



Ruritan

Volume 87, Winter 2022

2023 NATIONAL CONVENTION
JANUARY 19-22
INFORMATION AND UPDATES
BEGIN ON PAGE 6



Ruritan

Volume 87, Winter 2022

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2022 National President Glen Broadwater



My Ruritan family, it is unreal how fast time goes. It seems only a few days ago that we were in Myrtle Beach and here is November. As I have visited and talked with many of you, I am reassured that Ruritan clubs are functioning and serving our communities as needs arise. Our organization is unique in that the club can do what is needed in the community without national micromanaging.

Linda and I recently had the privilege of being present for the chartering of the Skillet Fork Club in Mill Shoals, Illinois. The excitement and enthusiasm were off the charts. All officers were installed. Immediately after the club dismissed, the directors met to set the agenda for their November meeting. It is so exciting to see this type of growth. We each need to do our part to expand our Ruritan footprint to help all communities across America thrive.

As our year winds down and with holidays approaching, let's not take our eyes off our future of making Ruritan the biggest and best. The larger we become the more we can serve. We must continue to charter new clubs and build up our own with new members. Empower new members to be involved and become leaders. When we believe we can, we will succeed.

Finally, while clubs are tasked with surveying and fulfilling the needs of the community, as an organization, the National Board of Directors is tasked with making important decisions that move us forward. We elect the Board to oversee the organization and trust them to make those decisions. While we may not always agree with those decisions, understand that they are made to ensure a healthy and stable future. As US Navy Rear Admiral Grace Hopper stated, **"The Most Damaging Phrase in the English Language is, 'It's Always Been Done That Way.'"**

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Greetings my fellow Ruritans and Happy Holidays. Have you answered my call? Have you been intentional with your actions, communications, and planning? Have you lived life with an enthusiastic, positive attitude with the will to win and the dedication to make a difference?

If you have, you may have already experienced what I want to share with you in this message. “Only by giving are you able to receive more than you already have.” – Jim Rohn

Volunteering by giving of your time, talents and treasures can have surprising personal benefits. Volunteering can connect you with others, counteract the effects of stress anger and anxiety and bring fulfillment to your life. Volunteering can combat depression and it makes you happy. Volunteering can increase self-confidence, provide a sense of purpose and helps you stay physically healthy.

My doctor once told me, “If you don’t move it, you will lose it.” This applies to both your body strength, and mental acuity. Studies have shown that volunteers have a lower mortality rate. We walk more, find it easier to cope with everyday tasks, are less likely to develop high blood pressure, and have better thinking skills. I have also found when I am focused on giving to others, I am less likely to be concerned with my own worries and challenges.

So, what I wish for each of you this holiday season is to embrace the joy of giving. Embrace it not only for the good it will do for your community and those you serve but embrace it for yourself. Serve with compassion, enthusiasm, an open mind, and a willingness to pitch in wherever needed. Soak up the fellowship within Ruritan, spread goodwill to your friends, relatives, associates, and neighbors, and receive more than you already have.

Finally, I want to thank the Ruritan National Board of Directors and Staff for their dedication to Ruritan this year. I am appreciative and grateful to work with you in my first year as Ruritan’s Executive Director. I want to commend the board and board committees for meeting more frequently than ever before. The more times you get together to talk about the health and well-being of our organization, the more times you can affect the health and well-being of our incredible organization.

I want to commend the staff for going above and beyond every day to support our members, the board and myself. The staff cares abundantly in doing the very best for the organization and have been instrumental in moving our organization forward day to day.



Wow, can you believe the 2022 Ruritan National Foundation Fiscal year has come to an end. Your Ruritan National Foundation Trustees continue to work to make the Foundation as efficient as possible and at the same time protect the assets that you have placed in our care. I think we are all aware that the markets have not been many people's friends this year, but your Trustees have continued to work with the RNF Investment Advisor to maintain the balanced portfolio while providing the cash necessary to deliver the Build Your Dollar and contract fund scholarships. This year was a first for the RNF as the Build Your Dollar match was 150%.

Thank you to the 438 clubs who awarded \$328,000 in Build You Dollar scholarships during the 2022 award year. 463 clubs made the wise decision to send their deposit for the 2023 Build Your Dollar award year. The 2023 match will be announced at the National Convention in Kingsport.

For the first time in two years the Ruritan National Foundation Trustees were able to host a RNF Weekend. This year's RNF Weekend was held in Pigeon Forge and had approximately 75 attendees.

Your RNF Trustees are also excited to let everyone know that again for the first time in two years we will host both a silent and live auction at the Ruritan National Convention in Kingsport. Please bring items that you would have in your own home for the silent auction.

I would like to personally thank Graham Bryant, Phillip Bradshaw, Guy Cox, Josh Adams, and Brent Wheeler (ex-officio member) for the commitment and expertise that each of them has brought to the RNF Trustees board. I would also be remiss if I did not thank Bessie McCormick, Foundation Specialist. Bessie has brought a level of administration to the RNF that we have not seen in a long time.

I appreciate the opportunity that Ruritans have provide to me to serve as the 2022 RNF President/Trustee and look forward to supporting the RNF in whatever opportunity may present itself in the future.



2023 NATIONAL CANDIDATES



National Secretary (unexpired 2 year term)

Juliann Poff
3289 Vickers Switch Road
Christiansburg, VA 24073
Phone: (540) 320-1125 (Cell)
Email: jopoff.jp@gmail.com

CLUB: I have served in leadership roles since 1997 serving as Director (3 yrs), Secretary (3 yrs), Treasurer (14 yrs), Vice President, and President (2 yrs).

DISTRICT: Zone Governor, District Secretary (4 yrs), Publicity chair, Convention Chair (4 yrs), Lt. Governor, District Governor, Association of Virginia Ruritans Secretary

NATIONAL: Ruritan Forever, Gold Key Recipient, Registration Committee, Sergeant at Arms Committee, Convention Co-Chair (1/2 year). I have attended multiple Summer Leadership Conferences, attended 29 National Conventions.

EDUCATION: Master of Business Administration-Management, American National University; Bachelor of Business - Management, American National University, Project Management Professional (PMP) - Project Management International (PMI).

OCCUPATION: Business Development Manager-Integrated Risk Management at Gannett Fleming, Inc. Committee Administrator - Risk and Resilience Committee

OTHER: American Business Women's Association - New River Express Network member. Past leadership roles include Treasurer, Vice President, President. 2013 Woman of the Year. Married to Rick for 32 years. Children: Julie (Scott), Ritchie, Benjamin (Amanda), Christopher (Maddie) and have six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren



National Director

Larry Garrison
2107 Sheffield Ct. NW
Conover, NC 28613
Phone: (828) 308-8163
(Home)
Email: tgarr0607@aol.com

CLUB: Member of the Bethlehem NC club in the Western North Carolina District. Club President for 2022 and for 2023; Club Vice President for 2019 and 2021; Club Director for 2020

DISTRICT: Western North Carolina District Zone 6 Governor for 2022

NATIONAL: Ruritan Forever in 2021; Attended the 2021 and 2022 Summer Leadership Conference.

EDUCATION: High School Diploma from St. Stephens High School

OCCUPATION: 22.5 Years at the City of Hickory, Crew Leader; NC Roads Scholar

OTHER: Member of the Hickory Aviation Museum

*Please refer to
your Ruritan Fall
2022 magazine for
additional candidates*

2023 NATIONAL CANDIDATES



National Director

Merlin Scales
3470 Riverside Drive
Mount Airy, NC 27030
Phone: (336) 325-5990
(Home)
Email: merlinscales@hotmail.com

CLUB: Member of Ararat Club in the Dan River District. Served as President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. Served on all the club committees. First joined Ruritan in 1983 through the rising Senior Program.

DISTRICT: Dan River District Zone 1 Governor.

NATIONAL: Attended the National Convention in 2022 and the Summer Leadership Conference in 2022. I am a Tom Downing Fellow; a Ruritan Forever; and a President's Golden Key holder.

EDUCATION: Mount Airy Senior High School; Surry Community College where I received an Associates Degree in Electronic Engineering; Surry Community College where I received an Associates Degree in Criminal Justice; Gardner Webb University where I received a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice.

OCCUPATION: Raised on a family Tobacco Farm; worked in a textile mill; worked on a power line crew and as a HVAC service technician. 12 years in Law Enforcement from Patrol to Chief of Police. Built and managed "Rabbit Ridge" a gun shop and shooting range for 22 years until selling the business in 2021. Currently I am the Magistrate in Surry County NC.

OTHER: Believer in Jesus Christ. Life member of Renfro Masonic Lodge Mt. Airy NC and on the Board of Directors for Mount Airy Masonic Properties; Life member of NRA; NRA certified Pistol, Rifle, Shotgun and Personal Protection in the Home Instructor and certified Range Safety Officer; NC Criminal Justice Certified instructor for Concealed Carry Handgun Training. My Ruritan motto is "Our door is open, Help us in helping others".



National Director

Pearl Underwood
521 Marple Road
Winchester, VA 22603
Phone: (540) 535-0022 (H)
Phone: (540) 665-4827 (W)
Email: pearl260@comcast.net

CLUB: Round Hill Ruritan (VA), served as Club President 2017; Club Vice President 2016; Club Secretary 2019 to present; Advisor to Roaring Round Hill Ruri-teens; Round Hill Ruritan of the Year; Scholarship Chair.

DISTRICT: District Secretary 2016; District Lt Governor 2017; District Governor 2018; District Secretary 2018-present.

NATIONAL: Sargent-at-Arms 2018 and 2019 Conventions; Flag Ceremony participant; Attended Summer Leadership Conference; Attended 8 National Conventions

EDUCATION: Master of Science in Computers in Education - Shenandoah University; Bachelor of Science in Psychology - Shenandoah University.

OCCUPATION: Employed at Shenandoah University for 44 years. Debriefer for Lord Fairfax EMS Council; Founder of non-profit Bikers4Bikes; Board Member for STAR Family Foundation; Charity Coordinator; Presenter for Staff Development at Shenandoah University; Recipient of James B Wilkins Award.

OTHER: I volunteer at the Salvation Army during their Christmas distribution; Assist Trinity Church with food and clothing distribution when needed; Assisted other non-profits to obtain their 501 (c)3 status. I have two sons and seven grandsons that enrich my life daily.

2023 National Convention Ballot Issues to be Voted on by Delegates

Ballot Item 1 - **Approved Board Motion 22-03-06** **District Convention Delegate calculation—Adult clubs**

Current: ARTICLE IV, Section 2 Paragraph D 2. Delegates –Adult Clubs.

Each adult club shall be entitled to one (1) delegate to the district convention for each 10 club members or major fraction thereof; provided, however, that each member club shall be entitled to at least two (2) delegates at any convention. In the absence of any club delegate from the floor of the district convention, the alternate delegate from the club of the absent delegate shall be entitled to vote.

Proposed: ARTICLE IV, Section 2 Paragraph D 2. Delegates –Adult Clubs.

Each adult club shall be entitled to **one (1) delegate to the district convention for each 5 club members** or major fraction thereof; provided, however, that each member club shall be entitled to at least two (2) delegates at any convention. In the absence of any club delegate from the floor of the district convention, the alternate delegate from the club of the absent delegate shall be entitled to vote.

RATIONALE: This change would bring District Convention delegates in line with National Convention delegates as listed in the National Bylaws.

