



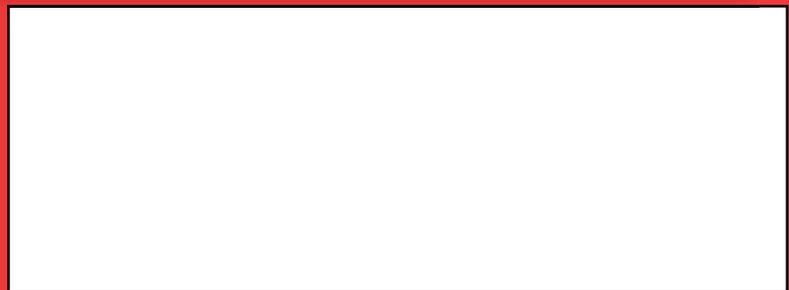
Ruritan

Volume 77, Spring 2012



A Celebration of Service in 2012!

*Ruritan: Working Together
For a Stronger America*



Ruritan - Working Together For A Stronger America

Thank you for your confidence by electing me as your national president. It is an honor to work with you in Ruritan, America's leading community service organization. Each one of you works to make our communities and our country a better place to live. Thank you for your service. I would especially like to thank 2011 President Jayson and First Lady Gail for their leadership and dedication. Throughout this past year they



have demonstrated that Team Work Makes the Dream Work. I would like to continue Jayson's growth program by asking each club to keep the members they have and to add at least one new member in 2012. This is also the plan our Growth and Development Committee is promoting with the 1+1=1105.

In his book, Past National President Wayne Bettis tells the story of Jack, who receives a call from his mother. She was calling to tell him that her neighbor Mr. Johnson had died. During the conversation he thought back on the influence Mr. Johnson had been in his life. When his father died, Mr. Johnson was there for him – always taking time to listen and give guidance. His influence had made Jack the successful businessman he was today. "I'll catch a flight and be home for the funeral," Jack told his mother. After the funeral, Jack and his mother stopped by to see Mr. Johnson's old

home. It was just as Jack had remembered it except for one thing. Mr. Johnson kept a locked gold box on top of his desk. Jack remembered asking him many times what was in that box. Mr. Johnson would reply, "The thing I value most." Now Jack would never know. Someone must have taken it.

Jack flew back home. Several weeks later he received a notice that he had a package requiring his signature at the post office. He opened the package to find a note. The note said, "Upon my death, please forward this box and its contents to Jack Wilson." A small key was attached to the note. With shaking hand, Jack opened the box. There he found a beautiful gold pocket watch engraved with these words: "Jack, thanks for your time!"

Each day we are given 24 hours, 1440 minutes. Much of that time is spent in work and with family. What's important is how we use our extra time! As Ruritans, we give our time to serve others. We, as volunteers, are the heart and hands of our communities. As we begin 2012, our country is still in an economic downturn. Our communities need our service more than ever. I'm asking you to use your time to help with some troubling issues that we as Americans are facing.

One issue is health care needs. The American Red Cross reports there is a critical shortage of blood. Every minute of every day someone needs blood. Efforts of Ruritan clubs, zones, and districts are making a difference as you sponsor blood drives. Can we do more? Let's make 2012 a year of giving. All it takes is a call to your local Red Cross. Call soon so you can participate in a summer of giving. There is no cost to sponsor a blood drive. It takes our time.

Another health care concern is that nearly one-in-four working-age adults are uninsured. That's about 49 million. If your community has a free clinic, consider volunteering. Consider working with the Missions of Mercy or MOM Program to bring free dental care to your community. Dentists throughout the country volunteer for this program. The Abingdon Club in the Chesapeake District has brought this program to their community. **It's time** we as Ruritans support the troubling health issues facing the communities in America. **Together we can** give hope to others and rally around a cause.

In addition to the health care crisis, we are facing the issue of hunger. It is reported that nearly 17 million children or one out of four children are at risk of not getting enough to eat. It doesn't have to be that way. Those of us in this room are fortunate enough to provide for our families. Imagine what it must be like, that feeling of failure and depression, if you are not able to afford to put food in front of your children. **It's time** we get more involved. Work with the food bank in your communities, start a backpack food program, or give a donation to the Hunters for the Hungry. **Together we can** help those in need and change lives.

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Ruritan

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Copper Basin (TN) Ruri-Teen Club has several successful fundraising activities. See page 23 for complete article.

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All 2012 Ruritan district lieutenant governors should plan to attend the 2012 Summer Leadership Conference in Dublin, VA at New River Community College the fourth weekend in June.

Send Your Youth to Ruritan Youth Camp.....9

The 2012 Ruritan Youth Camp dates have been set for July 13-15, 2012. See registration form.

New Officers Elected.....14

The results of elections at the 2012 National Convention are reported in this issue.

Ruritan Point System "Pays" for Ruritan Forever.....20

Tennessean District Governor Armetta Hunnigan has been able to "purchase" a Ruritan Forever for herself with the points she has earned recruiting new Ruritan members. Details inside.

On The Cover: 2012 National President Phyllis Lewter and her family are pictured on the Spring 2012 RURITAN magazine. Included are: Lewter and her husband Bill, Juanita Gardner, Ami and Brandon Hudson, Jay and Carla Lewter, Ethan, Charlotte, and Ainsley.

Message from Executive Director Michael Chrisley

We are Looking Forward to a Great Year for Ruritan

We have just completed the National Convention in Raleigh, North Carolina. You might remember my magazine piece from late last year informing you that we had made changes to the convention format based on input we received from you in the convention surveys. Based on the feedback we are getting from the convention evaluations, you liked the changes! We are already busy planning for Northern Kentucky in January 2013. A few people have voiced concern that Northern Kentucky is a long distance from the center of the Ruritan population. From Dublin...Northern Kentucky is about 1 hour closer than Louisville KY. We have had some of our best attended conventions in Louisville...and Northern Kentucky is actually closer. We also have very attractive room rates in NK. Since 1985 our hotel room rates have been between \$50 and \$100 with only two exceptions that exceeded \$100. This will hold true for our room rates in NK at the Marriott and Embassy Suites. We hope you will begin planning now for the 2013 convention in Northern Kentucky!



The newly elected officers and directors are already busy getting the year off to a productive start. There are a lot of good things coming down the pike for clubs and members this year! We are working to enhance the incentive programs, give you better tools for growing your clubs, and tools to help you serve your community. There is a lot of excitement and enthusiasm on the board and staff level. We are looking forward to a great year for Ruritan!

The Growth and Development Committee has already met (in February) and will bring their three-year growth plan to the board of directors at the end of March for approval. The committee has a good plan that, with your cooperation, can grow Ruritan over the next three years. One of the things that the committee always looks at is the annual "cleansing of the rolls." We seem to always see a cleansing in the month of January and sometimes into February. While we all understand that if a member is not going to continue we don't want to artificially inflate our rolls; however, we also don't want to drop members that might stay if given an alternative. One alternative is our associate membership. Associate members are not required to attend meetings, but can attend, can help with fundraising and service projects and are not counted with regard to awards programs. In other words, they can stay connected to Ruritan without attending meetings but wouldn't prevent the club from receiving a Blue Ribbon award. When we drop a member, in a sense, it means we have given up on that member. Don't give up on a member; make an offer of associate membership.

We hope your club has a great year. Your community needs you. Several pages of this and every magazine are dedicated to the work that you are doing in communities. Look through the club news pages and understand that without Ruritan in over a thousand communities, many needs would go unmet. What happens at the local level of Ruritan is the most important thing that happens in Ruritan. If we can help you...let us know.

Yours in Ruritan Service,

Michael Chrisley



Executive Director Mike Chrisley speaking during the business session at the 2012 National Convention.

New Clubs for 2012

New Ruritan Clubs, Sponsors, & DRMS*

(January 1, 2012 -- February 1, 2012)

<u>New Club</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Sponsoring Club</u>	<u>DRM</u>
T. Clay Wood Elementary Rudy Youth Ruri-Teen Club	Rappahannock	Nokesville	Rick McMahon
Marsteller Middle School Ruri-Teen	Rappahannock	Nokesville	Ken Hinkle

*DRM stands for Distinguished Ruritan Member, who is the person most responsible for organizing the new club.

continued from page 2

“You Raise Me Up” is a song written and sung by Josh Groban that expresses what we as Ruritans do for those in need. The words say “I am strong, when I am on your shoulders; You raise me up to more than I can be.” Ruritans must have strong shoulders for we carry the weight of those in need in the communities across America.

As Ruritans, we have a great story to tell. Will you help tell Ruritan’s story? We are America’s leading service organization. We work and serve the communities in America. America was built on courage, imagination, and an unbeatable determination. Since our founding in 1928 at Holland, Virginia, Ruritans have demonstrated this courage, imagination, and determination. Share your successes, your projects. Let’s see our Ruritan website continually changing as you send in photos and descriptions of club projects. Let’s have a celebration of service in 2012! Watch for more information about celebrating Ruritan service in our Ruritan magazine.

