



Ruritan
Volume 85, Summer 2020

**We Will Get
Through This
TOGETHER!**





Ruritan

Volume 85, Spring 2020

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Ruritans
We Must Choose
Hope

The Publications Committee has changed the
Fall Cover Contest to:

***Ruritan is Relevant! Clubs who answered the call
during COVID-19.***

If your club has helped your community during this
pandemic, send your news to Crystal at
media@ruritan.org for YOUR chance to be on the Ruritan Fall
Magazine Cover! Deadline is August 1 for all submissions.

2020 National President Linward Hedgspeth



We Will Get Through This Together

What a delightful start for the Ruritan National Organization for the year of 2020. It began 16 weeks ago with an exciting Ruritan National Convention in Kingsport, TN. This was followed in February with a club eighth-year and two seventh-year anniversary celebrations, a growth award presentation, and a first-year National Directors training class.

In March we held our first Ruritan National Board of Directors Meeting, a Nash County District Convention, and a fantastic Tennessee Spring Rally. Unfortunately, that was the last Ruritan public event attended before the Coronavirus began to move into the US. In early April, our federal government gave an official stay-at-home order.

Your Ruritan Executive Committee met via Microsoft Teams and unanimously agreed to comply with the federal and state government guidelines. We recommended all Ruritan events and public gatherings be postponed until further notice. As we move forward guidance may change, and we will keep you informed. Decisions will be made based on the best information available. We will be guided by the facts, not fear.

Alternative plans are being developed and evaluated for implementation by your Executive and Leadership Committees to facilitate training without risking exposure to participants. The Executive Committee continues to meet regularly to monitor the situation regarding the pandemic. As a result of the current Governmental Guidelines and the risk to our members and patrons, Ruritans have unfortunately had to take action to cancel or postpone some of Ruritans major annual calendar events.

LEADERSHIP: Good leadership is necessary to enhance a good growth and development program. Our 2020 goals to strengthen our leadership involves working with our Nominating Committee Chair to help develop a Candidate Leadership Plan and a Process - To identify and encourage club and district leaders to want to become candidates for a national leadership position in 2021 and in the future. We believe having a full slate of officers at the start of the convention will strengthen our national leadership by giving delegates more choices from which to choose. We increased the nominating committee from three to five members for an opportunity to reach more potential candidates and started recruiting earlier in the year. This should help get more candidates prior to the convention and help promote competition. Competition appears to strengthen the interest and quality of candidates for leadership. "A Four Corners Plan" design will assign each committee member a geographical area to contact the district governors in the North, East, West, and South. Nominating Committee meetings are being held monthly.

RESTRUCTURE COMMITTEE: This committee, appointed in March, will first look at the current makeup of the organization. Their primary focus will be on the needs of the organization. They are tasked with, not only restructuring, but on how we may enhance leadership and develop an organizational growth plan. The committee consists of eight members from different experiences in Ruritan, two senior advisers, and two staff personnel.

NON-RURITAN ANNUAL EVENT

Apple Blossom Festival in Winchester, VA has been canceled.



(I have my pink and green outfit but have nowhere to wear it!!)

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2020 National President Linward Hedgpeth continued

Coronavirus Effects on Ruritan National Events

It is unfortunate that many Ruritan clubs have had to cancel their meetings or postpone their events, fundraisers, rallies, and special anniversary celebrations because of the pandemic. We are hopeful life will be back to something more normal soon.

During this time when we are asked to “stay-at-home,” I encourage our members whenever possible to reach out to each other, the elderly, and those in our communities that may be isolated or in need. This should be done by making phone calls, using teleconference, text, or email, - just not personal visits.

Ruritans are Resilient!

Who better than Ruritans understand how to approach a crisis and have a determination to make a difference? Our mission is to make our communities a better place to live and work. I have received reports of club members providing service to their communities such as:

- Making mask for medical workers on the frontlines.
- Delivering pizzas to a local Fire Department.
- Sending home-cooked meals to local police/first responders.
- Donating to food service organizations to feed the hungry, just to name a few.

Note: When servicing your communities, please always give priority to following the Federal and State Guidelines and protecting yourself, your families, and love ones.

There are many caring Ruritan members, who like an eagle, are rising to the challenge in support of their community. I would love to hear from you about any activity you are providing to support those working on the frontlines. Please share, in a short summary, the activity or support being provided by members or clubs in your district. I want to share your story with others in Ruritan.

In closing, please remember the precious Ruritans we have lost this year. May they rest with God in peace.
Psalm 34:18 - The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.
Safe wishes to each of you and your families.

Working Together,
Linward Hedgpeth



Support First Lady Anne Hedgpeth's St. Jude Project

"St. Jude has compassion for sick and hurting children, and a desire to nurture and heal them through research and treatment. I share the same passion as St. Jude and want to help nurture and heal the children by helping to provide financial support to the research center. This will allow the doctors and their research teams to continue their work to find cures," said Anne.



As of May 1, Ruritans have raised \$4,110!

WHY ST. JUDE?

Our laboratories may not be in your communities but our discoveries are.

24 PARTNER SITES IN 17 COUNTRIES



St. Jude patient Hannah

St. Jude FREELY SHARES discoveries, so every child saved at St. Jude means doctors + scientists worldwide can use that knowledge to save thousands more children.



St. Jude patient Deane

TREATMENTS INVENTED AT ST. JUDE HAVE HELPED PUSH OVERALL CHILDHOOD CANCER SURVIVAL RATES

FROM **20% IN 1962**



TO

MORE THAN **80% TODAY**





St. Jude patient Joyce

WE WON'T STOP until no child dies from cancer.



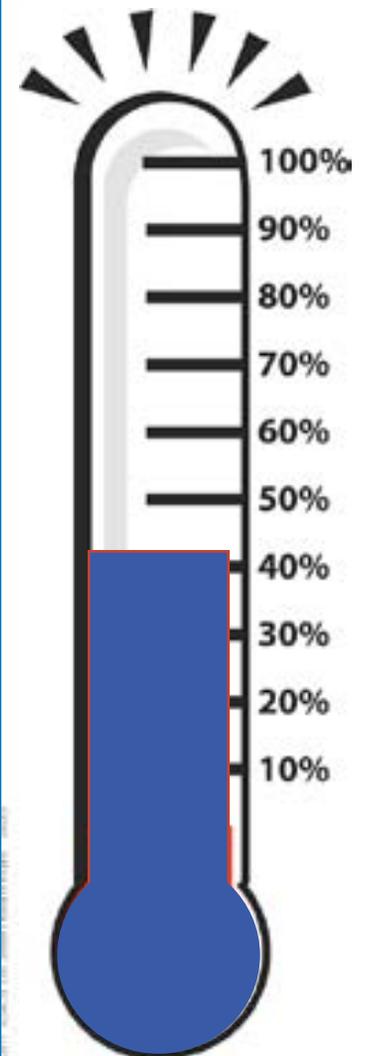
St. Jude patient Deane

St. Jude has treated patients from all **50 STATES & AROUND THE WORLD.** Doctors often send their toughest cases to St. Jude because we have the world's **BEST SURVIVAL RATES** for some of the most aggressive childhood cancers.