Ballot Item 2 - **Approved Board Motion 22-03-07** **Order of Parliamentary Authority**

Current: ARTICLE XV Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the newly revised edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the meetings of Ruritan National in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not in conflict with these bylaws and any special rules of order which the Ruritan adopts.

Proposed: ARTICLE XV Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained within the National Bylaws, Policies and Procedures shall govern this organization in all cases. In the absence of guidance in the National Bylaws, Policies and Procedures the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order will apply.

RATIONALE: This proposes no change in policy but reordering of the current statement to properly show order of authority.

2023 National Convention Ballot Issues to be Voted on by Delegates

Ballot Item 3 - Approved Board Motion 22-03-08 **Method of Notification for Bylaws Amendment**

Current: ARTICLE XVI Amendment of Bylaws

Amendments to these bylaws shall only be made at a Ruritan National Convention by two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting, providing the proposed amendments shall have been presented to and approved by the BOD. Notice of any proposed amendment approved by the BOD shall be published in the Ruritan National Magazine at least 30 days before the opening of the next scheduled Ruritan National Convention.

Proposed: ARTICLE XVI Amendment of Bylaws

Amendments to these bylaws shall only be made at a Ruritan National Convention by two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting, providing the proposed amendments shall have been presented to and approved by the BOD. **Notice of any proposed amendment approved by the BOD shall be given to all Clubs at least 30 days before the opening of the next scheduled Ruritan National Convention.**

RATIONALE: The reason for this motion is to allow for multiple means of notifying delegates of proposed Ballot issues.

Ballot Item 4 - Approved Board Motion 22-03-26 **Mission Statement**

Current: Article II, Section 2, Mission Statement:

“Ruritan National is a national organization dedicated to improving communities and building a better America through Fellowship, Goodwill, and Community Service.”

Proposed: Article II, Section 2, Mission Statement:

“Ruritan is a National Civic Organization whose individual clubs are dedicated to surveying and fulfilling the needs of local communities.”

RATIONALE: To provide a clearer and more concise Mission Statement. The motto will remain the same: “Fellowship, Goodwill and Community Service.”

Voting will take place in Convention Center A, immediately following the First Lady's Fellowship Luncheon.
If you are not attending the luncheon, you will be able to vote immediately after the First Lady's event. Ballots will be passed out after the program.



2023 National Convention Workshops

Thursday, January 19

2 – 4 p.m.	First Timers
2 – 3 p.m.	Things To Do and See in TN
2 – 3 p.m.	American Flag Etiquette
3 – 4 p.m.	Complete Overview of MMS
3 – 4 p.m.	AWARDS, AWARDS, and More AWARDS!
4 – 5 p.m.	It's a Date! Online Engagement
4 – 5 p.m.	Membership Management System (MMS) Open Lab
4 – 5 p.m.	Add Spice to Your Club Meetings
4 – 5 p.m.	Crafting for a Cause – Turn Your Passion into a Project!

Friday, January 20

11 - 12 p.m.	Lt. Governor – Responsibilities & Adventures
11 – 12 p.m.	Ruritan Finances
11 – 12 p.m.	Club Directors – The Eyes and Ears of Your Club
11 – 12 p.m.	Future Candidates
11 – 12 p.m.	In The Know – Club Secretary Toolkit
11 – 12 p.m.	American Flag Etiquette
3:30-4:30 p.m.	Growth and Development
3:30-4:30 p.m.	Risk Management
3:30-4:30 p.m.	President/Vice President Leadership Training
3:30-4:30 p.m.	Club Treasurer Training
3:30-4:30 p.m.	Zone Governors – Ruritan's First Responders!
3:30-4:30 p.m.	Youth – The Fountain of Life for Ruritan's Future

Important Tools to Build a Thriving Club!

2023 National Convention Workshops

Friday, January 20 (continued)

4:30-5:30 p.m.	Putting the Pieces Together – Ruritan Forever and Tom Downing Awards
4:30-5:30 p.m.	Meet Your National Staff
4:30-5:30 p.m.	Chartering New Clubs
4:30-5:30 p.m.	Social Media Passion and Purpose
4:30-5:30 p.m.	Identifying Community Needs & Building Bridges
4:30-5:30 p.m.	Let's Make a Name in Our Communities & Not Be A Secret

Saturday, January 21

2 – 3 p.m.	Making Heroes Out of Ordinary People
2 – 3 p.m.	Your Ruritan National Foundation – What You Always Wanted to Know
2 – 3 p.m.	Club Directors – The Eyes and Ears of Your Club
2 – 3 p.m.	Club President / Vice President Leadership Training
2 – 3 p.m.	Club Treasurer Training
2 – 3 p.m.	In the Know – Club Secretary Toolkit
2 – 3 p.m.	Recruit / Retain / Reclaim
3 – 4 p.m.	Project FOCUS
3 – 4 p.m.	The History of Ruritan
3 – 4 p.m.	Planning Purposeful Projects
3 – 4 p.m.	Moving Forward as One Team
3 – 4 p.m.	Corporate Sponsorships and Your Club
3 – 4 p.m.	Publications



Convention Exhibitors

Cozy Gables

Candles and Tarts



Books for Looks

Turning Upcycled Books Into Art



Kathy Long's

Arts and Crafts



Convention Exhibitors

Filamina Jewelry

Susan Brickhouse specializes in jewelry designs from classic elegance to Boho chic. Originally from Roanoke, VA, Susan has nurtured her love of jewelry design from studying fashion design in college to working as a jewelry buyer for a major retail chain in Atlanta. After retiring from a second career in real estate, Susan started her jewelry business in 2011. Filamina Jewelry is named after her Mother whose love for unique jewelry inspired her to work with a variety of crystals and natural stones. Susan currently resides in Radford, VA.



Somethin' Turned

Jerry and Sharon Oliver



Convention Exhibitors

J&J Farms

Honey, Apple Butter, and Woodwork



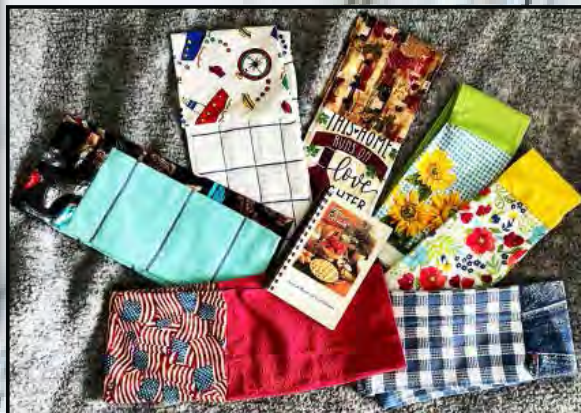
Byers Pottery

Handmade Pottery



So-So Sewing

BBQ Boas (an apron alternative)
and Cookbooks



Convention Exhibitors



Plant-Based, hand made bar soaps, bath bombs, laundry soap, body butters, body scrubs, shower oils, beard balms, beard oils, shower fizzies and dryer balls.



Bellafina Chocolates operates under Abundantly Blessed Ministries, a non-profit corporation dedicated to helping threatened women and children. They donate 100% of their profit to children's charities and are staffed almost entirely by volunteers, plus the positions they've created to help struggling women.

Convention Exhibitors



New Maven Macs *Artisanal Macarons*



HANDMADE WITH HEART





Don't miss the **RURITAN COUNTY FAIR**, **Friday, 8-10 pm!**
Club and District Sponsors invite you to join them for an evening
filled with plenty of **FUN, FOOD, and FELLOWSHIP.**
Test your skills at games including Flickin' Chicken, Ring Toss,
Balloon Dart, Pick-a-Duck, and more.
Don't Forget to **Bring a Cake** for the **CAKE WALK!**

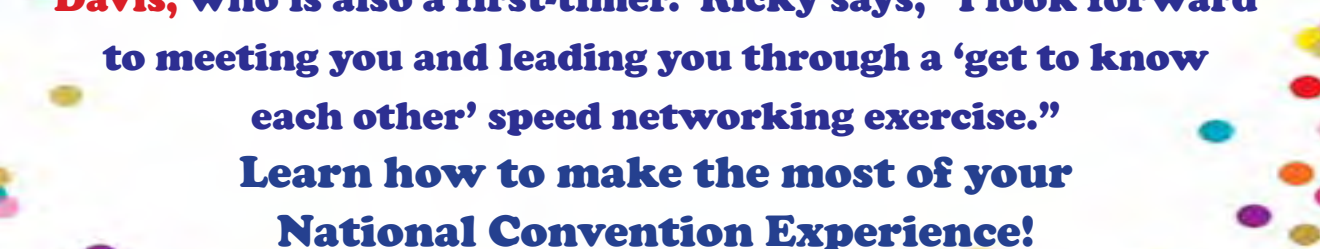


Is this your FIRST Ruritan National Convention?

If so, be sure to join us for the
FIRST TIMERS RECEPTION

on **Thursday, January 19, 2023, 2 - 4 p.m. in the Cattails Ballroom**

Connect with other first-timers, meet past and present
National and District officers, as well as Keynote Speaker **Ricky Davis**, who is also a first-timer. Ricky says, "I look forward to meeting you and leading you through a 'get to know each other' speed networking exercise."
Learn how to make the most of your
National Convention Experience!



HELP US SHOW THAT RURITAN'S CARE!

Niswonger Children's Hospital Rudy Bear Drop

As the only children's hospital in the region, Niswonger Children's Hospital offers state-of-the-art medical care in a family-centered environment.

The hospital is cheerful and bright and is designed to let children receive excellent care in a light-filled, supportive and high-tech environment.

Pictured is National President Glen Broadwater with grandson, Connor.

Connor was a patient at Niswonger as a newborn, and was treated as an outpatient for another 1 1/2 years.

**Purchase a Rudy Bear for the
Rudy Bear Drop
to benefit the patients of
Niswonger Children's Hospital!**



Save-the-Date RURITAN NATIONAL CONVENTION BLOOD DRIVE



**MeadowView Marriott Convention
Center and Conference Resort
Kingsport, Tenn.**

**Saturday, January 21
Noon-4 p.m.**

Free t-shirt and snack with donation.

Scan the QR code to schedule
your time to give.



SCAN ME

Marsh
Regional Blood Center



BalladHealth™
Niswonger **Children's** Network



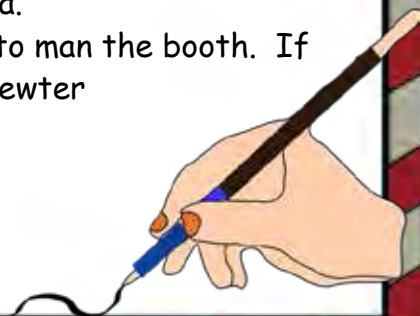
First Ladies For Our Military

At the 2023 Ruritan National Convention in Kingsport, former First Ladies will host a military booth. Convention attendees are encouraged to come by the military booth to write a note to a service member to show our support and appreciation for their service to our country. Pens and note cards will be provided at the booth in the exhibit area.

Former First Ladies are needed to man the booth. If you can assist, please contact Phyllis Lewter at plewter@verizon.net.



thank
you!



