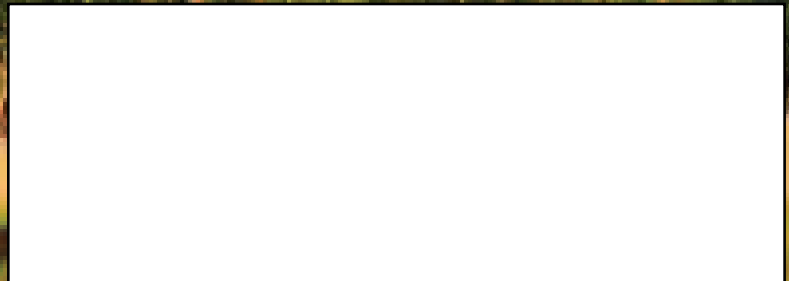




**Ruritan**  
Volume 82, Summer 2017

*Say YES to  
Charleston, SC  
2018*



## Message From 2017 National President Danny Privott



Dear Ruritan Family,  
During the first 100 days of the 2017 year, since your First Lady Linda and I returned home from Kingsport, TN the site of the National Convention, I have been doing what I said I would do .. traveling to and from wherever you invited us to attend and celebrate special events and especially club anniversaries. Working together with Ruritan members and clubs, the NBOD, and the office staff, we enhance our great organization by promoting what Ruritans do to help others and make their individual communities a better place to live. Your First Lady Linda has been supportive of these efforts as we have traveled many miles together to attend these special events.

Linda and I have helped clubs celebrate 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup>, 70<sup>th</sup>, and 80<sup>th</sup> year anniversaries. We met many charter members, presented Tom Downing Fellow Awards and Ruritan Forever awards to deserving individuals, and met many more of our Ruritan family members from all over Ruritan land. Linda and

I will continue to work for you now and in the future making sure that the ideals and principles upon which Ruritan was founded are not forgotten.

Perhaps now more than ever, our communities need Ruritan Clubs because Ruritan offers an outlet to provide that special something for families to be together in a patriotic and God-fearing environment while performing a much needed service for their community. Please support our 2017 membership goal of increasing our membership and of chartering new clubs. Do this not just to increase our membership but because with more people working doing things together to accomplish a common goal of helping someone else, much more can and will be accomplished. While Linda and I traveled and visited throughout, we witnessed the tremendous service each of you provide to your own individual communities. Working together, we will affect the change that will invariably take place in our organization in the upcoming years ahead.

As our Ruritan year moves forward, I will continue to do whatever it takes to improve our great organization. Will you join me in doing whatever it takes to improve Ruritan in your own community? Our communities need positive thinking and positive actions by people like each of you to affect a positive change in Ruritan.

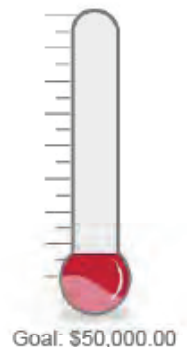
I think you will agree that the first 100 days have positively impacted Ruritan and that all of us working together will continue to positively affect change.

**I would like to challenge each of you as members, clubs, associations and/or districts to make a donation to your 2017 Ruritan First Lady Linda's ALS Awareness Project to help fund research to fight and find a cure for this dreaded disease that has affected the lives of so many families.**

**As leaders in our communities, our clubs and districts, and in Ruritan National we must lead by example and show all others we care. We have made it so easy for you to donate; log on to this website and follow the prompts. If you would prefer, you can download a form or you can contact Chris Pugh at the Ruritan National Office 1-877-787-8727 ext. 303 and she would be glad to assist you in making a tax deductible donation.**

**<http://web.alsa.org/goto/RuritanNationalFirstLadyLindasALSAwareness>**

**Log on to the website to read all about the project and to see amount donated thus far.**





# Ruritan

Volume 82, Summer 2017

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#### 2017 National President Elect

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#### National Treasurer

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#### National Secretary

James M. Mills Jr. – Dallas, GA

#### 2016 National President

Calvin Shelton – Greeneville, TN

#### Executive Director

Michael Chrisley – Dublin, VA

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Stanley Ray Turner- Windsor, VA

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## Fall 2017 Ruritan Magazine Cover Contest

The Ruritan National Publications Committee is sponsoring a Ruritan Magazine Cover Contest. Send in your club's Veteran projects for a chance to be on the cover of the 2017 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, 2017, 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: Pineapple Fountain – Charleston, South Carolina. The Pineapple Fountain is a focal point of the Charleston Waterfront Park, which people have been enjoying since it opened in 1990 – the spring after Hurricane Hugo. Pineapple motifs are common in Charleston and represent hospitality.**

***"Photo by Doug Hickok of Hue and Eye Photography and Design."***

### What's The Alternative?



Summer is here and I have just returned from the Founders Day celebration in Holland Virginia. No matter how many times I attend I am always struck by the fact that nearly ninety years ago, in that very spot is where the idea of Ruritan was born. No doubt if Tom Downing and Jack

Gwaltney were alive today, they would see a different Ruritan then they imagined. I suspect they would be surprised at the growth of Ruritan into 25 states and nearly 1000 clubs. They would see an organization providing an enormous amount of service to people in need. Probably more service then they ever dreamed. I also believe they would see an organization that has changed somewhat from their original idea, but has held to the original values that made us good for communities then, and continues to make Ruritan good for communities now.

On the other side of the coin, I believe they would be concerned with the fact that instead of a continuing growth into more communities they would see an organization that seems to be static or even losing members each year. The value of Ruritan has not changed. The good it does in communities across the country has not changed. So, what has changed?

A study recently released says that there are actually more volunteers now than ever. The problem seems to be that those volunteers want to volunteer, however, they may not want to join. This is particularly true in the sense that we want them to join. In 1928 people were looking to serve the community and that is still true today. People were also looking for a social outlet. That is part of the change. People have so many opportunities for social interaction now that they aren't looking for one more way to spend an evening away from home. They are likely looking for ways to carve things out of their schedule so that they can have an evening at home. This is where the idea of alternatives comes into play.

What are the alternatives? At present the best alternative that we have to offer is the associate mem-

bership. Many of our members are not convinced that the associate membership is a good alternative to active membership. They believe that the status only benefits National. That it does. We have more than 2500 associate members in Ruritan as of this writing. They provide over \$100,000 annually to the National budget. How does that help you? The districts receive a dues rebate from National of 10% of all dues paid. So, if you calculate the percentage, districts are receiving \$10,000 or more in dues rebates annually for associate members across the country. The clubs also receive a dues rebate of \$4 per associate member annually. Again, this amounts to \$10,000 or more going back to the clubs for associate members.

In my own club, we have several associate members. Those associate members benefit our club in many ways. They donate supplies for fundraisers. They donate money in some cases. They provide manpower for fundraisers and service even though they can't regularly attend meetings.

If it were not for the associate member category of membership we would likely have had one, if not two, dues increases since the idea was accepted by the board of directors and the delegates.

Associate membership is valuable to the National organization. It is also valuable to districts and clubs. It is also valuable to the individual active members of Ruritan in that it has postponed a dues increase. While we know that associate memberships won't solve all our membership issues, they do provide a way to keep people connected to Ruritan. Through this connection we might just gain enough time to find the answer to how we make Ruritan grow again.

Have a great summer.





# *Tours Offered in Charleston*

The 2018 Convention Committee is pleased to announce that three tours and a shuttle bus will be offered during the 2018 National Convention. The tours will depart from the Embassy Suites and will return that evening.



**H.L. Hunley Tour:** On February 17th, 1864, the H. L. Hunley became the first successful combat submarine in world history with the sinking of the USS Housatonic. After completing her mission, she mysteriously vanished and remained lost at sea for over a century. For decades, adventurers searched for the legendary submarine. Over a century later, the National Underwater and Marine Agency (NUMA), led by New York Times-bestselling author Clive Cussler, finally found the Hunley in 1995. A ground-breaking effort began to retrieve the fragile submarine from the sea. The Hunley Commission and Friends of the Hunley, a non-profit group charged with raising funds in support of the vessel, led an effort with the United States Navy that culminated on August 8, 2000, with the Hunley's

safe recovery. The Hunley has since been excavated and proved to be a time capsule, holding a wide array of artifacts that can teach us about life during the American Civil War. The submarine and the hundreds of artifacts found onboard are currently undergoing preservation work while archaeologists use the historical clues they have found to piece together the final moments of the Hunley and her crew. Her against-all-odds tale has spanned the centuries and is one of the greatest maritime mysteries in recent history.



