



Ruritan

Volume 84, Winter 2019





THE BLUEPRINT FOR SUCCESS IS INSIDE YOU. IT WILL STAY THERE UNLESS YOU TAKE IT OUT AND CREATE IT.

-Larina Kase

RURITANS always have a desire to keep our wonderful organization relevant within our communities and making our organization something that everyone would want to be a part. I have witnessed first-hand the determination and dedication of RURITANS to make their communities a better place to live.

It became evident to me that our organization needed a structured plan to guide us in constructing a solid framework on the strong foundation built by those before us. Thus, a BLUEPRINT TO SUCCESS was the outcome. As your 2019 President, with the support of many, everything I tried to build upon was based on this plan. When I pass the gavel on to President-Elect Linward on January 11, 2020, I want the framing on top of the foundation to be strong for further construction.

Following is a brief overview of each blueprint spec, along with what has been put into place to address each. Have we been successful in every area? Unfortunately not. However, best laid plans will face challenges. I know we will continue to face all challenges, persevere, and end up with a well-built structure that will last for many more years.

BLUEPRINT TO SUCCESS #1

RETAINING, RECRUITING AND REGAINING MEMBERSHIP

- Monitored membership stats (mms), sharing with Governors and National Board Members through quarterly updates
- Highlighted successes in RURITAN Magazine and Newsletter
(“Expressway to Building Ruritan”)
- Sent personal notes to clubs that experienced significant growth and/or reached charter strength

BLUEPRINT TO SUCCESS #2

AID AND SUPPORT STRUGGLING CLUBS TO REBUILD

- Developed worksheet to identify clubs that are facing hurdles with goal of rebuilding, not disbanding
- MMS incorporated membership dues invoice section to allow quick access to status of dues payment to National (awareness)
- Developed new computer National Director quarterly report system that is expandable from year-to-year (passing on to Directors assigned to Districts)

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2019 National President Larry Cassell continued

BLUEPRINT TO SUCCESS #3

ENHANCE POOL OF EFFECTIVE LEADERS

- Changed structure of Leadership Seminar to be more interactive
- Reinstated day-long training session for newly elected National Directors

BLUEPRINT TO SUCCESS #4

CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY

- Provided a working model of conducting a community service project at the Leadership Seminar
- Sent personal notes to clubs that conducted unique community service projects within their communities
- Growth and Development Committee developed “Community Connection” program

BLUEPRINT TO SUCCESS #5

SETTING LONG-RANGE GOALS

- Started process to restructure National Board
- Roundtable sessions at National Board meetings focused on problem-solving and setting goals for future
- Coordinated with Ruritan National Foundation a “Memorandum of Understanding” with Ruritan National
- Working closely with Ruritan National office staff on monthly basis to keep aware of needs and adjusting accordingly. For example, worked with staff to ensure a safe working environment with recently installed security system.

First Lady Nelda and I have experienced a wonderful year, traveling throughout beautiful areas of this great country. More rewarding has been the opportunity to interact with people who have hearts full of grace and souls generated by love. Each one of you has enriched our lives. Imagine what you do for your communities. Let's keep building on that strong foundation laid by those who came before us.

We do MAKE A DIFFERENCE.





Ruritan

Volume 84, Winter 2019

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WE RISE BY
**LIFTING
OTHERS**

-ROBERT INGERSOLL

Message From Executive Director Michael Chrisley



Service is the Basis of all Worthy Enterprise

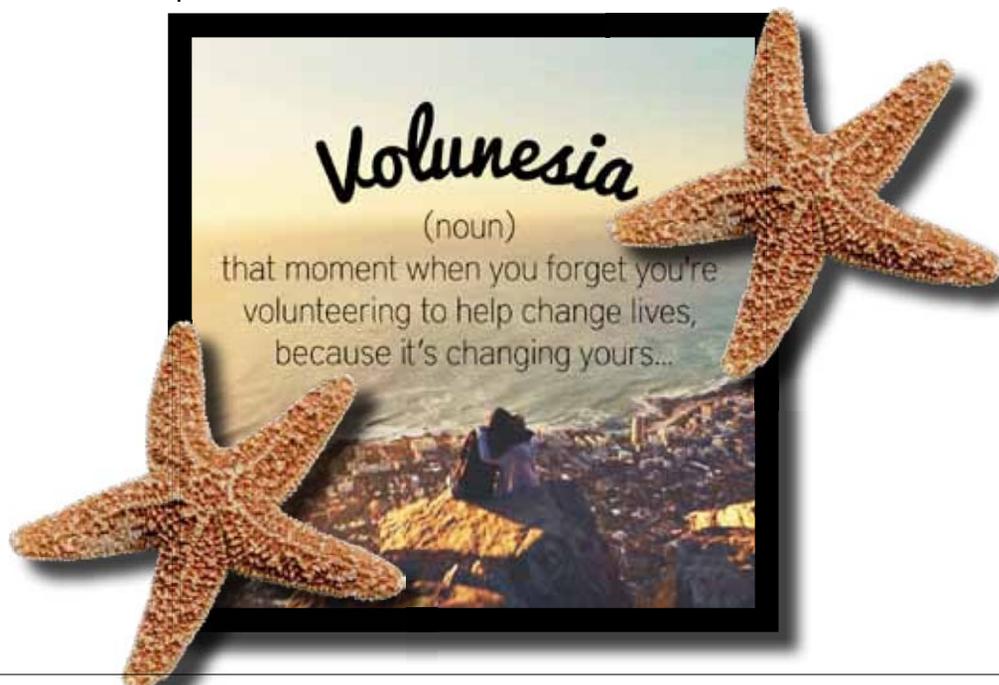
How do you look at need? There are a number of ways to see it and address it. They are as varied as the communities we serve. I see need as an opportunity for us to be valuable to our brothers and sisters. Almost everything we do as Ruritan's is based on some perceived or real need. When we look at our programs of service they are all needs based. While need is mostly unfortunate it does provide a platform for us to serve.

One way I believe we can stay in touch with our community, is to always have a true understanding of the needs in our community. At Thanksgiving and at Christmas we pay a lot of attention to need. That doesn't mean when the holidays are over, the need goes away. I would challenge you to look at your community all year long and make sure your plan of service is always relevant to the community you serve. Sometimes we get in the pattern of doing the same thing over and over. The needs may change faster than our approved projects do. Try to find a way to keep your finger on the pulse of your community. Many times, that just means we have to ask. Be present in your community.

It is also interesting that no matter how much service we provide, more need still exists. It is difficult to out give the increasing demand. I believe that is why we are so important. We exist to help others and the value it brings to communities is enormous. From examining our community service reports it is obvious that we bring thousands of hours of direct manpower to communities all over this country on a yearly basis, not to mention millions of dollars in financial assistance. When I speak to a club or a group of clubs I always ask the question "if not for the service you provide to people in need in the community, where would they turn?" Important question. You provide good things to people every day. Spend some time reading the club news section in this issue if you don't believe it. What you do is critical to your community.

Our governing documents say that "service is the basis of all worthy enterprise". That means everything that is worth doing should have a component of service to others. I see local businesses, government agencies, school systems all going above and beyond what is expected of them to higher service. Especially, when they have an example. Your Ruritan Club is that example. When others see what you do it inspires them to serve.

Your staff here in Dublin hopes you have a great holiday season and that you will join President Larry and First Lady Nelda in Kingsport TN for our annual convention January 9-12. Come see your extended family of Ruritan and enjoy the fellowship of convention.





PICTURE YOURSELF IN KINGSPORT, TN
2020 RURITAN NATIONAL CONVENTION
JANUARY 9-11, 2020

WEDNESDAY

Board of Directors Meeting

THURSDAY

Registration and Exhibits Open

2020 Governors' Training

Pre-Convention Workshops

Opening Ceremonies

Inspirational Flag Ceremony

Military Speaker – Ret. Air Force General Charles Lyon

with Mrs. Karen Lyon

(Wear your patriotic colors of red, white, and blue.)

FRIDAY

Memorial Service

Speaker – Pastor Lori Hays

(Bring a small memento of your loved one.)

Business Session

Fellowship and DRM Luncheon

Entertainment – Sam Venable, Tennessee comedic entertainer, humor columnist, and author

(Wear your Ruritan apparel.)

Voting

Workshops

Main Street, an area with crafts, exhibits, and demonstrations

Foundation Auction

Ruritan Square (Giant Tailgate Party) with food, fun, fellowship, and surprises.

(Wear your favorite college or NFL team colors.)

SATURDAY

Breakfast with First Lady Nelda

Adoption Speaker – Shannon Shepherd

Entertainment – Jaime Fox, singer and songwriter from Nashville

Business Session

Workshops

Installation Banquet

Entertainment – Kathy Martin and the Hot Rods, a Delaware band providing a musical journey through rock and roll and soul music

SUNDAY

Church Service

LET'S MAKE A DIFFERENCE
IN KINGSPORT, TN!

Candidates for National Office

National Director



George Brothers
6 Lakemont Circle
Durham, NC 27703
Phone: (919) 596-7860
Email: gbroth4117@aol.com

CLUB: Member, Bethesda (NC) Ruritan Club since 2011; Served as President 2006, 2009, 2011, 2013; Vice President 2005, 2008, 2010; Secretary 2007, 2015, 2016; 2nd Secretary 2019; Served as Committee Chair for Citizenship and Patriotism; Public Service Committee; Youth Committee Chair; ANCR Representative; Scouts Unit Charter Representative.

DISTRICT: Served as District Convention Chair and Committee member 2011 to present; Youth Committee Chair 2013 to present; District Lt. Governor 2011, 2013 2015; District Governor 2012, 2014, 2016; Association of North Carolina Ruritans, Board of Directors 2012, 2014, 2016; ANCR Rally 2011 thru 2016; LDC 2019; Youth Coordinator 2019; Zone 2 Governor 2019.

NATIONAL: National Director 2017-present; Attended Summer Leadership Conference 2011 to 2016; Attended Ruritan Foundation Fellowship Weekend 2011-2014, 2016; Attended National Convention 2011 to 2016; participated in Flag Ceremony, Sargeant-at-Arms and Resolution Committee 2012

EDUCATION: Graduate of Bishop Heelan Catholic High School, Sioux City, Iowa

OCCUPATION: US Navy Chief Fire Controlman, Surface Warfare (22 yrs./retired); currently employed by GRT Electronic Manufacturing, Raleigh, NC, Electronic Technician and Pick & Place assembly line supervisor (retired).

OTHER: Ruritan Forever and Tom Downing Fellow; Eagle Scout; Assistant Scoutmaster; Charter Organization Representative, BSA Troup 402, chartered by Bethesda Ruritan Club. Married to Tina; Son Jason (also a member of Bethesda Ruritan Club); daughter Sarah & son-in-law Kevin; grandsons Wyatt and Shaun.

