

Ruritan National Foundation

BLAST



VOL. 2018, NO. 6

Operation We Care

As we enter the storm season, your Trustees feel we should talk about **Operation We Care** (OWC), a joint effort between the Ruritan National Foundation and Ruritan National that provides aid to victims of governmentally declared disasters.

OWC assistance is intended to help an affected community continue its recovery after first-responding organizations finish providing services. These first-responders, like the Red Cross and FEMA, often leave the area before disaster victims fully recover. OWC is designed to fill this gap.

Unlike donations to a specific club or locations, contributions to OWC are potentially tax-deductible, but as always you should consult your tax professional. All contributions are received and maintained in a special Ruritan National Foundation OWC account until payments for relief services are made to affected communities. Ruritan club or district donations to OWC qualify as Social Development Committee projects.

How It Works

When a *state or federally declared disaster* strikes a Ruritan district, the District Governor is responsible for surveying the damage and determining whether OWC assistance is needed. To be eligible for OWC aid, the District Governor must notify the

Ruritan National Office by submitting a brief report, available in [Word](#) and [PDF](#) formats, about the need for assistance.

The Foundation Trustees will review reports from affected districts regarding specific community needs. The Trustees will determine the amount of assistance based on the District Governor's report and the amount of funds in OWC account.

The disaster **must** be declared by the state or federal government to be eligible for OWC aid.

Initial funds may be available from OWC when the disaster happens, but extended funds are only available *after* all other relief agencies have concluded their efforts.

Operation We Care Umbrella Fund

A recognition program has been established called the OWC Umbrella Fund. A donation to OWC of \$2 per member will qualify a club for a certificate or \$10 dollars per member will qualify for a plaque. The awards are presented at the district conventions.

Clubs that give a donation of \$2 or \$10 per member to OWC Program will have their names listed in the Annual Report presented at the National Convention.



50 Years of Foundation

Celebrate the Foundation's 50th anniversary by wearing an exclusive commemorative pin given in recognition of your [donation of at least \\$50](#). Join [your fellow Ruritans](#) who have already participated in the 50th anniversary promotion. Available this year only!

Foundation Fellowship Weekend 2018

[Registration](#) is now open for the 2018 Foundation Fellowship Weekend in Greensboro, N.C. Join us **September 14–16** at the Sheraton Koury Convention Center as we celebrate the Foundation's 50th Anniversary. Your registration includes two meals and access to the hospitality room. Download and send in your [registration form](#) today!

Contact Us!

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