



Ruritan

Volume 84, Fall 2019

*Will You
Make a Difference
This Fall?*

Helping

*A clergyman walking down a country lane sees a young farmer
struggling to load hay back onto a cart after it had fallen.*

*"You look hot, my son," said the cleric. "Why don't you rest a moment,
and I'll give you a hand."*

"No thanks," said the young man. "My father wouldn't like it."

*"Don't be silly," the minister said. "Everyone is entitled to a break.
Come and have a drink of water."*

*Again the young man protested that his father would be upset. Losing his
patience, the clergyman said,*

*"Your father must be a real slave driver. Tell me where I can find him
and I'll give him a piece of my mind!"*

"Well," replied the young farmer, "he's under the load of hay."



As First Lady Nelda and I have been traveling visiting the varied communities being supported by Ruritans, I sense at times some frustration similar to what the young farmer faced trying to get his father from under the hay. The task in serving one's community involves labor and energy. This becomes more stressful when membership numbers dwindle and those hanging on are getting to the age that such toil pays a toll on one's energy. However, seldom if ever have I heard "it is no longer something I want to do." Ruritans are special volunteers who are instilled with the love of fellow man and the need to serve.

What has been evident is that neighboring Ruritan Clubs are joining together to support each other. Let's call it "Clubs Helping Clubs." Several years ago when I was serving as secretary of the Potomac Ruritan District, Governor John Lovell, Jr. presented to the District Cabinet such a program. If a club was struggling with conducting fundraisers (generally attributed to loss of and/or aging of members) or their facility needed some upgrades to better serve the community, a neighboring club could apply for a financial grant to step up and aid the struggling club. Such a program has proven successful and led to more clubs reaching out to assist their fellow Ruritans.

Keeping visible and relevant within one's community is a key to remaining an effective club. Sometimes, one may need some support as a club strives to regain, retain, or recruit members. Hopefully with support from fellow Ruritans, service can be maintained and revitalized over the next few years.

Just within my home district of Potomac, there have been numerous examples of clubs supporting each other. Labor intensive butchering by several clubs are able to continue because of support from each other. A community strawberry festival has been revived and expanded due to several clubs joining forces. As a result, all clubs involved benefit. In the Rappahannock Ruritan District, a club that has been involved in parking cars at festivals and special events realized that more people were needed to serve all the requests (currently requiring up to 100 people to meet all requests). Today, clubs within two zones provide support reaping the financial rewards that come their way from such community service.



2019 National President Larry Cassell continued



Sometimes there may not be other Ruritan Clubs nearby to provide needed support. There is no reason not to connect with other non-profit organizations within their community, joining forces to conduct fundraisers and community service. Why go it alone if there is viable support available from organizations such as Lions Club, Kiwanis Club, Boy and Girl Scout Troops, or local athletic booster organizations. We are all about serving one's community.

As with the young farmer, do not go it alone if there is assistance available. We may feel like we are 'under the hay.' Just reach out to others so that Ruritan remains within your community. Hampshire County Fair is operated by a number

of the Ruritan Clubs within Hampshire County, WV (Zone 1- Upper West Virginia District). North River Ruritan Club youth member Catelynn Flanagan is pictured.



EXPRESSWAY TO BUILDING RURITAN

THE JUNE MEMBERSHIP REPORT WAS THE FIRST MONTH IN 2019 THAT NOTED A POSITIVE TREND IN RETAINING, REGAINING, AND RECRUITING MEMBERS - POSITIVE GROWTH OF 31 MEMBERS. THIS CONFIRMS THAT GROWTH IS POSSIBLE. REVIEWING THE REPORT, SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS NOTED:

- **UPPER WEST VIRGINIA DISTRICT HAD 8 CLUBS SHOWING GROWTH; HOLLAND DISTRICT HAD 7 CLUBS WITH GROWTH**
- **17 DISTRICTS NOTED GROWTH**
- **ZONE 2 IN ALBEMARLE DISTRICT GAINED 10 MEMBERS**
- **TOP CLUBS IN GROWTH: PEKIN (TALL CORN) +17; PARKSVILLE TOWNSHIP (ALBEMARLE) +7; ROARING RIVER (PIEDMONT) +6; SOUTH WARREN (RAPPAHANOCK) +4 – NOW ABOVE CHARTER STRENGTH; BALL PLAY COMMUNITY (CHEROKEE) +4; COLLETTESVILLE (WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA) +4**
- **EAST UNION (HERMITAGE), BELMONT (NEW RIVER) AND BARBOURSVILLE (RAPIDAN) NOW AT CHARTER STRENGTH**

LET'S KEEP UP THIS POSITIVE TREND



Ruritan

Volume 84, Fall 2019

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In This Issue:

President's Message.....	2-3
Executive Director's Message.....	5
Adoption Awareness.....	6
Tailgate Party.....	7-8
Convention Registration.....	9-10
Kingsport Schedule.....	11
Candidates.....	12-14
Leadership Conference Recap.....	15
Sunshine Camp Together Again.....	16
Foundation.....	17
MMS.....	18
Club and District News.....	19-55

**Has YOUR club or district signed up
for the TAILGATE PARTY
in Kingsport?
Call Craig to sign up!
877-787-8727**

Message From Executive Director Michael Chrisley



Summer Service Shows You Care

Summer is a great time for service. We just completed our summer leadership conference. As a part of the past two conferences we have tried to integrate a service project into the program. This year we supported First lady Nelda's Adoption Awareness program. The program took a twist when we met with Shannon Shepherd of DePaul Adoption Agency. She spoke about the fact that before most kids are adopted they are first taken into foster care. Most times they are taken from a home (or school) with just the clothes they have on their backs.

We decided to put together a bag of personal products including a blanket and a Rudy Bear. We were able to put together 250 bags because of your generosity. But that's not all.

Shannon also mentioned that for the first time she was trying to put together a camp for siblings. Many times siblings are adopted but not to the same family. It's hard to imagine what it is like to grow up knowing that your brother or sister is not in the same household. The camp was a weekend that brought the families together and gave brothers and sisters who don't live together a weekend to be together and bond. We also put together bags for these camp participants. In addition to that, we were able to take some of the donated money and buy supplies for the camp to use in craft projects and for a special birthday party for all the participants. If you don't live together, you don't celebrate your birthday with your sibling.

The camp was held a few short weeks after the leadership conference. President Larry and First Lady Nelda attended along with a small number of staff. The camp was a joy to observe even though many of us were fighting the lumps in our throats on a number of occasions. The kids absolutely loved the Rudy Bears. Brothers and sisters were reunited in a camp atmosphere. The birthday party was a huge hit. These kids are so precious and grateful. Many thanked us over and over again for everything that we did for the camp.

It was a time that melted our hearts and made us feel great about what you had done. Looking back, that experience is not out of the ordinary. It is what we do. It is what you do in local communities all over the country. We know that the rubber hits the road at the local level and we would never want to take away from that service that you provide. However, it was so gratifying to see Ruritaners from all over the organization to reach out to a larger community and provide such a meaningful experience for so many kids.

Your care and love for people is humbling. We appreciate what you do in your communities everyday in the name of Ruritan. From the collection and assembly of the bags at the leadership conference, to seeing the kids run across the field to their adoptive or foster parent with the Rudy Bear they just got out of their bag, it was heartwarming. It is a testament to who we are as an organization. Thank you so much for making a difference in the lives of so many.



First Lady Nelda's Adoption Awareness Program

First Lady Nelda continues to be deeply touched by the responses to her adoption awareness project and reminds us that November is Adoption Awareness Month. In this article you will read about Ruritan families (McMannes and Hepwerth) who shared their adoption experiences with First Lady Nelda.



James (Jamie) and Sue McMannes are members of the Great Bridge Ruritan Club in Chesapeake, Virginia. They are pleased to share their adoption story. "After three unsuccessful attempts to become pregnant through in vitro fertilization and one miscarriage, we decided adoption was our next option to start a family. We chose an agency that was close to home and had offices in seven states in the mid-Atlantic area. We began the three-month process of paperwork, fingerprinting, adoption classes, more paperwork, completing our home study, and creating a profile that the birth mothers would choose from. Then the waiting process began. In February 2008, we got a call from the agency



saying there was an interest in our profile but sadly that fell through. This was a devastating disappointment on Mother's Day weekend of 2008. A week later, the agency called and said that we had been selected by a birth mother in Williamsburg, Virginia, only 45 minutes from our home. We agreed to meet and set up a meeting. Our social worker set up the meeting at a restaurant close to where the birth parents lived. Our social worker suggested we bring pictures of our family and maybe a small gift for the birth parents. We knew some of her background, so we put together a basket of toiletries and comfort items for her. We had a nervous lunch sharing pictures, picking at our lunch, sharing family stories, and getting to know each other. We were surprised to find out that the birth parents were close of our age (late 30s). We left with a good feeling that the birth parents were sure of their decision to select us. They did! We were so excited!

Now we waited for the baby to be born. The birth mother had not had any prenatal appointments so the agency set up an appointment for her to be evaluated. Several days later, the agency called Jamie. To his surprise, our social worker told him that the birth mother was in labor and we should get ready to go to the hospital. Jamie called Sue at school (she is a teacher) and asked if she was having labor pains. She said, 'What are you talking about?' Jamie told Sue that the birth mother was in labor. Sue said she would call him back. She had students in the classroom and was going to walk them to lunch and talk to her principal. Both headed home nervously excited. We got home, packed an overnight bag for us, grabbed the diaper bag (which had been packed for a few months) and prepared to leave for Williamsburg. The agency called back and said to wait. The hospital was going to run some further tests. Yes, she said WAIT! The most nervous moment and she says WAIT!

At 4:00 p.m., the agency called again and said to go to the hospital. They were going to do a c-section. We drove to Williamsburg taking the baby carrier, stroller, car seat, diaper bag, and overnight bags. This time it took us an hour and a half (it was Memorial Day weekend) to get to Williamsburg. On the drive we listed names and talked nervously about what we were going to do when we got to the hospital. We arrived and went directly to the maternity ward. We looked in and saw a woman standing there (the birth grandmother). She said, 'what you're looking for is right here.' The birth grandmother came out and gave us her hospital bracelet and told us to go in. We walked in and there he was, a beautiful baby boy. The rest is history. Joshua just turned 11 and we are amazed everyday with the gift we have been given. In 2013, he became a member of the Great Bridge Ruritan Club with us."

Beth Hepwerth of the Cape Fear District has fostered over 50 children, ages four months to seventeen years, over the course of thirteen years. She is also the adoptive mom of five children. She writes, "Growing up, my great aunt was a foster mother. I had many foster cousins to play with. I also had a very close family friend that fostered and adopted. It was very natural for me to jump right into becoming a foster parent. I took my fostering classes, completed all my paperwork . . . tons of paperwork, and completed background checks and home inspections. I took in my first foster children, a sibling group of three, in May of 2006. In 2009, I adopted that sibling group of three. I continued to foster and adopted two more children.

Fostering is not easy - not the hello's, not the goodbye's, and nothing in between. Yet it is so fulfilling to watch the children grow and move on. There is nothing like it. I am currently fostering three preteens. Being a foster mom is my ministry and I will continue as long as I am called.

We have been blessed to have the support of my family and friends along the way. My mother is my main support system. She is 'Nanny' to all the children and is an amazing woman. I have much support from my church family as well. Ruritans Roger and Juanita Peterson have been prominent in my children's lives by welcoming them with hugs and jokes and little gifts. They took my girls to a Ruritan camp in Virginia. The girls had the time of their lives, made new friends, and continue to talk about that trip."



TAILGATE PARTY IN KINGSPORT!

JANUARY 10, 2020



**YOU'RE
INVITED**

**Has YOUR club or district
signed up? Call Craig to
reserve a free spot!**

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.**



Ruritan National Convention – Kingsport, TN January 9-12, 2020

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 mailed to the Ruritan attendee for his/her party. There are five 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

At this time I expect to be a voting delegate.

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

At this time I expect to be a voting delegate.

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

WWI

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 KINGSFORT

While there is not a late fee for registrations to the National Convention this year, there is a deadline with the Kingsport Convention Center caterer for meal count guarantees. With that in mind, anyone waiting to register on-site in Kingsport (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 \$160. Send in your registration before the Dec 10, 2019, cut-off date to be guaranteed meals.

Please note: Voting will be Friday only starting at 1 p.m. Delegate certification will close at noon on Friday. Please check if you wish to be a delegate on this registration form. If you are in more than one club, please indicate the club for which you are going to be a delegate. You must pick one of the packages, 1-4, in order to vote. Even if you register for Saturday only package you must vote on Friday. Staff will send remote voting instructions prior to convention.

*** Please make sure to put your guest's name down so that we may have a name badge made.*

2020 Ruritan National Convention – Kingsport: Jan. 9-12

Have it YOUR way! Choose one of FIVE package options for the 2020 Ruritan Convention. Choose one of these five registration packages. **Packages 1-4** 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 \$160

	Quantity	Cost	Total
Three meal package includes base fee, Friday DRM-Fellowship Lunch, Saturday First Lady's Breakfast, and Saturday Banquet	Package 1 BEST DEAL	\$290	
Two meal package includes base fee, Friday DRM-Fellowship Lunch, and Saturday Banquet – <i>will be certified but must vote Friday</i>	Package 2	\$250	
Saturday Only Package includes base fee and Saturday Banquet	Package 3	\$215	
No Meals - base registration only	Package 4	\$160	
Saturday Installation Banquet and Entertainment ONLY <i>**Please note that this package gives you access to the banquet and entertainment only.</i>	Package 5	\$80	

Extra Meal Tickets and Items

Must purchase any package above to purchase additional meal tickets.