National Director



Steve Kidwell
1500 Rohrersville Road
Knoxville MD 21758
Phone: (240) 344-0585
Email: eskidwell100@yahoo.com

CLUB: Member of Pleasant Valley Ruritan Club since 2011; served as Club Director (2012-13; 2016-19); Club Vice President (2014); and Club President (2015).

DISTRICT: Potomac District Zone 2 Governor (2014-16); District Lt. Governor (2017); District Governor (2018).

NATIONAL: NA

EDUCATION: High school graduate; one year of college.

OCCUPATION: Member Executive Board of BAC Union Local 18 Kansas; includes pension trustee, health and welfare trustee and contract negotiating committee.

OTHER: Board member of St. Lukes Episcopal Church and delegate to the Maryland Diocese (3 yrs.); President of the Episcopal Western Maryland Region, acolyte.

Biographies are printed as submitted by candidates.

See your Fall Ruritan Magazine pages 12,13, and 14 for other candidates.

See You in Kingsport!



MEMORANDUM

Re: Voting in Kingsport, TN

In addition to National Candidates, two items will be on the ballot at the 2020 Ruritan National Convention for delegates to consider. They are outlined below:

The first will add a phrase to Ruritan National Bylaws, **Article IV, Section 2, Item G. Dues Refund.**

G. Ten percent of national dues per year, prorated quarterly for each club member, shall be refunded to that member's district for district expenses, with emphasis on growth, providing the member's club shall have paid its national dues.

(Rationale: To bring bylaws in line with intent of refund.)

The second ballot item will add one sentence to Ruritan National Bylaws, **Article III, Section 3, Item H. Affiliate.**

H. Ruritan Affiliate Members shall be comprised solely of members who have dropped from a local club but want to remain affiliated with Ruritan. Affiliate members will not be associated with any Club or District. The Affiliate Member will not be a voting member. The purpose of Affiliate Membership is to allow members to maintain contact with Ruritan and continue to support this organization. Affiliate member can choose to change to a regular Club member at any time upon approval of a local Club.

(Rationale: To provide clarity of Affiliate Members' voting rights.)

First Lady Nelda's Adoption Awareness Program

Throughout her travels, First Lady Nelda continues to be deeply touched as Ruritan members share their adoption stories. On pages 9-12, you will read three adoption experiences shared with First Lady Nelda.



A grandmother's story.....



Eleven years ago, I received a phone call from my son which forever changed my life. He started the conversation by asking, "How would you like to be a grandmother?" At that time, I had no experience at being a grandmother. So, I hesitantly replied, "Wow! That sounds good." Then, the next question completely caught me off guard, "How about tomorrow?" My answer then was, "Wow!" and, since that moment, our lives have been full of fun times and "Wows!"

From the moment we saw Sarah, we fell in love. This baby girl, our first granddaughter, was beautiful. We held her, oohed and ahed over her, watched her grow and took lots of pictures. She was the light of our lives. Then, when Sarah was about a year old, our son and daughter-in-law surprised us again. They were expecting another child – this time their natural-born child. We anxiously awaited the birth of James, who was born 19 months after Sarah joined our family. We were truly blessed!

As it turned out, God was ready to truly bless our family again. Around the time of James' birth, our son and daughter-in-law received an unexpected call themselves from Sarah's caseworker. Sarah's natural mother was pregnant again and had requested that they also take this baby into their home. She was having another girl and wanted the two girls to grow up together as sisters. Well, their immediate reaction was there was no way this could happen. They had a one and a half year old child and a new baby they had just brought home from the hospital, cramped living quarters, too many diapers, not enough time, and very little energy. So, they politely said, "No," and hung up. But, within just a few minutes of hanging up, they knew exactly what they needed to do. They returned that call and agreed to be Mommy and Daddy to baby #3. Sweet Grace was born exactly six months after her brother James. It was quite fun watching them grow up together and observing as big sister Sarah tried to supervise.

Looking back on the ways God has blessed our lives is truly amazing! I never really dreamed about being a grandmother, but now I couldn't imagine life any other way. My husband and I thoroughly enjoy all of our grandchildren. Each one of them is special and each has their own unique personality, talents, and interests. I am so very proud of each of them and love them all beyond measure.

I am also so very proud of my son and daughter-in-law for the wonderful parents they have become and the great wisdom they have shown. Yes, that phone call eleven years ago changed all of our lives, and I am so glad it did. I could not imagine life any other way! I thank God every day for our precious blessings!

*****Contact your local foster care agency to see what items they need for incoming foster children. Your club can donate overnight bags to the agency.*****

First Lady Nelda's Adoption Awareness Program



Casey.....

I have always had a heart for children who were unwanted by their birth parents, so perhaps it is no surprise that Jim and I found ourselves as foster parents even though we already had a house full of our own. Jim and I both had been married before and I had four children by my first marriage and Jim had two. My kids lived with us, however Jim's were only with us through the summer months. Jim and I did choose to have a child together, so our family size was a bit large. After several years as foster parents we reached a time when we questioned whether it was wise for us to continue and after much prayer we decided that God had gotten us into this so we would once more rely on Him to help with the decision. Very shortly after this prayer we received a call from social services saying they had two infants that needed placement. One was a girl whose mother was on drugs and the infant was experiencing withdrawal and would be placed back with the mother when they felt she was ready. The other infant had been abandoned by the mother and wrapped in an orange towel, placed in a basket and set outside the entrance of the Casey Clinic in Alexandria, Va. My heart was drawn to this abandoned infant and after discussion with Jim and our children we decided to take the abandoned infant.

When the social worker brought Casey Alexander, the name the agency chose for him, to our home the sensation I received when she handed me this tiny little bundle was very similar to the sensation I received when each of my children as infants was handed to me! It was a very overpowering feeling. When we brought this little bundle to our pediatrician for his first visit, the doctor looked at me and said "are you keeping this one?" Casey was well accepted by all of his new siblings and he continued to grow more precious daily. When he was 11 months old he was released for adoption, which at that point we mentioned that we would be interested in adopting Casey. They told me then that because they were not an adoption agency their only concern was to find a good home for Casey unlike an adoption agency that is attempting to fulfill the wishes of two people looking for a child of their own. I saw this as a sign from God that Casey was meant for us. We knew adoption could be an expensive thing and we also knew we did not have a lot of money, so we did some more praying. We learned that we could do all the paper work and application for adoption without hiring an attorney, however wording had to be precise in order to be considered. We did all that was necessary and discovered by doing it ourselves the application fee was about \$60 and that was it. So in October, a day before Jim's birthday, the judge signed the paper saying Casey was now legally our son. I sent for his birth certificate immediately and it arrived on my birthday in February. As I opened it, I thanked God for this gift that we knew was from God, just as each of our children were. Casey is now an architect, married to a precious young lady who has a law degree, however she is a homemaker at present with three amazing children. God is indeed good!

How can your Ruritan Club be a part of Nelda's adoption awareness project?

**Plan a summer picnic or party for children in foster care.*

**Invite a foster care or state adoption worker to speak to your club.*

**Start marking plans to celebrate Adoption Awareness Month in November, 2020.*

First Lady Nelda's Adoption Awareness Program

Shannon Shepherd, speaker at First Lady Nelda's Breakfast, shares her adoption story.



Shannon.....

My childhood started out very typical (in my view). I had a mother and father. I was the oldest of three girls. My dad worked, and my mom was home with the three of us. But when I was in the first grade, something happened. I was too young to understand. I still don't fully know. I do know that moment began a chain of events that were tough, emotional, and many times beyond my control.

We moved out of our home and into another house. Not long after that, I remember hearing that my mom was "sick" and then she was gone for a few days. Then, it wasn't too long before we were evicted from our house. It was the first time I lost everything I owned. I remember my maternal grandparents came and picked up the three of us and our biological mom. I will never forget being in the back of my granddaddy's car, up on my knees looking out the back window, crying and begging him to stop because my dog was running after us as fast as she could. It seemed to me like she knew we were leaving, and that we weren't coming back.

We lived with our maternal grandparents for a short while. I'm not sure why, but we ended up moving in with two of my paternal aunts. One day at school, they called me to the office. When I went in the office, there was a police officer and some other people (social workers, I'm sure). They loaded us up into the police car and took us away. This would be the second time in my life that I lost everything I owned, except this time, I lost my parents. They took us to a group home that had boys and girls of all ages.

I'm not sure how long we were in the group home. We were eventually returned to our biological parents, and we moved to Virginia. My dad spent time in and out of jail. Around that same time, my mom got "sick" again, but this time, it was worse. She was scary. She slept all day. At night, she would walk around the house, in the dark, talking to herself. Many days, the only thing we had to eat was school lunch. We were often cold in the winter, because we couldn't afford heating oil.

One day, while I'm sitting in my favorite 4th grade teacher's class, I get called to the principal's office. In the principal's office, I find a police officer and our social worker. They load us in the police car and take us to a foster home. This is the third time I've lost everything I own, second time I've lost my parents. And I start over again with my eleventh school.

Our foster parents were okay. Eventually, I was told by our social worker that "we were too much for them" and that she was looking for a new home for us. That's when the reality hit me—my sisters and I could be separated. Already, I'm not even 10-years-old, and I've lost everything I owned three times, my parents twice, and now there's a chance that I am going to lose the two things that mean more to me than all those things combined.

One day the phone rings. It's our social worker, and she wants to talk to me. She tells me that she has exciting news for me. She has found a home for all three of us...and it's with someone we already know! We were so excited to find out that the gym teacher at our former school wanted us, and that we were going to be living with her! It was truly a miracle. It was all I had hoped for.

continued on next page

First Lady Nelda's Adoption Awareness Program



The three of us thrived in the care of our foster/adoptive family and life was relatively uneventful. I knew that I had a life with them that I would have never had with my biological parents. I am positive that our lives would have gone down a very different and troubled path if we had not been removed from our biological parents.

I had my oldest son shortly after graduating from college, which is what led to my sisters and I being formally adopted. We changed our names to our foster/adoptive parents name when we entered permanent foster care. But on my son's birth certificate, they asked for my name as it appears on my birth certificate, and I did not want to use that name! So, they decided to adopt the three of us at that point. When we went before the judge, he said, "This is the first time I've ever had three grown adults asking to be adopted."

About 10 years ago, I received a phone call from my sister letting me know that our biological mom had lung cancer. The cancer had spread to her brain, and she was going to have surgery to remove a tumor from her brain. Her prognosis was that she would live for about three months, if the surgery was successful. We became reacquainted with our great-aunt and cousin during this time. They invited us to come have supper and asked us if there was anything they could do for us. I asked for pictures.

