



Ruritan
Volume 85, Spring 2020

*Working Together
in 2020!*



2020 National President Linward Hedgpeth's Convention Speech



I come before you tonight with a thankful and humble heart, I want to thank each of you for putting your trust in me, and for your support to help guide this organization to success throughout this year.

Thanks to the Squad-Of-Six (The Ruritan National Staff) who leave nothing on the table when it comes to support.



To our Past National President and First Lady and to each of you that supported and advised me during my years of preparation for this assignment, I Thank You!

To the love of my life, Anne, for never backing down when I needed support, I Thank You!

To my family here tonight, my son Daryl, son Eric and his wife LaToya, my brother Stanley, my niece Terri and husband Rafique, I love you all, and I Thank You!

Think with me for a moment:

Where we are now.

How we got here.

Where do we go from here.

Where we are now.



The vision of our Ruritan ancestors when Ruritan was first formed, was carefully orchestrated, implemented and on point for that era.

Community needs were identified, and five Community Service Committees were established to help meet the needs of our communities.

Today, some Ruritan clubs are still operating in small rural communities where the original Ruritan structure still works.

How we got here:

However, some clubs are caught in a time warp where its difficult to attract new members and their communities and clubs are not growing.

Many of our clubs have been engulfed into an urban setting, and the vision of how Ruritans need to serve their communities and attract new members is not clear.

Urban community government and related agencies care for the basic needs of people in their communities.

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2020 National President Linward Hedgspeth continued

Where do we go from here:

Our challenge today is to define how Ruritan becomes knowledgeable of the unmet needs in an urban environment. Our urgency is to define how we continue to flourish as the leading community service organization we are today.

This will require a new focus on leadership and a new focus on direction and structure.

A change in Ruritan structure is absolutely necessary to grow in today's environment. To develop and implement that change the leadership must be trained to meet the challenges, the changes puts before them.

Well-informed leaders are necessary to be successful.

Like the eagle, Ruritan has a long lifespan. To realize a longer life, we must have a period of transformation and renewal.

If we can change the way we think, we can change the way we live.

The eagle is a mighty creature, it can soar to heights no other bird can go.

Like the eagle, we must be strong, determined, and have no fear to make changes.

And like the eagle we will soar, taking any challenge as an opportunity to become a better organization.



“Coming Together is the Beginning.”

“Staying Together is Progress.”

“Working Together is Success.”



The Hedgspeth's Crew supporting their favorite team - the Carolina Panthers during the tailgate party in Kingsport.

Every Dollar Makes a Difference

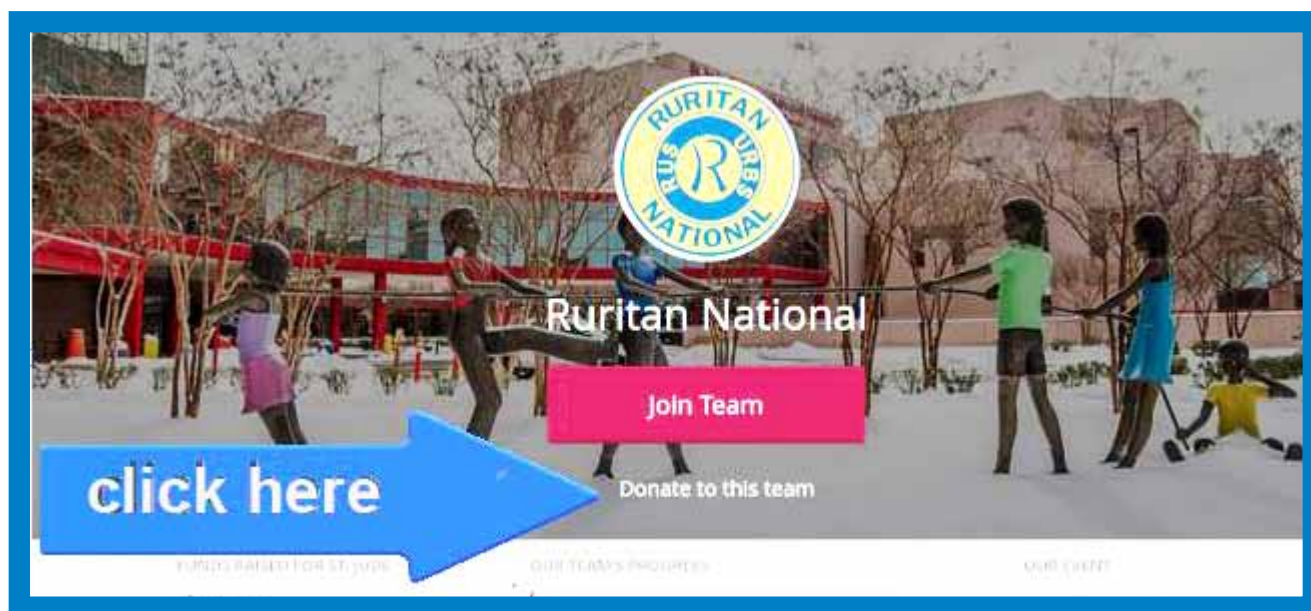
Artwork by St. Jude patient Anthony

First Lady Anne Hedgspeth's project this year is St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is leading the way in how the world understands, treats, and defeats childhood cancer and other life-threatening diseases. St. Jude treats approximately 8,500 patients each year. Cancer is diagnosed each year in approximately 175,000 children 14 and under worldwide. Treatments invented at St. Jude have helped push the overall childhood cancer survival rate from 20 percent to more than 80 percent since the hospital opened in 1962. St. Jude is working to drive the overall survival rate for childhood cancer to 90 percent, and they don't want to stop until no child dies from cancer. St. Jude freely shares the discoveries it makes, and every child saved at St. Jude means doctors and scientists worldwide can use that knowledge to save thousands more children. Families never receive a bill from St. Jude for treatment, travel, housing or food - because all a family should worry about is helping their child live.

"St. Jude has compassion for sick and hurting children, and a desire to nurture and heal them through research and treatment. I share the same passion as St. Jude, and want to help nurture and heal the children by helping to provide financial support to the research center. This will allow the doctors and their research teams to continue their work to find cures," said Anne.

Ruritan National has set up a website through St. Jude. Anne's goal is to raise \$10,000.

Please visit <http://events.stjude.org/ruritannational> to make your donation.



Every Dollar Makes a Difference

Artwork by St. Jude patient Anthony

Every Dollar Makes a Difference

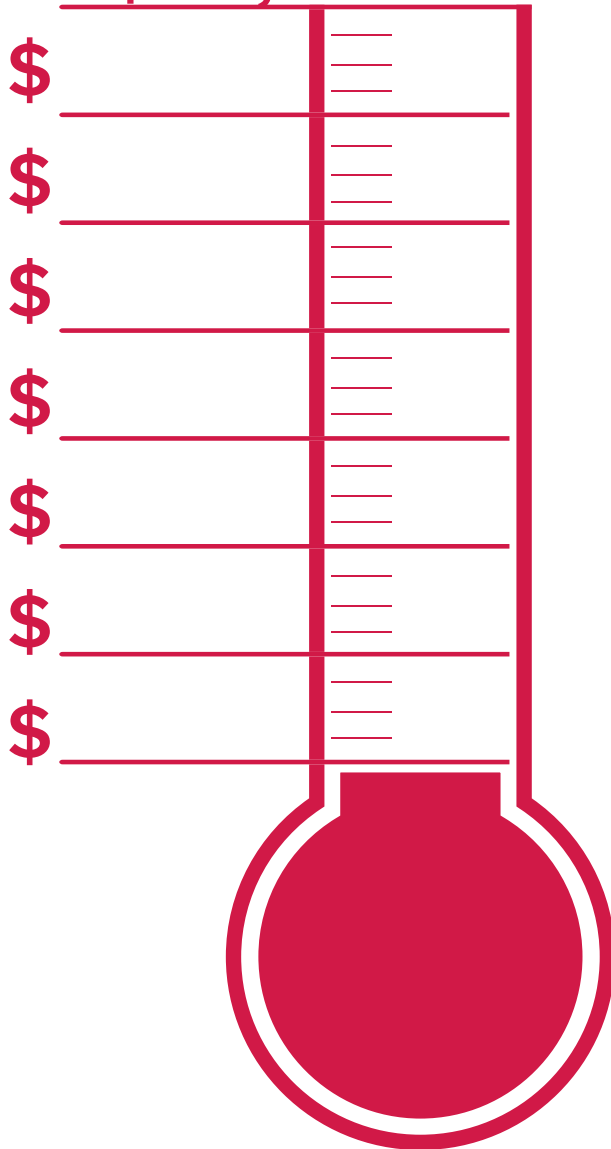
Artwork by St. Jude patient **Anthony**



St. Jude patient **Raiden**,
blood cancer

Our Fundraising
GOAL
for St. Jude Kids

\$ \$10,000



**St. Jude Children's
Research Hospital**

Finding cures. Saving children.
ALSAC • DANNY THOMAS, FOUNDER

Please visit <http://events.stjude.org/ruritannational>
to make your donation. Let's help Ruritan National
First Lady Anne Hedgspeth reach her goal!

©2019 ALSAC/St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (40037) 55100025



Ruritan

Volume 85, Spring 2020

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**Fall 2020 Ruritan Magazine
Cover Contest.
See page 19 for details!**



*On the cover is President Linward's family.
From (l-r) are Eric, LaToya, Anne, Linward,
and Daryl Hedgspeth.*

Message From Executive Director Michael Chrisley



Look at Your Community Now


The national office is located in Dublin, Virginia. Dublin is in Southwest Virginia. As I write this article I am watching it snow out my window. Two days ago it was 60+ degrees and the sun was shining. The moral of the story is change. In Southwest Virginia the weather can change suddenly this time of year. Change is neither good nor bad on its own, it depends on what is changing, how it affects you, and most importantly how you react to that change.

Communities all over America are changing. Some of the change is good and some is bad. Some of the change is just different. Are we changing in a way that allows us to serve our communities in the way we should be serving them? I think one of the most important things we can do as an organization that serves people and the communities that they live in is to keep our finger on the pulse of the community. Newly elected President Linward touches on this in his article on pages 2-3 of this issue.

Another important part of serving the community is leadership. The speed of the leader is the speed of the pack. As leaders in our communities, we should always be on the lookout for other people who show characteristics of leadership to allow for some kind of succession. On that note I am delighted to welcome Sarah Kelly to our staff as Deputy Executive Director. As I have said before, but it is worth noting again, I don't have the authority to hire my replacement. Only the board of directors can do that. The purpose in hiring Sarah as the Deputy Executive Director is to prepare her to be a great candidate for the job when the time comes. She brings a great skill set to the position but more importantly she brings a love for Ruritan. We believe she will be a great addition to our team here at the national office.

Now is a great time of year for clubs to begin to look at their communities with a fresh set of eyes. Try to see the needs that you haven't seen in the past. Really seek to find out what your club can do that will have a great impact on the community you serve. You are so important to the people who need you and your assistance. You should also be looking at the people in your community who have a heart for service and would be good members of your club, perhaps even the next good leaders in your club. They are out there and are just waiting for you to ask them to help with a project or give your club ideas on what the community needs or could benefit from.

***Time goes by quickly.
Don't hesitate. Look at your community now.
Ask that individual now.***



***“Taking the time to build
community, to get to know
your people will have
long-lasting benefits.”***

— CLIFTON TAULBERT —

Kingsport Recap

The 2020 Ruritan National Convention held in Kingsport, Tennessee, was a memorable, informational, and educational convention. National officers were elected and installed, awards were presented, donations were given, business was conducted, and Ruritans enjoyed fellowship.