2023 National Convention Mini-Schedule

Wednesday - Friday

*Welcome Reception / Ruritan Supply /
Vendors / Information Desk (5-7pm)*

Wednesday - Saturday *Registration*

Thursday

*Workshops / Governors' Training / First
Timers Reception / Opening Ceremonies
(Flag, Memorial, Vespers, Veterans) /
President's Reception*

Friday

*Workshops / Business Session / First Lady
Linda's Fellowship Luncheon / Voting /
Foundation Auctions /
County Fair (8-10pm)*

Saturday

*Workshops / Business Session / Blood
Drive / Installation Banquet*

Sunday

Worship Service

Youth Room Activities Schedule

Thursday, January 19

2 pm Bracelet & Necklace Craft
4 pm Ruritan Escape Room

Friday, January 20

11 am Scavenger Hunt (Who is Ruritan....?)
3:30 pm Lego Contest

Saturday, January 21

1 pm Pinewood Derby (Ruritan Style)
3 pm Ruritan Jeopardy



Opening Ceremonies Keynote Speaker - Ricky Davis



Mr. Ricky Davis began his honorable service in the United States Army, serving in combat, security force advisory, and intelligence positions. His 27 years of worldwide experience in support of national and strategic security objectives allowed him to work and collaborate with some of the most talented leaders in the world, retiring from active duty as a Command Sergeant Major.

Ricky holds a master's degree in Business and Organizational Security Management, George Herbert Walker School for Business, Webster University, St. Louis, and a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice/Protective Services, Excelsior College, Albany, New York. Ricky also maintains the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Designation.

Ricky is the Founder and President of RICE Security and Consulting in Fayetteville, NC. His organization provides national physical and cybersecurity mitigation strategies as part of the Enterprise Security Risk Management (ESRM) methodology and ISO 31000 Risk Management Standards.

Ricky's professional affiliations include the International Association of Professional Security Consultants, Regional

Vice President (Region 4B) ASIS International, The National Institute of Crime Prevention (NICP), and the International Organization of Black Security Executives (IOBSE) serving on the Board of Directors and Professional Education Committee.

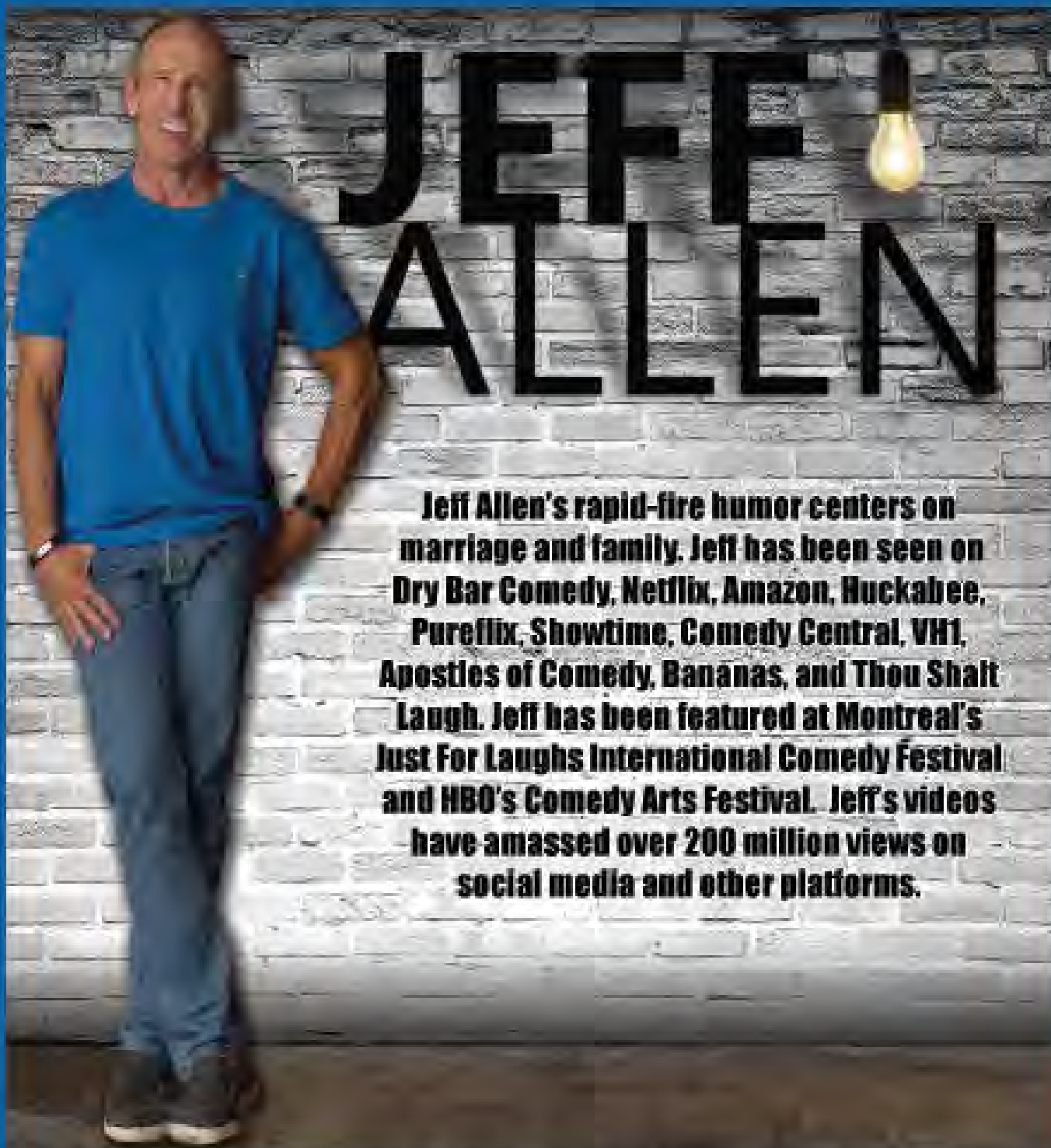
*Ricky's theme for our keynote address will be "Thank You For Your Service".
Ricky will share thought provoking experiences from his life through friendship, faith,
and service to motivate and inspire.*

Get ready for an Amazing fun show that includes Amazing Sleight of Hand, Squeaky – Clean Humor, and Audience Interaction during the First Lady's Fellowship Luncheon.



Joseph Young is an Internationally Acclaimed Nine-Time Award-Winning Entertainer from Big Stone Gap, Virginia who is one of the most popular magicians in America performing all over the United States from Las Vegas to Pigeon Forge. Some of his career highlights include winning the 2011 International Battle of Magicians and being named the 2004 Houdini Rising Star of Magic.

He has shared his talents throughout the United States for 25 years. Joseph performs over 120 events annually specializing in shows for corporate, family, school, churches, and non-profit organizations.



Jeff Allen's rapid-fire humor centers on marriage and family. Jeff has been seen on Dry Bar Comedy, Netflix, Amazon, Huckabee, Pureflix, Showtime, Comedy Central, VH1, Apostles of Comedy, Bananas, and Thou Shalt Laugh. Jeff has been featured at Montreal's Just For Laughs International Comedy Festival and HBO's Comedy Arts Festival. Jeff's videos have amassed over 200 million views on social media and other platforms.

"Jeff Allen is one of the funniest, most inspirational, clean corporate comedians."

2023 Kingsport Banquet Entertainment

"I'm EXCITED to be able to perform for great people like Ruritans," said Allen.

JeffAllenComedy.com

Make Your Hotel Reservations NOW!

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

Room Reservation Options:

- Call (888) 632-3697

Reference Group Block: Ruritan
National Convention

- Go to: www.ruritan.org

Under Calendar of Events, 2023
Ruritan National Convention, click on
[MeadowView](#)

Discounted rates are \$125 per night.
Reservation cutoff date is
December 28, 2022.



Visit the Noli Express for Breakfast and Lunch Options

BREAKFAST CONCESSIONS

Ham & Cheese Croissant	\$5.00
Sausage Biscuit	\$4.00
Assorted Muffins	\$3.00
Assorted Granola Bars	\$3.00
Whole Fruit	\$2.00

BEVERAGES

Bottled Water	\$3.00
Coffee	\$3.00
Hot or Iced Tea	\$2.00
Juice	\$3.00

BEVERAGES

Soft Drinks	\$3.00
Gatorade	\$4.00
Bottled Water	\$3.00
Energy Drinks	\$6.00

SNACKS

Candy	\$2.00
Chips	\$2.00
Nachos/Cheese	\$3.00
Potato Wedges	\$3.00
*Add Cheese	\$1.00

MEALS

Chicken Tenders	\$6.00	Combo	\$9.00
Hot Dog	\$4.00	Combo	\$7.00
Cheeseburger	\$5.00	Combo	\$8.00

****Combo includes****

Fountain Soft Drink, and Choice between
Chips or Potato Wedges





Thank You!

To Our 2023 Convention Sponsors . . .

Clubs

Atkins
Belmont II
Bloomingdale
Max Meadows
Nickelsville
Ruritan Road
Rye Valley
Wadlow Gap
Yuma

Districts

Chesapeake
New River
Rockingham
Southwest Virginia

Businesses

Martin Author, CPA
R.Scott Carr, CPM
The R. Scott Carr Investment Group
of Wells Fargo Advisors
Creek Bottom Brewery
Gannett Fleming, Inc.
Homeworx+
Quality Lapel Pins
Shumsky
Wordsprint

Individuals

Josh Adams
Patricia Davis

2023 District Governors Training Breakfast

Thursday, January 19, 2023

ALL 2023 Governors Must Attend

Breakfast: 7:45-8:45 am - Meadowview Ballroom B

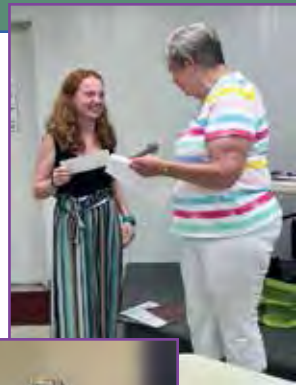
Training: 9:00 am - Crockett Amphitheatre

News From Ruritan: HOLLAND DISTRICT

BETHLEHEM AND WINDSOR PRESENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Bethlehem presented a \$1,000 scholarship to Cameron Bowen, who is the granddaughter of 30-year club member Jesse Pruden. Cameron will be attending East Carolina University.

Windsor VA awarded three \$1000 scholarships for 2022. Pictured (l-r) is club member Bentley Richardson with recipients Lorraine Upton, Matthew Miller, and Ethan Phelps.



CREEDS CELEBRATES MILESTONES

Creeds recently hosted the 5th Annual "Showdown in the Sand" event, a livestock show held in July at the Creeds Ruritan Community Complex. Also in July, the club held their annual "Scholarship Awards Night." Recipients were Zachary Fuge, a rising senior at Virginia Tech, studying Mechanical Engineering, and Reagan Vaughn, a rising junior at Virginia Tech, studying Animal Sciences.

Club members and their families met for a cookout in August to celebrate the club's 74th anniversary. The club was chartered on August 24, 1948! Pictured (l-r) are club members (row1) Diane Weirich, Emily Ives, Rae Williams, Dorene Stevenson, James Kovacs, Diane Horsley, Heather Newton, (row 2) Scott Weirich, Kurt Fuge, Deb Fuge, Dennis Keane, Don Horsley, Kevin Newton, (row 3) Johnnie Williams, Robin Davenport, Gary Brandl, Eric Stevenson, Tom Whalen, and Tim Nunneley. Not pictured Doug Saunders, and Lisa Saunders.