Now, I need to go back a little bit to tell the rest of this story. Our foster/adoptive parents ensured that we were at church every Sunday. Early on in church, I read a Bible verse that quickly became my favorite: I Corinthians 13:4-8, 13:

"⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵ It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. ⁸ Love never fails. ¹³ And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."

Having hope for the future, faith that there will be a better tomorrow, and knowing I am loved and have someone to love--- those are the things I cling to.

But back to my great-aunt's house. She came in the living room, carrying a boxed set of photo albums. She sat them down on the table and imagine how excited I was to see that one album said "Faith," one said "Hope," and the other said "Love." I commented on how much I liked them. My aunt responded, "I could hardly believe it when I found these albums for you all. Your mom always said that you three girls were her "faith, hope, and love." I was speechless. I knew right then that my mom, the mom before schizophrenia stole her from us, had always been with me, and that she always would be.



NEW APPAREL HAS ARRIVED!!



#249 District Medal Full-Zip Hoodie

\$28.50

This hoodie is 4.9-ounce, 90/10 combed ring spun cotton/poly, with tear-away label. Self-fabric back neck tape. Front Pockets. Self-fabric cuffs and hems. Includes Ruritan logo screenprinted on full back.



#250 Port Authority Value Fleece Jacket

\$37.75

This exceptionally soft, midweight fleece jacket will keep you warm during everyday excursions. Includes Ruritan logo on left chest



#251 District Game Tee

\$17.75

This tee has a retro, game-day inspired look. 4.5-ounce, 60/40 combed ring spun cotton/poly, 32 singles. 1x1 rib knit neck. Tear-away label. Distressed printed stripes at sleeve. With Ruritan logo on full front.



#252 Port Authority Ladies Plaid Flannel Jacket

\$37.75

This flannel shirt takes laid-back looks to the next level. Ultra soft and just the right weight, it makes a statement with a classic plaid pattern and casual comfort. Includes Ruritan logo on left chest.



#253 Port Authority Plaid Flannel Shirt

\$37.75

This flannel shirt takes laid-back looks to the next level. Ultra soft and just the right weight, it makes a statement with a classic plaid pattern and casual comfort. Includes Ruritan logo on left chest.

Questions?

**Call Customer Service at 1-800-414-8946
or visit <http://www.shumskyideas.com/ruritan>**

Message From 2019 Foundation President Corky Camin



Foundation Cruise Report

Well landlubbers, it's time to update you on our Ruritan National Foundation Fellowship cruise.

We left Baltimore Saturday afternoon on 9/14 under cloudy skies and smooth seas. We had a group of 58 Ruritans and significant others making the voyage and four other Ruritans who were in another group sailing at same time. Wow, 62 going from Baltimore to Bermuda. But watch out, there was a storm brewing near the Bahamas. The one and a half days later we were in Bermuda for what was to have been a day and a half in port. However, just before docking, the captain announced that we would be leaving Bermuda the next morning instead of late afternoon. Smart decision! Eight hours later we were in 6-8' seas and 30 mph winds. Overnight, seas got to 12-14' with gust of 60+mph. Yes, you worked your sea legs going anywhere in ship. Things that were very stable earlier on the cruise ended up on the floor (I saw one stack of plates go sailing across the floor). After the two-day sail back to Baltimore, our trip was over. Seems like everyone had a great time and look forward to the next Ruritan cruise.

Auction Items Needed

Since summer is now over, I know every club is busy with their fundraising projects, getting ready for the district conventions, and the upcoming Ruritan National Convention in Kingsport, TN. Remember auction items for the RNF auction at the National Convention in Kingsport and your local district conventions. A lot of the fundraising for the RNF is locally through the districts and local clubs donating items for district convention auctions. Soon you will be setting your club's budget for 2020. Please remember the Ruritan National Foundation with a line item for both the \$300 BY\$ deposit and donation to an education fund. If your club doesn't have an education fund, consider starting one and regularly donate to it. Once it hits \$1,000, it becomes a permanent fund. When it hits \$10,000, you can convert it to an endowed education fund generating its own scholarship grant. Pretty cool! To date, there are 50 endowed scholarships established with the RNF.

On behalf of all the RNF Trustees, we thank you for all you do for Ruritan and the Ruritan National Foundation. Thank you!!

Ruritan National Foundation

2019 Board of Trustees

President: Corky Camin
Vice President: Brent Wheeler
Secretary: Graham Bryant
Treasurer: O.H. Bobbitt III
Promotion Chair: Phillip Bradshaw



*To purchase a Tom Downing Fellow Award contact Bessie McCormick in the Foundation Department.
877-787-8727 #302*

See You at the Auction in Kingsport!

MMS Users Need to Change Their Passwords

To increase the security of the personal data on the Ruritan Member Management System (MMS) all users will need to update/change their passwords every six months. You may change your password at any time using the method explained in this article. If you fail to do that, you will be required to do so on February 1, 2020.

Any user logging on to the MMS now will see the following message:

Please note that on 02/01/2020 you will be required to change your MMS password, if you have not done so in the last 6 months. Going forward, your password will have to be changed every 6 months. This is being implemented to ensure that your personal data within MMS remains secure. If you desire, your password can be changed before 02/01/2020 and you will not be prompted for another 6 months. Thank you for your cooperation.

To change your password, go to your home page and choose the security option (gold coin in upper right of menu.) This will bring you to a screen where you enter your current password and then can choose a new password, entering it twice. Be sure to click on the "update" button to make sure your change is accepted. The two graphics on this page show how those two screens look.

Every Ruritan member has a right to access the MMS and see his/her data. Please do not share passwords with another user. Encourage them to set up their own password. If you have any questions or if you forget your password, contact the Ruritan staff who can always give you a temporary password. Call us toll free at 877-787-8727 or email service@ruritan.org.



Clubs Can Edit Their Own Demographic Data in MMS

Club officers may update their demographic information and other club specific data on the Member Management System (MMS). To make these edits, on the club home page click on the underlined club name/link in the upper left corner of the page.

This reveals a data page that shows addresses, website,* meeting night and week, and more. This is helpful information for anyone looking for a make up meeting or to find the club meeting place. Any changes that are made will not take effect until the update button is clicked.

*Any public website listed here will automatically show up on the public club website list on the Ruritan.org site. Facebook pages, since they are for Facebook members only, should not be listed and will not translate to the public list.

If you have any questions or need assistance, contact the Ruritan staff who can always give you a temporary password. Call us toll free at 877-787-8727 or email service@ruritan.org.

Carrollton Delivers Back to School Items



Carrollton Club prepared and delivered 45 backpacks stuffed with essential back-to-school items for under-privileged kindergarten through third grade students. This is the second year the club has taken on this task and were able to double the amount of backpacks this year. Funds were raised from the first annual Carrollton Community Day vendor/yard sale event, and the club plans to use remaining funds to directly help the Carrollton Elementary School in other ways. Pictured with the backpacks (l-r) are Carrollton Elementary Principal Bob Brennan, Carrollton Club member Billy Hampton, Carrollton Club President Georgette Phillips, Carrollton Club member Brenda Kadlec, Carrollton Elementary Vice-Principal Kristy Buggs, and Carrollton Club member Jan Clark.

The club was honored to have National President Larry and First Lady Nelda as guests at the club's June meeting. The presentation that evening was on First Lady's Adoption Program and why she chose to raise awareness for adoption. Other speakers were Del. Emily Brewer, Virginia 64th House of Delegates District, and the Hon. Judge James Wiser, of Isle of Wight Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court, with his wife Carrie. Del. Brewer spoke on her role in legislative reform in adoption in Virginia Jim and Carrie Wiser spoke on the rewards and frustration



of being foster parents and shared their personal stories as foster parents. We were also joined by Isle of Wight Club President Jim and wife Irma Polanosky. Pictured are Carrollton Club Director Keith Compton, Jim Wiser, Carrie Wiser, Carrollton Vice President Marcie Spoonhoward, Delegate Emily Brewer, First Lady Nelda Cassell, National President Larry Cassell, Carrollton Club Secretary Laurie Mercer, and club member Jan Clark.



South Norfolk Celebrates 40th Anniversary



*Pictured are **South Norfolk Club** members with National President Larry and First Lady Nelda Cassell during its 40th anniversary celebration.*



Spring Magazine Deadline February 1, 2020



Surry County Welcomes Two New Members



Surry County Ruritan Club President Roger Miller (right) welcomed John and Janet Balias as new members of the club. Standing with Surry Club Vice President Lewis Epps are scholarship recipients Jessica Gardner (left) and Lauren Bulls (right).

Possum Hollow Holds Trash Day

Possum Hollow Ruritan Club held a fall trash pickup in their community. Pictured with Trash Commander Jack Eure (l-r) are Pete Joyce, Barbara Reisenbichler, Shelley Barlow, Gerry Hill, Jack Darden, and Todd Schaubach. Not pictured is Joe BaSure.



Great Bridge Presents Awards

Great Bridge Ruritan Club recognized and honored Dominion Energy workers. Public Service Committee Chair and 2012 National President Phyllis Lewter stated, "The club feels the Dominion Energy workers are the unsung heroes during storms and natural disasters." The club recognized Joe Kifus as the Lineman of the Year and Charles Baggett as the Substation Electrician of the Year. The honorees, their families, and the Dominion Energy supervisors were treated to a dinner followed by an awards ceremony. Pictured are Phyllis Lewter and Manager Greg Boyce presenting the plaques to Bob Riddick (for Baggett) and Kifus.



Pictured are Kings Fork Ruritan Club members at its 70th Anniversary.

Richmond County Celebrates 82nd Anniversary



CW Gibbs, and Tucker Douglas, RCLL officers David Reams, Brian Davis, Cindy Hayes, and Pamela Davis. Photo by Rachel Douglas.

Richmond County Ruritan Club celebrated its 82nd anniversary with a ribbon cutting at Richmond County Little League. Members gathered with welcoming remarks from Richmond County Club Project Manager Ray Lucas followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer by David Reams. Board of Supervisors Chair Lee Sanders, Robert Pemberton, and David Parr recognized the club's accomplishments and the successful Little League. Pictured are Board of Supervisors, Richmond County Club President Robert Lewis, Marion Howell VP, Club Secretary Sarah Lewis, Club Treasurer Jane Harcum, Project Committee Shirley Lucas, Ethel Lewis, CW Gibbs, and Tucker Douglas, RCLL officers David Reams, Brian Davis, Cindy Hayes, and Pamela Davis.

James City Serves Ice Cream



James City Ruritan Club members Beth Calhoun (left), Dwight Beamon (center), and Cleve Wright (right) hosted an Ice Cream Sundae Party for the Williamsburg Youth Baseball League (WYBL) All-Stars. Over 150 players, coaches, and parents were treated with ice cream sundaes and were recognized for their success and accomplishments in this year's post season tournaments. Several teams won championships at the district, state, and regional levels. The WYBL 8-year old All-Stars actually advanced all the way to the Cal Ripken World Series in Florida. The club has been a sponsor of Williamsburg Youth Baseball for many years and have helped provide the opportunity of participation in organized baseball to countless boys and girls in the Williamsburg/James City County community.

