



Ruritan

Volume 81, Fall 2016





Keep Demonstrating Fellowship, Goodwill, and Community Service

I bring you greetings from Ruritan National! It's hard to believe that the year is half over and fall will be upon us before we know it. It's been a wonderful summer of visiting Ruritan clubs in our

great organization and as I like to tell people, getting reacquainted with old friends and making many new ones.

It amazes me when I hear about all of the good deeds that our Ruritans are doing in their communities. I truly believe that our members are some of the best people in the world. I think of how our members responded to West Virginia needs when they had devastating floods. Everyone wanted to know what they could do to help, whether it be money, supplies, volunteering, or whatever was needed. The main thing was that you let the people in West Virginia know you cared.

Another Ruritan Club in Southwest Virginia awarded \$19,000 in scholarships. They also provided 12 underprivileged children with school clothes to start the new school year. All of the teachers at two schools were provided \$100.00 gift cards so that they could buy school supplies for the students that couldn't afford them. They have let the people in Southwest Virginia know they care.

I can tell stories like the ones above for almost every club that I have visited. One club in the Appomattox District presented over \$190,000 in donations. Another club in the Chesapeake District made donations that totaled over \$62,000 to non-profit organizations. There are clubs in all of the districts that have similar stories to tell.

There were scholarships, blood drives, help to families with medical bills, veterans recognition, donations to volunteer fire departments, Rudy Bears for emergency personnel, and many, many other examples of what we do for our fellow man - because we care.

We plant the seeds, but we may not be there to reap the harvest. However, rest assured, there will

be a plentiful harvest. I firmly believe that what we do for others will come back to us tenfold.

That is the reason that we must keep Ruritan alive. We must instill in our young people the need for community service. I believe that many of the millennials are so busy with their families, their jobs, their activities, that they don't sense the continuing need for cohesion in their communities, with their neighbors.

We have to find a way to keep people involved but still respect their right to voice how much time they are willing to give, and how much energy they can devote. We have to understand that everyone cannot give as much time as others, but they can be valuable to our clubs, in other ways.

I am excited for us all to have the opportunity to hear Mr. Steve Siemens at our National Convention in January. 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 will be teaching a workshop on how to get the millennials involved in our organization. I hope that each of you will make plans to attend and utilize the information that Mr. Siemens will share with us. I believe it will be useful as we try to build our clubs and increase our membership.

Lastly, I want to encourage you not to get discouraged. At times, we tend to get frustrated. Many keep reminding us of the problems that we have with membership, but I see very few offering a solution. We have to remember what our bylaws objectives state: "(1) that we will promote fellowship and goodwill . . . and that we will inspire each other. (2) that we will unify . . . (4) that we will encourage and foster the ideal of service . . . (5) that we will create greater understanding between rural and urban people. . ."

I want to share again with you a quote that the late Maynard Yoh sent to me. "Good friends are like stars. You can't always see them, but you know they are there." Remember to keep reaching for more stars, more friends, and to keep demonstrating Fellowship, Goodwill, and Community Service by letting people know we care!



Ruritan

Volume 81, Fall 2016

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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: _____



On the cover: Lothian (MD) Ruritan Club was the winner of the 2016 Fall Cover Contest. The theme for the 2016 Fourth of July parade in Shady Side, Maryland, was "Community Service 'ain't' Rocket Science." Members threw red, white, and blue beads to the audience as the float moved down the road.

Time For Growth



Summer is a time of growth. It seems that sometimes the grass grows so fast you can't keep it cut. Flowers bloom and everything is green. It should be a time of growth for Ruritan too. There have now been a total of four growth and development training sessions held in various parts of the country. North

Carolina was the first followed by a meeting held in southern Virginia, then in Kansas, and a fourth is planned for the Shenandoah Valley area of Virginia. Very early in the cycle, there was a pilot program in Tennessee. So, technically, there have been five. I am not aware of the number of potential communities that have been identified by all five of these programs, but I do know that in the first pilot program in Tennessee there were over 150 communities identified. Using that number and applying it to all the programs, we would have identified 750 communities that members attending the program believe would be good locations for Ruritan Clubs. The problem is, we have not built the clubs.

The program is designed to teach those in attendance what to look for in communities and how to market our organization to those communities. However, attending the program is the very first, fundamental step in the process. There is much work to be done. We all have to work together to make this or any program work. Identifying the communities is not enough. Someone has to follow through and go into the community and use what they have learned. There are people on the national level that are willing to help. The office can provide materials and support. Volunteers from the district can go and help you build the club. Our district leaders can also help by either joining the team on the ground or by motivating our best club builders in the district to help. Follow up and follow through is the key. If we just attend the meetings, go home, and go back to business as usual then we will not produce growth. District Governors and National Directors, be the catalyst that helps us grow. Touch base with those who attended the meetings and help them develop a plan to build a club. Then follow up and support the progress that the club builder makes. It is up to all of us to make this program work.

One of our Past National Presidents, Jerome Rodes used to say "whether you believe Ruritan will grow or not, you are probably right." That sounds funny on the surface, but Jerome is exactly right. Most of what happens is based on what we believe. If you believe we can grow you are more likely to work hard to make that happen. If you don't then you aren't likely to do much. It is all a matter of attitude and being willing to do the work of sharing Ruritan with a new community.

What is in it for you? Well, there are a number of award programs. They are all in the handbook. You can read about them for yourself if that is what motivates you to grow a club. But I believe that there is more to it than being awarded. I always brag about my own club. We existed for 25 years earning and giving away three or four thousand dollars a year. Bingo has been good to us. On average we support the community now with 50 or 60 thousand dollars a year. We are a meaningful force in our county. If we did not exist the community would definitely notice. President Calvin mentioned in his letter some of the great things Ruritan Clubs are doing all over the country. I get up and come to work every morning knowing that I have to buy my groceries and pay my bills, but what really gets me through each day is knowing that what I do helps clubs in some small or large way do the great things they do. The reward you will get from building a club goes beyond the plaque or the recognition or the financial incentive. You will be able to look at a community for perhaps the rest of your life knowing that the club serving that community exists because you cared enough to follow up, follow through and do the work of helping to build it. Ask anyone who has ever built a club and that is what they will tell you matters the most. Building a club will impact more lives in the community where you build it than you can even imagine. Is there a better feeling than impacting someone's life in a good way? It will impact the member's lives, it will impact the lives of the people the club serves. No matter how you look at it, it looks good.

We hope you enjoy your summer.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Chrisley". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Candidates Announce For National Office



President Elect

Clinton Guy Cox
106 Western Drive
Kingwood, WV 26537
Phone: (304) 329-2290
Cell: (304) 288-1201
Email: cox4a5@frontier.com

CLUB: Member of Fellowsville (WV) Ruritan Club since 1996; Served as Club Secretary 1996-Present.
DISTRICT: District Lt. Governor 2002 & 2015; District Governor 2003 & 2016; Youth Coordinator 2007-09
NATIONAL: Sergeant-At-Arms Committee 2002 & 2016; Flag Ceremony 2003 & 2016; Constitution and Bylaws Committee 2004; Aide to National Vice President and President 2005-06; Tom Downing Recipient 2007; Ruritan Forever Recipient 2008; Ruritan National Director 2008-10; Co-Chair Sergeant-at-Arms Committee 2012; Prayer at Installation Banquet 2015.
EDUCATION: Fellowsville High School graduate; AB in Education, Fairmont State College; University of Louisville; West Virginia University.
OCCUPATION: Biology Teacher 1967-2000; Member AFL-CIO Laborers' Union; Member Kanawha and Preston County Board of Education.
OTHER: Member, City Planning Commission 1990-2009; Member, Preston County Board of Education 2000-14; Member, Community Corrections Committee 2005-12; Member of 12-County RESA 2002-12; Member, WV School Board Association 2000-14; Church Trustee 1996-2016; Church Treasurer 2008-14; Married to Linda Cox for 49 years; three children.



National Director

Janet Kinsey
174 S. Sugar Street
St. Clairsville, OH 43950
Phone: (704) 695-5140
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CLUB: Ruritan member for 29 years; St. Clairs Ruritan and Colerain Ruritan clubs with 27 years of perfect attendance; Served as President, Vice President and Secretary; also served on several committees and as a board member.
DISTRICT: Served as District Governor; Lt. Governor, District Growth & Development Chair; Foundation Chair; District Fund-raiser; District Sergeant-at-Arms; Youth Committee Chair; Zone Governor, Lt. Governor; Escort at youth camp; attended several Foundation weekend events and attended Founders Day weekend and parade in 2014.
NATIONAL: Attended 20 National Conventions; served on Sergeant-at-Arms Committee; participated in Flag Ceremony three times; served on Registration & Credentials committee; worked in National Convention voting area; Tom Downing Fellow and Ruritan

Forever.