Activities started on Wednesday, January 8, with the January Board of Directors meeting held at the Yuma Ruritan Club. The club provided a great meal and space not only for the Board meeting but for First Lady Nelda to host the directors' spouses and guests for a time of fellowship. The fellowship and fun continued on Wednesday evening when the Bloomingdale Ruritan Club hosted the board and guests at their club building.



On Thursday, January 9, the convention opened with exhibits that included the Ruritan Foundation Silent Auction and Ruritan Supply. On Thursday morning, President Elect Linward Hedgspeth led the training of the 2020 Ruritan National Governors. Thursday afternoon a preconvention workshop was presented by the Kingsport Convention Bureau. Also, the owner of Bellafina Chocolates, a local shop, shared her community service projects. On Thursday evening, the official opening of the convention began with the Flag Ceremony and recognition of veterans. The impressive and moving flag ceremony was presented by 1995 National President Frank Guthrie, who introduced the Honor and Remember Flag and presented Gold Star Mother Brenda Shelton. Ending the evening were outstanding military speakers, Retired Air Force General Charles Lyon and Mrs. Karen Lyon.



Friday's activities began with a memorial service, led by Pastor Lori Hays. Attendees could bring mementos or write notes about Ruritan members or loved ones and place them on the stage as a remembrance. The business session was the next activity, where reports were given, candidates made speeches, Kingsport Mayor Patrick Shull welcomed our attendees to Kingsport, and the Rudy Youth of the Year Award for 2019 was presented to Emily Adams, a member of the Landes Club in the Upper West Virginia District. Emily spent over 400 hours on club projects and has served as her district song leader. While managing her schoolwork she was active in playing sports, serving as a member of the community education

outreach services, and participating in her church's youth group. The 2019 Ruri-Teen of the Year Award was presented to Megan Meyerhoeffer from the South Spotswood Ruri-Teen Club and Cross Keys-Mill Creek Club in the Rockingham District. Megan has served as president and sgt-at-arms for her Ruri-Teen club. She completed seven projects and spent 160 hours working on them. Additionally, she served as an officer in her local FFA and PTSA. The Ruritan of the Year for 2019 was Larry Richardson of the Collettsville Club in the Western North Carolina District. He has been a member since 1971 and held club, zone, and district offices. He spent over 750 hours working on club projects. Larry has also recruited at least 11 new mem-



Kingsport Recap

bers. The DRM/Fellowship Lunch was held after the business session. During the luncheon donations of 388 Rudy Bears were given to the Isaiah 117 House. The DRMs were recognized for organizing new clubs and Tennessee native Sam Venable gave a humorous presentation. Friday afternoon continued with voting and afternoon workshops such as club officers training, club growth, cards for the military, and many more. Main Street was also held on Friday afternoon when local Kingsport vendors offered items for purchase. The Foundation live auction was held on Friday evening followed by Ruritan Square, a giant tail gate party. This first-time ever fellowship event was well attended and enjoyed by all who participated. The evening featured Ruritan-style horse racing, a scooter parade, and 17 tables of assorted food and beverages supplied by clubs, districts, and individuals. This giant party was well received, and praise was given to all who participated by supplying food and entertainment. Ruritan attendees showed off their favorite college and professional team apparel while participating in the fun activities and enjoying the delicious food in Ruritan Square.



Nelda was very surprised when Larry presented her with a Ruritan Forever during the First Lady's Breakfast.

Saturday began with the First Lady's Breakfast honoring Nelda Cassell. Nelda spoke about her adoption project, Shannon Shepherd from DePaul Community Resources spoke on her work with adoption, and Nashville Country Singer Jamie Fox entertained the attendees. The second business meeting was held where the election results were announced, reports given, and awards were presented. The first Bylaw issue failed to receive the 2/3rds majority it needed to pass whereas the second Bylaw Issue (The second ballot item will add one sentence to Ruritan National Bylaws, Article III, Section 3, Item H. Affiliate. H. Ruritan Affiliate Members shall be comprised solely of members who have dropped from a local club but want to remain affiliated with Ruritan. Affiliate members will not be associated with any club or district. The Affiliate Member will not

Kingsport Recap

be a voting member. The purpose of Affiliate Membership is to allow members to maintain contact with Ruritan and continue to support this organization. Affiliate Members can choose to change to a regular club member at any time upon approval of a local club) passed by the delegates. The afternoon workshops included club officers training, club growth, club fundraising, and MMS training, just to name a few. The Installation Banquet concluded Saturday's events. 2020 National President Linward Hedgpeth, President Elect Glen Broadwater, and seven three-year National Directors (George Brothers, Melody Davis, David Hogan, Joe Jaynes, Steve Kidwell, Rebecca Lane, and Paul Lewis) were installed. Brent Wheeler was installed as Foundation President and Clinton Guy Cox as Foundation Trustee. The evening ended with an incredible performance by Kathy Martin and the Hot Rods.



2020 Summer Leadership Conference **One Team - One Direction - Up**

Change is Good! President Elect Glen Broadwater is kicking off the conference on Friday, June 12, at 6 p.m. at Randolph Park in Dublin, VA. Enjoy live music, fun, fellowship, and food! You will pick up your conference materials and shirt at the picnic.

Training will start at 8:00 a.m. Saturday, June 13, at New River Community College.

Bob Anderson will be the Motivational Speaker for the event. You can check out his website at www.starperformance-inc.com/keynote

All 2020 Ruritan District Lieutenant Governors should plan to attend the 2020 Summer Leadership Conference in Dublin, VA at the New River Community College in June. Current Lt. Governors are expensed to this conference.

Lt. Governors are required to attend this conference to be eligible for reimbursement of one half of their National Convention expenses.

Current District Governors and Zone Governors are not required to attend this conference but are highly recommended to attend.

One area of concern for all Ruritan members is the growth of the organization. We will have some "experts" that have built Ruritan membership and Ruritan clubs who will give some useful advice on how you can build your clubs and districts. President Elect Glen and the Leadership Committee are planning the training around the theme: One Team, One Direction, Up." There will be classes that will benefit all Ruritans.

The conference gives Ruritan leaders the opportunity to learn more about their responsibilities, share ideas, express concerns, and plan for the future of the organization.

It also provides an opportunity for leaders to learn about the responsibilities that go along with other leadership positions they may wish to seek and encourages them to move up in their leadership roles. Information on the conference's content and cost will be sent to 2020 district leaders later this spring. Lodging rooms will be blocked for this conference at the Dublin area hotels.

The conference brings Ruritan leaders together to discuss concerns and plan for the future of the organization. Attendees will also learn the latest information about Ruritan programs and procedures. As stated earlier, Lt. Governors are expensed to this conference, others may attend at their own expense and for a nominal registration fee. Special circumstances such as substitutions will be considered on a case by case basis by the Ruritan National President.

1. 2020 District Lt. Governors will be paid ½ of their expenses to the 2021 National Convention in Covington, KY provided they complete the requirements below.
2. They attend the June 2020 Summer Leadership Conference (unless excused in writing by the National President).
3. They attend the Governors' Training at the 2021 National Convention.
4. They attend substantially all meetings at the 2021 National Convention.
5. Form R-35 must be received by Ruritan National no later than November 10 and Form R-36 must be received by Ruritan National no later than February 10.

All expense vouchers must be submitted within 90 days after the 2021 National Convention.

Current District Governors are eligible for ½ of their expenses to be paid to the National Convention providing that numbers 4 and 5 above are satisfied.

If We Work Together as One Team, We will Make a Difference in Our Organization!

Ruritan Summer Leadership Conference Registration Form

Registration Includes: Friday dinner at Randolph Park, a heavy lunch on Saturday, and an afternoon snack. Conference materials are included.

Complete this form and include \$120 per person which includes both meals.

Every attendee will receive a Conference Polo Shirt. Please include your shirt size.

****Return this form no later than May 1, 2020 to Ruritan National, P.O. Box 487, Dublin, VA 24084.****

Name: _____

Title: _____ Member ID: _____

Address: _____

District: _____

Shirt Size: _____

I have _____ guests for the Saturday lunch at \$16 each = \$_____ total

I have _____ guests for the picnic on Friday at \$15 each = \$_____ total

I want to order my guest(s) a conference polo at \$25 each = \$_____ total

Their shirt size is _____

TOTAL Enclosed: \$_____

Credit Card Payment

Card Type: Discover ☐

Visa: ☐

Mastercard: ☐

Name on Card: _____

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ CVC: _____



NEW APPAREL HAS ARRIVED!!



#249 District Medal Full-Zip Hoodie

\$28.50

This hoodie is 4.9-ounce, 90/10 combed ring spun cotton/poly, with tear-away label. Self-fabric back neck tape. Front Pockets. Self-fabric cuffs and hems. Includes Ruritan logo screenprinted on full back.



#250 Port Authority Value Fleece Jacket

\$37.75

This exceptionally soft, midweight fleece jacket will keep you warm during everyday excursions. Includes Ruritan logo on left chest



#251 District Game Tee

\$17.75

This tee has a retro, game-day inspired look. 4.5-ounce, 60/40 combed ring spun cotton/poly, 32 singles. 1x1 rib knit neck. Tear-away label. Distressed printed stripes at sleeve. With Ruritan logo on full front.



#252 Port Authority Ladies Plaid Flannel Jacket

\$37.75

This flannel shirt takes laid-back looks to the next level. Ultra soft and just the right weight, it makes a statement with a classic plaid pattern and casual comfort. Includes Ruritan logo on left chest.



#253 Port Authority Plaid Flannel Shirt

\$37.75

This flannel shirt takes laid-back looks to the next level. Ultra soft and just the right weight, it makes a statement with a classic plaid pattern and casual comfort. Includes Ruritan logo on left chest.

Questions?

**Call Customer Service at 1-800-414-8946
or visit <http://www.shumskyideas.com/ruritan>**



NEW APPAREL HAS ARRIVED!!



#256 Harriton Men's Long-Sleeved Oxford with Stain-Release \$35.70

Tackle the day with this easy-care, wrinkle-resistant button down featuring pearlized buttons, adjustable cuffs, and stain release material.



#262 Port Authority Ladies Value Fleece Jacket \$40.00

This exceptionally soft, midweight fleece jacket will keep you warm during everyday excursions.

**Need help placing your order?
Call the Ruritan National Office
877-787-8727.
We will help you!**



#267 Port Authority Ladies' 3/4 Sleeve Easy Care Shirt \$30.00

This comfortable wash and wear shirt is indispensable for the workday. Wrinkle resistance makes this shirt a cut above the rest.

www.shumskyideas.com/ruritan



NEW APPAREL HAS ARRIVED!!



#268 & 269 Port & Company Value Denim Shirt

\$30.00

Traditional, relaxed look. Features an open collar, horn-tone buttons and rounded adjustable cuffs.

**Need help placing your order?
Call the Ruritan National Office
877-787-8727.
We will help you!**



#271 Blush Tunic

\$18.00

With a soft, elegant look, this tunic features rib knit elongated cuffs, longer tunic length, and a curved hem.



#272 Port & Company Core Fleece Sweatpants with Pockets

\$18.00

With an elastic waistband with drawcord, open bottom cuffs, and the comfort of fleece, you'll never want to wear anything else.

www.shumskyideas.com/ruritan



NEW PRODUCTS HAVE ARRIVED!!

#225 - Light Up Logo Pen with Stylus \$1.95



New colors added! This 3 in 1 multi-function ABS plastic pen, light and stylus has a light inside barrel which also illuminates the logo. Uses 3 button cell batteries (AG3) included, replaceable. Includes black medium point ink. Features a metal clip and tip. 5.98" L x 0.43" D

#258 Light Up Your Logo Duo USB Wall Charger \$9.25



This ABS+PC Plastic device allows you to charge your USB powered devices through this compact duo USB to AC adapter. Light inside body of device also illuminates the logo!

