



# Ruritan

Volume 87, Summer 2022

Get to Know Our  
New Executive Director  
**Sarah Kelly**

Our National President  
Shares Some  
**EXCITING NEWS!**

**We Want You!**  
for a Great  
**OPPORTUNITY!**

Join us for the  
**2023 Ruritan National  
Convention**  
**Kingsport TN**  
**January 18 - 22**

See Inside for Details

the **JOY** of giving back!  
Clubs show spirit of **Fellowship,**  
**Goodwill and Community**  
**Service**





# Ruritan

Volume 87, Summer 2022

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### Executive Committee

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David Thompson - Dinwiddie, VA

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2020-21 National President  
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Executive Director  
Sarah Kelly - Dublin, VA

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David B. Hartgrove - Gate City, VA  
Larry Bowman - Lewisburg, WV  
Patsy Shelton - Greeneville, TN  
Roy E. Wallen - Lenoir City, TN  
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George Brothers - Durham, NC  
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Lynn Fillers - Greeneville, TN  
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Zachary McCallie - Lenoir City, TN  
Perry Marshman - Unionville, VA  
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## 2022 National President Glen Broadwater



**AS** Linda and I have been visiting cubs and districts throughout Ruritanland, we find there is new excitement in the air. Our clubs and members are coming together with a new vigor – to meet, fellowship, serve and plan for the future of Ruritan. This excitement is attracting new members and opening the way for new clubs.

I am happy to report that we have two new Ruri-Teen clubs chartered, and two new adult clubs chartered. Please join me in welcoming the **Generations Ruri-Teen Club** (Spartan District), the **Ketron Ruri-teen Club** (Tennessean District), the **Troutman Ruritan Club** (Piedmont District), and the **Hanging Rock Ruritan Club** (Upper West Virginia District) into the Ruritan family. I am also happy to report that there are others on the horizon, including new clubs in Tennessee, Nebraska, and two in Southwest Virginia. What an exciting time to be a part of Ruritan!

My hope and goal is to build and develop this excitement. Just like any company, we must put in the effort to help the business grow. My challenge to you would be to come together and tap into our new-found excitement, explore fresh ideas, and pursue our new vision to “Create Thriving Communities Across America.” I believe that we, as a team, are up for the challenge. What we do together can make a difference.

### Our Destiny and Future is up to us . . .

When you change your **THINKING**  
You change your **BELIEFS**  
When you change your **BELIEFS**  
You change your **EXPECTATIONS**  
When you change your **EXPECTATIONS**  
You change your **ATTITUDE**  
When you change your **ATTITUDE**  
You change your **BEHAVIOR**  
When you change your **BEHAVIOR**  
You change your **PERFORMANCE**  
When you change your **PERFORMANCE**  
You change **RURITAN**

**Together as a Team we will Succeed.**

Magazine of and published by Ruritan National, Vol. 87, Ruritan (ISSN: 0036-0147) is published four times a year. Ruritan National is a non-profit, incorporated association of Ruritan Clubs in the United States of America. Ruritan National assumes no responsibility for opinions expressed by authors of articles or claims by advertisers. Subscription price for one year is \$8. Single issues are \$2 each.

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

## Executive Director Sarah Kelly

**H**ello! My name is Sarah, and I am proud to be a Ruritan! I hope you can hear my enthusiasm. You took me in when I moved to Virginia in 2003 and gave me a place to belong. I was born and raised in Minnesota and went to college in Nebraska where I was a trombone performance major– Go Huskers! When I realized that I probably didn't have a gig with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in my future, I added an emphasis in business and finance, and I fell in love with numbers. I have worked in the fields of banking, lending, investments, and insurance. All of which have given me the skills to manage the business of Ruritan. I am humbled and honored that your National Board chose me to serve as your next Executive Director. I am proud to be one of you.



The board recently approved a new Vision Statement for Ruritan - "To Create Thriving Communities Across America." To me, it connotes that we will also thrive. I see it in the club news that has been shared in this magazine. I see it in the clubs that are reaching out and partnering with other clubs and organizations to fulfill the needs of their communities. I see it in the clubs that are rejuvenating themselves by looking at new projects, holding different events, and sharing ideas across the aisle.

I would argue that everything we do should be done with our members in mind, because we can only accomplish "Creating Thriving Communities Across America" with them. We should always be looking for ways to improve a member's experience, expand our membership in existing clubs, and expand our footprint by opening new clubs. President Glen's goal for 2022 is for each district and area to open four new clubs. We should always be intentional in looking forward to, and be open to, new ways to accomplish this. And using the word "we," I mean all of us – every single Ruritan. Our success starts with you.

I am not only proud to be a Ruritan, I love Ruritan and see a bright future. My commitment is to serve you with honesty and integrity and to guide you with facts, reality, and reason. I am a servant leader – I am here to empower you and help you learn, grow, and be fulfilled. I have served Ruritan as a club leader, district leader, and National Director, and I am looking forward to working with you as your Executive Director. Thank you for all you do for our incredible organization.





# Visit KINGSPORT™ TENNESSEE

## WELCOMES RURITAN NATIONAL 2023

### *Pal's Sudden Service*

Pal's Sudden Service is one of America's leading quick-service restaurant chains. Incredible food, lightning-fast drive thrus, and personalized service are what make a visit to a Pal's a one-of-a-kind experience.

### *Kingsport Carousel*

The Kingsport Carousel is a totally renovated 1956 Allen Herschell Carousel located inside the temperature controlled "Pal's Roundhouse" at 350 Clinchfield Street Kingsport, TN (at the corner of E. Center Street & Clinchfield Street in Downtown Kingsport).

### *Bays Mountain Park*

The Park features a picturesque 44 acre lake, hiking trails, a Nature Center with a state-of-the-art Planetarium Theater, and Animal Habitats featuring wolves, bobcats, raptors and reptiles.



**CONTACT US**  
[www.visitkingsport.com](http://www.visitkingsport.com)  
(423)392-8821



## Opening Ceremonies Keynote Speaker - Ricky Davis



Mr. Ricky Davis began his honorable service in the United States Army, serving in combat, security force advisory, and intelligence positions. His 27 years of worldwide experience in support of national and strategic security objectives allowed him to work and collaborate with some of the most talented leaders in the world, retiring from active duty as a Command Sergeant Major.

Ricky holds a master's degree in Business and Organizational Security Management, George Herbert Walker School for Business, Webster University, St. Louis, and a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice/Protective Services, Excelsior College, Albany, New York. Ricky also maintains the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Designation.

Ricky is the Founder and President of RICE Security and Consulting in Fayetteville, NC. His organization provides national physical and cybersecurity mitigation strategies as part of the Enterprise Security Risk Management (ESRM) methodology and ISO 31000 Risk Management Standards.

Ricky's professional affiliations include the International Association of Professional Security Consultants, Regional

Vice President (Region 4B) ASIS International, The National Institute of Crime Prevention (NICP), and the International Organization of Black Security Executives (IOBSE) serving on the Board of Directors and Professional Education Committee.

*Ricky's theme for our keynote address will be "Thank You For Your Service".  
Ricky will share thought provoking experiences from his life through friendship, faith,  
and service to motivate and inspire.*

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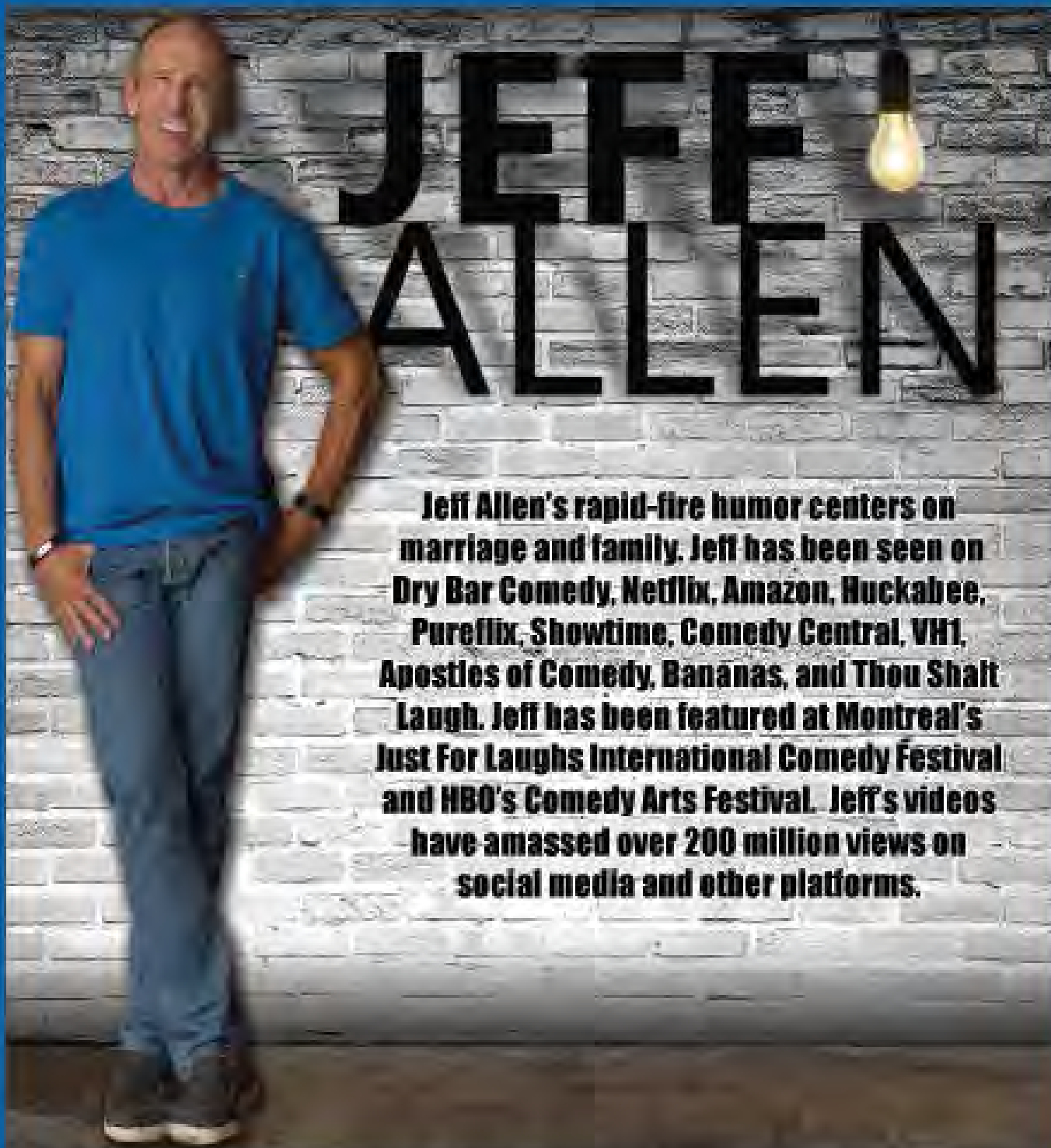
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## Get ready for an Amazing fun show that includes Amazing Sleight of Hand, Squeaky – Clean Humor, and Audience Interaction during the First Lady's Fellowship Luncheon.



Joseph Young is an Internationally Acclaimed Nine-Time Award-Winning Entertainer from Big Stone Gap, Virginia who is one of the most popular magicians in America performing all over the United States from Las Vegas to Pigeon Forge. Some of his career highlights include winning the 2011 International Battle of Magicians and being named the 2004 Houdini Rising Star of Magic.

