



Ruritan

Volume 75, Spring 2010



**2010
President
Jerome
Rodes
Installed**

We Are People of Persistence - *Keep on Pumping!*

Speech given at 2010 Ruritan National Convention
Installation Banquet in Virginia Beach, VA .

Thank you, for your confidence in letting me serve you in the coming year. If this were Facebook, I would click on “confirm” – you are all friends!

I would like to recognize a few people who have put up with me for a long time. First my best friend Marsha, my wife for 37 years, and my family. Next the Smoot Ruritan Club members present tonight. I am honored that you are here. Thank you, President Donald. It has been a pleasant experience serving as your Vice President.

Then I would like to thank all of you for making our convention a pleasant experience.

We are at the beginning of the year – what a great time for starting out on a new journey wherever you want to go.

When we board an airplane headed out for some far away city and the pilot encounters severe thunderstorms ahead – even though he has filed a flight plan -- chances are the decision will be made to take a new course either over or around the weather. Notice the decision to *go back* is the last option not the first. So like any adventure expect a few obstacles along the way.

To help me make a couple of points I brought with me a visual aide. Some of you won't need an explanation of what this is. Maybe you grew up with one.

One of my first experiences with the pump came during my first big paying job. I was in the fifth grade in 1961 and got the job as the janitor of Thompson Elementary School. One of my daily chores was each morning to fill the water cooler. By the way the job paid \$8 a month and I was pretty excited about that.



Many years later, about 1977, in Columbus, OH I saw motivational speaker Zig Ziglar use a pump to perform a task that didn't involve pumping water.

I related to that and to Zig because he was a cookware salesman and I had been down that road too.

Those of you with experience with this kind of a pump know that it just doesn't immediately give you the water you're looking for.

Step one: you have to put something into it to get something out. So take a little water and start pouring it in. Now start working that handle.

If you are persistent the water will start to flow. Mission accomplished.

Now if everything is in perfect shape the handle will stay down and the next time you decide to exert a little energy you'll get the same results.

Well you and I both know things are seldom perfect. So what will likely happen when you let go of the handle it will slowly start to rise and when it has reached the top of the stroke there will be an ugly sucking sound – you have lost your prime.

Perhaps when it comes to starting new Ruritan clubs we have kind of lost our prime.

But what I'm trying to tell you is you have to “Keep On Pumping.” I know that gets a little tiring so don't be afraid to ask for a little help to keep the production going.

But to keep the production going you first have to start. So when do you start? Well, of course, now wouldn't be a good time because it's so cold and people just wouldn't listen. Right after Easter would be better but people are all involved in the holiday. Might be better right after school lets out for summer. But then everybody is going on vacation and there's the 4th of July and all. Probably would be better right after school starts back again. But then the kids are all selling stuff to raise money for school.

October would really be good but then football is in full force. Probably should wait until that kind of finishes. Then again here comes Thanksgiving and people are really busy with that. Then of course Christmas it's the same way.

I know right after the first of the new year would be great. What do you know? That's now!

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EDITORIAL & PUBLICATIONS STAFF

Michael Chrisley, Executive Director
Chris Pugh, Publications Manager
Crystal Jennelle, Media Assistant

CIRCULATION & ADVERTISING

Sue Ervine, Membership Specialist

MAILING ADDRESS - EDITORIAL OFFICE

Ruritan National
P.O. Box 487
(UPS) 5451 Lyons Road
Dublin, VA 24084
(540) 674-5431 Toll-Free: (877) 787-8727
FAX: (540) 674-2304
E-mail: office@ruritan.org
Web: <http://ruritan.org>
Supply Orders Only: (800) 836-5431

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Pine Hall Elementary Ruri-Teens supply a local food bank with peanut butter and jelly. See page 29 for more.

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The Ruritan National Growth and Development Committee asks what YOU will do to make 2010 a year of growth for the organization.

Get Your Room in Knoxville..... 13
The 2011 Ruritan National Convention will be in Knoxville, TN. Reserve your hotel room now!

2010 Founders' Day 16
Make plans now to attend the festivities in Holland, VA - site of the very first Ruritan meeting in 1928.

One Ruri-Teen Sets an Example 19
One Tennessee Ruri-Teen has faced sadness and adversity but she refuses to let it define her life.

Cover Credit: 2010 National President Jerome Rodes and his family took a moment for a group portrait at the 2010 Ruritan National Convention in Virginia Beach. Pictured are (l-r) front: son-in-law, Michael Czar (holding McKenna), daughter-in-law Sybil Rodes, son Chad Rodes (holding Emma), and son-in-law, Derek McDaniel; back: daughter Carrie Czar (with Madelyn), 2010 First Lady Marsha Rodes, 2010 National President Jerome Rodes, and daughter Candace McDaniel (holding Benjamin). Not pictured are son Rodney White, daughter-in-law Josie, and grandchildren Kyle and Kimber.

Making Progress In Many Areas

We've just completed another great convention in Virginia Beach, Virginia. If you were there with us we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did, even with the beautiful snowstorm! The city of Virginia Beach stepped up to the plate and delivered great service for our members from delicious food at all the meals to keeping us warm and dry in the buses to the convention center. If you didn't have the chance to complete a



convention evaluation, please send a letter to my attention and let me know what we could have done to make this a better convention for you.

As a matter of fact we are interested in what all members need with regard to conventions. Of course we want to know what our attendees enjoyed as well as what they would like to see us do better, but we are also interested in why the members who are not at the conventions each year don't attend. We plan to send several surveys out over the next few months to see what would make our conventions more attractive to those of you who don't come. Please give us your honest feedback. We can't change to meet your needs if we don't know what they are.

We had a great year in 2009. We were able to make significant progress in our information systems and thousands of you are using the system now. Our intent is to take what is already a great member management system and make it even better. We have already reviewed a list of enhancements for the MMS and the committee will be prioritizing that list shortly. There are few limits to what we can do with technology. Don't worry ... if you aren't a techie we will still strive to give you the very best service we can with a format that is comfortable for you.

We were also able to make significant progress in capital replacements at the national office. Our office is operating as a more energy efficient building just in time for all the snow we've seen here in Southwest Virginia! The Capital Replacement Committee is working to prioritize the next round of improvements to make the building more efficient and bring us into compliance with access laws.

We are also studying ways to help mitigate risk in our clubs and at the national level to help reduce general liability insurance costs and provide best practices to our clubs in reducing or spreading risk.

Above all we need to remember that all the successes in IT, Capital Replacements, and Risk Management don't mean much if we take our eyes off the mission and purpose of Ruritan. We need to focus on increasing our membership, growing clubs in communities that need a Ruritan Club, and serving our communities. Thank you for being people of persistence ... keep on pumping.



Michael Chrisley
Executive Director
Ruritan National and Ruritan National Foundation



2009 District Growth Awards

Small Districts (500 members or less)

SW Virginia 6.22% Bill Whitely, 09 Governor

Medium Districts (501-1000 members)

Cherokee 10.67% Barbara Knowles, 09 Governor

Large Districts (1001 members and over)

Piedmont 5.74% Steve Tulbert, 09 Governor

(pictured above right with 2009 National President Donald Worrell)

Areas

Great Plains 1.29% Melvin Barger, 09 Governor

Will 2010 Be a Growth Year or Will We Just Stand Still?

The National Growth & Development Committee used this topic at their workshops at the National Convention recently in Virginia Beach.

Now we want to send this message out to all Ruritans as a challenge for 2010. Will 2010 be a growth year or will we just stand still?

We all know the definition of grow. We know that to grow is "to increase, expand and thrive." For as long as we can remember Ruritan has been busy increasing and expanding membership. We have used many different approaches. We have had recognitions such as the F*R*A*N program (friends, relatives, associates, and neighbors). We have opened our membership up to youth by forming Ruri-Teen clubs in high schools, middle, and elementary schools. We even have a few college clubs.

Associate Membership has made it possible for local businesses, youth, and people whose work keep them from participating in a Ruritan club full time.

We have now introduced (at the 2010 National Convention) an easy-to-use presentation flip chart to

help members talk with small groups about starting new Ruritan clubs. See in this issue of the RURITAN magazine how you can get one of these flip charts and also see what other growth programs are being introduced for 2010.

We also know that to "stand still" means to stay in one spot or even become stagnate. We surely do not want this to happen to Ruritan. Our organization and the communities we serve will both lose if that happens.

So ask yourself this question: If Ruritan stops growing, how would that affect your community and your life?

We are also reminded of the old saying, "If you snooze, you lose." We could find ourselves losing ground because we snoozed through opportunities to create growth.

Let's answer the question at the top of this page together – and let's answer it firmly and with conviction: **2010 will be a growth year.**

Start today by asking people to be a part of America's Leading Community Service Organization – Ruritan!!

