

Executive Director Sarah Kelly



Greetings fellow Ruritans!

The year is halfway through. Are you meeting your goals for the year? It isn't too late to course correct. Pilots aim to land at the next airport when they take off at an airport. They have a set course. They must constantly correct their course during the flight due to airspeed or other weather conditions. If they don't, they will never arrive at their destination.

Our year of planning is the same. We start with a goal, but life tries to blow us off the course of meeting our goal. I recommend trying this exercise. Write on the top of your paper "Start...Stop...Continue," making three columns. In the "Start" column, write the new things that you think your club should start doing. For example, something that would help ensure your club and community's health, stability, and future. It could be an event, or it could be a behavior. Under the "Stop" column, write what you think is hurting the club. For example, the things that no longer benefit your club and community. Finally, in the "Continue" column, write about what works well for your club and community to continue doing.

This year, President Mike set a goal of growing by 3% and each district opening a club. I congratulate the 200 clubs that are making the growth goal happen. For many clubs, 3% is only 1 or 2 members. That is very attainable if you have an intentional plan and are working on that plan.

We currently have 26 clubs on the disbanded list. It is paramount that we start opening new clubs to replace these. Our Vision is to create thriving communities. The subliminal message is that we need to thrive ourselves. Please congratulate Dan River District on opening the Stuart Club. As I mentioned, our goal is to open one in each district. Once we start opening clubs, it will get easier. It will take practice, but once you get one, it will get easier.

I see a vibrant future for Ruritan. We are at a turning point in our organization where I see the start of an upward trend. We can never let up or get lazy. It will take all our oars in the water, pulling hard in the same direction to ensure our future.