	Quantity	Cost	Total
DRM-Fellowship Lunch on Friday	DRM-Fellowship	\$40	
Breakfast Honoring First Lady Nelda on Saturday	First Lady	\$45	
Installation Banquet on Saturday Evening	Banquet	\$80	
Rudy Bears - to be added to gift to Kingsport charities	Rudy Bears	\$8.50	
National Convention Memories CD of candid photos.	CD	\$16	
	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

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, 2019



**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

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!**

Candidates for National Office

National President Elect



Glen Broadwater
10336 Nickelsville Hwy
Nickelsville VA 24271
Phone: (276) 479-2648
Email: hg20@hotmail.com

CLUB: Member Nickelsville Ruritan Club since 2005; served as Director (2014), Vice President (2010, 2014, 2019); President (2008-2009, 2011).

DISTRICT: Southwest Virginia Zone 1 Governor (2017-2018); Southwest Virginia District Lt. Governor (2013-2014); Southwest Virginia District Governor (2015).

NATIONAL: National Director (2016-2019); Outstanding Ruritan National Director 2018; Ruritan Forever; Tom Downing recipient; President's Gold Key recipient; National Convention Flag Ceremony and Sergeant-at-Arms.

EDUCATION: Twin Springs High School, Nickelsville VA; UVA at Wise (formerly Clinch Valley College), major in Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, minor in Psychology.

OCCUPATION: Currently farm about 400 acres; Royal Oil Company, Regional Sales Manager; Primerica Financial Services, Vice President; Clinchfield Coal Company, Maintenance Foreman.

OTHER: SW Virginia Community Foundation Co-Chairman; Scott County VA Planning Commission; Abingdon Feeder Cattle Association, DOC Board Director; Scottish Rite 32nd Degree, Blue Lodge Master Mason – Fidelity 173; married to Linda (41 yrs.).

Biographies are printed as submitted by candidates.

National President Elect



Robin D. Davenport
6273 Blackwater Road
Virginia Beach VA 23457
Phone: (757) 374-7961
Email: rdduke@cox.net

CLUB: Member Creeds Ruritan Club (VA) since 1980; Club Vice President (2002-03); Club President (2004-05); also served as Club Secretary and Club Treasurer; all standing committee chairs and scholarship committee member.

DISTRICT: Zone 4 Lt. Governor (1989); Zone Governor (1990); Lt. District Governor (1991); District Governor (1992); District Foundation Chair; Association of Virginia Ruritans Secretary (1993); AVR Vice President (2015-2017); AVR President (2017-2019).

NATIONAL: Ruritan National Director (2018-2020); Non-Board Member Publications Committee (2016-2018); Non-Board Member Constitution and Bylaws Committee; Non-Board Member Nominating Committee (2017); Welcome Committee Chair 2019; Leadership Committee (2018-2019); Flag Ceremony (1993); Sergeant-at-Arms (1992); Ruritan National Foundation Trustee (1995-1998); Foundation President (1999); Attended 25+ National Conventions as a Delegate.

EDUCATION: Kellam High School; Virginia Wesleyan University, Elementary Education (K-7) (1974); Old Dominion University, Master of Education with endorsement in School Administration (1978)

OCCUPATION: Forty-two years in Education (20 years as 3rd & 4th Grade Teacher, Woodstock Elementary; 22 years as School Administrator, Bettie F. Williams and Creeds Elementary; Retired 2015; manage Her-Bess Farms Permanent Scholarship and Davenport Family Endowed Scholarship at Virginia Wesleyan University.

OTHER: Member, Cava Christian Church; Past Board Member, International Alliance for Invitational Education (5 years); Sentara Princess Anne Family and Patient Advisory Board; Board Member of Pungo Strawberry Festival; 1992 Spokesman for Virginia Farm Bureau; Virginia Farm Bureau Agriculture in the Classroom Teaching Award; 1993 Recipient of Burger King's Teacher Award; 1993 Mary McLeod Bethune Award; 1993 B.J.'s Teaching Award; Woodstock Elementary Teacher of the Year 1985, 1993; 1984 Woodstock's PTA Distinguished Service Award; 1978 Parents and Teachers Association Lifetime Membership Award; Owner, Her Bess Farms.

Candidates for National Office

National Director



Melody D. Davis
1241 Phillips Trail
Virgilina VA 24598
Phone: (434) 222-4026
Email: dmelydy@hotmail.com

National Director



Rebecca Lane
5221 Trevino Drive
McGaheysville VA 22840
Phone: (540) 746-2326
Email: bucateqimax@gmail.com

CLUB: Member Aaron's Creek Ruritan Club since 2008; served as Treasurer 2008-present; Ruritan of the Year 2016.

DISTRICT: Dan River District Zone Governor 2016-2017; Youth coordinator 2017-2018; Lt. District Governor 2018; District Governor 2019; Association of VA Ruritans (AVR) Director 2017-present.

NATIONAL: Youth Leadership Conference Chaperone 2016-present; Summer Leadership Conference attendee 2016-present; National Convention attendee 2015-2016; Delegate 2017-present; Sergeant-at-Arms 2017-present; Tom Downing Fellow 2017; Flag Ceremony 2019.

EDUCATION: Longwood college, BA – Computer Science

OCCUPATION: J.E. Burton Construction Co., Inc. – Book-keeper 2007-present

OTHER: Member of Aaron's Creek Baptist Church since 1996; Choir member, Sunday School teacher, VBS Director, Ola-Frances WOM Leader, Christmas Play Director, softball player & coach; Dan River Baptist Association Missions & Evangelism Committee 2012-2018, Chairperson 2017-2018; Virgilina Fire Department Auxiliary-Event Volunteer 2013-present; Mission trips 1999-2009 – Henderson Settlement & Red Bird, KY, Franklin, VA, Zimbabwe Africa, New York, NY, Jacksonville, FL, Interlaken, Switzerland, Standing Rock Indian Reservation, ND.

CLUB: Member of McGaheysville (VA) club since 2014; served as Director, Business and Professions Committee Chair, Trustee, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President, President; Advisor, Elkton Middle School Ruri-Teen Club; Awarded Distinguished Ruritan Member; Club Ruritan of the Year 2017; Outstanding & Meritorious Service 2018; Outstanding Club Secretary.

DISTRICT: Zone Lt. Governor 2017, 2019; Zone Governor 2018; District Lt. Governor 2018, District Governor 2019.

NATIONAL: Sergeant-at-Arms 2018; attended two National Conventions; attended Summer Leadership Conference twice.

EDUCATION: Katherine Gibbs Secretarial School; Blue Ridge Community College, Veterinary Technology Associate of Applied Science.

OCCUPATION: Secretary, Ashcraft & Gerel; Secretary/Paralegal/Office Manager, A. Thomas Lane, Jr. PC; Customer Service Associate, Patchwork Plus; Awarded Community Service Award by The Shenandoah Valley Hit 2019.

OTHER: Member of Mountain View Fellowship Church of the Brethren, Outreach Team Chair, Trustee, produce monthly newsletter, organize bi-weekly ladies lunch, member of Worship Team, Hospitality Team and Leadership Team, assist coordinator of Children's Ministry and Nursery volunteer; Board Member, The Mosby Foundation, newsletter editor, secretary; Volunteer, Brethren Disaster Auction; hobbies include quilting; mother to three wonderful dogs.

Biographies are printed as submitted by candidates.

Candidates for National Office

National Director



Marty Sewell
2845 Doyleville Road
Richmond KY 40475
Phone: (859) 582-4639
Email: mlsewell1@icloud.com

CLUB: Member of Union City (KY) club since 1988; served as Club President 2005-2006, 2014-2015; Club Vice President 2013.
DISTRICT: Served as District Governor in 2015 and 2016; District Lt. Governor 2014; District Growth and Development Coordinator in 2003, 2004 and 2005; Zone Governor 2013, 2017-present.
NATIONAL: National Director 2017-present; Publications Committee Chair 2019.
EDUCATION: Madison Central High School, Richmond KY.
OCCUPATION: Self-employed.
OTHER: Member of the Union City Volunteer Fire Department; Member of the Madison County Relay for Life Committee; Co-President Madison Central Project Graduation; member of the Union City Baptist Church.

Biographies are printed as submitted by candidates.

Join us in Kingsport!



Calendar of Events On Website

Ruritan National is maintaining a calendar of Ruritan events and committee meetings as well as information on office closings and staff availability. This calendar, developed through Google Calendars, can be found under the "Events Calendar" link at <http://ruritan.org>. Clicking on many items provides additional detail and directions.

Districts are invited to submit items to include on the calendar by emailing office@ruritan.org.



Ruritan National Pledge Approved by Board

"We are Ruritans. We are dedicated to improving communities and building a better America. By showing goodwill toward others, we are improving the attitudes of many. Through fellowship, we are gaining friendships that last a lifetime. Through community service, sharing and caring for those around us, we are striving to reach our common goals together. May God Bless the Ruritans!"

Coming Together, Staying Together, and Working Together at the Summer Leadership Conference



\$8,932 Raised for Foster Kids and Camp Together Again



"When Ruritan's work together, great things happen!" said President Elect Linward Hedgspeth. Over \$8,900 was raised for First Lady Nelda's Adoption Awareness project. Attendees filled 250 bags to be given to foster children and supplied 50 bags to a camp for foster/adopted children. Over 500 Rudy Bears were donated for this cause. Sunshine Camp Together Again Founder Shannon Shepherd delivered a heart-felt message on how she was in and out of foster care during her childhood. Shannon was presented with an additional check for \$1,400 to help with the cost of camp supplies. "I'm overwhelmed of how successful this project has been. I appreciate Ruritan's generosity!" said Shannon.

Pictured below is an action shot of attendees waiting their



SUNSHINE CAMP

“TOGETHER AGAIN”



Sunshine Camp Together Again is a camp designed for siblings who are separated from one another. For one weekend, brothers and sisters come together for a fun-filled weekend.

Rudy Bears were given to each attendee along with blankets, bubbles, toiletries, scrapbooks, crayons, and coloring books. All items were provided by monies raised during the Summer Leadership Conference.

First Lady Nelda is shown giving her expertise to a camper while she makes a pillowcase for her sibling. One picture shows a pillowcase made for an older brother. Families enjoyed a HUGE birthday party decorated by First Lady Nelda, National President Larry, Executive Director Mike Chrisley, and Ruritan Road Club member Crystal Andrews.

The highlight of every evening was a campfire where everyone enjoyed S'mores.



Message From 2019 Foundation President Corky Camin



Let's Finish the Year Strong

The hot summer is over. The Ruritan National Clubs and Ruritan National Foundation have awarded their scholarships for the year. We have sent the checks out to the 448 BY\$ clubs and the 52 endowed scholarships for 2019. It is that time of year to make sure your club has secured their BY\$ scholarships for 2020. October 1st is the post-mark deadline to have your \$300 deposit submitted to RNF.

There are some things you and your club can do to help the Ruritan National Foundation grow. Have you or your club started an education fund? When is the last time a contribution was made? Is it active and growing? Doing one or all those things helps the Ruritan National Foundation grow the corpus. Please do what you or your club can.

One of the ways that the Ruritan National Foundation communicates with our clubs is through the monthly RNF Blast. These are emailed monthly to the club contact for communication to the club. Please have your club review the monthly Blast. There is a lot of good information that we want to get in the club's hand without having to use a stamp and snail mail. This helps to reduce our administrative expenses that benefits everyone.

Here is the last update on the cruise. We have 58 people signed for our cruise from Baltimore to Bermuda. We'll have a full day at sea each way and a couple shopping days in Bermuda. The Grandeur of the Seas is not the largest of Royal Caribbean ships holding 2000 passengers, but still large enough that you don't feel crowded.

On behalf of the RNF Trustees, we want to say "Thank You" for all you do in the name of the Ruritan National Foundation. Let's finish the year strong!!!

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



Make plans to join us for the live auction in Kingsport on Friday, January 10.



Available Sizes:

Single Sided 18" 30"

Double Sided 30"

To purchase a new **RURITAN Road Sign**

Call: 800-414-8946.

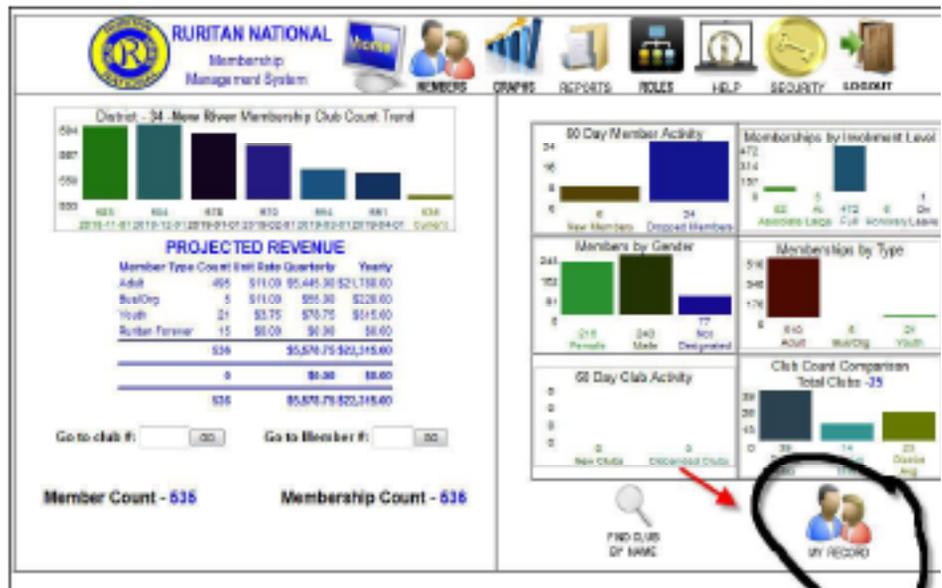
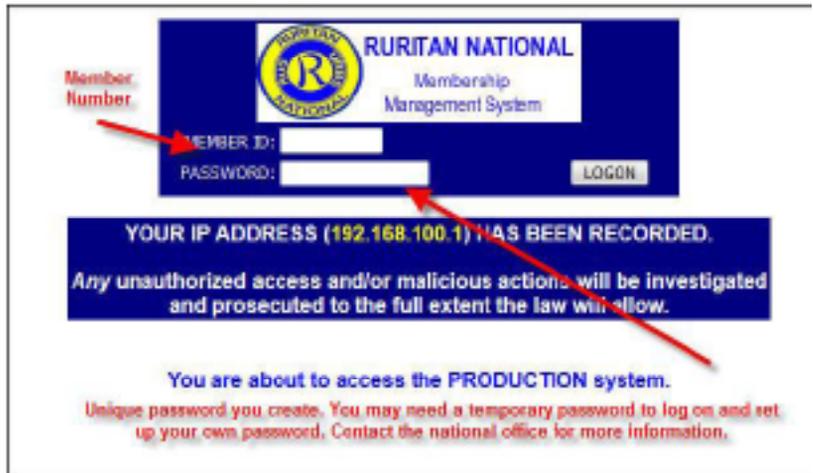
Updating your Member Information in the MMS

All Ruritans are welcome to log on the Member Management System (MMS) and update their own personal data. If you haven't logged on before – call the national office and staff can help you get set up. Once you have your password set up – here are some tips about using the system.