SMITHFIELD HOSTS CRUISE-IN

Smithfield hosted a Cruise-In at the Joseph Luter Jr. Sports Complex. Buckets loaded with car care products were given as prizes.



News From Ruritan: HOLLAND DISTRICT

DEEP CREEK CELEBRATES 75TH!

National President Glen Broadwater and First Lady Linda attended **Deep Creek's** 75th anniversary celebration in July. While there, President Glen inducted two new members, Yvonne Covey and Justin Seaton. He also presented Ruritan Forever plaques to Mike Kirsch, Bill Robins, Joe Noha, and Mike Noha, with the assistance of Club President Buddy Huskey.



In August, the club hosted the "National Night Out" event for the City of Chesapeake. During the event, they recognized a sheriff's deputy, police officer, firefighter, and paramedic as "First Responders of the Year." Special guests that stopped by included McGruff the Crime

Dog, as well as local elected officials. Club members served hot dogs and drinks to everyone who attended.



HOLLAND AWARDS A CLASSIC



Holland hosted seventy-seven participants for their 4th Annual Custom Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show. Club President Curtiss Johnson presented the "Best in Show" trophy to Michael Adams for his 1934 Ford Tudor Sedan



PRINCE GEORGE GETS BACK TO SCHOOL

Prince George hosted a "Back to School Fair" in August. The club handed out 100 bags of various school supplies to the elementary and secondary kids, as well as Rudy Bear coloring sheets.



In October, the club held a shrimp feast at their new building. Festivities included a 50/50 raffle and a live band for entertainment.



News From Ruritan: CHESAPEAKE DISTRICT

ATLEE INVESTS IN EDUCATION

Atlee awarded two scholarships for 2022. Pictured (l-r) are Shelby Currie, who plans to attend J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College, and Evan Dauksys, who plans to attend Coastal Carolina University.



DOSWELL RECOGNIZES VOLUNTEERS



Doswell recognized Hanover County volunteer first responders at their September meeting. Pictured (l-r) are award recipients Scott Marshall - Firefighter of the Year, William "Berk" Jones - EMS Provider of the Year, and Deputy James Gillend, Jr. - Reserve Officer of the Year.



HANOVER PRESENTS AWARD

Hanover Club President Anne Jewell presented the Hanover Ruritan's 2022 Outstanding Professional Leader award to Joseph E. Vidunas. Joe has served as Hanover County's transportation engineer for over twenty years. He has worked on numerous projects to improve the county's transportation network, making travel safer and enhancing the economic health of the community.

SPARTA HONORS WITH GOOD DEED

Sparta Ruritan Club, the Sparta Hunt Club and the Sparta Water Skiers came together to clean up an eight mile stretch of, you guessed it, Sparta Road. With support from VDOT and the Caroline Sheriff's Office, they honor the late Bill Lohr, long time Ruritan and water skier, by picking up litter. Two sections of this roadway have been adopted in Bill's name thanks to his son Steve, a Ruritan since 1974. Pictured (l-r) are club members Kevin Driggers, Chuck Womble and Mark Bradley.



VARINA HELPS WIN THE GAME



Varina donated \$13,250 for new uniforms and equipment for the Varina High School football team. After hearing that some of the team's equipment was over twenty years old, Club President Buddy Whitlow formed a fundraising committee of club and community members to come up ideas. The committee organized a sporting clay shoot to raise the funds needed. The check was presented during halftime at the homecoming game.

News From Ruritan: CHESAPEAKE DISTRICT

GLOUCESTER PROVIDES INFORMATION AND SUPPORT



Gloucester hosted Sheriff Darrell Warren at their July meeting. The Sheriff spoke on issues facing the county. The two most prevalent are scams and incidents involving people suffering from mental health issues. Club President Jackie Beyea presented the Sheriff with a club mug and 10 Rudy Bears.

The club held its annual picnic at Beaverdam Park. Joining them were Zone 4 Lt. Governor



Rose Taylor and husband Rick, as well as leaders and members of Girl Scout Troop 1055 and Boy Scout Troop 113. President Jackie Beyea presented each of the scout troops with a check for \$100. Pictured with Jackie are Boy Scout Leader John Anderson and son Mathew, and Girl Scout Leader Jennie Hawkins and daughter Jade.



In August, volunteers from the club participated in the Virginia Department of Transportation's Adopt-A-Highway program by cleaning up a designated section of Farys Mill Road. Volunteers worked in high heat and humidity to help the environment and beautify the roadway. Pictured (l-r) are Benny Leith, Barbara Bauer, Janet Leigh, Environment Committee Chair Henry Thompson, and Rachel Serio.



The club recently hosted Denise and Jay Hutchins as guest speakers for their club meeting. They talked about how their retail business, Brent & Becky Bulbs, was affected during the Covid lockdowns. They were presented with Ruritan mugs by Club President Jackie Beyea.



Club Vice President Henty Thompson, as Hayseed Hank, presented a mug to Doug Dwoyer, a member of the Middle Peninsula Master Naturalists. Doug spoke to the club on how the Naturalists monitor over forty bluebird boxes/houses in Gloucester, as well as twelve boxes at Brent & Becky's Bulbs.



News From Ruritan: CHESAPEAKE DISTRICT

LAURA WALKER AYERS NORTHSTEIN

Laura was born Nov. 30, 1937, in Buckingham County, Virginia, to McKenna and Lena Glover Self Ayres. She died on Aug. 23, 2022. Laura attended Virginia Baptist School of Nursing in Lynchburg, Virginia. While in Lynchburg she met John Northstein, and they married Dec. 13, 1957.

While her children were young, she worked as a visiting nurse for the Gloucester Health Department and worked tirelessly beside her husband and sons on the farm. After retiring from the Health Department, she worked at Rick's Country Store with her eldest son, Patrick. Laura and John delivered Meals on Wheels to the seniors of Gloucester County for over 30 years. She worked as a voting official every election day at the Peasley Precinct and served as an officer for the Gloucester Veterans Memorial Committee. She helped gather names of veterans and Merchant Marines from Gloucester County who were killed in action or died serving their country.

Laura continued serving her community through Ruritan. She was active in the Gloucester Ruritan Club, Dragon Run Ruritan Club, and the Association of Virginia Ruritans, holding leadership positions in all. She served as Zone Governor and was the first woman to hold the office of Lt. Governor and District Governor for the Chesapeake District. In 1998, Laura was elected as the first female National Director. Laura was a Tom Downing Fellow and a Ruritan Forever.

John and Laura were selected as Grand Marshals for the 2003 Gloucester County Fair and as Grand Marshals for the 2014 Daffodil Festival Parade.

Laura was preceded in death by her father and mother. She leaves behind to cherish her memory, her husband of 64 years, John, and her sisters, Frances Rilee (Ray), and Zanie Faye Edwards (Russell); her children, Patrick McKenna Northstein (Martha), Douglas Everett Northstein (Linda), and Eldridge Harold Northstein (Johanna); her grandchildren, Ridge, Morgan, Maekenna, John Emory, and Elanna, and great-grandchildren, Ambellina and Liam.

The funeral was held on Sunday, Aug. 28, 2022, at Petsworth Baptist Church, with burial in the church cemetery.



News From Ruritan: RAPPAHANNOCK DISTRICT

NOKESVILLE-BRISTOW OFFERS HELP

Nokesville-Bristow, assisted by members of the Patriot High School Ruri-Teen Club, handed out 40 bags (about 700 pounds) of non-perishable food to anyone who came to the booth. Recipients expressed their appreciation for the unexpected help. Others stopped to donate money for the next booth and thanked the team for helping others.



News From Ruritan: APPOMATTOX DISTRICT

CENTRAL CHESTERFIELD PROMOTES EDUCATION

Central Chesterfield awarded three scholarships for 2022. Whitley "Lil Bit" Ford, a graduate of Lloyd C. Bird High School with a 4.56 GPA. She is the daughter of Benjamin "Skillet" Ford and the granddaughter of George "Hooker" Hamner. Whitley was the Field Hockey Team Captain, Key Club President, Society of Women Engineers Club President, Vice President of Student Government, Student Representative for PTSO Board and served on Senior Advisory Council. She joined Ruritan on September 5, 2019 and has helped with Brunswick Stew and Low Country Boil fundraisers, and was a major player in the

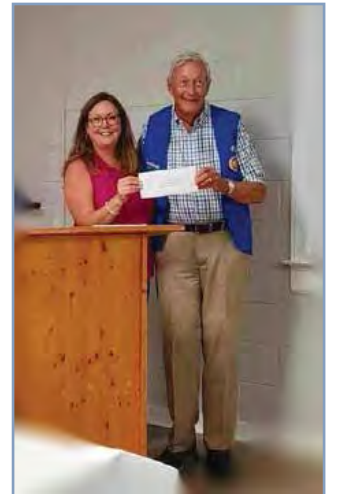
success of our annual picnic. Whitley will be attending William & Mary, majoring in Biology.

Whitt "Sushi" Sanders graduated from Clover Hill High School with a 4.67 GPA. He is the grandson of Beverly "Canner" and Arthur "Pumpkin" Whitlock. Whitt was the Team Captain of the Varsity Swim Team and a member of the Varsity Tennis Team. He is a member of the National Honor Society and Mu Alpha Theta (Math Honor Society). Whitt received recognition for "Most Improved Student" in orchestra, as well as "Most Exceptional Student" in Japanese. He volunteers with Broken Loaves Food Pantry, Impact, and Tech for Troops. He joined Ruritan on May 17, 2019 and has helped with the Brunswick Stew fundraiser. Whitt will also be attending William & Mary, majoring in Computer Science and



Japanese Studies.

James Campbell-Robertson graduated from Veritas Classical Christian School with a 3.90 GPA. His grandfather, Lee "Trombone" Gregory, proudly accepted the scholarship on behalf of James who was unable to attend. James was a member of the tennis team, played basketball and was an active member of the youth group where he often participated in volunteer opportunities at his church on a regular basis. James will be attending Liberty University.



News From Ruritan: PEAKS OF OTTER DISTRICT

LYNCH STATION GOES TO THE (HOT) DOGS



Lynch Station assisted the Altavista Police Department and other local law enforcement agencies with National Night Out, a community event to promote relationships between law enforcement and local citizens. Club members cooked and wrapped more than 1,200 hotdogs for the event.

News From Ruritan: SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA DISTRICT

ATKINS DIGS DEEP

Atkins participated in the community Trunk or Treat event with a hot dog roast. Pictured is Club Vice President Donna Bentley. The club also welcomed new members Steve and Janet Stanley.



With the assistance of club member Boyd Thweatt of Thweatt's Hardware (left), the club was able to link to the county water system.

Club Member Lester Owens was named District Ruritan of the Year. Lester served the club many years as President, and most recently as District Governor. Lester is also a member of the VFW and American Legion. He volunteers his time to Boy Scouts, a local food pantry, security at his church and many other activities.