#259 Campfire Mug \$4.50



Perfect for any season! This Campfire Mug features a retro design perfectly accented with a granite feel!

#260 Medium Utility Tote \$7.25



Part of the In Print Trend Collection, the on-trend polka dot print combined with multiple pockets makes this a perfect gift! Large open main compartment. Five exterior pockets that include three open front pockets, with the main pocket gusseted for extra storage, one side slash pocket, and another side pocket with four-slot organizer. 10" handle drop height.

#261 Getaway 23 Deluxe Duffel Bag \$30



The Getaway 23" Deluxe Duffel Bag features a zippered main compartment with a U-shaped opening and reinforced double 19.5 inch handles. The large zippered front pocket also has an additional exterior zippered pocket, two front-adjustable elastic cord pockets, and wide zippered side pockets. A detachable, adjustable padded shoulder strap and a hook and loop closure handle wrap make carrying easy and convenient.

Please visit <http://events.stjude.org/ruritannational> to make your donation. Help First Lady Anne reach her goal!

Message From 2020 Foundation President Brent Wheeler



Save the Date for Fellowship Weekend!

As the 2020 Ruritan National Convention came to a close, the newly installed officers began to look toward our goal of service to our communities. As the 2020 President of the Ruritan National Foundation, I too look forward to the New Year and the opportunities of service which will come to the Foundation. The Trustees work diligently to protect the funds which you have entrusted to us.

As a result of that diligence, the Foundation was again able to give back to you \$600 for your BY\$ scholarship awards.

The Trustees and I are available to answer any questions you might have about the Foundation and the opportunities you have to be a part of our service. You may contact any of the Trustees with your questions. Bessie McCormick, Foundation Specialist, is also only a call away. So, please reach out to us and establish your educational fund or make it a permanent fund by reaching \$1000. Forms are available on line for your convenience.

Ruritan National Foundation

2020 Board of Trustees

President: Brent Wheeler

Vice President: O.H. Bobbitt III

Secretary: Graham Bryant

Treasurer: Phillip Bradshaw

Promotion Chair: Guy Cox



Thank you again for allowing me the opportunity to serve as your Foundation President. I will close with one of my favorite saying....author unknown...

"I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination."

In this case, my destination and that of the Foundation is to make it a transparent and effective working branch of Ruritan.

Foundation Fellowship Weekend - Embassy Suites Huntsville September 11-13, 2020



Reservations: 1-800-362-2779
Group Code: RNF
Reservation Cutoff: August 14, 2020
at midnight or when the block is full

Room Rate:
Single and Double Occupancy: \$129
per night, plus taxes and parking
Triple Occupancy: \$149 per night,
plus taxes and parking
Quad Occupancy: \$159 per night,
plus taxes and parking

The Embassy Suites by Hilton Hotel & Spa, 800 Monroe Street SW, Huntsville, AL 35801, is conveniently located just off I-565, in downtown Huntsville, 10 miles to Cummings Research Park and 20 minutes from the Huntsville/Decatur.

**Watch for the Foundation Email
Blasts for more details.**

**To purchase a Tom Downing
Fellow contact Bessie
McCormick in the Foundation
Department.
877-787-8727 #302**

SAVE THE DATE AND JOIN IN THE CELEBRATION!



Founders' Day 2020
Saturday, May 16
Holland, VA

Check the Holland District
Website for information on
events and times.

Coming to Founders' Day? Plan to participate in the Holland District Foundation, Inc. Charity Golf Tournament on Friday, May 15, at the Suffolk Golf Course. To register, contact James C. Copeland at jamescplnd@yahoo.com or 757-986-4494 for information.

Need banquet tickets? Contact Clay Byrum 757-334-2530 for tickets.

Hampton Inn
1017 Centerbrooke Ln
Suffolk, VA 23434
Phone Number 757-935-5880

Room Rate will be \$119 per night.



COMING TOGETHER IS THE BEGINNING.
STAYING TOGETHER IS PROGRESS.
WORKING TOGETHER IS SUCCESS.

Fall 2020 Ruritan Magazine Cover Contest

First Lady Anne's project this year is St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The Ruritan National Publications Committee is sponsoring a Ruritan Magazine Fall Cover Contest. If your club sponsors a fundraising activity for St. Jude, send digital photos for a chance to be on the cover of the Fall 2020 Ruritan Magazine.

Your photo must be digital, in color, and high resolution (at least 300 dpi). Include a caption or identification of the members pictured and a brief description of the event. Send your photo by email no later than August 1, 2020, to Crystal at media@ruritan.org. For the subject line use "Cover Contest."

Your club could sponsor an ice cream social for St. Jude, a bike-a-thon, a pancake breakfast, etc. The possibilities are endless. Ruritan National would like to keep track of all monies raised. You could send us your donation and we can enter it on our Ruritan National/St. Jude website or you can add your fundraising money to the website if you have a credit or debit card.

In 2015, the Dundas Ruritan Club won the contest. Don't you want your club on the cover? Help us Raise money for St. Jude.

One red blood cell transfusion for a patient cost \$250.

A platelet count test for two patients cost \$100.

The Publication Committee and National President Linward and First Lady Anne would like to Thank You in advance for helping St. Jude save lives!



*"No child should die in the dawn of life."
-Danny Thomas,
Founder-St. Jude*

2020 Ruritan

Youth Leadership Camp!

Date:

June 26-28, 2020

Location:

4-H Conference Center

Smith Mountain Lake Wirtz, VA

Cost: \$155



Activities

- Climbing Wall
- Fishing
- Canoeing
- Reptiles
- Horse Back Riding
- Riflery
- Archery
- Pool
- And MORE!

Community Service Project

We will be doing another community service project this year. Please bring cans of non-perishable food to be donated to a local food bank.



For more information or registration packet, contact Ruritan National

Phone Number: 877-787-8727

Email: convention@ruritan.org

Deadline for completed registration forms and payment is June 5, 2020



2020 Ruritan Youth Camp Registration Form for June 26-28



W. E. Skelton 4-H Educational Conference Center at Smith Mountain Lake

775 Hermitage Road · Wirtz, Virginia · 24184

Registration forms, all completed paperwork, and payment of \$155 per person are due by June 5, 2020

Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Male ☐ Female ☐

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Preferred Badge Name _____

T-Shirt Size (adult sizes, circle the size you need)

Small Medium Large XL

XXL 3XL Other _____

I am registering as (circle one option on each line)

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|----|
| Ruritan Member | Yes | No |
| Non-Ruritan Member | Yes | No |
| Adult Chaperone | Yes | No |
| Youth Camper | Yes | No |
| 1 st Time Attendee | Yes | No |

Parent/Guardian Name (please print) _____

Parent/Guardian signature _____

Parent Email _____

Send Registration Packet Via: (Mark 1 Option Below)

☐ Mail ☐ Email

Payment Information:

☐ Check # _____

☐ Visa/Mastercard

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ 3 or 4 Digit Code on back _____

Full Registration Packet is available online at <http://www.ruritan.org>

Windsor Gains Two New Members

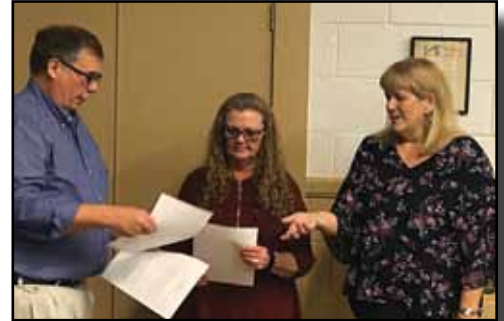


It was a historic occasion for the **Windsor** Ruritan Club. In 1930 the club was chartered and although never officially stated, it has been a club for men only. With a membership of 60 men, funds are raised and invested in the community through scholarships and donations to local causes and institutions that provide needed services and assistance to residents. Becoming aware that the majority of Ruritan Clubs were coed, the Board of Directors suggested to the membership that the time for change had arrived. Carl Eason, the oldest

member, sponsored Patsy Ambrose and Rebecca Duck for membership at the October club meeting. They received unanimous approval and were installed. Pictured (l-r) are Club President Jamie MacKenzie, Patsy Ambrose and Rebecca Duck.

Ruritan of the Year Award was presented to Sam Askew. He has served two terms as club secretary during which Sam has been diligent in sending in club news articles and photos to the Windsor Weekly, the Ruritan District Newsletter, and the National Ruritan Magazine. Sam is the pastor of Windsor Christian Church and serves on the Economic Development Authority of the Town of Windsor. Pictured are Bentley Richardson and Sam Askew.

Each year the club presents Rudy Bears to the volunteer Windsor Rescue Squad. Bentley Richardson made the presentation to Chief Keith Griffin.



Possum Hollow Raises Funds

Possum Hollow Ruritan Club Fall Pork Butt and Bake Sale raised funds for college scholarships and community needs in Chuckatuck, Smithfield, and Carrollton. Pictured in the front (l-r) are Sandee Darden ("Saucy") chief sauce chef, Jack Darden, Jerry Hill, Beverly Vaughn, Jack Eure, and Barbara Reisenbichler. Also pictured (l-r) at the bake sale are Club Secretary Ann Lovell, 2003 National President George Winslow, Donna Lorange, and Olivia Lorange.



MOST NEW MEMBERS RECRUITED IN A CALENDAR YEAR

| Name | # New Members | Club | District |
|---------------|---------------|--------|-----------|
| Merlin Scales | 15 | Ararat | Dan River |

Please visit <http://events.stjude.org/ruritannational> to make your donation.

Sarah Fary Receives Award



Gloucester Ruritan Club held its December meeting at Olivia's In the Village on December 10. Club President Jackie Beyea presented the club's 2019 Ruritan of the Year Plaque to Sarah Fary. Sarah started the club's Crochet Group that meets twice a month at Ware Episcopal Church to make chemo hats for cancer patients, as well as lap blankets and

slippers for nursing home residents. Sarah alone volunteered close to 400 volunteer hours while the club totaled over 5,129 volunteer hours to the community.

Members met at the home of member Janet Leigh to wrap presents for residents of community nursing and assisted living facilities. The ladies wrapped while Santa (Tom Swankler) and helper Henry Thompson delivered a total of 389 gifts. Fresh fruit was also carried to the Cary Adult House and fresh pine center pieces were taken for Hospice patients. Pictured (l-r) are Henry Thompson, Sarah Fary, Janet Leigh, Tom Swankler, Janie Swankler, Beverly Thomas, and Barbara Bauer. Not pictured is Rachel Serio.



Montpelier Presents Rudy Bears



Montpelier Ruritan Club honored Fire/EMS and Sheriff's Departments. The ladies of Shiloh Church prepared a wonderful meal and both the Fire/EMS and Sheriff's department spoke to their programs and addressed concerns by the club members. At the close of the meeting, club member Dan Johnson (center) presented Rudy Bears to each department.

Carolyn Swingle Receives Award

Doswell Ruritan Club honored Carolyn Swingle for her work with the Hanover Christmas Mother Program for the year. A plaque was presented to her by Franklin Jones at the club's Annual Family Celebration.

Warwick Ruritan Club members Jeanne Laurent, Sandy Hall, and Robert Spiers sell personalized dog biscuits. Club members continued the Adopt-A-Spot Clean-Up Program this year.



Stonewall District Works at Bright Futures



Stonewall District Ruritan Club volunteered at Bright Futures in Winchester, VA packing food for students to take home on the weekend. The program aims to help families who experience food insecurity.