**Historic Charleston Tour:** Enjoy a privately guided tour as you explore this enchanting and historic city. Favorite sights include: Rainbow Row, cobblestone streets, quaint gardens, hundreds of 18th and 19th century homes, buildings and churches, and the Battery overlooking the Charleston Harbor and Fort Sumter. Also, you will tour The Edmondston-Alston House. Featured in the A & E TV series, "America's Castles" the stately Edmondston-Alston House on Charleston's High Battery is one of the city's most splendid dwellings, a gracious example of the early nineteenth-century commitment to elegance, style, and comfort.

continued on page 6



# PATRIOTS POINT

## CHARLESTON HARBOR, SC

Patriots Point Tour: Explore at your own pace the world's largest Naval and Maritime Museum. Discover the destroyer, USS Laffey, and the submarine, "Clamagore." You will also tour the aircraft carrier, USS Yorktown, flagship of the Patriot's Point fleet. Commissioned in 1943, she fought in many historic battles during World War II. Newly opened exhibits are The Medal of Honor Museum and The Vietnam River Patrol Base.



## CHARLESTON CITY MARKET



There will be a shuttle running between the hotel and downtown Charleston on Friday afternoon. This

shuttle take you to the beautiful downtown area where you will find shops, historical homes, the historic Charleston City Market, museums, and great restaurants.

The tour prices include transportation to the destination and back to the hotel, private tours of the location, any admission cost, all taxes, and gratuities. Please check the registration page for the cost of each tour as well as the cost of the shuttle. All tours will also take you to downtown Charleston on Friday evening before returning to the hotel. While in downtown you will be able to walk the cobblestone streets and enjoy a nice meal at one of the many restaurants. All tour buses and shuttles should return in time for you to help celebrate the Ruritan National Foundation's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Pages 7 and 8 are the  
2018 Convention  
Registration Form – link  
provided on home page  
of Ruritan.org website.



# Charleston Convention Entertainment



The Great Swami and the Wise Ole Wizard have been busy planning, consulting, and finalizing the 2018 Ruritan National Convention. They first thought of their Ruritan family and friends and what they could do to show them a great convention in an even greater city. What the Swami and Wizard saw was a great location in North Charleston, SC, with awesome entertainment, fantastic food, and sure to please tours of the City of Charleston and surrounding areas. With all this planning and work it will not be a success unless their Ruritan family and friends join each other in January of 2018. So, the Great Swami and

the Wise Ole Wizard cordially invite each and every Ruritan to join them in North Charleston for the 2018 Ruritan National Convention!

If you are attending the Friday Lunch honoring First Lady Linda, then you are in for a treat! Jane Herlong will be our entertainment. Jane has been with us before and is excited to join us again. She inspires lives with truth and humor. There are a lot of performers who make people laugh and there are a lot of speakers who give audiences solid principles for living - Jane does both. Combining humor, truth, and her award-winning singing, Jane adds pizzazz to her presentations with life skills helping audiences handle stress and negative people and helping them to be more productive.

With a sense of humor and smart work, Jane traveled from the rows of her family farm to the runway of the Miss America Pageant all the way to performing at Radio City Music Hall. She graduated from college with the highest honors voted by her peers and continued on to graduate school. Her successes continued to pile up from there. Today, Jane travels around the world featured at speaking events in New Zealand and Germany as well as countless venues around the United States.

First Lady Linda states "I have attended many First Lady events but I especially remember when I heard Jane the first time. She spoke about Gullah and how she grew up speaking the language and sharing times with the Gullah people. She talked to us in the language of Gullah and told us about how the Gullah people lived and worked. She seemed to love what she did and was a very exciting person to listen to."





# Charleston Convention Entertainment

Saturday's Installation Banquet in Charleston will close with entertainment by the Rocky Hock Opry. The group was founded in 2003 to raise funds for the cancer research and support through the Rocky Hock (NC) Ruritan Relay for Life Team. The Rocky Hock Opry is a multi-talented group of musicians who pride themselves with presenting clean family shows consisting of a variety of music including country, gospel, and pop along with great comedy skits from the popular Flat Billy Bob.

The Opry band and cast continue to give untold hours of time and energy to make every show a memorable one for both the performers and audience. As they have just completed their 14th year of presenting the Opry, they are more excited than ever to share their new and fresh ideas with you. They have some new performers that haven't been on the Opry stage before and they know you are going to love them! And of course, Cousin Minnie Pearl and ole' Flat Billy Bob will definitely be there to tickle your funny bone! "The Rocky Hock Opry is a special group of talented singers and instrumentalists who enjoy sharing their God-given ability with others while at the same time donating all the proceeds received to the American Cancer Society Relay for Life through the Rocky Hock Ruritan Relay Team. The team has raised and contributed close to \$500,000 to the American Cancer Society mainly due to the efforts of the Rocky Hock Opry. I personally knew the founder, Jack Evans, through Ruritan. He was a longtime friend and member of the Rocky Hock Ruritan Club in my own Albemarle District. Jack died last November and a time after the funeral was over Jack's son, Steve, discussed the future of the show with all the members. All of them voted that the show must go on, it's what Jack would have wanted. Linda and I attended the first show performance by the Opry minus Jack. The show was not the same but still an outstanding show. If you come to Charleston, you will not see the same show. They have a section now where they do a Tribute to The Eagles. They have performed this 'new show' several times locally selling out each show and receiving very good reviews from all in attendance," said President Danny.



# National Convention Mini Schedule

## Thursday, January 18, 2018

2018 Governors Training (morning)  
Vespers-Opening Dinner (must be purchased separately or as part of one the packages on the registration form)  
Opening Ceremonies (evening)

## Friday, January 19, 2018

Workshops (morning)  
Morning Business Session with Awards  
Lunch Honoring First Lady Linda  
(must be purchased separately or as part of one the packages on the registration form)  
Afternoon Voting (The voting room will be open from 2 to 5 p.m. for those that wish to come vote in person)  
Free Time to Tour Charleston  
Foundation 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration (evening)  
Foundation Live Auction (evening)

## Saturday, January 20, 2018

Workshops (morning)  
Morning Voting (The voting room will be open from 8 to 10 a.m. for those that wish to come vote in person)  
Morning Business Session with Awards  
Installation Banquet (must be purchased separately or as part of one the packages on the registration form)

## Sunday, January 21, 2018

Worship Service



## Keep Sending In WANTED Entries!

Ruritan has rewarded members with thousands of dollars in prizes in the popular WANTED contest since it started in 2013. Ruritans have won cash prizes for doing what we hope comes naturally – inviting potential members into Ruritan! This program is based on the “WANTED POSTER” and “REWARD” theme from the days of the old west. Copies of the poster and the reward “money” can be found on line. Winners are featured in special ads on the back of every issue of this magazine.

The new members brought in must be full, associate or youth in a regular Ruritan club. Participants who bring in more than one member will get exponentially more chances at the quarterly drawing. For example – if you bring in one member you get one chance. However two members gets you two chances plus the original one chance. Three members gives you three chances, plus two chances, plus the original one chance – for a total of six chances! Bring in a member at least five years younger than you and earn an additional five chances on the

cash prizes!

You can print your own Ruritan WANTED money using the pdf found on line. There is a link on the first page of Ruritan.org for the Wanted Money (Right click to open the pdf in a browser window or choose “save target as” to save to your computer.) NOTE: this is a two-sided document. When you cut the money apart the instructions/entry form should be on the back.

The **Me Minus Five** program (M-5) to bring in younger members (and get five extra WANTED chances) is also working! Because of the M-5 program Ruritans have earned many extra chances! The average age difference for those who participated in the M-5 was 28 years younger than their recruiter.

If you are not using the WANTED money entry form, the member bringing in the new members must send in the following information for each chance and the new member will be confirmed through Ruritan membership records: sponsoring member’s name, club, district, and phone number as well as the new member’s name and status (i.e. full, associate, or youth). If you want the extra chances for recruiting a member at least five years younger than you are - be sure and include your year of birth and your new member’s year of birth.

Pages 11 and 12 are the  
Shumsky ad pages  
found in the Library of  
Ruritan.org (search  
Shumsky).





### Trustees Approve New “Legacy Society”

Summer has come way to soon this year. While traveling to different clubs and districts, we are seeing what RURITANS are all about with the many fundraisers and activities going on.

The Trustees awarded Build Your Dollar grants to 375 clubs at our April meeting. Each club that deposited \$300 by the October deadline received an additional \$240 for a total award to the student of the clubs choice of \$540. This represents an 80% increase in the money sent by the club. We feel this is a great return on the clubs' initial investment in the Build Your Dollar program.

The regular grant program is being phased out to allow for more participation in the Build Your Dollar program. The Trustees awarded ten grants this year and will award five grants in the 2018 cycle. In 2019 there will be no regular grants awarded.

In the past the Trustees evaluated hundreds of regular grant applications. This required us to have a hard deadline of April 1 so that the Trustees could receive, organize, and evaluate applications before the end of the school year and have time to get checks out to students. Because the clubs are evaluating the BY\$ applications and choosing the recipients, the deadline for the BY\$ program has been extended from April 1 to June 30<sup>th</sup> starting in 2018. This will give everyone time to get the necessary information from the schools and colleges to send in to the National Office. There will also be simplified paperwork starting in 2018.