FAMILIES NEVER RECEIVE A BILL FROM ST. JUDE FOR TREATMENT, TRAVEL, HOUSING OR FOOD – BECAUSE ALL A FAMILY SHOULD WORRY ABOUT IS HELPING THEIR CHILD LIVE.



St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
ALSC • Every Minute Counts • Finding cures. Saving children.



Please visit <http://events.stjude.org/ruritannational> to make your donation.

****If you need help making your online donation - please call the office and we will help you! Don't use a computer? No problem. Send a check made out to Ruritan National. On the memo line put St. Jude Donation. We will make absolutely sure that you receive credit for your generous donation.***



You are my hero. If you are a Ruritan member and you are working through your club to support the needs in your community, you are my hero. You always have been. During the coronavirus crisis I have seen example after example of how our clubs are rising to the challenge. I am impressed, but not surprised. I have been watching you for over 40 years. You always step up. This crisis. The last crisis. The next crisis. It's what we do. It's who we are.

This magazine is full of examples of your generosity, your care and your love and commitment to the people you serve. It is full of hope.

We have seen clubs host blood drives, support police departments, rescue squads, fire departments and every type of first responder.

We know that you are supporting nurses who risk their life and health every day to make sure that when you and I are sick, we are cared for. You didn't start now, but you ramped up donations to feeding programs that care for people who don't have enough to eat during normal circumstances, during this time that is anything but normal.

You've taken time to care about the environment, build handicap ramps, support our veterans, make and distribute face masks, and give scholarships to young people who have been denied the privilege of graduating together with

their classmates. Students who may not get to physically enter a college classroom in the fall.

You've donated generously to St. Jude in support of children who are in the fight for their lives, and supported First Lady Anne at the same time.

You are finding ways to make sure that those who are confined to nursing homes feel loved and cared for. Several clubs have participated in parades at nursing homes. I recently participated in such an event and it was heartwarming and heartbreaking at the same time.

You are finding creative ways to meet without meeting using zoom, teams, phones and many other methods. You meet because you want to continue to find ways to serve in an environment that doesn't lend itself to getting out into the community with the people that you serve.

I am so proud of you. I am so proud of us. You quietly continue, no matter what our circumstances, to do the best and most you can to help people who need us. Keep doing what you do.

YOU ARE MY HERO!

Meet Your National Office Staff



Michael Chrisley
Executive Director
Voice Mail 305
execdir@ruritan.org
Mike is the chief operating officer of Ruritan National and Ruritan National Foundation. He serves as advising member of all national standing committees and has management and program

implementation responsibilities that include strategic planning, financial management, budgeting and investments, membership services, membership growth and training, and convention planning. He has overall responsibility for employee supervision, office management, corporate legal actions, and facilities maintenance and operations. Mike represents Ruritan in relationships with partnership organizations, government entities, and media. He is the editor of the Ruritan magazine, Ruritan newsletter, and other Ruritan publications.



Sarah Kelly
Deputy Director
Voice Mail 313
deputydir@ruritan.org
As the Deputy Director of Ruritan National, Sarah works with Executive Director Michael Chrisley on all aspects of Ruritan Staff operations including strategic planning, financial management, budgeting and invest-

ments, membership services, membership growth and training, and convention planning. She also assists with employee supervision, office management, corporate legal actions, and facilities maintenance and operations.

*Coming Together
is the Beginning -*

Meet Your National Office Staff



Diane Lawson
Membership Voice Mail 306
membership@ruritan.org
All questions and concerns are initially handled through Diane, who is responsible for answering member and leader questions that come in from the Ruritan website or by phone. She distributes general information and answers questions about using the Member Management System. Diane enters new club information, new member information and makes changes to membership records. Diane prepares new club charter kits and new member kits. She is responsible for Blue Ribbon, Outstanding Club President and Outstanding Club Secretary research. She is also responsible for preparing Community Service awards and club anniversary certificates. Diane helps with processing incoming mail, payments, and donations and assists with accounts receivable posting. She processes quarterly reports, district officer reports, national officer reports, President's Golden Key, WANTED contest entries, and maintains the central filing system and current National candidate lists.



Chris Pugh
Part-Time Staff Support ext. 303
service@ruritan.org
Chris has retired after 20 years on the Ruritan staff but continues part-time. She works with clubs on questions concerning the IRS 990 forms and insurance. She can provide support to leaders in the areas of growth and development – including community assessment and research. Chris also works with a variety of existing and developing Access databases for both Ruritan and the Foundation – coordinating data with the member data included in the MMS. She also works developing Ruritan graphic design. She maintains the Ruritan National website, designs publications for web publication through Constant Contact and social media contributions. Email her at service@ruritan.org anytime or call the office and leave a message for her.



Bessie McCormick
Ruritan Foundation - Voice Mail 302
foundation@ruritan.org
As the Foundation Specialist, Bessie works with the Ruritan National Foundation both in receiving donations and dispensing grants and scholarships.



Kory Wirt
Accounting - Voice Mail 310
ruritanacct@ruritan.org
Kory is responsible for club and district billings and district statistics, accounts payable and receivable, monthly financial statements, and expense vouchers. He is also responsible for federal and state tax reports, year-end financial statements and preparation for annual report.



Craig Whitt
Convention - Voice Mail 312
convention@ruritan.org
Craig is responsible for advance planning for the annual National Convention and on-site execution as well as gathering data on future convention sites from potential locations. He processes incoming mail, and payments.



Crystal Andrews
Magazine - Publications – Supply -
Voice Mail 304
media@ruritan.org
Crystal is responsible for the production of the Ruritan magazine, club and district officer handbooks, community service guides, brochures, Annual Report, and all other publications. She works with graphic design, typesetting, layout, and production. Crystal takes a lead staff role working with registration and credentials at the Ruritan National Convention each year, as well as the computerized ballot and voting procedures. She coordinates the Summer Leadership Conference. She is responsible for planning, assembling, and distributing club kit material. Contact Crystal for all of your Ruritan Supply needs. She picks, purchases, and designs all inventory and oversees the Ruritan Supply website.

Craig prepares board meetings and the Summer Youth Conference.

*Staying Together is Progress-
Working Together is Success!*

2021 National Convention Mini Schedule Make Plans to Attend!

Have you made your plans to attend the 2021 Ruritan National Convention? The hotel and convention center representatives are looking forward to our "return" to Covington, their city with many great venues. "Return" because some of them and some of you still remember the great time and convention we had there in 2013. John Hancock, 2004 Ruritan National President, was convention chair and he said, "If you like small towns, you'll love Covington but if big city life is more to your liking, then you can either walk or take the trolley across the Ohio River to Cincinnati for big city life." This area has something for everyone! You will remember if you were in Covington in 2013, there were a series of tours available for our members. Because of the uncertainty at this time caused by COVID-19, tour plans are tentative. There will still be plenty of great activities to do at local sites and restaurants that individuals and small groups can access via the shuttle/trolley.