2010 National Growth & Development Committee



2009 RETENTION TROPHY

As important as growth is, being able to retain members from year to year is just as important.

Small Districts (500 members or less)

Alabama Florida 90% Lehman Irby '09 Gov.

Medium Districts (501-1000 members)

Rappahannock 92.46% Jan Sickle '09 Gov.

Large Districts (1001 members and more)

Holland 92.14% W. Clayton Byrum '09 Gov

(Pictured above right with 2009 National President Donald Worrell)

2009 Club Growth Awards

Small Clubs

- 5th Conklin Club, Davy Crockett District, 90.91%
- 4th Round Hill Club, Rappahannock District, 91.30%
- 3rd Beech Bluff Club, Hermitage District, 133.33%
- 2nd Craigsville Club, Woodrow Wilson District, 190.91%
- 1st Severn-Pendleton Club, Roanoke District, 222.22%

Medium Clubs

- 5th Sterling Club, Rappahannock District, 20%
- 4th Union City Club, Bluegrass District, 22.5%
- 3rd White Hall Club, Rapidan District, 26.83%
- 2nd Red Bank Club, Dan River District, 27.50%
- 1st Boones Creek Club, Davy Crockett District, 30.95%

Large Clubs

- 4th Abingdon Club, Chesapeake District, 1.09%
- 3rd South Norfolk Club, Holland District, 6.70%
- 2nd Clarksville Club, Appomattox District, 15.79%
- 1st Harrison Club, Cherokee District, 21.52%

2010 Growth Programs Offer Rewards

2010 National President Jerome Rodes introduced a number of new growth programs at the 2010 National Convention in Virginia Beach as well as his slogan: People of Persistence Keep On Pumping, illustrated with an old-fashioned water pump (pictured). The programs include:

Growth Program: Make a Record and Break a Record

Ruritan members aren't salesmen by definition, however we are selling people and communities on an involvement that will benefit them greatly. There is much to be said about helping people to help themselves.

So let's set a day to do just that. How about March 31, 2010 for our "Make a Record Day"? The day will begin at 12:00 a.m. and go for 24 hours.

And then to break the record we have set we will do that on September 30, 2010.

Yes, there will be recognition and rewards for those who excel. Our member who recruits the most members on either of these two days will receive a gift certificate from **StubHub** in the amount of \$500. The certificate can be used for tickets to college and professional sporting events, as well as NASCAR races or concert tickets across the nation. You don't have to use it all at one time and it doesn't expire.

The district with the most new members recruited on either of these two days will have a ribbon to wear on their name badges at the convention in Knoxville to indicate they were the leaders in the "Make a Record" or "Break a Record" days. These two winning districts will also have up-front seating at the business sessions at the 2011 Knoxville Ruritan Convention.



Growth Program: Power of Persistence Pin

In 2010 a new award will be introduced: "Power of Persistence Pin". The **POP 2010** pin will be available to any Ruritan member recruiting two new members into an adult club in 2010. Physically it is made to be worn as a bar attached to the "Presidents Golden Key" award.

If the member has a numbered bar for # of members recruited (5, 10, 65, etc) the pin will mount between the key and # of members recruited bar. If the member doesn't already have a President's Golden Key, two members in 2010 will qualify that member for both pins simultaneously. To receive the award the member must remit to Ruritan the information of the new members recruited that are used to qualify for the award.

Growth Program: Top Recruiter Award

During 2010 we will have many Ruritans who go above and beyond what is expected of the average member. There will be one that will stand out even in that group. This person will bring into Ruritan more members than any other member. We want this individual to be our guest at the National Convention in Knoxville, Tennessee. Our "Top Recruiter" will be treated to three nights lodging, free registration, and admission to any special meals they would care to attend.

Rules to choose the "Top Recruiter"

- Members must be recruited into an adult Ruritan Club.
- Members recruited may be regular, associate, youth, or dues paying honorary.
- Time period: 01/01/2010 thru 12/31/2010

In case of a tie, the winner will be the recruiter who has the new members with the greatest number of months of membership in 2010.

Growth Program: Power of Presentation Pin

New in 2010 is the "Power of Presentation Pin". The pin will be awarded to any Ruritan member who makes a presentation to a least five (5) people -- explaining the opportunity available to them if they start a new Ruritan Club. The time period is any time during 2010. The award may be made to the recipient by the District or Zone Governor anytime after it is earned. *Special presentation flip charts are available from Ruritan Supply to help with your presentations. You may request one by calling toll free 877-787-8727.*

All recipients will also be recognized at the 2011 National Convention.

New Officers for 2010 Installed in VA Beach



2010 National President
Jerome Rodes Dawson, WV



2010 National Vice President
Jayson Duncan Pine Hall, NC



National Secretary
(three-year term)
JoAnn C. Wenger Broadway, VA



National Director
Anne Hillard Frankfort, KY



National Director
Ray Lautzenheiser Rock Hill, SC



National Director
Steve D. Mullis Summerville, GA



National Director
Karen D. S. Palette Virginia Beach, VA



National Director
Foster Parrish Corapeake, NC



National Director
Robert A. (Bob) Reece Lenoir, NC



National Director
Don Yeargan Midlothian, VA



Foundation Trustee
Danny Privott Hertford, NC



2010 Foundation President
Richard A. Keener Hudson, NC

Delegates Approve Five Bylaws Amendments

At the 2010 Ruritan National Convention five amendments to the Ruritan National Bylaws were approved by the delegates. The changes are outlined below with the actual wording of the amended sections of the bylaws.

Bylaws amendment #1 changed the voting procedure at the National Convention – allowing officers, directors and trustees to be elected with a plurality of the vote, rather than a majority of the vote on the first ballot only.

Section C: The election shall be held during the National Convention by ballot vote using paper ballots or voting machines. The official program of the convention shall indicate the day and hours of election. Each certified delegate shall have one vote for each office to be filled. Election of Officers, Directors and Foundation Trustees shall require a plurality vote.

Bylaws amendment #2 clarified the process for amending the Bylaws.

Article XIX: Amendments to these bylaws shall be made only at the National Convention of Ruritan National by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and voting, provided that the proposed

amendments shall have either:

a) been first presented to and approved by the Board of Directors. Notice of any proposed amendment submitted by the Board of Directors shall be published in the Ruritan Magazine at least thirty (30) days before the opening of the convention or

b) shall be submitted by a delegate at the National Convention provided any proposed amendment shall have first been reviewed by the Convention Bylaws Committee.

Bylaws amendment #3 and #4 amended **article XVI, section C** and allows lieutenant zone governors and district chaplains in the districts that have them, to be voting members of their district cabinets.

Section C. *Each District shall be governed by a District Cabinet of which the District*

Governor shall be the chair. It shall be composed of the following voting members: District Governor, Lt. Governor, assigned National Director, District Secretary, District Treasurer or District Secretary-Treasurer, all Zone Governors, all Lt. Zone Governors, the three immediate Past District Governors, District Leadership Development

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Ruritans Generously Support Charities

If the totals celebrated at the 2010 Ruritan National Convention are any indication – Ruritan Clubs spent 2009 making generous donations in their communities.

Clubs were urged to give donations of cash and food to their local food banks and to present Rudy Bears to emergency and medical personnel all year. Added in 2009 was a plea by 2009 National President Donald Worrell for clubs to sponsor American Red Cross blood drives – giving the gift of life.

The total numbers on these three projects, as presented at the Fellowship Luncheon with First Lady Roseland in Virginia Beach were impressive. Publicity and Public Relations Chair Corky Camin told the attendees that 1841 Rudy Bears had been donated in communities across Ruritanland. In addition 298,261 pounds of food had been given to food banks by the Ruritan clubs in their communities. Ruritans were also responsible for blood donations totaling 4,620 pints.

Pictured at right (l-r) are 1992 President Jerry Walker, Dr. Tom Bass and Jane Bass – who accepted donations of Rudy Bears for Children’s Hospital of The King’s Daughters in Norfolk, VA, National Director Corky Camin, and 2009 First Lady Roseland Worrell.

Individual districts, categorized as small, medium, and large, were recognized for their especially outstanding gifts as follows:

Rudy Bears

- Large: Appomattox District - 325
- Medium: Cape Fear District - 371
- Small: SW Virginia District - 200

Blood Drive Pints

- Large: Ohio District – 1515
- Medium: Peaks of Otter - 252
- Small: Natural Bridge - 252

Food Pantry Pounds

- Large: Appomattox 88,109
- Medium: Cape Fear 16,200
- Small: Natural Bridge 4,288

The **Fredericksburg** (OH) Ruritan Club was particularly recognized for collecting 916 pints of blood, a major portion of Ohio District’s 1515 pints.



