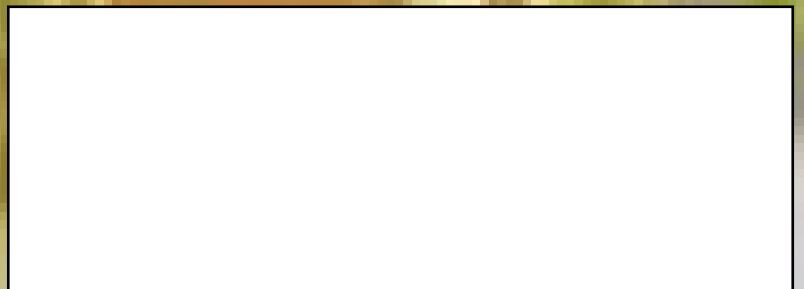




# Ruritan

Volume 81, Summer 2016

**Join us in Kingsport, TN  
at the MeadowView Marriott  
Conference Center and Resort  
January 19-22, 2017**





## Choose Happiness

Ruritan is alive and well! After attending the Tennessee Rally, the Association of Virginia Rally, and the Ohio Spring Rally, there is no doubt that Ruritans are excited and motivated to grow their clubs and grow Ruritan!

Everywhere that I have visited to date, I have received an overwhelming response from people who want to know how to promote Ruritan. People are asking for new ideas to promote growth. And, when they act on these ideas, they are getting new members and growing their clubs.

I have witnessed a new wave of fellowship and goodwill that has flourished within our membership. We are genuinely happy with the direction that Ruritan is taking and I feel this happiness will be the key to others wanting to be a part of our organization.

Carrie Hope Fletcher, an English singer, songwriter, and actress, wrote that "Happiness is always there. You just have to choose to see it. There's no point dwelling in the dark and ignoring the light of the stars."

This is so true. Many of you have heard me say that we need to be positive - to stay off the negative. People that are happy (positive) are infectious. Others want to be around them. Being around happy people lifts your spirit and creates joy in your life.

Researchers have told us that it takes more muscles to frown than to smile. So here's your beauty tip for today, "Choose happiness!"

I am honored to visit with you and get to meet more of our membership. I am also honored to see your accomplishments. Celebrate your anniversaries! Your clubs deserve the recognition they get for serving their communities for many years. When you reach a milestone, let the community know and celebrate with you.

I had the occasion in Ohio to congratulate a young lady for bringing in 10 members. This is cause for celebration. Way to go, Priscilla Burge! Priscilla is doing what we all should be doing! Reaching for the stars - new mem-

bers. She was presented one of my "President's Gold Stars." I have a very limited number of these for people who have gone the extra mile in growing Ruritan.

I tell people everyday that a good resource for members is our Business Associate Members. Sometimes we overlook the businesses in our communities as associates. These people are an excellent resource to our clubs. When a business becomes a Business Associate Member, they can receive a plaque to hang in their business to let all of their customers know that they support Ruritan. This also should make Ruritans want to patronize the business. Business Associate Members are an excellent source for programs for your club. In our area, they also help with advertising our events and supporting our fundraisers. We have found them to be invaluable for our club. You might want to try it!

As we approach Memorial Day, remember and honor our veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. We owe them a huge debt. Do something nice for a veteran you come in contact with and tell them how much you appreciate their service.

I look forward to seeing you during my travels

around Ruritan Land. But know that I am only a phone call away. If you need help, feel free to contact me or the National Office for assistance. Until then, keep "Reaching for the stars!"



*The First Couple is shown at the Apple Blossom Festival sporting their pink attire.*

Magazine of and published by Ruritan National, Vol. 81, Summer Issue, Ruritan (ISSN: 0036-0147) is published four times a year. Ruritan National is a non-profit, incorporated association of Ruritan Clubs in the United States of America. Ruritan National assumes no responsibility for opinions expressed by authors of articles or claims by advertisers. Subscription price for one year is \$8. Single issues are \$2 each.

**Periodicals postage paid at Dublin, VA and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:**  
RURITAN NATIONAL, P.O. BOX 487, (UPS) 5451 LYONS ROAD, DUBLIN, VA 24084.



# Ruritan

Volume 81, Summer 2016

## EDITORIAL & MEMBERSHIP STAFF

Michael Chrisley, Executive Director  
Crystal Andrews, Publications Manager/Magazine Editor  
Amanda Ramirez, Membership Department

## MAILING ADDRESS - EDITORIAL OFFICE

Ruritan National  
P.O. Box 487  
(UPS) 5451 Lyons Road  
Dublin, VA 24084  
(540) 674-5431 Toll-Free: (877) 787-8727  
FAX: (540) 674-2304  
Email: [office@ruritan.org](mailto:office@ruritan.org)  
Web: <http://ruritan.org>  
Supply Orders Only: (800) 836-5431

### Executive Committee

#### 2016 National President

Calvin Shelton – Greeneville, TN

#### 2016 National President Elect

Danny Privott – Hertford, NC

#### National Treasurer

Dale Bricker – Canfield, OH

#### National Secretary

James M. Mills Jr. – Dallas, GA

#### 2015 National President

Bobby Burton – North Chesterfield, VA

#### Executive Director

Michael T. Chrisley – Dublin, VA

#### National Directors

Terry Call – Gibsonville, NC  
Anne Hillard – Frankfort, KY  
Joe E. Jaynes – Greeneville, TN  
Sarah Kelly – Cross Junction, VA  
Frances T. Long – Elizabeth City, NC  
Michael W. Morrison – Aylett, VA  
Mike Myers – Romney, WV  
Larry W. Cassell – Jefferson, MD  
Les Hopper – Rome, GA  
Nell Jeffries – Athens, WV  
Don Ramey – Harrison, TN  
Curtis T. Simmons – Albertain, NC  
Gary Solomon – Glade Hill, VA  
David Thompson – Dinwiddie, VA  
Glen Broadwater – Nicklesville, VA  
Susan Greisz – Mt. Jackson, VA  
Linward Hedgspeth – Rougemont, NC  
Carroll Lowe – Wilkesboro, NC  
Gary Olinger – Blountville, TN  
Howard Tanner – Fairfield, IL  
Lee Tomlinson – Jackson, TN

## In This Issue:

President's Page.....	2
Executive Director's Message .....	4
M5 Recap.....	5-6
Shumsky Ad (Ruritan Supply).....	7
Most Beautiful Sign Contest.....	8
Why is Rudy's Shirt Purple.....	9
Ruritan Forevers May.....	10
2017 Convention Entertainment.....	11-12
2017 Convention Registration.....	13-14
Foundation News.....	15-16
Club and District News.....	17-31



## Fall 2016 Ruritan Magazine Cover Contest

National President Calvin Shelton's special emphasis this year is

"Reach for the Stars." The Ruritan

National Publications Committee is sponsoring a Ruritan Magazine Cover Contest again for 2016. Send in your club activities for a chance to be on the cover of the 2016 fall 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, 2016, to: COVER CONTEST, P.O. Box 487, Dublin, VA 24084 or email to [media@ruritan.org](mailto:media@ruritan.org). For the subject line use "cover contest."



**On the cover:** Pictured is the Meadowview Marriott Conference Center and Resort in Kingsport, Tennessee. Join us for the 2017 National Convention. We have an excellent line-up of entertainment. See pages 13 -14 for the registration form.

## Message From Executive Director Michael Chrisley

### Don't Give Up



Don't give up. People give up too easy these days. The old saying used to be "when the going gets tough, the tough get going". Unfortunately, that is not always true now. When the going gets tough, people turn and go the other way. I wonder what obstacles Tom Downing and Jack Gwaltney faced when they were

trying to form the first Ruritan club, for that matter the first 50 Ruritan clubs. It probably seemed like they were spinning their wheels trying to put together something that people weren't even looking for. I am sure that it would have just been easier to walk away and focus on their own issues of family and job and church but they had an idea about the underlying value of what they were doing.