Covington and the Northern Kentucky (NKY) Convention Center, is situated on the banks of the Ohio River with two great hotels - the Embassy Suites Cincinnati River Center and the Cincinnati Marriott River Center, which is connected to the NKY Convention Center by a covered walkway. The Embassy has already been renovated since our 2013 National Convention, and the Marriott is still in the renovation process and will be completed before our January 2021 visit. The cost of rooms at these two hotels has increased by only \$9 since our 2013 visit. The rate at each hotel is \$109 for either a king or two-queen room. The Marriott will provide our members with a \$5 discount for the breakfast buffet. Additionally, both hotels are offering free self parking and free internet services. Information about these details will be provided via the Ruritan Magazine. Based upon hotel availability, these room rates will be offered three days prior to and three days after our event. This will allow Ruritans the opportunity to come early or stay late to enjoy the NKY area. Both hotels will offer complimentary housing reservation booking through an internet system, enabled by Lanyon Passkey. Ruritan office staff members have worked with the NKY Convention Center representatives and have enabled this system at <https://book.passkey.com/e/50083787> on the Ruritan website, ruritan.org. Just go to ruritan.org and click on the picture of the NKY Convention Center.

Wednesday - Thursday

Warm on-site welcome by the Bluegrass District

Thursday

Governors' Training

First Timers Reception

Opening Ceremonies (Flag Ceremony,

Memorial & Vespers Services)

President's Reception

Friday

Morning Business Session with

Military Flag Presentation

First Lady Anne's Luncheon

Voting

Workshops

Foundation Live Auction

Saturday

Morning Business Session

Workshops

Installation Banquet

Sunday

Worship Service

2021 Board Orientation

ATTRACTIONS AND TROLLEY/TRANSIT PASS

- * View the area attractions videos through the ruritan.org website by clicking on the picture of the NKY Convention Center
- * Visit sites to include the Newport Aquarium, New Riff Bourbon Distillery, and the BB Riverboat Tours
- * Schedule a visit to the famous, Ark Encounter. You will need to allow at least six hours or more to complete this remarkable tour.
- * Dine at Newport on the Levee, Mainstrasse Village, Roebling, Over the Rhine, and Bouquet.
- * Purchase a three-day South Bank Shuttle/Trolley pass to connect you to Covington, Newport, and Cincinnati. More information will be available in later additions of the Ruritan Magazine.



Make your plans NOW to come to Covington for a fantastic fun time of celebrating our Ruritan achievements, to meet old friends and to make new friends, and to take care of Ruritan business too!

Ruritan National Convention – Covington KY

January 28-31, 2021

Register up to two people on this form. Use more forms for additional people. One of the people below must be a Ruritan member. Confirmation will be emailed to the Ruritan attendee for his/her party. There are four options or packages for registration on the back, where you may also purchase single meals for non-registered guests. You may also register on the MMS (member management system) under events.

Please print or type

1st Attendee: _____

Member/Non-Member (circle one)

Member# (if member): _____

Preferred Badge Name: _____

Club: _____ District: _____

Contact phone number: _____

2nd Attendee: _____

Member/Non-Member (circle one)

Member# (if member): _____

Preferred Badge Name: _____

Club: _____ District: _____

Contact phone number: _____

Check items below that apply:

I have these food restrictions: _____

I need handicapped accessible seating at meals.

Send information on wheelchair/scooter rental.

I have 50 years or more perfect attendance

This is my first convention

I expect to be a voting delegate for the
 _____ Ruritan Club

Check items below that apply:

I have these food restrictions: _____

I need handicapped accessible seating at meals.

Send information on wheelchair/scooter rental.

I have 50 years or more perfect attendance

This is my first convention

I expect to be a voting delegate for the
 _____ Ruritan Club

Please note: Voting will be Friday only starting at 2 p.m. Delegate certification will close at 1 p.m. on Friday for walk-ins. You must pick one of the packages, 1-4, in order to vote. Even if you pre-register for Saturday only package you must vote on Friday. Staff will send remote voting instructions prior to convention.

We will be honoring Ruritan military veterans during the Convention. Please let us know your branch and era of service for special recognitions.

Name: _____ (Check one in each column)

U.S. Army

WWII

U.S. Air Force

Korea

U. S. Marines

Vietnam

U.S. Navy

Desert Storm

U.S. Coast Guard

Operation Iraqi Freedom

Other (explain)

Other (explain)

For Office Use Only:

GRP# _____

MEALS IN COVINGTON

While there is not a late fee for registrations to the National Convention this year, there is a deadline with the Covington Convention Center caterer for meal count guarantees. With that in mind, anyone waiting to register on-site in Covington (as a walk-in) for the events will not be guaranteed meals. However, we will be able to register you for non-meal events at the base rate of \$175. Send in your registration before the Dec. 28, 2020, cut-off date to be guaranteed meals. Kids meals are available upon request

**** Please make sure to put your guest's name on this form so that we may have a name badge made**

Ruritan National Convention – Covington KY January 28-31, 2021

Have it YOUR way! Choose one of FOUR package options for the 2021 Ruritan Convention

Choose one of these four registration packages. **ALL Packages** include opening ceremony, access to exhibits, access to the business meetings on Friday and Saturday, workshops, voting, and all other convention activities.

Meal Package Options

Packages 1-4 already include the base fee of \$175

	Quantity	Cost	Total
Two meal package includes base fee, Friday First Lady's Lunch and Saturday Installation Banquet	Package 1 BEST DEAL	\$280	
Friday only package includes base fee and Friday First Lady's Luncheon	Package 2	\$230	
Saturday only package includes base fee and Saturday Installation Banquet	Package 3	\$280	
No Meals - base registration only	Package 4	\$175	

Extra Meal Tickets and Items

Must purchase any package above to purchase additional meal tickets

	Quantity	Cost	Total
Friday Luncheon Honoring First Lady Anne	First Lady	\$55	
Saturday Installation Banquet	Banquet	\$85	
Rudy Bears - to be added as a gift to Covington charities including a local orphanage	Rudy Bears	\$8.50	
National Convention Memories thumb drive of candid photos	Thumb Drive	\$16	
Donation to St. Jude's Children's Hospital	Donation	\$	
	GRAND TOTAL \$		

Ruritan National, P.O. Box 487, Dublin, VA 24084

Check payment type below:

NOTE: Aside from some limited special seating, everyone will be seated for meals on a "first come, first served" basis. If you want to be seated with specific attendees, you should send your registration forms in together.