He has shared his talents throughout the United States for 25 years. Joseph performs over 120 events annually specializing in shows for corporate, family, school, churches, and non-profit organizations.



**Jeff Allen's rapid-fire humor centers on marriage and family. Jeff has been seen on Dry Bar Comedy, Netflix, Amazon, Huckabee, Pureflix, Showtime, Comedy Central, VH1, Apostles of Comedy, Bananas, and Thou Shalt Laugh. Jeff has been featured at Montreal's Just For Laughs International Comedy Festival and HBO's Comedy Arts Festival. Jeff's videos have amassed over 200 million views on social media and other platforms.**

**"Jeff Allen is one of the funniest, most inspirational, clean corporate comedians."**

## **2023 Kingsport Banquet Entertainment**

**"I'm EXCITED to be able to perform for great people like Ruritans," said Allen.**

**[JeffAllenComedy.com](http://JeffAllenComedy.com)**



## Check Out These Great OPPORTUNITIES!

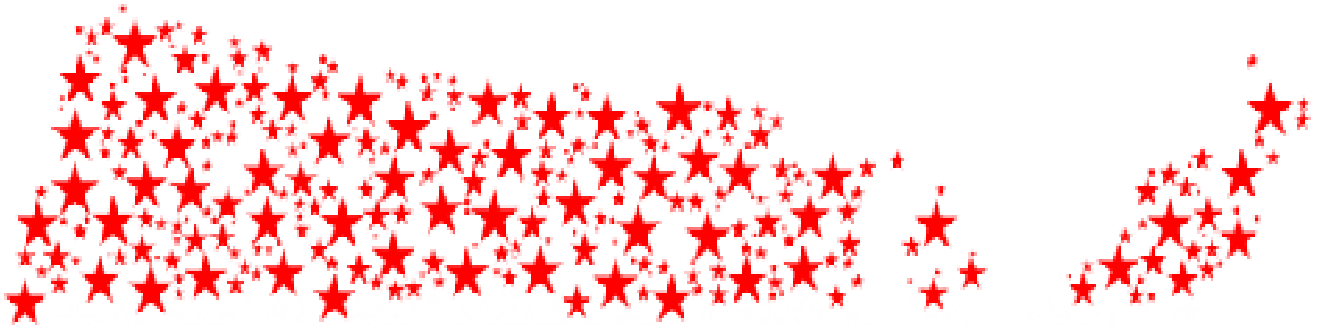
### WE WANT YOU!



We want you to have the opportunity to showcase your products and services!

Convention Chair Rick Poff and Co-Chair Juliann Poff would like to flood the exhibit area with YOUR products.

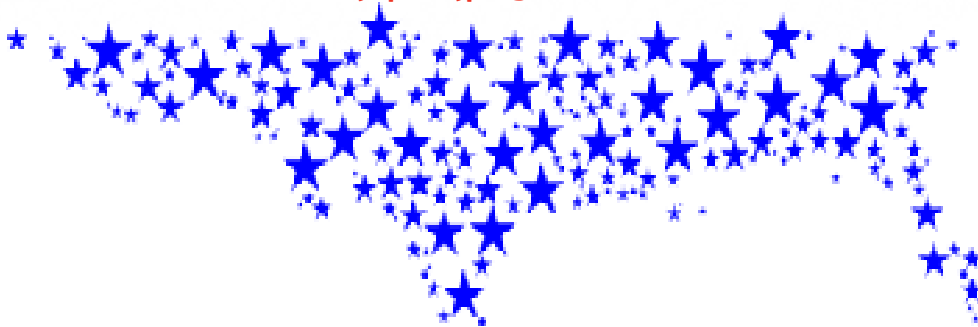
Contact National Event Planner Crystal Andrews at [crystal.andrews@ruritan.org](mailto:crystal.andrews@ruritan.org) if you would like more information on reserving a vendor booth.



Has Your Club Hosted or Participated in a **Patriotic-Themed Event**?

If so, we would love to share your event photos! They will be displayed during the Opening Ceremonies at the National Convention.

Please send your photos to Convention Co-Chair Juliann Poff at [jopoff.jp@gmail.com](mailto:jopoff.jp@gmail.com)





# MEET ME AT THE FAIR!



The **Ruritan County Fair** is the place to be! On **Friday** evening in **Kingsport**, Ruritans will come together for a **County Fair**! It will feature a variety of favorite county fair foods and games sponsored by our clubs and districts.



**Snack** tables can include hot dogs, "walking" tacos, popcorn, peanuts, cotton candy, cookies, candy apples, or other "Fair" foods.



**Games** can include Flickin' Chicken, Pick a Duck, Bean Bag Toss, Corn Hole, and more. Each table will feature one item and will be decorated with the sponsoring club's or district's favorite **county fair theme**. There will be plenty of seating to enjoy the food and fellowship.



You will not want to miss the **County Fair** on Friday night!

To sign up to sponsor a table, email **Crystal** at [crystal.andrews@ruritan.org](mailto:crystal.andrews@ruritan.org). There is no fee to sponsor a table, just the cost of the food.

**NOTE:** Meadowview Hotel does not offer rooms that are suitable for hospitality suites. The County Fair will serve as our hospitality area.



**WE WANT TO SHOW OFF YOUR  
BAKING SKILL!  
CONSIDER DONATING A CAKE FOR A  
CAKE WALK!**

# Make Your Hotel Reservations NOW!

**Meadowview Marriott  
Conference Resort  
and Convention Center  
1901 Meadowview Parkway  
Kingsport, TN 37760**

## Room Reservation Options:

- Call (888) 632-3697

Reference Group Block: Ruritan  
National Convention

- Go to: [www.ruritan.org](http://www.ruritan.org)

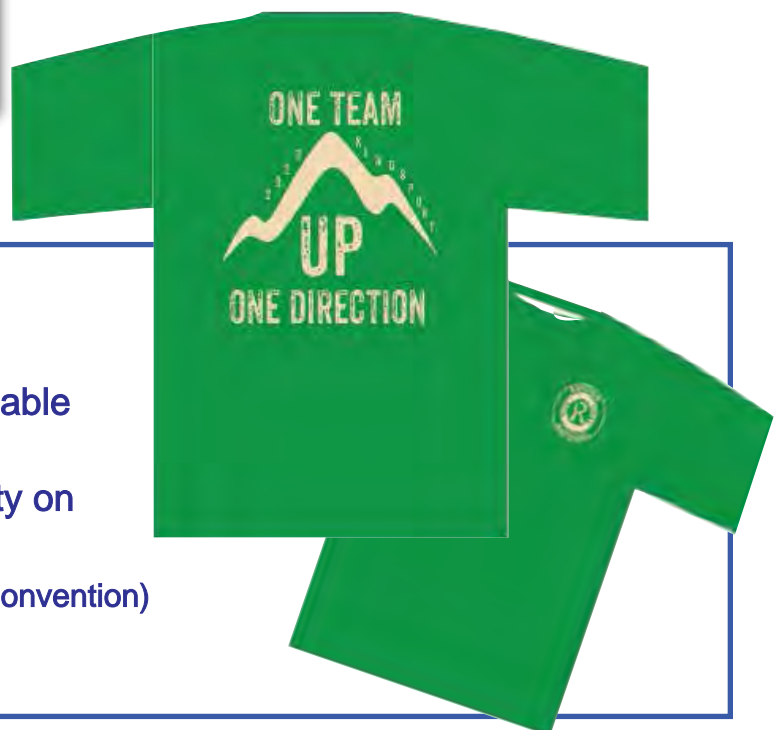
Under Calendar of Events, 2023  
Ruritan National Convention, click on  
MeadowView



Discounted rates are \$125 per night.  
Reservation cutoff date is  
December 28, 2022.

## PLEASE NOTE!

Convention T-Shirts Are Available  
by **Pre-Sale Only!**  
Please Note Size and Quantity on  
Registration Form.  
(They will not be available at National Convention)



# Ruritan National Convention – Kingsport, TN

## January 19-22, 2023

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

Please print or type

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

Member/Non-Member (circle one)

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

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

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

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

Check items below that apply:

\_\_\_ I have these food allergies/restrictions:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I need handicapped accessible seating at meals.

\_\_\_ Send information on wheelchair/scooter rental.

\_\_\_ I have 50 years or more perfect attendance.

\_\_\_ This is my first convention.

I expect to be a voting delegate for the

\_\_\_\_\_ Ruritan Club.

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

Member/Non-Member (circle one)

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

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

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

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

Check items below that apply:

\_\_\_ I have these food allergies/restrictions:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I need handicapped accessible seating at meals.

\_\_\_ Send information on wheelchair/scooter rental.

\_\_\_ I have 50 years or more perfect attendance.

\_\_\_ This is my first convention.

I expect to be a voting delegate for the

\_\_\_\_\_ Ruritan Club.

**Please provide us with the names of your guest who are NOT purchasing a full package but will be attending the convention. We will create them a name badge.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

(Check one in each column)

\_\_\_ U.S. Army

\_\_\_ WWII

\_\_\_ U.S. Air Force

\_\_\_ Korean

\_\_\_ U. S. Marines

\_\_\_ Vietnam

\_\_\_ U.S. Navy

\_\_\_ Desert Storm

\_\_\_ U.S. Coast Guard

\_\_\_ Other (explain)

\_\_\_ Operation Iraqi Freedom



# Ruritan National Convention – Kingsport, TN

## January 19-22, 2023

### Meals in Kingsport

*There is a deadline with the caterer for meal count guarantees. With that in mind, anyone waiting to register on-site (as a walk-in) for the events will not be guaranteed meals. However, we will be able to register you for non-meal events at the base rate of \$210. Send in your registration before the Dec. 16, 2022, cut-off date to be guaranteed meals. Kid's meals are available upon request.*

Choose one of these four registration packages. **ALL Packages** include opening ceremony, access to exhibits, and access to the business meetings on Friday and Saturday, workshops, voting, and all other convention activities.