2009 Ruritan National President Donald Worrell put an emphasis on youth, asking two youth members of regular Ruritan clubs to serve as his escorts during the 2010 National Convention. Pictured are his sons Justin Worrell, of the **Smithfield Ruritan Club**; Joshua Worrell, of the **Holland Ruritan Club**; as well as youth members Rebecca Warren of the **Holland Ruritan Club** and Olivia Van Buskirk of the **Brushy Mountain Ruritan Club**.

King Neptune Issues Welcome

The 2009-10 King Neptune, John Randolph "Randy" Sutton, welcomed Ruritans to Virginia Beach during the Thursday evening opening ceremonies. As he and his tritons greeted Ruritans with gifts of beads, he commented that the focus of the King Neptune program – contributions and involvement in community – fit very well the mission of Ruritan of Fellowship, Goodwill, and Community Service. Ruritans were also welcomed by Virginia Beach Mayor William D. Sessoms, Jr., on Saturday morning. Among other distinctions, Sessoms is a former King Neptune, himself.



Above, Justin Worrell, son of 2009 National President Donald, assists the President's granddaughters Kaitlyn, Abigail, and Cameron into the Fellowship Luncheon with First Lady Roseland where the girls acted as their grandmother's escorts. Later in the program the three little girls and the 2009 First Lady also led Ruritans in the pledge to close out the event.

2009 Overall Community Service Award Winners

Club	District	Place
Business and Professions		
Choateville	Bluegrass	Bronze
Carver Road	Dan River	Silver
County Line	Georgia-North Alabama	Gold
Citizenship and Patriotism		
Short Pump	Chesapeake	Bronze
Hurt –Motley	Dan River	Silver
Natural Bridge	Smoky Mountain	Gold
(Club Vice President Joan Beaver pictured at right with 2009 National President Donald Worrell)		
Environment		
Collettsville	Western North Carolina	Bronze
White Pine	Smoky Mountain	Silver
Spout Spring	Appomattox	Gold
Public Service		
Rocky Hock	Albemarle	Bronze
Callao	Chesapeake	Silver
Flat Rock	Georgia-North Alabama	Gold
Social Development		
Gibbs	Smoky Mountain	Bronze
Eastern Henrico	Chesapeake	Silver
County Line	Georgia-North Alabama	Gold



Outstanding Members Honored at Luncheon

Three deserving individuals were recognized during the 2010 Ruritan National Convention and invited to the head table at the Fellowship Luncheon with First Lady Roseland.

2009 National President Donald Worrell noted that 2009 Rudy Youth of the Year, Megan Elizabeth Bradley of the **Rewastico Creek Ruritan Club** in the Delmarva NJ District is a young person with perfect attendance in her Ruritan Club. She also paid visits to a number of other clubs in her district. In addition she was very active in her community and her church. She served on a key community service committee and spent well over 300 hours on club projects. She chaired Operation Christmas Child and works with international students from around the world.



Rudy Youth of the Year Megan Elizabeth Bradley was congratulated by 2009 National President Donald Worrell

Ruri-Teen of the Year for 2009, Kristin Handy of the **Gloucester High Ruri-Teen Club** in the Chesapeake District, is a teen who also had perfect



*Ruritan of the Year
Shelby Earp*

attendance and also attended meetings at other clubs in the district. She served as club secretary for two years and spent 200 hours on community service projects. She was also active in the BETA Club, National Honor Society, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and is active in her church.

Shelby Earp of the **Gwaltney Ruritan Club** of the Western North Carolina District was named 2009 Ruritan of the Year. Unfortunately Shelby had to leave the

convention before the Friday luncheon so National Director Joe Jaynes accepted the award on Shelby's behalf and later presented it to Shelby at a zone meeting back in the Western North Carolina District. President Donald noted that Shelby had spent over 750 hours on service and helped to complete 75 club projects. She attended meetings at the club, zone, district and national levels. She worked tirelessly to promote Ruritan and even started a new Ruritan club in her district



2009 President Donald Worrell recognized 2009 Ruri-Teen of the Year Kristin Handy.

Individual Growth Awards

Individual growth awards during the 2010 National Convention were given to:

Shelby Earp of the **Gwaltney Ruritan Club** in the Western NC District for 10 new members.

Dale Kestner of the **Allison Gap Ruritan Club** in the Southwest VA District for 10 new members

Bud Knowles of the **Harrison Ruritan Club** in the Cherokee District for 16 new members.

1968 National President, Executive Secretary Charles Allen Passes

1968 Ruritan National President and former Executive Secretary Charles Allen, Jr. died on August 25. Charles and his wife Mildred (Fullen) celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary in August. He was 92 years old. The Allens had three sons: James T. Allen, Robert B. Allen, and Charles Larry Allen.

Charles was the second President of Ruritan National from West Virginia. He served as Zone Governor and Governor of the Lower West Virginia District as well as a three-year term on the National Board of Directors (1964-1967). He was elected Vice President at the Cleveland Convention (1967) and President at Virginia Beach (1968).



Charles was a graduate of Marshall University and West Virginia University and, for over 35 years, had served as teacher, coach, principal and superintendent when he retired. During this time he was also a part time farmer.

It was during his term as National President that "Project 3" was concluded with three more new states: Wisconsin, Michigan and New York, added to the roll, and the note for indebtedness incurred in construction of the national office building was paid off and the note burned at the Jekyll Island Convention.

He was a member of the United Methodist Church and had served as Church Trustee, District Lay Leader, church school teacher and was a member of the State, Town and Country Commission. He likewise has membership in the Chamber of Commerce, Masonic Lodge, Farm Bureau, Volunteer Fire Department, and holds a life membership in the National Education Association. Charles joined the Ruritan National Office Staff in 1974 as Assistant Executive Secretary and then Executive Secretary from 1979 until 1983.

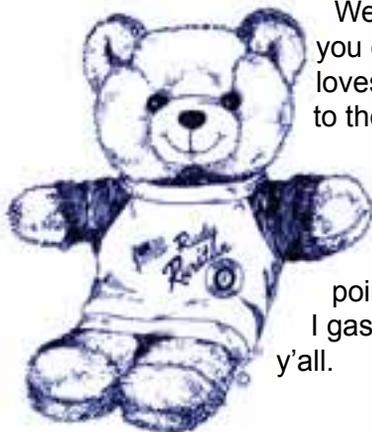
In lieu of flowers the family requested that gifts be made to either the Trinity United Methodist Church in Union, WV or to the Charles Allen Educational Fund of the Ruritan National Foundation.

Rudy Makes a Difference to NC Family

This letter was received at the Ruritan National Office from a family in Pinetown, NC.

Dear Ruritan Public Relations Committee:

Our son Zach (11) was diagnosed with Leukemia in April 2009. He recently received a Rudy Bear while in the hospital.



We wanted to thank you for what you do and thank you for the bear. He loves stuffed animals! We try to take one to the hospital whenever we have to go. Since Zach's diagnosis, our family and its dynamics have come up against its greatest challenge. But with those like you, it has made this point of our lives tolerable. I gasp to think what it would be like without y'all.

Thank you
The Tunnell Family (pictured)



Ruritan Convention 2011: *Destination Knoxville, TN*



Knoxville is the site of the fabulous 2011 Ruritan National Convention! The Knoxville Convention Center is home to a stunning collection of art, featuring paintings, sculpture, tapestries, ceramics, murals, glass and art in other mediums. Valued at over \$1,000,000, this world-class collection represents the natural regional beauty of East Tennessee from local, regional, national and international artists.

Making a Difference



Ruritan will have the opportunity to show the Knoxville community what we are all about when we bring much needed items to the Department of Child Protective Services of Knoxville. Every day children are taken into protective services with only the clothes on their backs. While red tape is managed, the children have immediate needs that Ruritan can help these social workers meet. Let's overwhelm the folks in Knoxville with our Ruritan generosity! Our focus will be two-fold. Specifically needed are: diapers (all sizes) and pairs of children's shoes (new or VERY LIGHTLY used) in all sizes. Especially needed are everyday shoes and play shoes – not dress shoes. Start now in your clubs and districts to gather these items to bring to Knoxville in January 2011.

Other Reasons to Come to Knoxville



Ruritan will be meeting in the heart of Knoxville – in the shadow of the Sunsphere, left from the 1982 World's Fair. With more restaurants per capita than any other city in the United States, Knoxville has plenty of great places to get something to eat!

Did you know that Knoxville has more historic home museums open daily for touring than Charleston, South Carolina?

Knoxville is one of America's more dynamically musical cities, remarkable for its part in the development of jazz, blues, rock 'n' roll, but critical in the

development of what we now call country music.

Knoxville is the hub of East Tennessee fun and a gateway city to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the most visited National Park in the United States.

Enjoy Knoxville's Grand Entertainment Palace - The Historic *Tennessee Theatre*.

