Executive Director Sarah Kelly



Adapting to Change: Building a Better Ruritan for Today's World

The world is changing—and so is Ruritan.

People are busier. Many work from home or spend more time online. Many feel lonely or disconnected from their neighbors. But here's the good news: people *still* want to belong. They want to

help others and be part of something bigger. That's where Ruritan comes in.

Our mission—fellowship, goodwill, and community service—is more important than ever. But to keep making a difference, we must be willing to grow and try new things. That means looking at how we serve, how we meet, and how we welcome new people into our clubs.

One way we're doing that is through "2+5 to Thrive in '25." This goal asks every district to start two new clubs and encourages every existing club to grow by five new members. It's not just about numbers—it's about reaching more people and building stronger communities.

New clubs might meet at different times. They might focus on helping teens, supporting seniors, or solving food insecurity. The key is this: clubs should fit the community's needs. That's what I love about Ruritan. At my church, we surveyed the neighborhood and discovered that many people want to feel connected again. That's a big opportunity for us!

We also need to ask ourselves: Are we still meeting the needs of today's families, workers, and young people? Let's listen more. Let's be open to change. Let's use tools like social media and community events to share what Ruritan is all about. Let's be relevant again!

Change can be scary, but it can also be exciting. When we adapt, we don't lose who we are—we become even better at living our mission.

Let's move forward with open hearts, ready to serve and grow. Together, we can create clubs and communities where everyone feels they belong.