News From Ruritan: NATURAL BRIDGE DISTRICT

EAGLE ROCK HOSTS SENIOR EVENT

Eagle Rock welcomed providers of senior services to those over fifty years of age for the first Senior Services Day in Botetourt County. The focus of the day was raising awareness of services and recourses available to the local fifty-plus community. Over 200 seniors turned out for lunch, desserts, fellowship, and learning. Presenters included the Local Office on Aging, Virginia Departments of Health, New Freedom Farm, CORA Physical Therapy, Virginia Navigator,



Suicide Prevention Council of the Roanoke Valley, Carillion Health Services, Good Samaritan, Renovation Alliance, Department of Social Services, Botetourt County Libraries, Botetourt Fire and EMS Departments.



Initiated by Sheriff Matt Ward and the Botetourt County Sheriff's Department, the event was coordinated by LOA Assistant Director Brenda Wells, Club President Beth Leffel, and Community Engagement Committee Chair Donna Vaughn.

News From Ruritan: WOODROW WILSON DISTRICT

BEVERLY MANOR STOCKS THE PANTRY

Beverley Manor donated \$1000.00 to the Verona Community Food Pantry, which serves an average of 885 people per month. Club Vice President Marilyn Long presented the check to Food Pantry President Cecil Wright.



NEW HOPE REWARDS EFFORT



New Hope Club President Stephanie Ramsey (left) presents the Golden Key Award to Christy Powell.

News From Ruritan: ROCKINGHAM DISTRICT

CEDAR CREEK VALLEY FUNDS PROJECTS

Cedar Creek Valley recently held an apple butter fundraiser. They prepared 80 quarts and 140 pints of apple butter. The proceeds will be used to support their ongoing community projects.



BRIDGEWATER HONORS VOLUNTEER



Bridgewater recognized Joshua Shank (left) of the Bridgewater Volunteer Fire Company as our 2022 "David Evick Fair Volunteer of the Year". Josh has participated in multiple events this year and worked several days at the club's fair booth. The award is named in honor of David Evick, a former member who was instrumental in establishing the booth many years ago. Fair Committee Co-Chair Bob Wheatley (r) presented the plaque to Josh.

News From Ruritan: ROCKINGHAM DISTRICT

FORT VALLEY DISHES IT OUT

Fort Valley assisted with the Fort Valley Museum's ice cream social in July. In August, the club continued their 60+ year tradition of operating a food concession stand at the Shenandoah County Fair. Forty-four club members and several family members stepped up to help with the week-long event. Participants in the Shenandoah County Fair 4H and FFA programs received donations from the Fort Valley Ruritan Club.



The club welcomed Captain Jim O'Hara, USN Retired, as guest speaker for their September meeting. He provided a presentation about the Virginia Run for The Fallen (RFTF), a statewide relay run in tribute to every fallen Virginia servicemember since October 2000. A core team of marathon runners and support crew stop at one-mile intervals at pre-placed markers and recite the names of the fallen service members, date of death, and branch of service. Family members and friends wait at their marker to meet the runners for the brief ceremony before they continue on to the next marker.



In October, the club hosted Shenandoah County Sheriff Tim Carter as guest speaker, and presented Sandy Burner-Cave with a Ruritan Forever. Donations were made to the Shenandoah Empty Stocking Project, the Fort Valley Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary and Fort Valley Volunteer Fire Department. The club provided volunteer support for the Fort Valley Fire Department's Ham and Oyster Supper. They helped with food preparation, parking, seating and clean-up.



News From Ruritan: ROCKINGHAM DISTRICT

FORT VALLEY (Continued)



The club recognized Bob Coverstone, Carolyn Tidd, Charles Lichliter, Charlie Aschmann, Dagan Stephens, Frank Tilko, Terry Plauger, and Tim Stephens (pictured l-r) for recruiting new members. Each was presented with the President's Gold Key award.



McGAHEYSVILLE HOSTS SPECIAL VISITORS

McGaheysville had a visit from Virginia Governor Glenn Youngkin (pictured right), who joined them in their funnel cake booth at the Rockingham County Fair.



The club hosted Rockingham County Sheriff Bryan Hutcheson at their October meeting. He spoke on the upgrades taking place in the Sheriff's department. The club also presented donations to the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and other local Ruritan clubs in appreciation of their help in the funnel cake booth during the fair.



**Don't Miss the RURITAN COUNTY FAIR
at the 2023 National Convention
in Kingsport TN!**



MT CRAWFORD HITS A HOME RUN



Mt. Crawford helped renovate a local baseball field, dugouts, and main park pavilion (pictured before and after), with the help of a local youth baseball team.

ZONE 5 MAKES COMMUNITY A PRIORITY

In early September, community members, family, public officials, and friends joined **Rockingham District, Zone 5 (Luray, Rileyville, and Newport-Grove Hill)** for their first Mental Health Walk.

Pictured right is Senator Mark Obenshein speaking to the crowd with Zone Governor Dennis Donak. September is National Suicide Awareness Month, so the focus was on suicide prevention, especially as it relates to youth.



Guest speaker was Markita Madden (left), Programs Manager of the American Foundation of Suicide Prevention, Virginia Chapter. Speaking on her own personal losses, she encouraged attendees to, "Be a voice, not an echo."



More than 150 people participated in the walk. The \$5,000 raised will be put into local mental health programs in local schools and the Page County community.



JOHNSVILLE HOSTS VETERANS



Johnsville hosted local veterans at their July meeting. Dwight Reynolds from Woodsboro American Legion Post 283, spoke at the event. Pictured is Dwight (right) with Club President Wayne Harris. Additionally, Scholarship Committee Chair Robin Ibex presented the club's 2022 scholarship to Walkersville High School graduate Rachel Frank (pictured left).



LEWISTOWN SPONSORS RAFFLE

Lewistown sponsored a “virtual crab feast” raffle as a summer fundraiser. The winner received \$300 to purchase crabs, shrimp, or to be used however they chose. This was the first time the club has attempted to hold this type of fundraiser, but it proved to be very popular. The winning ticket was drawn at the club's annual picnic on August 2, and the winning ticket holder was Angie Frye. Pictured are Club Secretary Loberta Staley, and Club President Frank Warner.



The club awarded \$4,200 in scholarships to eight students during their annual picnic in August. Scholarship Committee Co-Chair Randy Green presented the scholarships. Pictured (l-r) are Dalton Mount, Westminster High School, Lauren Anderson, Walkersville High School, Natalie Dodson, Catoclin High, Michael Staley, Walkersville High School, and Aaron Matlock, Jefferson High School. Recipients unable to

attend were Jennifer Burrier, Catoclin High School, Allison Rippeon, Catoclin High School, and Nathan Mount, Loyola Blakefield.

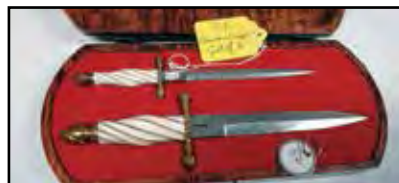


Robert A Wilson, President of the William F. Moran, Jr. Museum & Foundation, Inc. in

Middletown, MD was the guest speaker for the club's September meeting and provided an interesting presentation on the life of William Moran, who was one of the most famous bladesmiths of the 20th century. Robert is also on the Board of Directors for the American Bladesmith Society and serves as



president of the Wolfsville Ruritan Club. Pictured (l-r) are Program Committee member Sam Roop, Club President Frank Warner, Robert Wilson, Program Committee member Harold Staley, and Club Secretary/Program Committee member Loberta Staley.



LOTHIAN SPONSORS VETERAN FISHING TRIP



Lothian hosted veterans from the Charlotte Hall Veterans' Home for a day on the Chesapeake Bay for their "Take Our Heroes Fishing" event.

The Anne Arundel County Police Department escorted their bus from the county line to their arrival at Skipper's Pier.

Members of the Deale Fire Department turned out to salute the veterans as they passed. Loosen Up Charters provided the fishing boats and crew. The group had an impressive catch of sixty-five fish.



ZONE 3 CLUBS HELP OPEN DOORS

Mt. Pleasant, Jefferson, Johnsville, Burkittsville, Lewistown, Petersville, Point of Rocks, and Wolfsville Clubs, with some help from Scout Troop 1070, sponsored six corn hole tournaments throughout the warmer months to raise money for "Home for Our Troops."

Zone 3 Governor Trevella Foster presented the final check for \$6600, along with a matching check from an anonymous donor to Q Bailey, the Community Engagement Coordinator of HFOT at the kick-off ceremony for the custom home under construction for Army SGT Brandon Huff and wife, Netta.

Home for Our Troops also provides professional financial planners, home ownership education and other supportive services.



News From Ruritan: ALBEMARLE DISTRICT

GATESVILLE AND SUNBURY CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARIES

National Director Ron Reid was on hand to celebrate with **Gatesville** for their 83rd Anniversary. Gatesville was chartered on August 13, 1939 and was the second Ruritan club established in North Carolina. Ron presented a Certificate of Honor to Club President George “Frank” Koch recognizing the club’s many years of service to their community.



Sunbury celebrated their 87th Anniversary in August. They were the first club chartered in North Carolina on August 13, 1935. National Director Ron Reid was on hand to present Club President Terry Johnson with a Certificate of Honor recognizing the club’s years of service to their community.

TIMOTHY LEE SPITLER

Timothy Lee Spitler, 60, of Hertford, NC, passed away Friday, October 28, 2022 at his home.

Mr. Spitler was born in Waynesboro, VA on February 9, 1962, and was the son of the late Robert Cecil, Jr. and Gloria Kay Carpenter Spitler. A graduate of Oscar Smith High School in Chesapeake, VA, he retired as Director of Production from Norfolk Naval Shipyard following 39 years of employment. An active member of Whiteville Grove Baptist Church where he was currently serving as Chairman of the Deacons, other memberships enjoyed included Ruritan National, having served both as a Past National Director and currently as Governor for the Albemarle District.



Surviving is his wife of 37 years, Judith «Angie» Spitler; a daughter, Joyce Hines (Daniel); two sons, Robert Spitler (Margaret) and Jacob Spitler (Mary); four brothers, James Carpenter (Darlene), Robert Spitler, III (Leslie), David Spitler (Janet), and Phillip Spitler (Deborah); seven grandchildren, Madison Harlow (Bailey), and Makayla, Ethan, Isabelle, Alex, Benjamin, and Sullivan Spitler; and a great-granddaughter, Lily Jane Harlow.

A celebration of life service was held at Whiteville Grove Baptist Church, conducted by Pastors E. Lee Penwell and Lonnie Coker. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made either to Whiteville Grove Church, in care of Kaye Winslow, 1823 Belvidere Road, Belvidere, NC 27919, or to any chapter of the American Cancer Society.



News From Ruritan: ROANOKE DISTRICT

ROBERSONVILLE HELPS THEIR NEIGHBORS



Robersonville donated Rudy Bears to the Robersonville Rescue Squad. Pictured are Squad member Chris Webb (left), and Club President Doug Killingsworth. The club has also been busy building ramps for neighbors in need.

News From Ruritan: ROCKY MOUNT - DURHAM DISTRICT

BETHESDA SHARES GOOD VIBES



Bethesda NC hosted a night of special music featuring Alan Stephenson, Mike Poole, and the Cuttin Grass Bluegrass and Gospel Band. The Social Development Committee organizes the free community music events each quarter.



News From Ruritan: ROCKY MOUNT - DURHAM DISTRICT

EFLAND SPONSORS FUN



Efland sponsored a pro rodeo event on October 7th and 8th, with a maximum capacity crowd on both nights. Proceeds from the event go to charitable causes, including \$5000 in scholarships for local high school students and financial support for families in need.



