Run (SC) Ruritan Club made Christmas for three families a lot brighter. Members purchased and delivered clothing and toys. Pictured

(l-r) are Ginger Hardee, Becky Starnes, Vivian Robinson, Peg Nelson, John Nelson, Howard Pees, and Kay James.

PUBLICITY CORNER

Publicize Your Ruritan Club
Be visible Be friendly
Advertise Promote

Look around your community for available bulletin board space to establish for your club's use. Put up flyers of all your upcoming events for the year along with contact information.

Locate your local radio station and use them to promote your functions. If you are having a meal, take them a sample to give to the announcers. Hopefully, they will broadcast your event and give the club free publicity.

Have Rudy Bear at your entrance with a sign directing people to proper locations. You will find that this tends to help immensely.

Send out post cards to the residents in your communities to personally invite them to a meeting or fundraiser.

Establish a plaque (that is visible at all fundraisers) to display all businesses that are associate members of your club.

News From Ruritan: Lower West Virginia District

Special Events in Lower West Virginia



Lower WV District Governor Betty Turner presents **Bozoo** (WV) Ruritan Club President Robert Bennett with the President's Golden Key Award. Robert has brought in five new members to the club in the past few months.

Birch River (WV) Ruritan Club celebrated its 25th anniversary by donating an engraved stone at the entrance to the Birch River Community.

Shady Spring (WV) Ruritan Club recognized 91-year-old member Edith Sanderson for her continued support of the club. Edith has been the club treasurer for the past 11 years. Pictured (l-r) are 2014 District Governor Nell Jeffries, Rudy Bear, and Edith Sanderson.



Max Gibson installed **Williamsburg** (WV) Ruritan Club's 2014 Club Officers. Pictured right (l-r) are Club Directors Stan Zahorenko, Jonna Mullins, and Herb Barthlow, Past President Roger Williams, Zone 7 Governor Max Gibson, Club Treasurer Rick Hedrick, Club Secretary Doyle Owens, Club Vice President Jack Goodman, and Club President Junior Mullins.



right (l-r) are Club Directors Stan Zahorenko, Jonna Mullins, and Herb Barthlow, Past President Roger Williams, Zone 7 Governor Max Gibson, Club Treasurer Rick Hedrick, Club Secretary Doyle Owens, Club Vice President Jack Goodman, and Club President Junior Mullins.

News From Ruritan: Upper West Virginia District



Spruce Mountain (WV) Ruritan Club held its third "Breakfast with Santa." The club hosted 45 children for a pancake breakfast and visits with Santa. All the children were able to select presents for mom and dad, and the club wrapped everything selected for Christmas Day. Pictured is one of the young attendees with Santa.



Lashmeet (WV) Ruritan Club sent a Christmas Care package to soldier Jordan White who is stationed in Korea. White is second from the right.

News From Ruritan: Bluegrass District

Bagdad and Cornishville Celebrate Anniversaries



2013 Bluegrass District Governor Bryan Franklin presented Roberta Moore (pictured left) with a picture that was taken in 2012 of her and Carl Moore. Carl was being pinned for becoming the 2013 District Governor. Carl was a 58-year member of the **Bagdad (KY) Ruritan Club** and a 14-year member of the **Bald Knob Eagle (KY) Club**. He served several years as district governor and one term as a Ruritan National Director.

Bagdad Club also celebrated its 60th Anniversary. Past National Director Beverly Tanner presented a 60-year certificate to the club and presented a 60-year name badge to charter member J.W. Miles (pictured right).



Cornishville (KY) Ruritan Club celebrated its 35th Anniversary. Past National Director Beverly Tanner presenting a 35-year certificate to Club President Paula Jones. District Governor Bryan Franklin and Zone Governor Sandy Powell were in attendance.



News From Ruritan: Tennessean District

St. Clair Raises Money for Community Center

St. Clair (TN) Ruritan Club held a yard sale/bake sale raising \$2,492.20. The money will be used for a proposed club building and community center. Modern Woodmen of America matched the funds raised. Pictured with the check from (l-r) are Vickie Dyer, Mary Simpson, Bert Simpson, Jackie Walker, Bob Palmer, Darlene Palmer, Modern Woodsmen Coordinator Beth Neas, Barbara Winstead. Back row (l-r) are Andrew Bradley, Heiskell Winstead, Russell Mills, Donna Mills, and Larry Wilder.