____ Payment made by check Check # _____

____ Visa/MasterCard/Discover/American Express

Card # _____

Expiration date # _____

3 or 4 digit code on back _____

Check one option below

____ Bill my credit card now

____ Bill my credit card on December 1, 2020

Set Recurring Option for Club Board Meeting

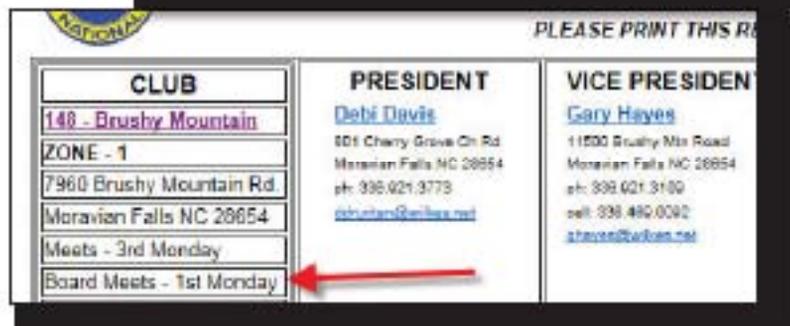
The Ruritan Member Management System (MMS) continues to provide upgrades and enhancements that allow Ruritans an increased flexibility in managing their club and personal data.

Of special interest to club secretaries is the latest enhancement: the date and day of the regular club board meetings can be set as a recurring event in the MMS.

Going to your club's home page you should see the club name underlined in the upper left corner. (NOTE: Underlined text on a web page is usually a hyperlink that will take you to additional information.)

If you click on the underlined club name it will take you to a "back page" of additional information about your club. You can find addresses for meeting place, EIN, charter year, club website* and so on. Also on that page are two pull-down menus to set the club meeting day and now the club board meeting day as well. If you make any changes to this page – please always click the "update" box found at the lower left of the page. Once the board meeting date is set, it will also show up on the district directory.

**If you enter your club website on this page it will automatically populate a list on the Ruritan.org website that is available to the public.*



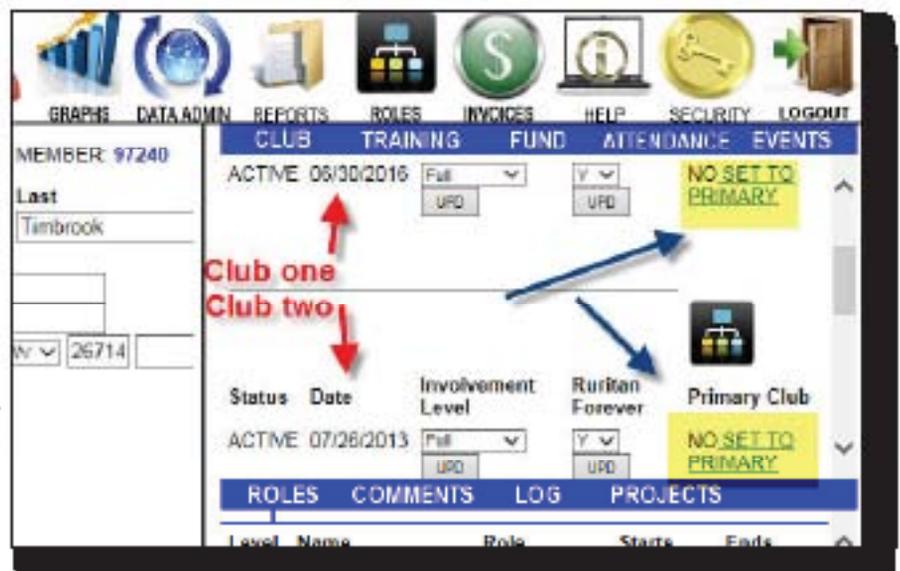
Members in Multiple Clubs Can Choose Primary Club

If you have a membership in more than one Ruritan club the MMS will allow you to designate which is your primary club. This can be done by any club or district officer.

That means if you register for a district or national convention the system will know from which club you would be considered a delegate. That is helpful for online voting as well as name badge printing.

Just ask a club officer to designate one of your clubs as primary - in the upper right corner of your member information page in the MMS.

Of course if you are an associate in one club and a full member in the other – remember that associate members can't serve as club delegates.



If you have any questions about using the Member Management System (MMS), please don't hesitate to reach out to Ruritan staff toll free at 877-767-8727 or email us at membership@ruritan.org or service@ruritan.org.

Ruritan National Board of Directors Bylaws Committee Declaration of Intent

The Bylaws Committee of the Ruritan National Board of Directors is working on a new set of National Bylaws that will prepare the organization for the future. Our Bylaws started with a Constitution and Bylaws that evolved into Bylaws that have served us well for over 90 years, but now is the time to prepare for the next 100 years. The primary focus is to have Bylaws that will allow the Board and the organization to adapt to ever changing needs of our members, clubs, communities and districts. In 2007, our Constitution and Bylaws combined when the State of Virginia required Non-Profits to have Bylaws only.

The purpose of this Bylaws rewrite is to bring our National Bylaws in line with what our clubs and members want to do and are currently doing to address ever changing needs in our communities. This will give us the opportunity to provide a more open platform for our members to be engaged in preparing for the future direction of Ruritan.

The revised Bylaws will keep our traditions in place, but embrace flexibility for the future. This is essential for Ruritan to do if it is going to continue providing services to our communities of the future. This approach will allow us to remove all of the administrative, operational items currently in our Bylaws and put them into the District and Club Bylaws where they belong, allowing the Board to react quickly to the needs of the members and clubs. The National Bylaws should focus on the purpose and legal requirements of the organization instead of policies which provide day to day guidance. Ruritan currently faces a lot of challenges in our communities, and our club's needs sometimes conflict with our current Bylaws. This change will eliminate the conflict and allow us to provide more flexibility and adaptability for our members and clubs in order to meet the ever changing requirements of our communities in which we serve.

The new Bylaws will allow us to run things as we currently do but allow the organization to restructure as necessary for the benefit of Ruritan.

The Bylaws Committee has been listening and absorbing the input from our members and now the Committee is taking action to respond to your needs. As we move down the road to the future, we need to be prepared for the next 100 years of Fellowship, Goodwill, and Community Service.

As always, the Ruritan National Bylaws Committee is here to serve you and your club and thank you for what you do in your community. Let's embrace our traditions while envisioning our future.