### Meal Package Options

Packages 1 - 4 include the base fee of \$210

	Qty	Price	Total
Two meal package includes base fee, Friday First Lady's Fellowship Luncheon, and Saturday Installation Banquet	Package 1	\$330	
Friday only package includes base fee and Friday First Lady's Fellowship Luncheon	Package 2	\$265	
Saturday only package includes base fee and Saturday Installation Banquet	Package 3	\$280	
No Meals - base registration only	Package 4	\$210	

### Extra Meal Tickets and Items

Must purchase any package above to purchase additional meal tickets

	Qty	Price	Total
Friday First Lady's Fellowship Luncheon	Luncheon	\$60	
Saturday Installation Banquet	Banquet	\$75	
Rudy Bears - Added as a gift to Niswonger Children's Hospital	Rudy Bears	\$9	
I want a 2023 Convention T-Shirt <b>Pre-sales Only – Order Now</b> S M L XL 2XL 3XL 4XL	T-Shirt	\$20	
	<b>TOTAL</b>		

Ruritan National, P.O. Box 487, Dublin, VA 24084

Check payment type below:

**NOTE: Aside from some limited special seating, everyone will be seated for meals on a "first come, first served" basis. If you want to be seated with specific attendees, you should send your registration forms in together.**

\_\_\_\_ Payment made by check      Check# \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Visa/MasterCard/Discover/American Express

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date # \_\_\_\_\_

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

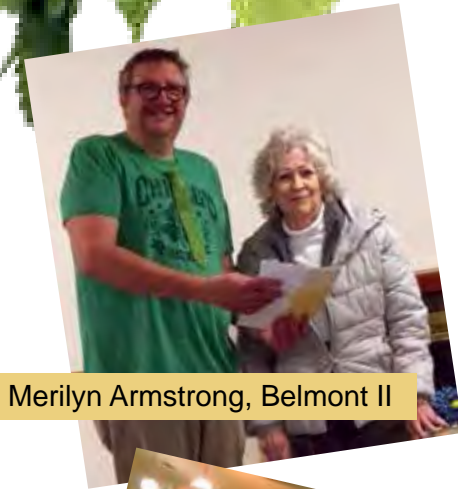
Check one option below

\_\_\_\_ Bill my credit card now

\_\_\_\_ Bill my credit card on December 1, 2022



# Congratulations to Our Newest Ruritan Forevers!



Merilyn Armstrong, Belmont II



Harrison Birx, Augusta Road



Vernon Teall, Wakefield



"Gibby" Elder, Burrowsville



Fredene Poff, Belmont II



David Armstrong, Belmont II



Robin Davenport, Creeds



Debi Davis, Brushy Mountain

***The Ruritan National Board of Directors voted to increase the purchase price of a Ruritan Forever endowment from \$600 to \$800, taking effect January 1, 2023.***  
***Download a Ruritan Forever application from the Ruritan website to participate in the program or to honor a fellow Ruritan with this very special gift.***  
***Every new 2022 Ruritan Forever receives a free polo.***

# What is a Ruritan Forever?

"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.



## Ruritan Forever *A Perpetual Life Plan*

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)                      Shirt Size \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Myself   ☐ Current Member   ☐ Deceased Ruritan   ☐ 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   CVV: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ 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.

As America continues to adjust to a new hybrid normal your Ruritan National Foundation trustees continue to be conscious of situations that may necessitate change. As a result of current market conditions your RNF trustees are also staying vigilant about conditions that may require a speedy response. We recently held a TEAMS meeting featuring our Investment Advisor, Scott Carr, with Wells Fargo Advisors. He continues to monitor market conditions and keeps the trustees up to date on market conditions.



Your RNF trustees were also excited to announce that, for the first time, the Build Your Dollars match will be 150%! This means that each club who made their \$300 Build Your Dollar (BY\$) deposit by October 01, 2021, can now submit the BY\$ Claim form and will receive \$750 to be awarded as a scholarship. The deadline for the BY\$ Claim forms is June 30, 2022. The form must be postmarked by this date.

We are continuing to finalize plans for the 2022 Ruritan National Foundation Fellowship Weekend. The weekend is currently being schedule for September in Pigeon Forge, TN. More information will be sent soon in a Ruritan National Foundation Blast.

I also encourage clubs, districts, and individuals to continue to honor Ruritan members and non-Ruritans with a Tom Downing Fellowship. A Tom Downing Fellowship can be awarded with a \$500 donation to the RNF. There are also several match programs available on a limited basis which will match \$250. Please contact the RNF office for additional information.

As always, your Trustees are available to answer questions as is Bessie McCormick, our Foundation Specialist. Please do not hesitate to call, text, or email should you have questions.

**To purchase a Tom Downing Fellow  
contact Bessie McCormick at 877-787-8727 #302**

*Through the end of 2022, each new Ruritan Forever recipient will receive a Ruritan Forever Polo at no extra charge. This high-quality polo has the Holland Monument embroidered and resembles the Ruritan Forever Pin.*

*If you are already a Ruritan Forever, you can purchase this polo for \$65-\$70 by calling Sarah Kelly at 877-787-8727 Ext. 305, or by email at Sarah.Kelly@ruritan.org.*



# 2021 National Awards

## 2021 CLUB GROWTH AWARDS

Club	% Growth	2021 Club President	2022 Club President
<b>SMALL CLUBS (16 TO 35 MEMBERS ON JAN 1)</b>			
Dan River Community (VA)	400.00%	Henry Terry	Earl Satterfield Jr.
Bassett (VA)	128.57%	Donald Kendrick Sr.	Donald Kendrick Sr.
Brightwood (VA)	122.22%	Junior Carpenter	Mark Ford
West Township (OH)	84.62%	Sheldon Jarrett	Justin Fowler
Pekin (IA)	80.00%	Richard Swanson	Richard Swanson
<b>MEDIUM CLUBS (36 TO 75 MEMBERS ON JAN 1)</b>			
Hickory (VA)	37.78%	John Fitzgerald	KD Hicks
Clarksburg (TN)	34.49%	Brent Scott	Jimmy McClure
Mazewellton (WV)	28.57%	Gary Wallace	Larry Bowman
Momeyer (NC)	26.19%	Brent Leggett	Brent Leggett
Bloomingsdale (TN)	26.00%	Gary Collier	Gary Collier
<b>LARGE CLUBS (OVER 76 MEMBERS ON JAN 1)</b>			
Clarke County (VA)	42.86%	Gail Milleson	Brad Broy
Fort Valley (VA)	8.33%	Charles Aschmann	Kyle Schilling
Abingdon (VA)	7.14%	David Onesty	Frank Gillerlain
Harrison (TN)	3.48%	David Cox	Donna Rast

## 2021 DISTRICT/AREA GROWTH AWARDS

District	% Growth	2021 Governor	2022 Governor
<b>SMALL DISTRICTS 500 MEMBERS OR LESS</b>			
Southwest VA	12.43%	Charles Bullock	Jimmy Sheets
<b>MEDIUM DISTRICTS 501-1000 MEMBERS</b>			
Upper West Virginia	2.34%	Bryan Flanagan	Robert Combs
<b>LARGE DISTRICTS 1001 + MEMBERS</b>			
None			
<b>AREA</b>			
New York Area	1.72%	None Listed	None Listed

## MOST NEW MEMBERS RECRUITED IN A CALENDAR YEAR (2021)

Name	# New Members	Club	District
Mike Wright	9	Little Sandy Creek & West Township	Ohio



# 2021 National Awards

2021 RURITAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION DISTRICT AWARDS			
Highest Percentage of Clubs in District Donating			
	District Foundation Chair		District
1st Place	Delbra Bowman	59%	Lower West Virginia
2nd Place	Becky Lane	43%	Rockingham
3rd Place	Florence Balke	33%	Rapidan
Most Dollars Donated by Clubs			
1st Place	Joe Hulver, Jr.	\$3,500	Rappahannock
2nd Place	Florence Balke	\$2,901	Rapidan
3rd Place	Delbra Bowman	\$1,988	Lower West Virginia
Highest Average Donation Per Member			
1st Place	Fred Payne	\$6.30	Spartan
2nd Place	Florence Balke	\$5.40	Rapidan
3rd Place	Joe Hulver, Jr.	\$5.22	Rappahannock

2021 COMMUNICATION AWARDS	
2021 DISTRICT NEWSLETTER AWARDS	
1st	Davy Crockett
2021 CLUB NEWSLETTER AWARDS (PRINTED)	
1st	Blomingdale (TN)
2021 CLUB NEWSLETTER AWARDS (ELECTRONIC)	
1st	Pineview (SC)

2021 OUTSTANDING RURITAN 4-H LEADER	
Member	Club
Betty Hamilton	Fellowsville (WV)

2021 OUTSTANDING RURITAN SCOUT LEADER	
Member	Club
Kelly Cobb	Southern Casswell (NC)
Jim Mannion	Singers Glen (VA)
Jerry Yeatts	Southern Casswell (NC)

### BURROWSVILLE AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

**Burrowsville** awarded \$11,000 in scholarships to Prince George High School graduates. Pictured (l-r) are Club Vice President John Suitt, recipients Grace Smith, Christina Ruffin, Rileyanne Collins, Zoey Vreeland, Zack Brown, and Scholarship Committee Chair Rod Mustanski.



### DRIVER DONATES RUDY BEARS

**Driver** Club made their annual donation of Rudy Bears to the Suffolk Fire Department and EMS personnel at the Driver station. The bears have been successfully used to calm children who have been involved in fires or accidents. Picture (l-r) are Club President Jon Echols with several club members and members of the Suffolk Fire Department and EMS.

### “FUZZ” NURNEY JR. CARRIES ON TRADITION

**Isle of Wight** Club Member C.A. “Fuzz” Nurney Jr. carries on the Brunswick Stew tradition learned from his father, C.A. “Slick” Nurney, Sr. He says its ready to be dipped when the stew is “thick enough that the metal paddle will stand up.” This is the club’s 55th year of stew preparation. They sold over 1500 quarts with the proceeds going to fund several service projects.



### MEHERRIN HOSTS LEADERS IN APRIL

**Meherrin** hosted National President Glen Broadwater, immediate Past National President Linward Hedgspeth and his wife Anne at their April meeting. Following a reception at the home of 1978 National President Bobby Wrenn and wife, Anne. Glen spoke at the club meeting. Linward also shared about the innovative ways our elected National officers, directors, and staff led us through the Covid-19 pandemic years. Bobby presented gift baskets of Virginia peanuts, grown and packed in Greensville County, VA, to Glen and Linward (pictured).



Also in attendance were six past National Presidents.

Pictured (l-r) are Bobby Wrenn, National President Glen Broadwater, Linward Hedgspeth, Frank Guthrie, Phyllis Lewter, Donald Worrell, and Millard Thacker.

## News From Ruritan: **Holland District**

### THAT'S A LOT OF SAUSAGE!

**Liberty Spring** held their semi-annual sausage sale in April. The club prepared 2,500 pounds of sausage and completely sold out. Pictured are club members chopping, grinding, and weighing the meat for the sausage.



### WAVERLY CELEBRATES 50-YEAR MEMBER!

In September 2021, **Waverly VA** Club member Raymond Warren (pictured) completed 50 years of service, all of which were perfect attendance. 1995 National President Frank Guthrie was on hand to present Raymond with a Ruritan Forever and a 50-year membership name badge.



## News From Ruritan: **Chesapeake District**

### DOSWELL HONORS CHRISTMAS MOTHERS

For 33 years, **Doswell** has helped put smiles on the faces of thousands of Hanover County children through the Christmas Mother program. We recently had the opportunity



to honor past Christmas Mothers Carolyn Bowles (pictured left) and Cindy Balderson (pictured right). Former Lt. Zone Governor and Past Club President Franklin Jones presented each with a plaque recognizing their hard work and dedication.





## GLOUCESTER SOWS SEEDS OF SERVICE

**Gloucester** Club held its March meeting at the Courthouse Restaurant, where members enjoyed a home cooked meal. Zone 4 Governor Don Sandridge (left) presented President Jackie Beyea the 2021 Certificate of Appreciation for working in partnership with Hunters for the Hungry. Club



Member Bob Beyea presented a program on planting that included recommended seed magazines, types of soil/pots, starting seedlings, planting instructions, and thinning. Bob (pictured left) was presented with a club mug by President Jackie Beyea.