Bluff City Presents Rudy Bears

Bluff City (TN) Ruritan Club presented 100 Rudy Bears to three different organizations. Pictured (l-r) are Bluff City Police Department Lt. John Hubbard, Club President Irene Wells, Bluff City Rescue Squad Roger Lambert, and Bluff City Fire Chief Larry Folkner.



News From Ruritan: Greenville Goldsboro District

Pinetown Collects Food for Families



Pinetown (NC) Ruritan Club collected canned goods and prepared boxes for needy families. The club displayed a banner in front of its building advertising the food drive and received many contributions from the community, as well as club members.

National Director Clay Byrum bottom left (l) installed new member Robert McLamb (r) of the **Southwood** (NC) Ruritan Club in November.

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. 301.

News From Ruritan: Ohio District



National Trail Donates to Food Pantry

Thanks to the people who made purchases at the **National Trail** (OH) Ruritan Club Food Stand during the "Celebrate New Concord" programs this past summer, a \$500 donation was made to the New Concord Area Food Pantry. Club President John Sprouse presented a \$500 check to Director Denise Baker of the New Concord Area Food Pantry. She said, "With this money, over 5,000 pounds of food can be purchased."

West Branch Area Ladies Install New Club Officers

West Branch Area Ladies (OH) Ruritan Club celebrated its 20th anniversary. Club President Bev Yaggi presented 20-year tabs to charter members Viola Blanchard, Mary Belle Metzgar, and Joan Sheen. Lt. Zone 6 Governor John Biery installed new club officers. Pictured from (l-r) are Viola Blanchard, Joan Sheen, Evelyn Yaggi, Pat Marty, Sandy Bates, and Bev Yaggi.



Potomac District Clubs are Staying Active

St. Thomas Area (PA) Ruritan recently provided funds to Occupational Services, Inc. (OSI) for the purchase of a Saw Stop table saw for their production department. This equipment will allow OSI to further develop production processes which support programs providing training and employment services to individuals with disabilities. Pictured right (l-r) are Club Vice President Tom Danzberger, Club Treasurer Tina Rummel, Club Secretary Tom Iacona, OSI Production Manager Jeremy Waechter, OSI Executive Director Linda Mayo, 2003 Club President Roger Beckner, Club President Cindy Robinson, and Club Director Deb Walls.



New Franklin

(PA) Ruritan donated three dozen Rudy Bears to the Chambersburg Police Department, three dozen to the Chambersburg Hospital, and one dozen to the Marion Volunteer Fire Department. Pictured left (l-r) are board member Bob Day, Building and Grounds Art Guyer, Club President Sharon Guyer, and Club Vice President Jesse Reichard.



Under the direction of the **Jefferson (MD)** Ruritan Club's Citizenship & Patriotism Committee Chair Jay House, a veterans' memorial was erected at the entrance of the Jefferson Ruritan Center.

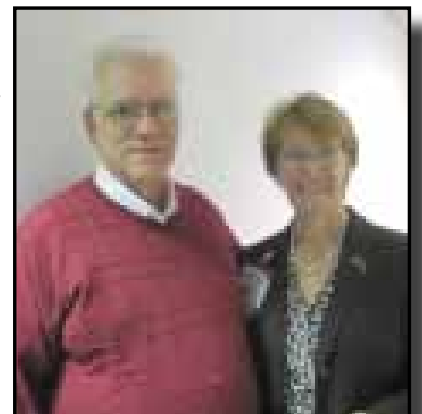
A large crowd was on hand to give thanks to the veterans as the memorial was dedicated. The project cost \$7,000. Engraved pavers are being purchased at a cost of \$100 by individuals honoring loved ones to defray some of the cost.