Yours in Ruritan Service,

*Dennis Bagnell
Carroll Lowe
George Brothers*

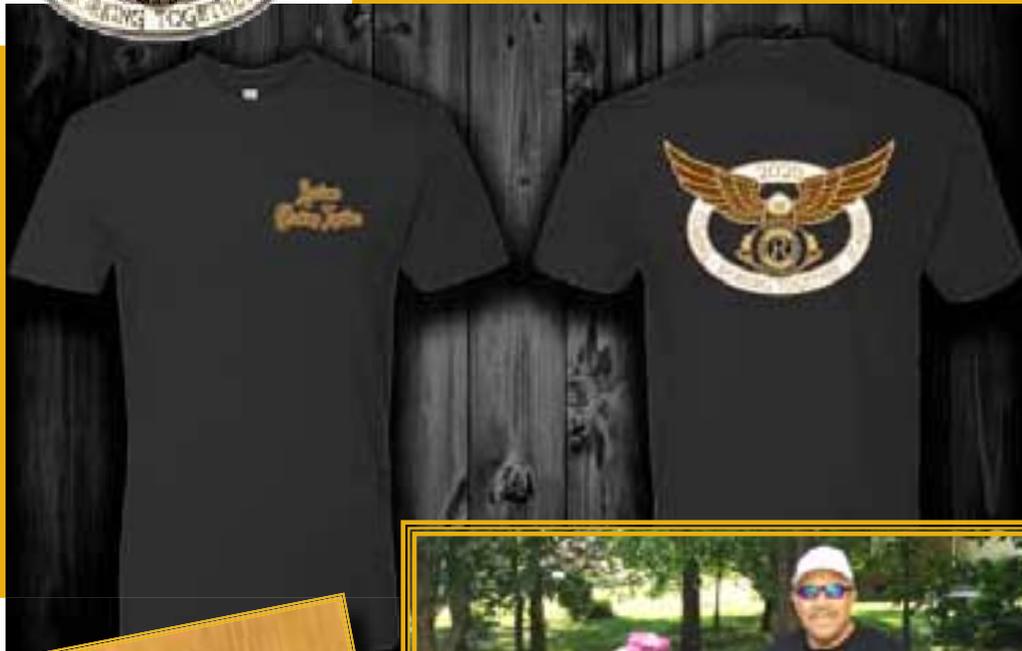


"We cannot seek achievement for ourselves and forget about progress and prosperity for our community... Our ambitions must be broad enough to include the aspirations and needs of others for their sakes and for our own."

Clare Christ



President Linward's Working Together Tee



*If you would like to purchase a Working Together Tee, email Crystal at media@ruritan.org She will let you know how to proceed with your order. Shirts are **\$18 each** plus shipping.*



National Director
Melody Davis



National Director
Donna Poulton

LOOK! **We also have EAGLE CHARMS!**



Email Craig Whitt at convention@ruritan.org to purchase your Eagle Charm. These charms are usually only offered at the National Convention but with this pandemic - we are offering them for the remainder of 2020. These charms are **\$8 each and that includes shipping charges.**

Ruritan National Supply Sale

15% off



#256 Harriton Men's Long-Sleeved Oxford with Stain-Release

~~\$35.70~~ **New price \$30.35**

Tackle the day with this easy-care, wrinkle-resistant button down featuring pearlized buttons, adjustable cuffs, and stain release material.



#262 Port Authority Ladies Value Fleece Jacket

~~\$40.00~~ **New price \$34.00**

This exceptionally soft, midweight fleece jacket will keep you warm during everyday excursions.

**Need help placing your order?
Call the Ruritan National Office
877-787-8727.
We will help you!**



#267 Port Authority Ladies' 3/4 Sleeve Easy Care Shirt

~~\$30.00~~ **New price \$25.50**

This comfortable wash and wear shirt is indispensable for the workday. Wrinkle resistance makes this shirt a cut above the rest.

www.shumskyideas.com/ruritan

Ruritan National Supply Sale

15% off



#268 & 269 Port & Company Value Denim Shirt

~~\$30.00~~

New price \$25.50

Traditional, relaxed look. Features an open collar, horn-tone buttons and rounded adjustable cuffs.

**Need help placing your order?
Call the Ruritan National Office
877-787-8727.
We will help you!**



#271 Blush Tunic

~~\$18.00~~

New price \$15.30

With a soft, elegant look, this tunic features rib knit elongated cuffs, longer tunic length, and a curved hem.



#272 Port & Company Core Fleece Sweatpants with Pockets

~~\$18.00~~

New price \$15.30

With an elastic waistband with drawcord, open bottom cuffs, and the comfort of fleece, you'll never want to wear anything else.

www.shumskyideas.com/ruritan

Ruritan National Supply Sale

15% off



#249 District Medal Full-Zip Hoodie

~~\$28.50~~ **New price \$24.23**

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~~ **New price \$32.09**

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~~ **New price \$15.09**

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~~ **New price \$32.09**

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~~ **New price \$32.09**

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 2020 Foundation President Brent Wheeler



Build Your Dollar Deadline Extended

In the early 1920s my grandparents packed their belongings and moved from their family farm back to Texas. It didn't make much sense to me why they would drop everything and head that far away. I never understood their moving nor the plague of 1918 but with the pandemic of 2020 it makes perfect sense. In a time of crisis, you want to be with those you care about the most.

While studying at Auburn I was introduced to the writings of Justice Thurgood Marshall. To this day I remember the following, "The measure of a country's greatness is in its ability to retain compassion in time of crisis."

Like my grandparent's moving this didn't truly resonate with me until now. Just as my grandparent's family showed compassion to them, this 'ability' has been exemplified as our Ruritan clubs have worked to help our Ruritan families and communities while practicing social distancing.

Your Foundation has also continued to work for you. We have extended the due date for your BY\$ until July 30th. We have also provided you with necessary forms on the Ruritan National website and the blast has covered in detail all you need to know about deadlines and filings. Rest assured the BY\$ program is in good standing and will be there for you now and in the future. Clubs may also roll over, for a second time this year only, their \$300.

Ruritan National Foundation

2020 Board of Trustees

- President:** Brent Wheeler
- Vice President:** O.H. Bobbitt III
- Secretary:** Graham Bryant
- Treasurer:** Phillip Bradshaw
- Promotion Chair:** Guy Cox



*Foundation Fellowship Weekend
Embassy Suites Huntsville
September 11-13, 2020*

Reservations: 1-800-362-2779
Group Code: RNF
Reservation Cutoff: August 14, 2020
at midnight or when the block is full

Registration cost is \$85/person. Request to be postmarked by September 1, 2020. Registration includes the Friday and Saturday night meals, as well as access to the hospitality room. Send the below form with payment to Ruritan National Foundation, PO Box 487, Dublin, VA 24084.

Watch for the Foundation Email Blasts for more details and updates due to COVID-19 impacts.

Name: _____

Member number: _____

Name Badge: _____

Spouse/Guest Name: _____

Member Number: _____

Guest Name Badge: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Payment Information

Check No. _____

Visa _____ Master Card _____

C. C. No. _____

C.C. Exp. Date _____ CVC* _____

*CVC – 3-digit code on the back of your card

Phone Number: _____

District: _____

Club: _____

Ruritan is Relevant!

Clubs Who Answered The Call During COVID-19

Coronavirus also known as COVID-19, a cousin of the SARS virus, has infected over a million people in the United States since the outbreak began in Wuhan, China, in December. Many state governors have issued a Stay at Home order. While obeying the laws of their state, Ruritans have stepped up their game to help others. Below are a few articles that show that when Ruritans Work Together - Ruritans Make a Difference!