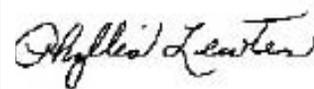
2011 District Ruritan of the Year

District #	Winner	Club
1 Holland	Donna Silberholz	Deep Creek
2 Chesapeake	C. Thomas Fifer	Eastern Henrico
3 Rappahannock	S. Robert Dick	Shawnee
4 Appomattox	None	
5 Peaks of Otter	Harden Crum	Crossroads
6 SW Virginia	Jim Lafollette	Cooper Creek
7 Natural Bridge	None	
8 Woodrow Wilson	Betty Jo Clemmer	Middlebrook
9 Rockingham	Gilbert C. Campbell	Luray
10 Potomac	David Moser	Burkittsville
11 Albemarle	Ginny Crocker	Sunbury
12 Roanoke	William Allen Drew	Aulander
13 Rocky Mt-Durham	None	
14 Greenville-Goldsboro	James E Stroud	Maury
15 Cape Fear	Lawrence Taylor	Johnsonville
16 Spartan	Paul Edge	West View
17 Columbia	None	
19 Upper WV	Harry Spaid	Capon Valley
20 Lower WV	None	
21 Blue Grass	Gene Wiseman	Cropper
22 Tennessean	Marvin Tolly	Bloomingtondale
23 Cherokee	Donald Ramey	Harrison
24 GA-N. Alabama	Brent T Wheeler	Kash
26 Hermitage	None	
27 Alabama-Florida	None	
28 Ohio	Ralph Smucker	Smithville
29 Western NC	Leslie Gentry	Deep Gap
30 Delmarva/NJ	Katharine B. Allen	Rewastico Creek
31 Piedmont	John Berdine	Leasburg
32 Dan River	Wallace Stevens	Dan River Comm.
33 Lincolnland	Grover Burkett	Dundas
34 New River	Martha F. Patterson	Wytheville Ladies
35 Davy Crockett	Danny L Shelton	Hardin’s Chapel
36 Smoky Mountain	Brenda Wallen	East Roane County
37 Middle America	Tracy Clifton	Richmond Comm.
39 Rapidan	Robert Fulton Payne	Three Chopt
40 Tall Corn	None	

I recently saw a slogan on a moving van that said, “We Go Through – We Are American.” When we as Americans and Ruritans work together, we learn from each other, support one another, and accomplish more. At your tables, you have a 1+1=1105 button to remind us of our growth efforts and a lapel pin with the American Flag and the Ruritan Flag. Wear it proudly and remember that as Ruritans **we are working together for a stronger America.**

If I can do anything to help you, your club, your zone, or district such as helping you celebrate an anniversary or special event, please let me know. Bill and I will be there if possible. I appreciate each and every one of you and respect the work you do for Ruritan. May God bless you and our great organization.

Thank you.



Growth - Development - Member Retention

Everything one does requires forethought and planning, whether it's a trip to the grocery store or planning a wonderful vacation trip. We as Ruritans need to plan. We need to plan for the future – our future. There are many ways to plan for the future and many things to consider but we want everyone to keep growth in their own plans for the future. The following items deal with membership growth and membership retention. Please read them. They are a guide, a goal, a means to achieve. If anyone has other plans or ideas that will help Ruritan to grow, please share them with your Growth, Development, and Membership Retention Committee. Many thanks for all you do for your communities and for Ruritan.

Membership Growth –

1. Continue stressing program “1+1= 1105” to the membership. If each club would realize a net gain of plus one member each year, Ruritan will grow by 1105 members each year.
2. Continue stressing the addition of Associate Members to clubs to save members who cannot fulfill duties of full adult membership.
3. Achieve minimum net increase of 15 new clubs in existing areas each year.
4. Bring 50% of clubs which are under charter strength up to charter strength within one year as measured by MMS. Identify clubs through zone/district governors and offer help to club(s) to grow themselves.
5. Incorporate better utilization of modern technology to spread word of Ruritan. Achieve 50% increase in number of clubs utilizing social media outlets such as Face Book, Twitter, and Web sites.
6. Have a written Growth, Development, and Retention Plan that includes assisting districts and clubs with development of a plan.
7. Review all dropped members by each club and invite those persons to return to Ruritan Club.

Membership Retention -

8. Stress membership growth/retention at Winter and Summer Zone meetings where club members are in attendance as well as joint cabinet meetings held by districts with club attendance.
 9. Achieve 100% mentoring of all new members at club level to improve communication and help bring new member into Ruritan family more quickly. Incorporate mentoring at district level to help struggling clubs. Avoid scenario of” The member who never came back.”
 10. Make growth, development, and retention everyone’s goal. All Ruritan’s must realize the importance of growing the organization. It requires full membership involvement.
- Submitted by the Growth, Development, and Member Retention Committee
Don Yeargon, Chuck Myers, and John Berdine.

Dues Rebate Request

Our club qualifies for the dues rebate because we increased our membership by 20% by September and maintained that increase through December. Please send us \$4 per member for _____ members based on the statistics below for a total of \$ ____.

Applies to adult Ruritan clubs.

Club: _____

Club Number: _____

District: _____

Please complete the statistics below according to your records.

Ruritan National will verify the numbers in the national database.

Total of members at the BEGINNING of January _____

Grand total of members December 31 _____

Grand total of members through the first quarter of the next year _____

% Gain between January and December _____ (and maintained through first quarter)

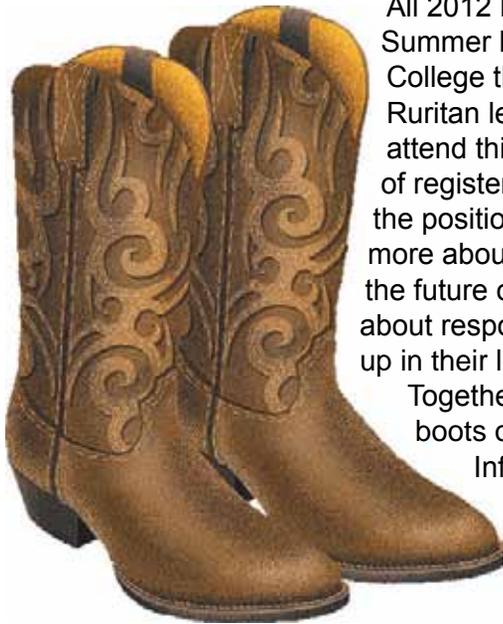
Club Secretary’s Signature _____ Date _____

NOTES: (to be used by National Office Staff)

Even though our club qualifies for the Dues Rebate, we choose to let the money remain with Ruritan National. (check here if this is your preference.)

Fill in this rebate form and mail to:
Membership Department, Ruritan National, P.O. Box 487, Dublin, VA 24084

Plan to Attend the 2012 Summer Leadership Conference “Just Put Your Boots On And Do It!”



All 2012 Ruritan district lieutenant governors should plan to attend the 2012 Summer Leadership Conference in Dublin, VA at New River Community College the fourth weekend in June. All members of the district cabinet and Ruritan leaders in other levels of leadership are invited and encouraged to attend this conference for a nominal fee. Classes will be tailored to the needs of registered attendees but there will be classes to benefit all no matter what the position. The conference gives Ruritan leaders the opportunity to learn more about their responsibilities, share ideas, express concerns, and plan for the future of the organization. It also provides an opportunity for leaders to learn about responsibilities of a higher position and encouragement for them to move up in their leadership roles.

Together we can be the reason Ruritan seizes revitalization. Just put your boots on and do it!

Information on the conference content and cost will be sent to district governors and Lt. governors later this spring. The conference brings Ruritan leaders together to discuss concerns and plan for the future of the organization. Attendees will also learn the latest information about Ruritan programs and procedures. 2012 district governors

are also invited to attend this training with the stipulation that expenses will

be reimbursed for the lodging cost of one person and one travel per district, plus food. Allowances will

be made for distance and gender-related exceptions. District officers should also note that 2012 district lieutenant governors (according to policy, only if you become the incoming district governor for 2013) and the 2012 district governors will be paid ½ of their expenses to the 2013 National Convention in Covington, KY provided the following criteria is met:

- * They attend the June 2012 Summer Leadership Conference (unless excused in writing by National President);
- * They attend Governors' Training at the 2013 National Convention;
- * They attend substantially all meetings at the 2013 National Convention;
- * Forms R-35 and R-36 are received by Ruritan National no later than October 31, 2012, and
- * Expense vouchers are submitted within 90 days after the 2013 Convention.

Lodging rooms will be blocked for this conference at the Dublin area hotels. Watch for additional information on this, as well. The pictures on the right were taken during the 2011 Summer Leadership Conference.