Daniel Pflum (left) of the **Lothian (MD)** Ruritan Club was presented the Lothian Ruritan of The Year Award by Club President Bill Hardy. Pflum received the traditional green winter jacket embroidered with name, logo, and Ruritan of 2013. Pflum was recognized for his many contributions which included leadership in the club's active participation with the Veterans' Home, the management of the scholarship program, and other fundraising activities.



South Jefferson (WV) Ruritan Club (right) member Michael Dick delivered a \$5,000 check on behalf of the club to Hospice CEO Margaret Cogswell at the new Panhandle's campus. Dick told Cogswell that the club had experienced a good year from the profits of the Jefferson County Fair, and the club wanted to make a contribution to the building project.





York Celebrates Its 35th Anniversary

York (VA) Ruritan Club celebrated its 35th anniversary at Doraldo's Italian Restaurant. York County Board of Supervisors Sheila Knoll presented a proclamation to 2013 Club President Ed White. Club members Jim Funk and Tom Olsavicky received their 29-year certificate and Lou Tosti received her 35-year certificate. Pictured on the left (l-r) are Knoll and White. Pictured right is Tom Olsavicky.



King William and Eastern Henrico Members Honored



The Chesapeake District Convention provided a wonderful day for fellowship and conducting the business of the district. The business session begun with a moving flag ceremony. Flags were presented in memory of club members who were deceased in 2013. Club members with 50 years or more membership were honored. Dick Campbell of the **King William** Club and Melvin Mathews of **Eastern Henrico** Club (pictured left) were honored for having 60 years of perfect attendance. 2013 Governor David Taylor proudly presented community service awards. Past National Director Chuck Myers brought greetings

and a report from Ruritan National. 2012 National President Phyllis Lewter was the keynote speaker. She installed the new cabinet members and 2014 Chesapeake District Governor Cleve Wright.

Montpelier Presents a Tom Downing Award



Montpelier (VA) Ruritan Club presented a Tom Downing Award to Walter "Ralph" Harris during its Ladies Night Christmas Party. Dan Johnson said, "Ralph has been an inspiration to us all. Though he has failing health, we know that he will be present for club meetings and special activities. He is the epitome in exemplifying loyalty, dedication, determination, and dependability."



Gloucester Presents Ruritan of the Year

Jackie Beyea was presented with **Gloucester** (VA) Ruritan Club's Ruritan of the Year Award by Club President Rogers Brown. Beyea alone contributed over 975 volunteer hours to the community.



***Warwick** (VA) Ruritan Club's Vice President Wood Sanders Jr. is pictured welcoming new member Leigh Crawford.*

News From Ruritan: Chesapeake District continued

Abingdon Installs Two New Members

The December meeting of the **Abingdon** (VA) Ruritan Club is the highlight of the club's year because it plays Santa Claus to other charitable organizations. This year the club presented checks to 35 different organizations totaling \$33,000. Pictured right is Club President Ed Ewell



recognizing Sara Fary as the club's Ruritan of the Year.

The club also welcomed Angela Lee Leary and Doug Johnson as new members. Pictured left (l-r) are Club Vice President Pete Shepherd, Leary, Johnson, and Club President Ed Ewell.



News From Ruritan: Rocky Mt. Durham District

West Mount Honors Community Heroes



West Mount (NC) Ruritan Club honored community heroes which included veterans, emergency services personnel (fire and law enforcement,) and senior citizens. Following a lunch of barbeque, fried chicken, and all the trimmings, the group enjoyed a POW/MIA presentation by **Oak Level** (NC) Ruritan Club members James Ervin and Herbert Joyner. They both represented American Legion Post 110, VFW Post 2057, and the Joint Veterans Committee of Nash and Edgecombe Counties. The highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of an encased U.S. flag to WWII U.S. army veteran, PFC Aaron Joyner. Joyner was captured during the Battle of the Bulge, held for 66 days, and released as the war ended. Sue Brinkley sang a patriotic tribute to honor all vet-

erans in attendance and closed with a gospel song. Pictured (l-r) are Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Navy retired Herbert Joyner, 2008 National President Wayne Outlaw, POW/WWII Aaron Joyner, Sgt. 1st Class U.S. Army (inactive) James Ervin, Club President Buck Pittman, and Past Club President Russell Cockrell.