LYNN'S CROSSROADS TAKES HOME THE TROPHY

Lynn's Crossroads sent two teams to play in the annual Rougemont Ruritan Golf Tournament. The team of Marshall, Thomas and Matthew Ross and Melvin Chandler won 1st place for the Ruritan Teams and 2nd overall! Their newest team of Terry Davis, Shaun Martin, won 3rd place in the Ruritan Teams.



The club hosted a Fall BBQ which sold out! Proceeds will help with their upcoming Christmas Projects. They had twenty-six vendors for their Fall Bazaar / Vendor Fair in October.



The club has launched a "Warmth for Winter" project. They are collecting "gently used" or new winter clothing, coats, hats, gloves, shoes, and boots. These items will be donated to two schools they are working with for Christmas.

WEST EDGECOMBE AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

West Edgecombe hosted four scholarship recipients at their annual Scholarship Dinner. Each of the recipients received \$500 to help with their continued education. Pictured (l-r) are Club President James Suggs, recipients Zachary Hills, Ayden Davis, Jeffery Bradley, and Darcy Tyndall, and Club Treasurer Tim Harris.



News From Ruritan: ROCKY MOUNT - DURHAM DISTRICT

NEEDMORE CARRIES ON TRADITION

Needmore held their 45th annual pork barbecue sale on October 14th. Proceeds from the sale will be used for scholarships and various community projects.



News From Ruritan: CAPE FEAR DISTRICT

ANDERSON CREEK PEDALS SAFETY

Anderson Creek distributed 90 bicycle helmets to children attending the Summer FunFest at the Anderson Creek Community Church on Saturday, August 27. Pictured (l-r) are Marie Taylor, Jimmy Raynor, Chris Puckett, Yvonne Driver, David Matthews, and Donna Rigby.



The club hosted guests from the Harnett County Schools Maintenance Division at their October meeting. Pictured (l-r) are Steve Matthews, Rodney Pope, Club Vice President David Matthews, Club President Donna Rigby, and Timmy Holder.

News From Ruritan: CAPE FEAR DISTRICT

CAROLINA LAKES HONORS AND REWARDS



Carolina Lakes awarded two scholarships for 2022, and have welcomed four new members, who are already actively engaged with club projects.



In honor of Law Enforcement Month, the club hosted Sheriff Wayne Coats as a guest speaker for a meeting open to the community. There were approximately forty visitors in attendance who were able to participate in a question and answer period following his presentation.

They also hosted a Memorial Day ceremony and had the honor of dedicating a new monument sponsored by the club.

A Fellowship Picnic was held in July that was also attended by members of their sponsoring club. One of the newest members organized an event in remembrance of 9/11. Girl Scout troop #79 assisted with the service and flag presentations.



News From Ruritan: CAPE FEAR DISTRICT

JOHNSONVILLE HAS FOCUS ON COMMUNITY

Johnsonville recently hosted guest speaker Harnett County Community Relations Coordinator Ashley Bauer. She was presented with a Ruritan mug by Club President Karen Cox.

Batman and Spiderman visited the Ruritan booth at the Sentinel Challenge, a local community fair that brings awareness and raises money for the fight against human trafficking. Pictured are District Governor Rodger Nicely, District Treasurer and Club President Karen Cox, Club Treasurer Merlene Anderson, and member Angie McCready.



Club members raised funds and promoted Ruritan at their monthly cruise-In. Pictured right are Larry Taylor and Lori Owen. Carol Schneider also served up some gourmet grub.

Past National President Linward Hedgspeth and National Director Ronnie Reid joined the Johnsonville Ruritan Club in honoring Tom and Carole Davis for their years of service to Ruritan and the Johnsonville



Community. Both have served in numerous roles at the club, zone, and district levels as well as serving as National directors. They helped build the local Veterans Memorial

and were masters of ceremony for both the Veterans Day and Memorial Day celebrations. Daughter Shawn Hickman accepted the plaque on behalf of her mother, Carole, who passed away in November 2021. Club President Karen Cox announced that the club has established an annual \$1000 Tom and Carole Davis Community Service Scholarship. Pictured (l-r) are District Governor Rodger Nicely, Club President Karen Cox, Past National President Linward Hedgspeth, Tom Davis, Shawn Hickman, National Director Ronnie Reid, District Lt. Governor Roger Peterson, and veteran and local businessman Ricky Davis.

The club is currently refurbishing the Johnsonville Veterans Memorial, which they originally constructed in 2003. Starting with new aluminum lettering, new flagpoles and landscaping are also planned.



News From Ruritan: SPARTAN DISTRICT

DUNCAN HOSTS DOG AND SWEETS SALE

Duncan Club hosted a hot dog and baked goods sale in September. Pictured (l-r) are Sheila Dobson, Molly Proteleff, Club Secretary Lula Anderson, Thomas Coggins, Paulina Alford, Taylor Collins, Polo Jimenez, Joan Marshall, Karen Campbell, Andrea Rollins, Club President Curtis Marshall, Marion Dobson, and Ronnie Smalley. Present but not pictured, Derrick Bailey.



News From Ruritan: COLUMBIA DISTRICT

SANDY RUN GOES TO SCHOOL

Sandy Run donated school supplies for students at Sandy Run K-8 and Foundation Christian School. Pictured at Sandy Run K8 (l-r) are Assistant Principal Michelle Bradley, Kay James, Kelley Roche-Sanders, Club President Jill Crim, Becky



Starnes, and Principal Chris Mack. Pictured at Foundation Christian (l-r) are Kay James, teacher Cassandra Gaites, Kelly Roche-Sanders, teacher Miranda Hicks, Principal Peg Nelson, and Club President Jill Crim.



In October, the club welcomed new member Alvin Haigler (pictured left). Alvin is a retired Pastor, and Chaplain and Past American Legion Post Commander.

Also in October, several club members visited Sandy Run K-8 school. Club member and Sandy Run Fire Department Chief Gary Hardee spoke to the children about fire safety. Students were able to meet the firefighters and see fire trucks up close. Pictured (l-r) are Brenda Goodwin, Club President Jill Crim, Kelley Roche-Sanders, Gary Hardee, Ginger Hardee, and Amber Hardee at Sandy Run School.



News From Ruritan: COLUMBIA DISTRICT

EASTOVER HONORS VETERANS



Eastover celebrated Memorial Day by placing over 300 flags on veteran's gravesites around the Eastover community. Pictured is Way Scott and Jimmy Hiott, who braved the high temperatures to make sure the veterans were honored. This event is one of the club's annual service projects.

News From Ruritan: UPPER WEST VIRGINIA DISTRICT

ROMNEY RESTORES WAYSIDE



Romney club members Ken Paugh, Ron Cole, Edward Hovan, and Kelly Cochran volunteered their time to rebuild a wayside rest and picnic area near Romney WV. The wayside had been in disrepair and was eventually demolished. Building materials

were supplied by the State Highway Department.



DISTRICT CELEBRATES RURITAN SUNDAY



Members and guests of **South Branch, Dorcas, and Landes** celebrated Ruritan Sunday at St. George's Church. The church, which dates to 1850, and is now owned and maintained by South Branch. Sunday School was led by Gerald Sites, who attended this church as a boy, and the message was delivered by Matt Lough. Following the service, a covered dish meal was shared under the pavilion.



News From Ruritan: LOWER WEST VIRGINIA DISTRICT

MAXWELTON GOES FOR THE GOLD

Maxwelton Club President Larry Bowman recently presented Bob Hefner with a Golden Key Award for recruiting five new members (pictured right). For his outstanding service at the club's ice cream concession stand during at the West Virginia State Fair, club member Don Nelson (pictured left) was honored with the club's "Golden Scoop" Award.



News From Ruritan: BLUEGRASS DISTRICT

EUBANK HELPS FLOOD VICTIMS

Eubank collected cleaning and personal hygiene supplies to help communities affected by the devastating floods in Eastern Kentucky.



BAGDAD SERVES COMMUNITY

Bagdad worked concessions for a recent auction. The club also hosted a pork chop supper and a CPR class.



News From Ruritan: BLUEGRASS DISTRICT

FINCHVILLE WELCOMES FALL

Finchville hosted their annual Fall Festival in September. The day was filled with family fun as well as a craft and yard sale. Proceeds from this event help the club maintain the historic Finchville School and grounds and help support the Shelby County Special Olympics.



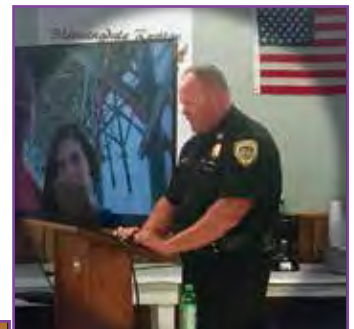
News From Ruritan: TENNESSEAN DISTRICT

BLOOMINGDALE OFFERS SEMINAR AND APPLE BUTTER

Bloomingtondale hosted a seminar promoting church safety, presented by Sullivan County Sheriff Jeff Cassidy. Church pastors, leaders and safety teams were invited and about 60 people were in attendance.

Drinks and snacks were provided by the club.

The club's apple butter gang made and sold about 250 pints of "Leonard's Finest Apple Butter" in October.



News From Ruritan: GEORGIA-NORTH ALABAMA DISTRICT

MODEL AWARDS SCHOLARSHIP

Model Club President Jack Stover presented a \$1000 scholarship check to 2022 Model High school graduate Charlemagne Andrews at the annual club steak supper. Charlemagne will be pursuing a degree in computer sciences.



News From Ruritan: ALABAMA-FLORIDA DISTRICT

WALNUT HILL HONORS LOCAL HERITAGE

Walnut Hill hosted its 2nd Annual Heritage Festival. More than fifty vendors provided hundreds of craft items, delicious foods, bouncy houses, and hayrides. Heritage groups from the North Florida and South Alabama



area provided presentations, literature, and artifacts to show the beginnings and development of these communities. The Pow Wow dancing club from the POARCH Band of Creek Indians performed, and a local bluegrass band entertained the crowd with gospel and bluegrass music. Proceeds from the event were donated to the Escambia Search and Rescue team.



Special guests included Past National President Linward Hedgepeth, and District Governor Marc Wahler, who presented the club with a certificate recognizing and honoring them for 75 years of community service.

News From Ruritan: OHIO DISTRICT

GUILFORD LAKE AND WBAL AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS



Guilford Lake presented their 2022 Build Your Dollar scholarship to Rowan Brinker.

West Branch Area Ladies Club President Bev Yaggi presented their 2022 scholarship to Sydney Feters. Sydney graduated from West Branch High School and plans to pursue a degree in early childhood education and intervention at Malone University.



News From Ruritan: OHIO DISTRICT

KNOX REWARDED FOR HISTORY OF SERVICE



Several **Knox** members attended the annual Ohio District Ruritan Spring Banquet in Louisville, Ohio. Pictured (l-r) are founding member and Ruritan Forever Terry Blickensderfer, Club Secretary Mel Albrecht, Bill Blair and David Albrecht. Perfect attendance pins were awarded to Bill Blair - 5 years; Zane Ziegler - 9 years; Ted Benner - 13 years; Dexter

Sams - 12 years; Dennis Cameron - 18 years; Loren Shaver - 19 years, and Mel Albrecht - 28 years.

