



BROWNSBURG RURITAN CLUB

50th ANNIVERSARY

August 26, 1989

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### 50th Anniversary Committee

D. Bruce Patterson, Chairman  
D. Graham McCray  
Benjamin W. Nicely, Sr.  
Edward N. Patterson  
Fred R. Whipple, Sr.

## HISTORY OF BROWNSBURG RURITAN CLUB

In the summer of 1939 the United States was still extricating itself from the effects of the Great Depression. There were close to 10 million persons unemployed. President Franklin D. Roosevelt was nearing the end of his second term and considering an unprecedented run at a third term while he entertained the King and Queen of England.

Every week 85 million Americans paid 25¢ to get away from reality for a few hours at their local theatre. Hollywood was about to enter its "Golden Age" and moviegoers were flocking to see Lionel Barrymore in On Borrowed Time and Bette Davis in Dark Victory. While these movies were drawing large crowds, everyone was anxiously awaiting the fall release of the film version of Margaret Mitchell's classic, Gone With The Wind.

The New York World's Fair opened on April 30th with its famous symbols, the Trylon and Perisphere, welcoming throngs of visitors. One of the most popular exhibits at the Fair was the National Broadcasting Company's booth which featured the latest media innovation - television. In upstate New York the Baseball Hall of Fame opened in Cooperstown while, on the west coast, the Golden Gate Bridge was dedicated in San Francisco.

Americans were becoming increasingly concerned about events throughout Europe. Despite the lull in fighting during the summer months, events were taking shape across the Atlantic which would draw our country ever closer to the conflict. The three-year old Spanish Civil War had ended March 28th when Madrid surrendered to Franco. Hitler had annexed Austria less than a year earlier and now occupied the rest of Czechoslovakia. Italy had just invaded Albania and Ethiopia. On August 23rd, Germany and Russia would conclude a non-aggression treaty which, we would learn years later, contained details on how the two countries would divide Europe. On September 1st the Nazis would march into Poland and two days later Britain and France would declare war on Germany.

The first Ruritan Club had formed in 1928 in Holland, Virginia, a result of the highly successful evening classes for farmers conducted by J. J. Gwaltney, the Vocational Technical Agriculture teacher at Holland School. Both Mr. Gwaltney and Tom V. Downing, the District Supervisor of Vocational Agriculture in Eastern Virginia, recognized a need to improve the cooperative spirit among rural communities. The formation of Ruritan clubs spread westward as Tom Downing carried this idea to all the communities he visited and as the concept spread through his staff of local agriculture teachers. In the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia members of the West Rockingham Ruritan Club were traveling through Rockingham, Augusta and Rockbridge Counties visiting farmers, ministers and local

businessmen trying to generate interest in the formation of local Ruritan clubs in those communities.

Ralph E. Moore, the first agriculture teacher at Brownsburg High School and a teacher at Mt. Clinton, was the 1938 Governor of Ruritan District F and a charter member of the West Rockingham Club when it, along with the Plains and Linville-Edom clubs, was organized on December 7, 1936 by members of the Smithfield Ruritan Club. On January 1, 1939, he turned the reigns of District Governor over to his fellow charter clubmember John H. Rolston, a farmer and officer in the Rockingham Mutual Insurance Company in Harrisonburg. On the national level, Marvin L. "Red" Gray of the Wakefield club was serving a second year as National President (the only person to ever serve two terms in this position) and had informed his District Governors that his main goal for 1939 was to see Ruritan National increase in size to 101 clubs.

Governor Rolston began the year with four clubs in District F (Plains, Linville-Edom, West Rockingham and North River) and informed President Gray that he could count on twelve of those new clubs to be chartered in his district that year. To back this promise he immediately went to work with Ralph Moore and Howard A. Spangler, another farmer and fellow charter clubmember, traveling west from Harrisonburg and chartering the Bridgewater club in early 1939 and the McGaheysville, Weyers Cave and New Hope clubs during the month of April. Edward S. Long, a merchant in Weyers Cave and the first president of that club, became very interested in the expansion of Ruritan throughout the valley and he, together with Ralph Moore and Howard Spangler, took over the duties of visiting community leaders and organizing new clubs in this area.

These "Valley Ruritans", as they were described in the national newsletters, immediately visited the southern Augusta and northern Rockbridge areas and soon saw Charter #79 issued to the Spottswood Ruritan Club. They continued to visit friends and contacts in the Brownsburg community and within a few weeks of chartering the Spottswood club a sufficient number of committed men had pledged support to the concept of a community service club in this area to have Ruritan Charter #80 designated for the Brownsburg Ruritan Club. During this time contacts were also made in the Fairfield and Port Republic areas and soon Charters #84 and #86, respectively, were prepared for clubs in those communities.

Spottswood, Fairfield and Port Republic scheduled charter nights during the month of July while Brownsburg set August 26th as the night for the signing of its charter. While Fairfield and Port Republic actually met the month before, Brownsburg was issued an earlier charter because the club application and fee were received at national headquarters in Wakefield before the papers for the Fairfield and Port Republic clubs.

The "Valley Ruritans" went on to charter clubs in Mt. Sidney, Kerrs Creek and Stuarts Draft that year. District

Governor Rolston was one club short of his goal of twelve new clubs in District F and National President "Red" Gray saw 1939 end with 100 clubs and 3,536 members in Ruritan National. While this was one club short of his goal, President Gray presided during a year of unprecedented growth (39 clubs and 1,208 members) with most of the new clubs formed in the Shenandoah Valley and on the eastern shore of Virginia.

John Rolston's District F led all districts in growth in 1939 and this resulted in his election as National Vice-President in 1940 and subsequently National President in 1941 (the first farmer and the first person west of the Blue Ridge to hold this position). He eventually became president of Rockingham Mutual Insurance Company where he worked for 53 years until his retirement. Howard Spangler was elected District Governor in 1940, succeeding John Rolston, and later Vice-President of Ruritan National in 1943 and President in 1944. Ed Long was elected District Governor in 1941, succeeding Howard Spangler, and National Treasurer in 1943. "Red" Gray became Executive Secretary of Ruritan National in 1947, after Tom Downing resigned from the position, and served in that capacity for 18 years.

Twenty men from the Brownsburg and Rockbridge Baths communities attended the charter night ceremonies at New Providence Presbyterian Church on August 26th. National President "Red" Gray was also in attendance and signed the charter. It was decided that the club would meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month, that dues would be 50¢ and that everyone must have a nickname, but it was not decided who would serve as officers for the remaining months of 1939. Will Whipple was selected to preside over the meetings and handle the affairs of the club for the remainder of that first year and a slate of officers for 1940 would be elected in October. Attendance during the first months was a little erratic with 18 of 24 present at the September meeting (75%) and 15 of 26 present at the October meeting (57.7%). However, four new members were initiated in the first month and two new members came into the club in October.

In 1940 Ruritan National reorganized its districts and the Brownsburg club found itself in Zone 3 of District D along with Spottswood, Stuarts Draft, Fishersville, Kerrs Creek and Fairfield. Andy Layman, the agriculture teacher at Brownsburg High School, was elected the first club president, Bill Adair of the Fairfield club was Zone Governor and club sponsor Howard Spangler was District Governor. Even though we were chartered as the Brownsburg Ruritan Club, we called ourselves the Hays Creek Ruritan Club and reported to Ruritan National under that name until 1943. Most of our meetings were held at New Providence with the remainder held at the Emmanuel Presbyterian Church on Walkers Creek and at the High School. We ended the year with an average monthly roll of 23 members and an average

attendance of 16 (69.57%). There were now 107 clubs and 3,719 members of Ruritan.