In his last official visit to a Ruritan function before his death a week later, 2013 National President Dennie Clemmer accepted a gift from **Oak Level** (NC) Ruritan Club President John Denton on the occasion of the club's 50th anniversary in Ruritan.



Holland District Clubs Present Ruritan Forever



Receiving a Ruritan Forever is a special honor and sometimes a surprise as William (Bill) Hunt from the **Great Bridge (VA)** Ruritan Club found out at a club meeting. To celebrate his 96th birthday and his faithful membership in the Great Bridge Ruritan Club, he was awarded a Ruritan Forever. 2012 National President Phyllis Lewter presented the award and family members were present for the special event. Pictured is Bill Hunt surrounded by his wife Rachel and family as he received his plaque from National President Phyllis.

Another surprised Ruritan was David Edwards, 2013 President of the **Prince George (VA)** Ruritan Club, 2014 Zone Governor, and member of the **City Point (VA)** Ruritan Club. 2012 National President Phyllis Lewter presented David his Ruritan Forever at the Holland District Convention. David

was recognized for his club and zone leadership and his volunteer work on the recently renovated bathrooms at the Ruritan National Office. Pictured with David is his wife Debbie, Vice President of the City Point Club, and club friends in the Prince George and City Point Ruritan Clubs.

Isle of Wight (VA) Ruritan Club Officers for 2014 were installed by 2012 National President Phyllis Lewter. Pictured left (l-r) are Phyllis with Club President Abigail Adams, Club Vice President Bob Cofield, Secretary Kevin Goerger, and Treasurer Billy



Bell.

Cypress (VA) Ruritan Club was pleased to have 2014 Ruritan National President Elliott Hogge and First Lady Sandra present to celebrate their club's 65th anniversary and to install club officers for 2014. Pictured (l-r) are National President Elliott, Club President Barry Bratton, Club Vice President Richard B. Brinkley, Jr., Club Secretary Eric Harwell, and Club Treas-

urer Richard Brinkley.

The **Carson (VA)** Ruritan Club honored 60-year member John Clements. Clements has served the club in various offices, been Holland District Governor, and served as a Ruritan National Director. Past National Presidents Bobby Wrenn and Phyllis Lewter were pres-



ent to honor John and

recognize him with a plaque. Pictured (l-r) are grandson Will, daughter-in-law and son Peter, John Clements, Past National President Phyllis, Past National President Bobby, and Carson President Richard Johnson.



News From Ruritan: Holland District continued



2014 Holland District Governor Rod Mustanski (left) received the gavel from 2013 Holland District Governor Stan Turner (right) at the joint cabinet meeting. Governor Rod is from the **Burrowsville (VA)** Ruritan Club and Governor Stan is from the **Isle of Wight (VA)** Ruritan Club.

Smithfield (VA) Ruritan Club is shown gathering hams to deliver to families in the Smithfield area. Pictured (l-r) are Graham Taylor, Madison Rountree, Julie Hopkins,



Jack York, Nan York, Herb Jones, Chuck Alberghine, Skip Sharpley, Richard Corey, and Jim Tarantino.

Deep Creek (VA) Ruritan Club celebrated the renovations made to its clubhouse with a special dinner and special guests. Chesapeake's mayor, city council members, school board members, and Holland District Cabinet members were in attendance. New member Jason Morris (r) is welcomed by Club President Reed Sloat (l) and 1995 Ruritan National President Frank Guthrie.

The Holland District, the mother district of Ruritan National, has a rich history of leadership. Pictured are the Holland District Past Governors in attendance at the Holland District Convention.



News From Ruritan: Lincolnland District

Mill Shoals Celebrates Anniversary

Mill Shoals (IL) Ruritan Club celebrated its 50th anniversary. Club members John Dozier and Charles French were recognized for their 50 years of service. Special guests included members of the Lincolnland Cabinet, 2013 Past President the late Dennie Clemmer, and former First Lady Betty Jo Clemmer. Clemmer presented a Rudy Bear to Club President Sherrill Staley. National Director Grover Burkett presented a 50-year certificate to the club officers. Pictured top left



(l-r) are National Director Grover Burkett, John Dozier, 2013 National President, the late Dennie Clemmer, and District Governor Rita Woods. Pictured bottom left (l-r) are National Director Grover Burkett, Norma Staley, Sherrill Staley, Leann York, and John Reed.



