

2025 Foundation President Clinton Guy Cox



It will soon be time for each district to celebrate their accomplishments for the year. While celebrating, please remember those members that we have lost during this year. Many dear friends are no longer with us. Celebrate all of their good works that they helped accomplish during this year. Let us also celebrate those new members that joined us this year and this might be their first district convention so give them one that they will always remember. As the National Board of Directors and National Trustees visit as many of these district conventions as they are able to attend, join them as they also celebrate your accomplishments during this year. We have all succeeded in furthering the fellowship, goodwill, and community service within each of our communities.

In mid-June we celebrated the Foundation Weekend in the wonderful state of West Virginia. It was the first time we celebrated there and there is so much more to see. We were able to make \$3,315 through all of the different activities that went on during the weekend.

We have given scholarships toward the betterment of education within our communities. Clubs have donated and invested their money through the Foundation's "Build Your Dollars" Scholarship Program and more than doubled the return on their investment. Each year we have increased those clubs that are investing in this fund. This year there was an increase of 34 additional clubs for a total of 519. Remember to claim your 2026 Scholarship next year so this number is not reduced.

Clubs and districts are doing a wonderful job of donating Tom Downing Fellowships to well-deserving members. Fifty-one (51) additional Ruritan members were added to this list. These could have been members, associate members, or even community members who have contributed to your local Ruritan club or district. It is truly a wonderful gift you give to these well-deserving individuals.

Another way for your club to donate to the Foundation is through the

Birthday Club Program to a fund of your choosing. Your club could contribute either \$2.00 per full member or \$10.00 per full member. This year there were a total of forty-one (41) \$2.00 (certificate) earning clubs and twenty-eight (28) \$10.00 (plaque) earning clubs.

Our newest project is the "Invest Today...Impact Tomorrow" Program (2024-2028). You are asked to contribute sixty cents (\$0.60) per day, less than a cup of coffee or a cold drink, and at the end of five (5) years you would have added \$1,095 to your current fund or have established a permanent fund in that amount for yourself. There has been a total of \$31,973 invested so far from our membership.

Contrary to what some of you may think, the Foundation does not have more money than it needs. Our future, the college and trade students of tomorrow, need all of the financial assistance they can get from us. Would it not be nice to give each one of our "Build Your Dollars" Scholarship winners a check for \$1,000!!!!