Ed Long, one of our sponsoring members, led us as District D Governor in 1941 and J. T. Williams, minister at Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, was our second club president. In 1942 Ruritan National again reorganized and the Hays Creek club found itself in District H with Clark Rosen of the Middlebrook club as District Governor. We raised our dues from 50¢ to 60¢ and raised our meal guarantee to \$12.00 from \$10.00. We joined with the Middlebrook club to make arrangements for a bus route from Lexington to Staunton and installed an air raid alarm on the bank building in Brownsburg.

In 1943 we changed our name to the Brownsburg Ruritan Club since it was becoming increasingly difficult to identify a specific location or address for Hays Creek. We help to convert the old colored school to a cannery and Elmer Huffman was elected District H Governor, the first member of the Brownsburg Club to hold the District leadership position. Elmer served as District Governor again in 1944 and was elected National Treasurer in 1945. He is still the only person in the history of our club to hold a national Ruritan office.

Our chief fund raising activity over the past 32 years has been the annual Brownsburg Ruritan Club Horse Show. While the annual show actually began in 1957, its roots can be traced back to the first year of our club.

In 1940 it was decided that the Hays Creek Ruritan Club would sponsor a Labor Day Family Picnic on the grounds of Brownsburg High School. This picnic was again held in 1941 and, in 1942, it was decided that the event would be called the "Community Labor Day Fair" and that the club would charge a fee for admission and for food. We cleared \$107. In addition to the usual activities of ball games, horse shoes, etc., a portion of the afternoon was reserved for a showing of local horses.

This continued for two more years and, in 1945, entries in the horse events had increased to the point where the name was again changed to the "Labor Day Fair & Horse Show" and the club earned \$272 for its efforts. This fair and horse show continued to be an annual Labor Day event for the next three years but the club soon found itself competing with a Labor Day program which had developed in the Bustleburg community and, in 1948, it was decided that this competition was not productive and the Brownsburg Ruritan Club Labor Day Fair and Horse Show should discontinue after a four year run.

In 1949 the club did not participate in any Labor Day function but, in 1950, it was decided that the club would join with the Bustleburg community and sponsor a joint Labor Day program at Bustleburg. It was originally decided that the programs would alternate between Bustleburg and Brownsburg but, due to the better facilities at Bustleburg,

the event never returned to Brownsburg. Our share of the profits from that first joint effort was \$78.

This arrangement proved to be successful and continued until 1957 when it was decided that we needed to get back into the horse show business. At a special meeting held on May 20th it was decided that the Brownsburg Ruritan Club would hold its first annual horse show on the grounds of Camp Maxwellton on July 13th. In less than two months the club sold ads and printed a catalog, prepared a show ring and viewing stands and installed lights for an evening show.

The annual horse show prospered and we soon became famous for our quality production and perfect weather--until the evening show was rained out in 1975 and we realized a net profit of only \$634. The show remained at Camp Maxwellton until 1977 when we moved to the present site in Bustleburg (we cleared \$1150 in 1976, the last year at Maxwellton). In 1978 we began the "Wally Poole Era" and dropped out of the Virginia Horse Show Association and began the all western show concept which has continued to this date.

**CHARTER MEMBERS  
BROWNSBURG RURITAN CLUB**

Charter Number 80, August 26, 1939

|                        |   |                     |
|------------------------|---|---------------------|
| H. C. SLUSSER          | * | (Farmer)            |
| JOHN C. LAYMAN         | * | (Teacher)           |
| J. K. PATTERSON        | * | (Farmer & Business) |
| T. E. HUFFMAN          |   | (Storekeeper)       |
| T. R. BEARD            | * | (Farmer)            |
| J. T. WILLIAMS         | * | (Minister)          |
| W. E. REES             | * | (Farmer)            |
| W. B. SUPINGER         | * | (Storekeeper)       |
| W. R. STERRETT         | * | (Farmer)            |
| E. H. BUCHANAN         | * | (Farmer)            |
| A. A. LUNSFORD         | * | (School Teacher)    |
| H. S. WADE             | * | (Banker)            |
| N. N. COBB             | * | (Farmer)            |
| F. B. REES             | * | (Commr. of Revenue) |
| W. P. WHIPPLE          | * | (Farmer)            |
| D. B. WALTHALL         |   | (Minister/Farmer)   |
| <b>FRED R. WHIPPLE</b> |   | (Business)          |
| <b>D. G. McCRAY</b>    |   | (Farmer)            |
| T. J. WISEMAN          |   | (Storekeeper)       |
| DR. H. J. WILLIAMS     |   | (Medical Doctor)    |

\* - Deceased

**Boldface** - Active Members

CLUB MEMBERS INITIATED  
1940-1989

| <u>1940</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <u>1941</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <u>1942</u>                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Will East<br>Bill Martin<br>J. K. "Jessie" Bailey                                                                                                                                                                   | Harold Wade<br>John Wade<br>W. H. "Dutch" Wade                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | J. R. Moneymaker<br>Earl Buchanan                                                                                               |
| <u>1943</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <u>1944</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <u>1945</u>                                                                                                                     |
| C. W. Sandridge<br>H. O. Sandridge<br>M. M. Sterrett, Sr.<br>Kite Wade<br>Harold Runkle<br>Sam Patterson<br><b>M. M. Sterrett, Jr.</b><br>Guy O. Fixx<br><b>Ed Patterson</b><br>Richard "Dick" Beard<br>J. O. Tyree | Irvin Swisher<br>D. W. Whipple<br>T. G. (Tom) Swisher<br><b>Clarence Tolley</b><br>F. M. Guffey<br>W. R. Sterrett<br>D. K. Bodkin<br>John Brown<br>Lloyd Nuckols<br><b>Wallace Beckner</b><br>Bill McCown<br>John L. Whitesell<br>Dr. Lock White<br>Ervin Swisher | Henry Martin<br><b>Bennie Fauber</b><br>N. P. Stockner<br>Homer Shaw, Sr.<br>Tom Mohler<br>Sam Harness                          |
| <u>1946</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <u>1947</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <u>1948</u>                                                                                                                     |
| S. B. Hoyt<br>Harvey Cox<br><b>Fran Bloxton</b><br>Carl Swope<br>Bill Heffelfinger<br>Jim Cobb                                                                                                                      | Boyd Stuart<br>Jake Zigler<br>Dan Burger<br>Stuart Moran                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Homer McManama<br>Bill Bowers<br>Dr. Moore<br>Bruce Slusser<br>Sam McLaughlin<br>Lewis Swisher                                  |
| <u>1949</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <u>1950</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <u>1951</u>                                                                                                                     |
| Clayton Camden<br>Hubert Scott<br>O. R. Spouster<br>Douglas Whipple<br>Andy Lindsay<br><b>Fran Bloxton</b>                                                                                                          | W. I. Lunsford                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Winston Wade<br>Clemmer Brown<br>Roy Lotts<br>Dr. Art Taylor<br>Carl Reese<br>Charles Laudenslager<br>Claude Bare<br>Jim Wilson |
| <u>1952</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <u>1953</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <u>1954</u>                                                                                                                     |
| Clarence Fitzwater<br>Harvey Chapman<br>Lynn Woody                                                                                                                                                                  | Walter Anderson<br>Dr. R. G. Hutcheson                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Felix Stadeli                                                                                                                   |