Members delivered over 1,000 poinsettias to 16 nursing homes on Christmas Eve. Poinsettias were donated by Weber's Nursery.

Bealeton Remington Wins Best Float

Rudy was front and center on the **Bealeton Remington** Ruritan Club's award-winning float during the Christmas parade. In the Remington Volunteer Fire Department Toys for Tots Santa Run, Rudy rode along with Santa and stuffed an ambulance with toys donated by the club.



Sumerduck Remembers 9/11

Sumerduck Ruritan Club held a 9/11 Remembrance Memorial. Junior ROTC from Liberty High School were honor guards. The Liberty High School Choir performed. The service ended with the playing of taps by Courtney Fox and Carlye Ramsburg.



Sterling Cooks Hot Dogs

Sterling Virginia Ruritan Club worked its food truck at the October 2019 Sterlingfest. This yearly event brought together various food and craft vendors, musicians, and local community service organizations. Club members are known for their smiling faces and the best hot dogs and fries in the area.



Keysville Works Together

Keysville Ruritan Club presented McKenzie Sharpe with a \$600 scholarship. McKenzie will be attending Jefferson College of Health Science at Carilion Clinic. Pictured with McKenzie is Keysville Public Relations Chair Gerry Pettus.

The club pitched in and helped the Randolph Henry High School Band Boosters with their annual fundraiser. Members fried chicken while others prepared the plates. Band members had over 200 orders prior to the lunch. Band members even made some deliveries making this fundraiser successful. All proceeds went toward band equipment, instruments, uniforms, and band competitions.

A donation was made to the Charlotte County Rescue Squad. Pictured are Charlotte County Rescue Squad representatives Rodney Childress and Denise Hall with Pettus.



Downing Supports Salvation Army



Downing Ruritan Club members and family are shown ringing the bells for the Salvation Army Red Kettle at the Chesterfield Town Center. Pictured are Hobo, Bogey, Rhett, Circuit Rider, and his wife, Loyce Edwards.

Wilson Hebron Ford Celebrates 80th Anniversary

Wilson Hebron Ford Ruritan Club celebrated its 80th Anniversary. Club President Tommy Adams welcomed everyone in attendance and recognized the local and national dignitaries. The self-proclaimed honorary Mayor of Sutherland, Jimmy Olgers, was the speaker for the celebration. 2020 National President Linward Hedgspeth and First Lady Anne were in attendance along with National Treasurer David Thompson. Heavy hors d'oeuvres were enjoyed by over 70 Ruritan members and friends in attendance. Several former and current members of the club spoke and reminisced of days of Brunswick Stews, barbeques, Dixie Youth Baseball, and Bluebird House sales. Jimmy Olgers entertained the audience with numerous stories of

the past with a few anecdotes and personal stories which kept everyone laughing.

The club, like many, has seen ups and downs through the years, but in recent years, had built up a strong membership and hopes to continue to work hard in their community to make a difference. WHF, as they are known to most, had a wonderful collection of scrapbooks and newspaper clippings from as far back as the early 70s. A photo slideshow was on display. The evening ended with the cutting of a beautiful 80th anniversary cake.





Rudy Bear Goes to the Bahamas

Lyn-Dan Heights Ruritan Club members Nowlin and Margie Maddox inspect cases of Rudy Bears headed to children in the Bahamas for Christmas. The Maddox Family and the Lyn-Dan Heights Club partnered with *Gleaning for the World* to fly Rudy Bears to the areas of the islands devastated by hurricane Dorian.

If you need assistance in ordering Rudy Bears, please call the Ruritan National Office at 877-787-8727. We will HELP!

www.shumskyideas.com/ruritan

**Show You Care
Give A Bear!**



Peaks of Otter Clubs Present Awards



Robin Davenport installed club officers. Pictured on the right is Clifford Club Secretary Judy Montgomery presenting Alvin Hatter with the Clifford's Ruritan of the Year Award.

Amherst/Monroe Ruritan Club President Ron Tomlin presented a \$1,000 donation to Neighbors Helping Neighbors Garry Friend.

Jeanne Floyd received the club's Ruritan of the Year Award.

Clifford Ruritan Club held its Annual Christmas Gathering. Ron Tomlin and Past National Director



The **Peaks of Otter** District held a drawing at its District Convention for a Ruritan Forever Award. Carl Sensabaugh was the winner. Pictured (l-r) are 2019 Peaks of Otter District Governor Donnie Reynolds, Foundation Vice President O.H. Bobbitt III, Carl Sensabaugh, and 2019 National President Larry Cassell.

New London Ruritan Club presented dictionaries to local schools.



Forest Hill Ruritan Club gained two new members, Sue Keen and Todd Ramsey Sr. with F&L Market.



OUTSTANDING RURITAN SCOUT LEADER

| Member | Club |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Doug Bouch | Gray (TN) |
| Vicki Guevara | Gray (TN) |
| William Hogg, Jr. | Pembroke (VA) |
| Kenneth Parker | Robersonville (NC) |
| Mack Williams | Gray (TN) |

News From Ruritan: Southwest Virginia District



Nickelsville Honors Veterans

Nickelsville Ruritan Club held its annual Thanksgiving and Christmas Shut-in Dinner. The club delivered 120 trays to shut-ins and there were 50 walk-ins that were served. Filling the trays (r-l) are Nancy Culbertson, Jan Johnson, Judy Fields, Lydia Morales, Judy Flanary, 2020 National President Elect Glen Broadwater, and Ed Seiber.

The Annual Veterans Dinner was held with 32 veterans plus their families at the celebration. Gold Star mother, Jeanette Poston (right), pinned Jack Stapleton and others, recognizing them for their service in the Vietnam War.



Atkins Club President Robert Pike is shown installing new members Becky Thomas and Harry Bane.



Jerry Umbarger (left) receives a Ruritan Forever.

News From Ruritan: Natural Bridge District



Brownsburg Celebrates 80th Anniversary

Brownsburg Ruritan Club celebrated its 80th anniversary. Nearly fifty people attended including Natural Bridge District Governor Dianne Swink and Zone 1 Governor Chris Cartwright. Governor Swink presented Brownsburg Club President John Conlon with a certificate signed by National President Larry Cassell celebrating this milestone anniversary. Pictured are the club's three longest serving members Charles "Colonel" Sandridge (63 years); W.L. "Bud" Martin (54 years); and our longest serving member, Wallace Beckner (75 years).

Thomas Sions Becomes Ruritan Member



Tenth Legion Mt. Valley Ruritan Club welcomed new member Thomas Sions. Past National Director Susan Greisz and National Director Becky Lane are shown installing Thomas on his 7th birthday. Proud grandfather Charles O'Roark is looking on. Thomas makes sure he wears

his member pin during all Ruritan events. Thomas presented a \$500 donation to Lacey Spring Elementary School Principal Tammy May on behalf of the club.



Dayton Distributes Dictionaries

Dayton Ruritan Club, as it has done for over ten years, distributed an "all-in-one" Dictionary, Encyclopedia, and Thesaurus to every 3rd grade student at Keister Elementary School and Waterman Elementary School.



Fulks Run Delivers to Shut-Ins

Fulks Run Ruritans filled reusable bags with cans of chicken noodle and tomato soup, a jar of peanut butter, apples, oranges, a box of tissues, and a calendar. Then they delivered bags to shut-ins in the community. The annual rabies clinic was held. Over 150 shots and

78 licenses were given. Six college scholarships were given. Pictured (l-r) are recipients Megan Conley, Kaley Kyger, Logan Custer, and Lindsey Conley. Tracey Dove Conley accepted the award for her daughter Chessi Conley, and Ellis King accepted the award for his daughter Gretchen King.



**COMING TOGETHER IS THE BEGINNING.
STAYING TOGETHER IS PROGRESS.
WORKING TOGETHER IS SUCCESS.**





Bridgewater Presents Awards

Bridgewater Ruritan Club recently presented the Glen and Nancy Thomas Ruritan of the Year Award to the Arey family. Pictured (l-r) are Jane, Shelvin, Ken, Dee Dee Arey, and Bridgewater Membership Committee Chair John Harsh. Charlotte McQuilken was recognized as Citizen of the Year for 2019, and the Club awarded the David Evick Fair Volunteer of the Year Award to Landon



Walker and Henry Graham for their hard work at the Fry Shack at the Rockingham County Fair.

A third-generation member was installed into the club. Rebecca Rawley Wright is also



the 2020 chair of the Club's Public Services Committee. Her husband Tracy (left) and father Dennis Rawley (right) are active members of the club. Rebecca's late grandfather, Harry Rawley, served as Bridgewater Club President in 1977. Marvin Garber (second from left) was presented with a 75-year membership pin in November. Assisting with the presentation were (left to right) 2020 Club President Jim Harlow (l), Garber with son Rick, and member Glen Thomas (r).



101-Year-Old John Schneider Cuts Cake

McGaheysville Ruritan Club hosted its third annual Don Hess Memorial Veterans Dinner. This event recognized approximately 100 veterans. The dinner menu consisted of famous deep-fried oysters, roasted chicken and numerous trimmings. The highlighting of the evening was the cutting of the Desert Cake with a Ceremonial Sword. This was performed by 101-year-old World War II Veteran John Schneider of Massanutten, VA. 2019 National President Larry Cassell was also in attendance.



Fort Valley Receives Gold Awards

Fort Valley Ruritan Club received all Gold Community Service Awards. Pictured (l-r) are Steve Adams – Environment; Eileen Drinkwater – Citizen and Patriotism; President Tom Drinkwater; VP Chris Chow; Adam Stout – Social Development; Pat McCulloch – Business & Professional; and Larry Cave – Public Service.



Members visited Consulate Health Care in Woodstock and sang Christmas Carols for the residents. Pictured (l-r) are Ann Hogshead, Geraldine Schilling, Larry Cave, Sandy Burner-Cave, Eileen Drinkwater, and Brad Pollack.

Ann and Ralph Sebrell Recieve Award

Rockingham Luncheon Ruritan Club Membership Chair JoAnn Wenger presented the club's Ruritan of the Year Award to Ann and Ralph Sebrell.



Williamson Presents Awards to Members



Williamson Ruritan Club made improvements to the community building by making modifications to the kitchen, adding an "Ice Cream Parlor" room, and drilling a new well. The club's 50th Anniversary was celebrated in 2019 and hosted its first Blue Grass Festival. Williamson 2019 Club President Steve Akers presented awards. 2019 Most Distinguished Member Award went to Martha Myers. Martha was busy keeping things clean and orderly. The Tom Downing Fellow was presented to Club Secretary Cindy Hissong and Club Treasurer John Newcomer who do an excellent job and spend many hours keeping club business in order.

Mt. Pleasant and Shady Grove Honor Veterans

Mt Pleasant Ruritan Club held its third annual Veterans Appreciation Dinner. Supported by a generous donation from Wegmans, the club served veterans a hearty dinner with a large helping of "Thank You For Your Service."

Shady Grove Ruritan Club held its Annual Veterans' banquet. Following the meal, veteran and local historian Mr. Ted Alexander presented The Civil War in Franklin County. He completed two tours in Vietnam and was presented the Navy Commendation Medal with Valor. The medal is presented for sustained acts of heroism or meritorious service. Alexander is the author, editor, and contributor to 11 books on the Civil War, as well as author of more than 200 articles and book reviews for publications such as Civil War Times and The Washington



Times. Mr. Alexander was Chief Historian at Antietam National Battlefield for 35 years.