Ohio District Governor John Biery (right) presented Club Secretary Mel Albrecht (far left) with the Outstanding Club Secretary award. Club Vice President Zane Ziegler (center) accepted the Outstanding Club President award on behalf of Club President Jim



Ramsey, who was absent. The club also received the Blue Ribbon Award and a gift certificate for \$150, which the club will use to purchase Rudy Bears.

The club celebrated their 48th Anniversary in July. Special guests were 2022 scholarship winners and their parents. Pictured (l-r) are Club Vice President Zane Ziegler, recipients Addyson Jones, and Caleb Adams who each received a \$500 scholarship, and Hayden Hawk, who received the club's Build Your Dollar Scholarship.

WASHINGTON OH VOLUNTEERS FOR GLEENING

In September, members of the **Washington OH** club helped member Jerry Markle pick his extra market sweet corn which is donated for use by the Alliance Community Pantry. Pictured left, Club President Jim Witmer finishes picking a row.



Below, the sweet corn is inspected by Jerry Markle and Kay Zank.



Above, Jim Witmer, Kay Zank, Club VP Bart Ray and Jerry Markle with crates of sweet corn bound for the Alliance Community Pantry.

News From Ruritan: OHIO DISTRICT

SMITHFIELD SUPPORTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY EVENT

Smithville served sandwiches, cookies, chips, and beverages to attendees at the Smithville Historical Society Antique Show. Pictured (l-r) are Susan Dilyard, Henry Blubaugh and Rick Dilyard.



News From Ruritan: WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA DISTRICT

CHESTERFIELD OFFERS GOOD EATS

Chesterfield NC raised over \$1,400 from their Chicken Pie Supper, which will be used for the needs of the Chesterfield community. The club is grateful to Case Farms for their donation of chicken for the pies. Pictured right is the "Pie Crew."



Club member David Denton was presented with a scholarship check for \$750. Pictured (l-r) are Vice President Michael Bandy, Club Treasurer Charles Duckworth, recipient David Denton, Board Member James Johnson, Club Secretary Mike Casey, (back row)

Club President Mike Smith, and District Governor Shandy Gossett.

The club held a BBQ supper to raise funds for their community projects. The hosted the largest group of "eat inn" customers since the pandemic.



DEEP GAP HONORS WITH TOM DOWNING AWARDS



During their 30th anniversary celebration, **Deep Gap** recognized several of their charter members. They were honored for their years of service and presented with the Tom Downing Award. Pictured (l-r) are Joan Hampton, Johnny Hampton, Evelina Idol, Steve Idol, Club President Leslie Gentry (accepting on behalf of Bill Moretz), and National President Glen Broadwater.

News From Ruritan: WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA DISTRICT

GAMEWELL WELCOMES NEW ROOF, NEW MEMBERS



Gamewell is enjoying their new red tin roof, which was made possible by their community's support of breakfast and bingo fundraisers, as well as individual donations. The club also recently welcomed new members Brenda Kincaid and J.R. Hahn, shown with Club President Steve Hammond.



News From Ruritan: DELMARVA- NEW JERSEY DISTRICT

SUDLERSVILLE CARRIES ON TRADITION



School, Kent County 4-H, and Talbot County took part in the two-day event. Students from these high schools have been recipients of the club's annual scholarships. Over the past 30 years, the club has awarded over \$350,000 to graduating seniors.

Club member Tom Jackson and his family were named Farm Family of the Year at the Queen Anne's County 4H Fair. His family has been farming since 1954. Besides Ruritan, Tom has been active serving on multiple boards such as the 4-H Park Board, 4H Swine Show, FFA, Farm Bureau Board, QA Planning Commission and more.

Sudlersville hosted their 22nd annual skeet shooting tournament, a major fundraiser for their club. Zone Governor and club member Jay Walls, and Past Club President Kevin Kemp work throughout the year to put the tournament together. Competitors from Kent Island High School, Queen Anne's County High



News From Ruritan: DELMARVA- NEW JERSEY DISTRICT

CEDARFIELD HOSTS CLAY SHOOT

Cedarfield hosted their annual Mike Fry Memorial Sporting Clay Shoot at Owens Station in Greenwood, DE. Mike was a former club member. The 98 shooters enjoyed a day of fellowship, sporting clays, and a meal. Congratulations to Michael Parkhurst taking HOA with a perfect score of 50, Jacob Rurak taking 1st place in the youth division with a 48, and Wendy Miller taking 1st place in the ladies division with a 44.



PUNGOTEAGUE OFFERS SUPPORT



Pungoteague built a wheelchair ramp to help out a local resident. Pictured (l-r) are building crew members Mike Muender, Herman Hohlt, Ted Sturgis, Jim Gillett, David Shaw, Malcolm White and Ed Lampman.

News From Ruritan: PIEDMONT DISTRICT

ELDORA HOSTS FUNDRAISER AND VETERANS



Eldora awarded their 2022 scholarships to Surry Central High School students Macy Key and Matthew Ring.

The club sponsored their 1st Annual Pilot Mountain Tractor Ride & Parade as a fundraiser for the "Give a Kid a Christmas" program with the

Surry County Sheriff's Department. Special music was provided by the Dixie Dawn Band.

The club also hosted over seventy veterans and spouses for a Veteran's Day dinner. Speakers included Marine veteran David Shockley, Army veteran Robert Holder, and District Secretary Donna Sutphin. Surry Central High School Jr ROTC was on hand to present the colors. Billy C. Smith & Friends provided music.



News From Ruritan: DAN RIVER DISTRICT

AARONS CREEK AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

Aaron's Creek celebrated three 2022 graduating seniors and their families at their August meeting. Club Treasurer Melody Davis presented scholarships and a gift bag to each recipient. Pictured (l-r) is Melody, and recipients Justin Pool, Colin Saunders, and Laci Wilkins.



OAK LEVEL CONTINUES TRADITION



Members and friends of **Oak Level VA** recently made 1284 quarts of apple butter for the club's annual fundraiser. The club has been making apple butter for over 48 years. The apple butter has been sent throughout the states and to several foreign countries.

RED BANK VISITS MT. AIRY

Red Bank participated in the Mt. Airy, North Carolina Autumn Leaves Festival in October. They hosted a food booth and sold polish sausages and sodas.



PATRICK SPRINGS HOSTS ZONE MEETING



Patrick Springs hosted the evening meal for the Dan River District Ruritan Zone 1 meeting. After dinner, Zone 1 Governor Merlin Scales gave out door prizes.



News From Ruritan: DAN RIVER DISTRICT

ZONES JOIN FORCES FOR RURITAN

Zone 1 clubs (**Ararat, Meadows of Dan, Patrick Springs, and Red Bank**) joined forces to promote Ruritan at the Patrick County Fair. Pictured (l-r) are Patrick Springs Club President David Clement, Ararat Club Treasurer Kevin Smith, Red Bank Club Secretary Charlie Bowman, Red Bank members Tom and Connie Bishop. Also present but not pictured, Meadows of Dan Club Secretary Barbara Jo Newton, and Ararat club member Mary Hill.



Zone 7 clubs in Halifax County worked together to host a booth and promote Ruritan at the Halifax County Fair. Volunteers represented **Aaron's Creek, Cluster Springs, Dan River Community, Hyco Road, Mt. Laurel, Turbeville, and Union**. The zone governor brought the idea to the summer zone meeting as a project that would benefit all the clubs. The clubs also held



a drawing for a \$100 gas card. Pictured are Zone Governor Kathy Long (right) with winner Ann Morris.



ARARAT CONTINUES COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Ararat spearheaded a drive to collect bottled water, cleaning supplies, personal hygiene products, and non-perishable food items for victims of the recent flooding in Southwestern Virginia. With support from Meadows of Dan, Red Bank, and Patrick Springs Ruritan clubs, local churches, and numerous individuals across Patrick County, VA, the club was able to fill a U-Haul trailer and a pick-up truck. On August 6, club members headed to Pound, VA with the supplies. Pound Vice Mayor Leabern Kennedy thanked the club and then took them on a tour of the area so they could see the flood damage first-hand.



The club presented three \$500 scholarships to area graduates during the August business meeting. Pictured (l-r) are Taylor Smith, who will be attending Patrick Henry Community College, Zachary Foley, The University of Virginia, and Sam Sawyers, Appalachian

In August, the club hosted local author and historian Tom Perry (right). Mr. Perry presented a program on the Dinky Railroad (Mount Airy and Eastern Railway) that ran from Mt. Airy, NC to Kibler Valley, VA in the early 1900's. The presentation raised enough money to fund a year of scholarships for the Perry Foundation.



In September, Club President Kathy Loveland presented

donations to Kristie Young Bentley for the Blue Ridge Elementary School backpack program, and to Rhonda Pruitt for the Patrick County Food Bank. The club continued

their community support in October. Club Vice-President Mike Noonkester presented donations to Mike Fulk with the Ararat Rescue Squad, and

The club held its 35th annual BBQ and Cruise-In in October. Members cooked over 270 pounds of Boston butts throughout the night. Nearly 1,000 people attended the event and the food sold out by 5:00pm. There were over fifty cars, trucks, and motorcycles on display. Pictured at the barbeque pit are Eric Sawyers, Brad Slate, Brad Hish, and



Waymond Dawson. Also pictured, Club President Kathy Loveland (right) presented the first-place trophy to Doris Bowman for her '65 Chevy.



News From Ruritan: LINCOLNLAND DISTRICT

50-YEAR MEMBERS RECOGNIZED

Griffin charter member Sidney Nelson (pictured center) was recognized for 52 years of membership. He received a certificate and a 50+ year membership pin from District Governor Beverly Tanner (left). Also pictured (right) is Club Treasurer Larry Lingafelter.



District Governor Beverly Tanner was also on hand to present **Allendale** members Jim Johnson (left) and Robert Cusick (right) with 50+ year membership badges.

NEW CLUB WELCOMED

New club **Skillet Fork** held their charter night on October 29. Twenty-six new members signed the charter. National President Glen Broadwater and First Lady Linda were in attendance, as well as Lincolnland District Governor Beverly Tanner, and Past National Director Howard Tanner. The club was sponsored by **Geff Community**.



News From Ruritan: NEW RIVER DISTRICT

RURITAN ROAD IS FOCUSED ON SERVICE AND FUN



Ruritan Road passed out popcorn and painted lots of little faces for Pulaski County's National Night Out. This event is a national community-building campaign, usually held on the first Tuesday in August, which promotes relationships between local law enforcement and the communities they serve.



News From Ruritan: NEW RIVER DISTRICT

RURITAN ROAD (continued)



In September, the club hosted their annual motorcycle ride for St. Jude. Over fifty riders participated, and the Old Dominion H.O.G. chapter helped out by grilling hot dogs and hamburgers. A total of \$3,832 was donated to St. Jude.



The club also hosted their first annual "Fish on Fire" fishing tournament. Twenty-six teams headed out on Claytor Lake at first light. Cash prizes were awarded for first, second, and third place. Other prizes included Dollywood tickets, courtesy of local radio station WPSK, for the biggest fish, a \$100 gift certificate from Conrad Marina for the smallest fish, as well as several door prizes donated by local businesses. Proceeds from the event were donated to Pulaski County fire departments for Fire Prevention Week.



