

RURITAN

JULY 2008

NEWSLETTER

Ruritan Foundation Approves Mission Statement

Dear Fellow Ruritans:

At the May 17, 2008, meeting in Franklin, Virginia, the trustees approved a mission statement for the foundation. It reads: "The Ruritan National Foundation provides financial assistance to qualified individuals or



groups for educational, charitable, and benevolent activities." Efforts to provide this financial assistance require fundraisers and donations from various sources along with investment procedures throughout the year.

The "Big Goal" is to build the principal that we have at present so that in the future greater amounts of money may be available for the schol-

arships and that more scholarships will be realized through club participation. Club members are urged to donate to the foundation annually and to buy into the "Build Your Dollar Scholarship Program."

Please be reminded that September 1, 2008, is the last day that the \$300 for investing into the "Build Your Dollar Program" may be submitted in order to receive a scholarship for 2009. The benefit of participating in this program is that the money is returned to the club and the community indirectly. The club names the recipient for this award. Also, no coupon is needed this year.

Remember that the auctions will take place again

in Myrtle Beach. This would be a good time to create an item to bring to the convention. These auctions represent one of our greatest fundraisers each year and they are also "fun." Without member participation, the auctions would not be possible.

It is the time of year for scholarship checks to be given out. A good plan for letting the secret out about our scholarship programs is to have students and parents attend a meeting of the club and invite the newspaper person to write up an article about the recipient of the award. This year there were 509 scholarships awarded.

Work is continuing with the college partnerships. If anyone would like to try for a partnership, help is available by calling the trustees or the secretary at the Dublin office for information. These partnerships are valuable not only to the students but also to the colleges and universities.

The Fellowship Weekend is approaching rapidly. Have you made your reservation for this great experience at Pipestem State Park? Please read your summer magazine for details. Your presence will be appreciated. If you are willing, remember the 40th birthday of the foundation with \$40 of pocket change. There will be great fellowship, golfing, good food, and exploration! Mark your calendar for September 12-14, 2008.

Thank you for all you do to promote the great institution known as the "Ruritan National Foundation." It is a work of Ruritan love to mankind in need.

May you be blessed!

Sincerely,
Nell Jeffries,

2008 Ruritan National Foundation President

Come to Pipestem Early and Play Night Golf!

In addition to the regularly scheduled golf tournament on Saturday, September 13, golfers can also take advantage of a night golf game on Thursday, September 11. Organized by Past National President and Past Foundation President Jim LaFollette and Past Foundation President Joe Hulver the night golf game will begin at 7:30 p.m. Anyone interested should plan to meet the group in the parking lot at that time Thursday night.

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A service provided to the leaders of Ruritan,

"America's Leading Community Service Organization."

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

My Fellow Ruritan Leaders:

Life is unpredictable and life isn't fair – two truths we can probably all agree upon. Two thousand eight has brought many challenges to most Americans. Sure, most of us have lived with the downturn of the economy in years past, but as we get older, we seem to be more cognizant of the struggles this brings to so many. Gas prices are staggering, and a trip to the grocery store finds most people searching the aisles for bargains. We can't predict what the

future holds for any of us, but as I've traveled promoting Ruritan, I can say unequivocally that wonderful things are being done all over Ruritan Land by our members to make our communities better places in which to live. I have seen our members doing such things as raising funds for families devastated by a natural disaster and for a young family in financial ruin because of a child's medical situation. I recently attended a Lawn Party sponsored by local Ruritans where the community fellowshiped for three fun-filled days. In addition to providing good food and wholesome entertainment, the dollars raised from the event will provide scholarships for their youth and support many other projects for the community. Yes, like you, I'm proud of Ruritan – proud of who we are, what we do, and why we do it!

Recently, someone told me they felt there is constant discussion of membership, and you know, he is right. I, like all our leaders, am concerned with growth. Obviously, the more "people power" we have, the more we can do to meet the many needs of our communities. But, I also want us to always remember that we have over 32,000 Ruritans, most working as hard as they can to "spread the goodness" of Ruritan. To all those, I personally want you to know how grateful I am for all you do – you are appreciated! We must continue to bring others into "the family" by including all ages, male and female, those who hold the same beliefs as we do – the beliefs of God, family, community, country, and patriotism. Please ask your friends, family, associates, and neighbors, including youth – our future, to join "the family." Our communities and our country, maybe now more than ever before, need Ruritan. I'm making a per-

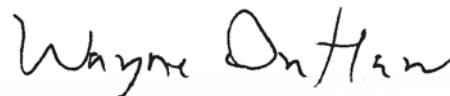
sonal plea to all Ruritan leaders to make a commitment to your community and our country by bringing in at least two new members into "the family." We lead by example, and if you truly believe in what we are all about, you'll not only bring in new members, but you'll encourage your fellow Ruritans to follow your lead.