They may not have had any notion that nearly a hundred years later we would be facing the same problems and maybe even some new ones trying to build new Ruritan clubs and recruit new Ruritan members. What they did know was that what they were doing was right for the time. What we are doing now, is right for the time. People still need us. If you look at all the service Ruritan clubs provided in the last year you would find thousands of man hours and millions of dollars of service in communities across our footprint. Who would have provided that service if we didn't. The value proposition of Ruritan and the underlying value that Tom Downing and Jack

Gwaltney knew was there in the late 1920's and early 1930's is still there. What we do is likely even more important now than it was then. It is a value proposition that we don't dare give up on.

Recently I read a post on Facebook. It talked about the fact that Albert Einstein and Abraham Lincoln were both told by their teachers that they would essentially never amount to much. It went on to say that Michael Jordan talked about the fact that his team relied on him to make the game winning shot on hundreds of occasions and that he let them down much of the time. We all know that these three individuals made great contributions to their chosen fields. They didn't give up. They didn't always score but they always took the next shot. Sometimes you have to try a number of times to score, to make headway, to get the new member to come, to build the new club. Don't ever give up. It is important and has value both now and in the future. If you have tried to get your neighbor or friend or associate to join over and over again, keep trying. Try inviting a different neighbor, friend, associate. A person who has a heart for service will join when they see the difference your club is making. If you know of a community that needs a club start the process. If you need help, someone will help you. Just ask and don't give up.

We have some exciting convention news in this issue see pages.....Our planning is well underway. Please mark your calendars to join us in Kingsport TN.

Have a great summer.

## New Clubs for 2016

### New Ruritan Clubs, Sponsors, and DRMS for 2016

New Club	District	Sponsoring Club	DRM
Hartly	30	Kenton	Kyle Virdin
Cyclone Service Ruri-Teen	35	Unicoi	Norman Odell & Jonathan Lafollette
Topper Ruri-Teen	35	Boones Creek	Tristan Lane
Lucketts Elem. School Rudy Youth	3	Lucketts	Stan Sorrell

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

# WANTED CONTEST

**WITH  
"Me Minus Five"  
Bonus Chances**

Bring in a member five years younger than you and earn an additional five chances on the cash prizes!



One entry per member - staff will calculate your extra chances. Mail to WANTED, P.O. Box 487, Dublin, VA 24084

# WANTED CONTEST

**WITH  
"Me Minus Five"  
Bonus Chances**

Bring in a member five years younger than you and earn an additional five chances on the cash prizes!



One entry per member - staff will calculate your extra chances. Mail to WANTED, P.O. Box 487, Dublin, VA 24084

# WANTED CONTEST

**WITH  
"Me Minus Five"  
Bonus Chances**

Bring in a member five years younger than you and earn an additional five chances on the cash prizes!



One entry per member - staff will calculate your extra chances. Mail to WANTED, P.O. Box 487, Dublin, VA 24084

# WANTED CONTEST

**WITH  
"Me Minus Five"  
Bonus Chances**

Bring in a member five years younger than you and earn an additional five chances on the cash prizes!



One entry per member - staff will calculate your extra chances. Mail to WANTED, P.O. Box 487, Dublin, VA 24084

## Contest Rules

- Drawing will be at the end of each quarter that the contest is in effect
- New members must be full, associate or youth
- One member earns you one chance. Two members get 1 + 2 chances. Three members get 1 + 2 + 3 chances and so on.
- If the new member is five years younger than you, earn five extra chances (provide dates of birth for both of you)
- 3 winners each quarter drawn at random after all the extra chances are calculated: **\$200, \$400, and \$600**

### Signing Member (print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

### New member (print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Club \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

## Contest Rules

- Drawing will be at the end of each quarter that the contest is in effect
- New members must be full, associate or youth
- One member earns you one chance. Two members get 1 + 2 chances. Three members get 1 + 2 + 3 chances and so on.
- If the new member is five years younger than you, earn five extra chances (provide dates of birth for both of you)
- 3 winners each quarter drawn at random after all the extra chances are calculated: **\$200, \$400, and \$600**

### Signing Member (print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

### New member (print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Club \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

## Contest Rules

- Drawing will be at the end of each quarter that the contest is in effect
- New members must be full, associate or youth
- One member earns you one chance. Two members get 1 + 2 chances. Three members get 1 + 2 + 3 chances and so on.
- If the new member is five years younger than you, earn five extra chances (provide dates of birth for both of you)
- 3 winners each quarter drawn at random after all the extra chances are calculated: **\$200, \$400, and \$600**

### Signing Member (print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

### New member (print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Club \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

## Contest Rules

- Drawing will be at the end of each quarter that the contest is in effect
- New members must be full, associate or youth
- One member earns you one chance. Two members get 1 + 2 chances. Three members get 1 + 2 + 3 chances and so on.
- If the new member is five years younger than you, earn five extra chances (provide dates of birth for both of you)
- 3 winners each quarter drawn at random after all the extra chances are calculated: **\$200, \$400, and \$600**

### Signing Member (print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

### New member (print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Club \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_



# Spread the word.

RURITAN SUPPLY



[www.ruritan.org/wholesale](http://www.ruritan.org/wholesale)



**Ruritan** is pleased to announce the relationship with our new promotional vendor, **Shirinsky**. **Shirinsky** is in the process of launching a full-scale Ruritan e-store! Ruritan-branded apparel and supplies will all be available for purchase starting late May.



[shirinsky.com](http://shirinsky.com)

**QUESTIONSET**  
Michelle Marshall  
(800.222.2222 ext. 114)  
[marra@shirinsky.com](mailto:marra@shirinsky.com)



# *Most Beautiful Ruritan Sign Contest*

## Contest Rules

All photos must be received by the national office no later than Friday, September 30.

The winning prizes are:

**1<sup>st</sup> Place** - 2 registrations to the 2017 convention in Kingsport as well as 3 nights stay in the hotel.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place** - 2 convention registrations and 1 night stay

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place** - 2 convention registrations

**\*\*Prizes will be awarded to the club.\*\***





## Why is Rudy's Shirt Purple?



This year Ruritans may be asking, "Why is Rudy's shirt purple?"

Purple is a color associated with Alzheimer's disease awareness. Worldwide, 47 million people are living with Alzheimer's and other dementias. It is a cause quite close to the heart of 2016 First Lady Patsy Shelton, whose own mother suffered from the disease until her passing last year. First Lady Patsy is taking this opportunity to contribute

to Alzheimer's awareness through Ruritans' beloved mascot.

Starting this spring – the Rudy bears sold and shipped from the national office and Shumsky will be wearing purple shirts in place of the traditional blue and white shirts of

other years. Just for 2016 – we hope this project will bring a quiet emphasis to the devastation suffered by the entire family of an Alzheimer's patient.

Don't forget the elderly in your community who might be suffering from dementia. Plush pets and

stuffed animals often help a person with dementia connect to something outside of himself. The American Association of Geriatric Psychiatrists notes, "As Alzheimer's disease progresses, the need to nurture, love and be loved increases." In addition to donating Rudy Bears to fire and rescue squads, police forces, and children's hospitals, clubs may want to deliver some Rudy Bears to the elderly in local nursing homes who are suffering from Alzheimer's and dementia.

During the March Na-

tional Board Meeting, volunteers assisted First Lady Patsy Shelton in redressing the Rudy Bears with purple shirts to bring Alzheimer's awareness to all. National Director and **Jefferson** (MD) Ruritan Club Secretary Larry Cassell obtained a number of Rudy Bears that will be used by his club to hand out to participants that attend his clubs monthly Alzheimer's Support Group.



