

# RURITAN

JULY 2019

NEWSLETTER



## Amazon Smile Supports the Foundation

Summer is usually a time when things slow down for a few months at our Ruritan clubs. Fundraisers are put on-hold. It's too hot to engage in outdoor activities. About the only sane thing to do is to find some water and cool your heels.

### Use Amazon Smile

While we lull away the summer months and prep for the new school year, there are still ways to benefit the Ruritan National Foundation. Many of us use the Amazon app on our phones or tablets to order things needed for the next school year like bookbags, notebooks, binders, computers, and so on. And, of course, there is all the other stuff we just can't stop buying.



The good news is that all of us shopaholics can use that "add to cart" button to help the Foundation! Get rid of the Amazon app and open a browser instead, then go to this address: [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com).

If you use Amazon Smile, Amazon will donate 0.5% of your sale to any 501(c)(3) of your choice, and the Ruritan National Foundation is on the list. This is an easy way to benefit the Foundation while doing something you would already be doing and without costing you a cent.

By simply adding "smile." in front of any Amazon URL, you can make your purchase support the Foundation. Even if you follow a link from another website to Amazon, inserting "smile" in the ULR will make the purchase eligible for a Smile donation.

## 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



Using Amazon smile doesn't change your Amazon experience, and there's no limit on the number of purchases that can count toward your nonprofit of choice. Just make your 501(c)(3) designation and make your normal purchases. It may seem like small change, but if many Ruritans do this, it will add up over time.

**Missed the BY\$ Claim Deadline?**

By now, the Build Your Dollars claim deadline has passed. If your club did NOT submit your

BY\$ candidate to the Foundation using a claim form by June 30, your club has several options. It can ask for refund of the \$300 deposit or roll it over to the next BY\$ cycle. Just let Amanda know and she'll take the appropriate action.

Enjoy your summer and on behalf of the RNF Trustees, we want to say thank you for all you do in the name of the Ruritan National Foundation.

***Have a great year!***

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## Message From National President Larry Cassell



### Only A Life Lived For Others Is A life Worthwhile

-Albert Einstein

During Founders' Day held in Holland, VA on May 13, 2019, I took note of the historical marker placed in Ruritan park. Reading the marker reinforced for me what Ruritan is all about "... ***Ruritan is an organization of rural leaders striving through community service, fellowship, and goodwill to make the rural community a better place to live.***" The part that stands out for me is ***community service***. Yes, that is what we truly are about - making life worthwhile by helping others.

Each year clubs are asked to complete the community service reports for five categories of service: Business & Professions, Citizenship & Patriotism, Environment, Public Service, and Social Development. All clubs are encouraged to complete these reports more as a historical documentation of community service provided to a community through Ruritan. In addition, the awards provided to recognize achievements can be motivational to club members.

There is no doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed volunteers can make a difference. We do it every day. Look through the [Ruritan Magazine](#) and you will see lots of evidence of Ruritans stepping up to make life better for others.

At the recent Ruritan National Leadership Conference, participants took part in a wonderful community service project that focused on our First Lady's platform – adoption awareness. Working closely with Shannon Shepherd of DePaul Community Resources, an adoption advocacy organization, a wonderful example of what can be done at the local level of Ruritan was modeled. Due to the generosity of many Ruritans, over \$8,000 was collected to purchase items to fill bags for children taken into foster care. Also, bags for the "Sunshine Camp Together Again", a camp experience for children who have been adopted but separated from their siblings, were filled.



Following is a note received at Ruritan National from Shannon:

***I distributed the foster care bags equally to agencies throughout Virginia. On Thursday, two siblings from the Cedar Bluff Area were taken into foster care. The two children were so excited to get their bags! They loved the bubbles and instantly became happy. Remember, these kids were not allowed to bring anything from their home. This bag with a blanket, bubbles, coloring book, crayons, Rudy Bear, etc. was the highlight of their day.***

As Crystal from Ruritan National noted to us, this is what RURITAN is about. We made two children smile. If you stop for five minutes and really think about these children and their situation you, too, will be glad that we did this project and that it was a great success!