Recruiting new members and/or reclaiming former members is important, but we must make sure we never focus on recruiting/reclaiming new members at the expense of our current members. Retention of current club members is paramount. We must do the "important things" to retain them (e.g., have good monthly programs, organized and productive meetings that address the needs of the community, etc.); and, maybe most importantly, we must always be encouragers — letting them know we are grateful for their service.

Finally, do you know of an area that would benefit from a Ruritan club that doesn't currently have one? You could be the key to opening the door for a community of neighbors to have social interaction, while at the same time providing services relevant to their community. Be a catalyst for growing "the family." Lead by example! Our communities, which we will surely one day pass to our children and grandchildren, will be the winners or the losers based on what we do or don't do. We must not let them down!

Thank you for the great privilege to serve as your National President, and thank you for all you have done and will surely do in the coming months and years to "spread the goodness" of our great organization.

Proudly Serving,



Wayne Outlaw
2008 National President

"SPREAD THE GOODNESS"

2008 Fellowship Weekend Entertainment

Friday, September 12

The Proclaimers, gospel group from Parkersburg, WV

Saturday, September 13

Soloist Angie Whitley, teacher and member of East River Ruritan Club.



2009 Ruritan National Convention

LET'S GO TO THE BEACH



2009 Ruritan National Convention Sheraton Hotel, Myrtle Beach, SC (January 22-25, 2009)

Tell Us Who Is Coming to the BEACH

Please print or type

1st Attendee: _____ Club: _____ District _____
2nd Attendee: _____ Club: _____ District _____
Home Address: _____ Email Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Preferred Badge Name #1: _____
Preferred Badge Name #2: _____

Daytime phone number: _____

Check items below that apply:

I need vegetarian meals for these members of my party.
(list names below)

GUESTS: As a fully registered attendee you may bring non-registered guests to meal functions only. List names below and pay for their meals under "Extra Tickets" on reverse. They will only be allowed in events they've paid for.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

This is my first Convention/Name: _____

Please send information on wheelchair/scooter rental.

I am a Delegate/Name: _____

I have 50 years or more perfect attendance. Name: _____ # of Years _____

Registration Details

Your convention registration includes:

- Wednesday night Social with Entertainment,
- Thursday evening Vesper Service with meal and entertainment,
- Friday and Saturday business sessions,
- Friday First Lady's Luncheon with Entertainment,
- Saturday Installation Banquet with Entertainment,
- President's Reception,
- Name badge, printed program, workshops, entertainment, speakers, and more.

Registration must be paid in order to attend convention activities including workshops and business sessions.

A registered convention attendee may purchase extra meals for his/her non-registered guests. The deadline to qualify for "early" registration is December 22, 2008. Between December 22, 2008, and January 1, 2009, late registration fees will apply. After January 1, 2009, you may only register in person at the convention site.

Optional Events & Meals

There are several optional events that may be purchased separately for attendees or for their guests. These are listed on the back of this registration form.

Lodging

The Sheraton Myrtle Beach Convention Center Hotel (the headquarters for the 2009 Ruritan National Convention) is now full. Ruritans should call the overflow property - **Fairfield Inn Marriott**, located at Broadway at the Beach. The reservation phone number is (800) 217-1511. Please mention that you are with the Ruritan group.

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

Name: _____ (Check one in each column)

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

2009 Ruritan National Convention

What Events Will You Attend At The Beach?

Convention Registration: Includes Thursday Vesper Dinner, Friday First Lady's Luncheon, and Saturday Banquet.

Early Registration # ____ @ \$135 =+ \$ ____

Postmarked on or prior to December 22, 2008

Late Registration # ____ @ \$160 =+ \$ ____

Postmarked after December 22, 2008

Sub Total Basic Registration \$ ____

Optional Meals: These prices are for registered attendees only. Guests who are not registered should purchase their meal tickets under "Extra Tickets" below.

Friday

Foundation Awards Dinner # ____ @ \$32 =+ \$ ____

Saturday

Veterans' Breakfast # ____ @ \$20 =+ \$ ____

Sub Total Optional Meals \$ ____

Extra Tickets: For any guests of a fully registered attendee.

These tickets will secure entrance to these events ONLY.