## Ruritan Forever Participants May 1, 2015 - May 1, 2016

Judith Simmons\*  
 Carl William "Bill" Hull  
 James E. Duerson  
 Dorothy H. Duerson  
 Paul Shealy  
 Robert G. Shipley\*  
 Kenneth Robertson  
 Linward Hedgspeth  
 Bryan Flanagan  
 Gold Joyner, Jr.  
 Ron Reid  
 Betty Moore  
 Jack York  
 Sheryl Begley  
 Cindy Kricko  
 Elton Mickey Ferrell, Sr.  
 Curtis Simmons  
 Kenneth Paugh  
 Glen Broadwater  
 David Hartgrove  
 Jesse Choate  
 Diane Hartgrove  
 Clara Pugh  
 Herman Perry  
 Von Taylor  
 Gene Davis  
 Bill Wheeler  
 Brent Wheeler  
 Ann Hodge  
 Eddie J. Hodge  
 Andy Turner

Carroll Lowe  
 Bennett K. Shumaker  
 Robert B. Yow  
 Susan H. Greisz  
 Virginia McKinney  
 J. W. Ballard  
 Maynard Yoh  
 Gloria Yoh

\*denotes deceased members



*1995 National President Frank Guthrie presented South Norfolk (VA) Ruritan Charter Member Eddie Hodges with a Ruritan Forever.*

Please detach or photocopy this portion if you would like to participate in this endowment plan to secure the future of Ruritan in your name or in the name of a fellow Ruritan.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

This application is for: (check one)

Myself ☐ Current Member ☐ Deceased Ruritan ☐ NEW Associate Member ☐

Name of Applicant (If not you): \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **OPTION #1** Credit card number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

CVC code (3 digit code on the back of your card) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **OPTION #2** Enclosed please find a check/money order for \$600.

☐ **OPTION #3** Enclosed please find the 1st \$200 installment of the \$600 Ruritan Forever fee.

I understand the perpetual life endowment will not begin until the entire \$600 has been paid.



## Convention Entertainment

Planning for the 2017 Ruritan National Convention in Kingsport is well underway, and the committee has an exciting convention planned for you. President Calvin states, "I am excited about the quality of entertainers/speakers for our 2017 National Convention. We have an excellent line-up, and I am sure that there will be something for everyone!" The convention will begin with the opening ceremony on Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup>. Dr. David Green will be our Vesper Service speaker that evening. Dr. Green, Senior Pastor of the First Baptist Church in Greenville, TN, will give us a moving and inspirational service. He is the Founder and President of "Live the Life, Inc." which is a Christian non-profit organization. He has been the keynote speaker at numerous civic organizations throughout America, which includes speaking at our 2003 National Convention in Norfolk, VA.



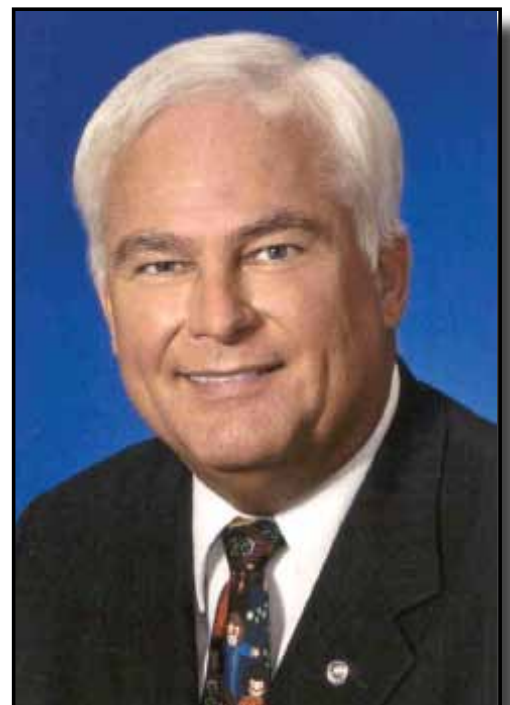
On Friday morning, we are pleased to announce that our Veterans Breakfast speaker will be Lieutenant General Frederick McCorkle. Lieutenant General McCorkle retired from the United States Marine Corps in October of 2001 where he last served as the Deputy Commandant for Aviation, Headquarters, Marine Corps, Washington, D.C. In this position, he was responsible for all of Marine aviation. He is currently serving on the Board of Directors of Atlas Air World Wide Holdings, Inc; Rolls-Royce North America, Inc; Lord Corporation; and JURA Corporation. Lieutenant General McCorkle has also served as a senior strategic advisor for Boeing Corporation; GKN Aerospace; Timken Corporation; Stratom, Inc; Delfigo Security; and Global Aerospace & Defense, LLC.

He has a long and astounding career while serving in the Marine Corps and has received the following decorations: The Distinguished Service Medal; The Legion of Merit with three Gold Stars in lieu of second through fourth awards; The Distinguished Flying Cross with Gold Star in lieu of second award; The Purple Heart; The Air Medal with Single Mission Award and 76 Strike/Flight Awards; Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V"; and The Navy Achievement

Medal. He is also a Golden Eagle and is in the Tennessee Aviation Hall of Fame. He was designated a Naval aviator in January of 1969 and served in Vietnam with HMM-262 and flew over 1,500 combat missions. As a general officer, he served as Commander, Marine Corps Air Bases eastern area and Commanding General, MCAS Cherry Point, North Carolina. Lieutenant General McCorkle also held post in Okinawa, Japan; New River, North Carolina; and El Toro, California.

This year, we will be having a Friday evening fellowship meal with a special guest speaker. Mr. Steve Siemens, Mr. People Builder, will be there to take us on a journey that you will not want to miss. You will appreciate his interactive, humorous, and motivational style of speaking. He has been referred to as one of the best motivators in the world today.

Mr. Siemens gives back to his community, much like we do. He just finished serving as the International President for Kiwanis International, where he led the organization to the highest growth they have seen in 15 years. He is an author, has been a member of the Board of Governors for the Iowa Easter Seals, and has served as Chairman of the Board for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes; how-



ever, his favorite titles are husband, dad, and grandpa. Building people is his passion and after he begins speaking, you will immediately realize this will not be just another presentation but will be a life-changing event filled with fun and opportunities to grow.

Saturday morning will start with the First Lady's Breakfast, and First Lady Patsy Shelton has lined up some entertainment that you will be talking about for years to come. The Tennessee 4-H Performing Arts Troupe will be there to make sure your Saturday starts with a smile. It is comprised of 4-H students from across the state of Tennessee. These youth have to audition to be chosen each year and must be in the 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grades as well as a member of 4-H. They do different kinds of shows, from a "Congress Show" which tells the



history of Tennessee to a strictly entertainment show. They perform all types of music and dance from patriotic, to spiritual, to jazz, to country music. First Lady Patsy states, "It is truly an upbeat, fast paced performance, and I believe there will be something for everyone to enjoy."

President Calvin Shelton and Convention Chair Wayne Bettis are excited to make a special announcement about our Saturday night entertainment. Closing out our National Convention this year will be Lee Greenwood. He is a returning artist from our 1994 convention in Charlotte, NC. He is looking forward to being with us in Kingsport to entertain at our Saturday Night Banquet. President Calvin states, "Patsy and I are thrilled



that attendees at the 2017 National Convention will be honored to enjoy one of our favorite entertainers of all time, Mr. Lee Greenwood. Lee's natural God-given talent shines through in his performances, and we are privileged that he has agreed to share this evening with members of our organization. We are excited and looking forward to a spectacular evening."

Few artists have ever written a song that has become more a part of America's cultural landscape than Lee Greenwood's "God Bless the USA." If he'd never written or recorded another hit, Greenwood would have secured his place in music history with that powerful inspiring ballad. With his distinctive voice, insightful songwriting, and unparalleled showmanship, Greenwood has been captivating audiences for decades. Along the way, he has won numerous accolades including two Male Vocalist of the Year Awards from the Country Music Association and the CMA Song of the Year honor in 1985 for "God Bless the USA." He has won the Grammy award for Best Male Country Performance in 1983 for "I.O.U." His lengthy string of hits includes such classics as "Ring on Her Finger, Time on Her Hands," "It Turns Me Inside Out," "Somebody's

Gonna Love You," "I Don't Mind the Thorns (If You're the Rose)," and "Dixie Road."

Wayne Bettis states, "As 2017 convention chairman I'm thrilled that we are able to bring one of America's greatest entertainers to perform at the Saturday Night Banquet for the convention attendees."