Founders' Day Weekend

A Time for Ruritans to Celebrate Their 84th Anniversary

May 18-20, 2012, in Holland VA

Highlights of the Weekend

- Friday, May 18, 2012 – Golf at Nansemond River Golf Club, Suffolk, VA. The format is Florida best ball. Practice begins at 11 a.m. with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. A buffet dinner is included.
- Those who don't golf can spend Friday shopping or visiting antique shops in the area.
- Saturday wreath-laying ceremony at 9:45 a.m. to celebrate the founding of Ruritan in 1928. Parade at 11:00 a.m. followed by a BBQ/Chicken Cook-off and afternoon entertainment.
- Saturday evening dinner in the Holland Ruritan Club at 5:00 p.m. followed by special entertainment.
- Sunday 11:00 a.m. worship service at Holy Neck United Church of Christ on Pineview Road.



Lodging

Guests may book rooms at the Hilton Garden Inn in Suffolk, VA (757) 925-1300. Mention Ruritan Founders' Day for a special rate.

Founders' Weekend Registration Options

Golf Tournament: \$75.00 X _____ persons = \$ _____
(includes golf, 1/2 golf cart, buffet dinner)

Friday's Buffet Dinner: \$12.00 X _____ persons = \$ _____
(at the golf course, for those not participating in the golf tournament)

Saturday Dinner: \$15.00 X _____ persons = \$ _____
(Evening Celebration with Entertainment and Fireworks)

TOTAL \$ _____

Name: _____

Spouse/Guest Name: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Area Code and Phone: _____

Club: _____ District: _____

Office Held: _____



Deadline for registration is May 1 2012. Registration is limited to a first-come, first-served basis. Confirmation and other information will be e-mailed to registrants.

Make checks payable to Holland District Ruritans Mail completed registration and payment to:	Clay Byrum 30799 Hunt Club Road Carrsville, VA 23315 Email: aba123321@aol.com
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Send Youth Ages 9-19 to the 2012 Camp

The 2012 Ruritan Youth Camp dates have been set for July 13-15. Once again the event will be held at the W. E. Skelton 4-H Educational Center at Smith Mountain Lake in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. Please start planning to send as many young people as possible to this year's conference.

Attendees do not have to be Ruritans or Ruri-Teens to attend. The camp fee will be \$135. Registration forms are available below and on the Ruritan website.

This could be a good recruiting tool to introduce young people to Ruritan. Several young people became interested in Ruritan after attending last year's conference.

The camp can only house 300 youth along with their adult counselors, so get your young people signed up early. The camp is for students ages 9-19 and they (or their sponsors) must provide transportation. To learn more about the center, check out their web site at <http://www.skelton4h.ext.vt.edu>.

2012 Ruritan Youth Camp

Registration Form for July 13-15

Space for the camp will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis. The deadline for registration and payment of \$135 per person will be due no later than **June 21**.

Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Male Female
Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____
Preferred Badge Name _____ Roommate Choice _____

T-shirt size (adult sizes, check one)

Small Medium Large XL 2X 3X

I am registering as (choose one option on each line);
Non-Member Member
Adult Youth

Parent/Guardian name (please print) _____

Parent/Guardian signature _____

Any adult planning to attend must go through the 4-H training program found on line at this link:
www.retreatatsmithmountainlake.com/ruritantraining.html

Please do the following:

Complete the registration form above and mail it along with your check or credit card information to Ruritan National, P. O. Box 487, Dublin, VA 24084. Also, please contact Craig Whitt at the Ruritan National Office. E-mail him at service@ruritan.org or call toll free 1-877-787-8727, extension #312 **to request the forms that are required by the statewide 4-H policy for the adults (counselors or guests) or youth who want to register.** Forms required are:

(1) Registration Form from Ruritan National (above), the letter of instruction, and all the required forms as listed in the following numbers 2 to 5 must be completed and returned to the Ruritan National Office by **June 21** by each attendee (adult or youth).

(2) Health History Forms which includes medications, health and medical history, (all required for adults or youth) and the 4-H participant media release (parent or guardian signs for all youth).

(3) Equine waiver will need to be completed by anyone wishing to ride a horse – **no exceptions**. The form must be signed by parent or guardian for the youth attendee, and the adults attending the conference must also sign this form if they wish to ride a horse.

(4) The Virginia 4-H Standardized Code of Conduct for 4-H Programs/Events must be signed by two individuals (the youth attendee and the parent/guardian).

(5) The Standards of Behavior Policy for Virginia 4-H Volunteers must be signed by adults only (all adults attending the conference whether a guest or a counselor). All adults attending the conference must complete on-line training. Information to access the training will be provided if requested.

Two Events to be Held at the Medal of Honor Grove

There have been many changes over the past year in the Medal of Honor Grove located in Valley Forge, PA at the Freedoms Foundation. The most important was the rededication of it in June. This event transferred the care and upkeep to the Friends of the Medal of Honor Grove. This group has contracted several people for the care of the Grove including landscapers and tree trimmers. The first project is the major repair of the road and entrance to the Grove. In addition repair and replacement is planned for the steel markers, obelisk pads, fences, flagpoles, and more.

In addition to the work on the Medal of Honor Grove, Freedoms Foundation has two events that may include Ruritans. The first event, The Military Order of the World Wars Youth Summit, will be taking place on April

19-22, 2012. The second event is the Scouting Medal of Honor Adventure Weekend to be held May 18-20, 2012. This event has been opened up to include Ruri-Teens and Ruritan youth. The registration fee is \$220; however, if Ruritans can get 40 Scouts to commit and register by March 1, 2012, the fee will be dropped to \$175 each.

For more information on both of these programs and to help with the Ruritan work days at the Grove on May 18 and 19, contact Larry Blount at (717) 253-1583.

New Ruritan National Partner Announced at Convention



Ruritan National has recently partnered with Debra Mitchum, a Longaberger consultant and Longaberger product collector for 30 years. In 2011, Mitchum developed the idea of doing something special for Ruritan National Clubs across America. The Longaberger Company is an American manufacturer of handcrafted maple wood baskets and offers other home and lifestyle products, including pottery, wrought iron, fabric accessories, and specialty foods.

All Ruritan National baskets will have the Ruritan National logo burned into each lid and will be sold as sets. The baskets will have the blue and yellow colors running around the splints of each basket. Accessories such as the pottery and coolers will be offered as well. Ruritan National will receive five percent of all sales

quarterly. "I feel blessed to be the only consultant who can represent Ruritan National. I will represent you proudly as I visit clubs and present these wonderful products. Please consider how your family could honor Ruritan National by having one of these baskets to carry proudly to events, and to hand down generation after generation," said Mitchum. She is pictured here with some of her baskets at the 2012 Ruritan National Convention where the line was introduced. For more information and pricing on these baskets, contact Debra Mitchum 757-580-7248 or email her at Nanabskts3@aol.com



2011 RURITAN SCOUT LEADER SERVICE AWARDS

Phillip Bradshaw	Carrsville Club	Virginia
Ronald C. Daughtrey	Holland Club	Virginia
Glenn G Gaskins	Carrsville Club	Virginia
J.C. Braxton	Wheat Swamp Club	North Carolina
Luther Ledford	Pink Hill Club	North Carolina
Lynwood Tilghman	Wheat Swamp Club	North Carolina
Eddie Bowles	Gibbs Club	Tennessee
Roland McGinnis	Gibbs Club	Tennessee
Mike Bandy	Clay County Club	Florida
Eric Clarke	Clay County Club	Florida

2011 RURITAN FFA LEADERS

Roger Carter	Ottway Club	Tennessee
Kimberly Carter	Ottway Club	Tennessee
Earl Huffman Jr.	Back Swamp Club	North Carolina

Outstanding Members Recognized During Convention



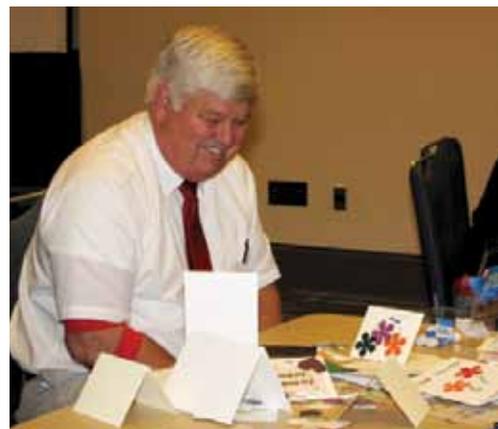
At the Ruritan National Convention held from January 19 – 22, 2012 in Raleigh, Betty Jo Clemmer was named National Ruritan of the Year. Clemmer is from the **Middlebrook** (VA) Ruritan Club where she served as president in 2011. She is a former Woodrow Wilson district governor. During 2011 she attended meetings on the club, zone, district, and national level. She served on her club's citizenship and patriotism committee and was responsible for bringing in ten new members. She completed 15 club projects donating 884 hours during the year.