Doswell Donates to Veterans



Doswell Ruritan Club, along with the Chesapeake District donated 560 DVD's to McGuire Veterans Hospital in Richmond, VA. They will be used for recreational therapy for patients with spinal cord injuries. In the picture are club members Betty Lee Stanley and Franklin Jones along with hospital volunteer Alexander Gyi-Bassuk.

Warwick Celebrates 70th Anniversary



National President Larry and First Lady Nelda helped celebrate the Warwick Ruritan Clubs 70th anniversary. Warwick Club President Steve Laurent is shown with Larry cutting the cake. May Saunders was presented with a lifetime member plaque and Robert Spiers with the club's Ruritan of the Year.



News From Ruritan: Chesapeake District continued

Gloucester Holds Fish Fry



Gloucester Club member Paul Bauer, Secretary Barbara Bauer, and Bev Thomas decorated tables with Bev's flowers in preparation for the club's Annual Fish Fry. Proceeds from the fry go towards the club's projects for the Gloucester community. The club held its October meeting at Olivia's In the Village. Pictured is

Gloucester Clean Community Coordinator Elizabeth Wilkins, who gave a presentation at the meeting. Wilkins stated that the purpose of her department is to enable citizens to keep Gloucester clean and green. She spent a week teaching Gloucester 4th graders about marine debris and its impacts. The club supported her efforts to encourage citizens to adopt a roadway through VDOT's Adopt A Highway program. Wilkins also discussed efforts to get Gloucester declared as a *Bee City USA* affiliate by 2020.



Abingdon Welcomes New Members

Abingdon Club President Mary Lou Shepherd welcomes Harold Oast, (bottom left), Wade Bunn, and Josie Langford as new members of the club. Pictured with Bunn and Langford are sponsor Jeff Grant (left) and Shepherd (right).



club. Pictured with Bunn and Langford are sponsor Jeff Grant (left) and Shepherd (right).

The club participated during this year's Clean Gloucester Day collecting 630 lbs. of trash. Pictured (l-r) are Jim Stevens, Yvonne Scales, Mike Ekdahl, Selena Collins, Bunny Ekdahl, Rick Taylor, Frank Collins, David Kyle, Julie Woolley, Diane Woolley, Andrea Crawford, David Simmons, Mary Lou Shepherd, Glen Aycock, Rose Taylor, Don Sciria, Allen Scales, and Frank Gillerlain.

News From Ruritan: Rappahannock District

Rudy Bear Participates in National Night Out



Rudy Bear, on behalf of the **Bealeton-Remington** Ruritan Club, was invited by the Fauquier County Sheriff's Office to participate in National Night Out. "Rudy was a big hit with the kids!" said Bealeton-Remington Club Treasurer Dawn Ashby. Pictured on the far left with Rudy is Annabelle.

Cedarville District Raises \$9,000



Cedarville District Ruritan Club was quite active during the Warren County Fair. Many club members and volunteers helped to raise over \$9,000. Pictured in some of the photos are Charlie Goddard, Carol Goddard, John Clatterbuck, Pamela Fox, Dawn Pennington, Beth Kitchen, Stacy Kitchen, Thomas Megeath, Mary and Windford Kenney, Vanessa Boies, as well as Past Rappahannock District Governor Pearl Underwood, and 2019 Lt. Governor Scott Reed.

Cedarville District Club presented a check to the Backpack Buddy

program in Warren County, VA. Pictured (l-r) are Cedarville Incoming 2020 President Scott Turnmeyer, Club Secretary and Backpack Buddy Representative Pamela Fox, and 2019 Club President Maurice Bowen.



Shawquon Makes Apple Butter



Fall always means apple butter, at least for many churches and civic organizations in the Shenandoah Valley. As for the **Shawquon** Ruritan Club in Stephen City, they are no exception. At the Shiley residence, beneath a bright blue sky and end of summer sunshine, the club gathers each year to prepare the season's jars of homemade apple butter.

Marshall and Pam Shiley have been members of the club in Stephens City since 2006. Marshall is a diesel mechanic who founded his own company, MS Heating and Air Conditioning, in 1986. He first learned traditional apple butter making at the family farm on Cedar Creek Grade in Frederick County. He and Pam had previ-

ously coordinated apple butter making at Refuge United Methodist Church in Stephens City and White Post United Methodist Church in Clarke County.

The selling of apple butter has become a major fundraiser for the club and Marshall has been making Shawquon Apple Butter for the last 12 years. Marshall uses golden delicious apples from the Loretta McDonald farm. Loretta is an active member of the Ruritan and donates the apples in support of the club's annual fundraising effort. The apples are usually picked in late August just in time to be used for the annual Shawquon Apple Butter production during the first week of September. The club continues a history of providing college scholarships to local high school seniors. The club also supports fire and rescue and sheriff departments, cub scouts and boy's scouts, youth organizations, Area 13 Special Olympics, Newtown Heritage Festival, victims of severe illness, homeless shelters, and food pantries.

News From Ruritan: Rappahannock District

Aldie Sells Peanuts at Festival

Aldie Ruritan Club takes center stage at the Village's 55th Harvest Festival. Aldie Club President Tucker Withers and Fundraising Chair Tom Santmyer, aka Mr. Peanut, sold peanuts, Aldie Bridge tote bags, and operated the Pick-a-Horse Raffle, raising over \$700 for the club. Members Jeremy Rosendberg, Bill Carney, Bill Vayda, and Matt Kukis volunteered as crossing guards making sure visitors safely crossed John Mosby Highway (Route 50). It was a beautiful fall day as crowds of people came to the historic village to see its 1810 mill and shop from the many craft and antique vendors.



News From Ruritan: Appomattox District

Pamplin Cleans Cemetery

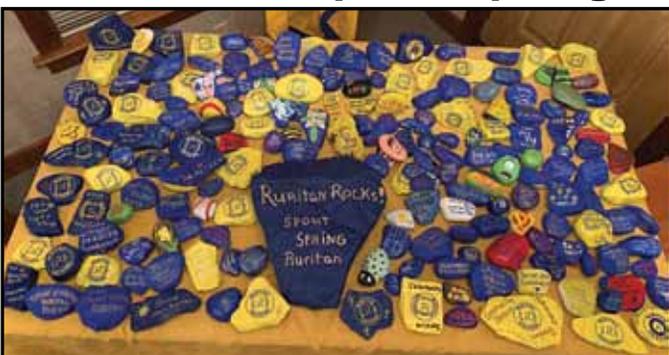
Pamplin Club members recently embarked on a project to assist the town of Pamplin in cleaning up the town cemetery. While the project will take place over several weeks, members Brad Baker, Bill Caldwell, David Sexton, Estelle Woosley, David Woosley, and David Carson started off the effort by collecting eight bags of trash and debris. Pictured are Brad Baker, Bill Caldwell, David Sexton, Estelle Woosley, David Woosley, and David Carson.



Spout Spring Donates Rudy Bears

Spout Spring Ruritan Club made its annual Rudy Bear donations. Appomattox and Concord Rescue Squads, Pamplin Fire and EMS Department, and the Department of Social Services received Rudy Bears.

The club painted 200 rocks to participate in the Appomattox



Rocks Facebook Group. These rocks were hidden around in the community for people to find, to keep, or hide again. Many rocks traveled to other states. The "Ruritan Rocks" project was to promote community awareness about our organization.

Kay Powers Receives Golden Key

Central Chesterfield Ruritan Club President Roger 'Bama' Powers presented the President's Golden Key to the Future award to his wife Kay "Little Hoss" Powers, who recruited two youth members. "Little Hoss" received her nickname from her father who was called "Hoss."

Keysville Ruritan Club donated to Fire and Rescue.



News From Ruritan: Peaks of Otter District

Clifford Holds Sorghum Festival



Clifford Club held its Annual Sorghum Festival with great vendors, food, jousting, and entertainment. One of the entertainers was Taylor Rodriguez who impersonated Elvis. Club members made Sorghum, Brunswick Stew, and other food.

Glade Hill Club donated dictionaries to third and fifth grade students at Sontag Elementary School.

Special-needs youth from the Yellow Branch Challengers enjoy an evening of fishing in the **Lyn-Dan Heights Ruritan Pond**.



News From Ruritan: Southwest Virginia District

Atkins Welcomes Two New Members

Atkins Ruritan Club President Robert Pike installed new members Donna Bentley and Rosemary Winebarger. Club members completed the new roof on the club building. Members Brenda Umbarger and Lisa Hoover delivered donuts to the Smyth County Sheriff's Department.



News From Ruritan: Southwest Virginia District

Yuma Celebrates 60th Anniversary



Yuma Club celebrated its 60th anniversary. On hand for the celebration was National President Larry and First Lady Nelda Cassell, National Director David Hartgrove, Past National Directors Gary Olinger and Glen Broadwater, and Southwest VA Zone 1 Governor Jean Shell. Charter member James Haynes gave a brief

history of events since its charter. Chris Holder and his gospel group "Journeyman" provided the entertainment.

True Leadership is having concern for the whole team.



Nicklesville Presents Scholarship

Nicklesville Ruritan Club presented a scholarship to Frank Miano. Pictured (l-r) are Linda Broadwater, Judy Flanary, Frank Miano, and Ed Seiber. The club also hosted a picnic for area veterans.



News From Ruritan: Natural Bridge District

Bonsack/Blue Ridge Area Funds Backpack Program



As many Ruritan clubs are finding out, school personnel in recent years have increased their requests for ways to feed students on the weekends when they are away from the meals provided by the schools during the week. Some of these students in need are considered "homeless" and some are simply living in homes with very limited resources. In most communities these take home programs are called "backpack" programs because the shelf stable, non-perishable food items are passed to the students discreetly in backpacks.



able food items are passed to the students discreetly in backpacks.

The **Bonsack/Blue Ridge Area** Club joined forces with their local school system and planned and executed a fundraiser this fall which incorporated a barbecue meal with outstanding entertainment by a local steel drum band known as "Panamania." Tickets were sold in advance and much of the food was donated by restaurants and grocery stores, so the club was able to give the backpack program over \$3,000 after the event.

News From Ruritan: Peaks of Otter District

Brownsburg Celebrates 80th Anniversary

Brownsburg Ruritan Club celebrated its 80th anniversary. Nearly fifty people attended including Natural Bridge District Governor Dianne Swink and Zone 1 Governor Chris Cartwright. Governor Swink presented Brownsburg Club President John Conlon with a certificate signed by National President Larry Cassell celebrating this milestone anniversary.