The club participated in the local Jack-O-Lantern Treat Trail with a voodoo-themed tent. The annual event is hosted by Pulaski County Parks and Recreation and Pulaski Chamber of Commerce. The "Voodoo Crew" passed out candy to over 2400 children.



Ruritan Road continues to host a monthly senior bingo and lunch and has recently started hosting monthly paint parties as community outreach projects.



News From Ruritan: DAVY CROCKETT DISTRICT

CAMP CREEK SPONSORS MUSIC FESTIVAL

Camp Creek hosted their annual music festival in September under the direction of Social Development Chair George Lewis. They offered meals of BBQ or pinto beans and cornbread and had baked goods and other items for a silent auction and raffle. Pictured is the concession staff of Ruth Kennedy, William Stokes, Tami Kennedy, and Angie Smithson.



Musical entertainment included The Foundations, Deer in the Headlights and Ricker's Pickers (pictured), who performed on the club's new stage. Special guests included National President

Glen Broadwater and First Lady Linda (pictured manning the raffle table with Club President Reta Phillips), as well as Mr. Jack Hope, a WWII veteran (pictured right). Mr. Hope is 98 years young and lives in nearby Chuckey, TN.



News From Ruritan: DAVY CROCKETT DISTRICT

DISTRICT WELCOMES ROUND MOUNTAIN

Round Mountain Ruritan Club officially chartered on July 19, 2022. Several quests were in attendance including District Governor Tommy Curtis, and 2022 National President Glen Broadwater and First Lady Linda. Nineteen individuals signed the charter to formally get the club organized. This new club is being



sponsored by the

Camp Creek Ruritan Club of the Davy Crockett District. Newly elected officers are Club President Brittany Wilson, Vice President Matthew Strange, Secretary Marcie Reed, Treasurer Brooke Strange, and Directors Jay Williams, Mary Williams, and Elizabeth Gilbert.

News From Ruritan: RAPIDAN DISTRICT

THREE CHOPT HELPS ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

Three Chopt Club presented thirteen baskets of school supplies to Principal Scott Lucas and Assistant Principal Erika Liddle for the third-grade students at Carysbrook Elementary School. Pictured (l-r) are Becky Loyd, Paislee Jones, Emily Payne, Fulton Payne, Scott Lucas, Erika Liddle, Geri Fortune,

Caroline Mozingo, and Amelia Mozingo. Club members

Jeff Jennings, Fulton Payne (pictured) and Greg Payne were the engineers for the barrel train at the Fluvanna County Fair on August 20th. The train ran from 10:00 a.m. until 7:15 p.m.



WOLFTOWN SERVES AT COMMUNITY EVENTS

Wolftown Club manned the food trailer at several community events. Pictured are volunteers at the Somerset Steam and Gas Show.



CHANCELLOR AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

Chancellor awarded four \$1,000 scholarships and two \$500 scholarships to graduating high school seniors in Spotsylvania County. The scholarships were awarded to students who demonstrated expertise in their field of study, service to their communities and superior academic achievement. The FBLA Student Scholarship went to Olivia Ferrell from Riverbend High School, who will attend the University of Mary Washington. The FFA Student Scholarship was awarded to Mikayla Thorne from Massaponax High School, who will attend Mississippi State University. Outstanding Academic Achievement Scholarships of \$1000 each were awarded to Kendall Swaim from Riverbend High School, who will attend Germanna Community College, and Isabella Gregory from Chancellor High School, who will attend Roanoke College. Outstanding Spotsylvania Career and Technical Center Student Scholarships of \$500 each were awarded to veterinary science student Kaelin Cruz from Riverbend High School, who will attend Sweet Briar College, and medical assisting student Monika Carlson from Courtland High School, who will attend Virginia Commonwealth University.

News From Ruritan: GULF AREA

MOUNT HERMON CELEBRATES 75TH

Mount Hermon LA recently celebrated their 75th Anniversary. Special guests for the celebration included National President Glen Broadwater and First Lady Linda, local community leaders, widows of former members, as well as the families of charter members. Club



President Raymond Cade recognized Billy Ray Gill, a 60-year member, who is now 85 years old and remains an active member of the club. His father was a charter member. Billy Ray shared about his experience and memories from his many years of service. He was presented a plaque of



appreciation by President Cade. DeShea Miller who joined the club as a teen and whose father was also a charter member, shared his memories as well. President and First Lady Broadwater were presented with a basket of Louisiana made and locally grown products.

The club hosted a hunter safety course for teens and adults. The two-day class was taught by Brett Morris, who serves as President of the Tangilena Toms Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation-Louisiana. This class was provided as a service to the community to help individuals meet the requirements of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. The event had over 20 youth and adults, both male and female, in attendance. The club hopes to make this an annual project.



News From Ruritan: NEW YORK AREA

TIOGHNIOGA FLEXES MUSCLES



Tioughnioga members collected and sold seven tons of scrap metal as part of the local community cleanup day. Pictured are the club's "men of steel."



BECOMING A RURITAN

An Essay by Madison Newbill, Cluster Springs Ruritan Club, Dan River District

In this essay I will be talking about what it takes to be a member of the Cluster Springs Ruritan Club and what it also takes to put on a benefit or event there. A Ruritan club is a civic organization dedicated to making communities a better place in which to live through fellowship, goodwill, and community service. The club works together to promote fellowship and goodwill among its members and citizens of the community and to inspire each other; to unify, to work, to encourage, to inspire; to foster the love of our county and take pride in being a Ruritan member.

The process that goes into becoming a Ruritan member for the Cluster Springs Ruritan club is simple. I have been coming to this Ruritan building since I was a little girl and as I got older, I started helping at events and other things that go on down there before officially becoming a member. My grandfather, John Mosier, has been a member of this club for a long time now, so I have been going with him to the benefits to help out and have been thinking about joining and becoming a member for a while now. At first, I was very indecisive about joining the Ruritan club because this was a big decision, and I did not know if I should join, or I would be a good fit with my college schedule. Having a bunch of the members down there talk about me joining since I have helped so much. I decided that it was a good time to join this club. This club had a turkey shoot last October and that is when I talked to them about joining and they gave me the application to fill out.

The first step is being voted into this club, you will have to fill out a paper, talk about yourself, and explain why you want to join this club. Once you fill out the paper you will give it to someone that is in charge of the building and they will take it to the next meeting. The meetings are held the first Thursday of each month. Some people can attend the meeting for the first time, I attended the first meeting. Once I got there, they would say "we have someone that would like to become a member of the Ruritan club".

Next, they will discuss in the open meeting about me as the candidate and talk about me and what I have done for the community and others around the Cluster Springs area. Once they go around the room the president will say "all who vote for this candidate to join please raise your hand." After the voting was over, it was announced that I was an official member of the Cluster Spring Ruritan Club back on March 22nd.

There is so much that goes into what we do as Ruritans in the community. We have our annual meetings Thursday at the beginning of each month, at 6:30 and will talk about what we need to do and plan for our next events. At the beginning of the meeting, we will say a prayer, then have dinner. We discuss what is needed, then we will close the meeting by saying the pledge of allegiance. We do cancer benefits, fundraisers, Turkey shoots, stew, and other things. With our cancer benefits we will discuss it at the meeting, who we want to do the benefit for or who we feel is in need. Next is deciding when to do it and what food to serve for the cancer benefit. Food wise we do BBQ plates with BBQ, beans, and coleslaw.

Sometimes, we will have raffles and a 50/50 booth where all the money that people can win from this booth, they can either keep it or donate it back to the person we are doing the benefit for. We have done benefits for Caroline Laughourn, Dillion Shotwell, Charlie Hughes, and many, many more. When we are not doing benefits, we will make a personal donation and mail it to the individual, the donation can be anywhere from 100-500 dollars. I can say since this was the first benefit I have helped with since I have become a member it was very heartwarming. The whole community will come together to help and support this person. We also do benefits to help raise money to be back into the club funds to be able to continue to do benefits and fundraisers in the future.

Becoming a member of the Cluster Springs Ruritan club has been such a rewarding experience for me because I am still young and in college. I am still trying to navigate my life and being a member has brought me so much joy to my life. Meeting so many new people and seeing the community come together and support so many amazing people and causes. To be able to help someone in such a dark time in their lives by being a member just makes me feel like I am doing something good in life. To also experience this with the other members and coming together feels great. Making new friends that are members and coming together to help so many in need. I can definitely say that becoming a member of the Cluster Springs Ruritan Club is something I will never forget. This Ruritan club is like a close family that gets together once a month to discuss things about the community.

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Project **FOCUS**

Funding Our Communities Under Stress

A Ruritan Board of Directors Program

What is this Project FOCUS I've been hearing about?

Project FOCUS **(Funding Our Communities Under Stress)** is a new 501(c)(3) program created by your Ruritan Board of Directors for humanitarian aid and disaster relief in our communities and implemented through local, requesting Ruritan Clubs.

Project FOCUS is an updated and improved version of **Operation We Care (OWC)**. **Project FOCUS** gives us much greater flexibility in serving our stressed communities.

Relief would be in the form of grants to assist requesting Ruritan clubs.

Please be sure to sign up and come to the workshop at the 2023 National Convention in Kingsport, TN and discover more about this exciting new program and how it can help your club help your community!

Funding Our Communities Under Stress

What is a Ruritan Forever?

"Ruritan Forever" is a plan for the payment of **national** dues by members who wish to make a long term investment in Ruritan. The "Ruritan Forever" plan allows a member in good standing to pay \$600 and become a life-time participant of the National Organization. Ruritan National will invest these pre-payments in a special managed fund, transferring the dues quarterly to the business office of Ruritan National. Even after the life participant dies, dues will be transferred quarterly to Ruritan National, thus offering a perpetual memorial to the organization on behalf of the deceased Ruritan.

A "Ruritan Forever" endowment may be purchased by a member in good standing or may be purchased for a member in good standing. A Ruritan Forever endowment may be purchased to honor a non-member provided they are brought into a club as an Associate Member at the same time. In this case the Associate Member's dues would be covered by the \$600* endowment.

The lifetime endowment may also be purchased in memory of an already deceased Ruritan, ensuring an ongoing contribution to the operation of Ruritan in his or her name. Dues for a living participant must be current through the previous quarter to participate. Ruritan National will administer these prepaid dues in a separate fund with the original amount remaining in perpetuity. Interest on the fund will provide the money paid to Ruritan National for dues.

Upon payment of the fee, the Ruritan will receive a certificate, a lapel pin, and a permanent life participant card. For endowments purchased for a deceased member a special plaque will be provided for the club to present to the deceased member's family. **National** dues increases will have no effect on participants enrolled in the plan, although the purchase price of \$600 for new enrollees may be adjusted over the years as necessary. There will be no special assessments or charges made to Ruritan Forever participants.



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) Shirt Size _____

☐ 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. *Please note the price will increase to \$800 on January 1, 2023.

WANTED: WINNING RURITAN RECRUITERS

THIRD QUARTER 2022



CYNTHIA POTTER OF
THE ALBERTSON CLUB IN THE
CAPE FEAR DISTRICT



GARY COLLIER OF THE
BLOOMINGDALE CLUB
IN THE TENNESSEAN
DISTRICT



DAKOTA CODERRE OF THE
MAX MEADOWS CLUB
IN THE NEW RIVER DISTRICT

NOTE: The WANTED program is ending with the fourth quarter of 2022. The last drawing will be January 2023.

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