

Executive Director Sarah Kelly

Hello! My name is Sarah, and I am proud to be a Ruritan! I hope you can hear my enthusiasm. You took me in when I moved to Virginia in 2003 and gave me a place to belong. I was born and raised in Minnesota and went to college in Nebraska where I was a trombone performance major– Go Huskers! When I realized that I probably didn't have a gig with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in my future, I added an emphasis in business and finance, and I fell in love with numbers. I have worked in the fields of banking, lending, investments, and insurance. All of which have given me the skills to manage the business of Ruritan. I am humbled and honored that your National Board chose me to serve as your next Executive Director. I am proud to be one of you.



The board recently approved a new Vision Statement for Ruritan - "To Create Thriving Communities Across America." To me, it connotes that we will also thrive. I see it in the club news that has been shared in this magazine. I see it in the clubs that are reaching out and partnering with other clubs and organizations to fulfill the needs of their communities. I see it in the clubs that are rejuvenating themselves by looking at new projects, holding different events, and sharing ideas across the aisle.

I would argue that everything we do should be done with our members in mind, because we can only accomplish "Creating Thriving Communities Across America" with them. We should always be looking for ways to improve a member's experience, expand our membership in existing clubs, and expand our footprint by opening new clubs. President Glen's goal for 2022 is for each district and area to open four new clubs. We should always be intentional in looking forward to, and be open to, new ways to accomplish this. And using the word "we," I mean all of us – every single Ruritan. Our success starts with you.

I am not only proud to be a Ruritan, I love Ruritan and see a bright future. My commitment is to serve you with honesty and integrity and to guide you with facts, reality, and reason. I am a servant leader – I am here to empower you and help you learn, grow, and be fulfilled. I have served Ruritan as a club leader, district leader, and National Director, and I am looking forward to working with you as your Executive Director. Thank you for all you do for our incredible organization.