Club members provided refreshments for the

Gloucester Master Gardeners Club Daffodil Tours on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Workers included Jackie Beyea, Jo Hurd, Bill Naquin, Barbara Bauer, and Judith Williams; refreshments were provided by Janie Swankler, Jo Hurd, Jackie Beyea, Judith Williams, Rachel Serio, Jan Searls, and Barbara Bauer. Pictured (l-r) are Ron Searls, Jan Searls, Henry Thompson (as Rudy Bear), and club member and Master Gardner Bob Beyea.



## JAMES CITY AWARDS PROBLEM SOLVER



**James City** Club installed officers for 2022. Pictured (l-r) are Director Tom Williams, Vice President Jacob Boarman-Spivey, President Peg Boarman, Secretary Sarah Salo, Director Diana McGonnell, and Treasurer Cleve Wright. Not pictured, Director Brenda Boarman.

Cleve Wright (pictured right) presented the "Golden Plunger Award" to Club Vice President

Jacob Boarman-Spivey. The award is given to a club member who has been instrumental in finding a solution to a problem so that it could be "flushed down the drain!" Jacob will pass it on to the next member who helps "flush" a problem.





## CHESAPEAKE DISTRICT MOURNS LOSSES

*Past National Director and Chesapeake District Governor Otis Lee Hall, 88, of Mechanicsville, Va., passed away February 28, 2022. He is survived by his wife, Catherine "Cathy" Finotti Hall; his sister, Mary Josephine "Jo" Page; two nieces, Freda Sergi (Sergio), Tammy Page; and his five stepchildren, Lauren Sienko (Chester), Ron Dennard (Kyoko), David Dennard (Pam), Tammy Wright (Scott), Sunny McGann; and his former son-in-law, Jamie McGann. He is also survived by his eight grandchildren, Kloyce Dennard, Nic Dennard, Coleman Wright, Jacob Wright, Aidan McGann, Kameron Dennard, Evan Dennard, Ava Dennard; and his great-granddaughter, Aralyn Dennard.*



*Otis was very involved in his community and started the East Hanover Rescue Squad. Otis served as a Hanover County Planning Commissioner for seven years and was on the Hanover County Electoral Board for three years. He was a member of the **Mechanicsville** Ruritan Club, Washington Henry Masonic Lodge #344 and the Richmond East Moose Lodge. Otis worked at MCV/VCU in the Biomedical Engineering facility, designing and fabricating tools and equipment for use in medical research and in the medical field. He retired as the director of the facility after 34 years. Otis then went to work for Southern States at the fertilizer division in King William County. When he retired the second time around, he followed in his father's footsteps and went back to his first passion of farming and raising livestock.*

*Past National Director Stran Trout passed away suddenly on March 11, 2022 at his home in Woodhaven Shores. Born on Sept. 30, 1942 in Staunton, Stran was the son of Dr. William E. Trout, Jr. and Harriet McCurley Trout. Dr. Trout was a Professor of Chemistry at Mary Baldwin College and then the University of Richmond. Stran attended Richmond Public Schools and graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School. After serving in the U.S Navy, he attended the University of Richmond for his undergraduate degree and then graduated from the T.C. Williams School of Law at the University of Richmond in 1974. He was admitted to practice by the Supreme Court of Virginia the same year and was then admitted to the Federal Courts including the Supreme Court. He was employed with distinction by the U.S. Small Business Administration in a number of positions for 21 years. Stran moved to New Kent County in 1978 and his imprint on the county was highlighted by service work and community outreach. Stran is fondly known for his work with several community organizations. Among the primary groups he was affiliated with were the **New Kent** Ruritan Club, **Providence Forge** Ruritan Club and the New Kent Rotary Club.*

*Other groups Stran served on include the New Kent Community Development Corporation, New Kent Educational Foundation, New Kent County Fair committee, New Kent Chamber of Commerce, New Kent Historical Society and the Providence Forge Volunteer Rescue Squad. Stran's publications include "A Trip Up the Pamunkey River with a Flag of Truce," and "New Kent Courthouse District – from the 17th to the 21st Century." Perhaps his most popular publishing among New Kent County residents were the New Kent History Calendars which he gave away for free. Stran's involvement and dedication to New Kent was the definition of selfless service. Some even thought of him as "Mr. New Kent." Stran is survived by his brother William E. Trout, III, of Madison Heights, Virginia. A memorial service will be held at a later date.*



## MONTPELIER SPICES UP FOR SUPERBOWL



In February, **Montpelier VA** Club prepared 425 quarts of “Superbowl Chili” to raise money for scholarships presented to seniors at Patrick Henry High School. The club also held a Brunswick Stew sale in March. The community has continued to show their support for these fundraisers. Pictured (l-r) is

Club President Charles Stanley stirring the chili, as members Don Brockman, David Koogler, and Mike Roach package the chili for pickup. The chili is done when the paddle stands upright without support!



## News From Ruritan: **Rappahannock District**

## CEDARVILLE DISTRICT INSTALLS OFFICERS



**Cedarville District** celebrated the holidays and installed officers for 2022. Pictured (l-r) are Club Directors Windford Kenney, John Clatterbuck, and Charlie Goddard, Sargeant-at-Arms Stephanie Holloway, Treasurer Mary Kenney, Secretary Pamela Fox, Vice President Beth Kitchen, President Vanessa Boies, and Past President Maurice Bowen.

## CLARKE COUNTY GROWS, AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

**Clarke County** Club was recognized at the 2022 National Convention for having the largest percentage of membership growth in 2021. Past National Director Joe Hulver was on hand at the club’s January 19<sup>th</sup> meeting to present the award. Pictured (l-r) is Club President Brady Broy accepting the award from Joe.



The club recently awarded their 2022 scholarships.

Pictured (l-r) are recipients Sam Brumback, who will be attending West Virginia University, Mackenzie Cather, Virginia Tech, Luke Brumback, West Virginia University, and Trysten Jackson, George Mason University.





## NOKESVILLE-BRISTOW SPREADS HOLIDAY CHEER

**Nokesville-Bristow** hosted a pop-up food booth in December. The food was distributed free of charge. The club was able to help about 80 families by giving away



35 full bags of non-perishables, several bags with miscellaneous donated items and 90 boxes from a local food bank. The



club was grateful for the opportunity to help with a need in the community. Pictured manning the food booth (l-r) are Club Director Jeanette Kaid, and Patriot High School Ruri-Teens Janeth Madrigal, Isra Attizaz, and Judith Madrigal. (Not pictured, Club President Gail Williams.) The club was also able to spread a bit of holiday cheer by delivering Christmas gift bags to residents of the Manassas Nursing & Rehabilitation Center. A club member was made aware that many of the residents



didn't have family members visiting over the holiday. The activities coordinator was very thankful and said the kind gesture went a long way to help the residents have a Merry Christmas.

In a partnership with the Army Spouses Club of the Greater Washington Area (ASCGWA), the club also hosted a coat drive for needy families in the area and received over two hundred coats. A local dry cleaner donated their time to professionally clean the coats before distribution.



## SUMERDUCK WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS



**Sumerduck** welcomed new members Debra and Rick Elmore, Patty Embrey, and Connie and Tom Mullenax. The club also hosted a Scrapbooking Day which netted over \$1000.



## SHAWNEE FLIPS FLAPJACKS AND SAUSAGE



need, and support local boy scouts and other charities. Pictured is the buffet crew, Chase Malone flipping pancakes, Vernon Combs ready to serve, Jim Grayson frying scrapple, Mary Kerns serving sausage cakes, and Robin Malone serving gravy. Not shown are Sarah Malone who helped serve,



and Brian Merriman, who flipped a lot of pancakes, too. Also pictured is the kitchen crew, Jodi Bursey, ready to make gravy with Wanda Trenary. Not pictured is Club President Bobby Dick who also worked on the gravy crew with Jenny Bursey assisting, Rocky Taylor stirred up the pancake batter, Keith Trenary was slicing scrapple, and Brenda Dick and Jo Anna Grayson helped wherever needed.

Pictured (r) is Charter Member Donnie Oates who shoveled non-stop to keep the sidewalk into the building clear. Club members Cookie Oates, and Tammy Taylor waited inside the door to greet attendees.



## CARTERSVILLE HONORS HANLON AND JOHNSON



**Cartersville VA** honored members Janice Hanlon (l) with the club's Outstanding Volunteer award, and Dover Johnson with the club's Outstanding Citizen award. They were both recognized for being dedicated members of their community and their Ruritan club.



(r)



## AMELIA FEEDS THE MIND AND THE BODY

**Amelia** donated dictionaries to the third and fourth graders at Amelia Academy and Amelia County Elementary School. Due to continuing pandemic restrictions, club representatives were unable to access the public schools to present the dictionaries in person, so club member Mary Anne Griles, who is also a part-time substitute teacher, graciously volunteered to take the books to the school and



give them to the teachers to be passed out to the students.

Pictured (r) is former Club President Don Shreffler explaining to the students about the longest word in the dictionary. Pictured left, the third graders look over their new dictionaries. Standing (l-r) are Don Shreffler, Paul Folliard, Ruth Anne Lawson, and school librarian Mrs. Karen Berry.



The club held a Brunswick stew fundraiser on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Due to extreme weather conditions, the decision was made to move the cooking operation to an indoor facility offered by Jerry Barnard of Little Patrick Farm. Sales and pick-up were offered at three different locations. The club prepared 456 quarts of stew, with 430 pre-sold. Special thanks to club members Terry and Katherine Barnard, and club friend Dawn



Robben who provided breakfast, leaders and members of Boy Scout Troop 6504 who assisted with the preparation, and club Vice President Jay Griles who transported stew to the sales and pick-up locations.



Pictured (above): Marcus Bordeaux, from Boy Scout Troop 6504 stirs the stew. Club member Glen Henkle (left), Boy Scout parent Greg Jenkins, and club member Wendel Scott (far left) look on. Also pictured (far left): Club members Jim Garza and Don Shreffler open the many cans of tomatoes needed to make the stew taste "just right," and club member Katherine Barnard tries her hand at stirring the pot.

## PAST NATIONAL TREASURER PASSES

*Past National Treasurer (2000-2002) Carl Thornton passed away on May 7, 2022. In addition to serving Ruritan as treasurer he was also a National Director from 1997 through 1999 and was active in the leadership of the Appomattox District and the **Dale** Ruritan Club.*

*He was born in Pittsylvania County, VA on April 19, 1936 to Renford Edmond Thornton and Annie Claire Mahan Thornton, the second of six children. He was preceded in death by his wife of 61 years, Nancy Lee Watson.*

*Carl served in the US Army and Army National guard and worked for 55 years in the field of banking in the Richmond, VA area. He is survived by his sister Mildred Jane Tice and husband Bill, his brother Cecil Davis Thornton and wife Giorgina, his daughter Stephanie Carol Thornton and grandson Matthew, his daughter Cynthia Raye Johndrow and husband Rick, his son Stephen Lee Thornton and grandson Linus. A service was held on May 14, 2022 at Transformation Church, N. Chesterfield, VA.*



## News From Ruritan: **Peaks of Otter District**

### THREE CLUBS WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



**Glade Hill** is growing. Club President Gary Solomon welcomed new members Scott and Nancy Bloebaum.



**Forest Hill** welcomed new member Roxanne Heltzel at their March meeting.



**Wadsworth** welcomed 13 new members in March. Pictured (l-r) are Ruby Brogan, Lois Brubaker, Sylvia Bussey, Betty Cannaday, Shirley Franklin, Dana Lydon, Bernice Moyer, Julie Nix, Glenda Peters, Judy Talley, Carol Thompson, Nancy Hudson, Brenda Wright, and Charlotte Austin.