When you first log on – this is the screen you will see. Your "Member ID" will always be your member number. The password is created by you and known only to you. If you need a temporary password to create your own secure password – give the staff a call.

The first screen you will see after logging in is a message screen. Periodically staff or Ruritan leaders will post a timely message there for users.

The next screen you see will depend upon what offices you have held in Ruritan. If you have been a national officer you will land first on the national home page. If you have been a district officer you will land on the district home page (see below). If you have been a club officer you see the club home page. If you have never held an office in Ruritan you will see your own information page. No matter where you land, you can always get directly to your personal data by clicking on "my record" icon. As a user of the MMS and a member of Ruritan, you always have the ability to change your personal data: change your phone number, address, email etc. Remember to always click "update" when you finish. Again – if you have any difficulties – contact the staff for assistance toll free at 877-787-8727.



WANTED Program Updated

At the January 2019 meeting the Ruritan National Board also altered the WANTED program slightly. Instead of the "Me Minus Five" program granting extra drawing chances for members five years younger than the recruiter - the program will now grant five extra chances for any member brought into the organization who is between the ages of 35 and 55, establishing a target market for Ruritan recruiting. The new WANTED coupons (available on the Ruritan.org website) now ask for only the new member's year of birth.

Hickory Honors Members With Over 50 Years

Hickory Ruritan Club has been serving the community for over 70 years and in May they recognized that long relationship with a very special meeting recognizing members past and present. The meeting was called to order by President Mary Castello. Carl Witten led the club in the patriotic song and invocation. Southland Restaurant from Moyock, NC served a delicious buffet dinner.

Immediately following dinner, President Mary introduced the speaker for the evening, George Lutz, who presented very inspirational and moving comments regarding "Honor and Remember." He is the founder and executive director of the organization. The Honor and Remember organization is dedicated to the perpetual recognition of fallen military fallen and their families. Their mission can be summarized in four objectives: establish, educate, present, and comfort. The primary vehicle for continuous tribute is a symbol with which every patriotic American can visibly acknowledge the high price of freedom every day: the Honor and Remember Flag.

President Mary then introduced 1995 Ruritan National President Frank Guthrie who served as MC and Frank introduced the widows in attendance, as well as other guests and Ruritan dignitaries. Two very special guests included Bill Corvello (spouse Cheryl) who is a former Superintendent of the Virginia State Police, and Dalton Edge (spouse Beverly), who is a former Mayor of the City of Chesapeake. Ruritan dignitaries included 2012 National President Phyllis Lewter and husband Past Holland Governor Bill, National Director Robin Davenport, Past National Director Chuck Myers and wife Mary, Past National Director Clay Byrum, and his spouse Martha, who is the Holland District Secretary and District Newsletter Editor.

Frank then honored honorary member Richard Brink for his 25 years in the club. Because of health reasons Richard is no longer able to attend club meetings on a regular basis. Frank also honored four club members who have over 50 years of service and they are as follows: Carl Jensen – 52 years, Frank Austin – 54 years, G. B. Pendleton – 59 years, and Pete Harrell – 63 years (pictured). Each were presented with a 50+ years badge, provided by Ruritan National, and individual framed resolutions.

After presentations to the honored members, Frank called on Past National Director Chuck Myers and National Treasurer David Thompson who presented brief appropriate comments for this special occasion.

Since this was the last meeting for President Mary and her family, on behalf of the club, Frank made appropriate remarks concerning how much Mary and her family has meant to the club. She was presented with a Rudy Bear for the upcoming birth of her child, a beautifully crafted wooden jewelry box, which was made by Marvin Powers, and a resolution thanking her and her family for their service. Newly installed President Anthony Draper will complete the remainder of Mary's term.



Past National President Frank Guthrie recognized Hickory member Pete Harrell for his 63 years of continuous service to Ruritan.



Frank Austin, with 54 years in Ruritan, is pictured with his son Franklin Austin (right) and Past National President Frank Guthrie (left).



Frank Williams, who has 52 years of service in the club was unable to attend because of health reasons. Current 2019 President Anthony Draper and Frank Guthrie (pictured with Frank Williams) visited him at home and presented him with his honors. Also visiting but not pictured were Charlie Bond, Carl Jensen, and Richard Brink.



Two recipients of honors for their 50 plus years in Ruritan were (l-r) Carl Jensen and G. B. Pendleton are shown here with Past National President Frank Guthrie.

Prince George Groundbreaking



On August 17, 2019, the **Prince George** Ruritan Club broke ground for a building and pavilion on land generous donated by club member Bobby Forehand and his wife Linda. This event has been anticipated for several years as the club conducted fundraisers such as steak and seafood fests, stews, and Christmas tree sales to make the dream of a building a reality.

Past National Director Chuck Myers served as the master of ceremonies. Participating in the groundbreaking ceremony were Past Ruritan National Presidents Frank Guthrie and Phyllis Lewter, current National Treasurer David Thompson, officials from Prince George County, and Prince George Ruritan members. Also in attendance were Past National Directors KD Hicks and Wally Hudson. 1995 Ruritan

National President Frank Guthrie presented a proclamation to the Prince George Ruritan Club and 2012 National President Phyllis Lewter recognized Kenneth Figg for sixty-seven years of membership. Prince George President Josh White accepted the awards on behalf of the club. A groundbreaking with gold shovels and a cake-cutting event followed the ceremony. The club is known for its generosity as seen through numerous scholarship, support for their local fire and rescue departments, Hunters for the Hungry, and assistance for those in need in their community. Now their legacy of service will expand as they have a building and pavilion to hold club and community events. The Prince George Ruritans have proven dreams do come true.

Carrollton Holds Fish Fry

Carrollton Ruritan Club holds a twice annual fish fry. The event in May broke all previous records for sales with 700 meals prepared. Many baked goods in a corresponding bake sale were sold as well.

Pictured is the club's "Hush Puppy Guy" John Gees. John was most recently president of the now disbanded Rescue and Battery Park Club. He has helped Carrollton on many occasions and plans to transfer his membership soon. Also pictured breeding the fish (l-r) are Dale Jones, Billy Hampton, Curtis Peterson, Kenny Thomas. "Chief" Sharon Schmincke (a club director and the fish fry project chair) is pictured with some of the serving crew (l-r) Club Director Keith Compton, Stan Kadlec, Amanda McCarty, Vice President Marcie Spoonhoward, and William Lilley. Serving meals for eat-in and take-out customers are Pastor William McCarty, Amanda McCarty, Keith Compton and a guest helper.

The club was also able to award five scholarships to graduating seniors at Smithfield High School (SHS) and at Isle of Wight Academy for a total amount of \$4200. The total includes substantial contributions from members and a partner-church, as well as the \$600 received from National Foundation's Build Your Dollars program. Carrollton also has a special fund in the Foundation. The scholarships were presented during Honors Night at SHS to Katelyn Bryant, Colonel J. Higgins, Capri Manfred, Brianna Marshall, and Natalie Summerlin.



Possum Hollow Sells Pork Butt



Possum Hollow Ruritan Club has been fundraising with a Pork Butt Sale. Possum Hollow Club member Donna Lorance and Club Secretary Ann Lovell are pictured selling tickets and manning the bake sale table. Club Vice President Todd Shaubauch was the club's chief cook for the pork



butts and Club Director Beverly Vaughan was the head "butt wrapper."

Club members had a unique way to spread their name in the community, Possum Hollow Nuts, featuring the peanuts for which the community is famous.

Holland District Restores Bland Marker



Earlier this spring a family member of the late Dr. J. M. Bland, the first president of Ruritan National in 1930, reached out to the organization, concerned over the condition of the marker erected in Dr. Bland's memory. The marker is located in the Beechwood Cemetery in Boykins, Southampton County. Ruritan National placed the marker in 1971 but after nearly 50 years, the sign was in disrepair. The officers of the **Holland District**, spearheaded by District Secretary Martha Byrum, made the appropriate contacts and worked to get the marker restored. The cost of the restoration, \$1,200, was

split between the district and the Bland family. Today it appears in much clearer condition. The Bland family spokesman Allan Lassiter noted, "Please let the Ruritan family how much we appreciate them on this project! Our mother, Catherine Bland Lassiter, Dr. Bland's only child, is wheelchair-bound and in a nursing home. However, we rented a wheelchair van to get her to her church, Boykins Methodist Church, then to the new sign and then to a family lunch at my sister's home, all on Mother's Day. What a day of family celebration." The pictures show the faded marker and the newly restored marker.

Driver Supports MDA

Driver Ruritan Club hosted members of the Suffolk Fire/Rescue Department at its monthly dinner meeting. Driver Club President Bill Wulfkuhle presented Suffolk Fire Investigator Pam King with a \$500 check as the club's support for the Muscular Dystrophy Association fund drive. Pam and the fireman recently made a MDA presentation to the Driver Club highlighting everything that MDA does including a summer camp in Surry, Virginia.



Holland District Governor Jim Sampson and Holland District Scholarship Chair Jim Henderson presented Ruritan Hunter Ward with a college scholarship. Hunter who has been a Ruritan along with father, Jeff Ward and grandpa, Les Ward. Hunter has been accepted to attend Marion Military Academy in Alabama and the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London Connecticut. Hunter is an Eagle Scout in Troop 16 in Driver Virginia, was a delegate to Boys State in Richmond Virginia, and swam on the varsity swim team at Nansemond River High School in Suffolk, Virginia. He plans to make the Coast Guard a career after college.

Windsor Installs Three New Members

Windsor Ruritan Club welcomed three new members. Pictured (l-r) are new member Jacob Edwards, Windsor Club President Jamie Mackenzie, new member Daniel Hotte, and new member Jackson Demello.



Carrsville Enjoys Founders' Day



Carrsville Ruritan members, Bruce Rideout and Gordon Drewry, lined up for the parade representing the Sons of the Confederate Veterans Urquhart - Gillette Camp #1471 6th Platoon Mechanized Cavalry. The 2019 Founders' Day Parade was chaired by Holland Club Secretary Ronald Daughtrey. Enjoying the parade from



comfortable lawn chairs were these members of the **Bethlehem** Ruritan Club. The 2019 Holland Ruritan Club Queen Heather Pearson was featured in the parade.



On a recent visit to the Holland District, National President Larry Cassell met Eddie Vinsek of the **Grassfield** Ruritan Club. Eddie (pictured on the right in the plaid shirt) is a charter member of the club with 63 years of membership. He is also a WW II Veteran.



Smithfield Holds 4th of July Celebration

Smithfield Ruritan Club celebrated July 4th with 300 members of the community. Hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, and Ringo's donuts were enjoyed by ticket purchasers. On stage was Smithfield Ruritan Jeffery Scott and Herb. The club also had face painting for children and a balloon artist.



Cameron Parham Receives Scholarship

Waverly Ruritan Club's annual Family Night, Public Service Committee Chair Warren Clements presented Kay Nicholson of the Friends of the Waverly Library with a donation. The club expressed their sincere appreciation for all that the Friends of the Library do for the local library



in Waverly. At the same event, Scholarship Committee Chair Kenny Bell presented Cameron Parham as this year's recipient of the club's \$1500 scholarship. The club wished Cameron best wishes in his future educational endeavors.



Gloucester Presents Scholarship



Gloucester Ruritan Club recognized Victoria Klaus as recipient of the club's Student Scholarship Award. Gloucester Club President Jackie Beyea presented a mug to Bryan Russ for his presentation on MEDLI2, NASA Langley Research Center's contribution to NASA's next mission to Mars. Mars 2020 is scheduled to blast off from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in July 2020 and will land on Mars in February 2021. Zone 4 Governor Don Sandridge presented Gloucester Past President Tom Swankler with a Blue Ribbon Award, a 2018 Outstanding Club President's Pen, and a \$150 Ruritan Supply gift certificate.



Veteran Dan Johnson Retires Flag

Montpelier Ruritans held its annual flag retirement ceremony and meeting. Dinner was prepared by the Ladies of Shiloh UMC. Guests were Boy Scout Troop 706, sponsored by St. Peters UMC Church, Montpelier. The Boy Scouts conducted a flag retirement ceremony on the club grounds and retired

multiple flags. Club member and veteran Dan Johnson (pictured) was asked by the troop to participate by retiring a flag.

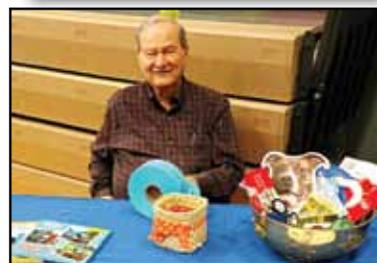
The club held its annual fish fry. Special guests included General Assembly Representative Buddy Fowler, Board of Supervisors Bucky Stanley, and the members of the Hanover/Montpelier EMS/Fire Department. Over 60 people were in attendance. Dinner included fried fish, hush puppies, slaw, beans, Hanover tomatoes, and dessert. Montpelier Club member Dick Jones is also pictured with his fresh catch as it becomes dinner.