# Ruritan National Convention - Kingsport, TN. January 19-22, 2017

Register up to two people on this form. Use more forms for additional people. One of the people below must be a Ruritan member. Confirmation will be mailed to the Ruritan attendee for his/her party. There are six options or packages for registration on the back, where you may also purchase single meals for non-registered guests. You may also register on the MMS (member management system) under events.

Please print or type

1st Attendee: \_\_\_\_\_

Member/Non Member (circle one)

Member# (if member): \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Badge Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Club: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Check items below that apply:

☐ I have these food restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I need handicapped accessible seating at meals.

☐ Send information on wheelchair/scooter rental.

☐ I have 50 years or more perfect attendance.

☐ **At this time I expect to be a voting delegate.**

☐ This is my first convention.

2nd Attendee: \_\_\_\_\_

Member/Non Member (circle one)

Member# (if member): \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Badge Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Club: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Check items below that apply:

☐ I have these food restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I need handicapped accessible seating at meals.

☐ Send information on wheelchair/scooter rental.

☐ I have 50 years or more perfect attendance.

☐ **At this time I expect to be a voting delegate.**

☐ This is my first convention.

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (Check one in each column)

<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Army	<input type="checkbox"/> WWII
<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Air Force	<input type="checkbox"/> Korea
<input type="checkbox"/> U. S. Marines	<input type="checkbox"/> Vietnam
<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Navy	<input type="checkbox"/> Desert Storm
<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Coast Guard	<input type="checkbox"/> Operation Iraqi Freedom
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain) _____

**For Office Use Only:**  
ID# \_\_\_\_\_; GRP# \_\_\_\_\_

## MEALS IN KINGSFORT

While there is not a late fee for registrations to the National Convention this year, there is a deadline with the Meadowview Marriot caterer for meal count guarantees. With that in mind, anyone waiting to register on-site in Kingsport (as a walk-in) for the events will not be guaranteed meals. However, we will be able to register you for non-meal events at the base rate of \$140. Send in your registration before the Dec. 19, 2016, cut-off date to be guaranteed meals.

## 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

3 or 4 digit code on back \_\_\_\_\_

Check one option below

☐ Bill my credit card now

☐ Bill my credit card on December 1, 2016



## 2017 Ruritan National Convention - Kingsport: Jan. 19-22

**Have it YOUR way! Choose one of SIX package options for the 2017 Ruritan Convention**

Choose one of these six registration packages. Packages 1-5 include opening ceremony, access to exhibits, access to business meetings on Friday and Saturday, workshops, voting, and all other convention activities.

### Meal Package Options

*(Packages 1-4 already include the base fee of \$140)*

		Quantity	Cost	Total
Four meal package includes base fee, Veterans Breakfast, Friday Fellowship Dinner, First Lady's Breakfast, and Saturday Banquet	Package 1 <b>BEST DEAL</b>		\$285	
Two meal package includes base fee, Friday Fellowship Dinner, and Saturday Banquet	Package 2		\$235	
Friday Only Package includes base fee and Friday Fellowship Dinner	Package 3		\$190	
Saturday Only Package includes base fee and Saturday Banquet	Package 4		\$195	
No Meals - base registration only	Package 5		\$140	
Saturday Installation Banquet and Entertainment ONLY <i>***Please note that this package gives you access to the banquet and entertainment</i>	Package 6		\$80	

### Extra Meal Tickets and Items

*Must purchase any package, 1 - 5, above to purchase additional meal tickets*

		Quantity	Cost	Total
Foundation Friday luncheon	Foundation		\$51	
Veterans Breakfast on Friday morning	Veterans		\$31	
Friday Fellowship Dinner	Fellowship		\$55	
Breakfast Honoring First Lady Patsy on Saturday morning	First Lady		\$38	
Installation Banquet on Saturday evening	Banquet		\$50	
Rudy Bears - to be added to gift to Kingsport charities			\$6	
Steve Siemens, Siemens People Builders Workshop, two workshop times will be offered. Please indicate if you wish to attend one of these workshops.	Saturday		No Cost	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>			\$ _____	

### Program of Events

#### Thursday, January 19, 2017

2017 Governors Breakfast and training  
Opening Ceremonies (evening)

#### Friday, January 20, 2017

Veterans Breakfast (must be purchased separately or as part of the package above)  
Morning Business Session  
Foundation Awards Luncheon (must be purchased separately)  
Foundation Live Auction  
Workshops  
Fellowship Dinner (may be purchased separately or as part of a package above)

#### Saturday, January 21, 2017

Breakfast Honoring First Lady Patsy (must be purchased separately or as part of a package above)  
Morning Business Session with Awards  
Workshops  
Blood Drive  
Installation Banquet (may be purchased separately or as part of a package above)

#### Sunday, January 22, 2017

Worship Service

*Participants will be notified individually about special meetings. Hospitality suites may be open Thursday through Saturday evenings. Watch the bulletin board in the exhibit area for details and room numbers.*

## Message From 2016 Foundation President Fred Payne



### Ruritans Celebrate Scholarships

Clubs award hundreds of Ruritan scholarships annually to local students to attend educational institutions. Photos and stories of student recipients and club members are featured in local papers and the Ruritan magazine. Scholarship winners attend club meetings and tell stories

of how their awards enabled them to get an education and changed their lives.

When scholarships are awarded, the Ruritan Foundation Bylaws purpose is fulfilled. *"The Foundation gives grants to individuals for post-secondary education.... Income from growth in investments, interest and dividends will be used to fund the educational programs of the Foundation."* Last year, the Foundation awarded \$221,565 that funded various scholarships, 20 endowed/named, 370 Build Your Dollar, and 29 other scholarships. Those scholarships change lives and deserve celebration!

The Ruritan National Foundation uses the Ruritan Annual Report to celebrate gifts that support education. The Report recognizes Ruritan clubs and individuals that use Birthday Funds, Tom Downing Fellows, and Special and Friend Scholarship Funds to promote educational scholarships and serve our communities.

Ruritans celebrate Birthdays! May 21st, 2016, many Ruritans will gather in Holland, VA, and in other places across Ruritanland, to recognize the 88<sup>th</sup> birthday of our great organization. I look forward to joining the celebrants in Virginia and remembering the leaders and actions that laid a foundation for what Ruritan does today. In addition, many clubs recognize their own Ruritan club birthday during Ruritan week in May or on their special anniversary. For example, the Duncan Club in Spartan District will celebrate 80 years in 2016.

The Ruritan Foundation celebrates those special clubs that make a Birthday Fund contribution by listing them in the Ruritan Annual Report. Many clubs recognize members with a special gift, either \$10 or \$2 per member, to the Ruritan Foundation. The birthday money is added to the local club fund at the Foundation and builds the club's permanent fund corpus. Net annual earnings go into an unrestricted fund to pay for Build Your Dollar scholarships. And each club is honored in the Annual Report.

Keep celebrating club birthdays! If you are not, then

please consider starting a Birthday Celebration!

Ruritans celebrate Tom Downing Awards that honor and recognize local leaders for outstanding service. Tom Downing, of Suffolk, VA, was one of the co-founders of Ruritan and was the first National Secretary of Ruritan. In 2015 and 2014, clubs recognized 47 and 50 Tom Downing honorees with awards of \$500 each – a total of \$48,500 in gifts. Many districts encourage clubs or individuals to honor outstanding citizens by offering to pay half of the \$500 cost. The RNF online website lists 1,423 names of Tom Downing awardees. The Tom Downing Fund is the biggest unrestricted fund in the RNF endowment, \$500 x 1,423 represents \$711,500 in unrestricted earnings that are used for scholarships. Actual balance in the Tom Downing Fund is \$739,764.56.

Keep celebrating Tom Downing leadership awards! If your club is not, please consider a new tradition.

Ruritans celebrate education with gifts to Permanent, Friends, and Special Funds. The RNF database shows about 1,800 separate permanent fund accounts that honor a named club or individual or family. The 2015 Annual Report listed 11 Special Funds with at least \$20,000 designated for a named scholarship, and 9 Friends Funds each with at least \$10,000 designated for a named fund. Earnings from each of those funds is used to fund a local scholarship award. A number of clubs and families are completing their own named endowment funds by moving up the "steps" toward their own endowment. In 2015, 30 funds reached the \$1,000 level to establish their Named Permanent Funds, 13 funds exceeded the 21<sup>st</sup> Century level of \$2,100, and 16 funds achieved the Cornerstone level at \$5,000.

