



Ruritan

Volume 85, Winter 2020

Be The Light
for your
Community





Ruritan

Volume 85, Winter 2020

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THIS
LITTLE LIGHT
of mine
I'M Gonna
let it
SHINE

2020 National President Linward Hedgspeth



Life's most persistent and urgent question is:
"What are you doing for others?"

-Martin Luther King

This year 2020 has been the most astounding year ever! Never in our wild-est imagination did we anticipated the vast social change we have experienced thus far. It was first frightening and uncertain, a new experience for all, and to our Ruritan organization.

First Lady Anne and I unfortunately were unable to do much visiting, because of the pandemic. With the very few visits that we were able to do, it was immensely enjoyable to hear and be a part of the Ruritan stories. We thank the many Ruritans for their gifts, phone calls, cards, well wishes and support.

"In the middle of difficulty lies Opportunity"

The Ruritan organization along with the nation paused for only a brief period to understand the situation at hand. Ruritans quickly SOARED beyond expectation, to find ways to support our communities, first responders, caregivers, the medical establishments, and each other.

You may never know the profound effect that you may have made on a person's life. A kind word or a listening ear can mean so much to someone who is sick, in pain, or lonely. You generously give your most precious commodity, your gift of time. Please know we genuinely appreciate and value your time and commitment to the Ruritan organization and for this We Thank You.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic and the nation's shutdown we faced many new challenges in 2020, with all clubs and national activities suspended.

The Executive Committee and the Board of Director's Committees were all engaged weekly to develop strategies to navigate through these uncertain times.

Advancement Committee: To enhance the club's ability to compete for community service awards; eliminated the attendance requirements for service awards in 2020 i.e.

- Blue Ribbon
- Outstanding Club President
- Outstanding Club Secretary
- Perfect Attendance
- Ruritan, Ruri-Teen, and Rudy Youth of the Year



Community Service Awards requiring points had the points requirements reduced by 50% for 2020.

Leadership Committee: Initiated weekly meetings to develop an alternative plan for the canceled Annual Ruritan Summer Leadership Conference. Training is essential for our leaders and growth of the organization. Their action resulted in the development of a host of PowerPoint video presentations for distribution to all Ruritan Districts. This accomplishment gives Ruritan the potential to provide training to more leaders than ever before.

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Our tomorrows need new and different solutions today. A part of Ruritan's success tomorrow will be because of your innovation and creativity today.

Restructuring Committee: Engaged weekly to research and study the organization (from where we started, where we are now, and make recommendations on where we go from here) and report to the Ruritan National Board of Directors (BOD). A plan was first formulated in 2019, and they made their first report to our BOD in August 2020. The report, recommendations will be offered as a workshop at the National Convention in January 2021 to get input from the delegates. This information will be available to all Ruritans who wish to share their comments and suggestions throughout the year 2021.

Bylaws: This committee has continued to meet every week Examining the national bylaws, district bylaws, club bylaws, current board policy, IRS code, Virginia Law and have tried streamlining our bylaws. They always tried to keep the club, our members, and the communities that we serve in the forefront of their thinking.

National Board of Director Meeting: Was tasked with holding a board meeting while keeping ourselves and all participants safe. Our first hybrid board meeting was (in person and via Microsoft Teams). There was an unprecedented number of motions presented, and we had full board participation.

Memorial:

We have lost a number of loyal dedicated Ruritans in 2020. Our deepest sympathies go out to the families. May God give you the peace that you seek. May our condolences bring you comfort and may our prayers ease the pain of your loss. I offer you my thoughts, prayers, and well-wishes during this dark time in your life.

I would like to acknowledge the accomplishments and express my appreciation to the Ruritan National Board of Directors and National Staff for their service. They have surely endured the COVID-19 challenge, they have SOARED like eagles, and they have stood RURITAN STRONG!

“Challenges are what makes life interesting, overcoming them is what makes life meaningful”. -Anonymous

Eagle Charms Available

\$8

Email office@ruritan.org to purchase your Eagle Charm. These charms are \$8 each and that includes shipping charges.

Executive Director Mike Chrisley



Let Your Light Shine

Light. Without darkness no one would recognize the light. It pierces the darkness in a way that allows us to see all the good the dark is hiding. Sometimes we take the light for granted. Good things happen all the time.

People are almost conditioned to see the problems or the roadblocks or the bad things happening in the world all around us. Wouldn't it be nice to turn on the evening news and see story after story of all the good things that people are doing all over the world? Wouldn't it be nice to take the remote and go from channel to channel and see good deed after good deed being done in every state of the nation, or every country of the world? By and large this is not the way things are presented to us. We see all the problems of the world and after we are sufficiently depressed, we get one good news story to try to pierce the darkness we were subjected to over the last hour or half hour.

Not so with your Ruritan magazine. Take your remote and go from page to page of our magazine and see story after story of the light we bring to communities. See the peoples lives you touch with grants, or awards, or just plain help. These acts are light.

Your generosity to First Lady Anne's program to help St. Jude is light. Children and their families get bad news every day of every year. You have been and will be light to those children and families. St. Jude is light to those children and families.

Your generosity is a warm blanket wrapped around these children in the cold experience of a cancer diagnosis. Thank you for being the kind, giving people that I know you to be. Thank you for being thoughtful and giving to children and families that you may never meet or know. That is the spirit of light Ruritan brings to the community.

We have all been tested by the hardships of the pandemic. From day to day, week to week and month to month the landscape changes, and how we operate in it. It would have been easier to just stop and wait for this all to be over to get back to the work we do. But that is not our way. We rise to this, just as we have risen to all other obstacles by rolling up our sleeves and getting to work helping the people that need us. I have no doubt that you will continue bringing light to your community.

We hope that your families are safe and well. We hope that the Christmas season brings you light and hope. Thank you for all that you do to make this country and world better one community at a time.



Candidates for National Office

**“The best
way to
predict the
future is to
create it.”**

— PETER DRUCKER



National Director

Perry Marshman
22303 Constitution Hwy
Unionville VA 22567
Phone: (540) 854-5026
Email: perrymarshman@aol.com

CLUB: Member Linville-Edom (VA) club 1980-81; Member East Orange (VA) club 1981-present; served as Club President (5 yrs), Club Vice President (5 yrs), Club Secretary (6 yrs) and Club Treasurer (6 yrs); committee member and/or chair.

DISTRICT: District Governor (2001, 2010 and 2018); District Lt. Governor (2000, 2009, 2017 and 2020); Leadership Development Coordinator 2007-09; Zone Governor (1988, 1998 and 1999); Certified Club Trainer; AVR Registrar 2011; AVR Vice President 2019.

NATIONAL: Attended 22 National Conventions and 14 Summer Leadership Workshops; Speaker and/or presenter at National Conventions and Summer Leadership Workshops; National Director 2010-2012; Member National Leadership Committee; Ruritan Forever 2014; Tom Downing 2016; Chairman, National Nominating Committee 2018; National Board Song Leader 2011 and 2012.

EDUCATION: Montevideo High School; U.S. Arm Engineer School, Fort Belvoir; ICS Graduate; additional education at BRCC, Germanna Community College and Madison College

OCCUPATION: Engineer, Dominion Virginia Power (41 yrs., retired); U.S. Army Veteran 1963-1966

OTHER: Presently and/or formerly Chairman of the Board, PPR, Lay Reder, Sunday School Teacher, Finance Chairman, Treasurer, Choir Member and Soloist, Bethlehem UMC; Past County Rep for Youth Commission; Past Chairman, County March of Dimes; Current Board Member Local Food Bank; Forman, Habitat for Humanity; Married 50 wonderful years to wife, Joyce (passed 2018); sons Michael and David, six grandchildren.

***Please refer to your
Ruritan 2020 Fall Magazine
for other candidates.***

*Bios were printed as
submitted by candidates.*

Ballot Issues 1-3 to be Voted on by Delegates at the 2021 National Convention

1 **Ballot Issue from Approved National Board Motion 2020-08-10** – Proposes a change to the calculation used to determine the number of delegates per club to the Ruritan National Convention.

Current: Bylaws of Ruritan National, Article VII, Section 1. Conventions B. Voting Body 6a. Club Delegates.

Each adult member club shall be entitled to one (1) delegate for each 10 members or major fraction thereof, provided that each member club shall be entitled to at least two (2) delegates at any Ruritan National Convention.

Proposed: Article VII, Section 1. Conventions B. Voting Body 6a. Club Delegates.

Each adult member club shall be entitled to one (1) delegate for each 5 members or major fraction thereof, provided that each member club shall be entitled to at least two (2) delegates at any Ruritan National Convention.

2 **Ballot Issue from Approved National Board Motion 2020-08-05** – Proposes to eliminate the new member initiation fee.