Also honored were Ruri-Teen of the Year, Rachel Leweke of the Turner Ashby (VA) Ruri-Teen Club (pictured below) and Rudy Youth of the Year Kyle Kilgore of the Copper Creek (VA) Ruritan Club. Leweke served as her club president and completed 12 projects for 260 hours. Kilgore, who was not present at the convention in Raleigh, spent 300 hours completing 20 projects. He is a club director in his club.



Another highlight of the convention was the many donations made by Ruritan to various area charities. The USO of NC was the recipient of over \$4,000 in gift cards, \$3,157 in Smiles for Miles cards, and cash donations of over \$800 for their work. Smiles Over Miles is an easy-to-use, private video messaging platform that brings loved ones close together across any distance.

Also given to the USO were handmade greeting cards for servicemen and servicewomen to use to send special messages home to loved ones.



Attendees designed these cards in workshops on Friday.

In addition to the USO donations, hundreds of Rudy Bears were given to local fire, rescue, and police departments. Peter J. Brock, Assistant Chief - Fire Marshal for the City of Raleigh Fire Department, asked the Ruritans assembled to think about the words comfort and distress. He noted, "Some children hide in a special place such as under a bed or in a closet. Some children clutch something or someone such as a parent, a blanket, or a favorite stuffed animal. In my 27 years of experience



continue to page 12

continued from page 11

I have seen children in various degrees of distress. I have also seen a police officer, paramedic, or fire fighter produce a stuffed bear and the anxiety level in these children is instantly reduced. On behalf of the men and women of the Raleigh Fire Department, on behalf of the people who live, work, visit, and play in our great city, but most of all, on behalf of the children who will be comforted because of what the Ruritans have done: thank you!"



Local college ROTC members carried state flags during the flag ceremony in Raleigh. Here 2012 Bluegrass District Governor Bryan Franklin accompanies the soldier carrying the Kentucky flag.

Ruritans also created almost 2,000 hand crocheted and hand-knitted "chemo caps" for hospitals and clinics in the Raleigh area.

During the opening ceremonies on Thursday the attendees participated in a memorial service and a flag ceremony and heard a message from Captain Tierian (Randy) Cash, who is a retired Navy Chaplain.

The first two hours on Friday consisted of various workshops. A Heroes' Breakfast began at 9:00 a.m. This patriotic meal featured the donation of the items to area charities as well as a message from Major General James Everett Livingston, who is retired from the United States Marine Corps. He was awarded the United States' highest military decoration - the Medal of Honor - for heroic action in 1968 during the Vietnam War. The remainder of Friday, dubbed Education Day, included

more workshops - over 50 in all. The Ruritan National Foundation Banquet featured former scholarship recipient David Keeler as a keynote speaker and was presided over by 1987 National President and 2007 Foundation President Bob Houck. The live auction followed the meal.

Saturday morning began with a break-

fast honoring First Lady Gail Duncan presided over by 1988 First Lady Jeannette Overby. This was a fun-filled morning capped by Bessie and Beulah, who have been delighting audiences all over the country with their cutting-edge comedy shows.

Following the breakfast, the first of two business meetings began at 10:00 a.m. After initial opening of the first business meet-



1983 First Lady Martha Amick, pictured here with 2011 National President Jayson Duncan, first suggested a program to have Ruritans knit or crochet "chemo caps." The program was popular with members and almost 2,000 caps were given out.



First Lady Gail Duncan was escorted to the stage at the Saturday breakfast by her granddaughters Hannah Duncan and Cori McMillian.



2012 National President Phyllis Lewter was installed by 1995 National President Frank Guthrie. Also pictured is Phyllis' husband Bill.

ing, which included adopting the official program, Credential's Chair Debi Davis reported as follows: pre-registered 699, walk-ins 82, cancellations 18, no shows 2, total registered 761, and certified delegates 557.

The Candidates Certification Committee presented a list of candidates for trustee, national director, treasurer, vice president, and president. There were no nominations from the floor. Candidates were given the opportunity to present two-minute speeches. President Jayson presided over discussions related to: (1) increasing dues from \$40 per year to \$44 per year; (2) eliminating the requirement to hold the annual convention in January each year and allow the board to determine the date of the convention; and (3) increasing the number of delegates at National Convention for

each club from one per 20 members to one per 10 members. All three recommendations passed during voting held between the two business sessions.

The following candidates were elected for the respective offices: President Phyllis Lewter (VA), Vice President Dennie Clemmer (VA), Treasurer

2011 DISTRICT RUDY-YOUTH OF THE YEAR

District

1 Holland
3 Rappahannock
6 Southwest VA
15 Cape Fear
19 Upper WV
23 Cherokee
29 Western NC
31 Piedmont
34 New River
35 Davy Crockett
36 Smoky Mountain

Youth

Corey Minnick
Kallie Smith
Kyle Kilgore
Caitlin Bohannon
Michael Mallow
Ryan Pierce
Faith Walker
Lee-Anne Berdine
Christopher Poff
Hayley Henn
Nathan Wells

Club

Deep Creek
Round Hill
Copper Creek
Seventy-First
Fountain
Valley View
Gilkey
Leasburg
Belmont II
Hardin's Chapel
Highland Park



Corky Camin (NC), Director Dennis Barthlow (MD), Director John Berdine (NC), Director Clay Byrum (VA), Director Frank Kinsey (OH), Director Perry Marshman (VA), Director Linda Melton (TN), Director Calvin Shelton (TN), and Trustee Fred Payne (SC)

The majority of the awards and pertinent recognitions for achievement were presented during the afternoon business meeting.

Past National Director Fred Beaver presided at the Saturday evening installation banquet and paid tribute to retiring President Jayson. 1995 National President Frank Guthrie installed the officers, directors, and trustee. The highlight of the evening was the installation of 2012 President Phyllis Lewter, who gave an inspiring address. Her theme will be: **"Ruritan - Working Together for a Stronger America."** The evening concluded with a tribute to USO shows of the past, which was emceed by 1977 National President Jerry "Bob Hope" Ellis. All performers were Ruritans.

New Officers for 2012 Installed in Raleigh



2012 National President
Phyllis Lewter
Chesapeake, VA



2012 National Vice President
Dennis Clemmer
Middlebrook, VA



2012 National Treasurer
Corky Camin
Macon, NC



National Director
Dennis E. Barthlow
Keedysville, MD



National Director
John Berdine
Leasburg, NC



National Director
William Clayton
"Clay" Byrum
Carrsville, VA



National Director
Frank Kinsey
St. Clairsville, OH



National Director
Perry Marshman
Unionville, VA



National Director
Linda Melton
Cleveland, TN



National Director
John "Calvin"
Shelton
Greeneville, TN



2012 Foundation President
Cleve Wright
Williamsburg, VA



Foundation Trustee
Fred Payne
Simpsonville, SC

We Want YOUR Club News!

Include information on who, what, when, where, why, and how your event was held. Send or e-mail original photographs as separate documents – not embedded in text file. Digital pictures should be high resolution – approximately 300 dpi. **Pictures that do not meet these quality standards will not be used.** Send your news by e-mail to media@ruritan.org or mail it to Ruritan National, P.O. Box 487, Dublin, VA 24084. Priority is given to clubs who have not been featured recently.

NOTE: If you have youth under age 18 in your pictures you must also send the appropriate signed permission forms for their photographs to be published.



2011 National President Jayson Duncan Receives Award



Ruritan was welcomed to Raleigh by North Carolina Lt. Governor Walter Dalton (right) who was made an Associate Ruritan member by 2011 National President Jayson Duncan. While Dalton was speaking to Ruritan attendees he recognized President Jayson to the *Order of the Longleaf Pine*. The Order is among the most prestigious awards presented by the Governor of North Carolina. The *Order of the Long Leaf Pine* is presented to individuals who have a proven record of extraordinary service to the state. Contributions to their communities, extra effort in their careers, and many years of service to their organizations are some of the guidelines by which recipients are selected for this award.

'Nourish Your Community' Food Drive Set for Founders' Weekend May 19

Ruritan would like to encourage all clubs to participate in an organization-wide day of service on May 19, 2012, by conducting a food drive for your local food bank. In Ruritan food drives last year over 120 clubs in 43 districts and areas collected nearly 35,000 pounds of food and \$5,000 for area food banks – that was over 17 tons of food that Ruritans were responsible for collecting in 2011! The date of the food drive is May 19 and is built around the date Ruritan was formed. Clubs may set up a collection point for food delivery, have members available to receive the food, and to publicize this event to your members and local community. Your club decides which local food bank gets the collected food. Ruritan National would like to keep a master list of clubs planning to participate in 2012. If your club is interested, please e-mail office@ruritan.org or call toll free 877-787-8727 ext 301 to be added to the list.