## News From Ruritan: Peaks of Otter District

### AMHERST MONROE HONORS PERFECT ATTENDANCE, PRESENTS TOM DOWNING FELLOWS



**Amherst Monroe** recognized club member Jack Lyons for 44 years of perfect attendance. Jack joined the club on March 1, 1978. Pictured is Club President Ron Tomlin (left) presenting Jack with his 44-year Perfect Attendance pin.

The club recently hosted a Community Dinner where Ruritan National Foundation President O.H. Bobbitt was on hand to present Tom Downing Fellows to recipients Jeanne and Robert Floyd (each pictured center with President Ron (l) and O.H. (r)). Jeanne and Robert, along with Melinda Floyd, were each presented with



the club's Ruritan of the Year award. Club President Ron was also honored to present a check for \$1000 to Garry Friend (r) of Neighbors Helping Neighbors of Amherst County. NHN is a national service organization that provides nutritious hot meals and food distribution to those in need.



## News From Ruritan: Southwest Virginia District

### ATKINS REVS THEIR ENGINES



**Atkins** welcomed new members Karen Jones, Bobby Helton, Lynn Pickle, and Karen Reedy.



In April, the club hosted a car show for their community.

**Good People Become Great Teams!**

## **SAM HOUSTON HOLDS HOLIDAY BAZAAR**



**Sam Houston** Club awarded three \$1,200 scholarships to local high school students. Pictured is the club's first annual Holiday Bazaar held at their Valley Pike facility. Proceeds were used to fund the scholarships. This first year was a great learning experience, and the club is already planning for next year's event to be bigger, better, and with a few surprises! Their annual Christmas dinner for members, family and friends was attended by over 40 people. Beth and Rich Kopp prepared the meal and members brought potluck to complete the menu.

In addition to the 2022 scholarships, the club has given donations to Hunters for the Hungry, Rockbridge Christmas Baskets, Toys for Tots Glasgow, RARA (Rockbridge Area Relief Assoc.), Stockman 4H Club, and Rockbridge Area Hospice.

Pictured are 2022 club officers, President Chris Cartwright, Vice President McClung Cummins, Treasurer Mickey Cochrane, Secretary Beth Henry, and Directors Dennis Engleman, Rich Kopp, and Billy Kessinger.



## **BOLAR SHARES THE WARMTH**

Three volunteers from the **Bolar** Club spent a day splitting and stacking firewood for a senior neighbor in need of assistance. Pictured (l-r) are club members Gary Robinson and Norm Bell with their grateful neighbor.

Not pictured is club member Lee Brauer, who took the photo.

**Remember to Bring  
Canned and Non-Perishable Food  
Items to 2022 Youth Camp!**





## QUILTERS GUILD SHARES COMFORT

The Skyline Quilters Guild, which includes two Ruritan members, donated 24 quilts to the Strasburg Police Department. The quilts will be given to children that are involved in stressful situations. Pictured (l-r) are Strasburg Police Chief Wayne Sager, **Shawquon** Club Treasurer Loretta McDonald, **North Shenandoah** Club Member Sherry Newcombe, and Strasburg Police Captain Jason Ford.



## BRIDGEWATER SUPPORTS COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

For their March meeting, **Bridgewater** hosted Bridgewater College Police Chief Milton Franklin and Bridgewater Police Chief Phillip Read. Chief Franklin was presented a \$2,710 check for the John Painter and Vashon "J.J." Jefferson Memorial Student Support Fund. Chief Read provided



updates on projects in the Police Department and the town in general. Rockingham District Governor Thomas Drinkwater and wife, Eileen, were special guests for the evening. The club also acknowledged the passing of member Marvin Garber, who had been recognized nationally as the longest-serving Ruritan (75 years). Pictured (l) is Chief Franklin receiving the donation from Club President Becky Wright.

In April, the club recognized members Frank Will for 40 years of service, and Charles Wright for 50 years. Past President Jim Harlow was honored for navigating the club through two years of pandemic.

The club then presented \$1,500 each to the Bridgewater Volunteer Fire Company and Bridgewater Rescue Squad. Mr. Beery of BVFD advised that they will use the donation to help pay off the loan for the building expansion. Guest speaker, Steve Andrew, co-founder of New Creation in Harrisonburg, shared about his organization's efforts to battle human trafficking. They also run a shop that offers survivor made goods and fair-trade accessories. Pictured is Club President Rebecca Wright with Steve.



## FORT VALLEY STAYS BUSY



**Fort Valley** hosted Biologist Jason Hallacher (left) as guest speaker for their February meeting. Jason presented information on the history of the Front Royal Fish Hatchery. In March, guest speaker Denise Vowell (right) spoke on the subjects of beekeeping and the management of honeybees. Both guests were presented with a Ruritan mug by Club President Kyle Schilling.



The club was happy to welcome new members John Hancock in March, and Je-Nien Hancock and Billy Mullins in April. The club has also been supporting local youth soccer with weekly pick-up games for K-9<sup>th</sup> grade at the Fort Valley Community Center.



Club President Kyle Schilling recently recognized members for their service as past club officers and directors. Pictured (l-r) are Kyle Schilling, and Certificate of Appreciation recipients Carolyn Tidd, Brian Green, Charlie Aschmann, John Gaunt, Sonny Tamkin (for Adam Selby), and Lance Morgan.



### BILL MILLER CELEBRATES 100!

**Fulks Run** celebrated a milestone at their April 5 meeting. The club hosted a 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration for club member Trevillo “Bill” Miller. Bill is the only living charter member of the Fulks Run club. The club celebrated with cake and ice cream, and club members shared their favorite stories about Bill. Pictured: Club President Lena Custer presents Bill with his birthday cake.

The club has recently invested in some major improvements to their 55-acre Ruritan Park. The park has offered a place for members of the local community to seek leisure, relaxation, and wellness, as well as enjoy local ball teams since it was purchased in 1989. They will be installing a new walking track, replacing playground equipment, and providing park benches throughout.



### MT CRAWFORD SHARES HOLIDAY SPIRIT



When the town of Mount Crawford had to delay the purchase of an 18' pre-lit Christmas tree, the **Mt. Crawford** Club stepped up! They were able to provide a live tree that was placed at the Mt. Crawford Ruritan park for all to enjoy. The town provided the lights and partnered with the club to host the tree lighting party. Pictured is the tree being set up in the park.

The club hosted an Easter Party in April. The event included an Easter egg hunt, egg decorating, a bounce house, and a visit from the Easter Bunny.



## News From Ruritan: Potomac District

At a recent **Zone 3** meeting, attendees were presented the results of an earlier interclub committee meeting. The eight adult clubs in Zone 3 are helping one another increase membership through a series of club sponsored cornhole tournaments. The goal is to recruit new members and support a major charity. Members from Mt. Pleasant, Jefferson, Johnsville, Lewistown and Point of Rocks came together to kick off the first event. The spotlighted charity, Homes for Our Troops, received \$650 from this event. Burkittsville donated an additional \$500. Each month, the tournament will be hosted by a different club. Pictured are the club representatives who attended the Zone 3 meeting.



## WILLIAMSON PROGRAMS FEATURE LOCAL SERVICE AGENCIES



**Williamson** Club welcomed first responders to several of their monthly meals and meetings to thank them for their dedication during a difficult year. Guests

included Officer Harper who shared details regarding his job as an animal humane officer with the Justice Animal Rescue. Club members Renee and Carly Sollenberger presented Officer Harper with Williamson's "famous" ice cream. St. Thomas Fire Chief Tommy Bigler and his fellow officers shared about the importance of good quality gear and explained the equipment carried on the fire truck. Club members Joe Weller and Carly Sollenberger got



to feel what it is like to wear the gear a firefighter wears when going into a burning building. Chambersburg and Waynesboro police departments gave a presentation on their K-9 programs with dogs Bushta and Mattis. The crew from Life Net 81 explained how the medevac helicopter operates to help save patients' lives, and Corporal Lovett from the Chambersburg State Police demonstrated how radar guns and tasers operate. Special thanks to Williamson's 2021 Club President Jody Eyer for organizing these informative meetings. The guests were presented with a quart of Williamson's homemade ice cream and Rudy Bears.





## LEWISTOWN HOSTS FCA SPEAKER

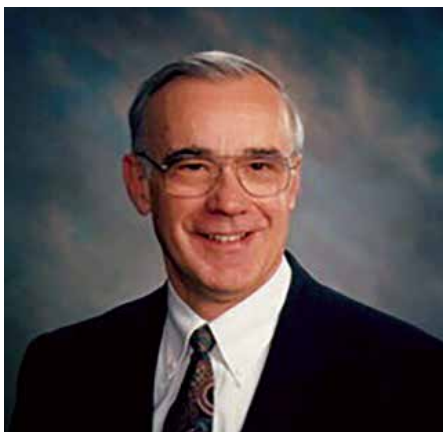


Officers for the **Lewistown** Club were installed at the March meeting by Zone 3 Governor Trevella Foster. Pictured (l-r) are Club President Frank Warner, Vice President Jim Brown, Secretary Loberta Staley, Treasurer Odale Martin, and Club Directors Richard Rippeon and Ron Gartrell. Missing is Club Director Randy Green.

In April, the club hosted Luke Staley as guest speaker. Luke is the area representative for Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA). He explained the mission and vision of FCA and provided a visual display of FCA activities. He shared that through donations, the FCA is able to support youth athletic teams and coaches by providing equipment and the means for hundreds of young men and women to participate. From his own involvement, Luke has firsthand knowledge of the powerful influence that athletics can have. He is currently a professional mixed martial artist and has a purple belt in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. Luke was the first recipient of a Lewistown scholarship to return to speak at a meeting. His grandparents are club members Harold and Loberta Staley. Pictured (l-r) are Harold Staley, Luke, Club Secretary Loberta Staley, and Club President Frank Warner.



## PAST NATIONAL DIRECTOR HUFFMAN PASSES IN MARCH



*1989-91 National Director Larry Richard Huffman, 79, of Singers Glen, passed away on Monday, March 7, 2022, at Sentara RMH Medical Center. Larry is survived by his wife, Susan Dove Huffman of Singers Glen; son, Larry R. Huffman of Las Vegas, NV; daughter, Shari Payne and husband Craig of Dayton; grandsons, Christopher Payne and wife Cierra of Mt. Sidney, Joshua Payne of Dayton; brothers, Jim Huffman and wife Tracy of Greensboro, GA, Roger Huffman and wife Fran of Pensacola, FL, Bruce Huffman and wife Cathy of Rocky Mount, VA, David Huffman and wife Susan of Harrisonburg; and numerous nieces and nephews.*

*He was a 50-year member of the **Singers Glen** Ruritan Club where he served in a number of offices as well as Ruritan Zone Governor, District Governor, and National Director. He was also a member of the **Rockingham Luncheon** Club. A Celebration of Life Service was held on Thursday, March 10 at the Donovan Memorial United Methodist Church.*



## HALL HOSTS DISTRICT MEETING

Albemarle District's March meeting was hosted by the **Hall Club**. Guests included Past National President Danny Privott and National Director Ron Reid. 2022 Albemarle District Governor Tim Spittler (pictured) was sworn in by Past National Director Frances Long.