Pictured are the club's three longest serving members Charles "Colonel" Sandridge (63 years); W.L. "Bud" Martin (54 years); and our longest serving member, Wallace Beckner (75 years). Pictured are Natural Bridge District Governor Dianne Swink presenting Brownsburg Club President John Conlon with the anniversary certificate.

Sam Houston Welcomes Two New Members

Sam Houston Ruritan Club President Chris Cartwright welcomes two new members Joan and Billy Kessinger at its October meeting. The sponsoring member was Dennis Engleman.



News From Ruritan: Woodrow Wilson District

Sangerville-Towers Welcomes Five New Members

Sangerville-Towers Club is "Making a Difference" by installing five new members! Pictured (l-r) are Linda Edwards, Mary Margaret Parker, Beulah Losh, Kenny Hopkins, Juanita Hopkins, and Mary Simmons.



Weyers Cave Honors Hensel W. Baker

Hensel W. Baker joined the **Weyers Cave** Ruritan Club in 1969. Serving faithfully in



many capacities, he always had a joke or an interesting tidbit of history to share. There was always a smile on his face. He was proud of his perfect attendance, never making up a meeting -- because he never missed one. Then in May, he had a serious accident and was in the hospital on the date of the next regular meeting. His Ruritan President and Vice President held a mini-meeting at the hospital so he could keep his perfect attendance record. He was grateful and promised to make it to fifty years of membership, which would occur in December of 2019. He planned to celebrate his 95th birthday the same month.

Sadly, he succumbed and left the world six months early, not quite making it to his fifty year anniversary. An empty seat remains at the Weyers Cave Ruritan table each month, and he will be awarded his 50-year pin *in absentia* in December, to honor his half-century of faithful service to the club.

West Rockingham Donates Picnic Tables



West Rockingham Club purchased and delivered picnic tables to Still Meadows Enrichment Center and Camp. Club member Brennan Miller tries out the tables which were built by the local FFA Chapter at Turner Ashby High School. Still Meadows Enrichment Center and Camp is a charitable nonprofit organization created as a special needs facility in a country setting.



Rockingham District Installs New Officers

Rockingham District Governor Becky Lane installed new officers at the annual Zone 2 dinner. Pictured (l-r) are Lane, incoming Lt. Governor Rick Keyton, 2020 Zone Governor Keith Simmons, Zone Treasurer Lexi Campbell, Secretary Caitlyn Sloan, and National Director Cassandra Flanagan. Club

members in Zone 2 compiled over 12,500 community service hours and contributed over \$120,000 into community service projects during 2019. Recent projects have included delivering dictionaries and thesauruses to elementary school students and Salvation Army bell-ringing.

Fulks Run Honors Veterans

Fulks Run Ruritan Club President Janna Blosser handed out thank-you cards made by her kindergarten class to area veterans at the club's annual Veteran Appreciation Dinner. Pictured (r-l) are Miles Turner, Tom Pruitt, Charles Keister, Wayne Fulk, Charles Morris, and Chuck DeHart. Veteran and Charter member Garnett Turner, who passed away in September, was remembered.



Linville Edom Receives Ruritan Semi-Truck



Linville Edom Ruritan Club was visited by 2011 Ruritan National Foundation President Bruce Thompson. Bruce began his Ruritan journey with the Linville Edom Ruritan Club 60 years ago. He served several times as President of the Linville Edom Club and also served as the Rockingham Lt. Governor and District Governor. He is currently in the **Midlothian** Ruritan Club and has 59 years and 11 months of perfect attendance. He served as Ruritan National Treasurer from 1973-1975 and also served as Foundation Trustee 2007-2011. In his last year as Ruritan Foundation Trustee, he acquired a limited edition model Ruritan Semi-Truck and presented it to the club. Pictured is his niece, Linville Edom Vice President Sharon Rexrode accepted the truck on behalf of the club.

Don't Miss the Giant Tailgate Party in Kingsport!



Support Your Favorite Team!



Landon Fadely Honored for Years of Service



Past National Director Susan Greisz presented Landon Fadely with a plaque for his years of service. A native of Shenandoah County, Landon, has been an active member of the **Hamburg** Ruritan Club, for 38 years. He and his wife, Mary, were instrumental in the transition of the Empty Stocking Fund of Shenandoah County, for 15 years, an *All Zone* undertaking. Landon, also, was active with the Chamber of Commerce and a volunteer at the Woodstock Museum for 21 years. Pictured is club members serving food during the Annual Old Time Days Festival.



SPRING FORWARD, now in its 12th year, is an ALL volunteer, tuition-free after-school tutoring and enrichment program for elementary and middle school students. It is sponsored by the Hamburg Club, *hosted by* Zion Lutheran Church Edinburg Parish, and in partnership with Shenandoah Co. Public Schools. Scholars are fortunate to have high-caliber, dedicated tutors such as Sue Funkhouser, *Hamburg Club member*. A recent visit from an oceanographer and whale expert gave the students a demonstration on dissecting a squid.

Funnel Cakes for a Cause



McGaheysville Club staffed its funnel cake stand during the Rockingham County Fair. This event is the largest fundraising project. Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and fellow Churchville Ruritans also helped. This event serves as a great team building effort between all groups involved.

In September, the club recognized Firefighters from the McGaheysville Volunteer Fire Department. The firemen were complimented on their dedication and commitment to citizen fire safety. They were also

presented with a monetary donation. The Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Churchville Ruritans were recognized for their assistance during the funnel cake event and were presented with a donation.



Port Republic Celebrates 80th Anniversary



Port Republic Club celebrated its 80th anniversary with a float in the Grottoes Volunteer Fire Department Parade in June. In July, the club invited the community to an 80th anniversary picnic with free food, music, and an anniversary cake. The scholarship winner for 2019 was Mychaela Randall who is attending Bridgewater College. The Patriotic Essay winners were Alexis Raines, Natalie Robertson, and Kayla Hoffman.



Bridgewater Club awarded Reese Williams Scholarships to two 2019 graduates from Turner Ashby High School. Pictured on the right (l-r) are

Whitney Wright and Lauren Wescott. Wescott also received a BY\$ Scholarship from the club. The club also awarded a BY\$ Scholarship to Brook Jelium (second photo on the right), a 2019 graduate from Blue Ridge Christian School.



Lothian Takes Veterans Fishing



“Take a Veteran Fishing” has turned out to be an annual event sponsored by the **Lothian (MD)** Ruritan Club. Twelve vets who reside at the Charlotte Hall Veteran Home in Charlotte Hall, MD are given a police escort to Deale, MD to board three chartered boats for a morning outing on the Chesapeake Bay to catch, and they did catch, lots of fish. Upon returning to the pier, Skippers Seafood Restaurant provided a wonderful crab cake sandwich lunch to the vets, Charlotte Hall staff who escorted the vets, captains/crew of the fishing ves-

sels, and several club members. This year National President Larry, “First Lady” Nelda, and President’s Larry’s brother, Harold, a Navy vet who served in Viet Nam volunteered as ‘mates’ on the boats. After the crews cleaned and fillet the fish, the vets and staff returned to the veterans home to enjoy a fried fish dinner that evening.



Lewistown Presents Scholarships



Lewistown Ruritan Club presented scholarships to seven students at the annual Ruritan picnic in August. Pictured (l-r) are the recipients and the schools they are attending; Allison Rippeon, Shippensburg University; Matt Gartrell, Mount Saint Mary’s University; Jennifer Lambert, Frederick Community College; and Aaron Matlock, West Virginia University. Recipients not pictured are Meghan Jenkins, Salisbury University; Luke Staley, Hood College; and Allison Howard, Anne Arundel Community College. Funds for these scholarships were derived from the annual Lewistown Ruritan Golf Tournament. Member Loberta Staley noted, “The members of the Lewistown Ruritan Club are proud to support these students in furthering their education.”



Potomac District
is ...



There's a NEW Club in Town!



South Berkeley Club's first meeting was held on September 8th at Kings Pizza. National President Larry was on hand to speak to the new club and join in on the celebration. Others in attendance were Potomac District Governor David Moser, Lt. Governor Wade Clem, District Secretary Robert Markle, Zone 1 Governor Erick Fronck, Zone 4 Governor Trevella Foster, Zone 1 Lt. Governor Bobbi Anderson, and National Director Dennis Bagnell. Picture (l-r) are Markle, Anderson, Moser, Bagnell, and Clem. South Berkeley's youngest club member Levi Carter is shown hanging out with "Ghostbusters" during the club's trunk or treat.

Club members Jim Anderson and Levi are shown delivering clothes to Pleasant Valley Elementary School Nurse Barbara Schmuck for kids in need.



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Give A Bear**
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Making A Difference!



News From Ruritan: Rocky Mt. Durham District

Tri-County Presents Scholarships

Tri-County Club presented scholarships to seven high school students for the 2019-2020 school year. Pictured are Emery Moore, Amara Brewer, Lucas Ray Cox, Ashton Bristow, Barrett Hiskett, Allison Hayes, Greyson Huneycutt, and Tri-County Club President Leslie Hayes.



News From Ruritan: Greenville Goldsboro District

New Hope Donates Generously

New Hope Ruritan Club President Nancy Dawson presented a donation of \$300 to the "Guardian Ad Litem's - Every Child Deserves a Christmas" program representative Cynthia Coley. The money will be used to purchase Christmas gifts for displaced children that would otherwise not have a Christmas.

Pictured is the first collection of the club's holiday food drive. Club members (l-r) are Paul Copeland, Seann Copeland, Holly Crocker, John Crocker, David Dohr, Bruce Wolfe, and New Hope Club President Nancy Dawson.

A donation of \$250 was presented to FFA Director Lee Edmundson for the Eastern Wayne High School FFA program.

New Hope Club Secretary John Crocker presented a \$300 donation to Adult Services Director Ashley Dawson to help fund its Christmas program.



Winterville Ruritan Club held its annual veterans breakfast. Over 100 veterans and spouses were in attendance. Special guest were WWII Veteran Dr. William Mackey (age 99) and the Winterville Police Chief was the speaker. Following the breakfast, veterans enjoyed the Winterville Watermelon Festival Parade that was dedicated to them. Pictured is Dr. William Mackey and Past National Director Leck Keeter.



News From Ruritan: Greenville Goldsboro District continued

Pink Hill Presents Donations



Pictured in the center is \$500 scholarship recipient Ashlyn Matos.

Pink Hill Club fed the scholarship award recipients and their families at the August meeting. The scholarship award recipients were able to receive their certificates and money, as well as fellowship with club members. A donation was made



Pictured (l-r) are Pink Hill Club Vice President Connie Johnson, scholarship recipient Alcontara Esquivel, and Club Treasurer Clay Howard.