Keep celebrating Endowed Permanent Funds! If you have questions, please ask a Foundation Trustee or District Promotion Chair how to start your fund.

As **"Ruritans Celebrate!"** with Birthday Funds, Tom Downing Fellow Awards, and Special and Friend Scholarship Funds, we build the corpus of the Ruritan Foundation. Trustees are responsible to manage and maintain the corpus in perpetuity to achieve donor goals. Prudent investments of the corpus produce earnings that support scholarship grants to local students. May continuing investments grow corpus and increase Foundation scholarship awards.

We will celebrate Ruritan Foundation successes in Greenville during the Fellowship Weekend at Embassy Suites over September 9-11, 2016. Come join us for a fun time!

# Register Now For Fellowship Weekend 2016



Nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, Greenville, SC has combined traditional Southern charm, stunning natural beauty, and contemporary cool. From one-of-a-kind shops to unique dining options, quaint galleries to outdoor adventures galore, Greenville offers something sure to put a smile on every face. While there's no app for happiness, there is a place for it.

Make your hotel reservations at the Embassy Suites by calling 800-218-8712 and ask for the Ruritan National group rate - \$129 plus 10% tax and 2.12% destination fee.

Weblink to make reservations:

[www.embassysuitesgreenville.com](http://www.embassysuitesgreenville.com)

Code: RUR

Send registrations to: Ruritan National Foundation  
P.O. Box 487  
Dublin, VA. 24084

The deadline for registration is August 20, 2016.  
Pre-registration before August 20, 2016, is \$70 per person. Late registration is \$80 per person.

See below for registration and additional cost options.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Badge Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Badge Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone + Area Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Club: \_\_\_\_\_

District: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Enclosed is my payment:**

Check No. \_\_\_\_\_

Visa # \_\_\_\_\_

Visa Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mastercard # \_\_\_\_\_

Mastercard Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

CVC code (3 digit code on the back of your card) \_\_\_\_\_

**Full Package Registration includes Friday dinner and Saturday banquet**

**Before or on August 20, 2016**

Registration \$70 X \_\_\_\_\_ persons = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Full Package LATE Registration includes Friday dinner and Saturday banquet**

**After August 20, 2016**

Registration \$80 X \_\_\_\_\_ persons = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Friday Meal Only**

\$40 X \_\_\_\_\_ persons = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Saturday Meal Only**

\$40 X \_\_\_\_\_ persons = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐

I would be interested in playing in a cornhole tournament.



## Ruritan Members Assist D-Day Memorial With Gold Star Monument

On February 25<sup>th</sup>, the National D-Day Memorial kicked off a fund-raising campaign to raise funds for a Gold Star monument at the Memorial. A number of Ruritan leaders were in attendance including Past National Director and 1982 First Lady Lou Rader and **Bonsack/**

**Blue Ridge Area (VA) Club** Past President Marshall Minter, pictured here with Medal of Honor recipient Hershel "Woody" Williams (center). The **Bedford (VA) Ruritan Club** generously donated \$2,000 toward the project with the hope that other Ruritan Clubs might support the project as well. Attending the dinner that night from the Bedford club was President Bob Pratt. Chris Pugh, member services coordinator for the Ruritan National Office and a member of the **Ruritan Road Ruritan Club (VA)** was also a guest at the dinner.

Understanding that "freedom is not free," the National D-Day Memorial Foundation has committed to place Virginia's first Gold Star Families Monument on its picturesque site, overlooking the town and the breathtaking mountains which surround Bedford. There is no more fitting place to house an eternal tribute to the Gold Star Families of Virginia than the National D-Day Memorial. For more information on this project, please call the National D-Day Memorial at 540-586-3329 or visit [www.dday.org](http://www.dday.org).

Beginning in 2013, the Hershel "Woody" Williams Medal of Honor Foundation has taken on the project of paying tribute to these brave Americans through the promotion, creation, and implementation of Gold Star Families Memorial Monuments throughout the nation. The goal is to have at least one in every state of the union.

"The Gold Star Families Memorial Monument," according to the Hershel "Woody" Williams Medal of Honor Foundation, "honors those families who sacrificed more than most of us, and illustrates that America has citizens in every community and hamlet willing to make such sacrifices. The memorial monument further illustrates that families suffer and grieve when a dear relative is lost. Without their sacrifices, freedom could not and would not have been pre-



served... Freedom Has Never Been Free."

Gold Star families exist in every American hometown. Sadly, more families are added to their number every year. Yet their sacrifices remain largely invisible to the rest of us. The time has come to give them due recognition and to pay

proper gratitude.

The National D-Day Memorial exists to preserve the lessons and legacies of D-Day, June 6, 1944, when 150,000 allied service personnel began the final assault on Hitler's European tyranny. Though the Memorial concentrates on the veterans who served in D-Day or the larger conflict of the Second World War, the Memorial also works hard to recognize daily the valor, fidelity, and sacrifice of all who have worn our nation's uniform.

Many of these heroes laid down their lives in service to America; all were prepared to do so.

The Memorial is very much aware that for every soldier, sailor, airman, Coast Guardsman or Marine who has died for our nation on the battlefield, there are others on the home front who also endured an agonizing sacrifice. Starting in World War I and continuing in World War II and beyond, the families who lost loved ones in military service were recognized with an iconic banner that was to be hung in the family's window; the banner featured a vivid gold star to signify to all passersby that someone from that household had paid the ultimate price for freedom. These brave Americans became known as Gold Star Families. Like their sons and daughters who died in uniform, they are also heroes.

Woody Williams himself knows all too well the costs of serving on the front lines. The last living recipient of the Medal of Honor from the fierce battle of Iwo Jima, Williams courageously stormed multiple enemy gun emplacements to silence the guns that had pinned his comrades down. His example of valor has inspired many since 1945; but Williams has always been quick to speak of the bravery of others ahead of his own.

## News From Ruritan: Holland District

### South Norfolk Presents Awards

Phil Johnson, **South Norfolk** (VA) Ruritan Club Member, was presented an "Outstanding Citizen Award" at the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Chesapeake Environmental Improvement Council Awards Luncheon. Phil has been an active local environmentalist



through his club for many years. Pictured right (l-r) are chair Wayne S. Jones, club member Phil Johnson, and Chesapeake Mayor Alan P. Krasnoff.



District Governor David Edwards presented a Gold Key Awards to vice president Joe Josue and club secretary Rusty Barath. Pictured (l-r) are Joe Josue, Rusty Barath, and David Edwards.

### Prince George Celebrates Ladies Night



The **Prince George** (VA) Ruritan Club celebrated Ladies Night in grand style. All business was suspended so that the club and guests could enjoy an evening of fellowship. The night began with a delicious catered dinner followed by outstanding vocal entertainment. Widows of club members were recognized and guests were introduced. 1995 National President Frank Guthrie and Janet and 2012 National President Phyllis Lewter and Bill were in attendance. A highlight at the end of the evening was the awarding of door prizes. Excitement built as each lady received a beautiful hanging basket, lovely door wreath, gift certificate from a local merchant, or specially wrapped gift from the Prince George Ruritans. Pictured (l-r) enjoying the Prince George fellowship meeting are (standing) 2012 National President Phyllis Lewter, Holland District Governor David Edwards, Debbie Edwards, 1995 First Lady Janet Guthrie, and 1995 National President Frank Guthrie. 2012 First Gentleman Bill Lewter, Past National Director Chuck Myers, and Mary Myers are seated.

### Calendar of Events On Website

Ruritan National is maintaining a calendar of Ruritan events and committee meetings as well as information on office closings and staff availability. This calendar, developed through Google Calendars, can be found under the "Events Calendar" link at <http://ruritan.org>. Clicking on many items provides additional detail and directions.

Districts are invited to submit items to include on the calendar by emailing [office@ruritan.org](mailto:office@ruritan.org).