1955

Frank Patterson  
Bob Moore  
John Knick

1956

Carl Carroll  
Bill Judy

1957

Preston Hogshead  
Donald Beard  
Ralph McGraw  
Tom Robertson

1958

**Jim Wade**  
**George Sandridge**  
**"Colonel" Sandridge**

1959

Kenneth Fix  
H. M. Wallace  
Jim Davidson  
Ed Morrison

1960

Don Campbell  
Bill Houser  
A. M. Bouche

1961

Stuart Moore  
Dan Snider

1962

Bert Hawkins  
Wallace Tyree  
Harry German  
Tom Potter

1963

Claude McMillan  
Jerry McDonald  
Tom Bare

1964

Carlyle McCrowell  
Gardner Umbarger  
Andrew McLaughlin  
John Boyd

1965

**Harold Hockman**  
**Bud Martin**  
**Wally Poole**  
John Fresh

1966

Jack Heslep

1967

Earl Baker  
**Bill Dunlap**  
Eugene Hart

1968

Horace Smith  
Royal Johnston

1969

Larry Smith  
"Admiral" C. M. Lee

1970

Bill Bobbitt  
R. W. Swisher  
**Fred Whipple, Jr.**  
David Lee Runkle  
Robert Hammen

1971

Skeeter Bosserman  
Lewis Dudley  
Bernard Bangley

1972

Roy Martin  
Roy Patteson

1973

Charles Huffman  
Walter Lunsford

1974

**Tom McCabe**  
Doug Roper  
Harold Hadder  
Tom Turpin

1975

Randall Wade  
Paul Baker  
John Riley  
McCluer Gilliam  
**Kenneth Mohler**

1976

Richard Anderson  
Harry MacGregor

1977

Charles Wade  
David Wade  
Howard Camden  
Richard Whitesell  
Buster Lewis  
David Patteson

1978

**Lee Oas**  
G. P. Whiteley  
Tom Biggs  
**Dick Brown**  
**Bruce Patterson**

1979

Wally Beckner  
Forester Stapp

1980

Barney Mitchell  
Bill Weimer

1981

John Morris  
Wayne Snider  
**John McCray**

1982

**Bob Stuart**

1983

**Dick Anderson**

1984

Kenneth Sandridge  
Mike Sandridge  
**Woody McDonald**  
**Gordon Saunders**  
**Henry Smith**

1985

Calvin Coleman  
**Fred Weeks**  
Bob Benninger  
**Ben Nicely**

1986

**Tami Poole**  
**Buck Bates**  
**Dan Clark**  
Temple Kessinger  
**Lloyd Craighill**  
Harry Moore  
**Chunk Neale**  
**Joe Greenberg**  
**Earl Studwell**  
**Charles Wade**  
Charles Potter  
**Boyce Tucker**

1987

James Brown  
**Fran Bloxton**  
**Marc Johnson**  
**George Wickersham**  
Frank Munyan  
**Leonard Perry**  
**Andrew Maisano**

1988

**Robert Berry, Jr.**  
Len Faulkenbury  
**Guy Griffin**  
**John Howard**  
**Henry Potter**  
**Bryan Tolley**  
**Shelford Cutlip**

1989

**Ray Fauber**  
**Jim Johnson**  
**Cary Davis**

**Boldface - current member**

**DECEASED CLUB MEMBERS**  
(Died while active/honorary member)

W. B. "Teddy" Supinger  
E. H. "Buck" Buchanan  
Stuart "Gobbler" Moran  
Harold E. "Mill" Wade  
W. P. "Whip-O-Will" Whipple  
R. G. "Dick" Hutcheson  
T. R. "Arch" Beard  
M. M. "Big Mac" Sterrett, Sr.  
Winston "Scotty" Wade  
Irvine "Colonel" Lunsford  
Kenneth "Sleepy" Fix  
Earl "Rocking Chair" Baker  
Sam "Doc" Patterson  
Charlie "Jack" Sandridge  
H. O. "Australia" Sandridge

BROWNSBURG RURITAN CLUB OFFICERS  
1939 - 1989

1939 \*

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| President      | Will Whipple |
| Vice-President |              |
| Secretary      |              |
| Treasurer      |              |

1940

|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| President      | Andy Layman   |
| Vice-President | H. C. Slusser |
| Secretary      | Will East     |
| Treasurer      | W. P. Whipple |

1941

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| President      | J. T. Williams |
| Vice-President | T. E. Huffman  |
| Secretary      | T. R. Beard    |
| Treasurer      |                |

1942

|                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| President      | T. E. Huffman   |
| Vice-President | John Patterson  |
| Secretary      | Fred R. Whipple |
| Treasurer      | John Wade       |

1943

|                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| President      | John Patterson      |
| Vice-President | Bill Martin         |
| Secretary      | Graham McCray       |
| Treasurer      | Walter "Dutch" Wade |

1944

|                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| President      | Dr. Joe Williams    |
| Vice-President | T. R. Beard         |
| Secretary      | Earl Buchanan       |
| Treasurer      | Harold "Red" Runkle |

1945

|                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| President      | M. M. Sterrett, Sr. |
| Vice-President | T. J. Wiseman       |
| Secretary      | Clarence M. Tolley  |
| Treasurer      | D. W. Whipple       |

\* - Officers were not elected in 1939. Will Whipple was selected to preside over meetings for the remainder of year.

1946

|                |                    |
|----------------|--------------------|
| President      | T. R. Beard        |
| Vice-President | Clarence M. Tolley |
| Secretary      | Ed Patterson       |
| Treasurer      | Tom Mohler         |

1947

|                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| President      | D. W. Whipple       |
| Vice-President | Ed Patterson        |
| Secretary      | Harvey Cox          |
| Treasurer      | M. M. Sterrett, Jr. |

1948

|                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| President      | Jake Zigler     |
| Vice-President | Bill Martin     |
| Secretary      | Henry Martin    |
| Treasurer      | Homer Shaw, Sr. |

1949

|                |                          |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| President      | <b>Fred Whipple, Sr.</b> |
| Vice-President | M. M. Sterrett, Jr.      |
| Secretary      | Tom Mohler               |
| Treasurer      | Stuart Moran             |

1950

|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| President      | Dan Burger    |
| Vice-President | Sam Patterson |
| Secretary      | Bruce Slusser |
| Treasurer      | Bennie Fauber |

1951

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| President      | Sam McLaughlin |
| Vice-President | Bruce Slusser  |
| Secretary      | Clayton Camden |
| Treasurer      | Homer McManama |

1952

|                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| President      | Bruce Slusser     |
| Vice-President | Charlie Sandridge |
| Secretary      | Herb Scott        |
| Treasurer      | John Brown        |

1953

|                |                    |
|----------------|--------------------|
| President      | Douglas Whipple    |
| Vice-President | Clarence M. Tolley |
| Secretary      | Winston Wade       |
| Treasurer      | W. Irvine Lunsford |

1954

President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

Sam Patterson  
Graham McCray  
Winston Wade  
Henry Martin

1955

President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

**Graham McCray**  
Henry Martin  
George Cox  
Carl Swope

1956

President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

Henry Martin  
M. M. Sterrett, Jr.  
Sam Patterson  
Fred Whipple, Sr.