Pictured on the back (l-r) are Kenneth Keith, Jack Lynch, Jerry Wolfe, Steve Milback, John Myers, Hal Myers, Bob Miller, Tom Christophel, Frank Schieb, Dick Walck, Al Schooley, Don Olding, and Bob Gearhart.

Pictured in the front are Chet Williams, Larry Williams, Clint Pentz, John Hykes, Mark Divelbiss, Bob Snyder, and Ted Alexander. (Not pictured were Bob Carper and Al Jimick.)



St. Thomas Area Ruritan Club member Megan Rummel is shown presenting Chase Andrews with a \$2,908 check for medical expenses.



2019 Potomac District Governor David Moser presented Bobbi Jo Anderson with the Potomac Ruritan of the Year Award.

News From Ruritan: Potomac District continued



Leitersburg Ruritan Club participated in the 2019 Waynesboro, Pennsylvania Christmas Parade. Pictured (l-r) are Bruce Melton, Allison and Lauren Rippon, and Cailyn Foster.



Lewistown Ruritan Club held an installation of the following officers by Lew Sherman, Assistant Governor for Zone 3: Randy Green, Director; Richard Rippeon, Director; Robert Thompson, Secretary; Lew Sherman, Assistant Governor for Zone 3; Odale Martin, Treasurer; Jim Brown, Vice President; and Greg Warner, President.

News From Ruritan: Roanoke District

Robersonville Builds Ramps



News From Ruritan: Rocky Mt. Durham District

Lynns Crossroads and Coopers Make Holiday Deliveries



Lynns Crossroads Ruritan Club prepared fruit bags for Christmas delivery to neighbors. Included in the bags were a variety of single serve fruit cups, puddings, and applesauce. Grocery gift cards were given to those in need of a little help too. Thirteen scholarship applicants received \$500 each. In December, the club was made aware of a local elementary school in need of clothing for some of the children. A secondary fundraiser

was held during the pancake breakfast fundraiser. It was called the **Warmth for Winter**. New coats, sweatshirts, long sleeve shirts, sweat pants, pants, underwear, socks, gloves, and hats were collected.

Coopers Ruritan Club assembled 64 fruit baskets and cards to be delivered to shut-ins and the elderly.



Jack Patterson, Jr. and Harold Rogers Receive Tom Downing Fellow



Sylvan Ruritan Club member Jeff Neese (l) is shown presenting Jack Patterson, Jr. with a Tom Downing Fellow. Pictured with Jack is his wife Sherry. Neese is shown presenting **Silk Hope** Club member Harold Rogers with a Tom Downing Fellow.



Lloyd Conklin Receives a Ruritan Forever



Meadow Creek Ruritan Club presented a Ruritan Forever to Lloyd Conklin for his dedication, commitment, and support of the club over the past 23 years. Each club member was given the opportunity to speak of Lloyd's impact on their lives and the community. Lloyd's family joined in the celebration and thanked the club for the recognition of their dad.

Mark Randall Named Needmore's Ruritan of the Year



Needmore Club President Arthur Johnson presented Mark Randall with the club's Ruritan of the Year Award. Pictured are club members loading the grill for the club's bbq fundraiser. A new Ruritan sign was purchased and placed on the side of the club building.



Are you coming to Kentucky? 2021 National Convention January, 28-31.

More Information
Coming Soon!



News From Ruritan: Greenville Goldsboro District

Pink Hill Holds Pheasant Hunt



Pink Hill Ruritan Club held its third annual Tower Pheasant Hunt in January. This fundraiser is a great way to get hunters together to hunt and fellowship while helping raise money to help people and events in the community.

The club donated 40 clock radios for the nursing home residents at Lenoir Assisted Living for Christmas. Clay Howard Treasurer delivered the clocks.



Pinetown Presents Scholarships

Pinetown Ruritan Club presented scholarships to Amelia Woolard, Chandler Cuthrell, Logan Jefferson, and Laurel Meijer (not pictured). Club member Adam Midyette was presented with a gift for graduation. Club members provided secret Santa gifts to a local school.



News From Ruritan: Cape Fear District

Piney Grove Presents Scholarships



2019 **Piney Grove** Ruritan Club's Ruri-Teen of the Year was presented to Morgan Corbett by 2019 Cape Fear Lt. Governor Roger Peterson. 2019 Cape Fear District Ruri-Teen of the Year Emma White received her award from Peterson.

Ruritan Week begins May 17.
What are you doing for your community?

2019 RURITAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION DISTRICT AWARDS

Highest Percentage of Clubs in District Donating

| | | | |
|-----------|------------------------|-----|--------------|
| 1st Place | Echols "Phil" Jeffries | 88% | Lower WV |
| 2nd Place | Joe Hulver, Jr. | 60% | Rappahannock |
| 3rd Place | Reggie Snodgrass | 57% | Rockingham |

Most Dollars Donated by Clubs

| | | | |
|-----------|----------------------------------|---------|--------------|
| 1st Place | J.J. Bernard "Bernie" Lerch, III | \$5,895 | Potomac |
| 2nd Place | Joe Hulver, Jr. | \$5,450 | Rappahannock |
| 3rd Place | Pat Davis | \$5,150 | New River |

Highest Average Donation Per Member

| | | | |
|-----------|------------------------|---------|----------------|
| 1st Place | Echols "Phil" Jeffries | \$26.79 | Lower WV |
| 2nd Place | Mark Warren | \$22.16 | Middle America |
| 3rd Place | Patricia Davis | \$12.19 | New River |



Johnsonville Impacts Community



the annual Christmas party at which 2019 President Carole Davis proudly presented five gold awards from Ruritan National to the Committee Chairs: Public Service Larry Taylor; Social Development Candace Edwards; Environment Marion Kastern; Citizenship and Patriotism Tom Davis; and Business and Professions Mike Lancaster.

At the Christmas Parade, Ruritan members were proud

to ride on the patriotic float pulled by an antique 1954

Chevy pickup. The celebration continued with Christmas Carols around the tree at the annual Christmas Tree Lighting sponsored by the club. Santa Claus and Rudy Bear posed for pictures with the kids, young and old. The storyteller (Karen Cox), in a beautiful, regal red cloak, read "The Night Before Christmas" and the Christmas Story from the Bible while kids and parents ate cookies and drank hot chocolate. Then she chatted with the children and handed out gift bags.

Club member Larry Taylor, places flags on veterans graves at a local cemetery.

Johnsonville Ruritan Club continued to make an impact on its community as they delivered ten Thanksgiving baskets and eight Christmas baskets to their neighbors for the holidays; participated in Wreaths Across America; donated to the Marine Corp Toys for Tots; and supported SCARF (Serving, Caring and Restoring Faith). November found members putting flags on veterans' graves, setting up chairs, making desserts, and carrying out the many tasks it takes to hold the annual Veterans Day Memorial Service and lunch afterwards (pictured is guest speaker, retired US Navy Senior Chief Craig Hardy who has spent 13 years as a local firefighter at Spout Springs Emergency Services, with Ruritan member and Air Force veteran Louise Taylor). November guest speaker, Nancy Shoemaker from SCARF, told members about the charitable organization, its purpose, and how it is helping people in the community. This 501c3 distributes scarves to the needy and provides totes full of bath and kitchen items and other essentials for the homeless.

December was a month of celebration which started with



| CLUB GROWTH AWARDS | | | |
|--|----------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Club | % Growth | 2019 Club President | 2020 Club President |
| SMALL CLUBS (16 TO 35 MEMBERS ON JAN 1) | | | |
| Beulah (NC) | 200.00% | Billy Hazel | N/A |
| Ararat (VA) | 115.38% | Merlin Scales | Merlin Scales |
| Romney (WV) | 100.00% | Kenneth Paugh | Kenneth Paugh |
| Cherokee (KS) | 100.00% | Stefani Lynn | N/A |
| Lamar (TN) | 68.75% | Wade Cole | Stephanie Cole |
| MEDIUM CLUBS (36 TO 75 MEMBERS ON JAN 1) | | | |
| White Hall (VA) | 26.67% | Sandy Hodge | William Baer |
| Headsville Countryside (WV) | 25.58% | N/A | Walter Johnston |
| Landes (WV) | 20.34% | Melissa Earle | Donald McNemar |
| Johnsonville (MD) | 18.92% | Fern Hines | Richard Grossnickle |
| Brushy Mountain (NC) | 16.28% | Robert Laney | Debi Davis |
| LARGE CLUBS (OVER 76 MEMBERS ON JAN 1) | | | |
| South Norfolk (VA) | 10.37% | Rich Wethington | Robert McCreary |
| Behesda (NC) | 3.30% | Frankie Thompson | Frankie Thompson |
| Abingdon (VA) | 0.79% | Mary Lou Shepherd | James Leiffer |

Spartan District Pack Comfort Care Kits



Spartan District Assigned National Director Patsy Shelton lends a hand to help pack 100 Carolina Comfort Care Kits. The bags are being distributed to local agencies for kids entering into foster care. National Director Donna Pouton presented the bags to Generations Group Home Director Pat Milbanks.

Spartan and Columbia Districts had 30 people attend the 2020 National Convention in Kingsport. Pictured below are some of the attendees.

How many delegates will your district bring to Kentucky in 2021?



News From Ruritan: **Columbia District**

Sandy Run Donates to Samaritan's Purse

Sandy Run Ruritan Club members gather behind Samaritan's Purse donation boxes to be sent around the world for Christmas. Pictured (l-r) are Amber Hardee, Hailee Hardee, president Ginger Hardee, Kelly Sanders, Howard Pees, Sandra Pees, Gene Crim, John Nelson, Kay James, Andrew Price, Herbert Geiger, Jill Crim, Sheila Shanklin, Marshall Stabler, Lena Stabler, Becky Starnes, Dennis Shanklin,

Roger Hill, Amelia Price, Teresa Helms, Elizabeth Price, Peg Nelson, Gary Hardee, and Gary Geiger. Not pictured is photographer Gerald Starnes.

As a Christian charity, Samaritan's Purse shares the eternal hope and peace found only in Jesus with men, women, and children who are victims of war, poverty, disaster, disease, and famine. We work in more than 100 countries, addressing critical needs such as food, clean water, shelter, and medicine. We also help hurting people in the United States, including wounded U.S. soldiers and their spouses and homeowners devastated by natural disasters.

News From Ruritan: Columbia District continued

Gilbert Holds Turkey Shoot

Gilbert Ruritan Club held a turkey shoot. All members had a great time taking aim with the BB gun and firing their best shots at the turkey target. Pictured on the right (l-r) are



Charlie Long, Todd Long, Alice Boozer, and Raymond Boozer. A "sharp shooter shootout" determined Marc Sightler the winner and he took home the turkey. Todd Long of the Public Service Committee organized the event and presented a Thanksgiving program.



★ Fun Fact ★

We had **519** delegates at the **2013 National Convention in Kentucky.**

| COMMUNICATION AWARDS | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| 2019 DISTRICT NEWSLETTER AWARDS | |
| 1st | Davy Crockett |
| 2nd | Holland |
| 3rd | Woodrow Wilson |
| 2019 CLUB NEWSLETTER AWARDS | |
| 1st | Peak Creek (NC) |
| 2nd | Madison (VA) |
| 2019 DISTRICT WEBSITE AWARD | |
| 1st | Holland |



Pineview Ruritan Club hosted President's Night. Pictured are 2007 National President Jimmy Bristow, and 2020 National President Elect Glen Broadwater.



News From Ruritan: Lower West Virginia District



Williamsburg Holds Fundraising Activities

Williamsburg Ruritan Club has held fundraising events every month which included raffles, community fairs, shooting matches, and dinners. Other activities include the upkeep on cemeteries and the community building. Pictured in the front are Williamsburg Club Secretary Doyle Owens, Vice President Bill Zumpfe, President Jack Goodman, and Treasurer Rick Hedrick.