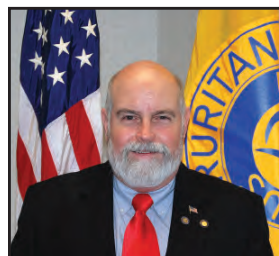
EDUCATION: Graduate of St. Clairsville School
OCCUPATION: Employed at Riesbecks Food Markets for 13 years.
OTHER: Married to husband, Frank, for 29 years; one son, Tom, and two grandsons, Jonathan and Jason; member of Barton United Methodist Church; Served as 4-H advisor for 10 years.



National Director

Betty Moore
536 New Chapel Road
Rustburg, VA 24588
Phone: (434) 332-2810
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CLUB: Member Rustburg (VA) Ruritan Club; served as Club President 2015; Club Secretary 2005-14; Chair of Business & Professions Committee; Chair, Fundraising Committee; Chair Kitchen Committee (12 yrs.); Board of Directors (12 yrs.); Ruritan of the Year 2010 and 2013; Reporter.
DISTRICT: District Secretary 2008; District Ruritan of the Year 2010; Lt. District Governor 2012, 2015; District Governor 2013, 2015, 2016; Conducted Secretary training; Active member AVR – Asst. Treasurer.
NATIONAL: Attended Leadership Conference 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016; Attended 24 National Conventions; Served as Sergeant-at-Arms (5 yrs.); Registration & Credentials Committee; Nominating Committee; Flag Ceremony 2012, 2015; Prayer leader at DRM/Fellowship Luncheon; Ruritan Forever.
EDUCATION: Graduated Rustburg High School; Central Virginia Community College; Bank Training classes.
OCCUPATION: SunTrust Bank, Trust Department, Wealth & Investment Management
OTHER: Member, New Chapel Baptist Church; Choir Member, Chair, Pastor Search Committee; Pictorial Committee; Nominating Committee; President, Womens' Missionary Union; Sunday School teacher; Served on Finance and Worship Display Committees; Church Council; Vacation Bible School; Married to Wayne Moore (deceased) 48 years; two children, Allen Wayne Moore, Jr. and Sheri Moore; two grandchildren, Parker Elizabeth Smith and Dallas Peyton Smith.



National Director

Stanley R. Turner
17314 Jolly Circle
Windsor, VA 23487
Phone: (757) 357-4873
Email: gntlmnstan@aol.com

CLUB: Isle of Wight (VA) Ruritan Club since 1995 (President 1999, 2000 and 2008; Vice President 1998, 2008; Chair or Co-Chair of Membership and Fellowship Committee for past 15 years; Chair or Co-Chair of Finance Committee for past 13 years); Ivor Ruritan Club member since 2014
DISTRICT: Holland District Zone 5 Lt. Governor 2009; Holland District Zone 5 Governor 2010; Holland District Governor 2012

and 2013; Holland District Convention Chair since 2014; Coordinator between Holland Ruritan Club and the Holland District for Founders' Day; Maintain a trailer and equipment to help area clubs with fundraisers and picnics.

NATIONAL: Sergeant-at-Arms 2011 and 2012; Flag Ceremony 2013; Ruritan Forever; Permanent Fund; Tom Downing Fellow.

EDUCATION: Smithfield High School (1970); Virginia Tech (1974, BS Degree in Mechanical Engineering with electives in Nuclear Engineering)

OCCUPATION: Norfolk Naval Shipyard, 33 years (retired as Supervisory Nuclear Engineer and Senior Manager).

OTHER: Member, Isle of Wight Christian Church (Superintendent, Treasurer and Sunday School Teacher); Daughter Laura and Son-in-Law Rob, Grandson Owen and Granddaughter Ruby.



Foundation Trustee

William R. (Bob) Beeson
P.O. Box 1793
N. Wilkesboro, NC 28659
Phone: (336) 667-5548
Cell: (336) 984-8266
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CLUB: Brushy Mountain (NC) Ruritan Club, served as Director, Vice President and President; Chaired Scholarship Committee for 4 years.

DISTRICT: Served as Foundation Chair (2 yrs.), Certified District Trainer (3 yrs.), and Zone Governor (3 yrs.)

EDUCATION: Appalachian State BS with Social Studies Teaching Certificate

OCCUPATION: Major, US Army, Ret. (20 yrs.); School Teacher, retired (16 yrs.)

OTHER: American Legion Baseball Area Commissioner (12 yrs.), American Legion Post Adj. (5 yrs.), American Legion Post Commander (14 yrs.), American Legion District Vice Commander (3 yrs.), Inducted into NC American Legion Baseball Hall of Fame 2013, Director, NC Elks Camp (5 yrs.), Member, North Wilkesboro Presbyterian Church since 1977, Church Session (3 yrs.), Presbytery Nominating Committee (5 yrs.), Presbytery Committee on Ministry (5 yrs.), Presbytery Neighborhood Connector (3 yrs.)

***Biographies were printed as
submitted by
candidates by July 1***



Foundation Trustee

Ollie H. (O.H.) Bobbitt, III
3744 Brookneal Hwy
Gladys, VA 24554
Phone: (434) 944-3505
Email: winfallb@gmail.com

CLUB: Member, Rustburg, (VA) Ruritan Club; 12 yrs. Perfect Attendance; served as President, Vice President, Business & Professions Chair, Assistant Treasurer, Building Rental Committee Chair, Audit Committee.

DISTRICT: Served as Zone Governor, District Lieutenant Governor, District Growth & Development Chair, District Convention Master of Ceremonies, District Convention Planning Committee, District Audit Committee,

NATIONAL: Attended National Summer Leadership Conference.

EDUCATION: Heritage High School, Lynchburg, VA; Averett College, Danville, VA; Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA.

OCCUPATION: Retail Banking (15 yrs.); Financial Planning / Investments (17 yrs.); Strategic Analyst (1 yr.); Investment Securities Licenses; Life & Health Insurance License.

OTHER: Church Treasurer (25 yrs.), Sunday School Teacher; Coordinated two church building programs, VBS worker, Small Group leader, Coordinate new member interviews, Usher, Deacon; Rustburg Community Christmas Parade Committee; Band Booster Treasurer, Band Booster Fundraising Coordinator; American Cancer Society Relay for Life (Division Planning Committee, Event Chair, Event Treasurer); Cancer Action Network (ACT Lead, Congressional Dist. 5; State Lead Ambassador).

Club Secretaries:
**Please watch the mail for
your 2017 Ruritan Club Kit.
The kits will be shipped out
the first week of October
and will come through the
U.S. Postal Service to your
mailing address.**

Past National Director Maynard Yoh Passes

Maynard E. Yoh, age 64, of Smithville, formerly of Moreland, died Saturday, July 9, 2016, at LifeCare Hospice in Wooster, following a year-long battle with cancer.

Maynard was born on October 12, 1951, in Van Wert, to the late Loyal and Marcile (Runyon) Yoh and graduated from Crestview High School in Convoy, Class of 1969. He graduated from Bluffton University with a Bachelor of Arts in Education in 1973. While at Bluffton, he met and married Gloria Bricker on August 12, 1972, in Fredericksburg. Gloria survives.

He went on to receive a Master's Degree in Education from the University of Akron and made a career in education, starting as a teacher in the Triway School District and retired as an administrator for Green Local Schools in Smithville.

Maynard was a member of Grace Church in Wooster where he served as Sunday school teacher. He was an active member of the Ruritan Club, serving in many offices including Smithville Club President, Zone 9 and Ohio Governor, and as the National Director. He was the 2010 Ohio District Ruritan of the Year and a Tom Downing Award winner in 2011. In 2015 he was recognized as the Smithville Ruritan Club Citizen of the Year. Maynard was also a member of The Gideons International, the Orrville YMCA Board, and a co-chair of the Veterans Memorial Project in Smithville. He enjoyed family genealogy, traveling with his wife Gloria, and spending time with his children and grandchildren.

Surviving in addition to his wife, Gloria, are children, Jeremy (Erin) Yoh of Kidron, and twins, Jennifer (Arturo) Quinones of Brooklyn, NY, and Jason (Nichole) Yoh of Minneapolis, MN; grandchildren, Madison, Eliana, Thelonious, and a grandchild due in September; brother, Mark (Brenda) Yoh of Lancaster, PA; and two sisters, Judy (Ned) Scheer of Miami, FL, and Lois (Ken) Richard of Fort Wayne, IN; brother-in-law David (Marianne) Bricker of Moreland; three sisters-in-law Diane (Jim) Sommer, and Julie (Steve) Gaumer, both of Moreland, and Lisa Costello of Austin Texas; as well as many nieces and nephews.