## FORESTBURG DISTRIBUTES KNOWLEDGE

**Forestburg** donated Webster dictionaries to the third grade class at Hertford Grammar School. The dictionaries were presented to the students by club members Fay and Curtis Eure, and Patricia Cartwright, with the assistance of Principal John Lassiter.



## WILLIAM CHAPPELL HONORED

**Durants Neck Club** recently recognized William Wray Chappell for being a club member for 60 years. William joined the club on June 1, 1962 and has been an active member ever since. He was honored by the club and presented with a Ruritan jacket. William is a second-generation member as one of his relatives was a founding member in 1948. Pictured is Club President Lynn Mathis with William.

## ROBERSONVILLE RAMPS IT UP



Members of the **Robersonville** club built several ramps for individuals in their local community. Pictured are the work crews with a few of the finished projects.



## LYNN'S CROSSROADS HOSTS FOODIE FUNDRAISERS

**Lynn's Crossroads** hosted a Benefit Pancake Breakfast to help a local firefighter. Pictured is Club President Marshall Ross who was able to present the family with a check for \$4,511.00.



In February, the cook team planned a meal and entertainment for a Valentine Party. There were games and goodie bags for all attendees. The Spring BBQ fundraiser in March helped replace all the lights inside the building, in addition to providing support for our ongoing activities like bingo nights, Community Day, teacher goodie bags, Fall Festival and Christmas gift bags for seniors.

The club has also opened their building to the local Girl Scouts for meetings and a "trial camp out."



## NEW OFFICERS ARE READY TO EXPLORE

**Boone Trail** installed 2022 club officers. Pictured front (l-r) is Vice President James Currin, Director David Stewart, and Secretary Donald O'Quinn. Pictured back (l-r) is Director Nelson Currin, Club President Tony Currin, Treasurer Vernon Cox, and Director Jason Collins. Boone Trail derives its name from the area in Central North Carolina explored by early American frontiersman, Daniel Boone.



## LEMON SPRINGS HOSTS SHERIFF

**Lemon Springs** Club hosted Sheriff Brian Estes at a recent meeting. He spoke about his plans for the department and several programs the sheriff's office oversees. Pictured is Sheriff Estes being presented a Rudy Bear by Club President Bonnie Cupps. Also pictured (l-r) is Club Secretary Polly Boulding awarding Bonnie with the President's Gold Key and 5-member bar for having recruited seven new members this year.





## JOHNSONVILLE STAYS BUSY



**Johnsonville** shared a chili and baked potato dinner with first responders at Spout Springs Emergency Services in February. Club President Karen Cox presented Rudy Bears to Chief Alan Jarvis (left) to be shared with children that may be in scary situations. The Social Development Committee members delivered Valentine cards to the local Fresenius Dialysis Clinic and brought handmade candy bunnies to nearby nursing home residents. The club also delivered five baskets of food and five fruit



baskets to some local residents in need.

The club hosted the Cape Fear District Zones 3-4-5 winter meeting where attendees included newly assigned



National Director Ron Reid, District Lt. Governor Roger Peterson, Youth Coordinator Juanita Peterson, Leadership Development Chair Laurie Guin, Foundation Chair Neil Guin, District Treasurer Karen Cox, District Secretary Polly Bouldin, and District Governor Rodger Nicely. Club President Karen Cox welcomed new members Angie and Linn McCready in April, and club member Mike Lancaster gave a presentation on gun safety. Mike is the owner of



Phalanx Shooting Systems.

Johnsonville also joined the **Seventy-First** Club to help them celebrate their 77th anniversary. Past National President Linward Hedgspeth gave the keynote address. Other guests included First Lady Anne Hedgspeth, Cape Fear District Governor Rodger Nicely, National Director Ron Reid, and Zone 4 Governor Alan Banks and wife, Audrey.



## News From Ruritan: **Spartan District**

### **MIDDLE TYGER SHOWS THEY CARE**

**Middle Tyger** club members packed hospital care bags. The bags were hand painted with cartoon characters and filled with items such as puzzles, games, crayons, coloring books, and Playdoh, then donated to Children's Cancer Partners of the Carolinas. They, in turn, pass them out to children who are hospitalized for treatment of various cancers. To date, this group has donated 1,460 bags. The club thanks the "Bag Ladies" of Zoar and Grace United Methodist Churches in Greer, SC for their continued support. Pictured are club members Taylor Free and Collin Cash with 160 bags ready for pick-up.



## News From Ruritan: **Columbia District**

### **GILBERT SUPPORTS LOCAL AND GLOBAL COMMUNITY**



**Gilbert** club members Linda Ashley, David Keisler, Brenda Burkett, and Todd Long assembled Ruritan Care Bags alongside other Ruritans from the Columbia District. The group put together 100 bags (50 for children and 50 for veterans), which were distributed among the clubs, who then delivered them to their communities. Gilbert's Comfort Care Bags were delivered to veterans in the community and to Centerville Elementary School guidance counselors. These bags will be used to brighten

the day of children in need and lift the spirits of our veterans. Pictured (l-r) are Club President Todd Long, Club Vice President Brenda Burkett, and CES Guidance Counselors Sarah McCarthy, Leah Smith, and Kim Johnson.



The club also donated \$500 to the Lexington School District One Excellence in Education program. This program celebrates the top academic achievers of the graduating seniors in Lexington County School District One and highlights the importance of a quality education. Additionally, a \$1,000 donation was made to Samaritan's Purse for Ukraine Relief. Funds were raised at monthly club meetings through meal donations, a dessert auction, and individual donations!

***"Our Success Starts With You!"***



## AUGUSTA HONORS SERVICE



**Augusta** Club recognized two of their members for their outstanding service to the club and their community. Club member Norval Wood was awarded a Ruritan Forever and Grace Buckley was awarded the club's Ruritan of the Year. Grace was also the 2021 District Ruritan of the Year. National Director and 2021 Club President Paul Lewis was on hand to present the awards.

## CAPON BRIDGE CELEBRATES 70!

In February, the **Capon Bridge** Club celebrated their 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Pictured is Club President Guelda Wolford with the cake.



## BETTY HAMILTON RECEIVES 4H HONORS

**Fellowsville** Club Member Betty Hamilton was honored and presented with the 2021 Ruritan 4-H Leader Service Award. Betty has been the Sandy Pals 4-H leader for 47 years. She has been recognized at the county, state, and national level for her contribution to 4-H.

## COOPER FAMILY WELCOMED

**North River WV** Club awarded their Build Your Dollar scholarship to Alexis Cooper. Alexis, her grandmother, Jackie, and her grandfather, Randy, were also installed as new members of the club.





## HEADSVILLE-COUNTRYSIDE HONORS ATHEY



**Headsville-Countryside** Club President Rick Johnston presented Judy Athey with a Ruritan Forever for her husband, Bill, who passed away in January. Bill was a vital member and will forever be a part of our Ruritan family.



Pictured (l-r) National Director Ken Paugh welcomed siblings Shawn and Bay Baker as new club members.

Pictured (r) club member Tiana Morales presents a check to Diana Courrier of the Food For Thought program. This program helps to feed children in our local community.



## LANDES CLEANS UP

**Landes** Club had a community clean-up project and even some of the youngest club members participated. Pictured are Rylee Adams, 18, and Emily Adams, 11, working to clear fallen trees at a local church. Also pictured is Christopher Adams, age 5 and the youngest club member, working to clean debris from a clogged drainage ditch at the community building.



**Together  
Everyone  
Achieves  
More!**

## SLANESVILLE WORKS TOWARD “THRIVING” COMMUNITY



**Slanesville** has been busy with several projects beginning with the annual Apple Butter Fundraiser on October 9, 2021. Also in October, they joined with Augusta club to raise money for two local families in need. Thanks to the generosity of the clubs and the community, each family received \$8,000! At the end of October, the club hosted a “Trunk or Treat” for local children. Some of the members got in on the fun of dressing up

in costumes.



In November, the club served free meals to area veterans and first responders to thank them for their service. Also in November, several members of the club attended and participated in the Upper WV District Convention. Three club members were recognized for their service, District Governor Robert Combs, Lt. District Governor Sandra Timbrook, and Past District Governor Bryan Flanagan. Additionally, Catelynn Flanagan was awarded the District’s 2021 Rudy Youth of the Year.



In December, the club distributed 56 senior baskets, and 220 gift bags for Slanesville Elementary School students and staff. At the February 2022 meeting, Dave Saville from Haiti Hope Mission shared photos from a recent trip to Haiti. The mission supports a church, school, health clinic and orphanage. The club was able to sponsor eight more children this year and are thankful for the members and support of the community that helped make this possible.



On April 2, the club held its “Elimination Dinner,” which funds graduating senior scholarships and continuing college education scholarships!





## ROMNEY RAISES THE ROOF

**Romney** Club repaired a porch and deck roof for a family whose husband was seriously injured in a tractor-trailer accident. The husband and wife had also contracted COVID-19. Club President Ken Paugh, along with club members Ron



Cole, Kelly and Kathleen Cochran and their sons, Cody and Caylor, worked together to complete the project in one day.



## MAXWELTON RECOGNIZES RURITAN OF THE YEAR

**Maxwelton** presented club member Brenda Wallace with the 2021 Maxwelton Ruritan of the Year Award. Brenda has been an active member of the Maxwelton Club since 2017 and contributes many hours to help make the club's ice cream concession stand at the State Fair of WV a success. She also volunteers with Operation Christmas Child, overseeing the drop-off location at the State Fairgrounds. Brenda is active in her church teaching bible studies and volunteers with the Senior Adult Ministries. Brenda loves her community and is always looking for ways to help improve it.



## WILLIAMSBURG WV MEMBER STEPS UP

**Williamsburg WV** voted to confirm Danny Driggers as the 2022 Club President. Danny was originally set to serve as 2022 Vice President, however with the recent passing of Past President Stan Zahorenko and Club President Jack Goodman, he agreed to step into that role. Ray Philips, who has previously served as vice president, agreed to serve once again. Following a presentation by President Danny, the club is hoping to pursue an opportunity to bring music and other entertainment to the community. Pictured (l-r) are Ray Hopkins, Ellen Driggers, Club President Danny Driggers, Ina Rucker, Debra Zahorenko, Treasurer Rick Hedrick, Margaret Crookshanks, John Rucker, Lacy Hartsook, Rodger Hedrick, Gregory Hurd, and Vice President Ray Philips.





## FINCHVILLE SUPPORTS SPECIAL OLYMPICS



**Finchville** held their annual Highway 55 Yard Sale in April. Funds raised will help the club to continue their support of the Shelby County Special Olympics Team. The club also welcomed three new members this quarter. Pictured (l-r) are Polly Wooten, Meredith Gaither, and Kaitlin Tucker receiving their membership pins from Club President Keith Raisor.



## BLOOMINGDALE OPENS DOORS

**Bloomington** Club has been hosting monthly art contests at Ketrion Elementary School for grades Pre-K through 5th grade. Recently, the school held a door decorating contest and the club was asked to judge the work. Pictured are the winning doors.



1st Place-Ms. Owens

In honor of their 65th anniversary, the club was presented with a Joint Senate Resolution (pictured), co-sponsored by State Representative John Crawford and Senator Jon Lundberg.