Thursday

Vesper Dinner # ____ @ \$45 =+ \$ ____

Friday

First Lady's Luncheon # ____ @ \$35 =+ \$ ____

Foundation Awards Dinner # ____ @ \$32 =+ \$ ____

Saturday

Veterans Breakfast # ____ @ \$20 =+ \$ ____

Saturday Installation Banquet # ____ @ \$55 =+ \$ ____

Sub Total Extra Tickets: \$ ____

Other:

Rudy Bears - Large* # ____ @ \$8.25 =+ \$ ____

Rudy Bears - Small* # ____ @ \$4.95 =+ \$ ____

Cash donation for food drop \$ ____

(will be credited to your district total)

Sub Total Other \$ ____

GRAND TOTAL \$ ____

***Celebrate Rudy Bear's 20th birthday with a gift of bears in Myrtle Beach for donation to hospitals, rescue squads, fire departments, and police departments.**



How Will You Pay?

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

Check payment type below:

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

____ Payment made by check Check # _____

____ Visa/Mastercard Card # _____

Expiration date # _____

Check one option below

____ Bill my credit card now

____ Bill my credit card on December 15, 2008

Ruritan National Membership Statistics from January 1, 2008 through May 31, 2008

	Ruritan	Ruritan	Ruritan	Ruritan	Ruritan	Ruritan		
	Clubs	new clubs	disbanded	Clubs	Members	Members	Difference	% increase
Districts	1/1/08	5/31/08	5/31/08	5/31/08	1/1/08	5/31/08		
SUB CATEGORY - SMALL DISTRICTS: 500 members or less on 5/31								
Georgia - North Alabama	18			18	333	344	11	3.30%
Tennessean	19			19	457	459	2	0.44%
Spartan	11			11	247	248	1	0.40%
Southwest Virginia	17			17	378	379	1	0.26%
Natural Bridge	15			15	479	478	-1	-0.21%
Roanoke	13			13	308	305	-3	-0.97%
Alabama - Florida	7			7	199	192	-7	-3.52%
Opportunity Land	7			7	193	185	-8	-4.15%
Middle America	17		1	16	372	356	-16	-4.30%
Tall Corn	12			12	254	229	-25	-9.84%
SUB CATEGORY - MEDIUM DISTRICTS: 501 to 1000 members on 5/31								
Cape Fear	23			23	669	688	19	2.84%
Cherokee	16			16	520	527	7	1.35%
Upper West Virginia	25			25	823	830	7	0.85%
New River	34			34	780	782	2	0.26%
Rapidan	24			24	710	710	0	0.00%
Western North Carolina	34			34	788	787	-1	-0.13%
Greenville - Goldsboro	24			24	563	561	-2	-0.36%
Smoky Mountain	17			17	512	507	-5	-0.98%
Hermitage	23			23	534	528	-6	-1.12%
Peaks of Otter	30			30	787	775	-12	-1.52%
Columbia	20			20	542	531	-11	-2.03%
Woodrow Wilson	30			30	993	969	-24	-2.42%
Rappahannock	30			30	943	917	-26	-2.76%
Albemarle	27			27	782	759	-23	-2.94%
Bluegrass	26			26	600	579	-21	-3.50%
Lower West Virginia	34		1	33	833	803	-30	-3.60%
Lincolnland	26		1	25	736	696	-40	-5.43%
SUB CATEGORY - LARGE DISTRICTS: 1001 members or more on 5/31								
Holland	62		1	61	2352	2373	21	0.89%
Rockingham	32			32	1188	1197	9	0.76%
Davy Crockett	37			37	997	1003	6	0.60%
Potomac	48			48	1443	1439	-4	-0.28%
Chesapeake	48			48	1602	1594	-8	-0.50%
Delmarva - New Jersey	42			42	1104	1098	-6	-0.54%
Appomattox	41			41	1237	1219	-18	-1.46%
Piedmont	60			60	1428	1406	-22	-1.54%
Rocky Mt.- Durham	41			41	1393	1368	-25	-1.79%
Ohio	62			62	1621	1587	-34	-2.10%
Dan River	40		1	39	1152	1083	-69	-5.99%
SUB CATEGORY - AREAS								
Gulf Area	9			9	235	241	6	2.55%
New York Area	2			2	82	78	-4	-4.88%
Great Plains Area	4			4	152	144	-8	-5.26%
Colorado Area	1			1	17	15	-2	-11.76%
TOTAL	1,108	0	5	1,103	31,338	30,969	-369	-1.70%

This reflects a loss of 369 for the year which is a loss of 98 members in May over the totals at the end of April.

Both Sunrise and Oakville Community were disbanded in 2007 but were not included in the list presented to the board in January. The statistics above were adjusted to reflect the correct number of beginning clubs on January 1. The members in those two clubs were adjusted out in October of 2007.