Current: Bylaws of Ruritan National, Article III, Section 4. Item G. Fees – Membership. Each new member, through his/her respective club, shall pay to the Treasurer of Ruritan National, an initiation fee of \$3.00.

Proposed: Move to remove Section 4. Item G. Fees – Membership. entirely (“Item H” becomes the new “Item G”).

3 **Ballot Issue from National Board Motion 2020-08-04** – Proposes a membership Dues Adjustment. **Bylaws of Ruritan National, Article III, Section 4. Dues and Fees. Items A and B state.** (there are no proposed changes to this bylaw, it is just stated here for clarity)

- A. **Annual Dues.** The amount of annual national dues per member of each club shall be determined by the BOD provided requirements set forth below are met.
- B. **Dues Adjustment.** Any increase in dues shall not become effective until approved by a two-thirds vote of the delegates at the next Ruritan National Convention. Notice of such proposed dues increase shall be communicated to all members by any appropriate means at least 30 days prior to the Ruritan National Convention.

Current: Membership Dues are \$44.00 per year for all adult membership types.

Proposed: Move to approve a \$4.00 per year increase in the dues for all adult membership types (increase from \$44.00 to \$48.00 per year), to become effective in April 2021.

Ballot Issue #4 see back

Ballot Issue 4 to be Voted on by Delegates at the 2021 National Convention

4 **Ballot Issue from National Board Motion 2020-08-09** – Proposes an adjustment to the billing and due dates for membership dues and includes a change to the disciplinary action for non-payment of dues, shifting focus to the club instead of the member.

Current: Bylaws of Ruritan National, Article III, Section 4. Dues and Fees E. Dues and Fees.

Membership dues shall be due and payable quarterly to Ruritan National at the close of club business in January, April, July, and October. Any member who fails to pay his/her financial obligations to this organization in accordance with these bylaws may be suspended and/or forfeit his/her membership.

Proposed: Article III, Section 4. Dues and Fees E. Dues and Fees. Membership dues shall be billed on the 1st day of each quarter and payable to Ruritan National no later than the last day of January, April, July, and October. Any club which fails to pay its financial obligations to this organization, in accordance with these bylaws, may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension of its charter.



Ruritan Forever *A Perpetual Life Plan*

Please detach or photocopy this portion if you would like to participate in this endowment plan to secure the future of Ruritan, in your name or in the name of a fellow Ruritan.

Your Name: _____

Your Club Name: _____

Your Address: _____ Telephone: _____

This application is for: (check one)

Myself Current Member Deceased Ruritan Associate Member

Name of Applicant (If not you): _____

Applicant's Club: _____

Applicant's Address: _____

OPTION #1 Credit card number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

OPTION #2 Enclosed please find a check/money order for \$600 CVV: _____

OPTION #3 Enclosed please find the 1st \$200 installment of the \$600 Ruritan Forever fee.

I understand the perpetual life endowment will not begin until the entire \$600 has been paid.

Ruritan National Convention – Covington KY

January 28-31, 2021

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 emailed to the Ruritan attendee for his/her party. There are four 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: _____

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

I expect to be a voting delegate for the

_____ Ruritan Club

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

I expect to be a voting delegate for the

_____ Ruritan Club

Please note: Voting will be Friday only starting at 4 p.m. Delegate certification will close at 1 p.m. on Friday for walk-ins. You must pick one of the packages, 1-4, in order to vote. Even if you pre-register for Saturday only package you must vote on Friday. Staff will send remote voting instructions prior to convention.

We will be honoring Ruritan military veterans during the Convention. Please let us know your branch and era of service for special recognitions.

Names: _____ (Check one in each column)

U.S. Army

WWII

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 COVINGTON

While there is not a late fee for registrations to the National Convention this year, there is a deadline with the Covington Convention Center caterer for meal count guarantees. With that in mind, anyone waiting to register on-site in Covington (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 \$175. Send in your registration before the Dec. 28, 2020, cut-off date to be guaranteed meals. Kids meals are available upon request.

**** Please make sure to put your quest's name on this form so that we may have a name badge made.**

Ruritan National Convention – Covington KY January 28-31, 2021

Have it YOUR way! Choose one of FOUR package options for the 2021 Ruritan Convention.

Choose one of these four registration packages. **ALL Packages** 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 \$175

	Quantity	Cost	Total
Two meal package includes base fee, Friday First Lady's Lunch, and Saturday Installation Banquet	Package 1 BEST DEAL	\$200	
Friday only package includes base fee and Friday First Lady's Luncheon	Package 2	\$230	
Saturday only package includes base fee and Saturday Installation Banquet	Package 3	\$200	
No Meals - base registration only	Package 4	\$175	

Extra Meal Tickets and Items

Must purchase any package above to purchase additional meal tickets

	Quantity	Cost	Total
Friday Luncheon Honoring First Lady Anne	First Lady	\$55	
Saturday Installation Banquet	Banquet	\$85	
Rudy Bears - to be added as a gift to Covington charities	Rudy Bears	\$8.50	
Donation to St. Jude's Children's Hospital	Donation	\$	
	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/Discover/American Express

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, 2020

National Convention Safety Measure Update



Safe, confident, reassured, relieved, and excited are a few words to describe how the 2021 Convention team feels after a recent visit to Covington. We were shown how social distancing will be handled for our meetings, meals, workshops, and other events. We will be following NKY guidelines for social distancing which allows for a limited number of people at each table. The team is working closely with the convention center and hotels to make sure that you will be able to enjoy another great convention.

Your name badge, convention program, and annual report will be mailed to you two weeks prior to the convention. This will eliminate lines at the registration and credentials booth. Make sure you bring these items with you. We will not be printing extra copies.



COVID-19 safety guidelines and regulations are in place and will be followed by all attendees. A few changes that you will notice are at the Embassy Suites, which is currently not able to offer their breakfast buffet. They are offering a grab-and-go breakfast which consists of a boiled egg, granola bar, fresh fruit, muffin, and juice. Their nightly manager's reception will now consist of each adult receiving two tickets to redeem at the front desk. The Marriott is not able to offer their breakfast buffet at this time, but you may order from a modified menu. Social distancing is in place at both hotels for your safety.



Before you enter the convention center, all attendees must stop at the Covington 1 Room, located in the Marriott, for a quick temperature check. You will also be asked to fill out a short questionnaire concerning COVID-19 symptoms. Attendees will be required, by COVID-19 restrictions in place by the state of Kentucky, to wear face masks at all times when not in your hotel room. Please note that this is being done for your safety as well as the safety of your fellow Ruritans in attendance, and we ask that you follow these rules closely.

We will get through this Together!

Banquet Entertainment Landau Eugene Murphy, Jr.

Landau first burst onto the national conscience as the Sinatra-and-Soul singing season six winner of NBC TV's "America's Got Talent" with his incredible voice, undeniable charisma and unparalleled showmanship.

Backed by the dynamic Landau Big Band, you'll enjoy the arrangements of Great American Songbook classics, Dean Martin, Nat 'King' Cole and that special Motown Magic that we all love!

After the show, you'll have the opportunity to meet Landau one-on-one for photos and have the chance to talk with him about his incredible rags-to-riches story. "It's my favorite part of the night. Sometimes I'm the last one at the venue, talking to fans and friends. The janitor is waiting on me to lock up!"

Even in 2020 when all national touring entertainers were forced to cancel all their dates due to the pandemic, Landau kept busy with a series of online appearances. He was a presenter at the Casino Entertainment Awards, headlined several public service campaigns for COVID safety, Gold Star families, voter safety and hosted a virtual concert series. And, he put his time unable to tour and perform to good use, studying online for several months and receiving his high school equivalency diploma over 30 years after leaving high school. Landau said "Having a diploma is the difference for a lot of people between living in poverty their whole lives or having a solid foundation to succeed. I just wanted to show folks that it's never too late to achieve your dreams."



January 30, 2021

Please join us in Covington to hear this talented singer once again.





Ark Encounter Map & Guide

Ruritans! Make Plans to Vist the Ark During Your Stay!

Accessibility Options

Ark Encounter is proud to offer several services:

 need a walking, wheelchair, or electric scooter? We have a limited number of these items for the day.

 if you or a member of your party is sensitive to loud noises, please make customer service representatives for assistance.

 need assistance on the ark?
 For guests who are blind or have low vision, please ask a customer service representative about available guides for each deck of the ark.

 For guests who are blind, have low vision, or would benefit from a special tactile experience, please ask for assistance.