2nd Place-Ms. Whitson



3rd Place-Ms. Houston



## BLEEKER IMPROVES MIND AND BODY

**Bleeker** Club donated to the Wacoochee Elementary School Library to help the library purchase books. Club President Bruce Blumhofer presented the check to the librarian.



The club recently joined with Concord Baptist Church and the Red Cross to sponsor a blood drive. Pictured is club member Lurlene Buck who is a retired phlebotomist from Auburn University.



## News From Ruritan: **Ohio District**

### LAKER OFFERS CHANCE

**Laker** Club rewarded two raffle winners in March. Bud Potter of Bud's Marina won \$250 in the Early Bird drawing from tickets sold for the club's gun raffle, and Eileen Slusher was the winner of the club's Lottery Wreath Raffle. Both tickets were drawn at the Wayne Volunteer Fire Department Pancake Breakfast. Pictured is Bud (right) and Eileen (left) receiving their awards from Club Vice President Roy Dotterweich.



### WINONA SUPPORTS "MADE IN AMERICA"

**Winona** Club presented its Spring Gun Raffle winner with the "Henry Made in America" level action .410 shotgun side gate. Chairman of the raffle committee, Michael Knoedler, made the presentation. Pictured (l-r) is Michael, raffle winner Hunter Puckett, and Call Sign Alpha owner Wayne Snyder.



*A GOOD TEAM IS A GREATER ACTION!*



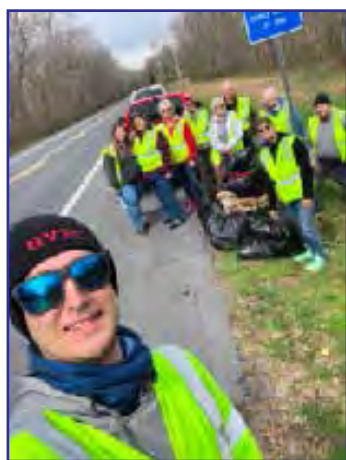
## News From Ruritan: Western North Carolina District



### CHESTERFIELD NC REMOVES REFUSE

**Chesterfield NC** picked up several bags of debris during their roadside clean-up project on Saturday, April 9. Pictured (l-r) are club members David Denton, Shandy Gossett, James Johnson and Ralph Ballew.

## News From Ruritan: Delmarva-New Jersey District



### HARTLY HOSTS SPRING CLEAN UP

**Hartly Club's** first spring activity was to participate in Adopt-A-Highway to clean a stretch of road in the community. Club members collected ten large bags of trash. They also hosted a "Community Clean Up" event in May to provide dumpsters in the neighborhood for folks needing to get rid of larger items.

In April, the club hosted a virtual quarter auction. They collected over \$4,000 and gave away more than 70 items. Club



Secretary Mary Sanders and member Dora Virdin were instrumental for their help in making this a successful event. Mary was also recently presented with the President's Gold Key by National Director Perry Marshman.



### KENT RECOGNIZED FOR 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

**Kent** was recognized for 50 years of community service by a proclamation issued by the Kent County, Maryland Board of Commissioners. Pictured (l-r) are Commissioner Jacobs, Faye Robinson, Club Secretary Bill Kelly, Past Club President Jim Robinson, Club President John Myers, Jr., Commissioner Mason and Commissioner Fithian.



## WISTARBURG CARRIES ON TRADITION

**Wistarburg** Club has been decorating the Alloway Township Christmas Tree for decades. For 2021, the club asked residents to make or provide an ornament from their family to place on the tree. Pictured decorating the tree (l-r) are Event Chair Charles Sickler, Alan English, and on the ladder, Club President Lou Joyce. On the night of the tree lighting, the club hosts the event with cookies, hot cocoa and crafts. Santa and Mrs. Claus (Club Members Jim and Barbara Whitt), pictured here with Hank Helms, help lead the event. The club also teamed up with the Alloway Township Committee to host the community Christmas Lights Contest. The club provided prizes for winners in home, business, and church categories, which were awarded the night of the community tree lighting.



## TRI-COUNTY MD CELEBRATES 45 YEARS

**Tri County MD** Club celebrated its 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on March 17<sup>th</sup>. Charter members (pictured l-r) Richard Sump, Bill Callahan, and Jim Boyle were on hand to accept the 45th Anniversary certificate. The trio remain very active and are looked upon as club role models.

The club hosted 152 shooters at Pintail Point Sporting Clay

facility in Queenstown, MD. The event featured a 12 station, 50 bird shoot. A barbecue lunch was served by the dinner committee of St Paul's Lutheran Church. Two shotguns were awarded as door prizes. There were five shooting awards presented for top gun and Lewis class, along with awards to female and youth shooters. Silent auction items were offered along with over 29 door prizes. They also set a record with 64 sponsors. Proceeds from the event support the club's scholarship awards and other activities.



## SANDY RIDGE HONORS SENIORS



In April, **Sandy Ridge** hosted the 2022 graduating high school seniors from their school district at The Stanley Farm in Sandy Ridge. The students were served a delicious meal, enjoyed an inspirational speech by club member Derrick Vickers and were gifted with a Bible. Each senior was given the opportunity to share their future plans and goals. The club then presented Kara Jane Priddy with a scholarship to help continue her studies in college.

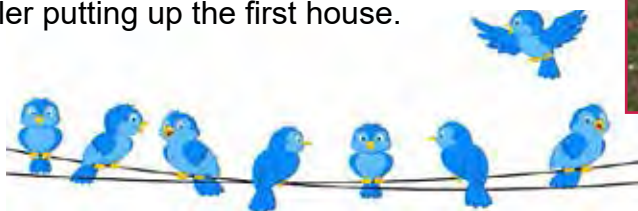
## UNION GROVE HAMS IT UP

**Union Grove** Club held a Winter Ham Breakfast and County Commissioner Meet and Greet on February 19, 2022. The event drew a crowd of approximately 75 people. Club President Dawn Smith welcomed everyone to the event. Club member and District Court Judge Rob Young emceed the event which featured nine candidates for the Iredell County Commission. Several other elected officials were also in attendance. A full range of breakfast items including country ham, biscuits, livermush, and eggs was served. The proceeds will go toward club programs and outreach in the Union Grove community.



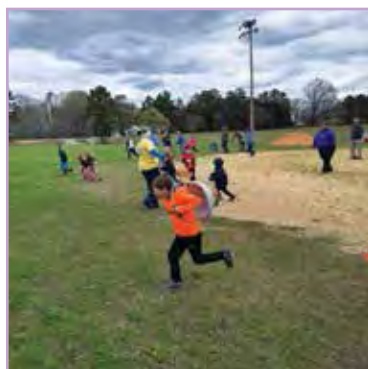
## WENTWORTH GOES TO THE BIRDS

**Wentworth** members made a presentation to the Wentworth Town Council and received permission to install ten bluebird houses around the town of Wentworth and Rockingham Community College. Pictured are club members Nathan Rich and Paul Butler putting up the first house.





## AARON'S CREEK HOPS TO IT

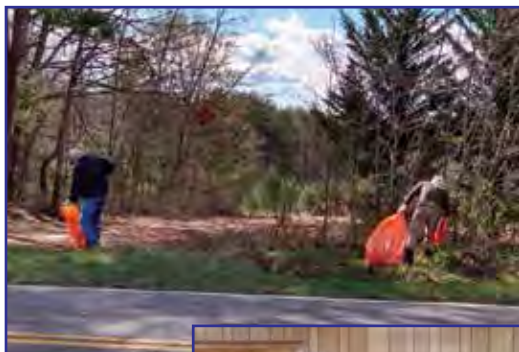


**Aaron's Creek** hosted its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Parents, grandparents, and children in the Aaron's Creek community braved the cold wind to enjoy the fun and games, and hunt for over 1000 colored eggs. Pictured are Golden Egg winners Parker Arrington and Miranda Smith, who were each awarded a Rudy Bear by Club President Kathy Long and Club Treasurer Melody Davis. Each participant also received a treat bag with prizes, club information and a Rudy Bear coloring book.

Club President and Zone 7 Governor Kathy Long, installed their newest member, Nicole Marshall (right), in April.



## ARARAT SPRINGS INTO FUN



**Ararat** Club has been busy with several community service activities. In March, members braved the cold and windy first Saturday of spring to pick up trash along Ararat Highway, removing 14 40-gallon bags of litter. During March bingo, the club took up donations for the Redemption House-Surry, a home for men who are recovering from addiction. Pictured (l-r) are Megan Daughenbaugh and Erik Best from Reemption House-Surry, and Club President Kathleen Loveland. The club hosted a quarterly community watch with the Patrick County Sheriff's office, where Officer Dustin Dillon and his canine partner Crash performed a demonstration.



In April, the club hosted a barn quilt painting class with designs and instruction provided by Lisa Martin, owner/operator of The Wormy Chestnut. Also in April, the club held their annual Easter

Egg hunt for children in the community, partnered with the American Red Cross for a blood drive, and hosted a town hall meeting where community members had the opportunity to meet local elected officials and find out what is happening in local government.

The club recently kicked off Monday Night Game Night. They open their building to the community to come in and play card games like Rook, Uno, and Rummy, or board games.





## JENNIFER STATZER HONORED

**Dan River** member Jennifer Statzer has been selected for inclusion in the Nationwide Registries for Women of Distinction 2022 Honors Edition. She was selected for her dedication, leadership and professional excellence to her community. Ms. Statzer is the Secretary of the Dan River Ruritan Club, Treasurer of the Ringgold Fire & Rescue (EMT), CPR Instructor, American Red Cross Representative for Danville and Pittsylvania County, Board Member of the Ringgold Fire & Rescue and Church Secretary for Lakewood Community Church. Pictured on the front row (l-r) is Club President Todd Fitts, Honoree Jennifer Statzer, and Club Vice-President and Ringgold Fire Chief Mike Neal, along with other club members.



"IF YOU  
WANT  
TO LIFT  
YOURSELF UP,  
LIFT UP  
SOMEONE  
ELSE"

## MT. LAUREL SERVES WIDOWS

**Mt. Laurel** hosted a "Widow's Supper" in April. Dennis Lewis provided the entertainment for the evening.



## UNION HELPS THEIR NEIGHBOR

**Union** assisted a local resident by building a ramp and deck onto her home. This will allow her to come and go more easily. Pictured (l-r) are Holden Francis, Doc Clark, Dianne Simmons, and Mac McDannald. Not pictured are Tommy Stevens and Fred Eanes.



## RANGELEY HOISTS THE FLAGS AND STIRS THE STEW



**Rangeley** received new flags, presented to them by Woodman Life, to display outside their building. Pictured (l-r) is Nina Hylton, Bill Hutchinson, Jim McMillan (raising the flags), Scott Koebel, and Homer Luther.



Club members and volunteer helpers made 317 quarts of stew and sold out! Pictured (l-r) David Mehaffey, Phillip Earles, George Mehaffey, and Patrick Rodgers

keep the stew moving, while Frances Rakes, Kathy Reed, and Fay Moore get the containers ready for pick up.



## POFF GETS THE GOLDEN KEY

**Belmont II** Club President Brian Grove presents the President's Golden Key award to Fredene Poff for recruiting four new members.