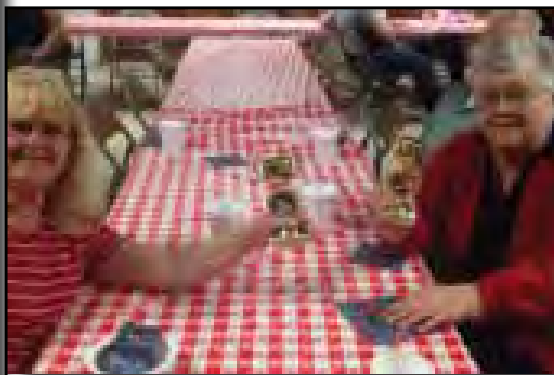


## News From Ruritan: Rappahannock District



### Moonshiner's Tim Smith Helps Bealeton-Remington

Rudy Bear is pictured with Discovery Channel's Moonshiner Tim Smith. Smith was gracious enough to offer his time and name to help out the **Bealeton-Remington** (VA) Ruritan Club and the Remington Volunteer Fire & Rescue Department at their annual Sportsman's Bash.



**Sumerduck** (VA) Ruritan Club held its 7<sup>th</sup> annual Chili and Homemade Cookie Cook-off on April Fools' Day. The best cookie trophy went to Lettie Glenz, and the best chili trophy went to Nancy Smith.

## News From Ruritan: Appomattox District

### Susan Greisz Visits Chase City and Burkeville Clubs

National Director Susan Greisz visited the **Chase City** (VA) Ruritan Club to share some ideas for fundraising. Following the presentation, Greisz was presented with a Ruritan mug in appreciation for her visit. Pictured with Greisz is club president Joe Vitanza.

The club had the honor of hosting Robert Bondurant of Bondurant Brothers Distillery, as their guest speaker. Mr. Bondurant joined the club for their monthly meeting at the Garden House. He gave an informative talk on the conditions required for operating a distillery, including his encounters with the various government agencies and the stamps and permits required. He included interesting comments about his life in the business, his family's involvement through the years, and the fact that the 2012 movie, *Lawless*, based on his family, was mostly fictional. He invited everyone to stop by to see the progress at their new location in the former Roller Mills facility. Pictured are club member Charles Duckworth and Robert Bondurant.

The Burkeville Community was all abuzz for the **Burkeville** (VA) Ruritan Club's Silent Auction. People gathered to make their bids for the 66 items up for grabs. This was the club's first auction and it was a success. Greisz made a surprise visit at the event.



## News From Ruritan: Appomattox District continued

### Clarksville Holds Easter Celebration

Damp, cool weather forced the **Clarksville** (VA) Ruritan Club's Easter celebration to be moved from the Ruritan Park to the community center. That did not keep area children and parents from enjoying the seasonal activities and refreshments. They were treated to a guest appearance from the Easter

Bunny (club member Pat Furrevig), face painting, dancing, egg races, three-legged races, gifts, and prizes.

**Clarksville** (VA) Ruritan Club remembered four

members who passed away in 2015. Personalized bricks were laid by families and friends at the base of the American flag in the Ruritan Park to commemorate their service to the club. The years of service for these four hard workers totaled 37 years. Honored were Bill Plemons, Sandy Silka, Frances Updike, and Margaret Woltz. Pictured is Dennis Hughes who presented taps to honor the four members.



## News From Ruritan: Natural Bridge District

### District Hosts Workshop

The **Natural Bridge District** hosted a workshop on Starting New Ruritan Clubs. National Director David Thompson, Natural Bridge District Governor Jim Frazier, and National Director Gary Solomon were in attendance. 1993 National President Wayne Bettis led the session with videos of past growth statistics. He shared six criteria's needed to organize a club: the community must have enough population to support a club; a place to meet with adequate space is needed; a meal is an essential part of meetings; the church is an important part for community gatherings; schools assure population, activities, and need; and local post office gives identity. The **Bonsack/Blue Ridge** (VA) Club prepared lunch. The workshop gathered over 100 prospective communities.



### Note From 2016 National President Elect Danny Privott on the *Outstanding Club Secretary Award*

During the August 2015 NBOD meeting a motion was presented and approved to establish an Outstanding Club Secretary Award. The award is noted in the inside front cover as new for this edition in the new revised 8/15 Ruritan Club and District Officer's Handbook and on page 84 the application form with qualifications is identified for the 2016 club secretaries who qualify. The award is to be presented to them in the year 2017.

Due to some misunderstanding by some clubs and the responsible office staff personnel at least 5 applications were received this year and awards were sent from the office to them without any input from members of the Advancement Committee. This is an unfortunate situation but perhaps now that we have identified and called attention to the award all of us together can encourage each club member to be aware that it does exist and more clubs will strive to qualify and apply for it for their secretary.

## News From Ruritan: Woodrow Wilson District



### District Donates Dictionaries

Lovington, Massies Mill, and Rockfish Valley (VA) Ruritan Clubs donated dictionaries to the local elementary schools. Thomas Nelson, Jr. gave a presentation, dressed in costume, and portrayed his fifth generation grandfather. Thomas Nelson was the fifth Governor of Virginia and signed the Declaration of Independence. Nelson County is also named after him. Pictured (l-r) are Lt. Governor and Lovington Club Member Ed Hicks, Massies Mill Club



Members, Rudy Bear, Thomas Nelson, Jr., and Rockfish Valley Club Member Susan McIver.

### Linda Wheatley Receives Tom Downing Award

Linda Wheatley is shown receiving the Tom Downing Award from the **New Hope** (VA) Ruritan Club. Linda is a dedicated member of the club and has held many offices. For the past eight years she has served as a facilitator of the community center. Linda is currently serving as a non-board member on Ruritan National's Publications Committee.



## Get Your Room Reservations in Kingsport

## News From Ruritan: Rockingham District



### New Member Lizzie Miller Installed

**North Shenandoah** (VA) Ruritan Club President Von Himelright is shown presenting new member Lizzie Miller with a new member kit. The club is excited to have another helping hand with community projects.



## Reserve Hospitality Room Through National Office

If your district, club, or candidate is interested in booking a hospitality room in Kingsport, contact Craig Whitt at 877-787-8727 #312 or [convention@ruritan.org](mailto:convention@ruritan.org) and he will send you the proper form. Please note, these Hospitality Rooms are not connected with sleeping rooms.

To make your reservations for the 2017 Ruritan Convention, please visit:

<http://tinyurl.com/KingsportRuritan>.

If you would rather talk to a booking agent about your room, please call (800) 228-9290 or call the hotel directly at (423) 578-6600. Rates before taxes begin at \$114 for single and double occupancy.



## News From Ruritan: Potomac District



### St. Thomas Area Cleans Up Streets

**St. Thomas Area (PA)**

Ruritan Club has been picking up trash on a two-mile stretch of Route 30 (Lincoln Way West) in Franklin

County, Pennsylvania for over 25 years. Club members pictured in the photo (l-r) are Tom Iacona, Kathy Danzberger, Ricky Danzberger, and Earl Ross.



**Lothian (MD)** Ruritan Club presented nine graduating seniors with a \$1,000 scholarship each. The recipients were selected based on grade point average and service to the community.

## News From Ruritan: Albemarle District

### Albemarle Clubs Make Quilts



The **Albemarle District** Ruritans support the homeless in Elizabeth City, North Carolina. Through the efforts of **Inter-County (NC)** Ruritan Club member Mary Armstrong, supported by the Albemarle District Ruritans, District Governor Barbara Courtney presented 15 handmade quilts to the "Room in the Inn" homeless interfaith initiative of eight Elizabeth City churches. Accepting the comforters was the Reverend Don Morris of the Blackwell Memorial Baptist Church.