Since the Trustees will already know the number of clubs participating in the Build Your Dollar program and the amount of income available, the amount of the match will be determined each January, at their National Convention meeting.

We have a goal for this year to add at least 200 more Tom Downing Fellows. We hope all clubs will start participating in this program. The additional money generated by the investment of this money will certainly increase the amount of money that we will be able to use when we calculate the Build Your Dollar Grants. The Trustees would love to see the Build Your Dollar program match the \$300 sent from the club dollar for dollar, or even exceed it in the

future. Having more money invested will help make this possible.

The Trustees continue to update your Foundation web page and encourage you to view it and see the changes made. If you have suggestions for the web-site please contact any Trustee.

We will be phasing out the \$\$\$Million Dollar Program (dime a day), so now is your opportunity to finish out your fund and receive a pin. Trustees are in the process of creating a new pin for donations of at least \$50 to an existing or new fund for the 50th Anniversary of the Ruritan National Foundation from now until January 2019 which replaces the \$\$\$Million Dollar Program.

The Trustees approved a new “Legacy Society.” The Legacy Society will encourage members to remember the Foundation in their estates. Language will be developed for use in an obituary and for remembering the Foundation in their estates documents. Please watch future magazines and the web page for more information.

The Trustees recognize that communication is important. In the near future, the Foundation Trustees will start sending out a periodic “email blast” to all club presidents, foundation chairs, and district governors. This will give you up-to-date information about your Foundation and progress we are making.

REMEMBER, if you have any questions about the Foundation, PLEASE feel free to call one of your Trustees. We are here to help you any way we can.

We are excited about the Foundation Weekend in Galax September 8-10, 2017. We want you to come dressed casual and plan on a great weekend packed with things to do. Please see the registration form on the next page for more information.

You can go to Mt. Airy, NC, on Friday to visit the home of Andy Griffith and hopefully meet Thelma Lou, enjoy a picnic at Matthew State Park, and afterwards head to the Rex Theater for music. The hospitality room will be open at the Hampton Inn after all activities.

Saturday we will be having a Golf Tournament at 9 a.m., bus tour of Grayson County, and ALS/Parkinson walk. Shirts will be available for the walk, but you don't have to buy a shirt to participate. If you would like a shirt, we will need your shirt size (see registration form). The cost of the shirt is \$20. There will also be a tour of the car museum, a silent and live auction, and a BANQUET on Saturday. Hope to see everyone there.



Pages 13 is the 2017  
Fellowship Weekend  
Registration. There is a  
link to this form on the  
home page of  
[Ruritan.org](http://Ruritan.org)

# LET'S REPLACE

**This Sign**



**With**

**This Sign**



## WHO IS GOING TO LEAD THE WAY?

---

**We need your help. There is a Ruritan Community near you and they don't even know it. Let's get the Ruritan Family (You) looking for them and help President Danny build new clubs.**

**Communities helping Communities through Ruritan.**

## INCENTIVES

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**New Clubs need to be active by November 30th**

**Recognition at National Convention (sponsoring club/individual)**

**Outdoor sign presented to new club at no cost**

**Sponsoring Club/New Club featured in "RURITAN Magazine"**

**Become DRM**

**(refer to guidelines on page 70 of Ruritan National Officer Handbook)**

*2017 Publicity and Public Relations Committee*

## Ruritan Forever Recipients from May 1, 2016 - May 1, 2017

Harry Wingfield Louthan (Pete) Shepherd, Sr.,  
Abingdon Ruritan Club  
Larry Cassell, Jefferson MD Ruritan Club  
F. Leon Baker, McCullers Ruritan Club  
Harry Fritz, Edward Parnell Ruritan Club  
Raymond S. Hawbaker, Edward Parnell Ruritan Club  
M. Eugene Hawbaker, Edward Parnell Ruritan Club  
Leon Alt, Dorcas Ruritan Club  
Tommy Crewe,\* Meherrin Ruritan Club  
Ernest C. Layton, Bethesda Ruritan Club  
Bruce C. Little, Bethesda Ruritan Club  
Bobby Edmonds, Bethesda Ruritan Club  
Betty Jo Clemmer, Middlebrook Ruritan Club  
(*earned with 65 total members recruited*)  
Del Dyer, Mount Tabor Ruritan Club  
Harold Pearson, Harrison Ruritan Club  
(*earned with 65 total members recruited*)  
Marion Chiles, Highland Park Ruritan Club  
Norman Perry, Rougemont Ruritan Club  
George Brothers, Bethesda Ruritan Club  
David Turnbull, Gainesville Ruritan Club  
Don Wheeler, Gainesville Ruritan Club  
Rachel White, Red Bank Ruritan Club  
Greg Goode, Midway-Asbuiry Ruritan Club  
Ken Stapleton,\* West View Ruritan Club  
Avalon Potts, Smith Grove Ruritan Club

Wilson Spencer, Piney Grove Ruritan Club  
Russ Haggerty, Headsville Countryside Ruritan Club  
Ronald Ritter, South Norfolk Ruritan Club  
Roger Peterson, Piney Grove Ruritan Club  
Jesse Reichard, New Franklin Ruritan Club  
Terry Blickensderfer, Knox Ruritan Club  
Robin Willett, Isle of Wight Ruritan Club  
Dana Landacre, Keezletown Ruritan Club  
Dave Thomas, Meherrin Ruritan Club  
Michael Chrisley, Ruritan Road Ruritan Club  
Shane Hodge, Bargerton Ruritan Club  
Richard John Slagter, Meherrin Ruritan Club  
Chuck Harp, Jefferson, MD Ruritan Club  
Lawrence Massie Jr., Marlowe Ruritan Club  
Loretta McDonald, Shawquon Ruritan Club  
Keith Compton, Carrollton Ruritan Club  
Ray Vance, Collettsville Ruritan Club  
Raymond Watson, Bethesda Ruritan Club  
Deborah Bobbitt, Rustburg Ruritan Club  
Glen Thomas, Bridgewater Ruritan Club

\* designates deceased

*NOTE: Others purchased may not be listed  
as they are for surprise presentations not  
yet held.*

## Association of Virginia Ruritans Hold Successful Rally



AVR (Association of Virginia Ruritans) held a successful annual April Rally in Williamsburg. Reportedly, the crowd was small but the quality of the attendees was high with six past or current National Ruritan Presidents and National Directors enjoying the food and fellowship. Outgoing AVR President Cleve Wright put together an outstanding and interesting program emphasizing the American Revolution. A highlight of the rally was an optional tour of the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown. This is a visit every person with any interest in the founding of America should make. The museum is immersive, experiential, and interactive. Included in the museum program is a short film that will surprise, astound, and amaze you!

### 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: Holland District



### National Director Stan Turner Presents Robin Willett with a Ruritan Forever

National Director Stan Turner presented his fiancé, Robin Willett, a Ruritan Forever at the **Isle of Wight (VA)** Ruritan Club meeting. Robin is active with club projects and caters the meals for the club and Holland District functions. After he presented the Ruritan Forever plaque and pin, Stan dropped to one knee and asked

Robin to marry him. Needless to say, Robin was surprised and thrilled and responded “yes” to the marriage proposal. Their wedding will be in October.



### Chuckatuck Serves Oysters

In April, **Chuckatuck (VA)** Ruritan Club celebrated 41 years of serving steamed oysters and clam chowder to patrons. The event has grown to over 800 plus attending with proceeds being redistributed to the community.



### Creeds Holds Annual Barbecue

**Creeds (VA)** Ruritan Club's 41<sup>st</sup> annual barbeque was a success. The club served over 900 people and had over

20 vendors. Pictured are club members who prepared the whole hog and the attendees of the event.





## News From Ruritan: Holland District continued

### Dale Old Receives Business of the Year Award

**Great Bridge** (VA) Ruritan Club presented its 2017 Business of the Year Award to Dale Old of Dale Old Wrecker Service for his community service. Mr. Old opened his business in 1986 with one employee and one wrecker. Today he has a staff of 32 and operates 25 wreckers. Business and Professions Chairman John Workman and Great Bridge President Hank Pitts presented the award at the April club meeting. Pictured (l-r) are Hank Pitts, Dale Old, and John Workman.



### Grassfield Named Outstanding Civic Organization

During the Chesapeake Environmental Improvement Council Awards luncheon, the **Grassfield** (VA) Ruritan Club won the award for "Outstanding Civic Organization" for the city of Chesapeake. Pictured on the left (l-r) are Grassfield Club President Russell Gwynn, Secretary John Wayne Abernathy, Environmental Chair Roger Fuller, and the City of Chesapeake Treasurer Ray Conner.



## News From Ruritan: Chesapeake District

### Abingdon Visits Veterans Hospital

Members of the **Abingdon** (VA) Ruritan Club visited the Hampton VA Hospital and delivered boxes of toiletries, books, caps, magazines, and other items collected by Citizenship and Patriotism Committee. These items were accepted by VA representative Monica Adams.