News From Ruritan: Lower West Virginia District



District Completes Service Project

Lower WV District held its district convention at the Dream Center in Beckley, WV. Attendees completed a community service project filling 200 blessing bags



(soap, washcloth, toothpaste, toothbrush, comb, and shampoo) and food donations to leave at the center for their food and clothing pantry. National Directors Ken Paugh and Larry Bowman installed 2020 District Governor Blaine Cecil and all 2020 district officers. Pictured above is National Director Larry Bowman installing wife Debra Bowman.

Sun Valley Celebrates 45th Anniversary

Sun Valley Ruritan Club celebrated its 45th Anniversary.

National Director Ken Paugh presented Club President Keith Porterfield with a certificate commemorating 45 years of community service. Also present were 2019 Lower WV District Governor Debra Bowman, and 2019 Lower WV Lt. District Governor Blaine Cecil. All attendees and guests enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by members and reminisced on all the activities that

helped make their community a better place. Pictured (l-r) are National Director Ken Paugh, Sun Valley Club President Keith Porterfield, Treasurer Michael Hight, Secretary Bill Skeat, Director Steven Johnston, Bowman, and Cecil.



News From Ruritan: Bluegrass District

Cropper Honors Veterans

Cropper Ruritan Club held its annual Veterans Day Luncheon. Eighteen area veterans and their guests attended the event. Cropper Ruritan Treasurer Gene Wiseman was bestowed the title of Kentucky Colonel by 58th District State

Representative and Cropper Ruritan member Rob Rothenburger. Maurice Clark, 87, of Smithfield, was presented with the book *Drennon Springs*. Ted Driver, 85, of Cropper, was presented with the book *Cropper Second Helping*. Attendees then had the distinct pleasure of a PowerPoint presentation by Suzanne Nelson. Veterans in attendance were Darrell Beckley, Roy Blackburn, Maurice Clark, Pat Copas, Richard Copas, Tommy Cox, Fred Driver, John Gerdling, James A. Hall, Jim Hormell, Leonard Kemper, Rebecca Kendall, Lonnie Masters, Larry Moore, George "Buddy" Wilson, Gene Wiseman, Gene Witt, and Richard Yeary.



← **Pembroke Ruritan Club!**



News From Ruritan: Tennessean District



McPheeters Bend Holds Turkey Shoot

McPheeters Bend Ruritan Club held its annual Turkey Shoot and a 22 Henry Golden Boy Shotgun was up for raffle. 750 tickets were sold. Chris Housewright (center) was the winner of the gun.



Volunteer Brings Holiday Cheer

Volunteer Ruritan Club celebrated the holidays by giving away desserts during the club's December fish fry. Flyers promoting Ruritan and candy were given out during the Mount Carmel Christmas Parade.



News From Ruritan: Cherokee District



Cherokee District Names John Bearlepp Jr. as Ruritan of the Year

Cherokee District presented Ballplay's Ruritan Club member John Bearlepp Jr. with the Ruritan of the Year Award for his work in making Ballplay a better place to live and work.



Don't forget to order your Ruritan Duffle Bag. Promote Ruritan while you are traveling!

\$30

www.shumskyideas.com/ruritan

Need help ordering?

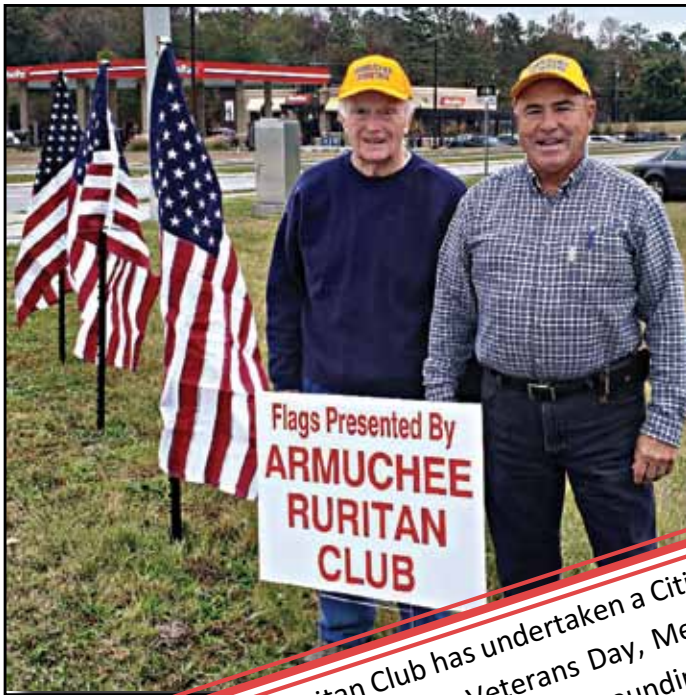
Call YOUR National Office 877-787-8727



Spring Place Donates to Pre-K

Spring Place Ruritan Club collected money at its December meeting for the Murray County Pre-K Program. They also collected items to be used as bingo prizes for the Murray County Senior Center. Spring Place Ruritan Club President Chuck Smith is pictured with his granddaughter Cathryn Gladwin.

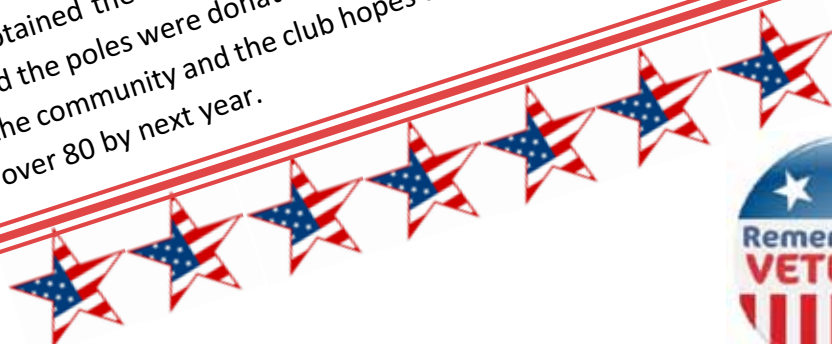
Did you know that most Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Programs have Bingo games? Your club can donate items to their games. Residents love non-skid socks, blankets, and holiday window decals.



Armuchee Organizes Patriotic Flag Display



The Armuchee Ruritan Club has undertaken a Citizenship and Patriotism Project that involves the display of American flags on Veterans Day, Memorial Day and the Fourth of July. The displays were first unveiled during the week surrounding Veterans Day 2019 and were located in front of cooperating businesses along US Highway 27, which runs directly through the Armuchee Committee. The club obtained the 3x5 nylon flags with embroidered stars at a deep discount from Harbor Freight and the poles were donated by a local Home Depot store. The displays were very well received by the community and the club hopes to expand the number of flags displayed from the initial 40 to over 80 by next year.



Laker Donates \$1,000 to School



Laker Ruritan Club presented \$1,000 to Pymatuning Valley School District's 4th grade teacher, Mrs. Miller. The money was to be used toward the purchase of a cart and 30 Apple Chromebooks for her classroom. Mrs. Miller said that she would be sharing the computers with another 4th grade teacher in her building.



Smithville Presents Scholarships

Smithville Ruritan Club presented academic scholarships totaling \$2,000 at its Christmas Dinner Meeting. Pictured (l-r) are Scholarship Chair Phil Gresser, Jarret Richard attending Mt. Union University with Ruritan Maynard Yoh Award, Lauryn Thut attending Walsh University with Ruritan BY\$ Award, and Carly Rowland attending Lake Erie College with Ruritan Award. Not pictured is Joel Shoup who is attending Ohio State University with Ruritan Feusier Award.

Chesterfield Presents Awards

Chesterfield Ruritan Clubs 2019 Vice President Mike Casey is shown presenting Shandy Gossett with the club's Ruritan of the Year Award. Charles Duckworth received a Ruritan Forever. Charles will celebrate his 50th Anniversary as a Ruritan in February 2020 and has maintained perfect attendance. Pictured (l-r) are daughters with Charles and wife, Margaret.



Leslie Gentry Receives Golden Key Award

2000 Ruritan National President Jim LaFollette presented Leslie Gentry of the **Deep Gap** Ruritan Club with a Golden Key Award for bringing 10 members into Ruritan. Members were recognized for having perfect attendance:

Cindy Farthing, 1 year; Jimmy Hodges, 5 years; Wayne and Elaine Davis, 10 years; Les and Loretta Gentry, 19 years; Stewart Rhymer, 18 years; Joyce Rhymer, 19 years; Steve Idol, 20 years;

and Joan and Johnny Hampton, 21 years. Emily Baldwin, Bella Brooks, and Molly Baldwin received flag pins, and Billie Rodgers received her past president's pin.



Western North Carolina District is Making a Difference

Permission to reprint given by Sherri Norris.

Three High Country Ruritan clubs were among 65 community groups recently recognized at the WNC Communities 70th annual WNC Honors Awards Program at the Doubletree by Hilton Biltmore-Asheville in Asheville.

According to Terri Wells, Director of Community and Agricultural Programs for WNC Communities, the awards program is built on a 70-year tradition of recognizing rural community development clubs for their innovative ideas and grassroots solutions.

"These centers and clubs are the backbone running through our beloved mountains," she said, adding that 250 community leaders from 13 Western North Carolina Counties and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians attended the November 2 awards luncheon.

"The 65 communities participating in this year's program made a \$6 million investment of time, talent, money and effort in our Western North Carolina Communities," Wells explained. "Their fundraising efforts brought in \$950,000 with more than 5,500 volunteers investing an impressive 195,500 hours of their time in outreach programs dedicated to conservation, education, beautification, health, wellness, and economic development."

Deep Gap Ruritan Club of Watauga County and The **Peak Creek** Ruritan Club of Ashe County were recognized in the category of "Engaged Communities" — involved in numerous programs impacting their residents — and each received a cash award of \$500.

"Members of the Deep Gap Ruritan Club attended this year's WNC Honors Awards, and were recognized for their achievements," Wells said. "The club cleared more than \$11,000 on their prime rib steak dinner and raffle this year. That money is distributed throughout the year to individuals and families in need, to local organizations who support those in need, and to provide scholarships for deserving students. One of the main goals of Ruritan is to provide service to the local community."

She further explained, "Ruritan service projects are divided into five areas: Environment, Business, Citizenship, Social Development, and Public Service. Deep Gap members donated 4,634 hours of

their time, and the club donated \$17,660 to help enhance the quality of life in their community. Deep Gap partners with other organizations in the community to provide food, financial help, and support of those who need a helping hand."

Peak Creek Ruritan continues "careful building maintenance," Wells noted. "They own and use the Laurel Springs Community building as their clubhouse; it is also the main asset to the entire eastern part of Ashe county for a variety of uses, such as wedding receptions, anniversary celebrations, government agency meetings, voting, and fundraisers held by other groups. The pancake breakfast and indoor yard sale continues to be their biggest fundraiser, and it allows them to fund freshman scholarships. If the student chooses to attend a college which is a 'partner' with the national Ruritan Foundation, then the college and the Ruritan Foundation match the



award given by the club. Fifty percent of the Club's scholarship winners indicate that they plan to return to their area to work after graduation and serve their community."

Foscoe Ruritan Club was honored as one of the "Participating Communities" and received a cash award of \$250 for its successful projects implemented during the past year. Those include its annual Home Grown Music Festival, its most successful fundraiser, and the club's support of Valle Crucis Elementary School, the Civil Air Patrol, Junior ROTC, the Foscoe Fire Department, two scholarships and medical assistance to community members.