Todd and Peak Creek Receive Awards

Western North Carolina Communities announced the winners of the 64th annual Honors Awards Program. Participating communities receive a cash award of \$300. **Todd (NC)** Ruritan Club was recognized for its successful projects implemented during the past year.



Community of Promise is the second highest honor with a cash award of \$1,000. **Peak Creek (NC)** Ruritan Club was one of the 16 rural community clubs to receive this honor. The club was chosen because of the initiatives implemented by the club that show promise and can be replicated around the region. Peak Creek Ruritan was recognized for participating in litter campaigns; providing volunteers for the annual water screening project; offering programs on hunting safety, a new 211 Assistance Line, effective landscaping, Imagination Ashe (a preschool reading program) and Junior Appalachian Music; hosting a pancake breakfast and indoor yard sale; utilizing the USPS "door to door" mail service to advertise fundraisers, and being awarded the "Volunteer Organization of the Year" by the Ashe County Commissioners.



Ellenboro Fire Department Chief Terry Horn presented **Hopewell-Hollis (NC)** Ruritan Club President Jerry Bridges with the Johnnie Mitchell Memorial Award Plaque. The award was presented to the club because of its dependable, loyal, and dedicated service to the department.



Bridges also presented Horn with a Rudy Bear in memory of 2013 National President the late Dennie Clemmer.

Bethlehem (NC) Ruritan Club donated 350 pounds of food to the Alexander County Food Bank. The food was collected in lieu of giving gifts at the annual Christmas party. Pictured are club members Max White, Jim McManus Jr., George Collins, Club President Terry Rairdon, Club Vice President Jim McManus,



and Club Treasurer Dennis Cain. West Caldwell High School Junior ROTC is shown saluting World War II veteran Bill Gilmer during a Veterans Day Celebration hosted by **Collettsville (NC)** Ruritan Club. The club honored more than 27 veterans at its annual celebration.



Salem (NC) Ruritan Club constructed a cart for an old school bell. Because of the bell towers age and weathered condition, the bell had to be removed. The club presented the cart and bell to Patton High School at its first home football game.



Chancellor Honors Veterans

Chancellor (VA) Ruritan Club's Citizenship & Patriotism Committee honored club members who served in the military with a special Veterans Day Program. Seventeen club members were surprised with a dinner meeting complete with red, white, and blue cupcakes. A special video was played and a PowerPoint presentation of photographs (supplied in secret by family members) of the veterans in uniform was shown. Some pictures dated back to 1940 -1960. Each veteran received a certificate honoring his service along with a copy of the video and PowerPoint presentation. A plaque will be displayed at the club building with each veteran's name and branch of service. The plaque was presented to the club's oldest member Harold Wenger, who served in the U.S. Army during WWII in Europe.



Belmont Prepares Christmas Baskets

Belmont (VA) Ruritan Club and the Belmont Club of Women combined efforts for the 2013 Annual Christmas Basket preparations and deliveries. This is an annual event which has been conducted for many years. This year's efforts were led by member Bernie White and The Belmont Club of Women's Kitty Croes. This event is a wonderful and fulfilling experience for all participating members. Both clubs directly supported the funding of this event and expressed sincere gratitude to all local businesses supporting the many fundraising activities of both clubs.

Both clubs continued their litter pick up efforts that covered six miles. Belmont

Club member Jerry Dunbar led the crew in the successful clean-up day.

Monticello (VA) Ruritan Club donated 12 Rudy Bears to the Charlottesville Virginia's Toy Lift.



News From Ruritan: New River District

Mount Tabor Presents Rudy Bears



Mount Tabor (VA) Ruritan Club presented checks and Rudy Bears to the Blacksburg Fire and Police Departments. Earlier, Rudy Bear was the Grand Marshal for the July 4th parade in Blacksburg, VA. Pictured are Club President Logan Brooke, Fire Code Official Wayne Garst, and Club Vice President David Ansley. Pictured on the bottom are Club Treasurer David Price and Police Chief Kim Crannis.