The afternoon also included a visit to the VA Community Living Center where the members presented the patients and staff with patriotic snack bags loaded with tasty treats. The highlight of the day was the opportunity to chat with the veterans, to hear their stories, and to thank them for their service. This project was organized and coordinated by Yvonne Scales. Pictured (l-r) are front Yvonne Scales, Mike Davis, Frank Collins, and Selena Collins: Back are VA representative Monica Adams, Tony Dziadul, Sandra Hogge, Roger Dick, and 2013 - 2014 National President Elliott Hogge.

Peninsula Rescue Mission Executive Superintendent Rev. Alan DeFriesse (left), received a \$1,000 check for security cameras from **Warwick** (VA) Ruritan Club Treasurer Marion Vaughan.



**Port Royal** (VA) Ruritan Club provided four benches made from recycled plastic bags to the town of Port Royal. In addition to the

benches, the club provides a free library and playground equipment to the town's playground.

## News From Ruritan: Rappahannock District



### Rappahannock District Holds Successful Golf Tournament

The **Rappahannock District** held its 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Foundation Golf Tournament. 1994 National Foundation President Joe Hulver chaired the event hosting 28 golf teams. A few participants were 2000 National President Jim Lafollette, 2017 Foundation President Pat Davis, Foundation Trustee Corky Camin, National Director Mike Morrison, and Past National Director Jim Ham-bach. The event generated \$8,000 for the National Foundation Scholarship program after matching funds for Tom Downing Fellow Awards.

### Vernon Combs Receives a Tom Downing Fellow Award

**Shawnee (VA)** Ruritan Club celebrated another successful year at its annual Christmas banquet. 1994 Foundation President Joe Hulver presented Vernon Combs with a Tom Downing Fellow Award. Vernon also received an award for 39 years of perfect attendance. He can always be counted on to bring his smile and good humor when he participates with club activities.

2016 Club President Bobby Dick received the club's 2016 Ruritan of the Year Award. Under his leadership, the club raised over \$27,000 from various fundraising activities. Funds were used to support community needs (\$5,000 in college scholarships and \$3,000 for Christmas gifts for needy elementary students).



## News From Ruritan: Appomattox District



### Clarksville Supports Robotics Team

**Clarksville (VA)** Ruritan Club enjoyed dinner while the robotics team shared a video of the team's success and thanked the club for its generous support to their

school's program. Senior Bryce Burke prepares

"Scrappy" the robotics' team robot for a demonstration during the meeting. Clarksville Club President Janice Edwards presents a check for \$1,500 to the team.



## News From Ruritan: Southwest Virginia District

### Atkins Gains Five New Members

**Atkins** (VA) Ruritan Club inducted five new members. Pictured (l-r) are Jerry Umbarger, Jennifer Leonard, and 2016 National President Calvin Shelton. Also pictured (l-r) are Atkins Club President Lester Owens, new member Constance Owens, Atkins Club Treasurer and Zone 2 Governor Jimmy Sheets, and new youth members, Gracie and Miranda Umbarger.



## News From Ruritan: Natural Bridge District

### Alan Young Receives a Tom Downing Fellow Award



**Natural Bridge** (VA) Ruritan Club President Robert Gilbert presented a Tom Downing Fellow Award to Alan Young. Alan has faithfully served 55 of the club's 75 years. He has held various offices at both the district and zone levels and initiated many worthy community projects. His proud and supportive family accompanied Alan to witness the award ceremony.

### Janet Drake Wins Chili Cook Off



**Kerrs Creek** (VA) Ruritan Club presented this year's home-made chili trophy to Janet Drake. The cook off was held on January 17, 2017, with five members participating. Club member's tasted and then voted on their favorite. Pictured (l-r) are Drake, Julie Hotinger Crowder, Bob and Robin Williams, Wayne Spencer, and John Burleson.

### Come Visit the Ruritan National Office

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

Tours can be arranged by contacting the National Office, toll free at 877-787-8727 or email [office@ruritan.org](mailto:office@ruritan.org)



**Sam Houston** (VA) Ruritan Club was recognized on a local news channel for holding a consignment auction. Proceeds from the event went toward scholarships.

## News From Ruritan: Woodrow Wilson District

### John Lee Western Honored for 70 Years of Service

**New Hope (VA)** Ruritan Club member John Lee Western was honored with a plaque for his 70 years of dedication and service to Ruritan. He has held most club offices and has had almost perfect attendance. He is still a dedicated Ruritan and attends the club's monthly meetings.

### Virginia Lt. Governor Ralph Northam Visits Stonewall Club



**Woodrow Wilson** District Lt. Governor Wes Maupin (left) and Commonwealth of Virginia Lt. Governor Ralph Northam (right) are shown sharing a laugh together at the **Stonewall (VA)** Ruritan Club's sausage and pancake breakfast. Lt. Governor Northam was in Highland County for the annual Maple Festival.



## News From Ruritan: Rockingham District

### Bridgewater Donates Generously

**Bridgewater (VA)** Ruritan Club's Public Services Committee Chair Alan Zigler (left) presented \$2,000 to Bridgewater Volunteer Fire Department Chief Jerry Martin. The club also presented \$2,000 to the Bridgewater Rescue Squad. Zigler received the Bridgewater Ruritan Club's Ruritan of the Year Award for 2016 and is serving as assistant treasurer and member of the board of directors for the club. Zigler previously served as president and zone 2 governor. He is the great-grandson of 1947 Ruritan National President Howard Zigler.



### Cross Keys-Mill Creek Donates to Religious Education



#### *From the Kitchens of Ruritan Cooks*

Submitted by Lavada Barrier and  
Betty Hensley of the **Old Fort (NC)**  
Ruritan Club

#### **Grape Salad**

2 Cups of Red Seedless Grapes  
2 Cups of Green Seedless Grapes  
8 oz. of Cream Cheese Softened  
1 Cup of Sour Cream  
1/2 Cup of Sugar or Splenda  
1 Cup of Chopped Toasted Pecans (Reserve 1/4  
Cup to Sprinkle on Top)

Add the chopped toasted pecans to the cream cheese, sour cream, and sugar or splenda. Then add the grapes. Put in serving dish and sprinkle the 1/4 cup of pecans on top. Place in refrigerator to chill.

On behalf of the **Cross Keys-Mill Creek (VA)** Ruritan Club, Judy Shirey (center) and Cross Keys-Mill Creek Club President John Cuellar (right) presented Debbie Rimal (left) from the Weekday Religious Education, a check for \$1,641 during the April club meeting. The money was raised by having a Community Breakfast fundraiser in March. An additional \$1,000 was donated from the club to Weekday Religious Education.



**Belmont Community (VA)** Ruritan Club Citizenship and Patriotism Committee Rick Keyton and Harold Myers replaced the American Flag and Ruritan Flag at the entrance of the Belmont Community.



## News From Ruritan: Rockingham District continued

### Rockingham District Holds Regional Spelling Bee



The **Rockingham** District Ruritans held the "2017 Rockingham District Ruritan Regional Spelling Bee" at the beautiful Eastern Mennonite University Campus in Harrisonburg, VA.

Each year the District Ruritans partner with The Daily News Record and WVPT Public Media in conducting this regional bee. Bee participation include 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students from Highland, Page, and Rockingham Counties, and the City of Harrisonburg. Nineteen local winners participated in this year's Regional Bee. The Regional Bee is supported by clubs in the Rockingham District and The Woodrow

Wilson District's Highland County clubs.

The Bee's Champion, Mary Elizabeth Vaughan, won an all-expense paid trip to participate in the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington DC, in late May. She will receive one-year online subscriptions for the Webster's Third New International Dictionary and Encyclopedia Britannica and a 2017 US Mint Proof Set in honor of Samuel Louis Sugarman. She also will receive a new laptop computer from Cargill Corporation.

The Bee's second place winner received a Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary and a Blue Tooth Speaker provided by Sprint PCS Sales & Marketing. Second and third place winners received \$25 Amazon gift cards. All of the students received a framed certificate and bobble head bee for being local bee winners and participating in the District Bee. They also received a backpack full of school supplies, snacks, and gift certificates provided by local businesses. Pictured top left (l-r) are Rockingham District Governor Martha Moyers, Spelling Bee winner Mary Elizabeth Vaughan, Mary Elizabeth's mother KT Vaughan, Emcee Past Ruritan National Director Sarah Kelly, and Rudy Bear, Clover Hill Ruritan Hannah Smith. Pictured (l-r) are Pronouncer Clerk of Circuit Court Chaz Haywood, Emcee Past Ruritan National Director Sarah Kelly, Judge Ruritan Zone 2 Lt Governor Caitlyn Davis, Judge Past Ruritan Bridgewater Club President Rick Claybrook Jr., Bee Coordinator Rockingham District Youth Activities Chair Jeff Roadcap, Judge Rockingham County Sheriff Bryan Hutcheson, and Rudy Bear, Clover Hill Ruritan Hannah Smith.