Johnsonville - Cape Fear District delivered donuts to Spout Springs Emergency Services. Chief Alan Jarvis and his crew greeted Johnsonville Club President Rodger Nicely and fellow members CeCe DelPrado and Karen Cox.



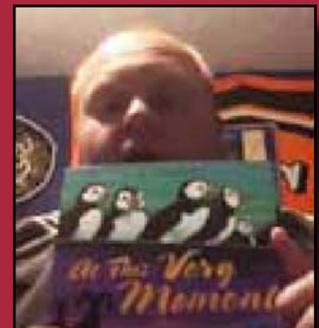
Germanton - Piedmont District donated desserts to Life Brite Hospital Staff.



Holy Neck – Holland District donated box lunches to Sentara Obici Hospital Staff.



Keezletown – Rockingham District fills its Free Library with non-perishable food items.



East Roane County - Smoky Mountain District member Zack McCallie took upon himself to Facebook Live and reads books to children.



Sandy Ridge - Piedmont District Club spreads a little Easter cheer. Thirty-two children and nine senior adults were left treats.



Ararat – Dan River District packed 120 bags of groceries for school students who might not otherwise have lunch/breakfast while schools are closed. Pictured are Club President Merlin Scales and Treasurer Kevin Smith.



Pleasant View Springhill - Woodrow Wilson District used some of this social distancing time to clean up its community.

Ruritan is Relevant!

"ALONE WE CAN DO SO LITTLE; TOGETHER WE CAN DO SO MUCH."
- Helen Keller

"DETERMINED PEOPLE WORKING TOGETHER CAN DO ANYTHING."



East Roane County - Smoky Mountain District gathered six loads of firewood for people in their community. Pictured cutting the wood is National Director Roy Wallen.



Lewistown - Potomac District member Patricia Goff made and donated face masks for local seniors and those with medical complications in the Thurmont, MD area.



North Shenandoah - Rockingham District member Sherry Newcombe is doing her part during the current medical crisis. She's making face masks for local first responders.



Cool Springs and V-Point - Piedmont District holds blood drive.



Ruritan Road - New River District purchased and delivered 30 dozen donuts to two local hospitals and two nursing homes.

I can do things you cannot; you can do things I cannot; Together we can do great things. - Mother Teresa

News From Ruritan: Holland District

Holland Clubs Recognized



Three Holland District Clubs were recognized by the Chesapeake Environmental Improvement Council for excellence in environmental projects. Pictured accepting the awards are Roger Fuller of **Grassfield**, Phyllis Lewter of **Great Bridge**, and Robert McCreary of **South Norfolk**.

Joe Fitzpatrick, long-time Environmental Committee Chair for the Great Bridge Ruritan Club, proudly displayed an award presented by the Chesapeake Environmental Improvement Council to the club. The club was nominated for the award for the adopt-a-spot gardens.



News From Ruritan: Chesapeake District

Abingdon Members Receive Perfect Attendance Pins



Abingdon Ruritan Club recently assisted with Peasley Middle School's Student Reality Store. The event gave students an opportunity to explore the financial challenges they may face as an adult and encouraged them to think seriously about the kind of education they may need. Pictured in the front (l-r) are Benjamin Steeneck, Bunny Ekdahl, Don Sciria, and Roger Dick. Pictured in the back (l-r) are Betsy Tuttle, Wade Bunn, and Josie Lankford.

Several club members were presented with Perfect Attendance Pins. Pictured (l-r) are Abingdon Club Vice President Dave Onesty presenting John Snyder with his 5-year pin and on the right is Graham Blake receiving his 55-year pin.

May Sanders Celebrates 100th Birthday



Warwick Ruritan Club presented a Lifetime Dedication Award to May Sanders. May celebrated her 100th birthday in February.



Members of the **Gloucester** Ruritan Club met early Saturday, March 28 to pick up trash for the club's Adopt-A-Highway project. Pictured (l-r) are Henry Thompson, chairman of the Environment Committee and project lead, Janet Leigh, Barbara Bauer, Paul Bauer, and Harry Thomas.

News From Ruritan: Rappahannock District

Sumerduck Holds Chili and Cookie Cookoff



Sumerduck Ruritan Club held a Chili and Cookie Cookoff. Kathy Kenderish was the winner for her chili and Lettie Glenz was the winner for her lemon cookies. The club joined with Mount Holly

Baptist Church and built a handicap ramp. Supplies were donated by a local company, Elkwood Stone and Mulch. Resident Kevin is very happy that he is now able to go outside.

News From Ruritan: Peaks of Otter District

Boonsboro Celebrates 70th Anniversary

Boonsboro Ruritan Club celebrated its 70th anniversary. National President Linward Hedgspeth, First Lady Anne, 2001 National President Millard Thacker, 2001 First Lady Marty Thacker, National Director Melody Davis, and Past National Director Robin Davenport were on-hand to join the celebration.



New London Welcomes Three New Members



New London Club Secretary pinned new members Bobby Evans, Bobby Dupree, and Larry Tyree.



Clifford Donates to Fire Departments

In February, **Clifford** Club donated to Amherst, Piney River, and Pedlar Fire Departments and Amherst Rescue.



Fulks Run Supports Community



Fulks Run Ruritan Club's Public Service Committee Chair Shirley Bland presented the club's annual contribution to the volunteer first responders in the community. Pictured are Phillip Williams, Bergton Rescue Squad; Andrew Dove, Bergton Fire Department; and Bo Baker, Bergton Rescue Squad.



The club honored the teachers and staff at the Fulks Run Elementary School with a dinner catered by a new local eatery. Club members worked hard in the early 1960s to have a school built and have had a special relationship with the school ever since.

Scholarships were given to six local students. Pictured (l-r) are Megan Conley, Kaley Kyger, Logan Custer, and Lindsey Conley. Tracey Dove Conley accepted the award for her daughter Chessi Conley, and Ellis King accepted the award for his daughter Gretchen King.

Mt. Crawford Celebrates 70th Anniversary

National President Linward Hedgspeth helped celebrate **Mt. Crawford** Ruritan Club's 70th anniversary. Pictured with Hedgspeth are longest service members, Gene Knicely, Club President Jason Landes, Marvin Diehl, Bob Miller, John Liskey, Larry Garber, and Donnie Lam.



Finding cures. Saving children.®



HAYDEN

Hayden is an adventurer. He loves golfing, fishing and riding his bike.

Donate today!
<http://events.stjude.org/ruritannational>

Belmont Community Supports Big Brothers/Big Sisters



Belmont Community Club made a donation to the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Organization. Club President Rick Keyton and

Public Service Chair Tom Pender presented the donation to Lyndsey Douglas, Director of the Harrisonburg/Rockingham Branch.