From the Kitchens of Ruritan Cooks

*From the Appomattox Hospitality
Room at the 2012 National Convention*

CRACKERS

1 pound box wheat crackers
 1 1/2 cups canola oil
 1 Tablespoon Crushed Red Pepper Flakes
 1 Tablespoon garlic powder
 1 package dry ranch dressing mix
 Put crackers in an air tight container that the crackers will stand up in and that can be turned over and keep the crackers up straight.
 Mix the ingredients together and pour over crackers.
 Seal the container -- turn over every 10 minutes or so. Turn about 5 times

2011 DISTRICT RURI-TEENS OF THE YEAR

<u>District</u>	<u>Ruri-Teen</u>	<u>Club</u>
2 Chesapeake	Haley Balderson	Washington & Lee
9 Rockingham	Rachel Leweke	Turner Ashby
28 Ohio	Mallorie Dustman	Lisbon
31 Piedmont	Johanna Roberts	South Stokes
35 Davy Crockett	Marian Ngo	Blazer

Attractions in Northern Kentucky for Ruritans Visiting in January 2013

Ruritans visiting Northern KY in January 2013 will find a wealth of culturally, educationally, and socially significant attractions - and some that are just plain fun!

Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden: Voted the #1 attraction in Cincinnati and one of the top zoos in the nation by Zagat Survey. Award-winning animal habitats and spectacular garden and plant displays featuring over 500 animals and 3,000 plant species. Numerous special animal exhibits including Giraffe Ridge, Manatee Springs, Nocturnal House, Jungle Trails, Gorilla World, Tiger Canyon, Wolf Woods, World of the Insect, Spaulding Children's Zoo, and much more.



National Underground Railroad Freedom Center: Exhibits, programs, research and interactive experiences promoting collaborative learning and dialogue bring to life the importance - and relevance - of struggles for freedom around the world and throughout history, including today.

Center for Holocaust & Humanity Education: Dedicated to worldwide curriculum development, teacher training and innovative educational programs, the Center promotes tolerance, inclusion, and social justice based on lessons from the Holocaust. Their collection includes hundreds of artifacts from the Hillel Judaica Collection and a permanent exhibition, "Mapping Our Tears" which contains WWII and Holocaust artifacts and an interactive theatre of testimonies.



Cincinnati Reds Hall of Fame & Museum: Changing exhibits, player appearances, interactive exhibits, hall of records, memorabilia and artifacts, salute to Reds radio, videos, and much more tell about the history of the Cincinnati Reds. Hours and dates of operation vary. See website for off-season, in-season, and game-day schedules. Group rates for 15+.



of the Cincinnati Reds. Hours and dates of operation vary. See website for off-season, in-season, and game-day schedules. Group rates for 15+.

Newport Aquarium: This state-of-the-art facility, named the No. 1 aquarium in the Midwest by the Zagat Survey, showcases thousands of animals from around the world in a

million gallons of fresh and saltwater through 70 exhibits and 14 galleries, including five seamless acrylic tunnels totaling over 20 feet in length. Themed galleries include: Frog Bog, 'Gator Bayou, Jellyfish Gallery, Coral Reef, Shark Central, Dangerous and Deadly, Kingdom of Penguins, and more.



Other attractions include Coney Island and Kings Island Amusement Parks, Drake Planetarium, the Behringer-Crawford Museum of Northern KY's heritage, the Cincinnati Art Museum, the Taft Museum of Art, the art deco landmark Cincinnati Museum Center at Union Terminal, and the National Museum of the United States Air Force in nearby Dayton, OH.

Hotel Options in Northern KY

Make your reservations after March 1, 2012, through Passkey lodging reservation system on-line, fax, or by mail.

See the form in this issue!

2013 Ruritan National Convention; Covington, KY; Convention begins Thursday, January 24 and ends Sunday, January 27, 2013



Two Hotel Options



Marriott RiverCenter is connected to the Northern KY Convention Center by a walkway over the street.

Marriott RiverCenter (connected to the Convention Center by a covered walkway.)

Featuring 4-diamond Covington hotel accommodations, upscale amenities and a lavish concierge level. Plush bedding offers the ultimate in comfort with down comforters, custom duvets, and rich linens. Savory in-room/on-site dining among other options provide the perfect Cincinnati lodging experience. Awake to vibrant waterfront views from luxurious hotel rooms in Cincinnati near area attractions. Executive workstations, high-speed internet, and a convention center locale simplify business travel. Now offering PURE allergy friendly rooms, providing guests with allergies a healthier alternative.



The Northern Kentucky Convention Center is located in Covington along the banks of the Ohio River. It is situated at the heart of a rapidly expanding business and entertainment district just across a picturesque 19th Century suspension bridge from downtown Cincinnati.

Embassy Suites

King Executive: 800 sq. ft

Renovated in 2008, this elegant all-suite hotel now feature all new suite furnishings and two 32-inch high definition LCD TVs. Each king executive suite features a spacious living room, which is larger than our standard suites with a small bar area for entertaining, as well as a separate private bedroom with one king bed. Additional standard room amenities include a sleeper sofa, armchair, activity table with upholstered chairs, alarm clock radio with MP3 connection, refrigerator, and microwave oven. All suites include a full cooked-to-order breakfast and evening manager's reception.



2013 Convention Chair and 2004 National President John Hancock (left) talked to the 2012 convention attendees about Northern KY and introduced representatives from the area (right): Senior Convention Services/Housing Manager for the Northern KY Convention and Visitors Bureau Carla Quercioli and Event Coordinator for the Northern KY Convention Center Andrea Reitano

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Ruritan Foundation Needs Your Support

Dear Fellow Ruritans,

2011 was another successful year for your Foundation. President Bruce Thompson provided great leadership and his dedicated team of Trustees were focused and vigilant in discharging their responsibilities. It is also important that recognition be given to



Cleve Wright
2012 Foundation
President

Mike Chrisley and his staff for the tremendous support that they provided. The body of work and related accomplishments were a direct result of excellent cooperation and team work. We are extremely grateful for their efforts this past year and look forward to another productive relationship during the coming year.

We enjoyed another fun and exciting Ruritan National Convention in Raleigh, N.C. Many thanks go out to Gary Taylor and Jimmy Bristow for another exceptional effort of planning and organizing our annual convention. This year's convention delegates elected Fred Payne from South Carolina as our newest Trustee to serve for the next five years. Also during this year's convention, the Foundation received \$8,503.50 from the silent and live auctions, \$1,836.14 from special donations, and \$1,419.50

for the Operation We Care program for a total received by the Foundation of \$11,759.14. Our sincere thanks go to those members and friends who brought items for both auctions and special thanks to those who made purchases. Our acknowledgment and gratitude are extended to Chris Pugh, Tina Lawson, and the Home Office staff for their efforts in developing a new computer program for us to use for this year's auctions. While it is still a work-in-process, it was a great addition and enhanced our ability to efficiently manage the auctions. Finally, and surely not least, thanks go out to the many other Ruritans and friends who spent their precious time volunteering and assisting us with the auctions. Thanks to everyone for contributing to our success in 2011!

The Foundation has 405 clubs who are now qualified to participate in the 2012 Build Your Dollar scholarship program. In early February 2012, each of these clubs received a packet of student application forms to be completed and returned to the Foundation Office by April 1, 2012. The Trustees will be meeting this April to review and award all 2012 scholarships being granted.

For those clubs desiring to participate in the 2013 Build Your Dollar scholarship program now is the time to start sending in your \$300 qualifying deposits to the Foundation Office. These funds along with a statement indicating the purpose of your check must be received by October 1, 2012.

During our fiscal year which ended September 30, 2011, the Foundation received \$215,021.35 in donations (OWC donations accounted for \$94,169.90 of this total) which is a 55% increase from the previous year. In addition, it should be noted that our newest fund raising program, "\$\$\$Million Dollar Club\$\$\$" or "Brother/Sister Can You Spare Me A Dime?" has now contributed over \$45,000. We are looking forward to additional participants joining in on this program. This is an easy way to get started in making an annual contribution to the Foundation. It is our goal to get more and more Ruritans consistently involved in supporting and contributing to the Foundation on an annual basis. If we could get still 25% of all Ruritans contributing just \$100 per year, we would bring in an additional \$750,000 towards our corpus annually and be able to double our corpus in just five years. This is a challenge but, also a very reasonable goal. Only through your continuous support will we be able to reach out and provide educational assistance to the many students who desperately need our help. Please complete and forward the coupon found on the next page with your

Ruritan National FOUNDATION

2012 Board of Trustees

President: Robert "Cleve" Wright

Vice President: Norman O'Dell

Secretary: David Freshly

Treasurer: Danny Privott

Promotion Chair: Fred Payne



National President Phyllis Lewter and National Foundation Trustee Danny Privott are shown presenting 1995 Albemarle District Governor Eddie Barber with a permanent fund plaque at the Albemarle District Organizational/Zone Meeting held at the **Bethel** (NC) Ruritan Club in January.



Ruritan National Foundation News

"Dime A Day" donations.