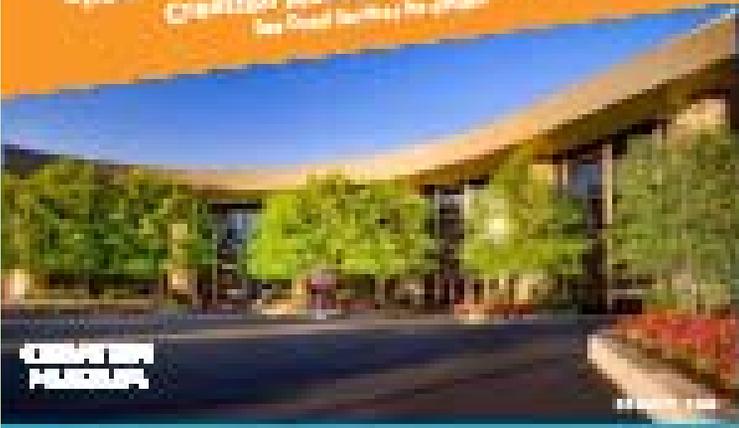
For more information about accessibility options, please visit arkencounter.com/accessibility.

 **Permitted to Park**
for parking and guest services or assistance. **ARK** logo.

 **Permitted to Park**

Incredible Value!

Upgrade your adventure with an Ark Encounter + Creation Museum Combo Ticket!
See how! [Click here for details.](#)



CREATION MUSEUM
FACILITY

 an education of Answers in Genesis.



Donate Rudy Bears to Brighton Center in Kentucky

Brighton Center - a community of support - wants our Rudy Bears for children who enter the program. Will you help us flood Brighton Center with Rudy Bears? Together-we can make a child smile! Call your Ruritan National Office 877-787-8727 and say "Yes" I want to donate a Rudy Bear to Brighton Center. You will be glad you did!

Mission

To create opportunities for individuals and families to reach self-sufficiency through family support services, education, employment and leadership.

Vision

To be an innovative leader that strengthens the vitality of the community and engages people as they work and live to achieve their hopes and dreams.

What We Do

Brighton Center wraps a community of support around individuals and families by tackling the issues that prevent people from becoming self-sufficient, removing the barriers they face, and creating hope so that goals can be achieved and dreams realized. From our modest beginnings in 1966, we have grown to provide a wide range of programs and services which include meeting basic needs, adult and early childhood education, workforce development, substance abuse recovery for women, affordable housing, financial education and counseling, youth services, and neighborhood based programs.

How We Change Lives

Our comprehensive approach to bundling services and programs allows us to meet the often complex needs of a family. Our approach is based on a philosophy that families become our partners in creating change by sharing their hopes and dreams then setting goals to accomplish them. Self-sufficiency is a constantly evolving process and we have learned that families move through the continuum based not only on their current situation but also their long-term goals. Our Financial Opportunity Center (FOC) model of service provides structure for bundling services for our customers from three core service areas: Employment Services, Financial Counseling, and Income Supports. The combination of services working in tandem empowers our customers through increased earnings; reduce expenses, and the knowledge to make appropriate financial decisions that lead to asset building. As an agency we bundle services based on the individualized needs of those we serve based on their hopes and dreams for the future.

Who We Serve

In Fiscal Year 2018, Brighton Center impacted the lives of 43,736 individuals from infants to senior citizens through 41 distinct programs and services in the Northern Kentucky / Greater Cincinnati area.

Why We Serve

Even the smallest of obstacles can lead to huge barriers in achieving stability. Each and every day we celebrate victories our families achieve as they build a strong foundation for life. We tackle the barriers that lead to a crisis in the first place.

Many of the people who come to Brighton Center have struggles related to:

Finding jobs paying a livable wage

Affordable housing

Quality childcare options

Help pursuing educational opportunities without taking on more debt

Managing their finances.

Where they see an impossible amount of barriers, we see strength and determination and with that, our families start believing again in what they had lost... HOPE!

Our Core Values

Everyone has inherent worth and dignity and will be treated with respect.

Families and individuals we serve know their situation best and are able to make decisions that affect their lives.

We promote strong relationships with families and individuals, partnering with them to build on their strengths and encourage them to be resources to each other and their community.



Join us at the First Lady Luncheon to hear Ashley Edwards and her first-hand experience with St Jude Children's Research Hospital

Our son, Caden, was a typical five year old boy who loved to play t-ball, work in the garden, and ride the golf cart with his Papa. He was full of life and energy. In the winter of 2016, Caden began to experience severe migraines, nausea and vomiting, erratic sleep patterns, and extreme lethargy. Despite many treatment plans from his pediatrician, Caden's symptoms did not subside. At one of his appointments, he did not pass the routine vision screening so we did a follow up with our family ophthalmologist. It was at this appointment we knew something was terribly wrong because Caden's optic nerves were severely swollen. The ophthalmologist sent us to Duke University Hospital and it was there on April 22, 2017, that Caden was diagnosed with a rare brain tumor called craniopharyngioma. Craniopharyngioma is a benign tumor that forms close to

the pituitary gland. Even though the tumor is benign, it has life altering effects. Caden developed permanent optic nerve damage, diabetes insipidus, adrenal insufficiency, hypothalamic obesity, and is on full hormone replacement for life.

To treat the tumor, Caden underwent a craniotomy at Duke and then we were referred to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, TN for proton radiation therapy. St. Jude is home to the world's first proton therapy center solely for children. St. Jude also has a renowned oncologist that specializes in craniopharyngioma. Once arriving in Memphis, our family was once again blindsided as we discovered that Caden would need to undergo another craniotomy before receiving 30 rounds of radiation all of which took place at St. Jude.

We stayed long-term at St. Jude from July to October. We were provided with a fully furnished apartment, daily meals, money for groceries, shuttle services, airline travel, and above all else peace-of-mind because our son was receiving the best treatment available. As a St. Jude family, we never received a bill for medical expenses, food, housing, or travel. Caden returns to St. Jude every six months for extensive blood work, MRIs, and follow-ups with speech, neurology, psychology, and endocrinology. St. Jude goes beyond just treating the patient. From the moment you step on campus you are fully consumed by people that put your child's health and family first.

We thank God for St. Jude and the blessing that they have been to our family and it is an honor to help support the **Ruritans** in their efforts to raise money for such a remarkable place. I can truly say that each and every penny that is donated to this hospital goes to saving children's lives.

-Ashley Edwards



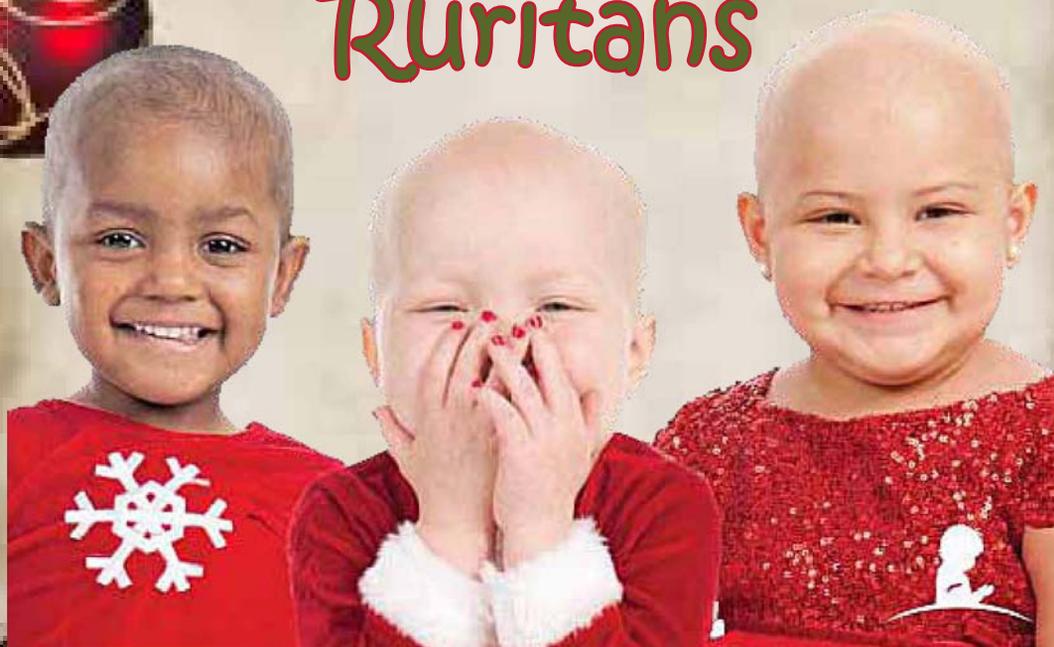
Donate Today!

<http://events.stjude.org/ruritannational>

***No Child should die in the dawn of life.
-Danny Thomas, Founder St. Jude***



Happy Holidays Ruritans



Ruritans We Did It!

We helped First Lady Anne not only reach her goal but nearly double it!
We have raised \$19,254! If you have not donated yet - there is still time!
Together-we can reach \$20,000!