Do not ever question the value of volunteers. Noah's Ark was built by volunteers. The Titanic was built by professionals. Ruritans have built communities that are everlasting. We bring smiles to many.



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 Lyons  
with Mrs. Karen Lyons

*(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

Dinner at Kingsport Restaurants

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

*RESERVATIONS: Check your Summer RURITAN MAGAZINE or the Ruritan  
National Website for reservation information.*

LET'S MAKE A DIFFERENCE  
IN KINGSPORT, TN!





# TAILGATE PARTY IN KINGSPORT!

JANUARY 10, 2020



**YOU'RE  
INVITED**

**PICTURE YOURSELF  
IN RURITAN SQUARE**

*(See the reverse side for more details)*

**RSVP BY DECEMBER 1st -877-787-8727**

# Picture Yourself in Ruritan Square

On Friday evening in Kingsport, Ruritan Square will be the place to be! In one large area, Ruritans will come together for **ONE GIANT TAILGATING PARTY** that will feature a variety of favorite snack foods sponsored by clubs and districts. Possible snack tables could be a hot dog table, a cookie table, a brownie table, a candy table, a chips table, a nacho table, a cake table, a fruit and veggie table, or a soda or water table. Each snack table will feature a variety of one type of snack, such as candy. This table could have Ohio Buckeyes, Kentucky Bourbon Balls, fudge, and a variety of other candies. Each table will be decorated with the sponsoring club or district's favorite college or professional football team. For example, the Ruritan Road Club will sponsor the popcorn table and it will be decorated using Executive Director Mike Chrisley's team, the Pittsburgh Steelers. Special events will be going on in Ruritan Square such as games, competitions, and a parade of decorated scooters. There will be plenty of seating to enjoy the food and fellowship. You will not want to miss Ruritan Square on Friday night! To sign up to sponsor a table, call Craig at the Ruritan National Office (540-674-5431 or toll free at 877-787-8727). There is no fee for sponsoring a table, just the cost of the food. **NOTE: Meadowview Hotel does not offer rooms that are suitable for hospitality suites. Ruritan Square will serve as our hospitality area.**



## Make Your Hotel Reservations NOW!

**Meadowview Marriott  
Conference Resort  
and Convention Center  
1901 Meadowview Parkway  
Kingsport, TN. 37760**

**For reservations by phone call  
(423) 578-6600  
(group name is:  
Ruritan National Conference)  
or you may use the link below**

**<https://tinyurl.com/kingsport2020>**

**Room rates are \$124 per night.  
Reservation cutoff date is  
December 19, 2019.**





## Spring into the season with Ruritan branded apparel!



### Men's Port Authority Oxford Shirt - \$37.75

Designed to resist and release stains, our SuperPro Oxford has a soft hand and a wrinkle-free finish to keep you looking neat and professional all day long. 4.6-ounce, 60/40 cotton/poly.



### Men's Port Authority Easy Care Shirts - \$41.30

Lightweight and breathable, this cotton-rich shirts keep it's professional edge, thanks to it's stain-release finish, which releases stains during washing. This durable virtually carefree shirt feature an Easy Care blend and finish.



### Men's Port Authority Long Sleeve Shirts - \$28.02

With a beautiful two-color weave and wrinkle resistance, this poplin shirt has a pleasing texture and truly impresses in the office. 3-ounce, 60/40 cotton/poly.



### Ladies' Port Authority Easy Care Short Sleeve - \$31.56

This comfortable wash-and-wear shirt is indispensable for the workday. Wrinkle resistance makes this shirt a cut above the competition. 55/45 cotton/poly.



### Men's Port Authority Silk Touch Pocket Polo - \$28.02

This popular Silk Touch polo is enhanced with a left chest pocket. 65/35 poly/cotton

#### Questions?

Call Customer Service at 1-800-414-8946  
or email [Programs@shumsky.com](mailto:Programs@shumsky.com)