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:

1st Place - 2 registrations to the 2017 convention in Kingsport as well as 3 nights stay in the hotel.

2nd Place - 2 convention registrations and 1 night stay.

3rd Place - 2 convention registrations.

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



2016 Publicity and Public Relations Committee

Register for the 2017 National Convention to Hear Lee Greenwood After the Saturday Night Banquet

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."



See Page 10 for Registration Packages

2017 Ruritan Convention
Registration pages –
find link in calendar of events
on home page

Message From 2016 Foundation President Fred Payne

Questions and Answers About Ruritan National Foundation



Q: What inspires you most about the work of the Ruritan National Foundation Inc. (RNFI)?

A: Scholarship recipients of Build Your Dollar (BY\$) or local club awards! I love to hear or read heartfelt remarks about how a Ruritan award enabled pursuit of their college dream.

Q: How does the Foundation fulfill RNFI educational purpose to clubs, districts, and national?

A: We award scholarships! Our Bylaws state that: "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."

Q: What excites you most about the potential of the Ruritan Foundation?

A: Our capable RNFI Board has a collective goal to double Ruritan scholarships by 2020.

Q: How has the Foundation grown its principal assets over time?

A: The generosity of districts, clubs, and members over many years created a pool of endowed funds that earn income. Earnings help us to provide annually to clubs about 400 RNFI "Build Your Dollar" and named scholarships.

Q: How does RNFI handle gifts for "Operation We Care" (OWC)?

A: After floods, tornadoes, or other disasters strike, OWC gifts are welcomed. OWC gifts are designated, kept separate from endowed, and are granted according to strict OWC guidelines.

Q: What single fund has contributed the most to building the Foundation principal/ corpus?

A: Over 1,400 Tom Downing Fellows, each representing \$500 gifts, have created the largest RNFI Endowment fund with over \$700,000 in principal. Who deserves a Tom Downing Award?

Q: Why should clubs and districts give Tom Downing Fellow Awards?

A: To honor local leaders! A Tom Downing Fellow Award exemplifies leadership. I wonder which Ruritan club or district has awarded the most Tom Downing Fellows?

Q: How significant are District General or Unrestricted Funds in supporting BY\$ awards?

A: Very important! Two district funds total over \$100,000 each and another 20+ districts total over \$500,000 in General Funds.

Q: How do the 1,800+ Permanent Funds represent a "giving pyramid" of donors?

A: Permanent Funds start at \$1,000, step-up to \$2,100 (21st Century Fund) and then to \$5,000 (Cornerstone) level. With over 1,000 Permanent Funds at \$1,000, over 333 at \$2,100, and over 111 at Cornerstone level, we have a "pyramid" ratio of about 3:1 as we move up the levels.

Q: What cumulative giving recognition levels has the RNFI established for Endowed Funds?

A: Endowed giving levels are \$10,000 (Friend), \$20,000 (Special), and \$50,000 (Golden'68). A \$100,000 recognition level is needed to recognize funds that are over the century mark.

Advertisement for background
check services. Find link under
“benefits” on member
resources page.

Holland District Presents Scholarships



Carrollton (VA) Ruritan Club presented over \$4,000 in scholarships this year. This is four times more than past years due to aggressive fundraising. Kate Ciaston, Virginia Tech; Alexis Manson, University of Georgia; Cole Manfred, Christopher Newport; Lesleigh Drew Pack, Virginia Tech; and Mason McCarty, Randolph Macon received scholarships. During the evening the club also presented the Carrollton Library Manager Shannon Conroy with a \$700 check for the summer reading program. Conroy gave a presentation on the many fun and exciting activities the children will

have available. Pictured top left (l-r) are vice president Stand Clark, president Jim Henderson, recipients Kate



Ciaston, Alexis Manson, Cole Manfred, Lesleigh Drew Pack, Mason McCarty, scholarship committee Franklin Mcallister and Herb DeGroft.

Creeds (VA) Ruritan Club installed new club member John Watt in July. Sydney Soderberg and



Missouri Vaughan received a \$1,000 "Blackwater Creeds Foundation" scholarship.

Great Bridge (VA) Ruritan Club Scholarship Chair Martin Levering (pictured left) presented Charlie Orado a \$1,000 scholarship for his granddaughter, Abigail Biberdorf. Abigail is a sophomore, majoring in audiology at Appalachian State University.

Pictured right is **Sappony** (VA) Ruritan Club Scholarship Committee Chair Clint Holloway presenting a scholarship to Dallas Morgan Phelps.



Meherrin (VA) Ruritan Club joined with Emporia Junior Women's Club and presented \$17,000 in college scholarships to Greenville County graduates. Pictured (l-r) are Allysa Thomas, Dallas Phelps, Tiffany Posey, Robert Sykes Jr., Rebecca Wrenn, Claire Dickens, and Morgan Dia-



nis. (Not pictured Caitlin Harrison.)

Members of the **Deep Creek** (VA) Ruritan Club hang American flags along George Washington Highway during patriotic holidays.



News From Ruritan: Holland District continued



The annual **Hickory** (VA) Ruritan Club auction grossed over \$5,000. Proceeds helped fund college scholarships. The club also sponsored an E-Recycling drive and collected hazardous waste and old electronic devices for proper safe disposal. Pictured (l-r) are John Fitzgerald, Tom Galloway, and Fred McKenna preparing to deliver the collected items.

Pictured are 2015 Ruritan National President Bobby Burton, 2008 National President Wayne Outlaw, and **Greensville County** (VA) Ruritan Club member Arnold Vincent at the club's annual barbecue chicken fundraiser. Vincent celebrated 59 years of perfect attendance in August.

The **Courtland** (VA) Ruritan Club presented a \$2,500 check to the Courtland Youth Athletic Association for a batting cage at their new site in Sebrell. The



club has two successful fundraisers, the legendary Valentine's Steak Dinner

and their annual chili sale. In other news, the club celebrated its 80th anniversary. Pictured (l-r) are Courtland Youth Athletic Association Lance Simms, Bill Wright, and Courtland Youth Athletic Association Roland Jernigan.



A Special "Thank You" to the Holland District

We want to express our appreciation to the Holland District for continuing to provide a Hospitality Suite for the campers during the Youth Camp. Over the years, campers have enjoyed lots of snacks and drinks in the suite. The district also provides monetary donations and a passenger van to send campers. Raymond and Connie Clark have been chaperones every year.

News From Ruritan: Chesapeake District

Mathews Celebrates 85th Anniversary

Mathews (VA) Ruritan Club celebrated their 85th anniversary on June 6 with an old-fashioned family picnic. The club is a significant asset to the Mathews County community and at the forefront of making it a better place to live and work. As a result of their efforts, the club has received gold level community service awards in all five community service areas for the past four years. Following in the footsteps of the 19 original signers of Charter #11 on September 1, 1931, the current club is the eighth oldest in the nation and the first member of the Chesapeake District. Twenty qualified organizations in Mathews receive financial and voluntary support from the club from various fundraising efforts throughout the year. The Mathews County Board of Supervisors declared a "Mathews Ruritan Club 85th Anniversary Day" celebration at its May meeting. In addition to county educational leaders, guests at the picnic included 2015 National President Bobby Burton, Chesapeake Governor Scott Townsend, zone governor John Northstein, and **Piankatank** (VA) Ruritan Club President Bobby Dodson. Pictured is Mathews Club President William Joyce (left) receiving an anniversary plaque from 2015 National President Bobby Burton (center) while 2016 Chesapeake District Governor Scott Townsend (right) looks on as the award is presented.



News From Ruritan: Chesapeake District continued

Abingdon and Montpelier Present Rudy Bears



Abingdon (VA) Ruritan Club visited the Gloucester House and presented Rudy Bears and toiletries to each resident in the memory unit. Francis Rowe, a long-time member of the club, and now an honorary member and resident of the Gloucester House, assisted the club with distribution. Pictured (l-r) are club president Rose Taylor, Gloucester House Activity Assistant Erika Payson, Francis Rowe, Mike Ekdahl, Bunny Ekdahl, and Seely. (Not pictured are Sid and Ann Dugas and Charley Lewis.)

Montpelier (VA) Ruritan Club Member Dan Johnson presented Rudy Bears to Montpelier, VA Fire Department.

Warwick (VA) Club President Woody Sanders welcomed new member Joseph Wilbur into the club.