What weighs 10 tons and is 30 feet tall? The world's largest basketball, of course. Visit the only museum in the country solely dedicated to women's sports. The Women's Basketball Hall of Fame is an informative & interactive way to spend an afternoon.

Only one and a half blocks from the Knoxville Convention Center is the answer to a chocolate lover's dream – the South's Finest Chocolate Factory.



Linda Milan, Sr. Sales Manager Knoxville Tourism & Sports Corporation, greeted Ruritans at a booth at the 2010 National Convention in Virginia Beach.

How To Get Your Hotel Room in Knoxville

The convention dates are Thursday, Jan. 27 through Sunday, January 30, 2011 Choose either the Holiday Inn (closer to the convention center) or the Hilton Inn – a two block walk using a covered walkway that crosses safely above the busy Henley Street intersection.

Reservation # for **Holiday Inn** is (865) 522-2800 (24 hrs. a day) Say you are with Ruritan National and use code “RNC” to get the Ruritan rate. Ruritan room cost at the Holiday Inn: \$89 plus tax/single, double, triple, quad. For the **Hilton** call (865) 523-2300 or direct (865) 251-2578 (8 a.m. – 4 p.m.) or call toll-free (800-Hiltons). Use code “RUR” to get the Ruritan rate. Ruritan room cost at the Hilton: \$92 plus tax/ single, double.

2009 DRMS Recognized at 2010 Convention

DRM	NEW CLUB	DISTRICT /AREA
Larry Ford	Providence Middle School Ruri-Teen	Appomattox
Shelby Earp	Alexander Ruri-Teen	Western NC
Sherry McCullough	Ooltewah Middle School Ruri-Teen	Cherokee
Barbara Knowles	Brown Middle School Ruri-Teen & Hunter Middle School Ruri-Teen	Cherokee
Joyce Johnson	Prospect	Cherokee
Chuck Scotch	Black River Ruri-Teen	Ohio
Larry Starcher	Pennyroyal Ruri-Teen	Ohio
Jeannie Lopez-Smith	Capon Bridge Ruri-Teen	Upper WV
Peggy Mothershead	Washington & Lee Ruri-Teen	Chesapeake
Jayson Duncan	Wentworth	Piedmont
	Germantown Elementary Ruri-Teen	Piedmont
	Southeastern Stokes Middle School Ruri-Teen	Piedmont
Alice Absher	North Iredell	Piedmont
Paul Babb	Wadlow Gap	Southwest VA
Calvin Shelton	DeBusk	Davy Crockett
Donald Worrell	Neighbor’s Hands	New River
Charles M. Wiley	Callaghan Elementary Ruri-Teen	Natural Bridge
Ray Martin, Jr.	Fontaine Ruri-Teen	Dan River
Dean Jennings	Gretna	Dan River
Jennifer Amburgey	Wise	Southwest VA
Robert B. Newton	Church Hill Mighty Cubs Ruri-Teen	Delmarva-New Jersey
Raymond Clark	N.B. Clements Jr. High School Ruri-Teen	Holland
Patsy Shelton	DeBusk Ruri-Teen	Davy Crockett

Capital Replacement Fund News

Generous donations continue to come in to the National Office for the Capital Replacement Fund. Listed below are gifts through February 22, 2010. Total donations this period \$1,600; total donations to date \$66,757. A new committee has been appointed to oversee the fundraising and project priorities and includes: Chair Joe Hulver, 1994 Foundation President and former National Director; Willis Overby, 1988 National President; Calvin Shelton, 2008 Davy Crockett District Governor; and Executive Director Michael Chrisley.

Clubs

Bonsack/Blueridge Ruritan Club
Sumerduck Ruritan Club

Lignum Ruritan Club
Dale Ruritan Foundation Inc.
South Chesterfield Ruritan Club
Slanesville Ruritan Club
Maury Ruritan Club
Ottway Ruritan Club

Individuals

Carl and Nancy Thornton

Past National Presidents

Marion and Jean Chiles
In memory of Ronnie Merritt, Gibbs Ruritan Club

Brother/Sister, Can YOU Spare a Dime?

Dear Fellow Ruritan Friends:

Thanks to 2009 Foundation President J.J Bernard Lerch III, Ruritan Executive Director Michael Chrisley, and the rest of the Foundation Trustees for their hard work during the past year. We also welcome Danny Privott to the Foundation Board this year.



Richard Keener
2010 Foundation
President

The Foundation auction held during the 2010 Ruritan National Convention at Virginia Beach, Virginia raised over \$9,500 for educational funds. We appreciate

everyone who helped with the event, those who brought items, bought items, assisted with the auction, and a special appreciation to the auctioneers who do a great job year after year.

We encourage you to continue to promote the Ruritan National Foundation as you are traveling throughout Ruritanland.

We request your ongoing efforts in the establishment of funds memorializing and honoring loved ones, friends, someone special in your Ruritan club, or yourself. You can recognize these special individuals with a Tom Downing Fellow for \$500, a permanent fund of \$1,000, and a birthday fund for only \$2 or \$10 per club member.

The 2010 fundraising slogan is: "**Brother/Sister Can You Spare Me A Dime?**" We are moving along in the first year of this new fundraising program the end of our first year is not until September 2010. A lot of our members have already sent in the first year's savings of \$36.50 (that's 10 cents per day for 365 days) and in several cases Ruritans have sent along additional funds. To date we have over 100 Ruritans who have responded to this program with nearly \$10,000 raised. Send in your contribution using the form on this page (it may be photocopied as well.)

Foundation Vice President Bruce Thompson says that on his kitchen table in Midlothian, VA you will find a

small bank as a reminder to participate and save money for the program. Five of these banks were included with each club officers' kit that was mailed to the club secretaries last fall. Supplies are limited, so call the national office today to get your extra banks. You can order up to one bank per member less the five that you received in your club officers' kit. Example: If your club has 30 members, then you may order 25 additional banks.



Bruce W. Thompson
2010 Foundation
Vice President

Have you started **your** dime-a-day savings? It's never too late. Join the other thousands of Ruritans by saving a DIME a day. For such a small amount you can help build the funds of the Foundation so we will be able to grant more scholarships and higher dollar amounts to our college-bound students. These are our future leaders and we want them to be prepared for the challenges of tomorrow.

I want to thank all Ruritan members and Ruritan friends for your past, present, and future support of the Ruritan National Foundation.

Mark your calendars now for the Foundation Fellowship Weekend. It is September 17-19, 2010. Make your hotel reservations at the Holiday Inn in Cherokee, NC by calling 1-828-497-9181. The cost of the rooms is \$89 plus tax. Fellowship Weekend registration information will be in the Summer **RURITAN** magazine.

Richard A. Keener
2010 Foundation President

Bruce Thompson
2010 Foundation Vice President

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

Coupon

Ruritan National Foundation Inc.

Donation Amount \$ _____ Name of Fund to Credit _____
 From _____ Club _____
 Address: _____ District _____
 City, State, Zip _____

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

Foundation Recognizes Districts for Generosity

The following Ruritan National Foundation awards were given at the 2010 Ruritan National Convention in Virginia Beach, VA.

HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF CLUBS DONATING

3rd TIE Glen A. Davis	68%	Upper WV
3rd TIE Earl Hinkle	68%	Cherokee
2nd Steve Funkhouser	69%	Rockingham
1st Nell Jeffries	71%	Lower WV

MOST DOLLARS DONATED BY CLUBS

3rd Joyce Hudnell	\$16,349.50	Ohio
2nd Bob Houck	\$23,001.50	Rapidan
1st J. J. Bernard Lerch III	\$24,312.00	Potomac

HIGHEST AVERAGE DONATION PER MEMBER

3rd Nell Jeffries	\$17.52	Lower WV
2nd J.J. Bernard Lerch, III	\$17.86	Potomac
1st Bob Houck	\$32.95	Rapidan



Glen Davis, right, Foundation Promotion Chair for the Upper WV District, accepts recognition for 68% of the clubs in the district donating to the Ruritan National Foundation. Presenting the award are (l-r) 2009 National President Donald Worrell and 2009 Foundation President J. J. Bernard Lerch III.

Save The Date: September 17 -19 in Cherokee, NC

Make plans now for the 2011 Foundation Fellowship Weekend, September 17-19, 2010, in beautiful Cherokee, NC. Immerse yourself in Native American culture at the Holiday Inn of Cherokee hotel, nestled in the beautiful Great Smoky Mountains, in the heart of the Cherokee reservation.



Call today to reserve your room, 828-497-9181, and tell them you are with the Ruritan National Foundation to get the Ruritan room rate of \$89 plus tax. While you are in Cherokee, you can escape into the past while visiting Cherokee's historic attractions or try your luck at Harrah's Cherokee Casino or Tribal Bingo both just a short drive from our host hotel.



