

Community Service Projects

Ruritan clubs improve America's communities through five service committees including Business and Professions, Citizenship and Patriotism, Environment, Public Services, and Social Development. Ruritan club service committees propose and implement projects and programs to fulfill the needs of the community. Typical community programs and projects include the following:

- Sponsoring Youth/Adult Athletic Leagues and providing local athletic fields.
- Awarding educational scholarships.
- Sponsoring scout units.
- Supporting 4-H, FFA, and FHA.
- Sponsoring students to attend leadership and youth programs.
- Sponsoring roadside clean-up and anti-litter drives.
- Promoting industrial development in the community.
- Supporting life-saving squads and fire departments.
- Sponsoring blood donor programs and bloodmobiles.
- Assisting the elderly and infirm.
- Constructing roadside and community parks.
- Providing community centers and meeting places.
- Providing drug abuse education and information.
- Sponsoring projects to meet community needs.



Youth Programs

The Ruritan National Foundation annually provides financial assistance to qualified students to further their education after graduation from high school. In addition, hundreds of Ruritan clubs award annual scholarships and grants to local students.

Groups of students, sponsored by an existing Ruritan club, may choose to form a **Ruri-Teen club**.

The Ruritan Student Program introduces youth to the Ruritan spirit of **Fellowship, Goodwill, and Community Service** by sponsoring students as members of local Ruritan clubs.

For more information about Ruritan membership, contact your local Ruritan Club, or contact:

Ruritan National

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RURITAN NATIONAL

COMMUNITY PEOPLE MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS



Fellowship, Goodwill, and Community Service



Ruritan is a civic service organization with the purpose of creating a better understanding between people. Through volunteer community service, Ruritan makes America's communities a better place to live and work. The mission of Ruritan is **Fellowship, Goodwill, and Community Service**. Each Ruritan club surveys the needs of its community and then works to meet those needs.

Ruritan began in Holland, Virginia, in 1928. Since then, the Ruritan tradition of local community service has expanded to include more than 25,000 Ruritan volunteers. This continued tradition has earned Ruritan the reputation as "America's Leading Community Service Organization" in more than 1,000 communities across the nation.

Ruritan clubs provide and coordinate a wide range of community improvement projects and activities, including community fundraisers, food drives, and scholarships to qualified students. Many Ruritan clubs also support local youth organizations such as 4-H, FFA, Youth Athletic Leagues, scouts, and others. Many Ruritan clubs donate plush **Rudy Bears** to hospitals, school counselors, and emergency and law enforcement agencies to provide cheer and comfort for children in times of crisis.



Ruritan clubs hold informative and educational monthly meetings that give Ruritan members an opportunity to share ideas about community improvements and service projects. Club meetings feature a fellowship meal, a club business session, and an educational or entertaining program for club members. Most Ruritan club meetings usually last an hour and a half or less. Ruritan clubs are composed of concerned citizens who represent a cross section of the community that the club serves. Men and women of all professions, ages, and ethnic backgrounds enjoy Ruritan membership.



Basic Benefits of Membership

Ruritans believe the most important benefit of membership is the opportunity to work in fellowship with people who have a desire to make their communities better places in which to live.

In addition to that very important benefit, Ruritan members also receive a membership card and a quarterly magazine of Ruritan news and community service tips. Free leadership training and other programs help Ruritan members get the most out of their community service efforts.

Ruritan members receive group discounts from Choice Hotels, American Express, Hertz Car Rentals, and other nationally known businesses that recognize the importance of volunteer service contributions.