## HORTON PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

**Fairview Inc.** Club President Roger Payne presented their Build Your Dollars scholarship to club member Farris Horton. Farris joined the club in 2013 and is graduating from Dalton McMichael High School with her CNA certification. She plans to pursue a Physical Therapy Assistant degree and will attend Rockingham Community College and then Guilford Technical College.



## RURITAN ROAD GOES ALL OUT FOR EASTER

In April, **Ruritan Road** hosted the Easter celebration in downtown Pulaski. Hundreds of children showed up to grab their share of over 6,000 filled eggs. In addition to the candy, some of the eggs contained tokens for special prizes donated by local businesses. Other activities included Egg-In-A Spoon race, Bunny Hop sack race, and face painting.

The children got to visit with the local police and sheriff's departments, Virginia State Police, fire department and rescue squad.



There was a special appearance by Rudy Bear and the Easter Bunny, and WPSK radio personalities Curtis Crowder and Pam Garrison (*pictured with Rudy Bear*) awarded one lucky family with Dollywood tickets.





## CAMP CREEK BAKES AND BRAVES THE COLD

**Camp Creek** held their monthly breakfast and bake sale to raise funds for their July 4<sup>th</sup> community festivities. Club members provided pies, cakes, brownies and more, and all



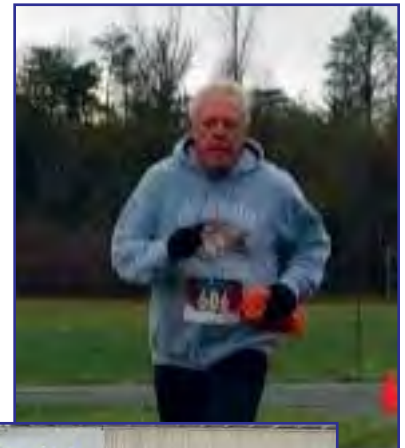
the items were sold. Pictured is club member Gerry Sensanbaugh setting out the items for sale.

Club members Alan and Bea Brown were presented with 10-year membership pins by Club President Reta Phillips.



Miles for Missions 5K was held April 9<sup>th</sup> at the Camp Creek Ruritan Memorial Pavilion. The event was hosted by the Harris Memorial

Church with the assistance of the Camp Creek club. The money raised goes to missionaries in Japan. The club helped with planning, directing traffic, and concessions. Club members George Lewis (age 73) and wife, Jodi, braved the snow and cold, windy weather to participate. George finished 24<sup>th</sup> out of 39, with Jodi finishing a little after. Pictured are George and Jodi, and our group of helpers.



## WASHINGTON COLLEGE OFFICERS INSTALLED

**Washington College** 2022 officers were installed on March 14<sup>th</sup> by Zone 2 Governor Nancy Hall. Pictured (l-r) are Director Debbie Byers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President David O'Brien, Secretary Barbara Wall, Vice President Alan Campbell, President Pat Lee Loyd, Director Jmmy Hall, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Treasurer Nancy Hall. Not pictured are Treasurer Mike Metzner, and Director Don Graves.



## TELFORD HOSTS “TOUCH-A-TRUCK”

**Telford (TN)** Club hosted a “Touch-A-Truck” event for their community on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. The event gave children the opportunity to experience first responder vehicles up close, including Sheriff’s SWAT and K9 units, a fire truck, an EMS crash truck, and an ambulance.



The public also got an early look at Tennessee’s first all-electric school bus. Police K9s, Phoenix and Ronin, were a big hit with the children. Hot dogs, chips, cookies, and drinks were offered at no charge.

## PAST FOUNDATION PRESIDENT O’DELL PASSES

2013 Foundation President **Norman D. O’Dell**, age 83, passed away Saturday, February 26, 2022, at his home in Unicoi, TN after a brief battle with cancer. He received a B.S. Degree from East Tennessee State University with a major in Industrial Technology. He completed post-graduate course work and taught Drafting as a Graduate Assistant at ETSU. He served as a deacon in four Baptist churches over a 55-year period, and he also enjoyed teaching a men’s Sunday School class. He was a member of the Jericho Temple Shrine Club and a 50+ year member of the Masonic York Rite and Scottish Rite. He served one term on the Unicoi County School Board and served many years for the Unicoi County Election Commission as a Judge and Machine Operator for elections.

As a member of the **Unicoi** and **Jonesborough** Ruritan Clubs, he served in several local, District and National Ruritan leadership positions over many years. For many years, he was a frequent volunteer at Clinchfield Senior Center in Erwin, performing all types of minor maintenance jobs, making biscuits for Apple Festival breakfasts, driving the Senior Center van to numerous locations for senior trips, and driving the van as a shuttle during Apple Festival to and from the Blue Ridge Pottery annual show and sale.

Norman was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Wanda O’Dell Pratt. He leaves behind to cherish his memory his wife of 58 years, Charlene Cooper O’Dell; daughter, Virginia O’Dell Mercer (Mike), Ooltewah, TN; granddaughter, Amy Mercer and grandson, Andrew Mercer, Ooltewah, TN; sister, Wilma O’Dell Bible, New Market, TN and nephews: William Pratt, Phillip Pratt and Mark Pratt as well as several cousins. A celebration of his life was held on March 5, 2022.





## CHANCELLOR CELEBRATES DEDICATED SERVICE

**Chancellor** recognized several members for their many years of dedicated. These gentlemen have played and continue to play



an essential role in the club's journey and success. Pictured (l-r) are Allen T. Thorburn (54 years), Danny Pemberton (48 years), and Wayne Miller (47 years).

The club has introduced officers for 2022. Pictured (l-r): Club President Ray Simms, Vice President Lewis Watts, Secretary Bob Daniel, and Treasurer Bill Jamerson.



WHAT WE DO TOGETHER  
CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

“ONE TEAM - ONE DIRECTION - UP!”

## ***Opt-Out of Ruritan Solicitation Communications***

Ruritan partners with Gallagher Affinity so that businesses such as Office Depot, Lifeline Screening, Choice Hotels, and Hertz may offer special benefits to Ruritan members as an extra “thank you” for what Ruritan members are doing in their communities. The mailings come from Gallagher; the Ruritan mailing list is never given directly to these businesses.

You are under no obligation to respond but if you would prefer not to get those mail offers at all – you can email us at [service@ruritan.org](mailto:service@ruritan.org).

Ruritan staff may also send email blasts to Ruritan leaders about other offers – supply sales, donation opportunities (i.e. St. Jude's Children's Hospital) etc. You can also opt out of those email blasts by emailing [service@ruritan.org](mailto:service@ruritan.org).

\*Note that there is a lead time on mailings and it could take 30 - 60 days to update mailing lists.

# Resolving Conflicts In Your Club

*First in a series*

How can your club members work smoothly together, drawing strength from a variety of personalities and priorities?

When groups work together there are two separate issues involved. First is the *task* (the actual job being done) and second is the *process* (the way the group acts as a unit.) Clubs who focus solely on getting the job done and neglect the group process, may find themselves able to do less and less. These are clubs marked by frustration.

Clubs who pay attention to their process can find themselves having successes they never thought possible. These are clubs known for their spirit of cooperation and a high level of fellowship and goodwill.

While some groups must struggle with formation and structure, Ruritan clubs should not be facing that problem. By constitution and design, clubs have distinct officers with specific duties and service committees that allow for smooth organization and function.

However, once the officers are elected and the committees appointed, most clubs must face a few obstacles in the road to performance. The group process is important. We accomplish more working on a common project than we could ever do as individuals. With a group we can combine talents, experience, and skills for the best possible outcome.

But with every group, comes a set of challenges. Consider these group characteristics and suggestions:

**The Mouse:** This is the quiet member in the corner who doesn't say much. He or she may be the most under-utilized person in your club. If you are the mouse – it is your responsibility to speak up and share your ideas. If your club has a mouse – try drawing him or her out, encouraging interaction in group discussion and performance.

**The Loud-Mouth:** Here's another character who shows up in most groups. Is there someone in your club whose opinions form a disproportionate share of the discussion. Consider for a moment if the loud-mouth could be you. If the loud-mouth is someone else, ask him or her to summarize briefly and ask others for their views.

**Written Record:** Consider using an easel with a flip

chart or a dry erase board so that decisions made during a meeting can be recorded boldly in front of everyone. This avoids conflict when the minutes of the meeting later reflect something not everyone realized was happening.

**Feedback:** Club presidents and committee chairs should ask for feedback frequently, even on small issues. Everyone offering a criticism should be prepared to offer a suggestion for improvement.

**Handling Failure and Deadlock:** Ultimately the long-term success of your club will depend upon how your members handle failure – because you will occasionally fail to accomplish your goals. Any failure should be explored by the group and the club should make an effort to learn from the mistakes. In the case of deadlock – two opposing groups facing off on some proposed action – try to find the common ground and ways to compromise. Most importantly, decide if the issue even needs to be settled. Many a

club meeting has been wasted on this kind of debate, when tabling the issue might have served the group better. If the issue is not critical, try something simple, like tossing a coin, provided all parties agree to abide by the outcome.

**Sign posting:** On your way to a large goal, make sure club members understand what is being done along the way – keeping the big picture in mind.

**Avoid single solutions:** For every problem, generate a number of alternatives for discussion, then pick one to implement.

**Active Communication:** This is the responsibility of both the speaker and the listener. The speaker must actively express his or her ideas in a clear, concise manner. This listener must actively seek to understand what has been said and ask for clarification if unsure.

Groups are like any relationships – you have to work at them. With just a little attention to your club's group dynamics you can accomplish work far beyond anything you might imagine.

Content for this piece was taken, with permission, from an article entitled "Groups that Work" by Gerard M. Blair, originally published in the **Engineering Management Journal** of the Institution of Electrical Engineers (UK).





## Districts and Areas of Ruritan

D B M L P E L G Y N P C T D V E R E W N R B G H E C X D W N  
 B M B X R L L E E L R N H C L E E K F L Z A A E D H O N O I  
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 L B Y A Q X L U A M R U C T L N F N Y R K A V M N Z T L D R  
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**Alabama Florida**

**Albemarle**

**Appomattox**

**Bluegrass**

**Cape Fear**

**Cherokee**

**Chesapeake**

**Columbia**

**Dan River**

**Davy Crockett**

**Delmarva NJ**

**Georgia N Alabama**

**Great Plains**

**Greenville Goldsboro**

**Gulf**

**Hermitage**

**Holland**

**Lincolnlnd**

**Lower WV**

**Middle America**

**Natural Bridge**

**New River**

**New York**

**Ohio**

**Opportunity Land**

**Peaks of Otter**

**Piedmont**

**Potomac**

**Rapidan**

**Rappahannock**

**Roanoke**

**Rockingham**

**Rocky Mt Durham**

**Smoky Mountain**

**Spartan**

**SW Virginia**

**Tall Corn**

**Tennessean**

**Upper WV**

**Western NC**

**Woodrow Wilson**

# WANTED: WINNING RURITAN RECRUITERS

FIRST QUARTER 2022



DEBBIE HENDERSON OF  
THE FALLING SPRING CLUB IN  
THE NATURAL BRIDGE DISTRICT



MELINDA PRICE OF  
THE WAYNE CITY CLUB  
IN THE LINCOLNLAND  
DISTRICT.



JOHNNY JOHNSON OF THE  
SILK HOPE CLUB IN THE  
ROCKY MT. - DURHAM  
DISTRICT

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