Your Operation We Care program received donations during 2010-2011 fiscal year, along with earned income, totaling \$94,910.46. While requests for disaster assistance totaled \$144,566.25 which were made in the Roanoke, New River, Davy Crockett, Tennessean, and Georgia-North Alabama Districts. As you can see needs and assistance exceeded donations and earnings last year. OWC funds have been depleted

and need to be restored. Currently, as of December 31, 2011, OWC has a fund balance of \$42,570.58. All Ruritan clubs are encouraged to include the OWC in their annual budgets.

As you have hopefully heard by now, the Foundation will be taking a Bahamas Cruise this September in lieu of our traditional Foundation Weekend. This will be a 5 night cruise departing Charleston, S.C. on September 10, 2012, and returning September 15, 2012. Details and cabin pricing were included in the winter 2011 edition of our Ruritan Magazine

and can also be obtained from our Ruritan.org website. The \$250 deposit deadline is set for February 15th. This cruise is open to our entire Ruritan family as well as our non-Ruritan friends and neighbors. We hope to have a great turnout for what is certain to be fun and exciting event.

Finally, we want to remind all Ruritans that you are also valued members of the Foundation. We need your support and involvement to be successful in achieving our goals. We ask each of you to kindly consider an annual contribution to the Foundation and also including the Foundation Scholarship Program and OWC Program in your club's 2012 budget. Many and sincere thanks to those that have faithfully supported the Ruritan National Foundation in the past and all of those that will in the future. Remember all personal donations

are tax deductible under our 501(c)(3) designation by the IRS.

Yours in Ruritan Service,



"Cleve" Wright
2012 Foundation
President

2011 Foundation Awards Highest Percentage of Clubs Donating

HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF CLUBS DONATING

3 rd Place	Fred Payne	44%	Spartan
2 nd Place	Clinton Guy Cox	50%	Upper WV
1 st Place	Nell Jeffries	97%	Lower WV

MOST DOLLARS DONATED BY CLUBS

3 rd Place	Donnie Perry	\$5066.32	Rocky Mt.-Durham
2 nd Place	Joe Hulver, Jr.	\$5400.00	Rappahannock
1 st Place	Norman O'dell	\$6783.00	Davy Crockett

HIGHEST AVERAGE DONATION PER MEMBER

3 rd Place	Joe Hulver, Jr.	\$14.51	Rappahannock
2 nd Place	Joe Morgan	\$17.75	Tall Corn
1 st Place	Norman O'Dell	\$50.61	Davy Crockett



Past National President Millard Thacker presented Anita Rowland with the Tom Downing Fellow Award at the Dan River District Convention held November 2011. The **Hurt-Motley** (VA) Ruritan Club

has presented this award for thirteen consecutive years. Pictured (l-r) are Bill Maxwell, Anita Rowland, Jerry Atkins, Millard Thacker, and Charlie Rowland.

\$\$\$MILLION DOLLAR CLUB\$\$\$

Donation Amount \$ _____ Name of Fund to Credit _____

From _____ Club _____

Address: _____ District _____

City, State, Zip _____

Pay by check or Credit Card (Visa/Master Charge)

Credit Card # _____

Expiration Date: _____

Mail to: Ruritan National Foundation, Inc., P. O. Box 487, Dublin, VA 24084-0487

1984 National President William Ervin Miles Dies



1984 Ruritan National President William Ervin Miles, 77, of Yanceyville, NC died Saturday, November 26, 2011, at his home surrounded by his family. He was married to Hazel Grey Underwood Miles for 55 years and was born September 15, 1934, in Caswell County to the late William Bryant and Emmie Mae Miles. He served in the US Army and the National Guard. He began his career with Burlington Industries as a third shift loom operator and retired as a Product Development Manager. He was member of Oakview Presbyterian Church. He was a charter member of **Southern Caswell** (NC) Ruritan and **Cherry Grove** (NC) Ruritan clubs. He was active in the Chamber of Commerce of Caswell County. He volunteered at Hospice of Alamance-Caswell with the annual Flea Market and Celebrity Golf Tournament.

Survivors include his wife of the home, daughters, Beverly (David) Hockenberger, Sandra Gibson, Susan (Kevin) Crabtree, Donna (Timmy) Pruitt all of Caswell County, grandchildren, Evan Hockenberger, Kaitlyn Hockenberger, Emily Gibson, Megan (Robbie) Bridges, Drake Crabtree and Justen Pruitt. The funeral was held at Oakview Presbyterian Church and interment followed in Bethel Christian Church Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the Southern Caswell Ruritan, Wayne Dabbs

Memorial Scholarship Fund, 3390 Wagon Wheel Rd., Reidsville, NC 27320 or Hospice & Palliative Care of Alamance-Caswell, 914 Chapel Hill Rd., Burlington, NC 27215.

Ruritan Point System “Pays” for Ruritan Forever

Tennessean District Governor Armetta Hunnigan has been able to “purchase” a Ruritan Forever for herself with the points she has earned recruiting new Ruritan members. She is pictured here with 2011 National President Jayson Duncan at the national convention in Raleigh as she is congratulated for 23 new members in 2011. The point system, introduced in 2011, is similar to the popular frequent shopper points systems at retail stores and has been approved by the Ruritan National Board of Directors. Armetta had 500 points which entitled her to a \$500 gift certificate in Ruritan supply or a Ruritan Forever. The program is retroactive to January 1, 2011, and you will find a form to redeem your points (as well as a complete outline of the point system and prizes) on the Ruritan National website under Member Resources and the Growth icon or by contacting the national office staff at 877-787-8727 or office@ruritan.org.



Copper Basin Ruri-Teens Serve Their Community



Copper Basin (TN) Ruri-Teen Club has worked tirelessly since its charter in October 2011. During November the club sponsored a successful canned food drive and collected 2,259 food items. Collected items were divided between the Copper Basin Crisis Center and the Copper Basin High Backpacks of Food Closet. A Thanksgiving Feast was provided for four needy families. Also in November, the club organized a Teacher Appreciation Day and provided teachers with relaxing massages from Jackie of Ocoee Integrated Medicine. In December the club delivered a

handmade Christmas ornament and card to each of the 96 residents at Life Care of Ducktown. In addition to putting smiles on the resident's faces, the club was awarded the distinction of Best School Club Participation in their school's Christmas Ornament Contest. Also, the club raised enough money during a bake sale to provide "Christmas Wishes" Santa gifts for seven students.



Morrison Receives Awards at District Convention

Morrison (TN) Ruritan Club was featured in their local newspaper for receiving five gold awards at the Cherokee District Convention. Pictured (l-r) are: Mike Holland, Sue Anderson, Darlene Bryant, Todd Shewmaker, Lavell Whitehead, and Wes Williams.

Callaway (VA) Club Gains Two New Members

Callaway (VA) Ruritan Club ended the 2011 year by gaining two new club members. Pictured on the left (l-r) are Club President Bruce Bailey, and new member Simon Winch. Pictured below (l-r) is new member Eric Anspaugh and club member Eugene Meador.

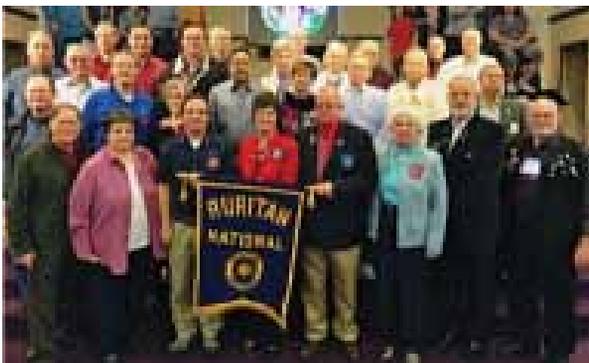


Clubs in Zone Two Collect Tube Socks



Ruritan Clubs in Zone 2 of the Natural Bridge District recently collected and distributed tube socks to patrons at the Roanoke Rescue Mission. Over 400 pairs of tube socks were collected by the three clubs and wrapped by members of the Widows Support Group at Bonsack United Methodist Church. Pictured (l-r) are **Bonsack/Blue Ridge** (VA) Ruritan Club member Esther Wray; **Eagle Rock** (VA) Ruritan Club member William Critcher, Jr.; **Bonsack/Blue Ridge** (VA) Club members Phyllis Perdue, Larry Perdue, Janet Frazier, and Jim Frazier; and **Catawba Valley** (VA) Ruritan Club member and Zone 2 Governor Joe Nieves.

Needmore Club Hosts Zone Training



The Rocky Mount/Durham District was honored to have National President Phyllis Lewter and her husband Bill attend their annual Combined President's Roundtable / Winter Zone Training on February 4, 2012, hosted by the **Needmore** (NC) Ruritan Club. District Governor George Brothers welcomed President Phyllis and those in attendance and stated that he hoped that through this gathering we would all go away with new ideas and a desire to continue the Ruritan tradition of Fellowship, Goodwill and Community Service. President Phyllis extended a heartfelt thanks to the district for its part in the hosting of the 2012 National Convention. Her message

encouraged those present to continue to grow their clubs through diversity. In addition, she challenged the clubs not to be afraid to take risk when developing ideas for club events and to continue to give back to their communities by holding blood drives and working with the food banks. She pointed out that as of January 31, 2012 the District had added 11 new members for the year.