1957

President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

**M. M. Sterrett, Jr.**  
Carl Swope  
Lynn R. Woody  
Claude Bare

1958

President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

Carl Swope  
Ed Patterson  
John Knick  
Felix Staedeli

1959

President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

**Ed Patterson**  
John L. Whitesell  
Clarence Fitzwater  
Carl Carroll

1960

President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

John L. Whitesell  
Lynn R. Woody  
Tom Robertson  
Bill Judy

1961

President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

Lynn R. Woody  
Winston Wade  
Tom Robertson  
Kenneth Fix

1962

|                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| President      | Winston Wade    |
| Vice-President | Tom Robertson   |
| Secretary      | Jim Davidson    |
| Treasurer      | C. M. Sandridge |

1963

|                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| President      | C. W. Sandridge |
| Vice-President | Kenneth Fix     |
| Secretary      | Jim Wade        |
| Treasurer      | Walter Rees     |

1964

|                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| President      | Kenneth Fix      |
| Vice-President | Jim Davidson     |
| Secretary      | George Sandridge |
| Treasurer      | Bill Houser      |

1965

|                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| President      | Jim Davidson     |
| Vice-President | Jim Wade         |
| Secretary      | Gardner Umbarger |
| Treasurer      | Bennie Fauber    |

1966

|                |                    |
|----------------|--------------------|
| President      | <b>Jim Wade</b>    |
| Vice-President | Clarence M. Tolley |
| Secretary      | Wallace Beckner    |
| Treasurer      | Tommy Lee Bare     |

1967

|                |                           |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| President      | <b>Clarence M. Tolley</b> |
| Vice-President | Wallace Beckner           |
| Secretary      | Bud Martin                |
| Treasurer      | John Fresh                |

1968

|                |                        |
|----------------|------------------------|
| President      | <b>Wallace Beckner</b> |
| Vice-President | Bud Martin             |
| Secretary      | Bert Hawkins           |
| Treasurer      | George Sandridge       |

1969

|                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| President      | <b>Bud Martin</b> |
| Vice-President | George Sandridge  |
| Secretary      | Earl Baker        |
| Treasurer      | Homer McManama    |

1970

|                |                         |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| President      | <b>George Sandridge</b> |
| Vice-President | Bill Dunlap             |
| Secretary      | Harold Hockman          |
| Treasurer      | Gardner Umbarger        |

1971

|                |                      |
|----------------|----------------------|
| President      | <b>Bennie Fauber</b> |
| Vice-President | C. M. Sandridge      |
| Secretary      | C. M. Lee            |
| Treasurer      | M. M. Sterrett, Jr.  |

1972

|                |                                  |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| President      | <b>C. M. "Colonel" Sandridge</b> |
| Vice-President | Tommy Lee Bare                   |
| Secretary      | Bob Hammen                       |
| Treasurer      | Homer McManama                   |

1973

|                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| President      | Tommy Lee Bare    |
| Vice-President | C. M. Lee         |
| Secretary      | Fred Whipple, Jr. |
| Treasurer      | Bill Dunlap       |

1974

|                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| President      | C. M. Lee         |
| Vice-President | Fred Whipple, Jr. |
| Secretary      | Lewis Dudley      |
| Treasurer      | Royal Johnston    |

1975 (Blue Ribbon Award)

|                |                          |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| President      | <b>Fred Whipple, Jr.</b> |
| Vice-President | Lewis Dudley             |
| Secretary      | Harold Hadder            |
| Treasurer      | Walter Lunsford          |

1976 (Blue Ribbon Award)

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| President      | Lewis Dudley |
| Vice-President | Paul Baker   |
| Secretary      | Bill Dunlap  |
| Treasurer      | Doug Roper   |

1977

|                |                    |
|----------------|--------------------|
| President      | <b>Bill Dunlap</b> |
| Vice-President | Harold Hadder      |
| Secretary      | B. McCluer Gilliam |
| Treasurer      | Tom McCabe         |

1978

President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

**Wally Poole**  
Tom Turpin  
Kenneth Mohler  
Homer McManama

1979

President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

**Tom McCabe**  
David Wade  
Jim Wade  
Howard Camden

1980 (Blue Ribbon Award)

President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

David Wade  
Kenneth Mohler  
Howard Camden  
Foster Stapp

1981

President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

**Tom McCabe**  
Lee Oas  
Buster Lewis  
Harold Hockman

1982 (Blue Ribbon Award)

President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

**Lee Oas**  
Bruce Patterson  
Buster Lewis  
Fred Whipple, Jr.

1983 (Blue Ribbon Award)

President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

John Morris  
Bruce Patterson  
Bill Dunlap  
Bill Weimer

1984 (Blue Ribbon Award)

President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

**Bruce Patterson**  
Dick Brown  
Lee Oas  
Bob Stuart

1985 (Blue Ribbon Award)

President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

**Dick Brown**  
Tom Biggs  
Gordon Saunders  
Bob Stuart

1986 (Blue Ribbon Award)

|                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| President      | Tom Biggs       |
| Vice-President | Bob Stuart      |
| Secretary      | Gordon Saunders |
| Treasurer      | Henry Smith     |

1987 (Blue Ribbon Award)

|                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| President      | <b>Bob Stuart</b> |
| Vice-President | Gordon Saunders   |
| Secretary      | Henry Smith       |
| Treasurer      | Ed Patterson      |

1988

|                |                        |
|----------------|------------------------|
| President      | <b>Gordon Saunders</b> |
| Vice-President | Henry Smith            |
| Secretary      | Ben Nicely             |
| Treasurer      | Calvin Coleman         |

1989

|                |                    |
|----------------|--------------------|
| President      | <b>Henry Smith</b> |
| Vice-President | Ben Nicely         |
| Secretary      | Boyce Tucker       |
| Treasurer      | Calvin Coleman     |