News From Ruritan: Rappahannock District

Stonewall District Feeds Homeless

For three years the **Stonewall District (VA)** Ruritan Club has used their club house the first week of December for the Winchester Area Temporary Thermal Shelter (WATTS) program. The building is used from 7 p.m. one Monday through the following Monday at 7 a.m. The club furnishes shelter for 35 homeless guests each night. Club members who attend Burnt Factory United Methodist Church furnish the evening meal, prayer, games, TV, and snacks. Club members prepare a bag lunch for each resident for the next day. Members of the club who attend White Hall United Methodist Church provide breakfast each morning. Ruritan members and volunteers from both churches, a total of 124 people, donated a combined time of over 1000 hours. Pictured are (l-r) Bob Roedder, Wilson Gilbert, Theresa Seddon, Margaret Makowski, Joe Hulver, Bonnie Rogers, and Ed Cooper.



Bealeton-Remington (VA) Ruritan Club join the Remington Volunteer Fire Department's annual parade. Club members Chris Wargo and Scott Davis are shown holding the club's banner.



Zone governor Margaret Makowski inducted new member David Seekford into the **Cedarville District (VA)** Ruritan Club.

News From Ruritan: Rappahannock District continued

Shawnee Hosts Mother/Daughter Tea Party

A Mother/Daughter Tea Party was hosted by the **Shawnee** (VA) Ruritan Club. Thirty-six mothers and daughters from the community were in attendance. They were greeted at the door by two Ruritan gentlemen, given a party favor, and escorted to their table. The tables were beautifully set with fine china tea cups and plates, silverware, white tablecloths, and colored napkins. The ladies were offered selections of hot tea, coffee, iced tea, or lemonade and served a basket of warm cranberry scones. Guests were also invited to sample a variety of savory finger foods and petite desserts. Everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable time.



Stafford Club Honors John Gray

Stafford (VA) Ruritan Club President Billy Shelton and retired Stafford County Sheriff Charles Jett presented a certificate for a scholarship named to honor John Gray for his years of service to the club. Gray had 26 consecutive years of perfect attendance. Gray was very excited and appreciative of the unexpected honor. At the time of the presentation, Gray had been fighting cancer for three years. Unfortunately, he lost the battle with cancer three weeks after the presentation. Shelton said, "His presence and devotion to the club and community will be greatly missed."



News From Ruritan: Appomattox District

McKenney Holds Ribbon Cutting Celebration

McKenney (VA) Ruritan Club held a grand opening celebration at the new club building on May 7, 2016. The building is adjacent to the club's recreation fields. These fields have been used for many years for Dixie Youth Baseball. The building will be used by the McKenney Ruritan Club for monthly meetings. In addition, the club intends to rent the building to members of the community. The building includes a large room that can accommodate 95 people, a full kitchen, and two ADA compliant restrooms. The celebration consisted of comments from Dinwiddie County Administrator Kevin Massengill, McKenney Town Mayor Chuck



Mansfield, and National Director David Thompson. Mayor Mansfield cut a large blue ribbon to officially open the building. After the ceremony, guests enjoyed refreshments.

Chase City Presents Scholarships

Chase City (VA) Ruritan Club presented two \$1,000 scholarships. Recipients were Heather Wilson who will be attending Longwood University and Maggie Brown who will be attending Radford University. Pictured (l-r) are club members Moe Harris, Jr., Sandra Grizzard, Heather Wilson, Maggie Brown, and club member Cathy Halbert.



News From Ruritan: Appomattox District continued

Cartersville and Clarksville Present Scholarships



Cartersville (VA) Ruritan Club gave \$1,000 scholarships to (left) Kayla Muscat and Megan Dunivan. Kayla will be attending Campbell University and Megan will be attending Ferrum College. Scholarship chair Bruce Robinson presented the scholarships.

Clarksville (VA) Club President Wanda Duncan presented a \$5,000 scholarship award to Kayla Royster.



News From Ruritan: Peaks of Otter District

Waidsboro and Glade Hill Recruit New Members



Silas Holland (far left), charter member (45 years) of the **Waidsboro** (VA) Ruritan Club, recruited three new members. Pictured (l-r) are Jaimie Young, Steve Boyd, and Danny Wright.

Glade Hill (VA) Ruritan Club welcomed two new members. Pictured are (l-r) Gene Herrick and Kitty Hylton with club president David Ferguson. The club gave a \$500 scholarship to Ethan Cundiff. Pictured bottom right are mom Tina Cundiff, Ethan Cundiff, and the club's scholarship chair Nancy Hodges. The club also presented India Wilkerson with a



\$500 scholarship. Pictured left are mother Havela, club treasurer Alice Fralin, and India Wilkerson.

Every Christmas the **Lynch Station** (VA) Ruritan Club sponsors a cookout for the clients of the



local shelter workshop. The club donates food and a small gift for each client. It is a proud moment for the club and the workshop staff looks forward to it as well. Club member Richard Cox gives Santa a hand as his stand-in and donates his time to the event, which is under the direction of the club's Public Service Committee.



News From Ruritan: Rockingham District

Belmont Community and Montezuma Present Scholarships



Rockingham District Governor Reggie Snodgrass and Lt. Governor Martha Moyers presented **Belmont Community** (VA) Ruritan Club President Harold Myers and Vice President Carol Myers with a Blue Ribbon Award. Club president Myers presented a scholarship check to Rebecca Hollen who will be attending JMU.

Pictured is **Montezuma** (VA) Ruritan Club Vice President



Ray Tesh presenting Brandon Lambert with the 2016 scholarship award.

Eddie and Michelle Miller Received Environmentalist of the Year Award



The **Luray** (VA) Ruritan Club's Environmental Committee Chair Joe Huffman honored Eddie and Michelle Miller, owners of Turner Body Shop, with the Rudy Bear Environmentalist of the Year

Award. The Millers have been instrumental in making excessive environmental changes to their business and facility by implementing a water-borne paint which decreases hazardous chemicals to the air. All conventional lighting was changed to LED. They had radiant floor heating installed. Club secretary Irma Housden presented the Ruritan Rudy Bear Environmentalist Award to them for their enthusiasm and determination to become more environmentally friendly in their business. A monetary stipend was also awarded to the Millers; however, they are having the money sent to the Martinsburg VA Medical Center.



News From Ruritan: Potomac District

Lothian Donates to Non-Profit Organizations

Lothian (MD) Ruritan Club donated \$3,380 to non-profit organizations from the club's spaghetti dinner fundraiser. A check for \$1,560 was presented to area manager of the Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry Representative David McMullen.



A check for \$1,820 was presented to Carole Turner on behalf of the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home. Club president Frank Harrison presented both checks.

News From Ruritan: Potomac District continued

Mt. Pleasant, Williamson, and Marlowe Present Tom Downing Awards

Mt. Pleasant (MD) Ruritan Club President Trevella Foster presented Donald Foster and Dick Lenhart with a Tom Downing Award. Club member Brandi Main received the Dwight Mullican Memorial Scholarship. Brandi plans to work toward a degree in agriculture. Clara Winch (pictured with Foster) is the newest member of the club.

Potomac District Governor Linda Haulman presented **Williamson** (PA) Ruritan Club members Donald Brindle and Robert Brindle (The Brindle Boys) with Tom Downing Awards. The boys bricked the outside wall of the club house with a special "R" designed for Ruritan. Pictured (l-r) are Don Brindle, Linda Haulman, and Bob Brindle.



Marlowe (WV) Ruritan Club celebrated its 59th anniversary. Potomac District Governor Linda Haulman, Lt. Governor and Past National Director Dennis Barthlow, and National Director Larry Cassell were in attendance to present Billie McWilliams with a Tom Downing Award. Pictured (l-r) are Cassell, Barthlow, McWilliams, and Haulman.



St. Thomas Presents Scholarships

St. Thomas Area (PA) Ruritan Club presented three \$1,000

scholarships. Hunter Walls will be attending the University of Pennsylvania, Caitlyn Barry will be attending Penn State University, and Peyton Thomas will be attending Howard University. Pictured (l-r) are scholarship chair Shellie Veritz, Walls, Barry, Thomas, and club president Cindy Robinson Crouse.



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 and he will send you the proper form. Please note, these Hospitality Rooms are not connected with sleeping rooms.

News From Ruritan: Albemarle District

Jack Evans Received The Order of the Long Leaf Pine Award

Rocky Hock (NC) Ruritan Club member Jack Evans was presented The Order of the Long Leaf Pine on behalf of Governor Pat McCrory during the



Rocky Hock Opry show. The award recognizes outstanding North Carolinians for their community service on behalf of the state and their community. Evans is well known in the community for creating the Rocky Hock Opry shows. This is a major fundraiser for the club. The Opry has raised approximately \$450,000 to aid in the fight against cancer.