Message From 2020 Foundation President Brent Wheeler



Continue to Support your Foundation

I still find it difficult to accept that this Ruritan year is rapidly ending. It has been anything but a normal year for each of us. Through it all the Foundation has continued to work. Our meetings with Investment Advisor Scott Carr have been ongoing and the pay out for BY\$ will be decided after our upcoming meeting.

With clubs only now beginning to meet, the Foundation made the decision to extend the deadline for club's \$300 deposit. The new deadline ended October 30th and was outlined in a blast update. Thank you to all who reached out to us and who took advantage of the extension.

As the Ruritan year comes to an end I would like to thank everyone for your support over the past years. Sheltering in place had not been my plan for this year but it was what was mandated for our safety. Safety was the reason for cancelling the Foundation Weekend. The hotel could not insure our safety nor provide the food and accommodations we have previously enjoyed. It is also why we haven't visit clubs and have watched other fun events being cancelled.

As our Ruritan National Convention approaches my years on the Foundation will end. I ask you to continue to support the Foundation with your donations and through its programs. Rest assured the Foundation will continue to grow under the direction of the 2021 Foundation President O.H. Bobbitt and the other Trustees. Again-thank you for this wonderful opportunity of service you have given me.

God Bless America and may He also Bless our efforts as Ruritans.

Ruritan National Foundation

2020 Board of Trustees

President: Brent Wheeler

Vice President: O.H. Bobbitt III

Secretary: Graham Bryant

Treasurer: Phillip Bradshaw

Promotion Chair: Guy Cox



Due to COVID-19 and the safety and health of all attendees, the Foundation Trustees voted to suspend the silent and live Foundation auction for the 2021 National Convention. So attendees are being asked to put away those items you planned to donate to the Foundation this year and bring them to Myrtle Beach, SC for the 2022 Ruritan National Convention.

Opt-Out of Ruritan Solicitation Communications

Ruritan partners with Gallagher Affinity so that businesses such as Office Depot, Lifeline Screening, Choice Hotels, and Hertz may offer special benefits to Ruritan members as an extra "thank you" for what Ruritan members are doing in their communities. The mailings come from Gallagher; the Ruritan mailing list is never given directly to these businesses.

You are under no obligation to respond but if you would prefer not to get those mail offers at all – you can let us know by calling us toll free 877-787-8727 ext. 303 and leaving a message to take you off those mailing lists. Just leave your name and your club name. Or email us at service@ruritan.org.

Ruritan staff may also send email blasts to Ruritan leaders about other offers – supply sales, donation opportunities (i.e. St. Jude's Children's Hospital) etc. You can also opt out of those email blasts by calling the same number and leaving a message or emailing us at service@ruritan.org.

*Note that there is a lead time on mailings and it could take 30 - 60 days to update mailing lists.

Great Bridge Honors Taylor Pruitt

Great Bridge Club recognized and honored a Dominion Energy employee. The club felt it wanted to recognize the efforts of Dominion Energy workers, who face dangerous conditions to make sure that our homes and businesses have power. The club selected Taylor Pruitt, an Electric Distribution First Class Lineman, for the award of Lineman of the Year. Pictured (l-r) are Greg



Boyce, Chesapeake Manager Electric Distribution and Construction; honoree Taylor Pruitt; Public Service Committee Chair and 2012 National President Phyllis Lewter; and Great Bridge Club President Charlie Young. Additionally, the club celebrated its 85th Anniversary. National President Linward Hedgspeth and First Lady Anne and National Director David Thompson attended. President Linward presented awards, and First Lady Anne received a donation for her St. Jude project. Pictured (l-r) are National Treasurer David Thompson, Bill Lewter, member with the most years of service and 2012 First Gentleman; Great Bridge Club President Charlie Young, and National President Linward Hedgspeth.



Hickory Holds Blood Drive



Under the leadership of club member Fred McKenna and several other club members, the **Hickory** Club has been holding blood drives at its clubhouse since 2009. Normally five blood drives are held annually and have resulted in the collection of over 1,600 units of blood. Although COVID-19 struck this country in January 2020, the club was allowed to continue with blood drives, and it is noteworthy to advise that the donations have almost doubled during the year 2020. Blood is always needed, and the Hickory Ruritan Club is proud to be a supporter of this most significant need. Club member Glenn Bucher is shown relaxing after his donation. Pictured donating blood is Event Chair Fred McKenna.

Community Steps in to Help Windsor Club

Windsor Club owes a debt of gratitude to businesses and club members in the greater Windsor community for their generosity. An appeal was made to the community to help fully fund the club's charitable giving to local organizations. Having to cancel its major annual fundraiser, members knew they would be unable to meet their annual goal for financial contributions. In response, \$15,250 was donated to the club to be distributed. Contributors were CK Brokerage, Manry Rawls Ins., Indika Farms, Holland Farms, Ted Lawson, Adam Bryant Durwood and Carolyn Scott, Mid-Atlantic Dairy Queen, Old Point National Bank, Scott and Associates Realty, Michael Roggmann, RW Baker Funeral Home, Colonial Farm Credit, Southern VA Forest Products, Commonwealth Gin, Farmers Bank, Windsor Hardware, and Birdsong Peanuts. Having canceled dinner meetings and fundraisers because of restrictions, the Windsor Ruritan Club voted that the money they would have spent should go to local groups above their regular contributions. The amount of \$5,000 was split between Foodbank of Southeastern VA., For Kids, Western Tidewater Free Clinic, and Suffolk Meals on Wheels.

Holland District Clubs Present Scholarships



Zuni Club President Charles Powell presented Philip Lee Bowden with a \$1,000 scholarship. Lee is attending James Madison University. He excelled in academics, was captain of the Windsor High School Football Team, an Eagle Scout, and volunteered in many community service projects.

Smithfield Club is pleased to announce the winners of its annual scholarship program. Madison Brooks Wells will be attending James Madison University; Hayden W. Gregory will be attending John Tyler Community College; Emily Orrock will be attending Old Dominion University; Victoria Jade Jarrell will be attending Virginia Commonwealth University. Each of these winners will receive \$1,000 to assist in their collegiate endeavors.



Congratulations and best of luck from the Smithfield Ruritan Club. Pictured are two of the recipients Emily Orrock and Victoria Jarrell.

Grassfield Ruritan Club did a drive-by scholarship award. President Russell Gwynn is shown presenting the check and certificate to Katie Williams. Her father Joe and uncle David assisted.

Grassfield Ruritan Club did a drive-by scholarship award. President Russell Gwynn is shown presenting the check and certificate to Katie Williams. Her father Joe and uncle David assisted.

Piankatank Celebrates 50th Anniversary



Piankatank Club celebrated its 50th anniversary. In attendance were several spouses of deceased charter members, community guests, surrounding Ruritan club members, and Ruritan National President Linward Hedgspeth and First Lady Anne. Hedgspeth presented Club

President Jennings Haynes with a commemoration certificate from the National Office.

Pictured from left are Zone Governor Don Sandridge, National Director Rebecca Lane Club President Jennings Haynes, and National President Linward Hedgspeth.

Montpelier Makes Brunswick Stew

Montpelier Club made 572 quarts of Brunswick Stew. Funds raised will support scholarships to seniors at Patrick Henry High School in 2021. Stew Master Dick Jones is shown lending a helping hand. If the paddle sticks straight up in the stew, the consistency is good. Helpers Michael Blunt (left) and Frank Overbey (right) keep the pot stirred.



Beverly Thomas Crocheted 116 Chemo Caps



Gloucester Club members were excited to be able to meet again since restrictions. Pictured at left is Beverly Thomas giving Don Sandridge, Ruritan Zone 4 Governor, 116 chemo caps she crocheted. Sandridge gave the caps to Rappahannock Community College nursing students to present to chemo patients. Pictured at right is Club President Lou Serio presenting Riverside Walter Reed Hospital's Emergency Director Shannon Klink 17 Rudy Bears. Bears will be presented to children who are treated



through the emergency department.

Caroline Moore received a scholarship. Caroline is a freshman at Rappahannock Community College and has been taking dual classes at the college since her sophomore year at Gloucester High School. When she turns 18 she plans to join the Air National Guard in pursuit of her lifetime dream of being an Air Force pilot.