### Boy Scout Troop Retires Flag

The Boy Scouts of America Troop 150 were the **Durants Neck (NC)** Ruritan Club's special guest at the club's April meeting. They were invited to conduct a United States American

Flag Retirement ceremony. The ceremony began with an explanation as to when and why American flags are to be retired. The "US Flag Code reads; "The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning." Beginning the ceremony with the Pledge of Allegiance they retired an old tattered flag provided by a club member. One of the scouts then read a story of our flag told from the perspective of "Old Glory" herself. The ceremony continued with the cutting of the flag into single red and white stripes by the scouts. Each stripe cut was prefaced with a line from the following script. As each stripe was cut, the Scout Master presented it to one of the club members who served in the United States Armed Forces or to the spouse of a veteran. The ceremony was



continued outside where symbolically each veteran tossed their piece of the flag into the fire. The ceremony ended with a prayer. Pictured (l-r) are John Masterson, Luke Fuller, Taykel Thatch, Kenneth Barnes, Christian Ries, and Shane Foley.

## News From Ruritan: Roanoke District



**Robersonville** (NC) Ruritan Club presented Haleigh Scott with a \$600 scholarship. Haleigh plans to attend Appalachian State University. The club initiated Kenneth Parker to work on starting a new Cub Scout Pack in the Robersonville area. Pictured left are Richard Curtis, Haleigh Scott, and club president Victor Long. Pictured right are Brandon Kleimann, vice president Doug Killingsworth, and Kenneth Parker.

## News From Ruritan: Rocky Mt.- Durham District

### West Mount Celebrates 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



**West Mount** (NC) Ruritan Club celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in November. Those celebrating with club members were: pictured in the back (l-r), Lt. Governor George Brothers, Ruritan Forever recipient Gold Joyner, Tom Downing Fellow recipient Lester Weaver, 2015 National President Bobby Burton, Tom Downing Fellow recipient Buck Pittman, 2002 National President Millard Thacker, National Director Linward Hedgpeth, and 2016 club president and 2008 National President Wayne Outlaw. Pictured on the front (l-r) are 2015 club president Johnny Massie, Tom Downing

Fellow recipient Daxie Dozier, Zone 5 Governor Fran Bunn, Tom Downing Fellow recipient David Winstead, and Tom Downing Fellow recipient Bob Alford.

### Silk Hope Holds Blood Drive

**Silk Hope** (NC) Ruritan Club's Blood Drives have been successful since the club moved to the community center in 2011. This year's spring drive brought in 44 units of blood which is the club's third best drive since the move. Club members exceeded 69 working hours.



**American Red Cross**

*Together, we can save a life*



## News From Ruritan: Greenville-Goldsboro District

### Greenville-Goldsboro District Donates Rudy Bears

**Wheat Swamp** (NC) Ruritan Club donated Rudy Bears to local fire departments and the Lenoir Memorial Hospital. This project has been great publicity for the club. Pictured left are J.C. Braxton and North Lenoir Fire Department representative George Smith.

**Old Ford and Bunyan** (NC) Ruritan Clubs donated Rudy Bears to the Broad Creek EMS. Pictured right is Curtis Rogers with Captain Alan McCutcheon of Broad Creek EMS.



## News From Ruritan: Columbia District

### Sandy Run Tours State House



**Sandy Run** (SC) Ruritan Club toured the State House with the Liberty Day Kids from the Sandy Run Elementary School fifth grade class. Each student received a certificate of recognition from the House along with a signed proclamation. Pictured (l-r) are Tina Smith, Tracy Smith, citizenship and patriotism chair Howard Pees, Sandra Pees, Bishop Tobin, representative Russell Ott, teacher Brian Day, guidance counselor Betsy Tant, Becky Starnes, Blake McKoy, and Anne Marie McKoy.

## News From Ruritan: Upper West Virginia District

### Headsville Countryside Collects Trash

**Headsville Countryside** (WV) Ruritan Club participated in the West Virginia Beautification Project by collecting trash along Beaver Run Road. Members working on the clean-up were (l-r) M. Leasure, R. Haggerty, R. Johnston, Tiana Morales, B. Johnston, Stone Kesner, LeAunna Kesner, J. Kesner, S. Kesner, E. Tasker, and K. Leasure.



## News From Ruritan: Lower West Virginia District

### Williamsburg and Marie Honor Members

**Williamsburg** (WV) Ruritan Club recently honored Shelby Cremeans as a community champion for her many years of volunteer work. Shelby's volunteering career began in 1991. After she retired as a teacher, she assisted in painting the interior of the then new community building. Among other things she started the



Williamsburg Thespians, a group of amateurs who performed several plays and musical presentations including several encore presentations of "The Womanless Wedding." She was the organizer and Queen Mother of the Williamsburg Red Hat Society, The Hatties; a member of the community action group, who hold many fundraisers during the year including the July Community Fair; a member of the Williamsburg Area Emergency Response Team (WARTS); director of Williamsburg High School annual reunions; and an active member of Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church and of the United Methodist Women. Shelby has a great artistic and imaginative talent and has created a multitude of arts and crafts. Pictured are vice president Jack Goodman with



Shelby.

**Marie** (WV) Ruritan Club honored charter member and WWII Veteran Oswald Yates. The club was chartered in 1979 and Oswald has only missed two meetings. Oswald (age 82) is still active in the club.

## News From Ruritan: Bluegrass District



### Santa Visits Bagdad

**Bagdad** (KY) Ruritan Club had a free chili dinner with Santa as the special guest in December. Pictured are Nicholas Bowman and Paquettine Johnson with Santa and Mrs. Claus.





## News From Ruritan: Cherokee District

### Morrison Holds Successful Fundraiser



**Morrison** (TN) Ruritan Club raised \$1,260 at its annual fish supper. Proceeds are donated to Relay for Life. Pictured (l-r) are Todd Shewmaker, Coty Grissom, Shea Grissom, Ryan J. Moore, Sue Anderson, Claudia Ifill, Ashley Freeze, and District Governor Mike Holland.

At the club's Citizenship Banquet Michael and Vickie Bouldin were honored as Citizens of the Year for their hard work and dedication to the community.



## News From Ruritan: Georgia/North Alabama District

**Deadline for clubs  
"Build Your Dollar"  
contributions  
October 1, 2016**



National Director Les Hopper presents the President's Gold Key to **Model** (GA) Ruritan Club President Charles "Junior" McEntire for recruiting two new members in 2015.

## News From Ruritan: Tennessean District



**McPheeters Bend** (TN) Ruritan Club held its annual turkey shoot and raffle. The raffle was for a 22 Magnum Rossie 12 gauge shotgun/rifle. Harold Patterson was the winner.



## News From Ruritan: Hermitage District

### Former Air Force One Pilot Speaks at Grand Junction



Col. Neal Certain, retired USAF pilot, entertained the **Grand Junction** (TN) Ruritan Club at its meeting in February. Members were treated to a historical presentation of the Presidential Airplane commonly referred to as Air Force One. "The plane is known by its tail number unless the President is aboard. 'Airforce One' is actually the President's radio call sign," he said. Certain's presentation was an "audience participation" event. His opening question was, "Which President was first to actually fly in an airplane?" Later he asked, "Which President had the very first airplane assigned specifically for his transportation?" Certain traced the history of the plane up to present day. He related several very interesting facts about each plane. These included facts regarding the time he served as Chief Pilot. He held that assignment during the last two years of Jimmy Carter's term and the first two of Ronald Reagan's. "I wasn't picked because of any special talent. I just happened to have more flight hours as Captain of that type plane than anybody else in service at the time," he said.

Following the stint on Air Force One, Certain went on to command the U-2 project. He did have the opportunity to fly an SR-71 Blackbird reconnaissance plane. "We called this one the three second aircraft. At 92,000 feet of altitude and a speed of 2,300 miles per hour, if you weren't paying constant attention to all systems, it would require about three seconds to get into irrecoverable trouble. It took about the width of a state just to make a turn." After retiring from the USAF, Certain went on to fly 20 years for FedEx. By the way, Theodore Roosevelt was the first President to fly in an airplane although he was no longer in office at the time. Franklin Roosevelt was the first to have a dedicated Presidential plane.