If outdoor adventure is what you're looking for then you've come to the right place. Some of the best hiking and mountain biking trails, horseback riding, white water rafting, kayaking, and more all located within minutes of the hotel. Watch the summer Ruritan magazine for event registration information.

Cardinal Club Achieves A First

A Tom Downing Fellow Award was presented to Allen Cogar of the **Cardinal** (OH) Ruritan Club by Rappahannock District Golf Tournament Chair Joe Hulver this past October. With this presentation, the club now has awarded all of its members. Nine of these were made possible by matching proceeds from the Rappahannock District Golf Tournament. The club also presented a check to Joe Hulver in the amount of \$100 as a donation to the Capital Improvement Fund.

The **club** is the first known club to be made up entirely of Tom Downing Fellows. As of the fall of 2009, all active adult members of the club have been honored with the Downing distinction. The Tom Downing Fellow is made with a single, lump sum contribution of \$500.

Ruritan National FOUNDATION

2010 Board of Trustees

President: Richard Keener
Vice President: Bruce W. Thompson
Secretary: Norman O'Dell
Treasurer: Robert "Cleve" Wright
Promotion Chair: Danny Privott



Founders' Day Weekend

**A Time for Ruritans to Celebrate Their 82nd Anniversary
May 21-23, 2010 in Holland VA**

Highlights of the Weekend

- Friday, May 21, 2010 – Golf at Nansemond River Golf Club, Suffolk, VA. The format is Florida best ball. Practice begins at 11:00 a.m. with a shotgun start at 1:00. 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, ½ 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, 2010.**

**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:

Chuck Myers
Holland District Governor
7141 Birchwood Circle
Prince George, VA 23875

Ruritan Clubs May Participate in Organization-Wide Food Drive Sept. 11

Ruritan would like to encourage all clubs to participate in an organization wide day of service on September 11, 2010 by conducting a food drive for your local food bank. In Virginia we will once again cooperate with AARP of Virginia on this food drive. We encourage all clubs nationwide to 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.

In 2009 Virginia Ruritan clubs piloted the program, working with AARP on an October food drive. Ninety-five Ruritan Clubs in the state collected 27,478 pounds of food, and \$4,511.00 in cash donations. AARP Virginia State Director Bill Kallio was quoted saying, "One person can really make a difference."

Pictured are (l-r) 2009 First Lady Roseland Worrell, AARP VA President Warren Stewart, and 2009 National President Donald Worrell at the AARP All Volunteer Assembly and Recognition Banquet held in Charlottesville, VA.



Ruritan National Board Action

Board Approves Proposed Bylaw Amendment

At the January 2010 meeting of the Ruritan National Board of Directors approved a motion to amend Article XVI Section G of the Bylaws of Ruritan National by adding the following: "however, should the district Lt.

governor be unwilling to accept the position of district governor, a special meeting of the district cabinet shall be held for the purpose of filling the unexpired term."

The motion was brought by the Bylaws Committee to address concerns when a Lt. Governor chooses not to become district governor and the district finds itself without leadership. This amendment requires approval by delegates at the 2011 Ruritan National Convention.

In other action the board approved a number of growth programs presented by 2009 National Vice President Jerome Rodes. VP Jerome also asked the Advancement Committee to consider a renewed emphasis on mentoring new Ruritan members.

Did You Know?

Question: Why does my Ruritan pin have the words RUS URBS?

Answer: The phrase is Latin for rural and town – it actually translates to "country city". The phrase was used at the time Ruritan was founded when the organization was serving as a bridge between rural residents and the small towns that dotted the country side.

The Ruritan history book **The Saga**, in a chapter about the organizational meeting on May 21, 1928, notes: *It was at this meeting that Rev. W. C. Hook, Chairman of the Naming Committee, reported that his committee recommend the name "Ruritan." It was immediately adopted by unanimous vote. The word is said to be a combination of the Latin words for open country (ruri) and small town (tan) interpreted as "pertaining to rural and small town life." This name had been suggested by Miss Daisy Nurney, reporter for Nansmond County to the Norfolk Virginia-Pilot newspaper. (Miss Nurney in 1947 stated that Ruritan means: rural dweller).*

Ruritan trivia: The toll free number of the National Office is 877-RUS-URBS.



Send Youth Ages 9-19 to the 2010 Conference

The 2010 Ruritan Youth Conference dates have been set for July 9-11. 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 conference 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 conference is for students ages 9-19 and they (or their sponsors) must provide transportation. To learn more about the center, visit <http://www.skelton4h.ext.vt.edu>.

2010 Ruritan Youth Conference Registration Form for July 9-11

Space for the conference 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 _____

Preferred Badge Name _____

Roommate Choice _____ (*one only, must be reciprocated*)

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 #13 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.

Ruri-Teen Rises Above Adversity and Shines

*Excerpt and photograph reprinted with permission of Melissa Snyder and **The Cleveland (TN) Banner.***

Even though she has lived with her grandmother since she was six weeks old, Niki Liner knew of no existence without her parents until they both passed away as a result of drugs and alcohol when she was in the fifth grade at Oak Grove Elementary. Only two months separated their deaths. She acknowledges the loss as an emotional upheaval causing her great sorrow, but she is determined to overcome the heartbreak, remain drug and alcohol free, and educate others on the dangers of drugs and alcohol. "Losing someone you love is the hardest thing I've had to go through, especially losing them the way I did," Liner said.

Even though alcohol disease runs in her family, she has decided it stops with her.

"I know I have a choice," she said. Liner said young people do not realize how dumb and how dangerous illegal substances can be. "When I hear classmates talk about the drugs they do, I speak up and tell them why they shouldn't have anything to do with them."

Overcoming obstacles is a journey the Bradley Central High School teen has been forced to face but chooses to persevere and find ways to reach her goals.

She used her philosophy, "no matter how big your dream is or how many people say you can't achieve it — you can with focus and hard work," when she traded her ballet shoes for a football helmet.

As the first female in Cleveland/Bradley County to play football for a middle school, she set the standard high by filling the position of middle linebacker for Lake Forest Middle School.

"Once I decided to tryout for the team, I told my family, who really didn't think I would make it," said Liner. "Even though my friend backed out on trying out with me, I decided I wanted to be the first girl to prove all the guys, coaches, teachers and everyone else wrong."

It was a challenge she took on full force.

"Many of my teachers supported me but some of my teachers expected me to come to class with ice pack or crutches, but I knew if I showed any weakness it would look bad," Liner said. "Sure, I was hurting but I didn't tell anyone."

After being diagnosed with a severe head concussion, she didn't expect to react with tears

when her doctor told her she couldn't play for the rest of the year.

Being forced to step down from the team, Liner devoted more time to her first love dancing and she auditioned for the show choir, Revolution. She stepped up her dancing by getting involved with Cleveland City Ballet.

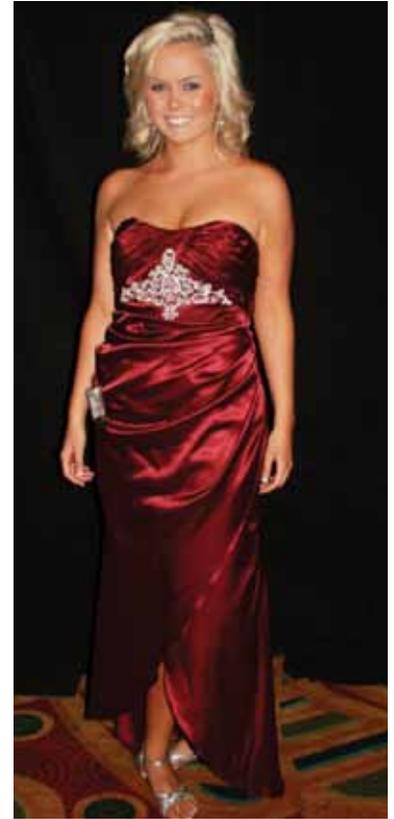
Recently she competed in the Miss Teen American in Nashville which began with an open call interview. In addition to the interview she was required to present a complete resume on her affiliations, school and community involvement, and present a background check on herself.

In addition to being very active in school, making good grades is very important to Liner. She is aware how grades impact the future of a young life. As an honor student, she continues to set higher goals for herself.

Just as she educates her friends about the dangers of drugs and alcohol, the importance of good grades and other things she also works hard to prevent teen pregnancies.

With school a priority, she doesn't have much time to spare but she doesn't mind. She enjoys her role on the Principal's Advisory Board, filling the position as president of the **Bradley Central High School Ruri-Teen Club** (TN), the sophomore class secretary and being a member of the executive board of the Student Council. She's also a member of the Drama Club, Earth Club, Christian Crusaders Bible Study, DECA Leadership, HOSA Medical Field Club and FCCLA.