Warwick Supports National Train Day

Warwick Ruritan Club had five members volunteer for Lee Hall Train Depot Foundation in support of National Train Day. Established in 1881, historic Lee Hall Depot is the last remaining station from the C&O Railroad's expansion into Warwick County, Virginia. The City of Newport News is restoring the depot to preserve an entity important to the city's development. The

website for the train station notes, "The Lee Hall Train Station Foundation is a support group assisting with this effort." The event was held at the Newport News Denbigh Community Center. Pictured working the ticket booth is Robert Spiers. Pictured with the train is Marion Vaughan.



Doswell Honors Veterans

Doswell Ruritan Club held an evening event on July 16th to recognize veterans. A local men's chorus, Hanover Harmony, provided music. Certificates and patriotic pins denoting the veterans branch of military service were presented to each. Pictured is the Hanover Harmony Choir.



Westmoreland County and York Present Scholarships



Westmoreland County Ruritans presented the following students each a \$900 scholarship: Tylexia Reynolds, Malcolm Sadler, Anne Carter Harding, and Anna Boswell (not pictured). Vice President Dave Hall who is also a member of the scholarship committee is also pictured. The students and their parents enjoyed a delicious lasagna dinner with salad, bread and desert provided by club member Betty Spina and others. Each student thanked the club and shared their college information and field of study.

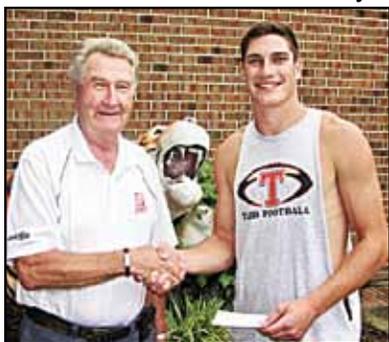
At the Chesapeake District Convention held last fall, Cleve

Wright allowed the Westmoreland Ruritans to begin their raffle sales for the Relay for Life quilt. This quilt was donated by a friend of Club President Peggy Mothershead. Raffle sales ended this past June at the Relay for Life event held in Montross, VA. Past National Director Mike Morrison was the lucky winner. Vice President Dave Hall and

Zone Governor Connie Allen presented Mike with the quilt at the June meeting.



York Ruritan Club club presented a \$1,000 scholarship to a local student. Picture is member, Richard Russell, presented the scholarship to Tabb High School senior Zach Coldsnow, who will be attending Old Dominion University this fall. He will major in Engineering and play baseball for the Monarchs.



Abingdon Receives Blue Ribbon Award

Abingdon Ruritan Club Past President Tony Dziadul was presented with the Blue Ribbon Award and the Outstanding Club President Award. Tony is shown on the left with Chesapeake District Zone 4 Governor Don Sandridge.

News From Ruritan: Rappahannock District



Members of the **Roaring Round Hill Ruri-Teens**, along with Rudy, escorted 2019 Ruritan National President Larry Cassell and the First Lady Nelda in the 92nd Annual Apple Blossom Festival. The group enjoyed the opportunity to participate in the Fireman Parade and was honored to meet the National President. The Cassells took part in several events over the three-day festival.

Gainesboro Operates Snack Bar



The **Gainesboro** Ruritan Club makes a substantial amount of money each year by operating a snack bar on the property of the national match grounds of the North-South Skirmish Association (N-SSA). The N-SSA sponsors competitive shooting matches, called skirmishes, using actual antique or exact reproductions of Civil War firearms. There are eleven separate categories of guns from pistols to rifled cannons. There are also air rifle matches for junior shooters. There are two national skirmishes each year during when the club feeds up-

wards of five thousand competitors and guests. In addition to the national skirmishes there are fifteen regional skirmishes each year having as many a thousand competitors and guests. The proceeds from the snack bar allow the club to provide college scholarships, support local volunteer fire companies, and pay for school lunches for underprivileged kids. The club also has a backpack program that provides food for some of these children to take home. The club also supports dozens of other, mostly local, charitable causes. Pictured is Rob Sutphin, manning one of the four large gas grills during the National Match at the snack bar. Kinsey Dolly is in the background. In the second picture Charmayne and Hylton Clark are in charge of the deep fryers.



Rappahannock District Clubs Hold Picnic



Five clubs in the Rappahannock District gathered for a combined picnic this summer. Included in this third annual combined picnic were members from **Lucketts, Lovettsville-Waterford, Hamilton, Point of Rocks, and Sterling** Ruritan Clubs.

Pictured (l-r) are Sterling Club members Bob Griffin, Secretary Melissa Griffin, Bill Hummer, Vice President Ginger Griffin, Cindy Walk, Esther (guest), Tom Hummer, Club President Mel Gamertsfelder, and Peggy Hummer.

Lucketts Celebrates 40th Anniversary

May 14, 2019, marked the 40th anniversary for the **Lucketts** Ruritan Club. Celebrating in the Lucketts Community Center auditorium, members and guests enjoyed a dinner prepared by the Furnace Mountain Ladies Auxillary. A presentation by Michael Myers and Joe Coleman of the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy described plans for the new JK Black Oak Wildlife Sanctuary in Lucketts. Three of the original 16 charter members were on-hand to cut the cake and recap how the club started. Charter members present were Richard Snooks, John Adams, and Stan Sorrell, Jr.

Clarke County Ruritan Club presented five scholarships to 2019 area high school students. Pictured (l-r) are Bristen Broy, Nicholas Cather, Cameron Sowers from Clarke County High School with Clarke County Club Vice President Betsy Pritchard. Not pictured is scholarship recipients Maggie McFillen and David Mileson.

Sumerduck Ruritan Club participated in the Ruritan National Golf Tournament this spring, Pictured is the four-member team that participated.



News From Ruritan: Appomattox District

Ella O'Donnell Receives Outstanding Student Award



For over 20 years the **Midlothian** Club has been recognizing outstanding students by giving one student from each graduating 5th grade class, at four Midlothian area elementary schools the Ralph Shell Outstanding Student Award. Each student is chosen by their teachers based on these guidelines: student has the respect of his/her teacher and fellow students, student exhibits leadership abilities, exceeds academically and/or participates in school or sports activities. Pictured is a graduating 5th grader at JB Watkins Elementary School Ella O'Donnell.

Cartersville Presents Three Scholarships

Cartersville Ruritan Club presented three \$1,000 scholarships in June. Justin Bales, a returning sophomore to Bridgewater



College was given his scholarship by Scholarship Chair and Club Secretary Bruce Robinson. Ryan Johnston, a 2019 graduate of Goochland County High School, was also given his award by Bruce

Robinson as was Amanah Lane, a 2019 graduate of Monacan High School.



News From Ruritan: Peaks of Otter District

Forest Hill Presents Scholarships

Forest Hill Ruritan Club has been making generous donations this spring. Club President Max Nolder (left) club shakes hands with Gordy Harper from Parkview Missions, where the club donated \$1,000. Two local students were each honored with \$1,000 scholarships this spring. Lillian Summy and Hayley Worsham are each pictured with club representatives.



Rudy Garbee Receives 50-Year Pin

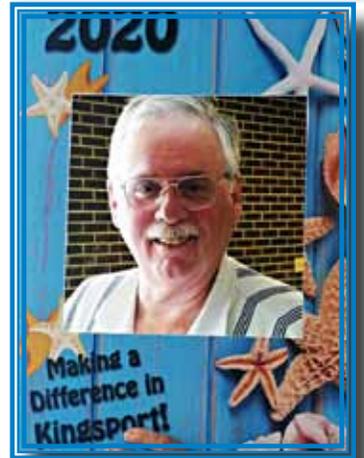
Rudy Garbee receives his 50-year Perfect Attendance pin and certificate at the **Lyn-Dan Heights** Ruritan Club meeting. Pictured are (l-r) Grattan Garbee, Rudy Garbee, Club President Donald Floyd, and Vice President Bob Melton.



Moneta Presents Citizens of the Year Awards

Moneta Ruritan club honored this year's six scholarship recipients. A total of \$6,700 went to graduating seniors at Staunton River High School. College scholarships were awarded for technical and liberal arts programs that included agriculture, trades, medical and general education. These high achieving students and their parents joined the club for dinner and celebration. That night the club also honored the two recipients of 2019 Citizens of the Year, Woody and Bonnie Gregory (pictured). This couple has served the Smith Mountain Lake community for many years, volunteering countless hours of their time to church and community groups, including Ruritan. They have made final preparations to relocate and are very fitting recipients of this prestigious annual award.

In July, the club held its usual monthly dinner meeting at the Howard Meador Community Center in the local volunteer fire department building. But the meeting was anything but usual! The club used this meeting for their annual family night with spouses, children, and some very dear special guests. The night was also the club's official recognition of their founding in 1954 and a celebration of 65 years of service to the community. Members were joined by Peaks of Otter Zone Governor Wanda Sprouse as guest speaker. She delivered a fun-filled trip down memory lane. Moneta has now joined the ranks of a limited group of clubs achieving this milestone. The official 65th anniversary banner was proudly on display for all to see. Club President Mike Casey noted, "Our members agree that we're just hitting our stride! We look forward to the next 65 years of service for our great Smith Mountain Lake community!"



Glade Hill Ruritan Club celebrated its 7th anniversary this spring. Pictured are President-Elect Linward Hedgspeth with Club President Ann Altice. 2002 National President Millard Thacker spoke to the group. The group picture shows many of those who attended the event. The club gave two \$500 scholarships to local students. Pictured are club member Gary Solomon with recipient Caitlin Whitlow and club member Donna Hayes with recipient Chloe Newbill.

News From Ruritan: Natural Bridge District



Natural Bridge District Governor Diane Swink presented the Blue Ribbon Award to **Bonsack/Blue Ridge Area Club** President Linda Smelser for 2018.



News From Ruritan: Woodrow Wilson District

Woodrow Wilson Clubs Celebrate 80th Anniversary



Seventy members, spouses, guests, and district officers from the Woodrow Wilson District gathered in May to celebrate the 80th anniversaries of both the **New Hope** and **Mt. Sidney** Ruritan Clubs. Pictured is President Larry addressing those



gathered for the celebration. During the evening, Charlie Bill Fretwell received a badge for 50 years of service to the New Hope club. Also honored were former New Hope member Marvin Garber, who was presented a certificate for 73 years of service, and New Hope member John Lee Western, who was given a certificate for 72 years of service. Also pictured (l-r) are National President Larry, Charlie Bill Fretwell, and New Hope Club President Larry Swisher.

Spottswood-Raphine Ruritan Club celebrated its 80th anniversary as well. The club was chartered in 1939 with 28 members. Those present at the celebration included members and their spouses. Club officers include: President Stanley Benson, Vice President Edith Harlow, Secretary Becky Shaw, Treasurer John Arehart, and Directors: E.R Brooks one-year, Lenny Phillips two-year, and Carlton Truxell three-year. Spouses in attendance were Karleen Arehart, Jackie Coffey, Linda Lou Phillips, Becky Truxell, and Weldon Shaw. Special guests included, Woodrow Wilson District Zone II Governor Jerry Jarvis and his wife; National Director Dennis Bagnell and his wife Denise; Woodrow Wilson District Growth & Development Coordinator Reggie Wine and his wife Elaine; and Woodrow Wilson Ruritan District Governor Linda Krause. The celebration commenced with Stanley Benson sharing information on the history of the club and Dennis Bagnell presenting the club with a certificate recognizing 80 years of community service. The meal was prepared and served by the Women of Old Providence Presbyterian Church. A cake with the Ruritan emblem was prepared by Valerie Vaughan. Flowers for the tables were provided by Valerie Vaughan and Martha Brooks. Dennis Thorne, singer from Lexington, entertained the group. A copy of the original 1939 Ruritan Charter was given to each person in attendance. Annual club community activities include a community calendar project, horse show, chicken barbecues, awarding scholarships to upcoming high school graduates who will be attending college or vocational programs, making donations to local fire departments, Hunters for the Hungry, Pregnancy Help Center, leasing the ball fields and concession stand to the South Augusta Ball Association, and also renting



the Community Center for special events such as wedding receptions and birthday parties. The gym at the community center is often used by groups who want to play basketball, corn hole and other sports. Each year the Ruritan club sponsors a Christmas dinner to recognize community volunteers who help the club with the annual projects.

Sangerville-Towers Presents Scholarships



Sangerville-Towers Ruritan Club presented four \$1,000 scholarships to seniors. Ashley Caricofe received the Carson Fifer Memorial Fund and will be attending Blue Ridge Community College. She hopes to become a veterinary technician. Kaci Pitsenbarger received the Doyle Rigney Memorial Fund and she will be attending Bridgewater College in the fall, studying to be a history teacher. Jonathan Warner received the Herman Wing Memorial Fund and will attend Virginia Tech this fall majoring in computer science. Not pictured is Mycala Kiracofe who received the Doyle Rigney Memorial Fund.

News From Ruritan: **Rockingham District**

Hamburg Installs New Members



Two new members, Rick and Sharon Kessler, were installed into the **Hamburg** Ruritan Club. Pictured with the Kesslers are Club President Joe Bowman (right) and Vice President Twyman Greene (left). Club member Martha Dodson was presented a crown as "Onion Queen" by President Joe Bowman. Martha has been the club's top onion seller for many years. This year she sold 89 bags. The environmental committee cleaned the Ruritan Shelter at Edinburg Park. The shelter was powerwashed, fallen sticks and pinecones were picked up, and a new Ruritan sign was installed on the



end of the shelter. Scholarships were given to (l-r) Haleigh Myrtle, daughter of Tonya Ketterman and Frank Myrtle, and Michael Henry, son of Robert and Regina Henry. Haleigh (who was given the club's Build Your Dollar Scholarship) will attend James Madison University to study kinesiology. Michael will attend Radford University to study criminal justice.