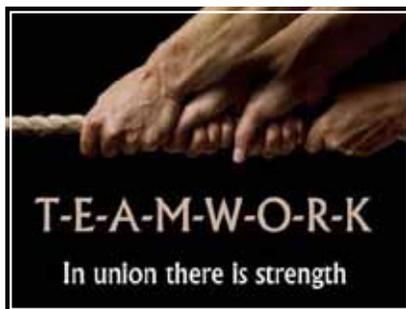


Short Pump Holds Charity Golf Tournament

Short Pump Ruritan Club organized twenty-four teams for their Annual Charity Golf Tournament which was held in September. The tournament honored the memory of WWII veteran Russell Scott who passed away last fall at age 99. In recent years, he was the honoree at the club's golf tournaments for his service as a tail-gunner in the Army Air Corp, a prisoner of war survivor, and longtime volunteer to organizations like the McGuire Veterans Hospital, the Virginia War Memorial, and his church. The tournament sponsor, *Old Dominion Insulation*, (Roddy Davoud), luncheon sponsor *BJU Architects* (Bill Upton), and gold-star sponsor *Morningstar Construction* (Mike Murphy) ensured through their generous



donations that this tournament would make a significant impact on the Short Pump community. The club supports numerous local charities, including major beneficiary, The Fisher House at McGuire Veterans Hospital in Richmond. Scholarships to area high school graduating seniors (six \$1,000 scholarships awarded in 2020) along with supporting charity organizations like the Crossover Medical Clinic, Hunters for the Hungry, Henrico Christmas Mother, Tuckahoe Rescue Squad, American Heart Association, Richmond Friends of the Homeless, Central Virginia Food Bank, and American Legion Boys/Girls State program are planned beneficiaries of the tournament proceeds. The club recognize the valuable assistance provided by their members and the volunteer services of National Director Becky Lane and Ralph Cantrell, Lt. Governor Chesapeake District. In addition, the diligent efforts of Past National Director Mike Morrison and Jane Allen of the Virginia Lottery added a significant number of teams to the tournament. Thanks to the sponsors, friends, volunteers, and members, this year's tournament was the most successful ever, netting over \$20,000.



Shawquon Makes 876 Pints of Apple Butter



Shawquon Club kicked off its annual Labor Day apple butter production. Golden Delicious Apples were used donated from Loretta McDonald's 1,500-acre Springwood Farms orchard near Stephens City. Over the course of two days, more than 4,000 apples were peeled, cored, and segmented by the apple peeler making three 50 gallon copper kettles of apple snits. Each kettle required 14 bushels of apples which, after peeling and core removal, were manually trimmed down to nine bushels of snits. The cooking of 27 bushels of snits took approximately 12 hours



per kettle and eventually produced 876 pint jars of delicious Shawquon Apple Butter.

Club President Gary Bunch said, "There is no better way to savor the sweet goodness of tasty homemade apple butter throughout the winter months than by keeping several pint jars in the kitchen cupboard. The club raised \$4,300 to be used for college scholarships to local high school seniors. Marshall Shiley and Merrill Hausenfluck (top right) are shown preparing apples to be manually placed in cups on an antique peeler. Karen Anderson, Joyce Hausenfluck, Pam Shiley and Loretta McDonald (top left) are shown working to remove any residual core, seeds, or skin from the apple pulp. Rick Keeler is shown stirring the apple butter.



Roaring Round Hill Plants Community Garden



Members of the **Roaring Round Hill** Ruri-Teens wondered how they were going to help the community during a time of isolation. They knew they wanted to continue to make a difference in the community but struggled to find ways to help. After a couple of discussions and trying to figure out what was needed during this time, the club decided to provide the basics, food. Together they spent the summer digging, planting, watering, nurturing, and weeding. Soon, the harvest would be ready for picking and delivering. With the help of family and friends the club was able to provide food to neighbors. Pictured are Samantha, Rebecca Wilson, and Heaven-Lee.

Don't forget to donate to St. Jude.
Visit <http://events.stjude.org/ruritannational>
to make your donation.

Leeds Names Baseball Field After Member

Leeds Club named a baseball field "Browning Field" in honor of Earl and Marie Browning. Earl also has 50 years of service to the Leeds Club. He is also a long-time member of the Warrenton Club. Pictured (l-r) are Marie Browning and their daughters Janet, Rebecca, Jill, grandson Zach, and Earl Browning.



Stonewall District Distributes 25,152 Gallons of Milk



Stonewall District Club President Joe Hulver was contacted in April by **South Berkeley** Club President Bobbi Anderson regarding an opportunity for his club to be an area distribution center for milk and produce. He asked Co-Treasurer Wilson Gilbert to take over as coordinator of the Milk Project and the work began. The Stonewall Club has distributed 25,152 gallons of milk and over 14,800 pounds of produce to area foods banks such as C-CAP, Salvation Army, The Life Church, Winchester Rescue Mission, Home Again Care Center, Victory Church and Stephens City United Methodist Church. Every Monday the Ruritans have two milk and produce drive up distribution centers, one at the Stonewall District Club building and the other at Greenwood Fire Hall on what they call "Free Milk Mondays" from 4-7 pm. Just on Mondays the Ruritans hand out over 560 gallons of milk and 400 pounds of produce to grateful members of their community. The milk has been supplied by Clover Farms Dairy of Reading, PA

and Dairy Maid Dairy of Frederick, MD and produce by area farmers. All is delivered to the Ruritan building walk in refrigerator every Friday by St. James Catholic Church of Charlestown, WV. This is all made possible by hard-working volunteers and grant money supplied by the U.S. Government. Through the end of September the club has logged 1,162 volunteer hours, doing what we Ruritans do best, serving our community!

Gil Strosnider and Dave Fishback Receive Tom Downing Fellows



Round Hill Club presented Gil Strosnider with a Tom Downing Fellow. Gil has been a major part of the club for over 20 years. He has spent countless hours giving to the club and community. He is the dedicated historian for not only the club but the area. His dedication and support shaped the club into what the club has become today. Pictured are 1994 Ruritan Foundation President Joe Hulver, Gil Strosnider, and District Governor Scott Reed.



Dave Fishback also received a Tom Downing Fellow for his devotion of countless hours and energy to make sure the club runs smoothly and everyone benefits. He has had a major impact in supporting other non-profits. His support to the Ruri-Teens has created a group of young adults who eagerly devote their time to helping the community. Pictured are Hulver, Past Club President Dave Fishback, and Reed.

To purchase a Tom Downing Fellow contact Bessie McCormick 877-787-8727 #302



News From Ruritan: Rappahannock District continued

Sterling Staying Positive

Sterling Club presented the Martha Hummer Memorial Fund certificate to spouse, Tom Hummer and daughter-in-law, Mary Hummer. This fund was established as a tribute to Martha's membership and support to the Ruritan organization, specifically, the Sterling Club.



During the month of July, the local chapter of the American Red Cross was unable to locate an available venue in which to hold their blood drives. The club offered up the use of its facility on two occasions. The Red Cross was very appreciative for the use of the club building and was successful in meeting its donor quota on both days.



News From Ruritan: Appomattox District



Tomahawk Club member Ed Hall, Ernie Jones, and Donald Jones received certificates for their 50 years of service to the club.



Thanks a Million Ruritans for donating to help fight childhood cancer!

<http://events.stjude.org/ruritannational>

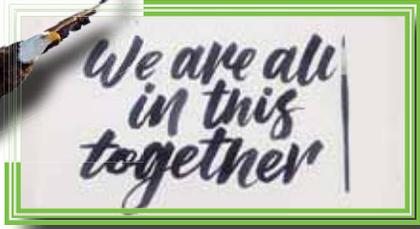


West Lunenburg Club members Fred Paynter and Mike Walker presented a scholarship check to Skylar Paynter, 2020 graduate from Central High School. Skylar is attending Southside VA. Community College and will continue her education in dental hygiene.

News From Ruritan: Southwest Virginia District

Nickelsville Gains Members

Nickelsville Club installed two new members. Pictured are Club President Ed Seiber, National President Elect Glen Broadwater with new members Albert and Lydia Morales.



News From Ruritan: Natural Bridge District

Falling Spring Holds Poker Run

Over 90 walkers, joggers, and cyclists of all ages participated in the Falling Spring Club's 6th Annual Poker Run along the Jackson River. The Falling Springs Fire Department helped make this year's event a huge success. Local businesses need to be acknowledged for their ongoing support and generous gifts. Three scholarships were presented from the proceeds of the poker run.



Natural Bridge Presents Scholarship

Natural Bridge Club presented a \$5,200 Trade School Scholarship to Jarrett Floyd, a 2020 Rockbridge High School graduate. Floyd's scholarship is for the welding certification offered through Byers Technical Institute. The club partnered with Natural Bridge Zoo and Byers Technical Institute for a complete tuition paid scholarship in excess of \$10,000. The club is focusing on Trade Scholarships of all types that will benefit the local community.



\$20



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Chris Cartwright Receives Tom Downing Fellow



Neither heat, nor rain, nor COVID-19 shall prevent Effinger Club from carrying out at least some of their many community-service promises and honoring long-serving club members. Club members surprised longtime Ruritan Chris Cartwright with a Tom Downing Fellow. Cartwright, a VMI graduate (Class of '62) and an active Ruritan member for nearly 19 years, was recognized by his club colleagues for his contributions dating back to 2001. Cartwright has served in an array of roles at the club, zone, and district levels, and has also been a delegate to Ruritan National Conventions.