"It's a joy for me to be involved in my school and my hometown," said Liner. "Being so busy doesn't leave me much free time but I don't mind. I enjoy doing things to help me with my future plans



News From Ruritan: Holland District

Special Ruritans Make a Difference in Holland

Tom Sparling, with pitchfork in hand, cooks pork butts for the **Possum Hollow (VA)** fundraiser. Tom is a member of three Ruritan clubs – **Carrollton, Possum Hollow, and Thomas Woods (VA)** and is active in all three. Possum Hollow Secretary Kelly Schaubach says that Tom lives and breathes Ruritan. The Thomas Woods Ruritan Club, which is located at the Zuni Presbyterian Home and Family Center, is composed of mentally-challenged adults. Tom helps them plan and conduct their meetings, hold fund raisers, and operate as a true Ruritan Club.

Holland District Ruritans honored Robert Perry (right) by dedicating their district yearbook to him. Robert is a 47-year member of the **Liberty Spring (VA)** Ruritan Club.



In addition to being active in his club, he served as 1987 Holland District Governor. Since that time he has worked as the district fundraiser. He can be found at every zone and district event selling 50-50 raffle tickets for \$5.00 to benefit the district's fundraising efforts for the Ruritan National Foundation. It has been estimated that he has raised more than a million dollars over the years. He is known throughout the district as "Give Me Five." Robert is shown with 2009 Holland District Governor Clay Byrum.

Pictured at left, J. E. Worrell of the **Holland (VA)** Ruritan Club and father of 2009 National President Donald Worrell, carried the American Flag during the 2010 National Convention in January.



News From Ruritan: Woodrow Wilson District

Youth Organizations Give Clemmer Tom Downing

A Tom Downing Fellow Award was presented to National Director Dennis Clemmer during the Foundation Dinner at the 2010 Ruritan National Convention. The \$500 donation was funded by three youth organizations Clemmer has supported in the Woodrow Wilson District – Middlebrook 4-H Livestock Club, Riverheads High School FFA Chapter, and Riverheads Young Farmer Organization.

Their funds were matched by proceeds from the Rappahannock District Golf Tournament, represented by Past Foundation President Joe Hulver. Pictured (l-r) are 2009 Foundation President J. J. Bernard Lerch III, Hulver, Betty Jo Clemmer, and Dennis Clemmer.



News From Ruritan: Chesapeake District

Chesapeake is on the Move!

Chesapeake District held their annual convention October 2009. Pictured (l-r): Tom Swankler, Paul Bauer, Beverly Thomas, Ron Serls, Kristin Handy, Sammie Cheek, Harry Thomas, Laura Northstein, John Northstein. Front Row: Janet Leigh and Barbara Bauer.



Reedy Church (VA) Ruritan Club Officers for 2010 were installed by Past National Director Carson Stanley. They are (l-r) first year Director Tom West; President Jason Jacobus, Vice President Armando L. Flores, Secretary David Taylor, Treasurer Freddie Peatross, Carson Stanley. At a Reedy Church Christmas celebration National Director Roy Maloy (left) visited with Santa and Mrs. Claus.



West Point (VA) Ruritan Club was featured in their local newspaper recently for responding to the area Food Banks calls for assistance. The club teamed up with AARP and held a food collection drive that received over 1300 pounds of food and several hundred dollars in cash.



News From Ruritan: Ohio District

National Trail Helps With Food Drive

National Trail (OH) Ruritan, Muskingum University Students, College Drive Presbyterian Church, and other members of the New Concord Community combined forces to transport 5,500 pounds of food to the New Concord Area Food Pantry. Carol Goff of Century 21 Realty provided the truck.



2010 club officers of the **Richmond County (VA)** Ruritan Club are pictured below (l-r): Director Carroll Miller, President Bobby Pemberton, Zone 5 Governor Peggy Mothershead, Secretary Robert Lewis, Treasurer Jack Mullin, and Vice President Ray Lucas.



News From Ruritan: Roanoke District

Roper Holds Fundraiser Despite Tornado!

Roper (NC) Ruritan club held its annual chicken and pork BBQ fundraiser recently on the front lawn of the Washington County Farm Bureau Office. The plates consist of BBQ pork and chicken, potatoes, hush puppies and slaw.

During this event a tornado touched down in the Roper community threatening the fundraiser. The windbreak tarps were ripped away and the tent was lifted up threatening to be relocated football fields away. The hushpuppy cooking operation was blown out and nearly over, but the cookers fought valiantly to save what they could and restart the operation.

Finally the winds died down and fundraiser was pronounced a huge success by club members, despite the adversity.



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 attached)

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.

Callaghan Elementary Ruri-Teen Charters



The Natural Bridge District welcomes **Callaghan Elementary (VA)** Ruri-teen Club which chartered at the end of 2009. The sponsoring club was the **Callaghan Area (VA)** Club with Natural Bridge District Treasurer Charles W. Wiley as the DRM.

Pictured at left (l-r) are the club's new officers: Director Mykayla O'Conner, Secretary Kaytie Jo Carter, Director Johnathan Crossland, President Colby Reynolds, Vice President Ben Spinks, and (back) 2010 National President Jerome Rodes.

Club members at the charter are pictured (l-r) first row: Mykayla O'Conner, Taylor Pleasant, Erin Smith, Falyn Crowder, Colby Skidmore; second row: Kaytie Jo Carter, Kerstyn Ford, Triston Cales, Ben Spinks, Cody Bates, Summer Ruff, third row: Michael Parker, Colby Reynolds, Marlee Parker, Johnathan Crossland, and Ethan Thompson.

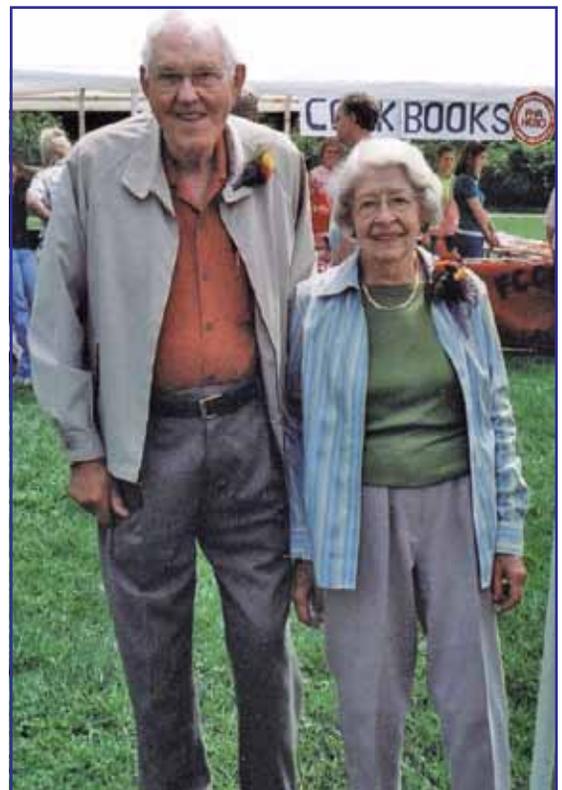
At left Club President Colby Reynolds donates a check on behalf of the club to Captain Karl Dahlin of the Salvation Army.



Mountaineer Club Hosts Farm Heritage Day

Historic Cove Creek High School along with the **Mountaineer (NC)** Ruritan Club hosted what they call "Farm Heritage Day" recently. Attendees enjoyed fellowship, food, music, parade and goodies that local vendors brought to show off and hopefully sell.

Pictured are Mr. and Mrs. Robert Shipley, who was the Grand Marshal in the parade. Robert at 96 years old is still a very active member of the club.



MILITARY SERVICE

U.S. Military personnel who are also Ruritans and who might be unable to attend regular meetings should not be counted as absent according to the Ruritan National Board of Directors.

If your club has a member currently serving in active duty, your club secretary should count him or her as "present" at meetings so that his or her absence doesn't penalize the member or cause the club to fall short on attendance percentages.

The Board cited the National Constitutional provision for using "four hours of community service" as the equivalent of a make-up meeting -- a substitution that members of the U.S. Military are surely qualified to use.

Continued from page 2

Well it looks like NOW is the only perfect time to start.

Most lessons we learn in life are universal, they apply in any situation. I believe building this organization is a lot like trying to get that water to climb up from the bottom of the well and keep it flowing.

First we have to want the water or in this case the growth. Then we have to put something into it, mainly energy, time, money, education, the belief that we can get where we're going, and lastly the persistence to not let go.

Every journey starts with the first step. I once worked for a company from Monroe, NC and the boss had a question for me. He would ask how many presentations I had done that week. He wasn't so interested in how many sales I'd made. His theory was if you keep making the presentations the sales will come.