Oak Grove (NC) Club Presents Scholarship

Oak Grove (NC) Ruritan Club presented a scholarship to Holly Ray in the amount of \$1,000. Holly has plans to pursue a master's degree in clinical social work at the University of Georgia Graduate School. She has served her community in many ways. She has volunteered for Durham Ronald McDonald House, participated in Relay for Life, volunteered in food pantry ministries, website design outreach, and served on the day care committee at her church. Pictured (l-r) are her parents Dempsey and Diane Ray, Scholarship Chair Ruby Dement, Holly Ray, and Club President Tim Ellis.



News From Ruritan: Piedmont District

Pine Hall Club Helps Build a Handicap Ramp

Twenty-year old Chris Westmoreland had to drop out of college when he was diagnosed with cancer of the spine. The Ruritan National Office received a request from his family to provide a handicap ramp. Member Service Coordinator Craig Whitt contacted 2011 Piedmont District Governor Terry Call for assistance from the clubs in his district. Terry found the needed help through some **Pine Hall (NC)** Ruritan Club members and a handicap ramp was built.



Sandy Ridge (NC) Hosts Dinner for Veterans



Sandy Ridge (NC) Ruritan Club hosted a dinner for veterans recently. The Sandy Ridge Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, and Boy Scouts paid tribute as well. Ann Dalton gave a presentation and an elementary student read her first-

place winning narrative essay to the group. Approximately 44 veterans attended the event along with many family members and friends.

News From Ruritan: Upper West Virginia District

Spruce Mountain Had Breakfast with Santa



Spruce Mountain (WV) Ruritan Club held a first ever "Breakfast with Santa" in December. Approximately 100 children participated. The objective of the event was to offer the children an opportunity to go Christmas shopping for their moms and dads. The children gathered at the community building where they were served a pancake breakfast by the club and provided materials to write a letter to Santa. They were then randomly chosen and escorted through a treasure trove of items that had been donated by the club members. Club members then provided gift wrapping for the shoppers. The highlight of the program was a visit from Santa Claus.



Lots of News from Chesapeake District



Charles City (VA) Ruritan Club presented a \$10,000 check to the Charles City Library Committee in January to help build a new library. It's the first installment of the club's \$25,000 pledge. Pictured (l-r) are Library Committee member Rev. Alton Washington, Heritage Public Library Director Barbara Winters, Library Committee Chair James A. Tyler, and Club President Cyrus Brame.

York (VA) Ruritan Club took their turn in ringing the bells for the Salvation Army during the holiday season. Pictured left (l-r) are 2011 Club President Richard Russell and 2011 District Governor Sewell Rowley.

Haley Balderson of the **Washington & Lee (VA)** Ruri-Teen Club was named the Chesapeake District Ruri-Teen of the Year. Pictured on the right is Haley receiving the award from 2011 District Governor Sewell Rowley at the District Convention in Williamsburg.



Glendale (VA) Ruritan Club's first "Fall Fling" ended up being a huge success. Attendees listened to a live band while enjoying their barbeque chicken with all the fixing's. (pictured left)



A barbeque supper hosted by the **Piankatank (VA)** Ruritan Club in July benefited the Mission of Mercy (MOM) Dental Clinic. Club President Harry Johnson presented a check from the proceeds of the event to dentist and founder C. Harris, DDS, and his wife at the club's monthly meeting in November. Pictured above (l-r) are Club President Harry Johnson, Harris and spouse, and club member and benefit organizer Wilbur Burroughs. The club has recently donated \$768



to the TRIAD organization to support two people for one year of Lifeline services, and \$2,000 to the Matthews Little League Associate to help pay for new lights.

Most New Members Recruited in Calender Year (2011)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Members</u>
Armetta Hunigan	Piney Flats	Tennessean	23

Members Recruiting 10 Or More New Members in 2011

<u>Name</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Members</u>
Betty Jo Clemmer	Middlebrook	Woodrow Wilson	11

News From Ruritan: Chesapeake District

Gloucester (VA) Ruritan Club holds an annual ice cream social hospitality room during the Chesapeake District Convention. The club serves over 160 cups of ice cream with all kinds of toppings. At the



Chesapeake District Convention the club was honored with the Best Chesapeake District Ruritan Club of the Year Award. Club President Harold Beddingfield accepted the plaque on behalf of the club. The club had over 6,000 volunteer hours and has won the top prize for convention ad sales the past four years. Pictured (l-r) are Paul Bauer, Barbara Bauer, Harry Thomas, Janet Leigh, Heidi Henderson, and Beverly Thomas.

Abingdon (VA) Ruritan Club members Ron Bruce (left) and Jimmy Hogge (right) are shown serving clam chowder on a cold morning in January.



Five Forks (VA) Ruritan Club President, Dave Efimetz (left) presented a Ruritan Community Service Award to Paul Marriott (center) as Fire Chief Tal Luton observed. Marriott has been a Fire Department Volunteer for 20 years. Based upon his experience with cartography



and digital applications, he has assumed responsibility for maintaining the map books placed in all Fire Department and Police Department vehicles in James City County. Copies of the map book are also provided to USPS and surrounding public service agencies.

Woodrow Sanders, Jr. and Woodrow Sanders Sr. are shown preparing dog biscuits for the **Warwick** (VA) Ruritan Clubs annual Dog Biscuit Sale at Patrick Henry Mall.



News From Ruritan: Holland District

Holland District Clubs are Staying Active



Deep Creek (VA) Ruritan Club presented the Deep Creek Firefighter of the Year Award to Firefighter/EMT David Brock at their November club meeting. Pictured (l-r) are Club President Rob Hegedus, Social Development Chair Joe Noha, and David Brock.

Creeds (VA) Ruritan Club member Don Horsley was featured in a national agriculture magazine for being selected as the Virginia State Swisher Sweets/Sunbelt Expo Southeastern Farmer of the Year. Horsley has been a member of Ruritan for almost 40 years.

Greenville County (VA) Ruritan Club celebrated its 65th anniversary recently. Arnold Vincent was honored for his 54 years of service. New club officers were elected, members received perfect attendance pins, and Don Bullock was recognized as the club's Ruritan of the Year.

Appomattox Clubs Present Awards



Central Brunswick (VA) Ruritan Club Treasurer Linwood Johnson is shown presenting \$200 checks to several organizations. Pictured (l-r) are Johnson, Dolphin Volunteer Fire Department C.K. Greene, Southside Virginia Community College John Sykes, Brunswick Volunteer Rescue Squad Administrator Connie Moore, Lawrenceville Volunteer Fire Department Chief Kevin Pair, Brunswick County Relay for Life Abbe Thomas and Sylvia Allen. The club also donated \$900 to the 4-H Wildlife Project this year.



Buckingham County (VA) Ruritan Club 2011 President Robert Saxon Jr. (left) is shown presenting the club's annual "Buckingham Citizenship Award" to Craig A. McPherson. McPherson has managed several food pantries, served as club vice president, and operated the Hatton Ferry. He is a member of the Buckingham Sheriff's Office TriAid Senior Citizen Group, and will be working the Ellis Acres Education Food Program.

Dinwiddie (VA) Ruritan Club continued its support of Dinwiddie Elementary School by providing the "Dinwiddie Ruritan Club Citizenship Award" to outstanding students at the school's recent awards ceremony. The club has been supporting this program for the past six years. Club member Trey Lucy presented the certificates to the students at the ceremony.



During the **LaCrosse-Bracey (VA)** Club's January meeting, National Director Chuck Myers and District Governor Larry Cary presented pins and certificates to club members. Herbert Farrar received a 35-year pin and 2011 Club President Herbert Parrott received a 50-year pin for their years of service. Pictured bottom left (l-r) are Beth Farrar, National Director Chuck Myers, Herbert Farrar, Herbert Parrott, Rachel Parrott, Club President Peggy Sickles, Appomattox District Governor Larry Cary, and Zone 2 Governor Ron Sickles.



Steve Meadows presents D.B. Walston with the Otto Whitt Award, **Chesterfield (VA)** Ruritan Club's Ruritan of the Year Award. (pictured right)



Rockingham District Clubs are Staying Busy

Grottoes (VA) Ruritan Club was featured in their local newspaper for sponsoring the first ever “Caroling in the Caverns.” A variety of musical groups performed in different parts of the Grand Caverns. Candle-lit tours helped the visitors make their way through the underground tunnels and chambers. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Boys and Girls Club program at the South River Elementary School and help with the club’s scholarship fund.