Pasquotank Holds Golf Tournament

The Pasquotank (NC) Ruritan Club held its second annual golf tournament at The Sound Links on Albemarle Plantation. The golf tournament was in support of Project Patriot and scholarships. Pictured (l-r) is the winning team of Bob Hess, Pete Neilson, club event coordinator James Markham, Steve Smith, and Bob Hermann. The team shot a winning score of 58.



News From Ruritan: Roanoke District

Everetts Welcomes New Members



Everetts (NC) welcomes two new members. Chelsea Gurganus and Henrietta Seagroves are the first women to join the club. Pictured (l-r) are club president Roger Coltrain, Gurganus, Seagroves, and district governor Alvin Lewis.

Robersonville Builds Ramp



Pictured are members of the **Robersonville** (NC) Ruritan Club after they built a ramp for an Oak City, NC resident.



News From Ruritan: Rocky Mt. Durham District



Bahama Installs Six New Members

Pictured is **Bahama** (NC) Ruritan Club President Chuck Hill installing new members Walt Levandowski and Heidi Grable into the club. In May, the club installed four more new members (see picture below). The club presented Michael Wicker with the 2016 Lewis Roberts Scholarship. Wicker will be attending UNC in pursuit of a business administration degree.



Pardon Our Errors: Corrections and Clarifications

*Below is an article that was published on page 25 of the Ruritan summer 2016 magazine. It was brought to our attention that Yates is **92** instead of 82.*

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.

On page 10 of the Ruritan summer 2016 magazine - We listed all Ruritan Forever's from May 1, 2015 - May 1, 2016.

Clara Pugh was listed as a Ruritan Forever and it should have been **Danny Clay Pugh**.



Important Publication Dates

May Newsletter – April 30, 2017
Summer Magazine – May 1, 2017
July Newsletter – June 30, 2017

Fall Magazine – August 1, 2017
October Newsletter – September 30, 2016
Winter Magazine – November 1, 2016

NOTE: If you have youth under age 18 in your pictures Ruritan National requires that you also send the appropriate signed permission forms for their photographs to be published. If you need a copy of the standard Ruritan "photo consent form" please contact our office or check the Ruritan National website.



Meadow Creek Cleans Cemetery

Members of the **Meadow Creek** (NC) Ruritan Club gathered to clean, plant a tree, and make some repairs to the Thompson Cemetery. James S. Thompson, a private in the Confederate States Army, was laid to rest in the cemetery in 1864. The cemetery contains 22 legible markers, 2 illegible markers, and 33 unmarked stones. Due to the age and history of the cemetery, the club took over the upkeep and is currently working to have it placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

John and Melody Ann Mininger Visit Alaska

John and Melody Ann Mininger, members of the **Rougemont** (NC) Ruritan Club, completed an Alaskan cruise in July and posted a Ruritan sign on the Arctic Circle Post. For many years John has said that if he ever visited Alaska that he wanted to do this and he did. He also posted the sign on the cruise ship during their voyage.

Bynum, Efland, and Redwood Present Scholarships

Bynum (NC) Ruritan Club presented a \$600 grant to Kayli Blankenship who will be attending Guilford College.

Efland (NC) Ruritan Club President Ronnie

Pope presented a \$1,000 scholarship to Cyndi Baldwin. Cyndi is attending a culinary training program and has promised to cook a dinner for a club meeting.

Redwood (NC) Ruritan Club presented scholarships to three qualified young ladies. Pam Thompson, a member of the Scholarship Committee called each recipient to come to the podium and tell members of their expectations and college acceptance.

Alexandria Bordeaux has been accepted at ECU, Payton Henderson was accepted at NC State, and Stefanie Bordeaux will attend UNC Chapel Hill. Thompson presented a certificate to each and club president Shirley Glasgow presented each with a \$1,000 scholarship check. Pictured (l-r) are club president Shirley Glasgow, Alexandria Bordeaux, Payton Henderson, Stefanie Bordeaux, and Pam Thompson.



News From Ruritan: Cape Fear District

John F. Burney Receives Award for 65 Years of Service



**The article below is a reprint from Bladeonline.*

Many improvements have been made to the White Oak community thanks to the Ruritan Club. Tuesday, the Ruritan Club celebrated one of their longest serving members. Linward Hedgpeth from the National Ruritan presented John F. Burney with an award on behalf of National Ruritan and the White Oak Ruritan Club for 65 years of unselfish service and commitment to Ruritan and to the community as a member of the **White Oak (NC) Ruritan Club**. "Anyone who has served the Ruritan Club for 65 years deserves the recognition," Hedgpeth said. Burney is 102 years old and he and his late wife, Mabel Burney, raised five children in their beautiful home in White Oak. Burney was a founding member of the White Oak Ruritan Club. "I enjoyed being in the community," Burney said. The White Oak Ruritan Club helped people who were victims of house fires, they gave scholarship to students, and the club did a lot of community projects as leaders in the community, according to Bonnie Meeker, Burney's daughter.

Meeker also said her father was on the White Oak School Board and he and some other men in the community started the Ruritan Club as a non-religious group just wanting to help their community. One of the many Ruritan members at the celebration was Mary Stokes, the widow of Fulton Stokes. Fulton Stokes was also a founding member and was a National President of the Ruritan Club in 1960. "It is great to be here," Ms. Stokes said. "John did a lot of great things in our community and he deserves this award." The celebration ended with many smiles, handshakes, hugs and Burney's family serving up strawberry short cake.

Johnsonville Makes Quilt

Johnsonville (NC) Ruritan club members are shown with a star quilt that will be donated to the Fisher House in Ft. Bragg, NC. Fisher House provides temporary lodging for families who have members who are patients at Womack Army Medical Center.



The **Anderson Creek (NC)** Ruritan Club's Scholarship recipient is Logan Hadding. Pictured (l-r) are club president Justin Ray, Logan Hadding, and vice president Steve Rigby.



News From Ruritan: Greenville-Goldsboro District



Pictured (l-r) with **Pink Hill (NC)** Ruritan Club President are scholarship recipients Cooper Kelly, Madison Beyer, Lora Lee Bennett, Makala Humphrey, and Hannah Turner. (Not pictured is recipient Caleb Resendiz.)

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

News From Ruritan: Columbia District



Pelion Holds Veterans Ceremony

The **Pelion** (SC) Ruritan Club held a ceremony for the dedication of phase two of their Veterans Memorial. Approximately 300 people attended the event. The Pelion High JROTC presented the colors, the wreath, and assisted with raising the new flag. The Pelion High School Band played the National Anthem and the Medley of Military Anthems. The South Carolina Patriot Guard Riders presented the colors along the walkway leading around the memorial. The

Soldiers of Faith presented patriotic songs. Josh Quattlebaum sang Lee Greenwood's "God Bless The USA." Speakers were the Honorable Katrina Shealy and Representative Kit Spires. The raising of the flag was assisted by Frank Stover, the oldest club member, and J. E. Shumpert, the oldest living veteran in the community. Otto Hage, Director of the Pelion School Band, played TAPS. Citizenship and Patriotism committee members are co-chairs Benny and Kay Collings, Tim Treaster, Charles and Jean Haggard, and

Steve Neese.



Pomaria Participates in Parade

Pomaria (SC) Ruritan Club participates in the celebration of the Old Pomaria School Reunion Parade and Festival. Club member Ronnie Richardson rebuilt a 1966 tractor and drove it in the parade representing Ruritan. Members (l-r) who rode in the 2015 Jaguar were Paul Richardson and Gurnie Stuck, the last two charter members of the club, board member Ronnie Richardson, and community service chair Kenny Stuck.

News From Ruritan: Upper West Virginia District



Headsville (WV) Countryside Ruritan Club President Russ Haggerty presented CPL Whisner with a dozen Rudy Bears to be given to state troopers for distribution.



Lt. Governor Ken Paugh presented **Slanesville** (WV) Ruritan Club President Brian Flanagan with a wooden replica of Rudy Bear that he made to honor the club on its 25th anniversary.

Paver Program for Capital Replacement

Consider purchasing a brick paver for the Ruritan patio to honor a special person or in memory of a loved one. The paver program will raise funds to use as capital reserves and make improvements to the Ruritan National Office.

The pavers come in a variety of sizes and price ranges. You can even order a replica as a gift for the honoree. Find the complete paver order form on the Ruritan website at <http://ruritan.org.temp.realssl.com/library/238.pdf>.

News From Ruritan: Lower West Virginia District

Ruritan's Contributions Rescue Renick Scholarships



From across the Ruritan community, members reached out recently to come to the aid of a West Virginia Ruritan Club devastated by early summer flooding.