News From Ruritan: Rockingham District continued



Fort Valley Serves Breakfast

In March, the **Fort Valley** Club held a benefit breakfast for a needy resident at the Fort Valley Fire Hall. Over \$1800 was raised. Ernie Walters is shown supervising Terry Plauger, Tim Stephens, and Dagan Stephens at the grill. Club members replaced a fence for Culler's Cemetery and did a cemetery cleanup. Stacy and Shaun Klebold are pictured. Charles Lichliter and Sonny Tamkin are shown installing the gate.



Charles Lichliter and Sonny Tamkin are shown installing the gate.



No child should die in the dawn of life.

Danny Thomas, founder St. Jude

News From Ruritan: Potomac District

Lewistown Educated on Clara Barton



Betsy Estilow of the Middletown Lions Club recently spoke to the **Lewistown** Ruritan Club about Clara Barton and the critical role she played in identifying over 22,000 missing soldiers in the Civil War and answering over 40,000 letters to notify family members of the death of their loved one and where they died. This interesting talk raised many questions about Clara Barton who was more widely known in history as a nurse during the Civil War.

Also attending the meeting was Potomac District Public Relations Representative Bobbi Jo Anderson. Anderson provided ideas for Ruritan recruitment and advertising.

Lothian



Lothian Club donated to a local chapter of Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry. The club donates each year in April. The donation is made possible from profits made from the annual spaghetti dinner.

The Publications Committee has changed the Fall Cover Contest to:

Ruritan is Relevant! Clubs who answered the call during COVID-19.

If your club has helped your community during this pandemic -

Please send all items to Crystal at media@ruritan.org for YOUR chance to be on the Ruritan Fall Magazine Cover!

Deadline is August 1 for all submissions.

News From Ruritan: Potomac District continued

Ringgold Presents Scholarship



Ringgold Ruritan Club presented Abigail "Abby" Kittel with a \$500 scholarship. Abby has volunteered at events for the club for many years and excels in both her personal and academic life. Pictured are Ringgold Vice President Jerry Miller, Jim Kittel, Abby Kittel, Kelli Kittel, and Club President Chuck Vickery.



News From Ruritan: Albemarle District

Forestburg Celebrates 25th Anniversary



Forestburg Ruritan Club celebrated its 25th anniversary. Albemarle District Governor Mike Shephard presented the program. A short history of the club was given and charter members and past club presidents were recognized.



Faye Eure received a pin for 25 consecutive years. Perfect Attendance Pins were presented to (left to right) Yvonne Sawyer (24 years); Faye Eure (25 years); Tracy Umphlett (2 years); Hazel Eure (13 years); Keith Matheson (10 years); Dave Fennell (10 years); and Curtis Eure (23 years).

News From Ruritan: Roanoke District

Farm Life Presents Ruritan of the Year Award



Farm Life Ruritan Club held its annual Ladies Night. Billy Peel was presented with the 2019 Farm Life Ruritan

of the Year Award. Perfect Attendance Pins were presented to members with 45 years and over. Billy Peel and Jon Griffin (48 years); James Wiggins and Wendell Williams (47 years); and Kim Griffin (45 years).



Donate Rudy Bears

Your club could donate Rudy Bears to nursing homes and hospitals during these unprecedented times.

www.shumskyideas.com/ruritan



News From Ruritan: Rocky Mt. Durham District



Carpenter Ruritan Club helped fund a scoreboard for the Panther Creek High School Baseball Team. The field was chosen as the second best field in the conference since the installation of the new board.



Needmore Ruritan Club presented a donation to the local FFA Club and sponsors for assisting them with club projects



Efland Ruritan Club President Chip Gill presented the Efland Ruritan of the Year Award to Dana Zoy.



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News From Ruritan: Greenville Goldsboro District

Pink Hill Feeds the Hungry



Pink Hill Club volunteered in February at Mary's Kitchen in Kinston, NC. The mission of Mary's Kitchen is to serve a warm nutritious meal to the hungry who visit the kitchen, no questions asked on Monday through Sunday, and all holidays. Mary's Kitchen all-volunteer staff serves around 125 people daily. In the group picture (l-r) are Lesley Batchelor, Brandon Batchelor, Yvonne Deatherage, Natalie Smith,

Rod Smith, Sue Jones, and Connie Johnson.



Cedar Fork Delivers Christmas Bags to Veterans



Members of the **Cedar Fork** Ruritan Club delivered Christmas love bags to each veteran at the North Carolina Veterans Home in Kinston, NC. Pictured (l-r) are Cedar Fork Club Secretary Hilda



Southerland, Mickey Southerland, Club Treasurer Ken Brinson, Club President Charles Westmoreland, Cape Fear Lt. Governor Roger Peterson, Juanita Peterson, and Joyce Brinson. Westmoreland presented Nancy Elston with a Ruritan of the Year Award.



She took a lead in the club's 2019 project to construct a veterans memorial for the Cedar Fork area for all military branches of service and found a company to provide bricks for purchase in honor of military service members. To date, there have been 120 bricks installed. Elston is a very active member with the monthly barbeque fundraisers as well. She is always available and is always there helping get the job done.

The local USO in Jacksonville serves breakfast every Saturday morning. After breakfast, Westmoreland presented a check to USO Coordinator (center) Jeff Weller and Operations Director Bill Lowery.

Johnsonville Welcomes New Members



Johnsonville Club held a dinner for Spout Springs Emergency Services (SSES) and their families, and thanked them for all they do. President Rodger Nicely presented SSES Chief Alan Jarvis with Rudy Bears. Easter food baskets (containing a traditional Easter dinner including eggs, a ham, mashed potatoes, dessert and much more) were delivered to seven low-income families. The club paid \$100 toward a local resident's electric bill and donated \$100 to Cameron Baptist Church Disaster Relief Fund. The

money will go toward expenses for a resident whose home was damaged by two falling trees in a recent storm.

The club welcomed new members (from left) Brenda Trapani, Angelo Trapani, and Lori Owen.



News From Ruritan: Columbia District

Columbia District Works Together



Columbia District packed and distributed 70 Carolina Comfort Care Kits for the children who are being brought into the foster care system in South Carolina.



News From Ruritan: Bluegrass District



Harry Rice and Dale Bryan gave a presentation of the proper way to fold the American flag during the **Choateville** Ruritan Club's meeting. Ann Rice read the purpose of the stars and stripes with each fold.



Five-year cancer **survival rates*** thanks in part to work at St. Jude

in 1962 → Today

4%	ALL-PATIENT MORTALITY*	ESOPHAGEAL CANCER	94%
50%	HEALTHY LIFE EXPECTANCY*	BLADDER CANCER	95%
7%	PROSTATE CANCER	COLORECTAL CANCER	80%
75%	HEALTHY LIFE EXPECTANCY*	EYE CANCER	95%
10%	HEALTHY LIFE EXPECTANCY*	SOLID TUMOR	75%
50%	HEALTHY LIFE EXPECTANCY*	KIDNEY CANCER	90%
20%	HEALTHY LIFE EXPECTANCY*	BONE CANCER	70%
5%	HEALTHY LIFE EXPECTANCY*	BRONCHIAL CANCER	65%
10%	HEALTHY LIFE EXPECTANCY*	BRAIN TUMOR	85%



<http://events.stjude.org/ruritannational>



Help First Lady Anne reach her goal!