**Boldface** - Current member of Club

**MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY  
1989**

| <u>NAME/NICKNAME-ORIGIN</u>                                                                                                  | <u>OCCUPATION</u> | <u>DATE</u> | <u>SPONSOR</u>   | <u>ADDRESS</u>                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Anderson, Richard G.<br>"Kingfish"- <u>Amos &amp; Andy</u> lawyer-couldn't remember "Calhoun"                                | Attorney          | 07/83       | Mac Sterrett     | P.O. Box 76<br>Brownsburg           |
| Bates, E. Buchanan<br>"Bummer" - named for his dog                                                                           | Postal Service    | 03/86       | Jim Wade         | Star Rt. Box 17<br>Middlebrook      |
| Beckner, Wallace H.<br>"Bunny" - unknown, from school days                                                                   | Ret./Farmer       | 10/44       | M.M.Sterrett,Sr. | Rt. 1 Box 144<br>Rockbridge Baths   |
| Berry, Robert H., Jr.<br>"Huckleberry Hound" - given by club members                                                         | VDOT Foreman      | 03/88       | Calvin Coleman   | Box 39A<br>Rockbridge Baths         |
| Bloxton, Francis E.<br>"Little Doc" - from former occupation                                                                 | Ret Pharmacist    | 06/50       | Bruce Slusser    | Rt. 1 Box 149-A<br>Rockbridge Baths |
| Brown, Richard A.<br>"Chopper Six" - helicopter pilot in Army                                                                | Ret. Military     | 06/78       | Paul Baker       | Rt. 1 Box 185<br>Rockbridge Baths   |
| Clark, Daniel S.<br>"Wildcat" - Univ. of Kentucky graduate                                                                   | Minister          | 03/86       | Wallace Beckner  | Rt. 1 Box 90<br>Rockbridge Baths    |
| Coleman, Calvin H.<br>"Radar" - Wally Poole, from days as Va. state trooper                                                  | Ret. Trooper      | 10/85       | Henry Smith      | Rt. 1 Box 37<br>Rockbridge Baths    |
| Craighill, Lloyd L.<br>"Cavalier" - Univ. of Virginia graduate                                                               | Ret. Industry     | 05/86       | John McCray      | Rt. 1 Box 104<br>Rockbridge Baths   |
| Cutlip, Shelford L.<br>"Coalminer" - former occupation                                                                       | Ret. Coal Miner   | 02/88       | Clarence Tolley  | Rt. 5 Box 151<br>Lexington          |
| Davis, Cary S.<br>"Woodchuck" - from former trade as a shipbuilder                                                           | Ret. Shipbuilder  | 07/89       | Fran Bloxton     | Rt. 5 Box 116-A<br>Lexington        |
| Dunlap, William B.<br>"What's His Name" - Pres. "Mouse" Tolley could not remember name when initiated                        | Realtor           | 09/67       | Graham McCray    | P. O. Box 99<br>Brownsburg          |
| Fauber, Bennie E.<br>"Tom Cat" - originally "Cat" after Catherine Foultz, whom he "did not date", later changed to "Tom Cat" | Farmer            | 10/45       | T. J. Wiseman    | Rt. 1 Box 74<br>Fairfield           |
| Fauber, C. Ray<br>"Ranger Ray" - from former occupation                                                                      | Ret. Park Serv.   | 01/89       | Jim Wade         | Rt. 1 Box 570<br>Raphine            |
| Greenberg, Joe M.<br>"River Jack" - from 1985 flood debris on property                                                       | Ret. Engineer     | 06/86       | G. P. Whiteley   | Rt. 1 Box 183<br>Rockbridge Baths   |

|                                                           |                |       |                 |                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Griffin, Guy S.                                           | Teacher        | 04/88 | Jim Wade        | Rt. 1 Box 477<br>Raphine            |
| "Yank" - birthplace                                       |                |       |                 |                                     |
| Hockman, Harold L.                                        | Farmer         | 01/65 | E. C. Bare      | Rt. 1 Box 546<br>Raphine            |
| "Sheep Scab" - inspected sheep for scabies one year       |                |       |                 |                                     |
| Howard, John W.                                           | Retired        | 04/88 | Bob Stuart      | Star Rt. Box 59-C<br>Middlebrook    |
| "Hardscrabble" - nickname for hometown (Dayton, MD)       |                |       |                 |                                     |
| Johnson, James C.                                         | Sales Rep.     | 01/89 | Marc Johnson    | P. O. Box 23<br>Fairfield           |
| "Jump" - climber of Jump Mountain                         |                |       |                 |                                     |
| Johnson, Marc R.                                          | Property Dir.  | 01/87 | Graham McCray   | Rt. 1 Box 97-B<br>Rockbridge Baths  |
| "Burly Bear" - appearance                                 |                |       |                 |                                     |
| Maisano, Andrew D. A.                                     | Antique Dealer | 10/87 | Bud Martin      | P. O. Box 175<br>Fairfield          |
| "One Yen" - youthful selling experiences in Japan         |                |       |                 |                                     |
| Martin, W. L. (Bud)                                       | Farmer         | 04/65 | Mac Sterrett    | Mt. View Farm<br>Fairfield          |
| "Mushroom" - Fred Whipple, Jr.                            |                |       |                 |                                     |
| Mohler, Kenneth W.                                        | Forest Warden  | 09/75 | Randall Wade    | Rt. 1 Box 189<br>Rockbridge Baths   |
| "Bull" - from unmarried visits to Janet Moneymaker's bull |                |       |                 |                                     |
| McCabe, Thomas J., III                                    | Technician     | 04/73 | Graham McCray   | Rt. 1 Box 106<br>Rockbridge Baths   |
| "Watermelon" - originated profitable '79 Horse Show sale  |                |       |                 |                                     |
| McCray, D. Graham                                         | Farmer         | 08/39 | -----           | Rt. 1 Box 97-A<br>Rockbridge Baths  |
| "Mac" - named by club members when chartered              |                |       |                 |                                     |
| McCray, John D.                                           | Contractor     | 03/81 | Graham McCray   | Star Rt. Box 59<br>Middlebrook      |
| "John Boy" - given by club members                        |                |       |                 |                                     |
| McDonald, Woody                                           | Contractor     | 01/84 | Tom McCabe      | Rt. 1 Box 118-B<br>Rockbridge Baths |
| "Wooden Eye" - got wood chips in eyes when started work   |                |       |                 |                                     |
| McVey, George                                             | Realtor        |       | Guy Griffin     | Box 34<br>Brownsburg                |
| "No Bear" - killed bear out of season, gave it back       |                |       |                 |                                     |
| Neale, Harold E.                                          | Fund Raiser    | 06/86 | Clarence Tolley | P. O. Box 67<br>Brownsburg          |
| "Rat" - V.M.I. graduate                                   |                |       |                 |                                     |
| Nicely, Benjamin W.                                       | Tour Operator  | 01/85 | Clarence Tolley | Rt. 5 Box 185-A<br>Lexington        |
| "Gentle Ben" - club members                               |                |       |                 |                                     |
| Oas, R. Lee, Jr.                                          | Horticulture   | 02/78 | Ken Mohler      | P. O. Box 32-A<br>Rockbridge Baths  |
| "Grizzly" - appearance (had beard when initiated)         |                |       |                 |                                     |
| Patterson, D. Bruce                                       | County Clerk   | 01/79 | Ed Patterson    | P. O. Box 98<br>Fairfield           |
| "Dimples" - from Wally Poole                              |                |       |                 |                                     |
| Patterson, Edward N.                                      | Ret. Business  | 12/43 | Will Whipple    | P. O. Box 56<br>Brownsburg          |
| "Cedrick" - from character on <u>Lum &amp; Abner</u> show |                |       |                 |                                     |