At the end of the school year, the Renick (WV) club had pledged scholarships to eight deserving high school students. The club always raises those funds during several summer projects using a local festival site. Unfortunately record breaking rains and flooding destroyed the location for the festival and the area residents who would have enjoyed the annual fair were instead busy digging out from flood damage and

not in a position to participate. The club was faced with having to go back to the scholarship recipients and tell them there would be no scholarships after all.

Just before taking that drastic step, the club wondered if other Ruritans knew what had happened to them, would they be willing to help. The answer was a resounding "Yes!" Ruritan clubs, districts, associations, and individual members, who read about the club's plight on social media, came forward and before the August scholarship picnic the Renick Club had received approximately \$8,000 in donations, enough to give every single recipient a \$1,000 scholarship. (Final figures are still being tallied – watch for a complete list of donors in the winter Ruritan magazine.)

Club member Debbie Yates noted recently, "We, the Renick Ruritan Club in Greenbrier Co. West Virginia, are overwhelmed with the example of what a TRUE Ruritan is."

A local CBS television affiliate (WVNS) covered the picnic. Yates was featured in the TV spot saying, "When you reached out and asked for help from these Ruritans, they didn't hesitate. They were quick to contribute and it was just very overwhelming to see the support that we got from the Ruritans."

Pictured are all eight scholarship recipients last spring at an end-of-school event.

Williamsburg Honors Raymond Hopkins

Williamsburg (WV) Ruritan Club honored club member Raymond Hopkins as a "Community Champion" for his many years of volunteer service to the community. Ray, a master electrician, contributed his expertise and experience in construction of the Williamsburg Community Building and later installed an emergency generator to serve the community building fire department and rescue squad. "He has worked tirelessly for all club functions," said Stan Zahorenko.



Frankford Wins Blue Ribbon Award



Lower West Virginia District Governor Joe Wiley presented the **Frankford** (WV) Ruritan Club with a Blue Ribbon

Award and an Outstanding Club President's Award to 2015 club president Mary Bittinger.

Get Your Room Reservations in Kingsport

The 2017 Convention begins on Thursday, January 19. Call (800) 228-9290 or call the hotel directly at (423) 578-6600. Rates before taxes begin at \$119 for single and double occupancy.

News From Ruritan: Lower West Virginia continued

Maxwelton Holds Festival for Kids



The **Maxwelton** (WV) Ruritan Club sponsored a public reception for Troy Clemons the WVU Mountaineer mascot for the 2016-2017 school year. Clemons, a senior sport management major minoring in business administration, is a native of Maxwelton. The public meet and greet was held at the Greenbrier Valley Airport. A large crowd welcomed Troy and his family. The airport overflowed with gold and blue and eager fans ready to congratulate Troy on his accom-

plishment. Pictured (l-r) are Larry Bowman, Debbie Bowman, and Troy Clemons.

Club members Larry and Debbie Bowman served ice cream at the Rainelle Children's Festival. The festival was held with hope that the community would be able to take their minds off of recent flood activity. Rainelle was one of the hardest hit areas during the summer flooding.

News From Ruritan: Bluegrass District

Tucker Phelps and Dawn Chadwell Receive Scholarships



National President Calvin Shelton and First Lady Patsy visited **Union City** and **Choateville** (KY) Ruritan Clubs in April. National Director Glen Broadwater, Bluegrass District Governor Marty Sewell, and Bluegrass Lt. Governor Bryan Franklin were also in attendance. Shelton presented Tucker Phelps with a "Build Your Dollar" Scholarship and Dawn Chadwell with a Marricini/Fint Scholarship on behalf of the Choateville Club. Pictured is Shelton presenting an award to Bluegrass District Governor Marty Sewell.

News From Ruritan: Tennessean District

Gravely Presents Scholarships

Gravely (TN) Ruritan Club presented three scholarship awards. Noah Rutherford received the "Build Your Dollar" Scholarship of \$515. Noah graduated with a 3.9 GPA and will attend East TN State University to major in biology and art. Kerissa Ward received a \$500 scholarship. Kerissa is a sophomore at East TN State University with a 4.0 GPA. She is majoring in Spanish with a minor in communicative disorders. Hannah Puckett received a \$500 scholarship. Hannah has a 3.6 GPA and plans to attend Northeast State University. Pictured with Noah and Kerissa is club president Bobby Brooks.



News From Ruritan: Tennessean District continued



Piney Flats Place Flags

Piney Flats (TN) Ruritans have created a "Patriots Corner" with 200 American flags at a main intersection in their community. Member Jamie Hyder shared this picture of the display honoring veterans over the Memorial Day weekend. The club is also very proud of member Mark Hodges, a pharmacist at Food City Grocery Stores. Mark was Food City's top volunteer, earning the annual Claude P. Varney Volunteer Award. His projects include medical mission sponsorships and support of church, Boy Scouts, and Ruritan.

McPheeters Bend Picks Up Trash

McPheeters Bend (TN) Ruritan Club conducted an annual community roadside trash collection with the assistance of the Volunteer High School Soccer Team and Little League Baseball Team. It was considered another successful event and a most important service to the community. T-shirts, displaying the Trash Day theme and a bold Ruritan National emblem, were provided to the participants that day.



News From Ruritan: Cherokee District



Taylors (TN) Ruritan Club President Heath Jordan presented Montana Hill with a scholarship. Montana plans on majoring in forestry. Pictured (l-r) are grandparents David and Mary Anderson, Montana Hill, and Heath Jordan.

Morrison (TN) Ruritan Club member Sue Anderson presented two \$50 awards to eighth graders Heidi-Lin Teeters and Brianna Nunez for being outstanding students. Tina Smith received a plaque and gift certificate for Teacher of the Year. Bailey Sims received a \$600 scholarship.



Ballplay Community (TN) Ruritan Club 6th Annual Ramp Festival was a huge success. Over 700 ramp meals were served. Various musicians entertained the crowd.



Harrison (TN) Ruritan Club held its 11th annual Car, Truck, and Motorcycle Show. Proceeds from the event will be used for scholarships and other community service projects.

News From Ruritan: Georgia/North Alabama District

Spring Place Club Staying Active

The **Spring Place** (GA) Ruritan Club is proud of the community service awards earned by the club last year including a bronze for social development and a gold for citizenship and patriotism.

The club (organized in 1950) holds a golf tournament each spring at Indian Trace. Money raised from the tournament is then put back into the community through 20 charities including: Alzheimer's Association, Community Christmas, rescue squads and EMTs, schools, Salvation Army Food Bank, Special Olympics, Saturday Snacks, Keep Chatsworth-Murray Counties Beautiful, historical society, Spring Place Cemetery, Murray County Fire Department, DFACS, and Murray County Family Connections.

The club also recognized all Murray County Schools employees at Teacher Appreciation Day in May and awarded the annual G. I. Maddox and Carl L. Davis Memorial Scholarships to Murray High seniors Taylor Sutherland and Caitlyn Wooldridge. Additionally, the club provided funding and volunteers when the traveling Vietnam Wall visited the area.

News From Ruritan: Hermitage District

Middleburg Holds Pancake Breakfast



The **Middleburg** (TN) Ruritan club held a pancake breakfast as a scholarship fundraiser. The club building, where the breakfast was held, is adjacent to a new fire station under construction. The club has been actively supporting that project as well. Pictured (l-r) are club president Tamara Phillips holding her grandchild, club treasurer Teresa Ferguson, Kathleen Robins, Past National Director Lutie Houston Brown, Chris Johnson, and club vice president Bobbie Jackson.

News From Ruritan: Ohio District

St. Clair Honors Veterans

St. Clair (OH) Ruritan Club members honored 70 veterans buried in Blaine Cemetery by putting flags on graves. Pictured front (l-r) are JoAnn Wirics, Laura Stancheck, Andreanna Harper, Aiden Harper, and Judy Stancheck. Back (l-r) are Wendy Stancheck, Billie Jean Harper, Dean Harper, and Art Conaway. (Not pictured Billie Jo Wirics and Priscilla Burge.) Members also visited Glencoe Cemetery and put flags on veterans' graves. Pictured back (l-r) are Billie Jean Harper, Dean Harper, Priscilla Burge, and Billie Jo Wirics. Pictured front (l-r) are Andreanna Harper and Aiden Harper. (Not pictured JoAnn Wirics.) The club also honored veterans at the Warnock Cemetery.

In other news club president Priscilla Burge brought in several new Associate Business Members including Classic Accessories, LLC; St. Clair Bowling Lanes; and Busted Knuckles Auto Repair.