### Fulks Run Presents Scholarships

**Fulks Run** (VA) Ruritan Club presented scholarships to Megan Eye, Sarah Allman, Tyler Custer, and Courtney Budde.



Public Service Committee Chair Shirley Bland presented checks to Broadway and Bergton Fire Departments and Rescue Squads.



## News From Ruritan: Rockingham District continued

### ‘Recycled Teenagers’ Celebrate Easter

The **Linville-Edom** (VA) Ruritan Club has a reputation for reaching out to senior citizens in the area – primarily because of the passion of one member, Arletta Clutteur, who helps the club host a weekly senior citizen activity at the club building outside Harrisonburg, VA. In April the club and Arletta went above and beyond with an Easter Brunch that brought in over 80 seniors or as they call themselves “Recycled Teenagers.” Before 9 a.m. on the third Tuesday of April, the parking lot was full of cars and the seniors inside the building were being led in song. Then the group played a number of rounds of bingo for small prizes and just before lunch a musical duo, Richard and Rita, from nearby West Virginia performed.



Club treasurer and past Rockingham District Governor Jeff Roadcap (pictured center assisting with meal set up) said of Arletta, “She is awesome! She gives so much to others and asks nothing in return. She is the glue which keeps the Recycled Teenagers going. I don’t know how many years they have been going but it is definitely a highlight during the week for many of the attendees. The Linville-Edom Ruritans are fortunate to have a few of them as Ruritans as they tend to be very reliable and fun to work with.”



The food for the fabulous meal was donated from around the area and included contributions from: Walmart, Golden Corral, KFC, I-Hop, Spanglers, three area Food Lion stores, Costco, BQ Ranch, Lowes, and Flowers Bakery. Decorations, table arrangements and door prizes were provided by Blue Ridge Florist, and Rodamers Landscaping. Not



only did Arletta organize all the food donations and the day’s event, she personally made hundreds of small chocolate Easter eggs and a beautiful cake. (pictured at left)



### Lewistown Recognizes Baseley Family



The **Lewistown** (MD) Ruritan Club recently recognized the Baseley family of Thurmont by presenting them with a certificate acknowledging their numerous generations of service, over many decades, to both Ruritan and their community. Pictured (l-r) are Program Chair Harold Staley, Kenny Baseley, Luke Baseley, Helen Baseley and Lewistown Club President Dick Baseley. (Not pictured are Doug Baseley, Jim Baseley, and Sam Baseley.)

The club held its annual banquet at the



Dutch's Daughter Restaurant. Donations were made to several local organizations. Funds for the donations were derived from the 2016 Lewistown Ruritan Club's Chicken Barbeques. Accepting on behalf of their organizations were (l-r) 4-H Camp, Charles Smith; Lewistown PTA, Harold Staley; Thurmont Safe and Sane, Ali Rippeon; Lewistown Methodist Church Auxiliary, Barbara Summers; 4-H Therapeutic Riding Club, Dick Baseley; Lewistown Fire Department, Bob Stanley; and Thurmont Food Bank, Pastor Vickie Oliver.

### Lothian Presents Ten Scholarships



The **Lothian** (MD) Ruritan Club presented ten \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors chosen from three area high school. The recipients were selected based on scholastic standing and the amount of community service they performed during



their high school years. The presentations were made during the monthly meeting. All of the recipients were accompanied by family members. Profits made from the club's spaghetti dinner were donated to "Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry." Lothian Club President Bill Krebs presented the check to Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry District Director David McMillan.

### Petersville Members Recognized

**Petersville** (MD)

Ruritan Club has three members that were recognized for over 50 years of service. Pictured (l-r) are Potomac District Zone 3 Governor Wade Clem, 50-year members John Wenner, Ray Axline, and Tom Arnold, and Petersville Club President Clearance Webber. During the tenure of these members the club has presented over 100 scholarships and hundreds of donations to local service organizations, schools, and sporting teams.





## News From Ruritan: Potomac District continued

### Mt. Pleasant Welcomes New Member Truman Kelley



**Mt. Pleasant** (MD) Ruritan Club welcomed new member Truman Kelley. Pictured is Truman with Mt. Pleasant Club President Carol Norwood. Mike Greenberg, Fundraising and Event Specialist of the Frederick Rescue Mission, was the guest speaker at a recent Mt. Pleasant Ruritan Club meeting.



The Mission is a Christ-centered ministry serving the homeless and needy in Frederick Maryland since 1964. He spoke about the Rescue Mission's many programs to help the less fortunate. Pictured is Mt. Pleasant Program Chair Lori Rice (left) and Mike Greenberg.

### Wilson Club Received Rome Schwagel Award



**Wilson** (MD) Ruritan Club was presented the Rome Schwagel Award which is the highest award given from the Potomac District. They were honored for all of the work they do and for donating the use of their grounds for Special Olympics sport events. Past National Director and Potomac District Governor Dennis Barthlow (left) presented the award along with Special Olympics Area Manager Marva Davis and Wilson Club President Richard Shank.



## News From Ruritan: Albemarle District

### Shawboro Builds Handicap Ramps

Several members of the **Shawboro** (NC) Ruritan Club combined efforts with the Providence Church Baptist Men to construct a ramp for a Ruritan member's son. Pictured (l-r) are Providence Church Baptist Men representatives



Ron Jurewicz and Le Jepsen and Shawboro Club members Lyle Boldt and Jim Courtney. In addition, the club also replaced the ramp on the clubhouse and worked with the Providence Baptist Church to replace the stadium bleachers at the baseball field located between the church and Ruritan club property. In 2016, club members built and/or repaired three handicap ramps and made two egress safety improvements for community members. Jim Courtney is pictured working on one of the ramps.

### Get Your Reservations in Charleston, SC Now!

The 2018 Convention begins on Thursday, January 18. To make your room reservations at the Charleston Embassy Suites - visit the Ruritan National website for the link. If you would rather talk to a booking agent about your room, please call the hotel directly at (843) 747-1882. Rates before taxes begin at \$139 for single and double occupancy. For the Ruritan rate use the code: RNI

## News From Ruritan: Rocky Mt. Durham District

### Momeyer Inducts New Member Jacob Cooper



Rocky Mt. Durham District Governor Jeff Neese was honored to induct Jacob Cooper (11 years old) into the **Momeyer** (NC) Ruritan Club. "Don't tell me we can't recruit younger members. We can do it," said Neese.

### Sylvan Wins Blue Ribbon Award

Pictured is Rocky Mt. Durham District Governor Jeff Neese presenting the **Sylvan** (NC) Ruritan Club with its fourth consecutive Blue Ribbon Award.



Pictured (l-r) are Jeff Neese, 2016 Outstanding Club President Sandy Stewart, Sylvan Club Treasurer Jo Ann Garrett, and Sylvan Club President Jack Patterson.

### Temperance Hall Honors Charter Members

**Temperance Hall** (NC) Ruritan Club celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary by hosting a community party. With approximately 100 guests in attendance, three charter members were honored with plaques of appreciation. Pictured (l-r) are Scott Bulluck, Bip Keel, and Bobby Proctor.



### Tri-County Supports Beta Club

**Tri-County** (NC) Ruritan Club presented a donation to Bennett

Elementary School Beta Club who recently won first, second, and third places at the state convention, which qualified members to advance to the National Beta Convention in Orlando, Florida. Pictured are Tri-County Ruritan Board Member Greg Kennedy; Beta Club Sponsors Emily Collins, Tami Henson, Gina Jones, and Angie Brigham; and Beta Members Taylor Ferguson, Leah Jones, and Macy Henson.



### West Edgecombe and West Mount Receive Awards

**West Edgecombe** (NC) Ruritan Club received its fourth consecutive Blue Ribbon Award. Joe Sawyer received the Outstanding Club President Award and Rusty Proctor received the Outstanding Secretary Award. Rocky Mt. Durham District Governor Jeff Neese was present and presented each

award. Pictured (l-r) are Delano Smith, Joe Sawyer, Rusty Proctor, Ricky Pitt, and Jeff Neese.

District Governor Jeff Neese also presented **West Mount** (NC) Ruritan Club with the Blue Ribbon Award. 2008 National President Wayne Outlaw received the 2016 Outstanding Club President Award. Pictured (l-r) are Wayne Outlaw, Jeff Neese, and 2017 West Mount Club President William Pittman.





## News From Ruritan: Greenville-Goldsboro District



The guest speaker for the **Old Ford (NC)** Ruritan Club was Investigator David Richards with the Narcotics Division of the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office. Richards was accompanied by Elsa the K-9 narcotics dog. Elsa is a Labrador Retriever who was born in the Czech Republic and answers to commands in the Dutch language. She is qualified to detect five different narcotic drugs. Richards demonstrated Elsa's ability to detect drugs hidden in the room.