Ruri-Teen Membership Statistics from January 1, 2008 through May 31, 2008

	Ruri-Teen	Dropped clubs	New clubs	Ruri-Teen				
	Clubs	through	through	Clubs	Ruri-Teens	Ruri-Teens	Difference	% increase
Districts	1/1/2008	5/31/2008	5/31/2008	5/31/2008	1/1/2008	5/31/2008		
Holland	1			1	17	17	0	0.00%
Chesapeake	4			4	87	84	-3	-3.45%
Appomattox	4			4	128	123	-5	-3.91%
Woodrow Wilson	1			1	16	16	0	0.00%
Rockingham	1			1	200	200	0	0.00%
Potomac	1			1	18	19	1	5.56%
Rocky Mt.- Durham	2			2	34	34	0	0.00%
Cape Fear	0		1	1	0	66	66	100.00%
Cherokee	1			1	37	37	0	0.00%
Ohio	6			6	311	330	19	6.11%
Piedmont	1		1	2	20	40	20	100.00%
Dan River	0		1	1		29		
Opportunity Land	1			1	23	23	0	0.00%
Gulf Area	9			9	150	174	24	16.00%
TOTAL	32			35	1041	1192	151	16.95%
							Net Increase	

Ruri-Teen increased by 89 in the month of May and is up 151 year to date.

Foundation Fellowship Weekend

September 12-14, Pipestem, WV

Full registration fee includes
Friday night buffet dinner,
Saturday buffet dinner,
Sunday buffet breakfast, &
entertainment

Name: _____
Badge Name: _____
Spouse/Guest Name: _____
Badge Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ ZIP _____
Phone + Area Code: _____
Club: _____
District: _____

Fun and Funds Weekend

The theme for the 2008 Fellowship Weekend is "Fun and Funds for the Foundation." The Ruritan National Foundation turns 40 years old this year. Foundation President Nell Jeffries explained, "We are asking you to save your pocket change this year until you have saved \$40. Put your cash into a brown bag, plastic baggie, can, or jar – get creative just for fun!" At the Saturday banquet, we will deposit all the coins and currency into a big container and share a birthday cake with 40 candles. All additional donations – above the \$40 suggested gift – will be deeply appreciated." You can get your room at the beautiful Pipestem Resort now by calling 304-466-1800. Please refer to the Ruritan National Foundation Weekend to get the Ruritan rate.

Items of Interest

■ Ruritans registered for the entire weekend will enjoy two dinner buffets (Friday and Saturday) and a breakfast buffet on Sunday after the 7:30 a.m. worship service. (Meals may also be purchased individually.) Entertainment during the weekend will include storytelling, as well as gospel and patriotic music.

■ On Saturday, you may car pool with your Ruritan friends (leaving from the main lodge at 9 a.m.) to visit the New River Gorge and see the highest bridge east of the Mississippi River. On the way home stop at Tamarack for shopping and lunch in the cafeteria operated by the Greenbrier Resort. (Guides from the Pipestem Club will be provided.) Mark your registration form if you are interested in this optional event and/or if you can provide a vehicle.

■ A golf tournament will be held on Saturday on the 18-hole par 72 championship golf course at Pipestem, designed by Geoffrey Cornish and featuring views of the Bluestone Canyon. Register on the form on this page. Golf organizers are Past National President and Past Foundation President Jim LaFollette and Past Foundation President Joe Hulver.

■ Hospitality room (Faulconer Room) will be open 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

■ Mail completed registration and payment to: Ruritan National Foundation, P.O. Box 487, Dublin, VA 24084; Fax (540) 674-2304. Make your reservations by August 15, 2008, to qualify for the early registration fee.

Registration Options

Two options: Full package OR register for events separately.

Full Package Registration

(\$10 savings over registering separately for meals)

Pre-Registration Fee: \$90 X _____ persons = \$ _____

Late Registration: \$115 X _____ persons = \$ _____
(After August 15, 2008)

Separate Meal Option (for those *not* registering for entire weekend)

Friday Buffet Dinner \$40 X _____ persons = \$ _____

Saturday Buffet Dinner \$35 X _____ persons = \$ _____

Sunday Buffet Breakfast \$25 X _____ persons = \$ _____

Special Events

Saturday Golf: \$55 X _____ persons = \$ _____
(Optional; includes 1/2 golf cart, green fees, and lunch)

Golf Handicap: _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

_____ Yes, I am interested in the trip to the New River Gorge and Tamarack on Saturday. There will be _____ in my party who will need transportation.

_____ Yes, I can drive on to the New River Gorge and Tamarack on Saturday. I have _____ extra seats in my vehicle (after myself/my party are seated).

Deadline for registration is August 15, 2008. Pre-registration before August 15, 2008, is \$90 per person. Late Registration after August 15, 2008, is \$115 per person. Registration Fee includes registration packet, Friday dinner buffet, Saturday dinner buffet, Sunday breakfast buffet, and entertainment.

Enclosed is my payment:

Check No. _____

Visa # _____

Visa Expiration Date _____

Mastercard # _____

Mastercard Expiration Date _____