Pictured (l-r) are Pink Hill Elementary Principal Lee Anne Hardy and Club Treasurer Clay Howard.

to "The Back to School Bash" for the Pink Hill Public Library as well as to Pink Hill Elementary School for school supplies for the 2019-2020 school year. A generous donation of \$500 was given to the ALS Foundation in honor of Two Dogs Pizza Owner Charlotte Baker, who is battling ALS.

The annual dove hunt was held and is one of the major fundraisers.



News From Ruritan: Cape Fear District

Cedar Fork Dedicates Veterans Memorial

Cedar Fork Ruritan Club dedicated Veterans Memorial. Camp Lejeune's Color Guard in attendance were SSGT Joel Earhart and Jarrett King, SGT Zachary Warhills and Michael Mims. The speaker for the evening was Lt. Col. Stan Pickett USAF retired. Refreshments were served to over 150 people.

Back Swamp Donates to Veterans Home



Back Swamp Club made donations for the canteen at the NC Veterans Home in Kinston, NC in

August. Club members were told it was perfect timing as the supply was low. Pictured (l-r) are Back Swamp Club member Ron Hunter, Sheila, Back Swamp Club President Linda Hunter, and a resident veteran in the background.



News From Ruritan: Cape Fear District continued

Johnsonville Staying Active

In September, Cape Fear District Governor Polly Bouldin (pictured with **Johnsonville** Ruritan Club President Elect Rodger Nicely) attended the Johnsonville membership drive breakfast. Neil and Laurie Guin, members of the **Carolina Lakes** Ruritan Club and Growth and Development Chairs for the Cape Fear District, were present to pass out literature and promote joining Ruritan. Other Johnsonville Ruritan activities included manning the booth and distributing literature at the Spout Spring Walk Against Trafficking (pictured are Karen Cox and Rodger Nicely); contributing to the local Gold Star Mothers' Christmas Stocking for the Troops; conducting the October chicken fundraiser (pictured is CeCe DelPrado stacking the bread);



hosting guest speakers, Ms. Cyndi Moss, president of the Friends of the Harnett County Library and North Carolina Forest Service Ranger Buren Fulmer; and the painting of the Little Free Library by member David Allchin.

Pictured is member Roger Jensen with Laurie Guin.



News From Ruritan: Spartan District

Middle Tyger Supports Children's Cancer Partners

Riders enjoyed the **Middle Tyger Club's** Annual Hunter/Pace event. A choice of Field Hunter or Trail Rider Division raised over \$3,000 for the club's hospital bag program. The club fills hand-painted bags with puzzles, toys, bubbles, coloring books, and crayons which are given to children who are battling cancer. The club partners with Children's Cancer Partners of the Carolinas who distributes the bags.



News From Ruritan: Columbia District

Sandy Run Donates School Supplies

Sandy Run Ruritan Club donated school supplies to Sandy Run School and Foundation Christian School. Pictured (l-r) are Sandy Run Club members J.W. McCullar, Gene Crim, Peg Nelson, Andrew Price, Becky Starnes, Gary Geiger, Kelly Sanders, Elizabeth Price (with baby Amelia Grace Price - future member,) Marshall Stabler, Jill Crim, Kim Sutton, Annie Dumont, Sandra Pees, Teresa Helms, Sheila Shanklin, Kay James, Roger Hill, Elizabeth McCullar, Lena Stabler, and Glenn James. (Not pictured is Gerald Starnes, photographer.)



News From Ruritan: Columbia District continued



Veteran Sam Jackson Receives Flag

Each Memorial Day, the **Pelion** Club conducts a ceremony at the Pelion Ruritan Veterans Memorial. This ceremony has become a tradition for this beautiful monument built to honor the men and women who have served in the armed forces. Each year, the flag is replaced with a new flag during the annual ceremony. The flag that is taken down is given to a member of the Ruritan who has served our country. This year the flag was presented to Sam Jackson who was an Army Captain and served in Viet Nam. Making the presentation was Tim Treaster, CMSgt Retired. The original flag from the 2015 dedication ceremony has been retained in the Ruritan Meeting Room at the Holy Trinity Lutheran Parrish Building. Previous flags were given to members Frank Stover (2016); Tim Treaster (2017); and Steve Neese (2018).



News From Ruritan: Upper West Virginia District

Headsville Countryside Recognizes Ruritan Foreverers

Headsville Countryside Club recognized the Ruritan Foreverers of the club. Pictured (l-r) are Ruritan Foreverers Steve Mallow, Russ Haggerty, Rick Johnston, Virginia Haggerty, Eugene Tasker, Patty Leasure, and Ken Paugh. Not present is Leslie Mallow. Club members who picked up trash along its designated Adopt-A-Highway route are pictured.



News From Ruritan: Lower West Virginia District

Ray Hopkins Inducted into WV Drag Racers Association



The West Virginia Drag Racers Association has awarded Ray Hopkins of **Williamsburg** Ruritan Club as the 2019 Inductee. The award was presented to him in Charleston, WV on Oct 5th. A ceremony to celebrate the 2019 inductees took place at the Charleston Rod Run and Doo Wop. Thirty-two new members were inducted. Pictured (l-r) are Williamsburg Club member and daughter Rudi Rucker, Ray Hopkins, and Williamsburg Club President Jack Goodman.

**SCOOTER
PARADE
1/10/2020**

**Decorate Your Scooter
in Kingsport!**

News From Ruritan: Bluegrass District



Cropper Presents

Farmer of the Year Award

At the **Cropper** Ruritan Club's annual family picnic, Bill Hedges (center) presented the 2019 Farmer of the Year Award to Wood Farm's Billy Joe (right) and Monty Wood.

News From Ruritan: Tennessean District

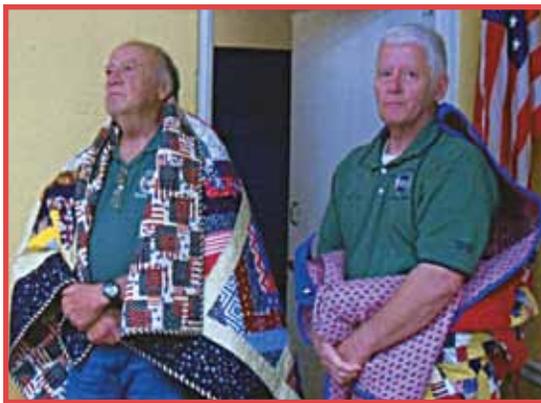


Volunteer Ruritan Club President Dan Carter presented a scholarship to Holly Carter. Holly will be attending Radford University.

Start Planning for the 2020 Ruritan Youth Camp

As we approach the end of 2019 and the beginning of 2020 keep in mind the future of our organization, the youth. This is a great opportunity to have the youth in our organization meet youth from other areas in Ruritan and learn about the fundamentals of Ruritan. At camp we teach the importance of Fellowship, Goodwill, and Community Service. The camp will be held at the W.E. Skelton 4-H Educational Conference Center. More information will be available soon.

News From Ruritan: Cherokee District



Harrison Honors Veterans

Harrison Ruritan Club's Veterans were honored by the "Quilts of Valor Foundation." They were presented with handmade quilts and thanked for their service. Pictured (l-r) are Jim Holcomb and Ed Miller.

The mission of the Quilts of Valor Foundation is to cover service members and Veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor.



The picture shows a new flagpole dedication and new flag raising ceremony hosted by the **Ball Play Community Club**. In attendance were the county commissioner, Monroe County Sheriff's Dept., Keep Monroe County Beautiful, Chamber of Commerce, Ball Play Volunteer Fire Department, and the American Legion. Earlier that day a ceremony was held with speaker Tennessee Senator Mike Bell who also presented a state flag. Pastor Scott Knight opened the ceremony with a prayer and a patriotic presentation. The new flagpole and U.S. flag were donated by Woodmen Life Insurance Company. The flag was raised and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Veterans Earl Harmon and John Way.

Knox Holds Spaghetti Dinner Benefit



Knox Club held its annual benefit spaghetti dinner at the North Georgetown Emanuel Lutheran Church. Knox Club Secretary Mel Albrecht has been helping with the dinner for the last 17 years, providing the spaghetti sauce he and wife Robin make from fresh tomatoes raised in their garden. According to Albrecht, the dinner was initially run by three members of the church Mary Ellen McConville, Casey Costa, and Albrecht. Costa was the person that initiated the idea of the supper

for the firemen in honor of 911. "For many years, Mary Ellen McConville, Casey Costa, and I ran the suppers," said Albrecht. McConville and Costa moved away and the Albrecht's and Kathy Reichenbach do the planning for the suppers. The club covers the expenses for the supper and provides some of the manpower for the supper. Thrivent Financial Insurance supports this fundraiser through The North Georgetown Brethren Church by providing monetary funds for some of the expenses and advertisement items like event t-shirts.

Over 350 people were served. Profits of between \$3,800 and \$4,000 will be donated to the North Georgetown Volunteer Fire Department. "For the 17 years that we have done this event, a accumulative total over \$50,000 has been raised for the fire department. This was the largest number we've had for the supper," said Knox Club Secretary Mel Albrecht. This spaghetti supper event, birthday calendar, and the pedal tractor pulls/dunk tanks are the biggest fundraisers for the club. The birthday calendar and the pedal tractor pulls/dunk tank events are used to support the clubs activities, whereas the spaghetti supper is solely for the fire department. Pictured from (l-r) are Knox Club members Bill Blair, Club Secretary Mel Albrecht, Albrecht's wife Robin, their son David Albrecht and his wife Laura Albrecht. Next row is Knox Club Treasurer Dennis Cameron and far back is volunteer Larry Bratton.

Roger Smith Receives Tom Downing Fellow Award

Damascus Club presented a Tom Downing Fellow Award to Roger Smith. Roger joined his club in April 2006 and in those year he has been a very active member, serving his club as a club director, treasurer, and dinner chair among other duties. Club members felt Roger was very deserving of this award. Pictured to his right is his wife Ruth. **Winona** Ruritan Club hosted three of the four Girls State and Boys State representa-



tives for the evening. Pictured (l-r) are Winona Club President Rob Doyle, Jr., Girl State Olivia Hippley, Boys State Logan Cooper, and Girls State Morgan Armson. Not pictured was Girl State Lauren Hippley.

Scholarships were presented to Michael



Marhefka, Casey Donaldson, Frankie Heffinger, Megan Stamp, and Morgan Stamp. (Pictured on the right).



News From Ruritan: Ohio District continued



Victoria Wallace Receives Scholarship

Lodi Ruritan Club presented the Lodi Ruritan Scholarship and the Bill Dunham Memorial Ruritan Scholarship, both for \$500, to Cloverleaf graduate Victoria Wallace. Wallace will be attending Kent State University studying nursing. Pictured are Barb Gilbert (left), Martha Zona (right), and Victoria Wallace.