Colerain (OH) Ruritan Club presented its local Food Lion with a plaque for becoming the club's newest Associate Business Member.



Ohio District Holds Spring Banquet



Gathered for the Ohio Spring Banquet were front (l-r) Past National Director Guy Cox, District Governor Wayne Holtom, Zone 7 Lt. Governor Priscilla Burge, Lt. Governor Mike Wright, and Past Ohio Governor Janet Kinsey; back (l-r) Zone 6 Governor Dave Wingett; 2016 First Lady Patsy Shelton, 2016 National President Calvin Shelton, Banquet Chair and Past Ohio Governor Patricia Fallot, and District PR Coordinator Terry Blickensderfer.

Reprinted with permission from The Alliance Review. Written by Gayle E. Blair.

The Ohio District Ruritan spring banquet was held recently at the **Amish Door** restaurant in Wilmot. Banquet Chair Patricia Fallot from the **Washington** (OH) club welcomed the crowd of 190 members and guests. Fallot introduced the head table, which included National President Calvin Shelton.

Fallot congratulated Bruce Henderson of the **St. Clair** (OH) Ruritan Club for 54 years of perfect attendance at meetings. Following the singing of "America," the invocation was offered by District Governor Wayne Holtom, of the **Fairfield** (OH) club.

After dinner, President Shelton thanked the committee and the commitment of local Ruritan clubs.

He focused on the three most important parts of the club - communication, motivation, and growth. "That's what's vital in keeping the organization alive," said Shelton.

He talked about the need for verbal communications in this age of voicemail, emails and social media messages. "Let people know what you're thinking; don't let the moment pass," said Shelton as

he talked about recruiting new members. "*Reach For The Stars*" is Shelton's theme for this year.

Shelton presented Zone 7 Lt. Governor Priscilla Burge with a pin, the Gold President's Star, in recognition for recruiting 10 new members during the year. She previously received a pin for recruiting 20 members. Burge also had consecutive perfect attendance for five years.

He announced the 2017 Ruritan National Convention will be in Kingsport, TN and called attention to Ruritan mascot Rudy Bear wearing purple this year in honor of Alzheimer's awareness.

Shelton ended with a quote by John Wesley, "Do all the good you can. By all the means you can. In all the ways you can. In all the places you can. At all the times you can. To all the people you can. As long as ever you can."

On behalf of the membership, Fallot presented Shelton and his wife, Patsy, with a gift made in Ohio, a set of steak knives from Warther's Cutlery in Dover. Ruritan Clubs with anniversaries in 2016 include **Damascus** (OH) and **Greenford** (OH), 61 years; **Winona** (OH), 60 years; **St. Clair** (OH), 55 years; **Smithville** (OH), 50 years; and **Knox** (OH), 42 years.

Knox Ruritan Club member Terry Blickensderfer served as 2016 Ohio District cabinet leader in charge of public relations. He has 41 years of perfect attendance.

From the Damascus Ruritan Club, Mahlon Griffith Jr. was honored for 42 years of perfect attendance, Walt Lautzenheiser, 37 years, and Dave Wingett, six years.

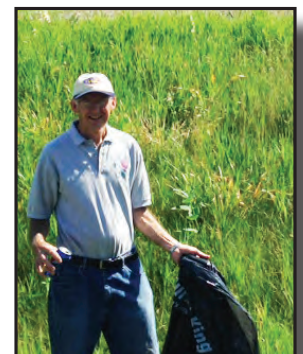
John Biery from the **Goshen Center** (OH) Ruritan Club has 38 years of perfect attendance. Biery and his wife, Barbara, were in charge of the table decorations of red roses and baby's breath arranged in a clear glass vase. Tom Shelton provided musical entertainment.

The Ohio District includes 60 Ruritan clubs. Zone 6 clubs include Damascus, **Beloit**, Goshen and Knox along with the **West Branch Ladies** (OH) Ruritans. .

Gift baskets were raffled off and the meeting adjourned.

Smithville Celebrates 50th Anniversary

Smithville (OH) Ruritan Club celebrated its 50th anniversary. There were 30 members and 44 guests in attendance. National Director Anne Hillard congratulated the club and presented them with an anniversary plaque. National Treasurer Dale Bricker had great remarks about the club. The Stockdale Brother Duet was the entertainment. Henry Blubaugh (as shown in photo) is a 45-year member who participated in the Green Township Roadside Cleanup. As a yearly Community Service Project, members have spent 62 hours collecting trash which covered 36 miles of ditches this spring.



News From Ruritan: Western North Carolina District



Oak Hill Caldwell Installs Four New Members

Four new members were installed into the **Oak Hill Caldwell (NC)** Ruritan Club. Pictured (l-r) are vice president Allen Penley, David Steele, Theresa White,

Dana Mortin, Monty Wendt, and club president Chris Ackerman. Vice president Alan Penley was named the club's Ruritan of the Year. Pictured is Penley holding his plaque with club president Chris Ackerman.

Gwaltney and Bakersville Present Scholarships



Gwaltney (NC) Ruritan Club presented two scholarships at its June meeting. Anna Mitchell will be attending Wingate University to study pharmacy. Bradley Anderson will be attending Wilkes Community College to study engineering. Pictured (l-r) are Anna Mitchell, club president Wayne Wooten, and Bradley Anderson.

Bakersville (NC) Ruritan Club is proud of its accomplishments over the years. The club has awarded scholarships up to \$2,000; installed restrooms, playground, and benches; helped with recreation league uniforms; donated school supplies; and helped with the Toys for Tots organization. Pictured is club president Larry Fortner with scholarship recipient Logan Garland.



News From Ruritan: Delmarva/New Jersey District



Pungoteague Celebrates 85th Anniversary



Past National Director Sewell Rowley presented **Pungoteague (VA)** Ruritan Club President Wayne Valentine a plaque commemorating the club's 85th anniversary. The club sponsors scholarships and builds wheelchair ramps for low income residents.



Tri-County Presents Six Scholarships



Tri-County (MD) Ruritan Club presented six \$500 scholarships. Pictured (l-r) are club president Lewis Smith, Erik Fehrenbacher, Nicholas Yost, Melissa Judge,

Emily Bowdle, Jamie Hetrick, and scholarship chair George Dent. (Not pictured is recipient Fehia Carroll.)

News From Ruritan: Delmarva/New Jersey District continued

Idlewild Celebrates 40th Anniversary

Idlewild (MD) Ruritan Club celebrated its 40th anniversary. Some of the club's first projects were chicken barbeques, cutting and selling firewood, and growing watermelons. The club was only four-years-old when it sponsored a Civil War reenactment. Womanless Beauty Pageants and Plow Days were held. The club hosted a leg of the "Cycle Across Maryland Tour" as well. One of the club's biggest fundraiser is sausage sales, making and selling over 22,000 pounds. To date, scholarship gifts total over \$120,000. From 18 charter members in 1976, club membership has grown to 50. Pictured are club members.



News From Ruritan: Piedmont District

Brushy Mountain and Leasburg Present Scholarships



Brushy Mountain (NC) Ruritan Club presented four scholarships. Each recipient received a \$750 scholarship renewable for four years for a total of \$3,000 each. Pictured (l-r) are Tristen John-



son, Ashley Kauffman, Ashlyn Minton, club president Bob Laney, and John Frazier.

Leasburg (NC) Ruritan Club President and Past National Director John Berdine presented Tajuan Poteat with an educational grant. Grant will be attending UNC-G this fall. Pictured with Berdine is Poteat and his family.



Semora (NC) Ruritan Club members were featured in their local newspaper for helping to open The Community Kitchen. The grand opening ribbon cutting was held on April 17th. The Community Kitchen is a public facility that prepares, preserves, and bake goods for sale in North Carolina.

Westfield (NC) Ruritan Club and a local church joined together to hold a benefit breakfast. Pictured on the right are workers during the event.



News From Ruritan: Piedmont District continued

O.G. (Pete) Carroll Celebrates 100th Birthday



Copeland (NC) Ruritan Club celebrated charter member O.G. (Pete) Carroll's 100th birthday in January. Pete served as the club's first secretary. For over 30 years he volunteered to coordinate the building rental. In 2013 and 2014, he served as flag bearer of the American flag at the Piedmont District Convention. Pete served 1228 days in the Army during World War II under General George Patton. He enjoys sharing his scrapbook of his experiences in Germany. After the war, he returned to the Copeland Community and farmed. He married the love of his life, Myrtle, on December 20, 1945. They have one son, Dennis, who is currently Vice-President of High Point University. Several months ago, Pete moved from his home in the Copeland Community of Surry County to Arbor Ridge, a retirement home near Winston-Salem. Although he no longer drives, he continues to attend meetings and community events such as the Saturday morning breakfasts at the

clubhouse where this photo was taken. He attends the Copeland Senior Citizen's luncheons monthly. Pete is well known for his involvement and dedication to Ruritan. His belief in community service continues. On May 31, he and his fellow retirees walked around the building and grounds of Arbor Ridge and raised \$450 for the Second Harvest Food Bank.