Belmont Community Receives Blue Ribbon Award



Belmont Community Ruritan Club celebrated their 40th anniversary. The club was chartered on January 4, 1979. Most recently the club earned a 2018 Blue Ribbon Award, a 2018 Outstanding President, and an Outstanding Secretary Award. Zone 2 Governor Rick Claybrook and 2018 District Governor Carroll "Dink" Keller presented the awards. Pictured is Rick Claybrook presenting the Blue Ribbon Award to Club President Carol Myers, who also earned the Outstanding President's Award. Belmont Community Social Development Committee Chair Stephen Ford presented a scholarship to Michaela Deputy. Looking on is Belmont Community Club President Carol Myers and Vice President Harold Myers.



The First Annual **Rockingham District** Ruritan Picnic was hosted by Past Rockingham District Governor Dink Keller, his wife Bonnie, and 2019 District Governor Becky Lane. Among the 80 guests attending were 2019 National President Larry Cassell, First Lady Nelda, and National Director Cassandra Flanagan. A silent auction and 50/50 raffle raised over \$1,000 to support the regional spelling bee project.

Rockingham Luncheon and Linville-Edom Present Scholarships



Rockingham Luncheon Club presented a scholarship to Josie Reo. Ruritan National President-Elect Linward Hedgspeth and his wife Anne, and District Governor Becky Lane were all present for the event at the Bridgewater Oakdale Park. The club served hot dogs, drinks, and chips to approximately 115 players, coaches, and family members of the Bridgewater Challenge baseball teams. Pictured (l-r) are Ann Sebrell, scholarship recipient Josie, Rockingham Luncheon Club Vice President Mary

Smith, and Ralph Sebrell. Ann and Ralph are on the Public Service Committee and presented the scholarship.

The Linville-Edom Ruritan Club presented three scholarships in June. Pictured (l-r) are recipients Amber Dispanet, Jessica Sanchez Flores, and Nathaniel Watts.



McGaheysville Celebrates 80th Anniversary



McGaheysville Ruritan Club recently celebrated its 80th anniversary. The evening was highlighted by remarks from 2019 President-Elect Linward Hedgspeth who was accompanied by his wife Anne. District Governor Becky Lane was also in attendance. The club was presented a Proclamation of Recognition for 80 years of service from Rockingham County Board of Supervisors Chair Mike Breeden. The club enjoyed an evening of fellowship followed by a meal.

The club sponsored its annual Community Picnic and Open House in June at the club's Headquarters and Town Hall. Club members served grilled hamburgers and hot dogs with fixings. This event gives members an opportunity to explain Ruritan and the club's projects.

On Memorial Day the club teamed up with volunteers from the Mount Olivet Cemetery Committee and placed U.S. Flags on the gravesites of McGaheysville Veterans. This project is repeated in November for Veterans' Day.

Fulks Run Holds Tractor Show

The Fulks Run Ruritans held their Third Annual Bill Harter Memorial Antique Truck and Tractor Show on June 1, a family fun day that has proved to be a popular fundraiser. Associate Member Ron Turner took a drone photo that shows off the lineup of entries and the park's beautiful setting. Several tractors dated to the 1920s and 30s and served as a history lesson.

The club was also able to present a check to an area woman who is fighting an aggressive form of bone cancer. Picture is Club Secretary Lena Custer (L) with Melissa Conley and her daughter Madison. A special June fundraiser helped bring in the money for her extraordinary medical expenses.



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News From Ruritan: Rockingham District continued



Mount Crawford Gives Rudy Bears

Mount Crawford Ruritan Club Youth member Kathryn Landes presented 15 Rudy Bears to Pleasant Valley Elementary School Guidance Director Mrs. Turner.

Broadway-Timberville Rings Bell

Broadway-Timberville Ruritan Club member Lester Pettigrew rings the bell for the Harrisonburg Salvation Army during the Christmas-in-July Kettle Campaign at the Timberville Food Lion. This is the 33rd year the club has organized and staffed bell ringing in the Broadway-Timberville area during which \$247,435.91 has been raised for the Salvation Army representing 6,076 hours.



News From Ruritan: Potomac District

Potomac District Clubs Present Scholarships



Johnsville Ruritan Club's Scholarship Committee Chair Robin Ibox, presented two \$1,000 scholarships to local students. Pictured (l-r) are Madison Spurrier who plans to attend Frederick Community College and Mississippi State, Madelyn Fogle who plans to attend Frederick Community College and Hood College, and Robin Ibox.

Three scholarships were presented at the June meeting of the **St. Thomas Area** Ruritan Club.

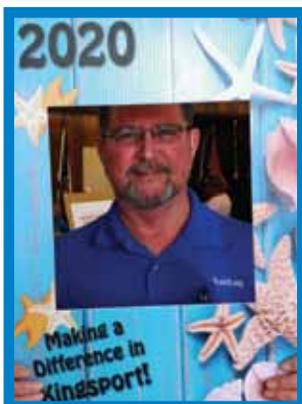
Pictured (l-r) are Lily Malone (\$1,000 scholarship to attend University of Pittsburgh), Grace Amsley (\$250 scholarship after attending the Franklin County Vocational Technical School), Taylor Walls (\$1,000 scholarship to attend Hagerstown Community College), and Scholarship Committee Chair Shellie Vieritz.



The club celebrated its 40th anniversary with a special cake. Past Potomac District Governor and current Zone Six Governor Linda Haulman participated in the celebration.



The **Keedysville** Ruritan Club went above and beyond this year when it came to scholarship awards. The club normally presents two, maybe three, scholarships. But this year they gave out four. The first three went to Ruri-Teen graduates at Boonsboro High School and Williamsport High School. The fourth recognized a student at Washington County Technical High School. Pictured (l-r) are Club President Sue Gemeny, Ruri-Teen Ethan Ravenscroft, Washington County Technical student Meaghan Dal Callo, Ruri-Teen Angela Green, and Ruri-Teen Evan Grim.



News From Ruritan: Potomac District continued



The **Maugansville** Ruritan Club selected four local high school seniors to receive scholarships of \$1,000 each. The winners and their parents attended the May 15 Ruritan dinner to receive their awards. The winners include Christian Jacob Cunningham. Christian attended North Hagerstown High School and attends Hagerstown Community College. He has been accepted at Hagerstown Junior College. Also earning a scholarship was Emmaleigh Morris. She attends Clear Spring High School and attends Hagerstown Com-

munity College. She has been accepted at Furman University and will major in biology and minor in pre-med with plans to be an emergency room physician. Kathleen Thompson was also a recipient. She attended the Barbara Ingram School and has been accepted at Stevenson University and will major in nursing. The fourth recipient is Zachary Shank. He attended North Hagerstown High School and Washington County Tech High School. Zachary has been accepted at Hagerstown Community College and plans to transfer to an art school after two years. He will major in animation and minor in comic arts. He hopes to create animated shows one day. The Maugansville scholarship recipients and club representatives pictured (l-r) are Maugansville Club member Eric Meredith, Jacob Cunningham, Emmaleigh Morris, Kathleen Thompson, Zachary Shank, and Maugansville Club member Carl Galligan.

Martha and Daryl Meyers Receive Tom Downings



Williamson Ruritan Club celebrated its 50th anniversary at the Williamson Community Center with a meal catered by Rosenberry Catering. The celebration included distinguished guests Franklin County Commissioner Bob Thomas and Ruritan National President Larry Cas-sell. The evening was festive as members and guests reminisced how the club started with 21 charter members and today has 57 members. Four charter members are still active including Kenneth Baldner, Daryl L.

Meyers, Kenneth E. Myers, and William K. Snider. A highlight of the evening was the presentation of the prestigious Tom Downing Fellow Award to Martha Myers and Daryl Meyers who have both consistently and faithfully served the club, particularly in the renovations of the Williamson Community Center. They are pictured with Williamson Club President Steve Akers.

The club recently honored its eldest member, Virgil Crider. Club President Steve Akers is pictured presenting the "eldest member cane" to Virgil who is 92 and still actively involved with Ruritan activities. The club has become known in the community for its homemade ice cream and monthly ice cream socials from April through October.



Sonny Williams Speaks on Bull Riding

Sonny Williams, from Williams' J Bar W Ranch, was the guest speaker at the recent **Lewistown** Ruritan meeting. Sonny described how his family got into the bull riding business which culminated in raising bucking bulls. This developed into a venue for bull riding and began their popular rodeo events, held for the public at their ranch in Johnsville, MD. The Williams ranch provides bulls for rodeos throughout the United States including the PBR Finals held in Las Vegas, NV each year. According to Sonny, not every bull is destined for the main stage, but for those that make it, it's a special treat for the owners



Sonny started participating in the junior bull riding, and steer wrestling competitions when he was only 12 and has had a successful career as an adult on the bull riding circuit. Pictured (l-r) Program Committee Chair Harold Staley, Sonny Williams, and Club President Gregg Warner.

News From Ruritan: Potomac District continued

Burkittsville Holds Fishing Derby

Burkittsville Ruritan Club provided the youth an opportunity to test their fishing skills at the club's annual fishing derby. On a lovely summer morning in June, over 75 children and their families circled the town pond, stocked with over 100 large catfish. By the end of the derby, not many of the stocked fish remained. National President Larry and two grandsons, AJ and Bodie, enjoyed the time fishing, eating hot dogs, and enjoying such a great outdoor activity planned by the Ruritans.



News From Ruritan: Albemarle District

Albemarle Clubs Purchase Transport Chairs



Representatives from all five Gates County Ruritan Clubs (**Sunbury, Gates, Gatesville, Corapeake, and Hall**) are shown presenting Susan Westfall with donations to Gates County Rescue and EMS. The donations will be used to purchase special transport chairs needed for assistance in difficult transport situations. Pictured (l-r) are Albemarle District Governor Don Gregory, Sue Gregory, Tom Smith, Cody Brinkley, Chris Odom, Tom Morgan, Susan Westfall, and Steve Tinkham.



Forestburg Honors Farmers

Forestburg Ruritan Club honored farmers at its club meeting. Each farmer was given a Ruritan cap as an expression of our appreciation to them for their support of the club. Burt Eure, a local farmer, was the guest speaker. He talked about the prospect of growing hemp for CBD oil and the rewards and problems encountered with growing. Farmers present were Paige and Burt Eure, Marlene and Billy Pierce, and James and Susan Pierce with their grandson Kenny.

Durants Neck Presents Scholarship

Durants Neck Ruritan Club conducted its annual auction fundraiser at the clubhouse. For the first time, Spencer Andrus and Melissa Durren of Corner Market Auctions of Elizabeth City conducted the auction and helped the club promote it. There were more than 120 people bidding on nearly 400 items. Residents and businesses donated the items which included a Cadillac Deville, a Ford Ranger, a custom golf cart, a motorcycle, and a boat with motor. Hundreds of household items were also auctioned including some furniture, tools, and glassware. Club member Dan Trevors noted, "This year's auction was the best ever!" Proceeds are used for college scholarships, handicapped ramps, Camp Cale, Volunteer Fire Department, NHMC Food Pantry, senior citizens bingo, and more.

Earlier this spring the club presented a \$1,500 scholarship to Jacob Godfrey at a ceremony conducted at the Perquimans High School. The scholarship was presented by Dan Gurganus representing Club President Chuck Olean. Jacob has completed one semester of HVAC Technology at College of the Albemarle (COA) and will be continuing his education at COA in the fall with the help of this scholarship. He is very active with the Inter-County Volunteer Fire Department. Jacob and his family have been invited to attend a club meeting to enjoy a meal with club members. Pictured are Durants Neck Ruritan Club President Chuck Olean, Jacob Godfrey, and Club Secretary Carol Olean.



PATRIOTIC FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY THROUGH WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

Wreaths Across America (WAA) is a nonprofit organization with one goal in mind; to honor, respect and remember veterans who have sacrificed so much to ensure we enjoy the freedoms that we take for granted! This information is being provided in an effort to let all Ruritan Clubs know about this patriotic fundraiser. Clubs will find this is an easy process and find both Wreaths Across America and Local Coordinators are extremely helpful!

Since creating our fundraising site on Wreaths Across America, the Shawboro Club has received \$5 back for every wreath sponsored. In 2018 we sponsored 85 wreaths and received \$425 back from WAA. The Shawboro club uses refunds to sponsor more wreaths and have already sponsored 35 wreaths in 2019!

There are 1640 participating cemeteries all over our country. 1.8 million Wreaths were sponsored in 2018! If you have loved ones in non participating cemeteries, contact WAA local coordinators in that geographical region who will be honored to place sponsored wreaths on your loved ones graves. You can assist by locating your loved ones thru findagrave.com and provide this information to local coordinators. For further information and involvement go to wreathscrossamerica.org The 2019 ceremony will take place on 14 December at 12 noon sharp.

Jim Hoever is the Vice President of the Shawboro Ruritan Club and the Lieutenant Governor for Zone 1 of the Albermarle District. He will be happy to assist with any questions and will share handouts and other materials to interested clubs. He can be reached at (830) 377-1236 or hv2j@aol.com



May God Bless our Troops, Past, Present & Future

**Flyer printed as submitted.*

News From Ruritan: Roanoke District



Robersonville Builds Ramps

Robersonville Ruritan Club recently built two wheelchair ramps for local handicapped citizens. Pictured are members of the club with the individuals for which the two ramps were built.

News From Ruritan: Rocky Mt. Durham District

Redwood and Efland Present Scholarships



Redwood Ruritan Club Scholarship Committee Chair Kassey Wrenn presented seven \$1,000 scholarships on behalf of the club this year. Pictured are Brianna Lorane Flamion, Watts School of Nursing; Amber Frye, Alamance Community College; Alexandra Prignano, Campbell University; Veronica Rowsey, East Carolina University; Michael Thaggard III, NC State University; Emilee Woods, UNC Greensboro; and Molly Woods, NC State University.