## News From Ruritan: Ohio District



### Damascus Cooks Steak

**Damascus** (OH) Ruritan Club member Al Lutz, vice president Dave Wingett, Larry Wallace, and Ken Steer are shown flouring steaks for the club's 51<sup>st</sup> annual Spring Swiss Steak Dinner. The **West Branch Area Ladies** (OH) Ruritan Club held a bake sale during the same time.



## News From Ruritan: Western North Carolina District

### Bethlehem Sponsors Soap Box Derby

**Bethlehem** (NC) Ruritan Club sponsored a car for the Lenoir County Soap Box Derby. The car was constructed by the West Alexander Middle School. Pictured are club president Trey Braswell, Past National Treasurer Fred Lackey, Wanda Stafford, Jim Helton, and Dennis Cain.





## News From Ruritan: Delmarva-New Jersey District

### Tri-County Builds Handicap Ramp



**Tri-County** (MD) Ruritan Club helped a fellow member when they found out his wife was diagnosed with cancer. Members built a handicap ramp for easy transportation. The construc-

tion was led by club president Lewis Smith. Pictured (l-r) are Chet Goudy, Dave Parks, Keith Davis, Steve Hurst, David Boyle, Mark Boyle, Allen Davis, and Smith. Builders First Choice donated the building materials.

## News From Ruritan: New York Area

### *June Kemp Named V.C.F. Club's Ruritan of the Year*



**V.C.F** (DE) Ruritan Club's 2015 Ruritan of the Year is June Kemp. Kemp is shown with 2015 club president Cliff Hudson.

### Tioughnioga Builds Gazebo



**Tioughnioga** (NY) Ruritan Club received a \$5,000 grant to build a gazebo on the Town Hall Civic Center and Library property. The construction is used for auctions, local market, and services.



## South Westfield Helps Jesse Atkins



The **South Westfield (NC)** Ruritan Club was shaken to its core when the youngest member, Jesse Atkins (age 16), was diagnosed with Leukemia in January 2016. Jesse and his family spent over a month at Brenner's Children's Hospital in Winston-Salem, NC, where Jesse underwent chemotherapy treatments in preparation for a bone marrow transplant. Jesse's sister, Jamie Atkins, who is also a member of the club was selected to donate the life-saving bone marrow. Jesse's bone marrow transplant took place on April 15<sup>th</sup> at Wake Forrest Baptist Medical Center in the Adult Cancer Center in Winston-Salem, NC. With the combined efforts of the club, Boy Scout Troop 545, the Baptist Men of Jessup Grove Baptist Church, and the overwhelming support of a loving community over \$8,700 was raised. This will assist the Atkins family in their time of need. Over 400 hot dogs and 37 gallons of chicken stew were served.

## Clubs Work Together

The **Pine Hall, Sandy Ridge, Lawsonville, and German-ton (NC)** Ruritan Clubs teamed together to prepare and serve a meal for the volunteers at East Stokes Outreach Ministry. The club cooked and served about 100 volunteers. This was not a fundraiser. It was an opportunity to give back and show the communities what we are all about.

The **Sandy Ridge, Francisco, Rock House, and Law-sonville (NC)** Ruritan Clubs sponsored a new flagpole for the North Stokes High School Baseball Field. The field was dedicated on Friday, March 11, 2016. The Sandy Ridge Boy Scouts assisted with the ceremony. This project involved many hours working with the different clubs, school staff, and the company which installed the flagpole.

**Leasburg (NC)** Club Members Geraldine Fugay, Wanda Richmond, Margaret Ann Williams, Dixie Vernon, Tracy Kirby, Scott Berdine, and John Berdine (photographer) cleaned Highway 86 as one of its community service projects.





## News From Ruritan: Lincolnland District



### Successful Scholarship Dinner

**Western Yell (AR)** Ruritan Club held its annual scholarship fundraising dinner. The club served catfish, other seafood, and ribs with all the trimmings. Over 325 people attended to make a profit of \$3,764 for scholarships. This event has been held for over 30 years.



On a recent trip to Lincolnland for the District's Annual Spring Rally Awards Banquet, Foundation Treasurer Jayson Duncan received the job of shoveling horse manure in front of the **Hymera (IN)** Ruritan Club building.

## News From Ruritan: Dan River District



### Carver Road Serves Fish

The **Carver Road (VA)** Ruritan Club held a fish fry and sold fried apple pies in an effort to make its facilities more usable for community functions. The building



is often used for events like community meetings, birthday parties, and family functions. The building was in critical need of additional parking. The club was able to clear nearly 14 acres of heavily wooded land and use money from the food sales to expand the parking area. Additionally, funds from the sales were used towards donations to local fire departments, rescue squads, 4-H Camp sponsorship, and gift baskets for the elderly.



A Ruritan leaves beautiful memories. This picture was taken in March at the John Bradshaw Field on the grounds of the **Horsepasture (VA)** Ruritan Club. The blooming Bradford pear trees serve as a memorial to John Bradshaw.

## News From Ruritan: Davy Crockett District

### Horse Creek Receives Foundation Plaque



2011 National President and Foundation Treasurer Jayson Duncan recently visited the **Horse Creek** (TN) Ruritan Club in the Davy Crockett District. "I had the honor of delivering a \$10 per member Ruritan National Foundation plaque on February 22. I want to encourage other clubs to participate in this \$10 per member Birthday Fund," he stated.

Duncan explained that once a year a club may send the Ruritan National Foundation a check equal to \$10 times the number of members on the roster, including associate and youth members. "This donation can also be counted as a contribution to building a permanent fund, if

they have one, which has to total \$1000," said Duncan.

"At your district convention, your club will receive a plaque recognizing your gift. The Birthday Fund is an opportunity to give back to the Foundation for all the Build Your Dollar and student grants your club has received over the years," he said. He added that the more money the Foundation has to invest, the greater the amount of the Build Your Dollar scholarship money is to return.

Concerning his recent visit to Horse Creek, he said, "I noticed their club house wall was full of awards, plaques, and honors. I walked over to see what they had been doing over the years. What I found was that the Horse Creek Club has been giving to the Foundation Birthday Fund for 18 of the past 20 years. This is a club that makes my point. They apply for and get the Build Your Dollar grant every year and they understand the need to give back so that more students can benefit from the program."

Duncan proposed a question for all clubs: Are you taking the opportunity to contribute to the Ruritan National Foundation so that the Foundation can give more in return?

## News From Ruritan: Chesapeake District



### Chesapeake Staying Active

**Varina** (VA) Ruritan Club sponsored its annual Environmental Essay, Poster, and Multi-media Contest with the Varina Elementary School. Each student received a certificate. Pictured in the photo are the student contest winners along with the Principal Mr. Mark Tyler and Associate Principal Ms. Terry Larkin of Varina Elementary School.

**Abingdon** (VA) Ruritan Club presented checks totaling \$900 in support of the American Legion's

Boys State, Girl State, and Junior Law Cadet Programs. The funds will help with the expense for students attending these programs where they learn the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of franchised citizens. Accepting the checks was Rick Ward, American Legion Post



75. Pictured (l-r) are citizenship and patriotism committee chair Yvonne Scales, Rick Ward, and club president Rose Taylor.



New member Joe Wilbur (left) is welcomed into the **Warwick** (VA) Ruritan Club by club president Woodrow Sanders.



## RUBY PACE

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



THE \$600 WANTED WINNER FOR THE  
FIRST QUARTER OF 2016 WAS  
RUBY PACE OF THE MT. OLIVET (VA)  
RURITAN CLUB IN THE DAN RIVER DISTRICT.

# REWARDED \$600

## KEN PAUGH

THE \$200 WINNER IN THE WANTED CONTEST  
FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2016 WAS  
KEN PAUGH OF THE ROMNEY (WV) AND  
HEADSVILLE-COUNTRYSIDE (WV) CLUBS IN  
THE UPPER WEST VIRGINIA DISTRICT.



# REWARDED \$200

## BRYAN FRANKLIN

\$400 WAS PRESENTED TO BRYAN FRANKLIN  
OF THE CROPPER (KY) CLUB IN THE  
BLUEGRASS DISTRICT FOR THE FIRST  
QUARTER OF 2016.



# REWARDED \$400