|                                                                   |               |       |                 |                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Perry, Leonard M.                                                 | Contractor    | 11/87 | Henry Smith     | Rt. 1 Box 76-A    |
| "Rear Admiral" - club altered proposal of "Admiral"               |               |       |                 | Rockbridge Baths  |
| Poole, J. Wallace                                                 | Dep. Sheriff  | 05/65 | Col. Sandridge  | Rt. 1 Box 553     |
| "Deputy Dawg" - from portrayal of McGruff the Crime Dog           |               |       |                 | Raphine           |
| Poole, Tami D.                                                    | Service Rep.  | 01/86 | Jim Wade        | Rt. 1 Box 553     |
| "First Lady" - first female member of club                        |               |       |                 | Raphine           |
| Potter, Henry L.                                                  | Ret. Highway  | 07/88 | Andrew Maisano  | Rt. 1 Box 135     |
| "Pothole" - former occupation of filling potholes                 |               |       |                 | Rockbridge Baths  |
| Sandridge, Charles M.                                             | Postal Serv.  | 10/56 | C. W. Sandridge | Rt. 1 Box 554     |
| "Col. Kojack" - club altered nickname (Colonel)                   |               |       |                 | Raphine           |
| Sandridge, George L.                                              | Farmer        | 10/58 | Douglas Whipple | Rt. 1 Box 548     |
| "Lee Groundhog" - killed 306 groundhogs one summer                |               |       |                 | Raphine           |
| Saunders, Gordon F.                                               | Attorney      | 05/84 | Bruce Patterson | 104 Colston Place |
| "High Pockets" - reference to height?                             |               |       |                 | Lexington         |
| Smith, Henry C., Jr.                                              | Retired USAF  | 12/84 | Dick Brown      | Rt. 1 Box 76-B    |
| "Hankie" - club altered proposal of "Hank"                        |               |       |                 | Rockbridge Baths  |
| Sterrett, M. M., Jr.                                              | Farmer        | 12/43 | John C. Layman  | Rt. 1 Box 523     |
| "Little Mac" - father was nicknamed "Big Mac"                     |               |       |                 | Raphine           |
| Stuart, Robert K.                                                 | Ret Professor | 04/82 | Clarence Tolley | Rt. 1 Box 99      |
| "Bob-White" - given by club members                               |               |       |                 | Rockbridge Baths  |
| Studwell, Earl S.                                                 | Ret. Salesman | 07/86 | John McCray     | Rt. 1 Box 76-C    |
| "Goldilocks" - from Henry Smith (didn't like "Gelding")           |               |       |                 | Rockbridge Baths  |
| Tolley, H. Bryan                                                  | Teacher       | 11/88 | Clarence Tolley | Rt. 5 Box 213     |
| "Turkey" - Va. Tech graduate                                      |               |       |                 | Lexington         |
| Tolley, Clarence M.                                               | Ret. Deputy   | 07/44 | John Wade       | Rt. 5 Box 185     |
| "Mouse" - Caught a mouse in his rabbit traps "67 or 68 years ago" |               |       |                 | Lexington         |
| Tucker, S. Boyce                                                  | Ret. Postman  | 12/86 | Lee Oas         | Rt. 1 Box 30      |
| "R.F.D." - former occupation                                      |               |       |                 | Rockbridge Baths  |
| Wade, Charles T.                                                  | BARC Foreman  | 07/86 | Clarence Tolley | Rt. 1 Box 166-A   |
| "Pole Climber" - from occupation as line foreman                  |               |       |                 | Rockbridge Baths  |
| Wade, James F.                                                    | Ret. Banker   | 05/64 | Winston Wade    | Rt. 1 Box 474     |
| "Stump" - unknown, name given by brother                          |               |       |                 | Raphine           |
| Weeks, Fred L., Jr.                                               | Farmer        | 11/85 | Clarence Tolley | Rt. 1 Box 159     |
| "Lawn Boy" - mowing Bustleburg ballfield                          |               |       |                 | Rockbridge Baths  |
| Whipple, Fred R., Sr.                                             | Farmer        | 08/39 | -----           | P. O. Box 35      |
| "Perk" - after former girlfriend named Perkins                    |               |       |                 | Brownsburg        |

hipple, Fred R., Jr. Dairy Inspec. 05/70    George Sandridge P. O. Box 97  
"Hicks" - Hicks Brown (father's former farmhand)    Brownsburg

ickersham, George W.,II Clergyman 01/87    Dan Clark    The Briarpatch  
"Wicked" - from "stupid brother-in-law"(Lloyd Craighill)    Rockbridge Baths

Honorary Members:

Adrian M. Bouche  
Homer H. McManama  
Henry Martin  
. W. Whipple

## Active Club Member Sponsors

| <u>Name</u>                 | <u>No. of Members</u> |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Clarence M. Tolley          | 8                     |
| D. Graham McCray            | 4                     |
| James F. Wade               | 4                     |
| John D. McCray              | 2                     |
| Henry C. Smith, Jr.         | 2                     |
| M. M. Sterrett, Jr.         | 2                     |
| Wallace H. Beckner          | 1                     |
| Fran Bloxton                | 1                     |
| Richard A. Brown            | 1                     |
| Daniel S. Clark             | 1                     |
| Calvin H. Coleman           | 1                     |
| Guy S. Griffin              | 1                     |
| Marc R. Johnson             | 1                     |
| Andrew D. A. Maisano        | 1                     |
| W. L. "Bud" Martin          | 1                     |
| Kenneth W. Mohler           | 1                     |
| R. Lee Oas, Jr.             | 1                     |
| D. Bruce Patterson          | 1                     |
| Edward N. Patterson         | 1                     |
| Charles M. "Col." Sandridge | 1                     |
| George L. Sandridge         | 1                     |
| Robert K. Stuart            | 1                     |

**1944 CLUB OBJECTIVES**  
(5th Anniversary)

1. To cooperate 100% with the war effort.
2. To make improvements to school grounds and road.
3. To have at least one 100% meeting each quarter.
4. To sponsor Labor Day picnic and horse show.
5. To raise \$100 or more during the year, exclusive of dues
6. To create more interest in the monthly farm discussion and farm machinery repair classes being conducted by J. C. Layman.
7. To have at least two "Ladies Nights" and entertain the faculty at Brownsburg High School.
8. That we appoint one member and invite other Ruritans and civic clubs in the county to meet and form a county-wide post-war planning committee to study post-war activities.
9. Sponsor an attendance contest with a neighboring club. (Fairfield accepted the challenge in April and Brownsburg won with 100% attendance for the last 8 months of the year.)

Other activities the club participated in during the year included:

1. Sponsored a Red Cross drive in the Hays Creek District by donating the proceeds from a basketball game held at B.H.S. in the month of March between "Ruritans dressed as ladies and the FFA boys dressed as Hill Billies." At the April meeting a motion was made and passed that each member who failed to dress for the basketball game be fined \$1.00.
2. Sponsored several War Bond Drives.
3. Sponsored Rural Life Sunday at the High School building.
4. Arranged for flowers needed in the church.
5. Participated in the formulation of plans for a frozen food locker plant in the county.
6. Donated \$20 to help furnish the High School lunch room.
7. Participated in a second basketball game with the FFA boys. Same dress and same fine imposed.
8. Sponsored a milk weed pod collection giving \$5 to the boy who collected the most pods. (Pods were used to stuff life preservers and collected a total of 51 bags.)
9. Purchased cot and furnishings for sick room at B.H.S.

**1964 CLUB OBJECTIVES**  
(25th Anniversary)

Welfare, Sanitation, Health Committee: Bert Hawkins, Chmn.

1. Deliver Chirstmas baskets to needy families in community
2. Assist needy family to obtain food, fuel and medical care.
3. Participate in giving blood to the Bloodmobile two times during the year.
4. Help persons in community in case of illness.
5. Provide program on lung cancer in connection with cigarettes.
6. Contribute \$50 to newly organized Cystic Fibrosis Chapter in Lexington.

