

RURITAN magazine

Ruritan magazine publishes the community service accomplishments of Ruritan Clubs and members. All Ruritan members receive this quarterly magazine which features Ruritan Club news, Ruritan activities from across the nation, information about new Ruritan programs and other items of interest to Ruritan members. The magazine gives members community service ideas, proven fund-raising ideas from other clubs, and highlights the special projects of Ruritan Clubs.

Networking and New Friends

Ruritan membership provides social as well as service opportunities. Ruritan Clubs are a cross section of the community the club serves. Ruritan membership is a unique way to make business contacts and friends while serving the community. Many Ruritans are community and business leaders who share concerns about the community's future. Sharing concerns with others makes the community a better place for everyone.

Financial Membership Benefits

There are several affiliate partners who offer discounts to Ruritan members. For example, Hertz car rentals offers Ruritan members discounts on car rentals and free upgrades. Card Partners offers Ruritan members an attractive Ruritan custom Visa Platinum Rewards Card. Some of the benefits include: no annual fee, low introductory rate, protection against liability if lost or stolen, and 24/7 emergency customer service.

A list of some of Ruritan's affiliate partners can be found on the back of this brochure and on the Ruritan National website at <http://ruritan.org>.

National Partnerships

In addition to the added value from affiliate partners, Ruritan clubs also have access to service partnerships with a variety of excellent community service organizations such as Boy Scouts of America and Hunters for the Hungry. See the Ruritan website for a complete list of current service partners.

Ruritan members enjoy valuable services and discounts from these organizations. Participating partners may change from year to year.

Ruritan Membership



Hertz

For discounts and free upgrades
<http://www.hertz.com> or call 800-654-2210
Use Ruritan ID# 1706760



CHOICE HOTELS INTERNATIONAL



20% Discount for Ruritans using ID# 00711626

(800)424-6423

Mutual of Omaha
Make a Difference Today
800-223-6927



More Valuable Than Ever Before!

*Benefits and values that
individuals and clubs receive
for their Ruritan membership.*

Volunteer Leadership Development

With the exception of a small national staff, all Ruritan Officials at the club, district and national levels are volunteers elected by Ruritan members. An elected National Board of Directors, together with club delegates at annual national conventions, create the policies and programs of Ruritan National. The leadership of Ruritan is chosen by Ruritan Club delegates to serve the needs and interests of Ruritan members and their communities. Ruritan National also provides educational material to help community leaders and conducts **free** seminars, workshops, conferences, and other training. Through Ruritan's volunteer program, trained leadership is available to assist clubs with any situation.

Educational Material to Help Your Ruritan Club Serve the Community

Club officers and committee chairs receive free handbooks and other materials to help them perform more efficiently as community leaders. Community Service Guides developed by Ruritan National help local clubs provide services to their communities and also help clubs discover what community services are needed. Club and District Officers' Handbooks are designed to help officers serve the club, community, and district in the best possible way. Each club receives a packet of material in the fall with a wealth of information designed to help the club and its leaders serve their community.



For more information about the benefits explained in this brochure, call or write the Ruritan National Home Office at:

P.O. Box 487, Dublin, Virginia 24084;
toll free (877) 787-8727 / FAX (540) 674-2304
email: service@ruritan.org

Income Tax Exemption

Each club affiliated with Ruritan National is automatically exempt from paying federal income tax on funds raised or donations received under a blanket exemption issued to Ruritan National.

This exemption saves Ruritan Clubs thousands of dollars each year. Each dollar saved in taxes can be used for community service. Many clubs also benefit by exemption from state sales taxes. Without the Ruritan National affiliation, community clubs may have difficulty obtaining tax-exempt status.

Ruritan National also provides instructions and guidance for clubs that file information returns with the Internal Revenue Service. Ruritan National maintains and handles all filings concerning the blanket tax-exemption.

Ruritan National can also help affiliated clubs that have problems related to the Internal Revenue Service.

Ruritan Liability Insurance & Protection

All clubs in good standing with Ruritan National are covered by general comprehensive legal liability insurance. Such insurance is critical to any group that deals with the public.

For example, if a member of the public is injured at a Ruritan-sponsored event covered by this insurance, the club will be protected if a lawsuit arises from the incident.

This liability insurance covers lawsuits arising from covered Ruritan-sponsored activities, up to \$1 million.

Stability

History shows us that Ruritan Clubs who choose to disconnect from the national organization fail to continue their community-based service after just a few years. Without the framework that Ruritan provides, even clubs with the best intentions are unable to keep their groups together.

Ruritan Awards & Recognition

Ruritan Clubs and members have the opportunity to earn recognition through national and district awards for outstanding community service. These awards frequently receive not only local but also regional and national publicity. Because Ruritan has a systematic recognition program, individuals and clubs performing outstanding service do not go unnoticed. This recognition adds credibility and distinction to a club's community service efforts.

Ruritan Name and Reputation

Well-known for community service, the Ruritan name is a valuable asset to clubs. Ruritan enjoys a fine reputation among service clubs, other civic organizations, government agencies, and communities in general. Serving America's communities since 1928, the Ruritan name automatically lends credibility to all club activities. Ruritan community service activities usually receive much more support and recognition than projects carried out by an ad hoc group of citizens or a local club that is not affiliated with Ruritan National.

Ruritan National Foundation

Each year the Ruritan National Foundation awards many educational grants to students who wish to further their education beyond high school.

The Foundation offers a "Build Your Dollars" Program (established by the National Trustees on April 12, 2007) - based on annual investment revenue requires a \$300 commitment from clubs.

The Ruritan National Foundation also assists victims of local disasters through Operation We Care. Operation We Care provides much needed benefits to disaster victims after the immediate crisis has passed.

Also, individuals or clubs can be honored in perpetuity by starting a "named fund" or "special permanent fund" through the Ruritan National Foundation. All donations to Ruritan National Foundation funds and Operation We Care are tax-deductible.