Club Officers! We Need Your Email Address!
Call Diane at 877-787-8727 #306

News From Ruritan: Western North Carolina District

Gamewell Welcomes J.R. Hahn as New Member

Gamewell Club President Marvin Eller Jr. welcomed new member J.R. Hahn with a membership pin. Hahn helped cook breakfast for the club's monthly fundraiser.



Western North Carolina District 29 Cabinet has purchased a two-sided sign to be used at any of the 27 clubs while having a community membership drive.



Ray and Laura Hammerick were presented with a Ruritan Forever.



Chesterfield Club held a barbeque dinner fundraiser serving over 100 people. Pictured is Chesterfield Club President Shandy Gossett and Vice President Mike Casey.

Calendar of Events On Website

Ruritan National is maintaining a calendar of Ruritan events and committee meetings as well as information on office closings and staff availability. This calendar, developed through Google Calendars, can be found under the "Events Calendar" link at <http://ruritan.org>. Clicking on many items provides additional detail and directions.

Districts are invited to submit items to include on the calendar by emailing office@ruritan.org.

News From Ruritan: Western North Carolina District continued



National President Larry Cassell and First Lady Nelda attended the WNC District Cabinet Meeting at **Happy Valley** Club. WNC District Governor Leslie Gentry called **Gamewell** new member Hahn up to choose the winning ticket. First Lady Nelda Cassell spoke of her project "Adoption Awareness." She was happy to shake hands to congratulate Glenwood Ruritan Club President Kyle Settlemyre on adopting a child himself that same week.



Hopewell Hollis Donates to Backpack Program

Lisa Bralley is shown accepting backpack items for the Rutherford County School System donated by **Hopewell-Hollis** Ruritan Club. The club also held a very successful chopped sirloin dinner. Pictured are the cooks Tim Callahan and Hoyt Hodges.



Peak Creek Presents Scholarships

Peak Creek Ruritan Club presented two \$1,000 Sid and Jackie Webb Memorial Scholarships. The recipients were Anna Carpenter of Ashe County and Sierra Parks of Alleghany County. Since the club has members from both counties, a scholarship is awarded in each. The awards are based on the student's scholarship, need, leadership potential, community service, and potential impact on Western NC communities. This is the major community service of the club and funds are raised mainly through a pancake breakfast, indoor yard sale, two dinners with mountain music, the Ruritan National Foundation Build Your Dollar program, and donations. Carpenter will pursue a degree in public health with concentration in preventive medicine. Parks will pursue a radiology associate degree and then transfer to a university to obtain a degree in radiology. Pictured (l-r) are Peak Creek Scholarship Chair Doug Worsham, Anna Carpenter, Sierra Parks, and Club Vice President Dini Parsons.



Template for Some Certificates Available Online

Anyone with a computer, internet access, and a printer (color or black and white) can download templates for certificates, fill in the blank fields with the appropriate information, and print Ruritan certificates on their own. The Ruritan website (<http://ruritan.org>) now features templates for new member certificates and club anniversary certificates. Coming soon: general appreciation certificates and perfect attendance certificates. Go to the library search function (also the magnifying glass on the home page) and search for the word "template" to see what is available for you to personalize and print.

News From Ruritan: Western North Carolina District continued



Collettsville Donates \$6,902 to Paisley

Collettsville Ruritan Club President Reuben Chandler presented \$6,902 for medical expenses to Paisley (age 6) who has been battling Spondyloepiphyseal, Dysplasiacongenita (SEDC), a rare genetic disorder that results in skeletal anomalies primarily affecting the spine and long bones of the arms and legs. Paisley will be traveling to Philadelphia where she will have two different surgeries to help control scoliosis. She will be there an extended amount of time. Pictured with Paisley are her grandparents Len and Becky Beane. She is the great-granddaughter of the late Ray Vance, a Ruritan Forever, and his wife Mary Lou.

★ Making A Difference ★

News From Ruritan: Delmarva New Jersey District



TJ Ward Receives Award

Bill Callahan, charter member of **Tri-County** Club presented a hardship and benevolence award to TJ Ward. Ward is a self-employed ferrier who was injured in a riding accident and will be unable to work for several months.

Hartly Cleans-Up Community

Residents of the Hartly, DE area were glad to have the opportunity to dispose of unwanted non-hazardous household items at no charge, courtesy of the **Hartly** Ruritan Club. In cooperation with 11th District Representative Jeff Speigelman, the Delaware Solid Waste Authority, and the Hartly Volunteer Fire Company. A large dumpster was placed behind the firehouse for trash. Environmental Committee Chair Jim Beamesderfer organized the event and is shown organizing the contents for the dumpster.

Club members are also shown cleaning up their "Adopted Highway." Pictured (l-r) are Jim Beamesderfer, Hartly Club President Carole Kisner, Jan Hunsucker, Mary Sanders, Dora Viridin, and Dean Viridin.



Hartly presented two \$500 scholarships. Pictured (l-r) are Scholarship Committee Chair Dora Viridin, recipients Sam Collins and Madison Fitzhugh, and Hartly Club President Carole Kisner.

lins and Madison Fitzhugh, and Hartly Club President Carole Kisner.



Rockawalkin Ruritan Club presented scholarships to students from Parkside High School. The recipients were Hannah Hoang (majoring in biology) and Dylan Bennish (majoring in electrical engineering).

Rock House Celebrates 25th Anniversary



Rock House Club celebrated its 25th anniversary with 2019 National President Larry Cassell and First Lady Nelda. President Larry presented a 25-year certificate to Rock House Club President Ruth Robertson. Others in attendance were Piedmont Lt. Governor Jayson Duncan, Piedmont District Governor David Hogan, and Zone Governor Greg Collins. A brief history of the club was presented by Don Bennett who has been the Club Treasurer for the 25 years. Club Secretary Nancy Speaks reported on the club's many projects over the years and remembered the deceased members. Pictured are charter members R. J. Bennett and Don Bennett with National President Larry Cassell and Rock House Club President Ruth Robertson. In the second picture is Rocky House Ruritan Club members.



Smith Grove Donates Rudy Bears

On Thursday, July 18, members of the Mocksville Police Department were speakers for the **Smith Grove** Club monthly meeting. From left, Chief Pat Reagan, Sr. Officer Chuckie Davidson, Corp. Brian Hill, Capt. Robin Robbins, Capt. Jeff Finney, and Officer Justin Sloan with the Rudy Bears they were presented. The bears are plush toys Ruritans donate to hospitals, school counselors and emergency and law enforcement agencies to provide cheer and comfort to children in times of crisis. *Courtesy of Mike Barnhardt of Davie Enterprise.*



Pine Hall Club

National President Larry Cassell is pictured at the 11th Annual **Pine Hall** Ruritan Car, Truck, and Motorcycle Show helping with registration.



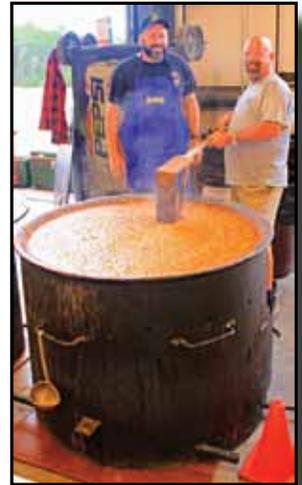
V-Point Ruritan Club Celebrates Flag Day



Sandy Ridge Coordinates Ridge Fest



The 13th annual "Ridge Fest" was held at the Northeast Stokes Fire and Rescue Department in Sandy Ridge, NC. This free community event is sponsored by area businesses, hosted by the Fire Department, and coordinated by the **Sandy Ridge** Ruritan Club. As always the delicious Brunswick Stew was prepared by Stewmaster David Manuel. Numerous vendors sold their wares to a large crowd. Many other groups were there to give out information



about programs in the county. A small car show was held with 23 participants for three trophies. Wonderful music was provided by many talented singers. Pumpkins and NASCAR race raffle tickets were sold by the Ruritans. Boy Scouts explained an Eagle Project that was being planned for the Sandy Ridge Elementary School and received donations. Girl Scouts accepted donations of food for the Backpack Program.

Mountain View Donates Generously



Mountain View Club held another successful cruise raising their donation to \$4,100 for the relocation of the Mountain View Elementary School Playground. Club member Melanie Wilcox presented the donation to Dr. Jodi Weatherman, Principal. The annual Royce Ellis Memorial Golf Tournament was held. Club mem-

bers Kristie Hawkins, Greg Tharpe, and Club Treasurer Gary Wiles were responsible for bringing in \$5,275 in sponsorships. Fun Day at the Wilkes County Airport was also a success with free games for the kids, classic cars, planes, and a Forestry Service helicopter demonstration. Mountain View Club member Courtney Stroud is shown at the club's annual blood drive. The club has collected 60 pints in the past two years. Pictured are Rep. Virginia Foxx and Mountain View Club Secretary Jerry Sidden talking about the club's famous chicken seasoning recipe.



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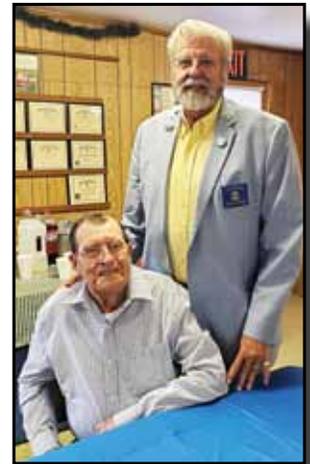
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Rangeley Celebrates 60th Anniversary



Rangeley Ruritan Club celebrated its 60th anniversary. Charter member Earnest Moore was in attendance. Pictured with Moore is National Director Ed Hicks. Pictured are Hicks, Dan River District Governor Melody Davis, Zone Governor Randy Moore, Rangeley Club President Jim McMillan, and Dan River Lt. Governor Barry Sides.



Ararat Ruritan Club President Merlin Scales (left) was presented with the Golden Key Award by Secretary Jo Slate (right). Merlin has brought in 13 members this year.



Chestnut Knob welcomed two new members. Pictured (l-r) are new members Rose Jackson and Rhonda Hayden with Chestnut Knob Vice President Leth Hairston.



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Union Presents Scholarships



Union Ruritan Club presented \$1,000 scholarships to 2019 graduates Jillian Crews, Caroline Laughorn, and Tylicia Rice. Each year from October through March club members cook, sell, and deliver stew in order to raise the money for scholarships. Caroline, who will be attending JMU,

is the daughter of Jennifer and Craig Laughorn. Jillian, who will attend Christopher Newport University, is the daughter of Todd and Karen Crews. Tylicia, who will attend Virginia State University, is the daughter of Rufus and Dana Rice. Pictured are Union Club Vice President Mary Eanes with Jillian Crews and her father Todd Crews.