Recreation, Community Good Will Committee:

Sam Patterson, Chmn.

1. Organize and support Little League Baseball team.
2. Arrange to send flowers to sick members and wives.
3. Organize and support a Ruritan basketball team.
4. Have two Ladies Night programs and one family picnic.
5. Finance lighting of football field at Rockbridge High School. (Actual cost \$1,365.00)

Youth Committee: Winston Wade, Chmn.

1. Provide speaker on Juvenile Detention Home in local area
2. Contribute \$40 to 4-H Educational Center in Rocky Mount.
3. Donate \$25 to Lynchburg Home in memory of deceased members.
4. Donate \$10 to send local boy to Boys State.
5. Give aid and encouragement to youth (white and colored) for development of physical character.

Agriculture Committee: Bud German, Chmn.

1. Take field trip to a hereford sale in Verona at stockyards.
2. Attend Farm Show and hereford sale at Stillhouse Hollow Farm.
3. Provide a speaker for a regular monthly meeting.
4. Donate \$100 for expenses of FFA boy to attend national convention.

Rural Church Committee: Winston Wade, Chmn.

1. Attend special services and contribute loose offering to weekday religious education program.
2. Contribute \$50 to weekday religious education program.
3. Give aid and encouragement to youth (white and colored) for development of moral and spiritual character.

4. Donate \$25 to the Walker's Creek Evangelical United Brethern Church for their renovation program.
5. Assist the Brownsburg Colored Church in ways to create interest and strengthen the church.

Rural Utilities, Electricity, Telephones Committee:

Fred Whipple, Chmn.

1. Donate \$25 to the Brownsburg Street Lights.
2. Maintain public dump for local area.
3. Donate \$25 to the Rockbridge Baths Fire Company.
4. Donate \$15 to the Fairfield First Aid Crew.

Public Highways, Streets, Public Buildings Committee:

Fred Whipple, Chmn.

1. Express opinion of club at to the most suitable route for Interstate 64 in our area.
2. Donate \$40 to Ruritan National Headquarters Building Fund.

Education Committee: Fitz Fitzwater, Chmn.

1. Contribute a magazine subscription to the Brownsburg Elementary School library.
2. Provide speaker for a regular assembly program at Rockbridge High School.

Industry, Business Methods Committee: Felix Staedeli, Chmn.

1. Provide program on impact of new industry to the area.
2. Cooperate with other civic clubs to get new industry in the area.

Conservation Committee: Bud German, Chmn.

1. Promote a program on rat extermination.
2. Encourage landowners to establish wildlife seed plots.
3. Encourage landowners to plant pine seedlings.
4. Stock three local streams with trout.
5. Harvest crops for a local injured farmer.

Safety Committee: Bud German, Chmn.

1. Promote a farm safety program in our community.
2. Donate \$25 to the Rockbridge Baths Fire Company.
3. Donate \$15 to the Fairfield First Aid Crew.

Finance Committee: Col. Sandridge, Chmn.

1. Sell advertisements in the horse show catalog. (Total sales \$1,420.00)
2. Hold annual Brownsburg Ruritan Club Horse Show. (Gross receipts \$1,046.01)

3. Participate in auction sale with other Ruritan Clubs at Showalter Farm. (Gross receipts \$165)

Miscellaneous

1. Prepared club resolution upon death of our beloved Red Gray, Ruritan National Executive Secretary.
2. Sent one member to national convention.
3. Celebrated 25th Anniversary. (Held afternoon program with chicken barbecue and evening program with meal and speakers. It was reported that the club had spent \$15,000.00 in 25 years of community service and had a 90% attendance record over that same period. National President Russell Burgess was in attendance and congratulated the club on its service to the community.)

**1984 CLUB OBJECTIVES**  
(45th Anniversary)

Citizenship & Patriotism Committee: Col. Sandridge, Chmn.

1. Provide a speaker or program for a regular meeting.
  2. Encourage members to attend local government meetings.
  3. Sponsor a patriotic poster contest at one of the local schools. ( \$40.00)
  4. Help with "Neighborhood Watch Program" in community.
  5. Help sponsor a student to Boys State and a student to Girls State. (\$200.00)
  6. Encourage people in community to register to vote.
- TOTAL COSTS \$240.00

Transportation Committee: Harold Hockman, Chmn.

1. Provide a speaker or program for a regular meeting.
  2. Encourage Highway Department to erect "Deer Crossing" signs on Rt. 252 in front of Dr. Beckner's property.
  3. Encourage Highway Department to make improvements on Rt. 724 between Brownsburg and Rockbridge High School.
  4. Encourage Highway Department to erect a new bridge on Rt. 602 near McDonald's property.
  5. Encourage Highway Department to add Brownsburg and Rockbridge Baths names to highway sign at intersection of Rt. 39 and Rt. 11.
- TOTAL COST \$ -0-

Human Development Committee: Howard Camden, Chmn.

1. Contribute \$200.00 to weekday religious education program. (\$200.00)
  2. Attend services in an area Church as a club.
  3. Provide a scholarship to graduating seniors (boy and girl) with interest from Building Fund plus additional from this committee. (\$100.00)
  4. Arrange to furnish assistance for handicapped citizen.
- TOTAL COST \$300.00

Public Service Committee: Buster Lewis, Chmn.

1. Provide financial support to:
    - (a) Fairfield First Aid Crew \$100
    - (b) Fairfield Fire Department \$100
    - (c) Raphine Fire Department \$100
    - (d) Rockbridge Baths Fire Department \$100
    - (e) Walkers Creek Fire Department \$100
  2. Contribute to Rockbridge Baths Fire Department to aid in payment of utilities. (\$ 50.00)
  3. Contribute to New Providence Church to aid in payment of utilities. (\$ 50.00)
  4. Provide a speaker or program for a regular meeting.
- TOTAL COSTS \$600.00

Environment Committee: Mac Sterrett, Chmn.

1. Provide a speaker or program for a regular meeting. (\$ 30.00)
  2. Encourage landowners to reforest timberlands and idle land.
  3. Seed an eroded roadside bank in the community. (\$ 50.00)
  4. Work with landowners to assist in cleaning roadside areas.
  5. Help establish wildlife seed plots and secure seed.
  6. Arrange for trash pick-up in Goshen Pass or other area.
- TOTAL COSTS \$ 80.00

Social Concerns Committee: Lynn Woody, Chmn.

1. Arrange for flowers for sick members & wives. (\$100.00)
  2. Distribute Christmas baskets in community.
  3. Provide financial support for a needy family. (\$ 50.00)
  4. Support Boy Scout Troop 96. (\$500.00)
  5. Sponsor Little League Baseball. (\$250.00)
  6. Sponsor two needy children to 4-H Camp. (\$100.00)
  7. Sponsor a retarded child to Camp Va. Jaycee (\$ 50.00)
  8. Provide financial support to a burned out family.
- TOTAL COSTS \$1050.00

Business & Professions Committee: Fred Whipple, Sr., Chmn.

1. Provide a speaker or program for a regular meeting. (\$ 25.00)
  2. Help promote Animal Industry Day at V.P.I. in association with the Bank of Rockbridge.
  3. Promote support for the R.H.S. FFA and 4-H Beef Show. (\$ 75.00)
- TOTAL COSTS \$100.00

Fellowship & New Member Committee: Tom McCabe, Chmn.