In fact, national club officials sent their congratulations by video to be played at the award ceremony. Local officials -- Zone Governor Lynda Miller and Natural Bridge District Governor Cindy Durham -- also attended as VIP guests to offer Cartwright their support and congratulations.

"I had seen the great things Ruritans accomplished so I knew I wanted to

be part of it. Since joining the Ruritans, I have met and worked some of the finest people in our and other communities. To be honored by my fellow Effinger Ruritan Club members with the Tom Downing Fellow has been an overwhelming feeling for me and, indeed, a humbling experience," said Cartwright. Natural Bridge Zone 4 Governor Lynda Miller is shown presenting

To purchase a Tom Downing Fellow contact Bessie McCormick in the Foundation Department. 877-787-8727 #302



Cartwright with his Tom Downing Fellow.

The club also was pleased to present its \$2,500 college scholarship to Tristan Ayers, a 2020 graduate of Rockbridge County High School.

Tristan and her mother Jessica Ayers also attended the club's recent gathering in person and spoke with the membership about her background, current studies, and career plans. Tristan has played travel softball since she was eight years old and played for the RCHS Wildcats softball team from eighth grade to her senior year.

As a student athlete, Tristan said, she visited athletic trainers when faced with sports-related injuries, and soon developed an interest in this career field. She is currently taking general studies at Dabney S. Lancaster Community College, and plans to transfer to Radford University Carilion to obtain her degree as an athletic trainer.

"I am very humbled to have been chosen as the recipient of the 2020 Effinger Ruritan Club Scholarship. I attended Effinger Elementary from kindergarten to second grade before it closed and it was an awesome school! I am proud to be a part of such a wonderful and supportive community," said Tristan.



Fulks Run Hosts Truck and Tractor Show



Fulks Run Club hosted the annual Bill Harter Memorial Commercial/Antique Truck and Tractor Show in August. About 40 big rigs and 20 antique trucks and tractors were on display. Door prizes were given. Games, water balloons, and sand art were on-hand for the kids. It was great to see the community support for this annual event.

At the September meeting, the club was honored to present the proceeds from the show to Mary Hess. Hess is a lifelong resident of Fulks Run who was involved in a motorcycle accident in 2018. The donation will help to pay the medical expenses she incurred.

The club held its annual Fall Yard Sale to help with donations. Pictured are Mary Hess and Fulks Run Ruritan Club Secretary Lena Custer.

Hamburg Holds Successful Fundraiser

Hamburg Club held an Apple Dumpling and Country Fried Ham sandwich fundraiser. Workers were Joe Bowman, Landon Fadely, Dottie Farley, Dennis, Bill Funkhouser, Jerry and Margaret Gochenour, Katie Gosswein, Judy & Twyman Greene, Rick and Sharon Keesler, Brucce Lindamood, Judy Long, Jim Miller, and Karl Rosenbaum.



Belmont Community Staying Active



Rockingham District Zone Governor Keith Simmons presented the **Belmont Community Club** with a Blue Ribbon certificate and a 2019 Outstanding President Award to Carol Myers. The club donated to First Lady Anne Hedgspeth's St. Jude Project and to the Boys and Girls Club of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County. 100 small American Flags were purchased and placed around the community.

Don't forget to call the National Office to donate Rudy Bears to Brighton Center. 877-787-8727

News From Ruritan: Potomac District

St. Thomas Area Distributes Milk



IF WE AS A
COMMUNITY DON'T
STEP UP TO HELP
EACH OTHER, THEN
WHO WILL?

St. Thomas Area Club purchased and distributed 300 gallons of white milk and 300 half gallons of chocolate milk to area families. Residents lined up in their vehicles to receive their milk.

Lewistown Presents Scholarships

Lewistown Club presented scholarships to the following students: Michael Staley, UNC School of Arts; Sabrina Poore, Shepherd University; Douglas Isanogle, American University; Allison Rippeon, Shippensburg University; William Ochs, Frederick Community College; William Anderson, William and Mary College; Aaron Matlock, Shepherd University; Sahel Kargar-Javahersaz, University of Maryland; and Allison Howard, Anne Arundel Community College.



News From Ruritan: Albemarle District



Nixonton Club Treasurer Bryant Sawyer presented Morgan DeCastillia with a BY\$ Scholarship.

If you would like more information on the BY\$ program, contact Bessie at the National Office. 877-787-8727 #302

Cecil Taylor Celebrates 100th Birthday



Hall Club Charter member Cecil Taylor had his 100th birthday. The community held a parade of 50 vehicles, in his honor, led by the sheriff and the Eure Fire Department.

If you would like to donate to St. Jude but do not use the internet -
NO PROBLEM!
Make your donation check payable to Ruritan National. On the memo line put St. Jude Donation. We will make sure your donation gets to our St. Jude Team!

"We cannot seek achievement for ourselves and forget about progress and prosperity for our community... Our ambitions must be broad enough to include the aspirations and needs of others, for their sakes and for our own."

Clara Chase



News From Ruritan: Albemarle District continued

Durants Neck Donates Food to Families



Durants Neck Club donated food to 48 families in the area. Pictured top left (l-r) are Dale Trevors, Cindy Berrio, Carol Olean, Joyce Gurganus, Dan Trevors, and Dan Gurganus. Pictured top right (l-r) are Dale Trevors, Chuck Olean, Carol Olean, Dan Gurganus, Kim Harcum, Joyce Gurganus, Rose Thomas, Lynn Mathis, Cindy Borrio, Jerry Harcum, Nancy Lodge, and Dan Trevors.

News From Ruritan: Rocky Mt. Durham District

Coopers Breaks Ground for New Club Building

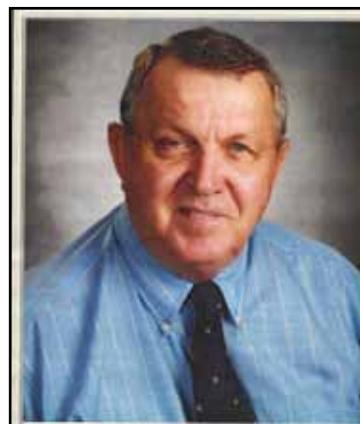


In September, the **Coopers** Club held a groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of the new club house. This new facility will enable the club to provide meals for EMS workers, firefighters, and emergency workers as well as displaced families in the event of a disaster in the area.

Kathleen Anderson Celebrates 100th Birthday



Kathleen "Bill" Anderson, the oldest and still active member of the **Rougemont** Club celebrated her 100th birthday on October 14, 2020. She was surrounded by her family but due to safety restrictions she received well over 100 birthday cards from club members and community friends to help her celebrate. Her beautiful smile reflected in the photo shows the pleasant personality she has and her continued support of the Ruritan Club and her community.



Dortches Club members made monetary donations to the club in memory of the late Past Club President Kirby Brown.



Be Kind to Others

New Hope and Pinetown Present Scholarships



New Hope Club gave four scholarships and an Outstanding FFA student award during the August club meeting. Pictured in the back (l-r) are Club President Nancy Dawson, Cooper Edmundson - Winston Best Scholarship; Angus Dove - D.W.Kneeshaw Scholarship; Pictured in the front (l-r) are Katlyn Ellis - Outstanding FFA Student; and Amber Trivitte - Woody Anderson Scholarship. Not pictured is Kylie Warrick- BY\$ Scholarship recipient

Pinetown Club presented two seniors \$500 scholarships. Katie Young a graduate from Northside High School plans to attend ECU

and Sarabeth Boyd a graduate from Northside High School plans to attend Meredith College. Pictured (l-r) are Katie Young, Club President Myra Strickland, and Sarabeth Boyd.



Johnsonville Sells Barbeque



The **Johnsonville** Ruritans Pickup- and Delivery BBQ chicken fundraiser was a combined effort this year. The Cameron Hill Community Outreach group (top right) manned seven grills, cooking delicious meat that fell off the bone, while



the Ruritans managed the selling of tickets, publicity, providing homemade desserts, and filling plates. This fundraiser was a huge success. Pictured working in the kitchen are (l-r) Karen Cox, Marion Kastern, John Schneider, Harriet Sampieri, President Rodger Nicely, and Carol Schneider. Collecting tickets from customer

Rachel Webb was Club Secretary Louise Taylor.

Members Larry Taylor and Mike Lancaster took advantage of cooler fall temperatures to power wash the Johnsonville Community Center sign.



News From Ruritan: Cape Fear District continued

Grays Creek Holds Community Outreach

Grays Creek Club held a community outreach by providing a smoked pork roast lunch with fixins' to frontline workers. Donations were given by several local businesses to help make this event possible. On a later date, the club sold additional plates for donations raising about \$1,000 which was donated to the Gray's Creek Christian Center. From this outreach, the Gray's Creek Club gained six new members!



In other news, the club presented \$4,000 to seven 2020 graduates. Cape Fear Lt.