### Reserve Your Hospitality Room

If your district, club, or candidate is interested in booking a hospitality room in Charleston, 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 connected with sleeping rooms.

## News From Ruritan: Columbia District

### Pelion Honors Law Enforcement, Fire, and EMS

**Pelion (SC)** Ruritan Club's Christmas Dinner attendees were honored to hear the music by twelve of the Pelion High String Orchestra students. These students were under the direction of Meredith Miller who is serving as conductor of the SC Philharmonic Youth Orchestra. Club members, Rebekah, Benjamin, and Tim Treaster prepared a meal and desserts for Lexington County Sheriff's department South Region Christmas Luncheon. The South Region hosted the Christmas Luncheon and extended an invitation to surrounding law enforcement, fire, and EMS services. Approximately 100 people were served.



## News From Ruritan: Upper West Virginia District

### Elwood Mays Receives Plaque

Upper WV District Governor Ken Paugh presented **Mathias (WV)** Ruritan Club member Elwood Mays a



plaque for having 67 years of perfect attendance. Pictured are Mathias Club President Krista Strawderman, Elwood Mays, and Ken Paugh.

### Headsville Countryside Collects Beanie Babies



**Headsville Countryside (WV)** Ruritan Club President Russ Haggerty presented a large collection of "Beanie Babies" to Headsville Countryside Club Secretary Shirley Tasker.

Tasker will give them to the United Brethren in Christ Church to be packed in Samaritan Christmas Shoe Boxes and shipped overseas for Christmas.



## News From Ruritan: Upper West Virginia District continued South Branch Installs Seven New Members



Upper West Virginia District Governor Ken Paugh installed seven new members into the **South Branch** (WV) Ruritan Club. New members along with three members who had been installed the previous month are pictured. Pictured in the back (l-r) are Faye Kile, Marlene Harman, Debra Hinkle, Ressie Chavis, Michael Harman, Barb Seymour, and Teresa Mowery. Pictured in the front (l-r) are Wyatt Hinkle, Brandie Hinkle, and Madison Mowery.

## News From Ruritan: Lower West Virginia District



### East River Celebrates 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The **East River** (WV) Ruritan Club celebrated its 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary with Ruritan National President Danny Privott as the speaker. National Director Nell Jeffries congratulated the club and wished them continued success. In attendance were area Ruritan members representing Bozoo (WV), Spanishburg (WV), Lashmeet, (WV), and Sun Valley (WV). Also in attendance were former West Virginia State Senator Tony Whitlow, Delegate John Shott and his wife Kathy, Mercer County officials, Lower West Virginia District leadership, and members of the Oakdale Volunteer Fire Department, who were recognized for their service.



Privott presented charter member Randolph Honker with a Tom Downing Fellow Award. Honaker said, "This is a great honor and I thank all of my friends who made it possible, including those members who have passed on and helped me along the way." Honaker also praised East River Club Secretary Delbert K. Whitlow and Treasurer Morris Clyburn. He called them the "glue that helps hold our club together." Privott also presented Delbert Whitlow with a special merit award for serving 50 years as an officer of the club.

A special part of the anniversary celebration was the recognition of club members who served in the military. Lower WV District Governor Larry Bowman presented each veteran with a veteran tab for their Ruritan pins. Veterans honored were East River Club President Jeremiah Murphy, Tony Whitlow, Greg Whitlow, Richard Lively, and Randolph Honaker. The anniversary continued with former West Virginia State Senator Tony Whitlow praising East River President Jeremiah Murphy. Whitlow stated, "Jeremiah is an example of a man everybody should want to achieve to be." He explained that Murphy lost both legs in the Vietnam War but did not let that stop him from service.

A memorable part of the anniversary was the reading of a resolution from Mercer County by Mercer County Commissioner Bill Archer. The resolution saluted the club and its accomplishments and declared March 19 as East River Ruritan Club Day in Mercer County.

Patricia Comer and Patty Hamilton provided the musical entertainment. Comer sang a special version of "Amazing Grace" as part of a memorial service to recognize charter members of the club. Charter members' names and numerous other members' names are displayed on a memorial plaque in the community center.

## News From Ruritan: Lower West Virginia District continued

### Lockart Arbuckle Honored



Lockart Arbuckle, a charter member of the **Maxwelton** (WV) Ruritan Club, was honored with the Ruritan 4-H Leader Service Award in February. Jo Long and Robin Haynes from the Greenbrier County 4-H Extension Office were present when Lower WV District Governor Larry Bowman presented the award. Lockart was a member of the Maxwelton Bonnie Brae 4-H Club, third oldest club in Greenbrier County. He received his 4-H pin in 1950, his 4-H All Star pin in 1952 "making him a member of the Alpha Chapter", and West Virginia 4-H All Stars "the state leadership honorary in 4-H". He was a member of the Greenbrier County 4-H All Stars. In 1951, he was selected to attend the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago, representing his area from WV. His project was raising and caring of sheep. In 1949, he was state runner-up in sheep shearing competition and in 1950

was state champion in sheep shearing. He is a life member of both West Virginia Chapter and Greenbrier County Chapter of 4-H All Stars and served nearly 25 years as treasurer of the Greenbrier County Chapter. For many years he donated a calf to a 4-H member who would spend the year taking care of and feeding the calf, enter it in the state fair competition, and then sell it in the Junior Livestock Auction. He volunteered at the club's ice cream concession stand every year during the state fair and helped with Adopt a Highway. Sadly, Lockhart passed away in March. "Lockart was a husband, father, grandfather, farmer, Ruritan and my neighbor. He was strong-willed, determined and a hard worker. He cared about his community and loved Ruritan. He was one of a kind and he will be missed," said Maxwelton Ruritan Club Secretary Debbie Bowman. Pictured (l-r) are Lower WV District Governor Larry Bowman, Lockart Arbuckle, 4-H Representatives Jo Long and Robin Haynes.

The club also honored veterans. Lower WV District Governor Larry Bowman was on hand and presented veterans Bill Zink (center) and Gary Cochran with veteran tabs. (Not pictured are Richard McLaughlin and Melvin Bostic.)



### Elmer Hedrick Jr. Honored

**Williamsburg** (WV) Ruritan Club honored Elmer Hedrick Jr. for his many years of volunteer service. As a life-long resident of WV, Junior Hedrick (as he likes to be called by his friends, neighbors, and family) joined the club in 1972. Junior has raised seven sons, all of whom have remained in the community, has 14 grandchildren, and at last count has 11 great-grandchildren. He is well known in the county as a dairy farmer, a school bus driver, and state road department worker. If you get out on the road early in the morning you might catch him driving down the road in his John Deere tractor with one of his great-grandchildren to go feed the cattle. Junior is an active member of the Andrew Chapel Methodist Church. Always willing to lend a hand, he has assisted greatly with the ongoing projects of fixing and resetting the gravestones in several of the local cemeteries.

**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.



## News From Ruritan: Tennessean District



**Fordtown** (TN) Ruritan Club held a soup supper fundraiser. According to Fordtown Club President Marlin Hamiton the event was successful and had a great community turnout.

### ***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. Please contact your National Office for more information.

## News From Ruritan: Cherokee District



### **Morrison Presents Awards**

**Morrison** (TN) Ruritan Club's annual fish supper raised in excess of \$1,300 for Warren County Relay for Life. The club furnishes everything and all proceeds go directly to Relay for Life. Workers pictured are (l-r) Todd Shewmaker, Lisa Zavogiannis, Sandra Malone, Ashley Freeze, Carson Malone, Marion Jacobs, and Ryan Moore. Each year the club chooses a "Citizen of the Year" from nominated individuals who have served the community through church work, volunteerism, and various other activities.

Pictured on the right is Citizenship Committee Chair Mike Holland presenting Marian Jacobs her award. Also at the dinner, John Duncan was presented with the Ruritan of the Year by Neil Covert.



Approximately 100 people attended the dinner and a good time was had by all.

**Cherokee District Ruritans** (bottom right) pose for a picture at the



National Convention in Kingsport, Tennessee.

Pictured above are 2017 **Coker Creek** (TN) Ruritan Club Officers.



## News From Ruritan: Hermitage District



### Grand Junction Tours Bank

**Grand Junction (TN)** Ruritan Club members took their February meeting to the bank, literally. Vice President of the Bank of Fayette County and Grand Junction Club member Rex Brotherton hosted a tour of a museum housed on the second floor of the Grand Junction branch of the bank. The museum contains hundreds of relics pertaining to the Civil War, indigenous American Indians, and the National Bird Dog Field Trials. The vast majority of the items in the museum were discovered in Grand Junction and surrounding communities in Hardeman County. An avid and knowledgeable history buff, Brotherton entertained members with the origins and stories of the various artifacts on display. He obviously enjoyed conducting the tour as much as the members enjoyed taking it.