A total of \$37,500 was awarded to the 65 community centers and clubs participating in the 2019 WNC Honors Awards, thanks to the generous sponsorships from the following: Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort, Harrah's Valley River Casino & Hotel, Biltmore Farms, Inc., Duke Energy, The McClure Fund, First Citizens Bank, Buncombe County Farm Bureau, Carolina Farm Credit and Wells Fargo.

Representing **Deep Gap** Ruritan Club during the 70th annual awards ceremony of Asheville based Western North Carolina Communities are (l-r) Jeff Brooks, Bencita Brooks, Gretchen Baldwin, and Cliff Balwin. On the right is Harrah's representative Leeann Bridges.

Burrsville Celebrates 60th Anniversary



Burrsville Ruritan Club celebrated its 60th anniversary. 2019 National President Larry Cassell and Past National Director Robin Davenport were in attendance. Charter Member Frank D. Bradley (60 years) was presented with a personalized Ruritan coat by his son Frank D. Bradley Jr.

Delaware State Senator Dave Lawson presented Bradley and wife Norma Jean with a State of Delaware Senate Tribute for their 60 years of outstanding service to the communities. Pictured (l-r) are Tammy Bradley, 2019 Burrsville Club President Frank D. Bradley Jr., Senator Lawson, Frank D. Bradley, and

Norma Jean Bradley. Lawson also presented the club a State Senate Tribute for its 60 years of service to the communities. Frank D. Bradley Jr, 2019 Club President / 2020 District Lt. Governor accepts the tribute on behalf of the club.

Dorchester Donates to Animal Shelter

Dorchester Ruritan Club donated to Baywater Animal Rescue, a non-profit shelter. Pictured (l-r) are Elena Gowe, 2019 Dorchester Club Treasurer Robert Carey, Vice President Jack Seabrease, and Secretary Leon Peters.

Kenton Receives Gold Awards

2019 Delmarva New Jersey District Governor Dave Brown Jr. and Past National Director Robin Davenport presented two gold community service awards and one silver to 2019 **Kenton** Ruritan Club President Earl Collins.

Pungoteague Delivers Food



Pungoteague Ruritan Club delivered food to needy residents on Virginia's Eastern Shore as part of the Bank of Cheer Project sponsored by a local newspaper. Pictured from left are John Denton, Ed Lampman, and George Rams with Pastor Rob Kelly.



News From Ruritan: Delmarva New Jersey District continued

Hartly Builds Ramps

Mike Ehst, a citizen of Hartly, suffered an accident while cutting down a tree leaving him permanently wheel-chair bound. The **Hartly** Ruritan Club installed a portable metal handicap ramp for him.



The club installed a flag pole at the town's main intersection and held a flag-raising ceremony. In attendance was State Senator Dave Lawson, 11th District Representative Jeff Spiegelman, Hartly Town Mayor Mark McGuire, and local veterans. Pictured is Hartly Club member June Myers who was given the honor of raising the flag for her donation of the flag pole and flag. She was assisted by club members Chuck Archer and Kyle Virdin.

News From Ruritan: Piedmont District

Sandy Ridge Honors Veterans



Sandy Ridge Ruritan Club hosted its 12th annual Veterans Appreciation Meal and program at the American Legion Post #140 building. The Sandy Ridge Girl Scout Troop #2072, Boy Scout Troop #465, and Cub Scout Pack # 465 presented the colors, helped serve the meal, and held a US Flag Retirement Ceremony. The Ruritan Club presented

an "Honor and Remember" Flag to the American Legion and presented two U.S. Flags flown over the Capital on Patriot's Day to two veterans. Guest Speaker for the event was NC Representative Kyle Hall. The Girl Scouts presented a gift to each veteran present.



Francisco Honors Charter Members

During the **Francisco** Ruritan Club's annual family night celebration dinner, the club honored Charter members Jim Collins, Alcury Nunn, and Pete George for their continued service. Alcury also received recognition for his perfect attendance for 52 years. Pictured with the Charter members is Norma Alcury.

**Don't forget to check out
our Ruritan and St. Jude
website!**

<http://events.stjude.org/ruritannational>



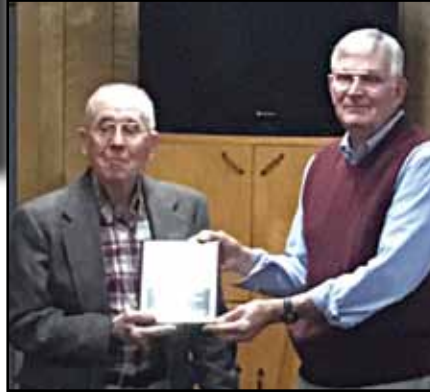
*"No child should die in the dawn of life."
-Danny Thomas, Founder St. Jude*



Henry Vernon Collects *Tabs for Tina*

Henry Vernon's mother collected "tabs" for the Ronald McDonald House in Winston Salem and Durham. Before she passed away this young man has continued his mother's work collecting "Tabs for Tina" and is trying to get other clubs to collect them as well. The **Semora** Ruritan Club donated toward this cause.

V-Point Donates to School Lunch



V-Point Ruritan Club President Priscilla Holmes presented Harmony School Cafeteria Manager Jamie Davenport with a donation for unpaid lunches. Club member Ronnie Williams presented Jimmie Holland with the club's Ruritan of the Year Award.



Southern Caswell Delivers Fruit Baskets



Southern Caswell Ruritan Club assembled and delivered 95 fruit baskets to widows, the sick, and the elderly members of the community.

*Purchase the new Campfire Mugs
for your club's guest speaker gift.
\$4.50 each*



www.shumskyideas.com/ruritan

Summer Magazine

Deadline

May 1, 2020

**Send all club news to:
Crystal at media@ruritan.org**



Care Bags Packed at District Convention



Seventy two bags for Foster Care Children throughout Halifax, Pittsylvania, Henry, and Patrick Counties were packed during the **Dan River District Convention**. Bags included a personalized inspirational note, a Rudy Bear, toothbrush and paste, and a notepad and pen. The live auction was a huge success enabling the district to purchase 23 more Rudy Bears to pack additional bags. Rex Rowland Sr. received the Tom Downing Fellow from 2019 Foundation President Corky Camin. Rex has been a member of Hurt-Motley Ruritan for the past 35 years. Pictured are Leth Hairston, Philip Plaster, and Leon Griffith who came together once again singing in harmony and reminiscing about the good old days.



Dan River Community and Rangeley Present Awards



National Director Melody Davis presented Robert Smart the **Dan River Community** Ruritan Club's 2019 Ruritan of the Year Award and Charles Hazelwood a Tom Downing Fellow Award at the club's Christmas dinner. Davis installed club officers. Pictured (l-r) are Davis, Director Kennerly Elliott, Director Charles Hazelwood, Director Bill Childrey, Secretary/Treasurer Wallace Stevens, Vice President Henry Terry, and President Ira Ingram.



Rangeley Ruritan Club member Fay Moore (pictured on the right) was presented with the club's Ruritan of the Year Award by



Club President Jim McMillan. McMillan is also shown with Destiny Blevins (left). She is the first Ruritan Youth member of the club. Blevins was brought into the club by her grandparents Phillip Earles and Nina Hylton.



Please visit <http://events.stjude.org/ruritannational> to make your donation.

Aaron's Creek and Patrick Springs Present Awards and Honor Veterans



Aaron's Creek Ruritan Club presented Trevor Long with the Dan River District and Club's Ruri-Teen of the Year Award. Ruby Wade received the district and club's Ruritan of the Year Award. On November 7th, the club held its Annual Veterans Day Program. Pictured in the front is Herbert

Brown. Pictured



(l-r) are Lawrence Nunn, Teddy Bane,

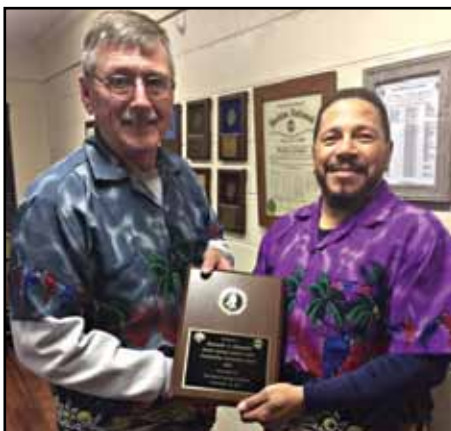
Wayne Gravitt,

Michael Davis, Francis Arrington, Andy Bryant, Don Marx, and Seamus Bryant.



Patrick Springs

Ruritan Club honored veterans (l-r) Philip Plaster, Wilbur Walker, Ronnie Mabe, and Bob Pendleton.



Patrick Springs Club President David Clement presented Vice President Kenneth Reynolds with an Outstanding Citizenship Award Plaque.



Patrick Springs celebrated its 65th anniversary. Charlie Bowman is shown presenting 50-year member Philip Plaster with a Tom Downing Fellow during the event.

Working Together is Success!

New River District Spreads Holiday Cheer



Pembroke Ruritan Club held its end-of-year meeting with a pot luck and a visit from Santa.



Wytheville Ruritan represented the organization during the holidays by participating in the Wytheville's Christmas Parade. Pictured above are Club Treasurer Ruby Cassell and Vice President Susan Lilly.



Mr. and Mrs. Claus visited the **Ruritan Road's** Christmas Event at Reynold's Pizzeria in Dublin. Children were able to make their own pizza during their visit. National Director Carroll Lowe and spouse Sandra were on-hand for the festive event.

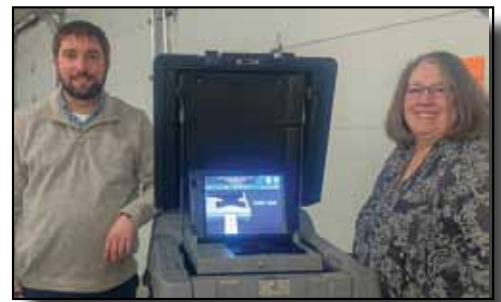


News From Ruritan: Davy Crockett District

Camp Creek Trains on Voting Machines



Camp Creek Ruritan Club hosted the Greene County Election Commission for a training session on the new voting machines. Justin Reaves and Donna Burgner with the election commission



commission were on-hand to guide the voters and answer questions. Club members were present to share information about the club and future events the club has planned. Pictured are Justin Reaves and Donna Burgner.

A benefit breakfast fundraiser was held with proceeds going to the Camp Creek Volunteer Fire Department. A \$700 check was presented to Camp Creek Fire Department Chief Jeff Wilburn and Assistant Chiefs Robert Lee Johnson and Bradley Johnson.

Mt. Pleasant Ruritan Club's new officers are (l-r) Bonnie Hartman (president), Adam Hamer (vice president), Amy Harrison (secretary), Connie Click (treasurer), William Grubb (director), Jimmy Townsend (director) and Howard Whaley (54 year charter member) who installed the officers. Not pictured-Shirley Yehl (director).



News From Ruritan: Smoky Mountain District



Little Marlei Chandler is shown riding with Santa and Mrs. Claus in the Gibbs Ruritan Club's annual Christmas parade.



Highland Park Ruritan Club delivered dictionaries to the 3rd graders at Highland Park Elementary School. Club members Vonnie Myers, Walt and Nancy Cook, and Judy Fleming presented the dictionaries to the ecstatic students of the school. The club has been presenting these dictionaries for many years.



Quote by
Howard Zinn



Middle America District Clubs Staying Strong



2019 National President Larry Cassell and Mark Warren presented **Cherokee** Club member Stefanie Lynn the 2019 Middle America District Growth Award on behalf of her club.