Wanda Hall, **Wytheville** (VA) Ruritan Club's 2013 Ruritan of the Year is shown participating in the Wytheville Christmas Parade by riding on the Club's Parade Float. The club followed the parade theme of "Red, White,

and Blue" and also promoted the club's angel tree.

News From Ruritan: Gulf Area

Linwood Sponsors Coat Drive



Linwood (MS) sponsored a coat drive for under-privileged youth. The club collected over 300 items to be given out.

The club also participated in "Make a Difference" Day. One of the schools had a water problem so the club collected cases of bottled water to donate to the school.

News From Ruritan: Dan River District

Mt. Laurel Holds Year-End Celebration



A year-end celebration of community service for the **Mt. Laurel** (VA) Ruritans brought in a special, honored guest. 2012 National President Phyllis Lewter addressed the club and presided over the installation of the 2014 club officers.

Lewter complimented the club for the many volunteer hours of community service and thousands of dollars donated to improving the community. During the course of 2013 the club performed more than 4,000 hours of community service and raised in excess of \$18,000, all donated to various projects. One of the great strengths of the club is their ability to mobilize a corps of community volunteers. While the current membership of the club is 43, the club can call on as many as 50 other members of the community to help in large events. This allows the club to host large benefits and other projects that require a lot of manpower.

News From Ruritan: Delmarva/NJ District

Idlewild Makes Sausage



Idlewild (MD) Ruritan Club has been making sausage as one of its successful fundraisers for over 30 years. The club holds this fundraiser four times a year. 25,000 pounds of sausage is sold. This fundraiser allows the club to give \$7,500 each year in scholarships. Pictured are club members working the assembly line.

Little Pungo Participates in Veterans Day Parade



Little Pungo (VA) Ruritan Club members are shown lined up for a Veterans Day Parade. Pictured (l-r) are George Mears, Carroll Savage, Grank Colonna, Ernie Ruediger, Mark Wallace, Pete Duer, and Jimmy Bundick.

2013 DISTRICT NEWSLETTER AWARDS

1st Place	Appomattox	
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2013 CLUB NEWSLETTER AWARDS

3rd Place	Mt. Sidney	Woodrow Wilson District
2nd Place	Lucketts	Rappahannock District
1st Place	Wilson Memorial	Dan River District

2013 DISTRICT WEB SITE DESIGN

1st Place	Albemarle	
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2013 CLUB WEBSITE DESIGN

3rd Place	Forestburg	Albemarle District
2nd Place	Effinger	Natural Bridge District
1st Place	South Fork	Upper West Virginia
1st Place	Lucketts	Rappahannock District

2013 ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER (CLUB)

1st Place	Forestburg	Albemarle District
1st Place	South Fork	Upper West Virginia

News From Ruritan: Smoky Mountain District

Highland Park Donates Dictionaries

Highland Park (TN) Ruritan Club has been participating in the dictionary project for three years. The club has presented approximately 400 dictionaries to third-grade students. Pictured sitting on the floor (l-r) are Club President Vonnie Myers, Club Secretary Judy Fleming, Club Vice President Gary Krantz, and Club Director June Krantz.



JANEAN HEATH

*and the accomplices
below have earned their
awards for recruiting
new Ruritan members!
Congratulations!*

JANEAN HEATH OF THE HARRISON (TN) CLUB
IN THE CHEROKEE DISTRICT WAS THE WINNER
OF \$600 IN THE LAST QUARTER OF 2013



REWARDED \$600

STEVE SWANSON

\$200 WAS PRESENTED TO STEVE SWANSON
OF THE PEKIN (IA) CLUB IN THE
TALL CORN DISTRICT



REWARDED \$200

ROXIE PALMER

\$400 WAS PRESENTED TO ROXIE PALMER
(CENTER) OF THE CHRISTIANSHURG (VA)
CLUB, NEW RIVER DISTRICT BY ZONE GOV.
DEL DYER AND LT. GOV. ONEDA DYER



REWARDED \$400