News From Ruritan: Dan River District



Oak Level Donates to School

Oak Level (VA) Ruritan Club made a donation to the Stanleytown Elementary School Backpack Program. Pictured (l-r) are Past National Director Jerry Atkins, Norvelline Atkins, Brenda Woods, school counselor Stephanie Hemmerick, principal Laryssa Hairston-Penn, and Eldred Davis.



Dan River Community and Chestnut Knob Celebrate Anniversaries

Dan River Community (VA) Ruritan Club celebrated its 43rd anniversary. Fifteen members received perfect attendance awards. Club president Henry Terry (center) congratulated club members Wallace Stevens and Kennerly Elliott for 35 years of perfect attendance and presented them awards.

Chestnut Knob (VA) Ruritan Club celebrated its 30th anniversary at the Jacob Dillard Fellowship Hall. Approximately 90 people were in attendance. Anne Hairston welcomed guests, past zone governor and club director Leth Hairston gave a brief history of the club. Nanette Morris and Marian Hairston gave a memorial tribute. Charter members given certificates were Paul Morris, Leth Hairston, Marshall Claybrooks, Harvey Penn, and Willie Davis Jr. Georgia Ramey, Toni Webster, and Vergie Galloway were the entertainment for the evening.

News From Ruritan: Dan River District continued

Chatham, Fontaine, and Meadows of Dan Present Scholarships

Chatham (VA) Ruritan Club presented scholarships. Red Giles Ruritan Scholarship was awarded to Adam Brown who will be attending Danville Community College and focusing on a career in administration justice. The Fuller Motley Scholarship was awarded to Makayla Dalton. Makayla will be attending James Madison University to pursue a career in education. The Larry Newby



Scholarship was awarded to Jeremy Lunsford. Jeremy plans to attend Bridgewater College.

Fontaine (VA) Ruritan Club presented scholarships to Julian Foddrell, Nikki Kitchen, Sonny Williams, Briana Amos, Madison Haynes, Joshua Amos, and Kristin Robertson. Pictured on the left (l-r) are Julian Foddrell, Nikki Kitchen, Sonny Williams, and Brianna Ammos.



Abigail Carter and Melody Handy (pictured right) received scholarships from the **Meadows of Dan** (VA) Ruritan Club.

News From Ruritan: Lincolnland District



Bluford Community Erects Monument

Bluford Community (IL) Ruritan Club helped erect a Veteran's Memorial in its community. The memorial has been a community-wide endeavor. The club is very proud of the memorial and plans to erect two more upright monuments.



New Clubs 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
Chowan Middle School Ruri-Teen	11	Belvidere	Melissa White & Sarah Williams

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

News From Ruritan: New River District

Mount Tabor Sponsors Parade

The rain stopped and the sun even shown a little for the 4th of July parade in Blacksburg, VA. The parade, with approximately 100 vehicles, walking units, and floats was led by Grand Marshal Laura Tollin, Ms. Wheelchair Virginia 2016, and driven by **Mount Tabor** (VA) Ruritan Club member Jeananne Bame. The two students seated in the rear are this year's college scholarship winners. The scholarships were given by the club through the Ruritan National Foundation. This is the 30th consecutive year the club has sponsored the parade.



This year's theme was *4th of July Remembered*. After the mile-long parade, a free movie was shown in the historic Lyric Theater in Blacksburg, and the Town of Blacksburg added music and fireworks making a full day of activities celebrating our nation's independence.

The picture on the left was taken at the Dublin Veteran's National Cemetery during a Memorial Day Ceremony planning meeting. Pictured (l-r) are **Mount Tabor** (VA) Ruritan Club member Ben Crawford, Dan Grubb with the Boy Scout Council, and New River District Governor Dave Bockes.

The ceremony was sponsored by the New River District and the Virginia Department of Veteran Services.

Pembroke (VA) Ruritan Club is in the process of upgrading the tables with stainless steel tops at its pavilion. **Mount Tabor** Club President Logan Brook presented a check to Pembroke Club Member Bill Hogg to assist with the upgrades.



Former Ruritan National Executive Secretary Ben Crawford, who is also a member of the **Mount Tabor** (VA) Ruritan Club, was recognized recently by the AARP as a Leading Light of the New River Valley of Virginia. The honor celebrates community involvement, proven leadership, and a life of dedicated community service. In addition to his involvement in AARP and Ruritan, Crawford has been active in Kiwanis, American Red Cross, Appalachian Regional Commission, National 4-H, Retired Senior Volunteer Services, and the YMCA at Virginia Tech as well as other local boards and commissions.

News From Ruritan: Davy Crockett District

Camp Creek Holds Successful Fundraiser

The **Camp Creek** (TN) Ruritan Club sponsored a supper and auction to raise funds for Paul Johnson who underwent a heart transplant. The club raised \$6,948.75 to help with the medical expenses. Pictured (l-r) making the presentation on behalf of the club are Allan Brown, Reta Reaves, Tammy Johnson, Paul Johnson, and club president Rob Belcher.



News From Ruritan: Smoky Mountain District

East Roane County Honors James Kilian



The **East Roane County** (TN) Club hosted a surprise going away party for one of their youth members, James Kilian, who is leaving for the Army. Many veterans from around the Smoky Mountain District came to show their support for James. There were four clubs represented: **Highland Park, Piney, Parrottsville, and East Roane** (TN). This picture shows James with all of the veterans in attendance that evening. Pictured on the front row is Tommy Curtis. On the second row (l-r) are Billy Lankford, Herb Aikens, James Kilian, Vonnie Myers, and Sam Hensley. On the third row (l-r) are Ray Houk, Roy Wallen, Joe Russell, John Napier, Larry Davis, and Bob Day.

News From Ruritan: Rapidan District

Monticello Builds Wagon

The **Monticello** (VA) Ruritan Club built a wagon for Camp Holiday Trails in Charlottesville, Virginia. The camp will use the wagon to transport campers around the campsite, which is specifically for campers with chronic illnesses. Several club members met weekly to build the wagon. The work included painting the frame to prevent rust and damage, cutting the lumber, and building a safe place for the campers to ride. All of the lumber used for the wagon was donated to the club from Better Living Building Supply in Charlottesville, Virginia. Club president Wayne Shifflett and long-time member Billy Bratton presented the wagon to the camp.



Salem Presents Scholarship

Salem (VA) Ruritan Club specified that its "Build Your Dollar" Scholarship would be awarded to a student planning to go into the law enforcement-criminal justice field. Pictured is club president Pat Kennedy presenting the scholarship to Macy Hooper. Hooper is a graduate of Eastern View High School and plans to pursue her criminal justice studies at James Madison University. The club also presented three \$1,500 scholarships.



News From Ruritan: Gulf Area

Positive Action Launches Clothing Drive

Positive Action (MS) Ruritan Club launched a clothing donation to Sarah's Clothes Closet at Zion Chapel. Pictured (l-r) are club treasurer Hattie Harris, chaplain Barbara Bruce, youth member Kameron Singleton, and club president Perry Bruce. (Not pictured is secretary Yvonne Morgan.)



JAMIE HYDER

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

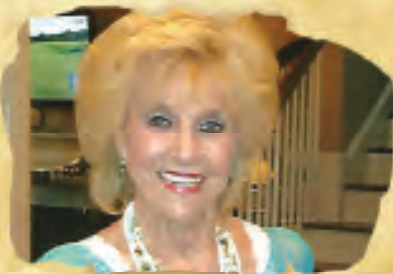
THE \$600 WANTED WINNER FOR THE
SECOND QUARTER OF 2016 WAS
JAMIE HYDER OF THE PINEY FLATS (TN)
RURITAN CLUB IN THE TENNESSEAN DISTRICT.



REWARDED \$600

BARBARA KNOWLES

THE \$200 WINNER IN THE WANTED CONTEST
FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2016 WAS
BARBARA KNOWLES OF THE HARRISON (TN)
CLUB IN THE CHEROKEE DISTRICT.



REWARDED \$200

MARIETTA PRISCILLA BURGE

\$400 WAS PRESENTED TO PRISCILLA BURGE
OF THE COLERAIN AND ST. CLAIR (OH) CLUBS
IN THE OHIO DISTRICT FOR THE SECOND
QUARTER OF 2016.



REWARDED \$400