Governor Roger Peterson presented the awards to Hailey Pait, Sally-Ann Nunnery, Zach Collins, Christian Anderson, Gage Thompson, Taylor Nail, and Treasurer Frank Roberts. Not present was BY\$ recipient Rebecca Collins.



News From Ruritan: Spartan District

Middle Tyger Presents Goodie Bags to Hospitals



Riders enjoyed the **Middle Tyger** Club's annual Hunter/Pace event. Riders had the choice of Field Hunter or Trail Rider Division raising approximately \$3,100 for the club's hospital bag program. Hand-painted bags with puzzles, toys, bubbles, coloring books, and crayons are filled and given to children who are battling cancer. The club part-

ners with Children's Cancer Partners of the Carolinas who distributes the bags. Middle Tyger Club Director Ed Hyatt presented his grandson Maxwell Wascom with a \$600 scholarship. Max is a 2019 Wade Hampton High School graduate and is attending the University of South Carolina. Club Director Leslie Scott presented a scholarship to Katheryn Eilders. Katheryn is a 2019 graduate of Highpoint Academy and now attends Spartanburg Methodist College majoring in business administration.



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\$9



News From Ruritan: Columbia District



Pineview Donates Comfort Bags

Pineview Club donated 20 comfort bags to the Chris Myers Children and Family Place in Lexington, SC. Pictured (l-r) are 1998 Ruritan National President Gary Taylor, Co-Directors Carol Perrin and Donna Jerman, and 2007 Ruritan National First Lady Fran Bristow.

1983 Past National President James Amick and **Lower Richland** Club President Betty Standfield presented Lyona Richardson with a BY\$ scholarship.



Ruritan Flag/U.S. Lapel Pin

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News From Ruritan: Lower West Virginia District



Maxwelton Purchases Fire Hydrants

Maxwelton Club purchased three fire hydrants for the community. This project will give the local rural community access to water if the need arises. The club worked with the Frankford Fire Department and the public works department to determine the best placement of the hydrants. Proceeds from the sale of ice cream at the West Virginia State Fair funded the project. The goal is to install three more in the area this year, and up to 10 in the future. Pictured in the front (l-r) are Bill Zink and Robert Hefner. Pictured in the back (l-r) are National Director Larry Bowman, Debbie Bowman, Gary Wallace, Kenny Vance, Mike Williams, and Brandon Carpenter.



Renick Presents Scholarships

Renick Club joined with Bones and Cones of Frankford to raise over \$1,600 for the Matthew Gabbert Scholarship Fund. The club presents this scholarship each spring to graduating seniors from the Renick area. Due to Covid-19, the club was unable to hold four fundraisers, but still presented two \$800 scholarships. Recipients for 2020 were Lindsey Richmond and Brikenzie Baldwin. Pictured are Donna Legg, David Ramsey, Charlie Workman, Richard Johnston, Laura Rhodes, Twyla Diehl, Ashleigh

Johnston, Madilyn Wellman, John Dale Sheets, and Glen Diehl. Workers not pictured were BJ and Cheryl Workman, Lois McCutcheon, Tim and Debbie Yates, and John Walkup.

News From Ruritan: Bluegrass District



Past National Director Marty Sewell presented a \$300 donation on behalf of **Union City Club** to Victoria Bengé of Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Madison and Clark counties. CASA advocates for a safe, permanent and nurturing home for abused, neglected and dependent children as assigned within the court system.



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\$9

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News From Ruritan: Tennessean District

James B. Robinson Celebrates 100th Birthday



Bloomingdale Club recently honored James B. Robinson for his 100th birthday. He is a WWII Navy Veteran having served in the Pacific Theatre. After his service in the Navy, he married and returned to Kingsport, TN. He taught school and later became principal at Ketron High School then Sullivan North High, both in the Bloomingdale Community. He worked over 30 years in the school system. Club President Gary Collier honored him with a community service plaque and with an honorary membership. He also received a signed letter, signed portrait, and signed sticker from USA President Donald Trump. A drive-by party was also held on his home street with folks driving by and waving and dropping off cards as he sat in his driveway.

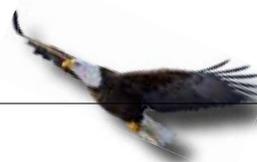
News From Ruritan: Cherokee District



Ballplay/Tellico Works Thrift Store

The Food Pantry/Thrift Store has been a long-term project of the **Ballplay/Tellico** Club which has volunteered many hours. A total of 1400 hours have been donated by Ivy Schielke, Joe and Sue Leta, and John Bearlepp. They staff up the store, run errands, and pick up food from generous donors. The items in the store are donated by local citizens and sold to raise money to

buy food for families in need. Pictured in front of the store are President of the Tellico Plains Food Pantry and Thrift Store Diana Murphy with Cherokee District Governor James Dobbs.



News From Ruritan: Ohio District



Laker Supports Band Boosters

Laker Club President George Graham presented a check for \$1,000 to Pymatuning Valley Band Booster President Nikki Miller for continued support of the PV Bands directed by Justin Dye. On-hand to witness the presentation was Club

Vice-President Roy Dotterweich.

A quilt raffle and gun raffle were held at the Andover Volunteer Fire Department. The winner of the gun was Kristen Arkkeln from Ashtabula and the winner of the quilt was Marie Skaggs from the Pittsburg area.



News From Ruritan: Western North Carolina District

Chesterfield Holds Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser



Chesterfield Ruritan Club held a drive-thru spaghetti dinner fundraiser for the Powell family. Susan Powell who worked at NC School for the Deaf, suffered a stroke one year ago creating a financial hardship for her family. Club Vice President Mike Smith and Treasurer Charles Duckworth presented \$1,240 to Susan and Bruce Powell.



\$10

Medium profile six panel structured hat. Camouflage twill with matching camo mesh back. Adjustable plastic snap tab.

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Gerald Sprinkle Makes a Difference in his Community



Gerald Sprinkle has been a member of **Gamewell Club** for 39 years. He had an idea to make homemade soup for the community since the club couldn't hold fundraisers this year. He lost his younger brother David Sprinkle in April and wanted to do something in remembrance of him. Gerald's wife Judy had a good recipe for homemade soup so Gerald thought that would be a good thing to make. He gave some to senior citizens, veterans families, and anyone that just wanted to try it including members of the club. He also added other grocery items for distribution. He makes one run a week which produces about 18 jars and it takes him about three hours. He also spends another two hours a week or so delivering the bags of food



and shopping for supplies etc. He said to date he has made about 250 quarts of soup and provided about 750 meals. Each jar makes about two meals. "He has been an asset to the community in more ways than one," said Vice President LeeAnn Gragg.

Lowe's Donates Masks to Kings Creek



Lowe's Home Improvement store in Lenoir, NC donated 650 face masks to the **Kings Creek Club**. The club will utilize the masks to further their work in the Kings Creek community. Pictured (l-r) are Lowe's Store Manager Janie Patton, Hiring Manager Mara Butler, Club Director Evelyn Lipford, Club President Cecil Hunt, and CSA Malia Kirby.

The club donated 20 roasted chicken dinners to the staff at Bethel Colony of Mercy in appreciation of their hard work. Bethel Colony provides a free residential program for those suffering from addiction.



\$12.75

We Have Aprons!

Two large pockets and adjustable neck strap. Long ties for back or front closure. Size: 34" L x 23" W. Machine washable.



\$8.50

This apron has three divisional pockets, long ties for back or front closure, and bar tacking for extra reinforcement. Size: 11" L x 23" W. Machine washable.

Pungoteague Works Together



Pungoteague Club built a 32-foot wheelchair ramp for a handicapped resident. The club was assisted by Donnie Campell and John Inman who are pictured in the back. Club members that helped were (l-r) Dennis Melon, David Shaw, Paul Custis, Taylor Dukes, and Herman Hohlt. Doug Wehner, and Bill Sterling also assisted.

Club President Bill Sterling presented a \$1,000 scholarship each to Nathan Bradford, McKenzie Mabalot, and Joe Teasley. The scholarships are based on academics and service to the community. Bradford, pictured second from right with his parents, Dan and Wendy Bradford of Belle Haven is a student at Eastern Shore Community College and plans to pursue a vocation that will enable him to work in the field, such as a game and fisheries officer. Mabalot, the daughter of Ben and Julie Mabalot of Pungoteague, is a graduate of Broadwater Academy and is attending classes at the University of Virginia, where she plans on majoring in pre-med. She hopes to eventually return to the Eastern Shore as a doctor. Teasley, the son of Alan and Elizabeth Teasley of Belle Haven and a graduate of Nandua High School, is attending classes at Virginia Military Institute. Upon graduation, he plans on serving in the military in both active and reserve units before entering business.