Four Clubs Celebrating 50th Anniversary



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



National Director Mike Wright presented **Bluford** Club President Richard Porter with their 50th anniversary certificate. Bluford Charter members were honored with special shirts. Pictured are David Breeze, Dean Brookman, Kenny Breeze, and Bob Gillespie. Not pictured were Ralph Young and Max Allen.



Mt. Erie Club President Steve Bass is shown accepting the club's 50th Anniversary certificate from National Director Mike Wright. Robert Bass received his 50-year perfect attendance certificate from Lincolnland District Lt. Governor Beverly Tanner. Not pictured is Bruce Glover who also received his 50-year perfect attendance pin.



Lincolnland District Governor Jim Zehr (pictured on the right in the white shirt) presenting President Jim Smith with a 47-year certificate of service to the club. National Director Mike Wright presented Jim Smith with a 50th anniversary certificate.



Wright and 2019 National President Larry Cassell are shown presenting **Dundas** Club President Bill Corry with the club 50th anniversary certificate.

Ruritan Duffle Bag



The Getaway 23" Deluxe Duffle Bag features a zippered main compartment with a U-shaped opening and reinforced double 19.5 inch handles. The large zippered front pocket also has an additional exterior zippered

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When Ruritans Work Together - Great Things Happen!



When Ruritan's Work Together, Great Things Happen! This was very clear when several Ruritan clubs across the nation made donations and helped support the **Ruritan Road** Ruritan Club's recent fundraiser for Zoey Greer.

Zoey, an 8-year-old Dublin Elementary student, was hospitalized at UVA Medical Center for over two months with a life-threatening blood clotting disorder. Although she is now home, the doctors have not been able to provide a diagnosis. She continues to travel to UVA to see

her specialist. To help the family with travel and medical expenses, club members raised funds by selling "Zoey" t-shirts.

Another fundraiser was held on October 26 at Reynolds Pizzeria in Dublin, which included a silent auction and live entertainment provided by the band, Dirty Luck. Lead singer Adam Lawson dedicated the song "Purple Rain" to Zoey while she watched him using FACETIME. Over 300 people attended the event and bid on items in the silent auction. Reynolds Pizzeria, who are also club members, donated 15% of all sales from that evening.

The club honored Zoey at their November meeting. Club Vice President Crystal Andrews presented Zoey and her family with a check for \$5,000. National Treasurer David Thompson said, "This is who we are! We are Ruritans! When Ruritans work together, Great Things Happen! ZOEY ROCKS!!" Zoey was also presented with a piggy bank full of cash so when she is cleared by her doctors - she can go shopping!



News From Ruritan: New River District continued

Ruritan Road Takes Veterans to National D-Day Memorial



What do you get when you mix a bus full of veterans and their families with an inspirational military destination and great food and snacks? You get fellowship, goodwill, and community service! For six years the **Ruritan Road Ruritan Club** has been offering trips every fall for local veterans and their loved ones at a much-reduced cost.

Destinations have included the Museum of the Air Force in Dayton, OH; the Virginia War Memorial in Richmond, VA; the museum of Special Operations near Fort Bragg in NC; and several times the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford, VA. In September the group again visited the National D-Day Memorial where they shared a box lunch before going on guided tours of the grounds, monuments, and displays. The day ended with a delicious meal fixed by the **Bonsack/Blue Ridge Area Club** on the way home.

Pictured right are the veterans and their families as well as the group of cooks at the Bonsack/Blue Ridge Club. Attendees had a wonderful time and they are already asking where the group will go in 2020!



News From Ruritan: Davy Crockett District

Baileyton is Making a Difference

Members of the **Baileyton Club** presented an American Flag to the North Greene High School. Congressman Dr. Phil Roe presented the flag to the club. The flag replaced a flag that flew over the Huskies Football Field. The old flag will be appropriately retired at a later date. Club member's pictured (l-r) are Alexi Stone, Sherri Perkins, NGHS Coach Andrew Murray, Karen Lewis, H.L Perkins, Past National Director Joe Jaynes, Wilma Guard, President Nina Gross, District Governor Michael Gregg, and Riley Stone. Youth members Alexi and Riley brought the need to the club resulting in the presentation.



Club member Wilma Guard, along with other members, made and donated 25 pillows and 50 drain bags to the Women's Center for Breast Cancer in Greenville, TN. All pillows and bags were made of pink and presented in October for breast cancer awareness month. Club member Sherry Perkins is shown presenting 43 items to Niswonger Children's Hospital representatives Ashley and Amanda.



Unicoi Ruri-Teen Works Strawberry Festival

Unicoi Ruri-Teen Club took time out from graduation weekend to work during the Town of Unicoi Strawberry Festival. The festival has been the largest fundraiser for the club for the past two years.



Trever Belcher Receives 5-Year Pin

Camp Creek Ruritan Club President Alan Brown presented Trever Belcher with a five-year pin. Trever joined the club when he was 13 years old. Club member Rita Reaves Phillips noted, "We have watched him grow and have been in awe of his attitude, as he has always done anything that was asked of him without complaint and with a big smile."

In 2017 one of Trever's service projects was getting Medic Blood Mobile to come to the Camp Creek Community Yard Sale, an important project for the area. Trever was named Rudy Youth of the Year for the Davy Crockett District in 2017 and is now attending UVA Wise.



The club held an all you can eat country breakfast with 100 % of the proceeds going to David and Allison Lamons who are members of the Camp Creek Community. In May, David started having strokes, over a period of weeks he had numerous strokes and seizures. David now requires around the clock care. Approximately 137 people attended the breakfast. A check for \$3,523 was presented to the Lamons to help with medical and other expenses. Pictured is Ken Smith presenting the Check to David and Allison Lamons.

In the shadows of the beautiful mountains of East Tennessee at the **Camp Creek** Club Pavilion, over 175 people came out for a night of food, fun, and fellowship. The crowd started gathering before 5 p.m. to enjoy the food which consisted of a pork bbq meal,

hot dog meal, and kettle cooked pinto beans with cornbread. A wide variety of homemade desserts were also available.

Camp Creek Vice President Tim Smithson was the emcee for the night and introduced the groups. Ken Smith led the prayer. The show was opened up by the Spivey Mountain Boys, Followed by Threads of Faith with gospel bluegrass. Shake Rag and Roll closed out the evening. Social Committee George and Jodi Lewis planned the event.



Ruritan National Pledge Approved by Board

"We are Ruritans. We are dedicated to improving communities and building a better America. By showing goodwill toward others, we are improving the attitudes of many. Through fellowship, we are gaining friendships that last a lifetime. Through community service, sharing and caring for those around us, we are striving to reach our common goals together. May God Bless the Ruritans!"

Telford Hosts Touch-A-Truck

Telford Club hosted its “Touch-A-Truck” event on Saturday, October 12. This free event gave children and their families an opportunity to play on and around first responder vehicles, including fire trucks, ambulance, sheriff’s cruisers, as well as a school bus, farm tractor, and a National Guard vehicle. The children were treated to fun hand-outs by many of the display participants, who seemed to enjoy themselves as much as the children.



Concessions including Telford Ruritan’s famous barbeque, hot dogs, and drinks were available with proceeds going towards a community playground on the club grounds. The first-ever event drew a large crowd and promises to be an annual program.

Telford Ruritan Club completed its Little Lending Library project. The little free library allows community members to “Borrow a Book - Return a Book - Donate a Book.” Pictured here, the library was built from scratch by Telford Club members and friends of the club. Placed at the edge of the parking lot near the club’s walking track and ballfield bleachers, the library allows easy access for the community.



Cove Garden Participates in Community Day

Cove Garden Ruritan Club participated in the 2019 North Garden Community Day. About 500 local residents attended the event at Cutright Lake, North Garden, Virginia. The goal was for North Garden residents to get to know each other while enjoying free food (hamburgers, hot dogs, barbecue), fun (door prizes, hayrides, face painting, bouncy house), games (cake walks, bingo, corn hole), and great live music. It was sponsored by the North Garden Area Christian Community, Inc. (18 churches), the Cove Garden Ruritan Club, Inc., the North Garden Fire Company, Inc., and 60 local businesses.



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Annie Houchens Celebrates 100th Birthday

Annie Houchens has been a member of the **Monticello** Ruritan Club since its charter in 1980. On September 30th, she celebrated her 100th birthday! Annie has been a very special member in the club. She has been involved in many projects including making apple butter, picking up trash, and cooking many meals for the club. Annie is well known for making delicious dinner rolls at each club meeting. She always greets you with a warm, friendly smile. Happy Birthday, Annie!



Salem Ruritan Club held its annual Public Safety Recognition Event. This event recognizes first responders and other outstanding employees involved in the safety of the community. This year the county sheriff's departments, town police, Virginia State Police, town police explorers, sheriff's department dadets, and dispatch officers were recognized with a plaque.

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PS Form 3526, August 2012 (Page 2 of 3)			

Belmont/Belmont Club of Women Host Horse Show

This article originally appeared in an August 2019 issue of the Orange County Review. Gracie Hart Brooks gave permission to reprint.

In central Virginia, August brings the beginning of the school year, final trips to the beach, the Perseid meteor shower and in a corner at the junction of Orange and Spotsylvania counties, the Belmont Horse Show.



This year marked the 79th of the event which the Belmont Club of Women and the **Belmont** Ruritans have presented almost every year since 1936. There only have been three years the show wasn't scheduled—one during World War II, once for a death in the landowner's family and a final time when it rained on both the day of the originally scheduled show and the chosen rain date.

Since its inception, the Belmont Horse Show has been a fundraiser for the two clubs. In 1936, the club conceived the idea of a horse show to raise \$35 to provide a home nurse for a local resident. The original show was a success, raising more than \$50 and in recent years the show has netted the groups thousands of dollars, with the highest profits (\$9,000) coming from the 2018 show.

Unlike most modern horse shows which feature multiple sand rings, the Belmont show is held in one all-grass ring with large trees in the center. The show has classes for young and old, English and Western riders, driving, games and costume classes.

Entries are inexpensive--\$5 for ponies and \$10 for horses for any number of classes. Admission to the grounds is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Most other horse shows don't charge admission, but entries range from \$12 to \$25 per class. At Belmont, an adult with a horse can enter one or 16 classes for \$20 (\$10 entry and \$10 grounds admission) and a child with a pony can do the same for just \$10.

John Marsh, president of the Belmont Ruritan Club said the horse show is a summer tradition and successful fundraiser for the club.

"Our horse show is a real tradition," he said. "We've been doing this since 1936. People can come show their horses, get a really good lunch—our jambalaya is great—have an ice cream cone or a piece of home-made pie."



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