Efland
Ruritan Club

President Chip Gill presented scholarship checks to (l-r) Mason Henry and Natalia Garay (all of Cedar Ridge High School), Namron Chapman (of Orange High School), and Jordan Madren and Tessa McGuire (of Eno River Academy). These presentations took place at the at the club's annual scholarship awards dinner.



Coopers Paint to Promote RURITAN



*For a community service project the **Coopers** Ruritan Club had an artist paint a large ceramic bear installed at a local store with the Ruritan emblem, Rudy Bears, Boy Scout emblem, 4-H emblem, American Eagle, and the name of the local fire department.*

On the reverse side she painted the local high school mascot Firebird, local middle school mascot Cobra, and Coopers Elementary School Mascot Bulldog, as well as the Girl Scout emblem. The artist also depicted Ruritan members stirring a pot of potatoes and a child eating chicken and a cupcake. This community store welcomes many travelers as it is only a mile from I-95. Already the club is noticing travelers taking pictures with this one-of-a-kind bear!

Pink Hill Honors Teachers



Pink Hill Ruritan Club members gave sweet treats to the teachers and staff to thank them for all their hard work they did for the students this school year and to wish them a much needed summer break. The treats went to Pink Hill Elementary, Woodington Middle School, and South Lenoir High School. Pictured are office staff from South Lenoir High and Principal of Pink Hill Elementary Mrs. Lee Anne Hardy.

The club also honored two South Lenoir High School class of 2019 students with scholarships. Pictured are Ashlyn Matos who received \$500 and Alcontara Esquivel who received \$1,000. Club Member J. Mac Daughety presented the students with their scholarship.



The annual Gun Raffle Drawing was held. Tickets sold for \$20 and prizes for the first and second place was guns and third place was \$100 cash and 15 chances to win \$25.00. Pictured (l-r) are Neil Berise who was the \$100 cash winner and Pete Marshburn who won the gun.



New Hope Cooks Chicken

New Hope Ruritan Club held its annual barbecue chicken scholarship fundraiser on May 17. The club sold over 1000 plates and raised over \$3,500 for the scholarship program. Club Secretary John Crocker noted, "It was hard work



for a great cause!" Five scholarships and an award for Outstanding FFA student was given in June. Pictured in the back (l-r) are Build Your Dollar, Amber Trivette; Woody Anderson Scholarship, Thurston Edmunson; Cherry G. Sugg Memorial Scholarship, Rebecca Edmunson; Winston Best Scholaship, Kylie Warrick, and Club President Nancy Dawson. Pictured in the front (l-r) are D.W. Kneeshaw Scholarship, Taylor Smith; Outstanding FFA Student, Kenneth Weeks. The Scholarships were \$500 each and the Oustanding FFA Student received a plaque and \$100.



Jim Few Recieves Awards

Coach Jim Few, a hard-working member of the **Cannon's Camp Ground** Ruritan Club, was chosen as the club's Ruritan of the Year. In addition to this honor, he was also presented with a Spartan District Ruritan of the Year and a Tom Downing Award at the club's December meeting. Jayson Duncan, 2018 Ruritan National Foundation President is shown presenting him with the award.



Johnsonville Making a Difference



The **Johnsonville** Club has had a very busy spring and summer. What do the Johnsonville Ruritans do at Easter? They fill baskets with food to share blessings with some of their neighbors. Pictured are (l-r) Marion Kastern, Candace Edwards, Harriet Sampieri, Carole and Tom Davis, and Karen Cox.

Guest speakers for the summer months included Harnett County Community Relations Director Ashley Deans; Program Supervisor for the North Carolina Guardian ad Litem (GAL) program Chantal Abbuhl along with volunteer Shirley Rijkse; and Director of Marketing and Member Services Janet Jackson along with Energy Use and Information Specialist of Central Electric Ryley Osentoski, All

gave informative, interesting presentations.

The club operated like a well-oiled machine putting together a pancake breakfast. Part of the crew pictured (l-r) are Tom and Carole Davis, Rodger Nicely, Mike Lancaster, Carol Schneider, Harriet Sampieri, Karen Cox, David Allchin, and John Schneider.

Thanks to Texas Roadhouse for partnering with the club. They were able to distribute 55 appetizer coupons and one full meal coupon to teachers at Johnsonville Elementary for National Teacher Appreciation Day.



On Memorial Day the club sponsored a ceremony at the local Veterans Memorial to honor and remember area veterans. The club created and maintains the memorial. Overhills High School JR ROTC performed the flag raising and the guest speaker was Cameron resident Army CSM Retired Brian Edwards, whose last assignment was Command Sergeant Major of the 1st Special Forces Command (Airborne). CSM Edwards currently works as a Department of the Army civilian. Hot dogs and fellowship were enjoyed at Johnsonville Community Center following the ceremony.

Club Scholarship Chair Larry Taylor presented \$2,000 worth of scholarships to Layne Randolph, Mark Williamson, and Sabina Blue. The club's major fundraiser for each year is selling business ads for the annual calendar. Members are currently busy contacting local businesses for the 2020 edition.



Club member Nancy Lancaster observed, "Ruritan is not all work. Friendships are being along the way, including at our monthly fellowship breakfasts held at various area restaurants."



**You will not want to miss the
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Sandy Run Presents Scholarships



At the July **Sandy Run** Ruritan Club meeting five outstanding Sandy Run area seniors were given a total of \$9,500 (\$1,900 each) in scholarships. Austin plans to attend Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College to major in engineering. Cally Culler plans to attend Clemson University to major in biological science. Bryn Mack plans to attend Lander University majoring in nursing. Julianna Mills plans to attend the University of South Carolina at Aiken and major in athletic training. McKenzie Rochester plans to attend Midlands Technical College and major in nursing.

Christmas in July was celebrated this summer. Club members made thirty-six bags containing canned and boxed goods, fresh produce, snacks, homemade crocheted washcloths, and bags of candy for shut-ins and other needy families in the Sandy Run area. During the year Ruritan members bring in these items at each meeting. Reporter Kay James noted, "We receive much more than we give when we visit our neighbors and see the smiles on their faces and receive their hugs." Pictured (l-r) are Becky Starnes, Peg Nelson, John Nelson, Gene Crim, Jill Crim, Sandra Pees, and Kay James. Not pictured are Snooky McCullar and photographer Jerry Starnes.



Pelion Holds Memorial Day Ceremony

Over 300 guests joined the **Pelion** Ruritan Club as they held their fifth annual Memorial Day ceremony at the Veterans Memorial to honor all veterans, especially those who gave their lives in service to our country. The idea of a monument began in 2014 when Benny Collings began to draw illustrations of what he thought would be an appropriate design and then enlisted Ron Clamp, renowned granite carver, to assist with the final design. The club pledged \$80,000 for the project and sold engraved pavers to help fund the project.

At the ceremony this year, Pelion Club President Kay Collings gave a welcome and Otto Hage started the ceremony with the "Ringing of the Hour." The Pelion JROTC presented the colors and Chief Master Sgt Retired Tim Treaster led in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Pelion High Chorus, directed by Robert Arcovio, sang the National Anthem and Rev. Jerry Branham gave the invocation.

The South Carolina Patriot Guard Riders had a "stand the flag line" around the monuments to show their support for the veterans as names were read. Patriotic music was presented by the Soldiers of Faith Southern Gospel Group. The keynote speaker was Chaplain (Major) Brian Smith. Local Representative Kit Spires spoke. First Sgt. Thomas Peel, the oldest living veteran in the community, along with Buck Tindal, Tim Treaster, and the JROTC lowered and removed the old flag and raised the new flag at the monument. Then the JROTC presented the wreath, the 21-Gun Salute was heard, and Otto Hage played Taps. The Pelion Ruritan Club is most grateful to the community for their support of this patriotic memorial.



Pomaria Ruritan Club member Carold Wicker was presented with a Ruritan Forever Membership. Pictured (l-r) are Pomaria Club members Nathan Wicker; son, Carold Wicker, and Jacob Wicker; grandson.

**Winter Magazine
Deadline**

November 1, 2019

**Send all club news to:
Crystal at media@ruritan.org**

Emily Adams Conducts Pet Supply Drive



Emily Adams, 8-year-old member of the **Landes** Ruritan Club, wanted to make a difference in the community. She chose to conduct a pet supply drive to help animals in local shelters. Emily has spent over 150 hours working on the supply drive. During this time, she was able to collect over \$1000 worth of supplies and money, which was donated to Pendleton Animal Welfare Shelter (PAWS) in Franklin, WV.



Capon Valley Backwoods Ruri-Teen Club Staying Active

Capon Valley Backwoods

Ruri-Teen Club has been keeping busy. In the spring they had a bake



sale at Kerr's Supermarket at Wardensville, WV. The bake sale went over so well that the club sold all items within two hours! The funds from the bake sale will go toward community projects. Since the club sold all bake goods so quickly, they were able to go to the Garden Market and join in Earth Day activities. They planted 11 trees. The Garden Market gave the club members all t-shirts for their hard work plus they won an award as the most enthusiastic group. In June the club prepared a dinner of baked ham, mashed potatoes, green beans, apple sauce, and coconut cake for the **Capon Valley** Ruritan members in appreciation for all the support that the club provides to them.

Romney Cleans Picnic Area



Three members of the **Romney** Ruritan Club cleaned up the picnic area between Sunrise Summit and Shanks as an environmental community service project. The members mowed, ran the weed eater, and picked up trash. The club plans to continue this project at least once a month all summer. The club will also be cleaning River Road for the first two miles starting at Rt. 50. Pictured are (l-r) Scott Goals (chair of the environmental committee), Club President and National Director Ken Paugh on the mower, and Vice President Ed Hovan.

Williamsburg Celebrates Ruritan Sunday



Williamsburg Ruritan Club celebrated Ruritan Sunday at Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church in Williamsburg, WV. Each year the club celebrates Ruritan Sunday at a different church. Some of the members posed for a picture in front of one of the cemeteries that had their gravestones reset by the Ruritan team. Pictured (l-r) are: Gregory Hurd, Doyle Owens, Debra Zahorenko, Rick Hedrick, Elmer Hedrick, Laura Ann Tiller, Pastor Denver Tiller, Jack Goodman, Ray Hopkins, and Rudi Rucker.

Marie Celebrates 45th Anniversary



Marie Ruritan Club celebrated its 45th anniversary on Monday July 1st. In attendance were 2019 National President-Elect Linward Hedgpeth and his wife Anne, National Director Ken Paugh and his wife Judy, National Director Larry Bowman, Lower WV District Governor Debbie Bowman, Lower WV Lt. Governor Blaine Cecil, District Foundation Chair Phil Jeffries, and many members and guests. A delicious meal was prepared by the Friendship club and charter members were honored with gifts and certificates. A

history of the club was presented by Club President Dean Upton and he listed all the projects that the members have completed. The members said that they look forward to serving their community for another 40 years. Pictured (l-r) are charter members Mike Allen, Oswald Yates, Buddy Light, and Jack Kirby. Marie Club President Dean Upton is on the right.

Maxwelton Presents Scholarships

During the annual scholarship night at Greenbrier East High School, the **Maxwelton** Ruritan club presented the Build Your Dollar Scholarship to Cheyenne Cochran and Henry Lindsey Scholarships to Thomas Vance and Ryan Nuckoles. Thomas and Ryan are currently youth members in the club and have been active for several years. Pictured (l-r) are Cheyenne Cochran, Club Secretary Debbie Bowman, Ryan Nuckoles, and Thomas Vance.



Lee Johnson Donates Hay for Neglected Horses



Lee Johnson, a charter member of the **Clintonville** Ruritan Club has been a Ruritan for 65 years. Recently he was recognized for making a difference in the lives of abused and neglected horses in Appalachia. Johnson, a farmer, donated four round bales, large bales of hay that can feed multiple horses, to the Heart of Phoenix Equine Rescue. Because of persistent wet weather last year, which created a hay shortage in the region, hay has been both harder to find and more expensive this year than in most years. The donation benefits horses that Heart of Phoenix is working to rehab into good health and place into suitable adoptive homes. Johnson and his wife are active in their community and their church. Based near Hun-

tington, WV, Heart of Phoenix is West Virginia's largest equine rescue, and has saved more than 400 horses, often from extreme situations of starvation, neglect or abuse. Their mission is to rescue and rehab horses in need in Appalachia and match them with the right adopters.

For more information visit www.wvhorserescue.org.



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Gravely and Bloomingdale Present Scholarships



Gravely Ruritan Club presented three scholarships. Pictured with Gravely Club Treasurer Freda Harber is Joseph Rutherford who received the Build Your Dollar Scholarship. Rutherford will attend UT Knoxville and will be studying Aerospace Engineering he will work while in college on a job in the aviation field. Pictured with Harber is Caitlyn Ison. She will attend East Tennessee State



University studying education. She was crowned Miss Sullivan County 2020 and will be a contestant in Miss Tennessee Pageant. Pictured with Gravely Club President Bobby Brooks is Dylan Kenkel. He is a senior at East Tennessee University. He is majoring in public health.

Bloomingdale Ruritan Club presented \$1,000 scholarships each to ten students (pictured right).



Past National Director Gary Olinger was driving the tractor pulling Blountville Ruritan's Float in the Blountville Ruritan Fourth of July Parade. The parade is over 50 years old. (Photo courtesy of the Kingsport Times News.)



Ball Play Community Staying Active

Ball Play Community Ruritan Club held a first aid class in which six club members, who are also fire fighters, attended. A \$500 donation was presented to Tellico Plains Food Pantry President Diana Murphy. The club served over 600 ramp meals during its annual Ramp Day. Pictured are club members cleaning the ramps.



Curtis Amerson Honored

Walnut Hill Ruritan Club in conjunction with its annual farm auction hosted an official flag-burning event. The Escambia County, FL chapters of the Boy Scouts of America assisted in the solemn process.