The club joined with Onancock Rotary Club and held the 2020 Bayside Poker Run. Over \$5,000 will be distributed to 10 non-profit organizations providing a variety of services on the Eastern Shore and for local scholarships to students needing financial help to continue their education. Over \$3,000 in prizes were awarded to the 29 entrants and crews navigating their way along three creeks on the Chesapeake Bay. The Pungoteague Ruritan Club has held the event independently for the past 13 years and collaborated this year with the local Rotary Club. Pictured from left are Paul Custis and Bill Sterling of the Pungoteague Ruritan Club and Courtney Nottingham, Andre Elliott and John T. Williams of the Onancock Rotary Club.



News From Ruritan: Piedmont District

Brushy Mountain Builds Ramp

Brushy Mountain Club built a ramp for Senior Citizen Hessie (age 90). Hessie loved her ramp so much that she asked club members to take her picture.



Cool Spring Donates Thermometers to School



Cool Spring Club donated 10 thermometers to Cool Spring Elementary School. Pictured (l-r) are Club President Billy Hobbs, Cool Spring Elementary School Principal Judy Hix, and Club members Judy and Pete Athey.



News From Ruritan: Dan River District

Patrick Springs Presents Bob Pendleton and Ronnie Mabe with 50 Year Service Certificates and Tom Downing Fellows



50 years of being AWESOME

News From Ruritan: Dan River District continued

Aarons Creek and Mt. Laurel Present Scholarships



Pictured top left (l-r) are **Aarons Creek Club's** scholarship recipients Madison Anderson, J. Trevor Long, Cale Newton, Gabrielle Roach, Travis Howerton, Andy Bryant (accepting for Christian Cole), and Lance Newton.

Mt. Laurel Club (top right) presented a \$400 scholarship to Alexandra Anderson who is attending DCC this fall and a \$400 scholarship to Kassidy Irby who is in her third year at UVA majoring in kinesiology.

News From Ruritan: Davy Crockett District



Mt. Pleasant Adopts Cemetery

Believing that a community is only as good as the care and respect it gives its pioneers, the **Mt. Pleasant Club** has adopted the Kerbaugh-Myers-Trobaugh Cemetery located on Pruitt Road South in Greene County. This cemetery is the oldest of the three known burial grounds in the Mt. Pleasant Community and is the final resting place of many of the early pioneer families of Western Greene County. Hilary Harrison, Howard Whaley, Bonnie Hartman, Shirley Yehl, Lynn Hartman, Jim Yehl, Linda Townsend, Caroline Fike, and Jimmy Townsend placed flags throughout the graveyard.

News From Ruritan: Smoky Mountain District

Gibbs and Parrottsville Present Scholarships

Gibbs Club's scholarship winners received \$1,000 each. Pictured in the front (l-r) are Scholarship Chair Ethan Humphries, Rebecca Longmire, and Carter Graven. Pictured in the back are Arlis Dominguez and Annie (Nisi) Powers.

Parrottsville Club presented a \$1,000 scholarship each to Christopher Ball, Kaci Heavner, and Max Hammonds. (pictured right)



News From Ruritan: Smoky Mountain District continued

Herb Sane, Billy Park, and Guy Hommell Recognized for 50 + Years of Service



Parrottsville Club Members were presented 50-plus-year name badges from National Director Lynn Fillers and Club President Fred Beaver. Pictured are Herb Sane (63 years), Reba Faye Sane, Billy Park (50-years), Alice Park, and Ronnie Hommell who accepted his father Guy Hommell, Sr.'s



name badge (57 years.) Guy passed away recently.

Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award was presented to Sergeant Wes Keys by Club President Fred Beaver.

News From Ruritan: Rapidan District



Belmont Club held its first annual Captain's Choice Golf Tournament at Meadows Farms Golf Course. Even though only 10, four-person teams participated, the club raised over \$5,500 for educational scholarships.

TOUGH
TIMES
don't last
TOUGH
TEAMS
DO

News From Ruritan: New York Area

Tioughnioga Holds Free Community Concerts



Tioughnioga Club provided free Wednesday night concerts in July and August at the De-Ruyter Village Green. Musicians played in the gazebo built by club members.

Don't Give Up - Give Back!

The MMS is a Useful Tool for All Ruritans

The Ruritan Membership Management System (MMS) can work for all Ruritans and all Ruritan officers, if you know what options are available. Every Ruritan member is entitled to log into the MMS. If you need assistance – contact the staff at service@ruritan.org or toll free at 877-787-8727. Your "Member ID" is your member number which appears on your RURITAN magazine mailing label. Staff can generate a temporary password for you to use the first time you log on and you can create your own secure password for future use.

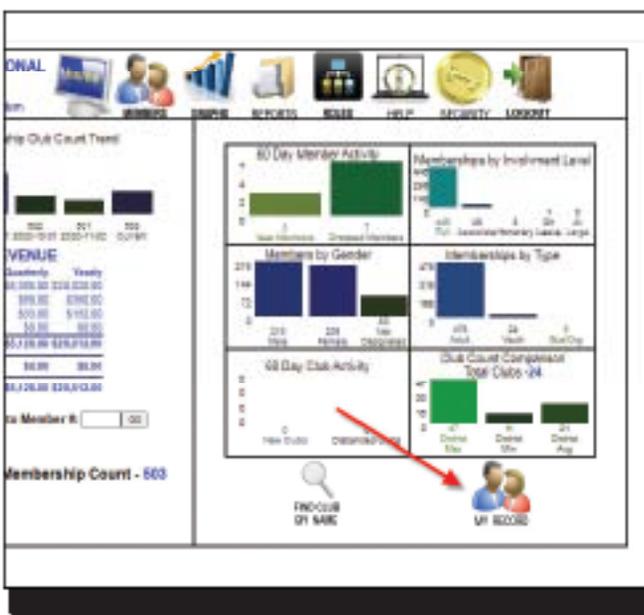
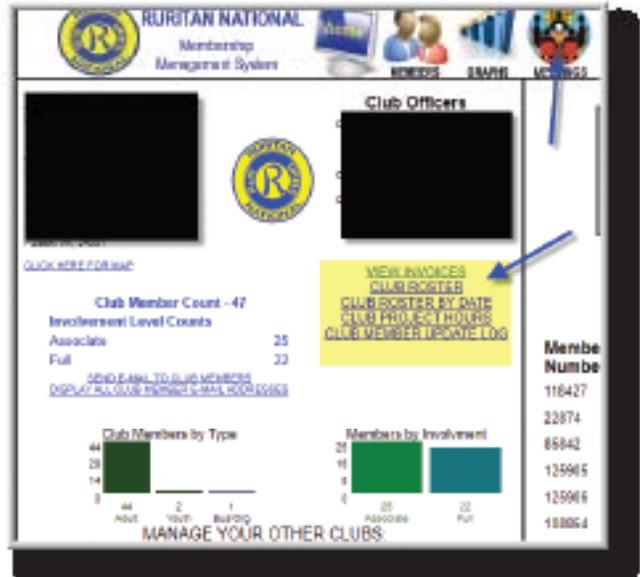
What can the average Ruritan member see on the MMS? It depends upon the offices you have held. If you have never held a club or district office, you will only see your own information. And who is better than YOU to correct and edit that information? Feel free to fix errors in your mailing address, phone numbers etc. Always click "update" at the bottom of the screen when you finish editing your information.

From your personal page you can also take on-line training modules and register for events, such as the national convention.

If you are currently, or have ever been, a club officer – when you log on the MMS you land on your club's home page. From there you can review each club member's information, record project hours, update meeting attendance and pull rosters and other reports. You can also now see your history of quarterly invoices and even when payments have been applied. You may choose "my record" in the lower right corner at any time and go directly to your own page where you can edit your data, take training, and register for the convention.

Club officers can review rosters and make sure all the members' involvement level and membership type are correct (i.e. youth or adult; associate or active.) The more accurate each club's data is – the more accurate the database will be for us all.

If you are a district officer (or have ever been a district officer) you will end up on your district's home page when you log on the MMS. From there you can pull reports, like membership statistics, club dues balances, and your district directory.



This information will help you, as a district officer, to focus attention on clubs who seem to be struggling with members or behind on dues payments. You can also congratulate clubs who are growing and active. You can help clubs set goals for growth and recovery. You can bring these issues to the attention of the rest of your district cabinet with good data from the MMS to back up your concerns.

You can also, of course, choose "my record" from the bottom right corner to see your data, use the on-line training, and register for events.

If you have any questions about using the MMS – your Ruritan staff stands ready to help you get the most out of the data management system. The 2021 Club and District Officers' Handbook also features detailed information (pages 5-9) on the MMS and how to make the most of the options at each level of use.

The MMS provides a wealth of information for Ruritans to manage their own data, for clubs to maintain accurate records and for district officers to provide the best support for Ruritans who are working hard to improve America's communities.



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