News From Ruritan: Tennessean District



President Elect Glen Broadwater took a break during the Tennessee Rally to play air hockey with **Volunteer** Ruritan Club member Elizabeth Greene.



National Office Staff Diane wears her "Working Together" tee while she relaxes on her Harley.

News From Ruritan: Ohio District

Northwestern Presents Scholarships

Northwestern Club presented scholarships to select graduating seniors from Northwestern High School. Nine students turned in applications to be considered for scholarships and normally would be interviewed by a committee. However, with the pandemic they were not able to do the interviews. With the recommendations of school personnel and the quality of applications it was determined to award each student with a \$700 academic gift. The checks will be mailed to the students at a later date. For 35 years, scholarships totaling \$155,080 have been presented to 420 students. The Northwestern School community is most generous in supporting the club's fundraising activities such as the annual pancake/sausage day and the Parade of Flags.



News From Ruritan: Western North Carolina District

Hopewell-Hollis Holds Successful Italian Supper Fundraiser



News From Ruritan: Dan River District

Patrick Springs Donates Supply Kits

Patrick Springs Ruritan Club presented Bobby Pendleton a plaque commemorating 50 years of service to the Patrick Springs Community. The club



donated supply kits to Patrick Springs Primary School. Each kit included boxes of tissues, bottles of hand sanitizers, and containers of disinfecting wipes.



If you would like to donate to St. Jude but do not use the internet - NO PROBLEM! Make your donation check payable to Ruritan National. On the memo line put St. Jude Donation. We will make sure your donation gets to our St. Jude Team!

Allendale Presents Rudy Bears



Allendale Ruritan Club donated Rudy Bears to the Wabash County Sheriff's Office and the Allendale Fire Department. Pictured are Allendale Club Secretary Jim Barger, Wabash County Sheriff Derek Morgan, Allendale Fire Chief Gerald Brooks, and Past National Director Grover Burkett.



Howard Tanner Receives a Ruritan Forever

Past National Director Beverly Tanner presented Past National Director Howard Tanner with a Ruritan Forever. Beverly Tanner also presented Michelle Asher with a Ruritan National gift certificate she won for recruiting members.



Ruritan Forever

A Perpetual Life Plan

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

Your Name: _____

Your Club Name: _____

Your Address: _____ Telephone: _____

This application is for: (check one)

- Myself Current Member Deceased Ruritan NEW Associate Member

Name of Applicant (If not you): _____

Applicant's Club: _____

Applicant's Address: _____

OPTION #1 Credit card number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

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

OPTION #3 Enclosed please find the 1st \$200 installment of the \$600 Ruritan Forever fee.

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

News From Ruritan: New River District

Belmont II Supports Vittles for Vets



Vittles for Vets was founded in 2014 as a 501(c)(3) that strives to provide a helping hand to veterans who have fallen on hard times. Qualifying veterans receive a \$50 food gift card on a weekly basis. In order to qualify, veterans must be at, or below, the federally-determined poverty line and fill out an application form. Veterans must be drug and alcohol free and have received an other than dishonorable discharge from the military. They ensure recipients get nutritious food. Junk food, alcohol, and tobacco are not permitted and if they purchase those foods, they are terminated from the program. The program started in Rhode Island and has moved to Virginia. The majority of the recipients are in the New River Valley and surrounding areas to Wytheville, Pearisburg, Roanoke, and the east coast. Pictured (l-r) are **Belmont II** Ruritan Club President Dean Gray presenting a check for \$300 to Bill McCann, Founder Vittles for Vets, and Betty Whiteman, Event Coordinator.

Newport Donates to School



Newport Ruritan Club contributed \$392.10 to the Eastern Elementary and Middle School (Giles County) recognizing the 39,210 miles walked by the “Walkers in Newport” in 2019. The local walker’s group is supported by the club and the “Walkers in Newport” have walked over 100,000 miles in the last three years. The Ruritans have donated one cent per mile (over \$1,000.00) to local educational programs in honor of the walking efforts over these last three years. Pictured is Newport Club President Doug Martin presenting a check to Eastern Elementary and Middle School Nurse Tammy Barnett and School Principal Jason Mills.



News From Ruritan: Davy Crockett District

Kevin Swatzell Speaks to Camp Creek



Camp Creek Ruritan Club’s guest speaker was Greene County Road Superintendent Kevin Swatzell. Kevin spoke of his family, faith, and growing up in Greene County. He also spoke of his duties, management structure, and being proactive to avoid problems in the future. He also spoke of the need for new equipment. Kevin has been in office a little over two years and our club members were very impressed with the work they have seen on the area roads. Swatzell said he was impressed with the club and how smoothly it functioned. Pictured are Camp Creek Club President Tim Smithson and Kevin Swatzell.



“Coming Together is the Beginning.”

“Staying Together is Progress.”

“Working Together is Success.”

News From Ruritan: Rapidan District

Partlow Donates to School Lunch Program



Partlow Ruritan Club donated \$4,500 to three Spotsylvania County, VA elementary schools to offset unpaid lunch balances with the cafeteria. Each school received a check for \$1,500. Club members Scott Sale and Jason Beasley



presented the checks to Berkeley, Livingston, and Riverview school officials. Each December the club sponsors a Christmas Dance to raise money for the donation. This

year, with financial support from Lifepoint Church and Michael's Towing, the club was able to increase the amount of funds donated and gave to an additional school.

Richard Gladstone Receives a Ruritan Forever

Cove Garden Club member Richard Gladstone was presented with a Ruritan Forever.



**See Page 27
for the
Ruritan
Forever
Order Form.**



News From Ruritan: Tall Corn District



Mark Uhlenhake Honored

Moravia Ruritan Club member Mark Uhlenhake was honored for his long-time membership and commitment to the club. He was a charter member and also the first Moravia Club President in 1976.



News From Ruritan: Opportunity Land District



Western Yell Club sponsored its annual scholarship fundraiser dinner on March 7th. Catfish, seafood, BBQ ribs, chicken, with all the trimmings were served to approximately 375 persons for a profit of \$3,950. This fundraiser has been held for 37 years presenting six scholarships each year.

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OF THE WOLF CREEK
RURITAN CLUB IN VA**



**WINNER SANDRA
TIMBROOK OF THE
SLANESVILLE & NORTH
RIVER CLUBS IN WV**



**WINNER DON MCNEMAR
OF THE LANDES
RURITAN CLUB IN WV**

**BRING IN NEW MEMBERS FOR CHANCES AT
RURITAN FOREVER (LIFETIME) MEMBERSHIPS**