Turner Ashby (VA) Ruri-Teen Club members Rachel Leweke and Lexi Campbell were featured in their local newspaper for receiving the Youth in Philanthropy Award during the National Philanthropy Day Ceremony. The club has raised over \$30,000 for St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital since its charter in 2004. Approximately 200 people gathered at James Madison University’s Festival Conference and Student Center for the luncheon.

2011 **Luray** (VA) Ruritan Club President Steve Cave is shown presenting a plaque and certificate to club members for 50 years of service. Pictured (l-r) are Mark Kemp, Mark Bauserman, James Gander, Gary Bauserman, Steve Cave, and Gilbert Campbell (seated).



Fontaine Awards Members of The Community

Fontaine (VA) Ruritan Club has had several successful fundraising activities throughout 2011. Club members parked cars at the October race at Martinsville Speedway to raise money for scholarships. By hosting Tuesday night Bingo for 60 to 70 participants each week, the club was able to help families and organizations in need. They also sponsored a Christmas door decoration pizza party for Rich Acres Elementary School.



The club has given awards to outstanding members of their local law enforcement, rescue squad, and fire departments. Pictured (l-r) are Henry County’s Sgt. Christopher Lampkin, Martinsville Sheriff Department Members Michael Law and E.C. Stone; Ridgeway Fire Department Member Jamie Boyd; and Horsepasture Rescue Squad Member Carl Pacifico.



Turbeville Helps Club Member

Turbeville (VA) Ruritan Club held a raffle to help with the expenses of an in-home generator system for club member Glenn Sanders recently. The club presented Sanders with a check for \$3,330. Pictured is Turbeville Club President Wayne Conner (right) presenting Sanders with the check.

Belmont Receives Donations for Storage Building



Belmont (VA) Ruritan Club and the Belmont Club of Women extend their thanks to several businesses for their donations of materials and labor, for the completion of a much needed 624 square foot storage building at the Belmont Community Center. The steel building with cement floor will house the numerous supplies and equipment used in support of the many fund-raising projects of both clubs.

Also Tractor Hill Equipment donated a tractor lawn mower for use in maintaining the two acre tract. This donation when coupled with the new storage facility makes maintenance of the grounds much easier for members. Pictured (l-r) are building managers Kay Karstaedt and J.D. Edwards, 2011 Club President Ray Lora, and Belmont Club of Women President Maria Mader.

Cove Garden Celebrates 50th Anniversary



Spouses, family, and friends joined in celebrating the 50th anniversary of the **Cove Garden** (VA) Ruritan Club recently. National Director Chuck Myers (left) and Emily Payne (center) are shown congratulating Club President Jimmy Powell.

TOP 5 CLUBS

GREATEST PERCENTAGE INCREASE

LARGE CLUBS

Jefferson, MD	Potomac	4.55%
Wayne City	Lincolnland	5.13%
Prince George	Holland	6.17%
Middlebrook	Woodrow Wilson	7.50%
Abingdon	Chesapeake	13.00%

MEDIUM CLUBS

Oak Grove, NC	Rocky Mt-Durham	15.38%
Hickory	Holland	16.22%
Mill Gap	Woodrow Wilson	17.50%
Rougemont	Rocky Mt-Durham	21.82%
Capon Bridge	Upper West Virginia	35.14%

SMALL CLUBS

Piney Flats	Tennessean	116.67%
Ocoee	Cherokee	127.27%
West Stafford	Rappahannock	128.57%
Lashmeet	Lower West Virginia	133.33%
Stony Point	Rapidan	170.00%

Come Visit the Ruritan National Office

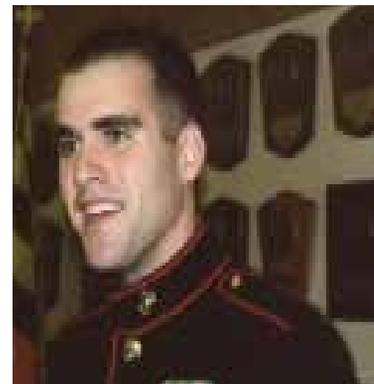
Traveling northbound on Interstate 81, take exit 98, turn left onto Rt. 100 (from southbound Interstate 81 turn right onto Rt. 100). At the second stoplight, turn right onto Rt. 682, cross over Interstate 81 and turn left onto Rt. 662.

Tours can be arranged by calling Debbie Southern at the National Office, toll free at 877-787-8727 ext. 301.

News From Ruritan: Delmarva/NJ District

Rockwalkin Salutes Veterans

Rockwalkin (MD) Ruritan Club held its annual "Salute to Veterans" dinner in November. Guest speaker was Sgt. Max Neighbors, USMC recruiter. Thirteen veterans attended the dinner with military service ranging from WW II to Korea and Vietnam.



Clubs Across Ruritan in Action



Highland Park (TN) Ruritan Club's Vice President Vonnie Myers and District Governor Steve Balch (pictured left) are shown presenting dictionaries to third grade students at Highland Park Elementary School. The club also earned \$1075 from their annual Thanksgiving Turkey Shoot. All monies from this event were donated to the school.



Parksville

Township (NC) Ruritan Club (pictured right) held its annual chicken barbecue fundraiser to help with scholarships. The club was pleased that they served over 1200 dinner plates.



Glen Alpine (NC) Ruritan Club Charter Member Paul Powell (pictured left) was recognized for his 50 years of perfect attendance at a recent club meeting.

Pictured on the right is Ray Houser, 85 year old local legend in sound and member of the **Fishersville (VA)** Ruritan Club's "Hall of Fame." Ray opened the December club meeting with the National Anthem and continued to entertain throughout the evening with music and song.



This past Christmas the **Willarlea (NC)** Ruritan Club partnered with the Wallace Piggly Wiggly to feed Christmas dinners to twenty needy families. Pictured left (l-r) are: Willarlea Club Member Hilda Gallagher, Piggly Wiggly Manager Sheila Cavanaugh, Club President June Robbins, and Piggly Wiggly Manager Rufus Jackson.



Jim Smallwood (right) of the **Bloomington (TN)** Ruritan Club is pictured as Rudy Bear as he presents miniature Rudy Bears to residents at a Kingsport Nursing Home.

Operation We Care (OWC) presented a check to Joy Smallwood of the Tennessean District for \$23,750 to victims of the tornado disaster that hit Johnson County Tennessee. **Butler (TN)** 2011 Club President was responsible for dispersing the money.

Pictured right is National Director Glen Davis giving Ohio District Governor Maynard Yoh a pie in the face as part of the district's fundraising campaign.

Lovettsville-Waterford (VA) Ruritan Club committed to help the Lovettsville Elementary School PTO build a new playground. To date, the club has donated over \$4,800 to the project and has pledged to help with the installation of the new equipment. The PTO has raised \$27,000 of the \$55,000 needed for the project and hopes to build the new playground in the summer of 2012.





Ruritan Forever

A Perpetual Life Plan

Protecting and preserving Ruritan as a legacy for future generations.

"Ruritan Forever" is a plan for the payment of national dues by members who wish to make a long term investment in Ruritan. The "Ruritan Forever" plan allows a member in good standing to pay \$600 and become a life-time participant of the National Organization. Ruritan National will invest these pre-payments in a special managed fund, transferring the dues quarterly to the business office of Ruritan National. Even after the life participant dies, dues will be transferred quarterly to Ruritan National, thus offering a perpetual memorial to the organization on behalf of the deceased Ruritan.

A "Ruritan Forever" endowment may be purchased by a member in good standing, or may be purchased for a member in good standing. A Ruritan Forever endowment may be purchased to honor a non-member provided they are brought into a club as an Associate Member at the same time. In this case the Associate Member's dues would be covered by the \$600 endowment.

The lifetime endowment may also be purchased

in memory of an already deceased Ruritan, ensuring an ongoing contribution to the operation of Ruritan in his or her name. Dues for a living participant must be current through the previous quarter to participate. The Plan Manager, at 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. A "Ruritan Forever" Committee will oversee the fund.

Upon payment of the fee, the Ruritan will receive a certificate, a permanent life participant card and a pin. For endowments purchased for a deceased member a special plaque will be provided for the club to present to the deceased member's family. National dues increases will have no effect on participants enrolled in the plan, although the purchase price of \$600 for new enrollees may be adjusted over the years as necessary. There will be no special assessments or charges made to Ruritan Forever participants.

Please detach or photocopy this portion if you would like to participate in this endowment plan to secure the future of Ruritan, in your name or in the name of a fellow Ruritan.

Your Name: _____

Your Club Name: _____

Your Address: _____ Telephone: _____

This application is for: (check one)

- Myself Current Member Deceased Ruritan NEW Associate Member
(application required)

Name of Applicant (if not you): _____

Applicant's Club: _____

Applicant's Address: _____

OPTION #1 Credit card number _____ Expiration Date _____

OPTION #2 Enclosed please find a check/money order for \$600

OPTION #3 Enclosed please find the first \$200 installment toward the \$600 Ruritan Forever fee.

I understand that the perpetual life endowment will not begin until the entire \$600 has been paid.