Club members Wilma Graham, Marietta Hixon, Jackie Hall, and Gary Hall prepared a fund-raising breakfast for the **Redfield** community to help purchase supplies for renovation of a church in Redfield.



Pictured are George Warren, 97-year-old World War II Veteran and **Uniontown** Club member who carried the American Flag, and Dale Prothe, National Guard and Army Veteran and **Block Community** Ruritan Club Treasurer who carried the Kansas Flag during the 2019 District Convention Flag Ceremony.



Moran Club members Laura Johnson, Ty Johnson, Kay Lewis, Ann Houk, Chris Weston, Corliss Lynes, Alison Weston, and President Jeff Johnson sold bake goods, held a raffle, and offered free club membership for the first year to Moran residents who stopped by their booth at the annual Moran Days Celebration.

Richmond Club members surround Charter member Nancy Kimball after she is presented with a 2019 Tom Downing Fellow.





Middle America District Governor Mark Warren, and 2019 National President Larry Cas-sell presented **Elsmore** Club

member and 2020 District Secretary Clara Cunningham and District Treasurer Hellen Welch with a Tom Downing Fellow during the District Convention.



Former Ruritan National Employee Ellen Robinett received checks from Middle America District for medical expenses. Pictured (r-l) are Spring Hill Club President Grant Ewing, Warren, **Spring Hill** Club Vice President Ryan Jeffries, Ellen Robinett, daughter Emi, and husband Doug.



Redfield Club members Hellen Welch, Gary Fewins, Alice Bolin, Eddie Henderson, Karleigh and Marlee Westhoff is shown working the Kansas Food Bank. The food bank distributes 600-900 pounds of food each month.

Fun Facts on Middle America

Middle America District has 12 clubs and 234 members.

Middle America hosted two open houses to assist clubs with less than 16 members.

They sent out fliers in the utility bills. District Governor Mark Warren worked with the local government to get the fliers into the utility bills. The flier offered a free meal and Mark used a power point presentation to inform the attendees about Ruritan.

One of the clubs invited and installed 12 new members as a result and now the club is above 16 members.

The second club was also able to invite and install three new members as a result of the meeting. They are now targeting other clubs below 16 members to do the same.

One of the community meetings also identified another community for a potential new club. They are scheduling an information meeting in this community.

The district is currently designing and placing a billboard and erecting signs in the district to promote recognition of Ruritan in the district.



Dick Harris Receives Tom Downing Fellow



A Tom Downing Fellow was presented to Dick Harris at the Rapidan District Convention. Dick joined the **Belmont** Ruritan Club in 1953 and has been an active member. In the 66 consecutive years as a valued club member, he has held all offices as well as Zone Governor. He has been happily married to Shirley for 51 years. In addition, Dick is an author of a book titled "Dick's Story", which portrays his life in Central Virginia during the Depression years. Dick is a machinist by trade and still operates and maintains a local machine shop in Mineral, VA.

The original cornerstone for the Belmont Community Center was placed in 1919. The club participated in the removal and replacement of all of the exterior decking and rails of the "historic" Belmont Community Center. The project took almost 400 man-hours to complete and only cost around \$2,300 in material.

Belmont Ruritan Club and the Belmont Club of

Women hosted a dedication luncheon and ceremony on Saturday October 12th in honor of Dr. John Skelly, who recently passed away. A Willow Oak tree with a dedication footstone was

planted on the grounds of the Belmont Community Center to honor his many contributions and dedication to helping his community. Dr. Skelly was a long-time member of the club. He retired in 2004 as a professor emeritus plant pathology and physiology from Penn State University. His favorite tree was the Willow Oak.



Western Yell County Donates to Operation Christmas Child

Western Yell County Ruri-Teen Club purchased Christmas gifts for the Samaritan's Purse "Operation Christmas Child" Program. This is a program that ships boxes outside the U.S. to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, or disease. Club members have spent hours helping teachers, grading papers, tutoring students, as well as other classroom tasks. They have logged 30 hours of community service as a group with individuals serving at the nursing home, animal shelters, concession stands, and foster homes. The club plans to help the school create a commons area for student use, plan a community Christmas tree lighting at the city park, place wreaths on Veterans' graves with the "Wreaths across America" program, organize a faculty vs seniors basketball game, and give a \$300 scholarship to a senior using proceeds from the basketball game. Pictured is Club member Kelsey Maxon working with the "Operation Christmas Child" project.



Do you want to be a Ruritan Forever?



The Ruritan Forever program was adopted by the Board of Directors in 2001. The first Ruritan Forever was John Tyler who many Ruritan members consider the creator of the program. John was inspired to create a plan that would pay current dues for living members and create an endowment to continue to fund Ruritan initiatives even after the member died. Working with his committee and the Board of Directors and Staff John did just that. John believed in the program so much he became the first Ruritan Forever.

The program is not just your run of the mill "life membership" but continues even after the member is deceased. In that way it perpetuates Ruritan and its ideas and values. It enhances Ruritans financial future by providing income forever. It honors members for meritorious service and aids in retention of Ruritan membership.



Annually Ruritan loses more than 400 members to death. The endowment from Ruritan Forever membership continues to fund Ruritan work if they are a Ruritan Forever. Once a member dies the income from the endowment becomes non dues revenue. So, not only does it benefit a Ruritan member to become a Ruritan Forever because they no longer have to pay national dues, but it also benefits all Ruritan members. This is true because when we generate larger amounts of non-dues revenue it extends the time between dues increases.

While it is a great honor to receive a Ruritan Forever for outstanding achievement or meritorious service, anyone can become a Ruritan Forever. Some of the benefits include:

- The member will never be assessed national dues no matter how long they are a member
- The member will not be impacted by any future dues increases
- When the member dies their endowment will continue to fund Ruritan initiatives

Two recent Ruritan Forever participants are shown above. Carlton Snapp was a member of the **Shawquon** Ruritan Club in Stephens City VA for over 54 years as was Roy McDonald. Both of these Ruritan members served their communities for 54 years or more and will now continue to serve Ruritan through the Ruritan Forever Endowment.

The cost of a Ruritan Forever is \$600. Payment plans are available. See the next page for an application. For more information contact your district leadership, assigned national director, or the staff at Ruritan National.



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.

Ruritan Paver Program for Capital Improvement

The Ruritan Paver Patio is a beautiful place to remember loved ones and honor special Ruritans. The funds raised with this program will be used for capital reserves and to make improvements to the building. Complete this form and send in with your payment to Ruritan National, P.O. Box 487, Dublin VA 24084

Check here for
this option: ☐

4 x 8 Brick, three lines of type - only 20 characters or spaces per line \$100

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Check here for
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8 x 8 Brick, 6 lines of type - only 20 characters or spaces per line \$200

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Check here for
this option: ☐

8 x 8 Brick, three lines - 20 characters or spaces per line PLUS Ruritan Emblem \$210

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Check here for
this option: ☐

I would like a tile coaster replica as a remembrance for \$25

Total enclosed for this brick: \$ _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Card # _____ Expiration Date: _____

Code on reverse: _____ Signature: _____

This is a gift, please send an acknowledgement to:

Name and address: _____

Ruritan Staff Notes: Date received _____; Acknowledgment sent _____

Let's Take a Tour of the MMS Member Page

Are you using the Member Management System (MMS)? Have you explored all the parts of your member page? If not, maybe you'd like a tour! No matter what level of Ruritan leadership you are,

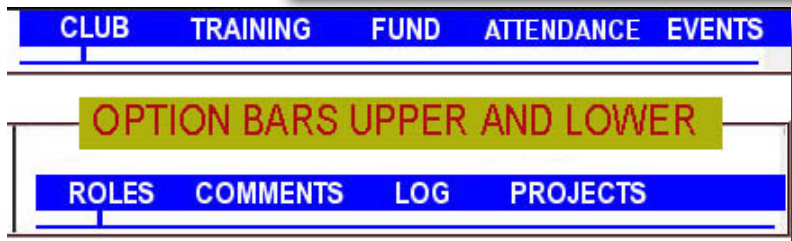


you can always get to your personal information quickly by clicking the "my record" icon on your home page.

Once you are there – you can see your name/address/phone/email etc. on the left side of the page. Is there an error? Make the change and click "update" at the bottom to fix any problems. You will see an option at the lower left for Publications?

Yes or no? If you live with other Ruritan members (spouse, kids etc.) you may not all need to get the Ruritan magazine and other mailings. One per household may be enough. If so, turn the option for publications to "no" for all but one member of the household. Then be sure and click "update." Done!

Spouse Name:
 Member Type:
 Military Status:
 Military Branch:
 Date of Birth: [SEL](#)
 Deceased Date: [SEL](#)
 Receive Publications: [SEL](#)



Now let's look at the right side of the member information page. There are two blue option bars (one at the top and one midway down the right side.)

At the top you can choose to see your club(s), what training you have taken, your attendance stats (provided your club secretary is using the MMS to log attendance) and your registrations for national events (conventions etc.). *NOTE: The options under "Fund" are currently still in development.

In the bottom option bar you can see what roles you have held – offices at the club, zone, district, and national levels. You may also have comments noted on your page – especially if the staff has made a change that might need to be tracked. The log shows every action you have made on the MMS – as well as actions taken that affect your membership. For example, if you have been designated as an officer – the date and time you were assigned that role will be noted. Finally, you have a projects tab on the lower options bar. If a club is using this part of the MMS – your hours spent on a given project are listed here. From this option – new projects can be added, time can be added to existing projects, and a complete list of club projects can be added. Remember that any text with an underline is a link to more information.

NOTE: A complete list of project hours for the entire club can also be accessed using the "Club Project Hours" on the club's home page.

| Club | Committee | Project | Hours | Date |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------|--|
| Ruritan Road Ruritan Club LLC | Public Services | Blood Drive | 8 | 07/25/2018 U D |
| Ruritan Road Ruritan Club LLC | Business and Professions | Bingo | 8 | 07/02/2018 U D |
| TOTAL HOURS | | | 16 | |

1597 - Ruritan Road Ruritan Club LLC
 District - 34 - New River
 Zone- 1
 Club Type - Regular
 STATUS-ACTIVE
 Charter Year -1987
 403 N Jefferson St.
 Pulaski VA, 24301
[CLICK HERE FOR MAP](#)

Club Member Count - 48
 Involvement Level Counts
 Associate 27
 Full 21
[SEND E-MAIL TO CLUB MEMBERS](#)
[DISPLAY ALL CLUB MEMBER E-MAIL ADDRESSES](#)

Club Officers
 Club President: [Diana Lawson](#)
 Club Vice President: [Dorene Johnston](#)
 Club Treasurer: [Michael Christley](#)
 Club Secretary: [Christy Pugh](#)
 Second Treasurer: [Craig White](#)

[DISBAND CLUB](#)
[VIEW INVOICES](#)
[CLUB ROSTER](#)
[CLUB ROSTER BY DATE](#)
[CLUB PROJECT HOURS](#)
[CLUB MEMBER UPDATE LOG](#)

Member Number
 122074

WANTED: WINNING RURITAN RECRUITERS

FOURTH QUARTER 2019



WINNER MICHAEL NOONKESTER
OF THE ARARAT CLUB IN THE
DAN RIVER DISTRICT



WINNER BOYD BROWN
OF THE FRANKFORD
CLUB IN
LOWER WEST VIRGINIA



WINNER KATHY OLINGER
OF THE HOLSTON CLUB IN
THE TENNESSEAN DISTRICT

BRING IN NEW MEMBERS FOR CHANCES AT RURITAN FOREVER (LIFETIME) MEMBERSHIPS

More members means extra chances. Get five extra chances for every new member between the ages of 35 and 55!