## News From Ruritan: Alabama-Florida District

### Bleeker Installs Three New Members

Lane and Karen Ivy are new members of the **Bleeker (AL)** Ruritan Club. Bleeker Club President Don Verner presented them with club badges and Ruritan pins. Rebra Draper was responsible for recruiting the two new members. New member Elizabeth Ham was welcomed into the Bleeker Ruritan Club. She is pictured with Bleeker Club President Don Verner. The club held an American Flag Retirement Ceremony. The ceremony was presented by Phoenix City, Alabama Boy Scout Troop 100 representatives and Austin Koon. The ceremony began with the Boy Scouts introducing the flag retirement procedures. After everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance, all flags were placed into the fire.



Bleeker Club President Don Verner is shown checking the 65 turkeys that were being smoked as part of the club's annual Easter Ham and Turkey Smoking fundraiser. The profit from this goes toward the club's scholarship fund, food pantry, and other local community projects.



Bleeker Club member Roy Hogge (right) gives his daughter Emily a Rudy Bear as part of the club's Rudy Bear project. The project consist of giving a Rudy Bear to a club member's family as a token of their love when injured or hospitalized.



### ***Ruritan National Sends Every New Member a New Member Packet***

***As of June 1, 2016, the New Member Kits are no longer available for purchase. Ruritan National now sends out a New Member Packet to every member entered into the MMS. The packet includes a Foundation brochure, a Ruritan Forever brochure, a window cling, a Member Handbook, a certificate, Ruritan National Bylaws, Office Staff Directory, summary of Community Service Committees, Invitation to Membership, a current Ruritan Magazine, and a New Member Card. If the club would like to provide their new members with a Ruritan Lapel Pin they are available for purchase with our new supply company Shumsky. You can order online at <http://ruritan.shumskypromo.com> or call (800) 414-8946.***



### Little Sandy Creek Presents Awards

The **Little Sandy Creek** (OH) Ruritan Club presented three \$500 scholarships at its annual Ladies' Night picnic. Pictured (l-r) are recipients Katelynn Hug, Denny Snyder, Rebecca Haley, Dick Pero, Alexia Jones, and Little Sandy Creek Committee Chair Mike Wright.



At its annual Christmas Party, club officers were sworn in by 2015 Foundation President Dave Freshly. Pictured (l-r) are 2016 Little Sandy Creek Club President Dick Clapper, 2017 Club



President Richard Pero, Vice President Chuck Bucher, Secretary Richard Beck, Treasurer Richard Lotze, and Club Directors Bob Demate, Denny Snyder, and Gene Saeger.

The club also presented a Tom Downing Fellow Award to Denny Snyder (pictured with his wife Linda) as recognition for his years of going above and beyond in service to his club and his community.



### Pennyroyal Makes House Calls



**Pennyroyal** (OH) Ruritan Club members Betty Whitsell, and Paul and Edith Carter recently visited Bob Shipley and wife Carol (pictured). Bob (age 96) served in WWII as a paratrooper. In 1957, Bob and seven other men met to determine what could be done to help their community, and the Pennyroyal Ruritan Club was born. Bob has 50 years of perfect attendance in the club. In the beginning, Carol Shipley and Rosetta Black would cook for the meetings. To raise money in the early years, the club would raise pigs, process the meat, and raffle it off. Today, club members stay active by volunteering at the county fair, making needed

repairs at the local ballfield, providing materials and manpower to build handicap ramps, and donating to fire departments and veterans' programs.

Club Growth Awards	% Growth	Growth in Members
<b>Small Clubs (16 to 35 members on Jan. 1)</b>		
<b>1041 - St. Clair, Ohio</b>	<b>88.20%</b>	<b>34 members to 64 members</b>
<b>Medium Clubs (36 to 75 members on Jan. 1)</b>		
<b>1630 - East Roane County</b>	<b>41.50%</b>	<b>41 members to 58 members</b>
<b>Large Clubs (over 76 members on Jan. 1)</b>		
<b>756 - Maugansville</b>	<b>11.60%</b>	<b>69 members to 77 members</b>

## News From Ruritan: Delmarva-New Jersey District



### Tri-County Holds Sporting Clay Event

**Tri-County** (MD) Ruritan Club held its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sporting Clay Event. Pictured (l-r) are Tri-County Committee Chair David Boyle, Youth Top Shooter Ty Boyle, and Tri-County Club President Fred Meers. The event consisted of 50 bird sporting clay shoot, fundraising station, silent auction, gun raffle, and pulled pork barbeque lunch catered by St Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church. Over 130 people attended the event that netted over \$9,000.

### Somerset Donates to Fire Departments

**Somerset** (MD) Ruritan Club donated \$1,000 to four local fire departments. Pictured (l-r) are Tommy Northam, Charles Fisher, Robert Murphy, Somerset Club Treasurer Bob McCready, Jim Koons, and Somerset Club President Brian Laird.



## News From Ruritan: Piedmont District

### South Stokes Ruri-Teens Cook Breakfast



The **Pine Hall** (NC) Ruritan Club is now taking the project lead for the **South Stokes Ruri-Teen Club**. The Ruri-Teens have been cooking breakfast for patients and their families at the State Employee Credit Union House for several years. The house provides a safe, nurturing, affordable home for patients and their loved ones who travel great distances to UNC Hospitals for life-saving procedures and serious illnesses. 2011 First Lady Gail Duncan is pictured (right)



cooking the eggs. **Pine Hall** and **Chestnut Grove** (NC) Ruritan Clubs provide all food and supplies.

Standing on the highway works for youth groups and cheerleaders during their projects, so Pine Hall Club members decided to try this sales method with some of their extra Brunswick stew. The "sales girls" told the club that this plan did not work as well for them.



### V-Point Donates to Baptist Ministries

The **V-Point** (NC) Ruritan Club presented a donation of \$200 to NC Baptist Ministries. Pictured on the right (l-r) are Linda Leonard, V-Point Club President Ronnie Williams, and Robert Williams.





## News From Ruritan: Piedmont District continued

### West Iredell Inducts Six New Members

**West Iredell** (NC) Ruritan Club gained six new members of the club. Pictured (l-r) are West Iredell Club Secretary Gray Fowler; new members Greg Sides, Carley Guy, Tim Lowe, Danny Mitchell, and Scott Andrews; and Club President Frank Guy. Pictured is Club President Frank Guy presenting West Iredell Fire Chief Rudy Bears.



### Windsor's Crossroad Holds Sweetheart Breakfast

Even a power outage didn't stop the **Windsor's Crossroad** (NC) Ruritan Club from having its annual Sweetheart Breakfast fundraiser. Club members were able to provide a full breakfast for over 250 attendees (with the help of a generator). Pictured are the "little red wagon" raffle winners, Greg Campbell and his wife, with Windsor's Club President Craig Thomasson.



### Greater Whitsett Builds Handicap Ramps

**Greater Whitsett** (NC) Ruritan Club has been building handicap ramps for the community for several years. Pictured is the latest ramp built by club members.

## News From Ruritan: Dan River District

### Charlie Bowman Meets Michael Learned

Charlie Bowman of the **Red Bank** (VA) Ruritan Club met Michael Learned from the *Walton's* TV show at the Walton's 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Schuyler, Virginia, the original home of the Hamner family.



### *Important Publication Deadlines*

**July Newsletter – June 30, 2017**

**Fall Magazine – August 1, 2017**

**October Newsletter – September 30, 2017**

**Winter Magazine – November 1, 2017**

## News From Ruritan: Lincolnland District

### Bluford Community Donates to School



National Director Howard Tanner presented **Bluford Community** (IL) Ruritan Club member Richard Porter with a banner for the newly remodeled club building. The club held its monthly breakfast fundraiser so Howard and Beverly Tanner arrived before breakfast and hung the banner. Members appreciated the banner and remarked that this is the first Ruritan banner ever in the club building. Bluford Community Ruritan Club Treasurer David Goldman presented Farrington Grade School Superintendent Sandra Cabat with a donation from the proceeds of the breakfast.



## News From Ruritan: New River District

### David Poff Honored for 50 Years of Service



March 1, 1966, started a life of community service for David Poff with the **Belmont II** (VA) Ruritan Club. In December, Poff celebrated his golden anniversary with Ruritan in a surprise ceremony attended by his fellow members and Ruritan National Foundation President Pat Davis. The club honored him with a 50-year name badge, a gift card, and a brick paver at the Ruritan National Office to memorialize his service with Ruritan. Over the years Poff has been involved in many fundraising activities with the club. The club used the money from the funds raised to sponsor little league and scout troops; help the elderly and the sick; sponsor families at Christmas, citizenship awards, essay contests, swim lessons, and summer school programs at Belview Elementary; and present scholarships at Christiansburg High School. Poff has served in leadership roles over the years with the club and has attended many of the Ruritan National Conventions during his 50 years of perfect attendance. David Poff (right) is pictured with 2016 Ruritan National President Calvin Shelton (left).