Our first step to starting a new club is to make a presentation. Don't worry, you won't get them all, but you will get the ones where you fill the need they have as a community.

This year we will introduce a new award. The **Power of Presentation Award** for anyone who makes a presentation to a group of at least 5 people with the goal to form a new Ruritan Club.

Like any task we encounter there are usually a few tools necessary to get the job done. Tonight you may have noticed a little unusual center piece on your table. Being such a perceptive lot, you probably don't need me to tell you that it is a flip chart that can be used to help you stay on track when you tell the story of how to start a club.

Since this is doubling as a center piece we'll call this one the flowering flip chart. Kind of like a poinsettia, the leaves are the bloom and are in full bloom in a beautiful back and white. Unlike some centerpiece plants these all have the same number of leaves and if they lose their beauty and effectiveness you simply replace them. Some of the people have already received one of these, so if you haven't take the one on the table when you leave tonight.

Yes, there is only one per table but not the biggest, meanest one of you gets it. It should go home with the one who will promise to **use it** this year. If there is more than one willing to make that promise at your table just leave your name and address with the



staff and we'll see that you get one. (Anyone reading this column in the magazine or on the website who is willing to make a presentation to start a new club should call Ruritan Service toll free at 877-787-8727 ext. 13 to get a flip chart.)

Well, we are not a sales organization but we are all salespeople. What does a salesperson do? First, identify a prospective customer. Next attempt a friendly approach. Third - if that is going pretty well, begin to talk about the product (Ruritan) and what it has done for you and others.

Sometimes it's difficult to find a time to do all that, so were going to assist you. We've set a day – **March 31, 2010** – to be that day. You know we have a great new Membership Management System (MMS) and now we can put our new members into it immediately. Furthermore, we don't know the greatest number of members we've added in one day so March 31, 2010 will be the **make a record day** this year.

And since all records are made to be broken we need a **break a record day**, so how about September 30, 2010 to break the record we set on March 31st?

Everyone likes to have fun, and we want to be good sports, so the member bringing in the **most new members** on March 31 and September 30 will earn a gift certificate from **StubHub** in the amount of **\$500**. The certificate can be used to purchase tickets to college and professional sporting events as well as NASCAR races and concerts.

During 2010 we would like to thank all those Ruritans who are persistent in their work recruiting new members. Anyone bringing in two new members will receive a "Power of Persistence Pin". The POP 2010 pin is actually a bar that attaches to the "Presidents Gold Key" award.

We will also recognize our top recruiter during 2010 at the 2011 Convention in Knoxville, TN. This person will be our guest with registration and room paid as well as any special meals they care to attend. We will also present the winner with a plaque to show our appreciation.

The details of these programs are included in this **RURITAN** magazine, on the Ruritan website and in the **March 2010 Ruritan Newsletter**.

We've talked about pumping, selling, and having fun. I've got just a little more on the having fun side. In eleven months and three weeks we will be arriving in Knoxville. It appears to be a great place for Ruritan to gather and when Ruritan comes to town we always hope to leave pleasant memories for those who live in that city.

After meeting with two representatives from Child

Continued on page 25

Corapeake Participates in Community Day

Corapeake (NC) Ruritan Club participated in the first annual Corapeake Community Day in September. It was a day of music, games, food, and prizes sponsored by a local church. The club helped with the food and games and had its own welcome table.

Pictured (l-r): (seated) Kathy and Marvin Barnes, (standing) Debbie Parrish, Rudy Bear Tommy Baines, George and Debbie Pittman.



Continued from page 24

Protective Services in Knoxville we have learned there is a great need in the group of youngsters they serve. The ages of the children served ranges widely but there are a few things they always need – diapers and shoes.

Next year we plan to overwhelm Knoxville with these items and in the process, accomplish two important things: take care of the the needs of these children and let the people of Knoxville know that Ruritans **care**.

And what would a convention be without a bear drop? So let's do one in Knoxville. But let's start a little early. This year at the national office we'll have a bear den to house all those bears while they're waiting to make the trip to Knoxville. Bring them any time and we'll see they get there.

And we are going to start collecting those diapers and shoes. Bring them anytime and we can watch the supply grow as we work our way to Knoxville.

Remember, we are a people of persistence – so "Keep on Pumping."

Jerome Rodes
2010 Ruritan National
President

Two Governors Earn Award

The District Governor Growth and Development Award is given to any district organizing three or more clubs between January 1 and December 3 provided the charter is closed and the first quarter dues are paid. For 2009 the following recipients were named:

Cherokee District 2009 Governor Barbara Knowles with one Ruritan club and three Ruri-Teen Clubs

Piedmont District 2009 Governor Steve Tulbert with two Ruritan clubs and two Ruri-Teen Clubs

2009 Communication Awards

2009 DISTRICT NEWSLETTER AWARDS

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| 3 rd Place | Dan River |
| 2 nd Place | Natural Bridge |
| 1 st Place | Davy Crockett |

2009 CLUB NEWSLETTER AWARDS

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| 3 rd Place | Wilson Memorial | Dan River District |
| 2 nd Place | Mt. Laurel | Dan River District |
| 1 st Place | Middlebrook | Woodrow Wilson District |

2009 DISTRICT ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| 1 st Place | Holland |
|-----------------------|---------|

2009 CLUB ELECTRONIC WEBSITE

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|---------|
| 1 st Place | Wakefield | Holland |
|-----------------------|-----------|---------|

Rockingham Luncheon Supports Athletes

The **Rockingham Luncheon** (VA) Ruritan Club members enjoyed fellowship while serving hotdogs to the Bridgewater Challenger Baseball athletes and program participants. Members agree that the highlight of their first year was providing hot dogs and beverages for the athletes and their families, buddies,



coaches, and friends. Bridgewater Challenger Baseball is part of the Bridgewater Little League program affiliated with Little League International. Challenger Baseball is for children and youth who have physical, developmental and intellectual conditions which prevent safe participation in regular little league programs.

Below left, Lorraine and Bobby Good, members of the Rockingham Luncheon Club are shown presenting 25 Rudy Bears to Christine Delaughter, director of Rockingham Memorial Hospital Volunteer Services.



Support Programs At Freedoms Foundation

The Ruritan American Leaders Youth Summit at Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge is set for April 8-11. This is a unique program for high school students, who participate in a four-day residential program. It focuses on the discussion of current issues facing the United States from a historical and global perspective on constitutional law and government.

Student participants from around the country will be challenged to articulate their views and perceptions about their constitutional rights and responsibilities as citizens while interacting and working collaboratively with their peers on various projects. Expert faculty will conduct seminars and lead students in discussions and on field trips to Philadelphia and Valley Forge.

In addition to the youth summit – there will be an opportunity for Ruritans to visit Freedoms Foundation and help clean up the **Medal of Honor Grove** and the helipad originally installed by Ruritan National. The dates are Friday, October 22 through Sunday, October 24, 2010. Mark your calendar and feel free to contact National Director Larry Blount for additional information at 717-253-1583 or dblount@comcast.net.

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Coordinator, Growth and Development Chair, Foundation Promotion Chair, Publicity and Public Relations Chair, Fundraising Chair, Chaplain, and Youth Activities Coordinator. Any cabinet officer must be an active member of a Ruritan Club while serving in office.

Bylaws amendment #5 amended **article XII** meetings to add a new **section F** that states:

Section F. *Business may be conducted via media conferencing and voting as appropriate to the type of media tool being used to conduct the meeting. A majority of Board of Directors or committee members shall constitute a quorum.*

News From Ruritan: Peaks of Otter District

Evington Celebrates Years of Service

Evington (VA) Ruritan Club was featured in their local newspaper recently as they celebrated their 50th anniversary. Over their 50 years, the club has provided relief to flood victims, helped organize the Evington Volunteer Fire Department, started the Evington Medical Center, and donated money to families in need. During the celebration the club honored Raleigh Trent with a Tom Downing Award and Marvin T. Phillips received a framed certificate from National on behalf of the clubs 50th anniversary. Pictured (l-r): Phillips receiving 50 year certificate from Trent.



News From Ruritan: Southwest VA District

SW VA Congratulates Yuma, Welcomes Wise

The **Yuma** (VA) members celebrated their 50th Anniversary in September. All living charter members of the club were present. Pictured (l-r): Charter member and Past District Governor Edsel Bellamy, Club President and Past National Director Lloyd Tate; Past National Director N.W. Winegar, and National Director Dennie Clemmer. While he was at the celebration, Clemmer presented a 50 year pin to N.W. Winegar.



The new **Wise** (VA) Ruritan Club was chartered on Dec. 16, 2009 in the Southwest Virginia District. In attendance were 2009 National President Donald Worrell as well as Zone Governor Steve Shelton, National Director Dennie Clemmer, Club President Ashley Turner, and DRM Jennifer Amburgy.