Curtis Amerson, a 30-year club member and former club president, has been honored by the club as an honorary member. Amerson, one of four honorary members in the 40-member club, was also Alabama Florida District Governor in 1999.



Laker and Washington Present Scholarships



Laker Ruritans presented five \$1000 scholarships to seniors graduating from Pymatuning Valley High School. Club President George Graham presented the awards to (l-r) Samantha Bonds, Chad Mercer, Madison Alderman, Summer Pawlowski, and Victoria Flannery. The scholarship money will be sent to the universities they will be attending. Laker Ruritans George Graham, George Bosley, Roy Dotterweich, and Glenn Christen reviewed all the scholarship applications and made the selection of scholarship winners based on a point system.



Scholarships are funded through several projects including various raffles. George Bosley and Roy Dotterweich set up at Andover Sparkle Market to sell tickets on a 45/70 Henry Rifle or a king size homemade quilt made by Ruritan member Pam Graham, who is a quilter and donated the quilt for the drawing.

All members of the Laker Ruritan Club sell tickets to make it one of the club's biggest money-makers. The club appreciates Sparkle Market for providing a space to set up the raffle ticket sales.

Washington Ruritan Club gave six area seniors scholarships. Alliance High School seniors Cameron Cox and Giavonna Hill were presented with the Don Krabill Service Scholarship. Krabill, who recently passed away, was the club treasurer for many years. Lauren Landon and Tori Rodgers, seniors at Marlinton High School, were presented with the Dwight Ickes Academic Scholarships. Ickes was the first president of the club, founded in 1958. Two Louisville High School seniors also received awards. Jacob Stantz received the Build Your Dollars Scholarship while Kathryn Hudnell earned the Marion and Vera Rummell Service Scholarship. Marion Rummell, who recently passed away, was a charter member of the club. Washington club member Larry Zank (left) presented a check to Beech Creek Botanical Gardens and Nature Preserve for the purchase of a utility vehicle which is already in use and nicknamed "the Beast." The money that helped to purchase the vehicle was from the club fundraiser, the Taste of Alliance. Local eateries and restaurants provided samples of their famous and well-known dishes and the public came to taste the food. This year the event had six food vendors and helped the club raise over \$7,000. The money will be spent throughout the community on various projects.



Gamewell Installs New Members



Past National Director and current Western NC District Fundraising Chair Bob Reece presented awards for recruiting new members. Gail Bennett, Lee Ann Gragg, and **Gamewell** Ruritan Club President Marvin Eller Jr. received a President's Golden Key Award for



recruiting new members. Eller is proudly showing off his 15-member bar. Club Treasurer Van Griffith was recognized by Eller for recruiting four new members. Pictured top right are new members Cindi and Kevin Craig and Shelby Earp is shown pinning new youth member Aiyana Stahr.



WNC District Holds Retreat



Western North Carolina District Retreat was held at Oak Hill Park in Lenoir, NC. Members from **Oak Hill, Gamewell, Baton, Litter River, Old Fort, Foscoe, Deep Gap, Bethlehem, Chesterfield,** and **Cedar Valley** Ruritan Clubs were in attendance. Pictured



right (l-r) are Zone 9 Governor J.R. Gossett (white shirt) with Old Fort members. Relaxing at the picnic table are Oak Hill Treasurer Larry Teeters and Vice President Alan Penley. Special guest in attendance (pictured on the left) were District Lt. Governor Gary Barger, Past National Director Glen Broadwater, National Foundation President Corky Camin, District Governor Leslie Gentry, and National Director Jonathan Lafollette.



Glenwood Holds 5K Run

Glenwood Ruritan Club held its First Annual Gold Rush 5K Run in June. Hannah Settlemyre daughter of Club President Kyle Settlemyre is pictured as she finished the race. This spring members of the club with significant years of service (30 to 50 years or more) were recognized by President Kyle. He is pictured with (l-r) Reid McNeely, Gene Morgan, David Morgan, and Gerald Worley. Not pictured was Hugh Proctor.



Deep Gap and Bethlehem Present Scholarships

Deep Gap Ruritan club recently presented six scholarships to deserving students for the upcoming 2019-2020 academic year. Five \$1,000 scholarships were made possible through the generous support of community members who purchase a ticket to the annual steak dinner fundraiser. Hannah Taylor, a student at Caldwell Community College, and Samantha Watson, who is attending the University of South Alabama, received their second scholarship from the club. Other recipients include Watauga High senior Jonathan Hodges, will be attending Caldwell in the fall, and Sydney Watson, a college freshman who is also attending the University of South Alabama. Home schooler Alison Cook was the recipient of the Ruritan Double Your Dollar Scholarship, co-sponsored by the National Ruritan Foundation. Alison will be attending ASU in the fall.

Lisandra Mejia received a \$2500 award from the Charles Rogers Scholarship fund, given in memory of club member Charles Rogers who passed away last year. This scholarship was made possible by donations from friends, family, and business associates of Mr. Rogers. Lisandra will be attending NC State University in the fall.



Pictured is Scholarship Committee Chair Kathy Idol presenting scholarships to Lisandra Mejia, Samantha Watson, and Sydney Watson at the annual steak dinner fundraiser. Also pictured are recipients Hannah Taylor, Alison Cook, and Jonathan Hodges receive their scholarships at the May club meeting.



ing Leslie Gentry with the Golden Key Bar for bringing five members into Ruritan and Harold Eller with the Golden Key award for recruiting two new members.

Bethlehem Ruritan Club awarded 10 scholarships at a special ceremony which was attended by members, recipients, and guests. Club member Dr. Warren Hollar presented the awards on behalf of the club, along with a brief history of the students' accomplishments.

The club also awarded growth awards to a member recently. Bencita Brooks and her daughter Bella received the Golden Key Award from club president Billie Rogers for recruiting new members into the Deep Gap Ruritan Club. Also pictured are President Billie Rogers present-



Baton Works Festival

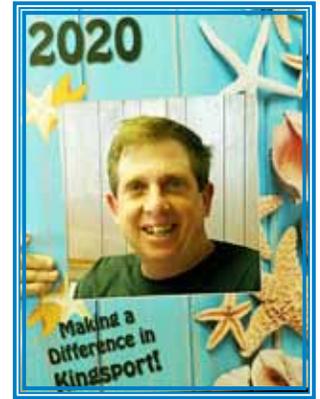
Baton Ruritan Club participated in the Hudson Butterfly Festival during May to promote Ruritan. They offered booth with a 50/50 drawing. Pictured at the booth are members Mike and Marie Coppernoll.





Old Fort Installs New Sign

Old Fort Ruritan Club installed a new sign after a storm destroyed their old one. The new sign was built by members Dean Herron and Cathy Mcpeters and was installed on June 21st by Dean Herron and Eddie Bingham. Pictured (l-r) are Eddie Bingham, Dean Herron, and Cathy Mcpeters. Photo was taken by Western North Carolina Lt. Governor Gary Barger.



Kenton Cleans Roadway

Kenton Ruritan Club continues to work to improve their community by keeping the roadways clean. The club has adopted and is responsible for two and a half miles of roadway. Pictured (l-r) are Kimberly Lattomus, Jeffery Dunning, Earl Murray, Mason Foster, Richard Foster, and Kenton Club Vice President Eileen Tally. Not pictured are James Alexander, who did the driving, and Club President Earl Collins who prepared the hot dogs and refreshments for the hard workers.



A successful quarter auction was held in May. Gifts and gift certificates were donated by members and local businesses.



A light dinner was served and the proceeds from the event will go to "Kay's Kamp," a camp for children ages 5-17 who are currently battling cancer or are in remission from cancer. The camp gives these children the opportunity to participate in a unique camping experience promoting fun and normalcy.



Pungoteague and Kent Present Scholarships

Pungoteague Ruritan Club presented \$1,000 scholarships to Baylee Justis and Tyrell Jones, both recent graduates of Nandua High School. Pictured (l-r) are J.J. Justis, Troy Justis, Baylee Justis, Pungoteague Club Scholarship Chair Bill Mapp, Tyrell Jones, Darrell Bittle, Tiffany Bittle, and Jordan Jones.



Club member Leonard Sturgis received a perfect attendance pin for 40 consecutive years. Sturgis, 94, says he has missed only two meetings in 54 years.

Kent Ruritan Club awarded six \$1,000 scholarships to local students at their May meeting. Pictured (l-r) are Taiyana Goldsborough, Elizabeth Goetz, Mary Catherine Parent, Paul Myers whose scholarship was given in honor of club founding member C. Quenton Dulin, Macy Willis, Brianna Pierce, and Club President Jim Robinson.



Zone 12 Clubs Bring in New Members



Clubs in Piedmont District Zone 12 are bringing in new members! **Southern Caswell** brought in three new members recently. Pictured (l-r) are Zone 12 Governor Andy Turner, new members Kelly Cobb and Paul Traywick, and Southern Caswell Club President Keith Newcomer. In the second picture is Southern Caswell new member Will Tipton with Club President Keith Newcomer. According to Zone Governor Andy Turner the Southern Caswell Club has increased its membership by 13 percent over the last several weeks, including bringing in the club's first female member in the club's 57 years. Turner noted, "We're very excited about this new development!"



The **Cherry Grove** Ruritan Club, also in Zone 12, has recently added four new members. Cherry Grove recently donated all of its proceeds from a Friday night bingo to local veterans.

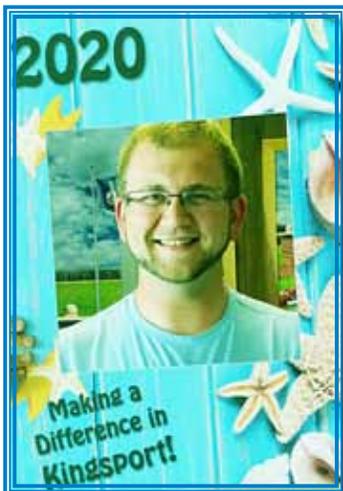


Chestnut Grove and Wentworth Celebrate Anniversaries

Chestnut Grove Ruritan Club celebrated its 25th anniversary in May. Club member Doug Watts (pictured), charter member and founder of the club, was recognized for his contributions to the club's creation. Watts also served as the Piedmont District Governor in 2001. The anniversary featured a cookout. The club, voted Best Service Organization by *Stokes News* readers in 2018, has spent the past two and a half decades supporting the King community of North Carolina by raising in excess of \$300,000 for service. The club has provided food services at area events and held an annual Summer Jam Concert/ Cruise-In. The club donated these proceeds to help local families in crisis, offer scholarships yearly for students at West Stokes High School, and support local agencies serving children.



Club members donated time in support of Make a Difference in King (MADIK) Playground, served in the King Outreach Ministry's food collection program, established free clothing closets for students in Stokes County schools, donated to Heroes helping Heroes, funded backpack programs, provided fruit baskets for the elderly, and worked to keep the community beautiful with roadside clean-up.



Wentworth Ruritan Club celebrated its 10th anniversary with two programs and a brief history of the club. A representative from Toys for Tots spoke and the local Boy Scouts had a flag retirement ceremony.

News From Ruritan: Piedmont District continues

Germanton Presents Scholarship

Germanton Ruritan Club held its semi-annual blood drive at the Rural Hall Fire Department. As a way of saying "Thanks" they presented the Fire Chief a lamp built from a used fire extinguisher made by Germanton Club member Rainer Heller. Pictured are Club members Nancy Boles and Ann Heller.



This is the second year the club presented its Foundation Build Your Dollar Scholarship to the Piedmont District and the 2019 National Ruri-Teen of the Year, Carly Hall. She is pictured with Germanton Club President Mark Rutledge.



Flat Rock Holds Egg Hunt

Flat Rock Ruritan Club held an Easter Egg Hunt in April. The members prepared hundreds of eggs to be hidden for three different age groups. The eggs contained candy, erasers, or stickers. There was also one special "golden egg" hidden with a special prize for the child who found it. Snacks and drinks were provided by the club after the event.

News From Ruritan: Dan River District

Carver Road Delivers Gift Baskets to Elderly



members pictured include Club President Lisa Roberson (orange shirt) and 3-year Director Paul Spencer (in ball cap).

Carver Road Ruritan Club delivered care baskets to residents at two assisted living facilities in Martinsville. Over 40 baskets of treats and toiletries were given to the residents of Starling View Manor and Hairston Home for Adults. Along with some of the residents, Ruritan

Meadows of Dan Supports School

Meadows of Dan Ruritan Club President Debra Shelor presented \$2,000 to Meadows of Dan Elementary Principal Jason Wood for field trips that will benefit each and every child.



Union Builds Storage Building

Union Ruritan Club members built a new building at their community pool. Pictured (l-r) are Charles Crowder, Mac McDannald, Thomas Stevens, and Diane Simmons.



Dan River Clubs Present Scholarships

Past National Director Jerry Atkins, along with **Oak Level** Ruritan Club members Pat Gusler and Brenda Woods presented scholarships to area high school students. The club held a corn hole tournament as a fundraiser for the eight scholarships.

Rangeley Ruritan Club President Jim McMillan

presented a club donation to George Mehaffey of the Fieldale Fire Department in the top picture. In the bottom picture (l-r) are Rangeley scholarship recipients Brylee Webb, Rangeley President Jim McMillan, recipient Haley Vaughn, and Jeff Smith accepted for his son Jordan Smith who was not able to be present.

Pictured left (l-r) are **Aarons Creek** Ruritan Club's scholarship recipients Hayley Saunders and Jeri Tyler, Aarons Creek Club Secretary Kathy Long, and scholarship recipients Dylan Clark and Alex Lowery.