### Wolf Creek Presents Scholarships

In January, the **Wolf Creek** (VA) Ruritan Club held its monthly dinner/meeting and hosted the 2016 scholarship recipients and their parents as guests of honor. Annually the club awards three scholarships in memory of charter member James Shepherd, life-long member Phillip Conley, and dedicated past members to the graduating class of Narrows High School. The chosen recipients must then

successfully complete one full semester at the college or university of their choice before receiving the proceeds. Pictured (l-r) are recipients David Smith, Carrie Orey, and Chase Lawson.



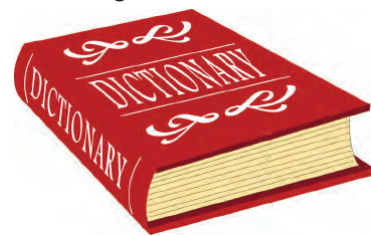


## News From Ruritan: Smoky Mountain District

### Eaton Crossroads Donates Dictionaries



**Eaton Crossroads** (TN) Ruritan Club members Roy Wallen, Brenda Wallen, and Paula McCallie delivered dictionaries to every third-grade student at Eaton Elementary School. A great time was had by all and the expressions on the children's faces when they received the dictionaries were beyond compare.



### Piney Hosts Chili Supper

**Piney** (TN) Ruritan Club hosted its 2<sup>nd</sup> annual chili supper. Approximately 175 were in attendance with 20 workers. Two gospel groups presented the entertainment for the evening. Piney Club President Joe Russell said, "This was a tremendous success! Thanks to everyone who had a hand in making this event amazing."



## News From Ruritan: Opportunity Land District

### Western Yell Holds Scholarship Dinner

**Western Yell** (AR) Ruritan Club held its annual scholarship fundraising dinner. The club served catfish, seafood, and ribs with all the trimmings. Over 275 people were in attendance producing a profit of \$2,607 for scholarships. The club awards several scholarships each year. This event has been held for over 30 years.



## News From Ruritan: Great Plains Area

### Bloomfield Holds Benefit for Noah Risor

The **Bloomfield** (NE) Ruritan Club recently held a benefit for Noah Risor (age 5). Noah needed a Selective Dorsal Rhizotomy surgery. It is a surgery that treats muscle spasticity caused by abnormal communication among the brain, spinal cord, nerves, and muscles. Nerve rootlets in the spinal cord that are sending abnormal signals to muscles are identified and severed.



The goal of the surgery is to reduce spasticity, which will help improve walking, ability to use energy and oxygen better, and improve function in everyday activities. The club raised \$3,000 to help Noah and his family with expenses. Pictured is Noah with the Bloomfield Ruritan Club.

# Unwanted Mail with Ruritan Name

You may have received some unwanted mail with the Ruritan name included in your address – or you may have been contacted by a club member who has received such an item. One version seems to be coming from “Scientology” although there may be others.

Please understand that this mailing list did not come from the Ruritan National Office nor did we sell the mailing information to a marketing company. We understand that the addresses being used by the marketing service for this mailing came (directly or indirectly) from a hack of the Urban Institute – a third party vendor that was used in the past by the IRS and our clubs to file the 990N postcard.

The news coverage of the event notes:

*The Urban Institute’s National Center for Charitable Statistics (NCCS) discovered this week that one or more hackers had gained unauthorized access to its Form 990 Online and e-Postcard filing systems for nonprofit organizations. Information that was compromised included email addresses, usernames, passwords, first and last names, IP addresses, phone numbers, and addresses and names of the nonprofits that use the NCCS filing service. According to a statement on the Urban Institute’s website, the incident affects users who have filed with the online versions of Forms 990, 990-EZ, and 990-N, as well as Form 8868 extensions and filings for charitable organizations in Hawaii, Michigan, and New York.*

*No Social Security numbers, credit or debit card numbers, or other sensitive information was stolen, the group said. That information is stored on separate systems and was not accessible to the hackers. “Once we discovered the attack, we contacted IRS and made every effort to secure the systems and user accounts. We are working with law enforcement agencies as they conduct an investigation,” Elizabeth Boris, director of the Center on Nonprofits and Philanthropy at the Urban Institute, said in a statement to users posted on Nonprofit Quarterly. “In addition, we have retained a leading cybersecurity firm to help us analyze the situation and strengthen security.”*

Ruritan National Executive Director Michael Chrisley noted, “We do not claim to know who hacked Urban Institute and we aren’t saying that the organizations sending out the unwanted magazines are behind it – they may simply have purchased the list of names and addresses and not realized they were stolen. But we do believe that’s where these mailings have come from – because they seem to be targeting club treasurers – or others whose names were part of the 990N filing. And it’s not just Ruritan. Every nonprofit fire department, rescue squad, historical society, and cemetery association that filed a 990N through Urban Institute probably had their addresses compromise – that’s over 600,000 addresses.”

Chrisley added, “We apologize for not being able to stop these unwanted magazines and suggested you simply throw them out when they arrive. The IRS is now processing the 990N reports themselves at [irs.gov](http://irs.gov) and is no longer using a third party vendor.”

## Template for Some Certificates Available Online

Anyone with a computer, internet access, and a printer (color or black and white) can download templates for certificates, fill in the blank fields with the appropriate information, and print Ruritan certificates on their own. The Ruritan website (<http://ruritan.org>) now features templates for new member certificates, and club anniversary certificates. Coming soon: general appreciation certificates and perfect attendance certificates. And by fall – when it’s time to present these awards - community service award certificates as well as club and district Ruritan of the Year, Ruri-Teen of the Year and Rudy Youth of the Year certificates will be available. Go to the library search function (also the magnifying glass on the home page) and search for the word “template” to see what is available for you to personalize and print.

“Many of our members have computers and high quality printers and will be able to produce their own certificates in a fraction of the time it takes them to call an order into us and get what they need,” said Executive Director Michael Chrisley about the new template offerings.

Of course the Ruritan staff will continue to produce certificates for clubs and districts that need them. Remember that any certificate that represents a district level award will require the district governor’s signature to be valid. And any district level award being entered into a national competition (i.e. **National Ruritan of the Year**) will still need to submit the application/point sheet to Ruritan National for judging prior to November 1 each fall.

In addition to these new certificate templates there are templates on line for brochures, placemats and flyers that can be customized with local club contact information. If there are templates that you don’t see on the website but you’d like to be able to produce locally – email your suggestion to [service@ruritan.org](mailto:service@ruritan.org).





# Ruritan Forever

## *A Perpetual Life Plan*

*Protecting and preserving Ruritan  
as a legacy for future generations.*

"Ruritan Forever" is a plan for the payment of **national** dues by members who wish to make a long term investment in Ruritan. The "Ruritan Forever" plan allows a member in good standing to pay \$600 and become a life-time participant of the National Organization. Ruritan National will invest these pre-payments in a special managed fund, transferring the dues quarterly to the business office of Ruritan National. Even after the life participant dies, dues will be transferred quarterly to Ruritan National, thus offering a perpetual memorial to the organization on behalf of the deceased Ruritan.

A "Ruritan Forever" endowment may be purchased by a member in good standing or may be purchased for a member in good standing. A Ruritan Forever endowment may be purchased to honor a non-member provided they are brought into a club as an Associate Member at the same time. In this case the Associate Member's dues would be covered by the \$600 endowment.

The lifetime endowment may also be purchased in

memory of an already deceased Ruritan, ensuring an ongoing contribution to the operation of Ruritan in his or her name. Dues for a living participant must be current through the previous quarter to participate. Ruritan National will administer these prepaid dues in a separate fund with the original amount remaining in perpetuity. Interest on the fund will provide the money paid to Ruritan National for dues.

Upon payment of the fee, the Ruritan will receive a certificate, a lapel pin, and a permanent life participant card. For endowments purchased for a deceased member a special plaque will be provided for the club to present to the deceased member's family. **National** dues increases will have no effect on participants enrolled in the plan, although the purchase price of \$600 for new enrollees may be adjusted over the years as necessary. There will be no special assessments or charges made to Ruritan Forever participants.

**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:** \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **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.**

THE \$600 WANTED WINNER FOR THE FIRST  
QUARTER OF 2017 WAS WILLIAM JENKINS  
OF THE KERRS CREEK CLUB, NATURAL BRIDGE  
DISTRICT, PICTURED BELOW (RIGHT)  
WITH TWO MEMBERS HE RECRUITED

## WILLIAM JENKINS

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



# REWARDED \$600

## KAY PEARSON

THE \$200 WINNER FOR THE FOURTH  
QUARTER WAS KAY PEARSON OF  
THE HARRISON CLUB IN THE  
CHEROKEE DISTRICT



# REWARDED \$200

## BETTY MOORE

\$400 WENT TO BETTY MOORE  
OF THE RUSTBURG CLUB IN THE  
PEAKS OF OTTER DISTRICT



# REWARDED \$400