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. 18.

Potomac Clubs Are Serving Communities



Burkittsville (MD) Ruritan Club recently presented a wheelchair gun rest to Jimmy King, a nine-year-old boy from Brunswick, MD with muscular dystrophy.

Jimmy was granted a wish for a trophy whitetail deer hunt at a private game ranch in Pennsylvania. With the help of family and friends, he bagged a nice eight-point buck. Pictured (l-r): Jimmy King, Vice President David Moser, and Safari Club representative (who donated the gun rest) Paul McDowell.

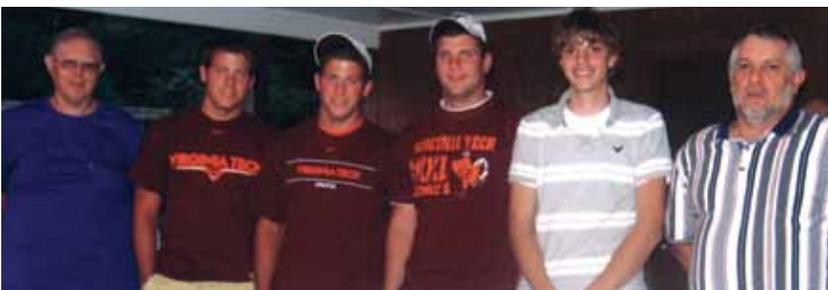


In October 2009, the **Lewistown** (MD) Ruritan Club purchased signs and installed them at both main entrances to the community. The signs not only indicate that Lewistown was founded in 1841, but also state that it is the home of the Lewistown Ruritan Club.



Mark Stevens of the **Johnsville** (MD) Ruritan Club was presented the President's Golden Key Award by Club President Betty Lind. Pictured (l-r): Club President Betty Lind and new member Brad Stevens, Mark Stevens, and new member Daryl Hood.

News From Ruritan: New River District



Rocky Gap (VA) Ruritan Club normally awards two scholarships each year to graduating seniors with preference being given to children or grandchildren of members. This year the club awarded four students \$200 each. Three recipients are triplet grandsons of club members Garnie and Gilda Kennedy and the fourth is the son of club president David Taylor and spouse Teresa Taylor. Justin Taylor plans to attend the Marine Mechanic Institute of Orlando FL, Korey Kennedy plans to attend Wytheville Community College, Kristopher and Kyle Kennedy plan to attend Virginia Tech. Pictured (l-r): Scholarship Chair James Sink, Kristopher, Kyle and Korey Kennedy, Justin Taylor, club president David Taylor.



Belmont II (VA) Ruritan Club is shown last fall making apple butter in three large copper pots heated by wood fires.

Pine Hall Elementary Collects PB&J

Pine Hall Elementary (NC) Ruri-Teens Club members (pictured at right and below) collected and delivered 500 jars of peanut butter and jelly to the East Stokes Outreach Ministry. **Pine Hall (NC)**



Ruritan Club members Sandra James and Wanda Tarlton, leaders of the Ruri-Teen club stated that on their tour of the Ministry there was only one jar of jelly and ten jars of peanut butter left, so the Ruri-Teens realized the importance of their mission. They will continue to collect foods for the Outreach Ministry for the remainder of the school year.



*In June 2009, Alice Absher, of the **V-Point (NC)** Ruritan Club was given a Ruritan Forever designation by virtue of bringing a total of 65 members into Ruritan. The award was presented by 2009 Piedmont District Governor Steve Tulbert.*

Piedmont District Elects Cabinet for 2010

At the Piedmont District Convention held November 2009, John Berdine was elected Piedmont District Governor. He is a member of the **Leasburg (NC)** Ruritan club and has served earlier terms as zone governor and Lt. governor.

Pictured (l-r): Piedmont District Governor John Berdine, Lt. Governor Terry Call, District Secretary Deborah Ellington, and District Treasurer Curtis Oliver.



Ruritans Recognized as Backbone of Community

By James Brooks, Staff Writer
Johnson City Press
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One of my Saturday morning chores is to load up all the trash and take it out to the Washington County Convenience Center.

It makes me wonder sometimes what county government would be like if it was all run by the Ruritans instead of the politicians. It bears repeating once in a while that the entire history of trash collection and recycling in the area came from the impetus of the **Washington County** (TN) Ruritan, and especially from Larry Waddle, its frequent president over the years.

It was Larry who got sick and tired of everyone using the slopes of Hog Eye Road, near his house, as a dumping ground for everything from refrigerators to tires to household garbage to hazardous materials and dead animals.

He haunted the Washington County Commission until it agreed to assist the Ruritan in setting up a recycling center and to haul the rest of the trash away. Larry was tireless in finding markets for recyclables and for equipping the center with crushers, a tow motor and other heavy machinery needed. He found a way to bring the necessary three-phase electricity out to that distant location.

Eventually the work bit back at him. An infection from a nail that went through his shoe cost him his leg. Today the center is manned entirely by county employees and became a model for other recycling centers, not only in the county, but across the country.

When I go to Bowmantown for bird watching I always stop at the **Bowmantown** (TN) Ruritan to bird the woods along the road before heading into the Henderson Marsh.

The **Limestone** (TN) Ruritan, like Washington College, has built its own clubhouse and holds regular dinners for the community. It was this chapter that pioneered rural fire protection throughout the county by buying its own fire truck and beginning the Limestone Volunteer Fire Department, followed by the Limestone First Responders. My first story with this paper was on the Limestone First Responders, and the good relations from those days eventually led me to write the text for a photographic history of Limestone published by Arcadia's Images of America Series.

They also laid the groundwork for Davy Crockett State Park. When I pass the **Telford** (TN) Ruritan on the way to the convenience center I see the cannery in their building and the walking track they've built for

community residents. Leesburg has done the same.

Throughout the county, it is the Ruritans that have built the baseball fields and other aspects of rural recreation. From these dusty fields several players have gone into professional baseball and even into the major leagues. Back in the day, before age-graded baseball, they'd return to their home fields and play alongside younger players trying to make their way.

Yet when Ruritans pursue these programs, it all comes out of their pocket, without the kind of price breaks that county or state government can acquire.

I could go on about scholarship programs and other worthwhile activities. The problem, however, is the aging of Ruritan members, just like the aging of Shriners, and those who belong to other organizations that benefit the community by volunteer work.

These organizations are the backbone of the community, and without a backbone the community cannot stand. It was a lot simpler when young people worked on their dad's farm. Now they and their wives have gone for a job in the town, and there just isn't time enough to go to Ruritan dinners and to work on the ball field. I wish I knew the answer to that.

News From Ruritan: Dan River District



Club Celebrates 50th

Stanleytown (VA) Ruritan Club celebrated their 50th anniversary recently. In attendance were 2009 National President Donald Worrell, National Director Bobby Burton, and Zone 4 Governor Norveline Atkins. Atkins (above) presented three district awards to the club: gold awards for citizenship and patriotism, business and professions, and social development. Burton presented a plaque for the club's 50 years of community service signed by Donald Worrell.

News From Ruritan: Cherokee District

Cherokee Clubs Participate in Neighborhood Watch Program

Cherokee District Ruritan clubs have organized a community wide effort to encourage participation in the National Neighborhood Watch Program. The first of many meetings was held in October 2009 at the Waterville Community Elementary School.

Pictured (l-r): Waterville Elementary School Principal Charlene Cofer, Canyon Williams, Joyce Johnson, Capt. Jim Ruth of the Bradley County Sheriff's Office (BCSO), County Mayor D. Gary Davis, W.W. Johnson, Sheriff Tim Gobble, BCSO Lt. Eric Watson, Past Ruritan Governor and project coordinator Ray Myers, BCSO Deputy Travis Mull, Calvin Mathews, BCSO Sgt. Yvonne Johnson, BCSO Captain Steve Lawson, Don Melton, and Cherokee District Secretary Linda Melton.



News From Ruritan: Cape Fear District

Piney Grove (NC) Members Help Ruritan Grow

Members of the **Piney Grove (NC)** Ruritan Club are shown receiving the Presidents Golden Key Award for each bringing in at least two new members. Pictured (l-r): CJ Hobbs, Don Parrish, Doug Blackman.



News From Ruritan: Appomattox District

South Hill Receives Community Service Awards

The **South Hill (VA)** Ruritan Club welcomed 2009 National President Donald Worrell as guest speaker at a Couples Night in November. Worrell also presented the club with two awards that they received during the district convention held the weekend before in Blackstone. The club received a bronze award in the category of social development and a silver award in Citizenship and Patriotism.

Pictured are (l-r) Donald Worrell, Club President Steve Bailey, District Governor Don Yeargan, and 2010 Governor Wally Hudson.



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