Dry Fork Raises Bicycle Safety Awareness

Dry Fork Ruritan Club held a community bicycle workshop to raise awareness of bicycle safety and provide instructions for simple maintenance of bikes (how to adjust seats to proper height, how to change a tire, etc). In addition to the bike information, club members provided free hot dogs, handed out literature, and had one-on-one conversations about Ruritan, hoping to encourage club growth. Workshop participant, eight-year-old Parson Lutz of Danville, was the winner of a new bicycle. Pictured (l-r) are Darrell Dunford, Carla Kearin, Mike Heldreth, Marcella Heldreth, Charlie Crane, Rose Mary Meadows, and Robert Kearin. In the front is Parson Lutz.



Red Bank Donates to Fire and Rescue

Red Bank Club President Roger Gammons (right) presented \$250 each to CCDF Fire and Rescue Lynn

Shouse, Ararat Rescue Squad Mike Fulk, and Blue Ridge Elementary School Principal Jen Cox.

The club's 37th Annual Kibler Valley River Run was a huge success. Pictured are participants of the event.

Cassells' Visit to Lincolnland



The week of July 4th was the annual visit of the Ruritan National President to the Lincolnland District. President Larry Cassell and First Lady Nelda from Jefferson, Maryland, arrived in the area on Monday July 1. Their host was Past National Director Grover Burkett, resident of Olney, Illinois. The week was filled with the following activities:

- * Tuesday, July 2 - Dundas Club for its 50 Anniversary Celebration
- * Wednesday, July 3 - Dieterich Club for breakfast and to visit their Veterans Memorial; Montgomery Club in Indiana for lunch and a tour of their camp park; Hymera Club for dinner
- * Thursday, July 4 - Jefferson Township Club for parade, BBQ, and visit of their senior citizen housing; Dubois Club for a tour of the park and their new Ruritan Community Building; Haysville Club for refreshments
- * Friday, July 5 - Illinois visit, assisted by local Ruritans Howard and Beverly Tanner and Jim Zehr; Wayne City Club for lunch; Bluford Club to view their Veterans Memorial; Johnsonville for refreshments; Geff Club for pork burger dinner
- * Saturday July 6 - Mt. Erie Club for breakfast; Griffin Club for old school building tour; Mill Shoals Club for dinner

Ruritan Road Fireball Golf Challenge - Huge Success!

On Tuesday, July 16th, the **Ruritan Road** Ruritan Club of Pulaski closed out their Fireball Charity Golf Challenge and fundraising event with a dinner at Reynolds Pizzeria in Dublin. In attendance were members representing fire departments from the Town of Dublin, the Town of Pulaski, Draper, Fairlawn and Newbern; several tournament sponsors; members of the Pulaski County Sheriff's Office; and 2019 Ruritan National President Larry Cassell and First Lady Nelda. This was the second year the club has hosted the golf tournament to raise money for local volunteer fire departments. The event was expanded this year to include several Community Spirit Night events held at Wendy's restaurant in Dublin and Reynolds Pizzeria, where a portion

of the proceeds were donated to the fundraiser. At the dinner, a donation of \$800 was presented to each of the eight Pulaski County Fire Departments (totaling \$6,400).

A special donation of \$500 was made to Pulaski County Sheriff Mike Worrell to be added to a previous donation of \$1,700 for the Pulaski County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit.

Cassell presented Reynolds Pizzeria Owners

Jamie and Laura Reynolds with a Business Associate Member Plaque welcoming them into the Ruritan Road Club. "It's great to be a part of a great organization such as Ruritan National! We are a community-minded business and love what Ruritan National does for our community," said Reynold's Pizzeria Owner Laura Reynolds.



Come Visit the Ruritan National Office

Traveling northbound on Interstate 81, take exit 98, turn left onto Rt. 100 (from southbound Interstate 81 turn right onto Rt. 100). At the second stoplight, turn right onto Rt. 682, cross over Interstate 81 and turn left onto Rt. 662.

Dublin-Radford Place Flags

Dublin-Radford Ruritan Club honors national holidays by placing American flags along the main highway in the community. Participating this year for Memorial Day were Dublin-Radford Club Secretary Jan Harris, Director Frank Cecil, Vice President Jaime Graham, Sam Lawson, and Director Bobby Turman, who drove the truck and took pictures.



Pembroke Ruritan Club member Bill Hogg (l) presenting a donation in support of the 7th Grade Trip to DC to Principal of the Eastern Elementary - Middle School Jason Mills.



News From Ruritan: Davy Crockett District

Cassell Named Parade Marshal

Mosheim's annual town festival featured a parade, car show (organized by the **Mosheim** Ruritan Club), and music. Parade Marshal was 2019 National President Larry Cassell, accompanied by 2016 National President Calvin Shelton, National Director Patsy Shelton, and First Lady Nelda. After the parade, many congregated at the Mosheim's Ruritan Clubhouse to celebrate the club's 70th anniversary.



Mt. Pleasant Cleans

Roadsides

Mt. Pleasant Ruritan Club held a roadside litter pick-up on Saturday, May 4th. Twenty-one bags of trash were picked up along roadsides in the community. Ages of those participating in this project to improve the environment ranged from six - eighty-two.



Telford Rebuilds After Storm Damage



It was the first of December 2018 and the **Telford** Ruritan Club was preparing for its annual year-end project. They would collect, pack, and deliver enough food supplies (and toys) to see a dozen needy community families through the Christmas holiday and into the new year. They anticipated a heavy winter snow storm that weekend.

What they didn't anticipate was the heavy snow collapsing their club building's flat roof. The subsequent damage to the ceilings, walls, and flooring was devastating. Most of the building's highest used areas, including the meeting room, bathrooms, and kitchen were rendered useless. With their budget

already tight, the Telford club decided to utilize the funds already allotted to complete their food delivery project. In an unheated hallway, the only usable area left, they packed and then delivered the needed food supplies in time for Christmas.

As the club members assessed their building's damage, it became apparent that insurance would not cover the thousands of dollars in building repair costs. The club would need some incredibly special help to keep from closing their doors permanently. That special help came from two very generous individuals, Victor Overcash of VohCarr Construction and Steven Maupin. Overcash installed a completely new roof and Steven Maupin installed new ceilings, repaired walls, and repainted. Both men charged a fraction of their regular prices because they said they both knew and appreciated the work that Ruritans did in the community.

Special help also came from local Ruritan clubs as well as Ruritan clubs and individuals hundreds of miles away. An urgent plea for financial aid had been graciously forwarded by the Ruritan National Office after hearing of the club's plight. In response, donations came in over the next months in various amounts, all needed and all very welcomed. As a result of each act of generosity, the club has finally completed all repairs. They are now able to resume their monthly fundraising suppers and look forward to continuing their many community projects.

With a special thanks to the **Washington College** Ruritan Club for the use of their club room for meetings during construction, the Telford Ruritan Club wishes to thank Grover Burkett (IL), Bruce Thompson (VA), and William P. Weber III (TN) and the following Ruritan clubs for their generous donations: **Baileyton, Boones Creek, Bowmantown, Camp Creek, Clear Springs, Gray, Hardins Chapel, Lamar, Mosheim, Mt. Pleasant, Parrottsville, Washington College, Unicoi, and Headsville Countryside.**

Club Director Richard Chinouth noted, "Everyone of you are truly our Guardian Angels!" Pictured (l-r) are Telford Club President Carl Daniels presenting appreciation plaques to Steven Maupin and Victor Overcash.

Greenwood Honors Veterans



Greenwood members Carl Nagle, Daryl Loyd, and Rich Rambo worked with Julie Delaney from Eden United Methodist Church on Memorial Day to identify the veterans' graves in Eden Cemetery and mark each with an American flag.

News From Ruritan: Davy Crockett District continues

Camp Creek Celebrates Anniversary

Camp Creek Ruritan Club held an open house to celebrate its anniversary and to commemorate 64 years of service to the community. The community was invited to join members for light refreshments. The committees made displays to promote their activities and information was provided to visitors about the club and Ruritan. Voter registration was also available. The club was honored to have 2019 National President Larry Cassell and First Lady Nelda in attendance. Also, in attendance were 2016 National President Calvin Shelton and 1993 National President Wayne Bettis. President Cassell commended the club on having a beautiful building – which the club takes pride in and makes sure it's always clean and welcoming.



Camp Creek Elementary School faculty and staff along



with maintenance and bus drivers were honored with an appreciation dinner at the Camp Creek Ruritan Club Memorial Pavilion. This was made possible by the joint efforts of LOAM, (Ladies on a Mission), Harris Memorial Church, and the Camp Creek Ruritan Club. All three groups wanted to show the school staff that they were appreciated for what they do for the students and the Camp Creek community throughout the year. Third grade teacher Connie Thornburg and fifth grade math and science teacher Dianna Thompson were honored on their retirement by the school staff at the dinner. Pictured right are Camp Creek Ruritan Club members Bob Johnson, Ken Smith, William Stokes, Betty McCue, George Lewis, Tammy Collins, Dale Johnson, Jodi Lewis, and Angie Smithson.



Jonesborough Presents Scholarship

Jonesborough Ruritan Club President Dana Rogers II is shown presenting a Ruritan Foundation Build Your Dollar Scholarship check for \$600 to Toni Schrock, a 2019 graduate of Davy Crockett High School in Jonesborough, TN. Toni, who was valedictorian of her class, plans to attend East Tennessee State University.

News From Ruritan: Smoky Mountain District

Piney Hosts Fish Fry

Piney Ruritan Club hosted its annual fish fry, as they do every year. Members worked to ensure this event was great for everyone in attendance. "This event helps bring the community closer and everyone loves the fish and fellowship," said Smoky Mountain District Lt. Governor Zach McCallie. Pictured are Smoky Mountain Zone 2 Governor Henry Rogers frying fish and Horace Bradshaw, Daniel Fortman, and Bill Lankford breeding it.



News From Ruritan: Smoky Mountain District continued



Gibbs Presents Scholarships

Gibbs Ruritan Club has announced its 2019 scholarship winners. This year's winners are Sophie Jefferson, who will attend Belmont University; Daniel Tidwell, who will attend The University of Tennessee; Dylan Singleton, who will attend East Tennessee State University; and Sarah Lynch, who will attend The University of Tennessee. Pictured (l-r) are club member Jane Wright; scholarship winners Sophie Jefferson, Daniel Tidwell, and Dylan Singleton; and Club Treasurer Richard Wright. (Not pictured, scholarship winner Sarah Lynch.)

News From Ruritan: Middle America District

Middle America Clubs Gain New Members



Cherokee Ruritan Club is celebrating new members! In March they had nine members, today they have 18. Pictured here are new members Chris Wilson, Patty Thompson, and Kent Thompson. Absent when photos were taken were new members Dave and Connie Castagno.

In the larger group photo (pictured above) new members featured include (l-r) Kevin Malle, Club Secretary Judy Pearce, Devon Ulery, Reverend Edgar J. Wegener, Club President Stefanie Lynn, Larry Malle, Kelly Malle, Marianne Kossman, Dr. Brad Miner, and Chelcey Sexton with son Jamie. At the meeting where this large group of new members were added, the program was on how to conduct a Ruritan meeting. Young Jamie Sexton closed the meeting by leading the group in the Pledge.

Pottawatomie Ruritan Club has three generations of family members. Picture in the front are new members Isaac and Amelia Wise. In the center (l-r) are Cindy Davis, Abigail Wise, Ivan Wise, and Rebecca Wise. In the back (l-r) are Aaron Wise, Lonnie Davis, and Pottawatomie Club President Jim Kimball.



An open house was held at Marmaton Valley High School in Moran, Kansas to increase interest in Ruritan in the area. The **Moran Community** Ruritan Club has added four new members to their club this summer. Pictured (standing l-r) are Zone 1 Governor Melissa Fewin and new members Kay Lewis, Ann Houk, and Larry Ross. Zone Governor Melissa was visiting from the **Elsmore Community** Club. New member Corky Lynes was not available for the picture.

News From Ruritan: Middle America District continued

Redfield Celebrates Anniversary

Redfield Ruritan Club celebrated its 50th anniversary. Pictured (l-r) are club members with 20 or more years of service. They are Raymond "Skeet" George, Wilma Graham, Gary Hall, Marietta Hixon, Letha Johnson, and Past National Director Roy Johnson.



Bronson Ruritan Club member Geraldine Reeder is pictured standing next to paper collected for recycling. Bronson has done this as a monthly community service project for many years.



News From Ruritan: Gulf Area

Linwood Circle Donates to Humane Society



Linwood Circle Ruritan Club has been collecting treasures to donate to Paws for a Cause benefit to raise money for the local Humane Society. Pictured with the items are (right) Club President Thelma Daniel and (left) Cynthia Anderson.

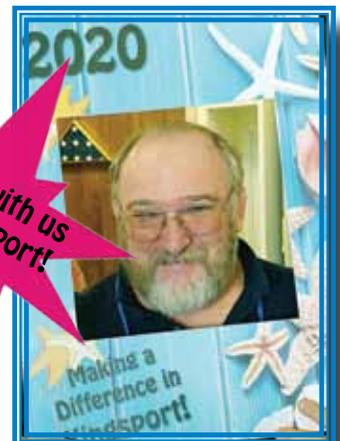
The club also donated a bike to McLauren School for a student in need. Pictured with the bike are Jannie Dunbar and Cynthia Anderson.



Mt. Hermon Honors Billy Ray Gill



Mt. Hermon Ruritan Club recently honored Billy Ray Gill for 50 years of membership in Ruritan. Pictured on the left is Billy Ray Gill receiving his award from Mt. Hermon Club President Beryl Schilling.



Come with us to Kingsport!

WANTED: WINNING RURITAN RECRUITERS

SECOND QUARTER 2019



WINNER JERRY UMBARGER
OF THE ATKINS CLUB IN THE
SW VIRGINIA DISTRICT



WINNER STEVEN WEBER
OF THE LANDES
CLUB IN UPPER WV



WINNER NATIONAL DIRECTOR
MIKE WRIGHT OF THE
LITTLE SANDY CREEK CLUB
IN THE OHIO DISTRICT

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

More members means extra chances. Get five extra chances for every new member between the ages of 35 and 55!