1. Try to add 5 new members to our Club.
  2. Greet and make welcome all guests and visitors.
  3. Orient new members to the rules, standards, traditions, etc. of our Club.
  4. Provide a Ruritan cap to each member who signs up a new member during the year. (\$ 25.00)
- TOTAL COSTS \$ 25.00

Program & Entertainment Committee: Graham McCray, Chmn.

1. Arrange to have a speaker or program for each meeting. (\$100.00)
- TOTAL COSTS \$100.00

**TOTAL COST 1984 OBJECTIVES \$2,495.00**

**1989 CLUB OBJECTIVES**  
(50th Anniversary)

Citizenship & Patriotism Committee: George Sandridge, Chmn.

1. Provide a speaker/program for a regular meeting.
  2. Provide financial support to sponsor a student from R.H.S. to attend Boys State. (\$100.00)
  3. Provide financial support to sponsor a student from R.H.S. to attend Girls State. (\$100.00)
  4. Sponsor essay contest at local schools on patriotism with \$25, \$15 and \$10 prizes. (\$ 50.00)
  5. Encourage members to attend local government meetings.
  6. Encourage members to display American flag on holidays.
  7. Encourage members to install lighted flag poles at home.
  8. Encourage members to attend a memorial service on Memorial and Veterans Days.
- TOTAL COSTS                      \$250.00

Transportation Committee: Buck Bates, Chmn.

1. Provide speaker for regular meeting. (\$ 25.00)
  2. Maintain Ruritan signs in community.
  3. Encourage Highway Department to erect "Deer Crossing" signs at dangerous intersections.
  4. Encourage Highway Department to add Brownsburg and Rockbridge Baths to sign at intersection of Rts. 39 & 11
  5. Work with Highway Department on cutting brush back on dangerous curves and intersections.
- TOTAL COSTS                      \$ 25.00

Human Development Committee: Lee Oas, Chmn.

1. Contribute to weekday religious education. (\$200.00)
  2. Encourage club to attend Bethesda on Laity Sunday.
  3. Provide scholarship to graduating senior at R.H.S. with addition of interest of C.D. (\$800.00)
  4. Encourage club participation and assistance for community members in need.
  5. Promote club fellowship by changing format of club picnic to a full family picnic at a local recreational facility.
  6. Provide speaker for meeting. (\$ 25.00)
- TOTAL COSTS                      \$1025.00

Public Service Committee: Lloyd Craighill, Chmn.

1. Provide financial support towards operating costs to area Rescue Squads and Fire Departments. (\$500.00)
2. Contribute to Bethesda Presbyterian Church for payment on utilities. (\$ 50.00)
3. Contribute to Rockbridge Baths Fire Department Building Fund. (\$250.00)

4. Provide speaker for a regular meeting.
5. Talk with appropriate county people to see if the club can assist in the effort to keep the areas around the dumpsters cleaner.
6. Encourage re-cycling effort being started in the county. See if club can provide assistance or support.

TOTAL COSTS                    \$800.00

Environment Committee: Marc Johnson, Chmn.

1. Provide speaker for club meeting.                    (\$ 50.00)
2. Provide white pine seedlings to members at no cost.
3. Club participation in the Adopt-A-Highway program.
4. Try to promote and help in keeping dumpster sites clean in our area.

TOTAL COSTS                    \$ 50.00

Social Concerns Committee: Guy Griffin, Chmn.

1. Support Boy Scout Troop 96.                    (\$250.00)
2. Sponsor Little League Baseball.                    (\$250.00)
3. Sponsor Little League Basketball.                    (\$250.00)
4. Sponsor two needy childred to 4-H Camp.                    (\$100.00)
5. Arrange for flowers for sick members and wives(\$200.00)
6. Sponsor a retarded child to Camp Va. Jaycee (\$ 50.00)
7. Sponsor a first aid/CPR training course.                    (\$ 50.00)
8. Provide a speaker for a regular club meeting.
9. Cut firewood for needy families.
10. Distribute Christmas baskets in community.
11. Work with Senior Citizen groups in area.

TOTAL COSTS                    \$1150.00

Business and Professions Committee: Gordon Saunders, Chmn.

1. Provide speaker for regular club meeting.
2. Mini-reports in lieu of some monthly report from the committee on topics such as the Airport, 4-H Club activities, Industrial Park, etc.
3. Coordinate Animal Industry Day at Virginia Tech in association with the Bank of Rockbridge.
4. Divide a maximum of \$200 to be spread among a maximum of four achievers from the R.H.S. FFA or 4-H Beef Show.                    (\$200.00)
5. Furnish local Ruritan news releases to local media.
6. Help promote development of the Rockbridge County Industrial Park.
7. Develop recognition program for outstanding farm and business leaders.                    (\$ 50.00)

TOTAL COSTS                    \$250.00

TOTAL COST 1989 OBJECTIVES                    \$3550.00

## THE BEST AND WORST OF CLUB PROGRAMS

The Ruritan National Club Officer's Handbook strongly recommends that each regular monthly club meeting include a program following the business session which consists of a speaker or some form of entertainment. The Brownsburg Ruritan Club strictly adheres to the suggested meeting format and, as a result, the many program chairmen over the past 50 years have been responsible for almost 600 programs presented to the club membership. Needless to say, some of these programs have been better than others.

The 50th Anniversary Committee conducted an informal survey of the members of the Brownsburg Ruritan Club during the early part of 1989 asking for various tidbits of information concerning their Ruritan "experiences". A portion of the survey requested club members to list what they considered to be the best and worst programs and some of the most memorable experiences involving Ruritan work. The following is a breakdown of those results:

A majority of the responses listed the program presented by the Virginia Wildlife Center several years ago as the best program in recent memory. This program consisted of a slide presentation on the work of the center and several recuperating animals and birds were brought to the meeting for us to view. Running a close second on the "best list" was Col. John Reeves' anthropology presentation on early man in the Rockbridge Area. Col. Reeves discussed the migration of early man into this area and his evolution to present form. He also presented maps and artifacts which are a part of his personal collection.

Club member Buck Bates' travelogue on his cross country bicycle trip was very popular and ranked high among the respondents. Another program listed by several members was the speech on patriotism given by Del. Vance Wilkins. Programs on drug prevention presented by the Sheriff's Office, gypsy moth migration in the Shenandoah Valley and the 25th and 45th Club Anniversary celebrations were also mentioned as favorites.

Among the programs specifically mentioned in the less than favorite category the runaway winner was the slide presentation approximately eight years ago on garbage disposal and the operation of the county landfill. This was among the longer programs ever presented and several members were able to get an early start on their evening's sleep. Also listed among the worst were programs on funeral planning, weekday religious education and two Ladies' Nights programs on dairy herd management and spousal abuse. (Several members stated that any slide presentation or speech by a member of the Board of Supervisors is automatically included in this category.)

Obviously, when you have a club with over fifty members there is some difference of opinion and there were several programs listed in both the best and worst categories. This dubious distinction goes to recent programs on the Special Olympics, Family Life Education in the county schools and child abuse.

There were quite a few memorable experiences given and many members indicated that one of the favorites is the issuance of nicknames to newly initiated club members. Apparently the most memorable of those was the nicknaming and re-nicknaming of "Gelding"-no-"Goldilocks" Studwell. Also fondly remembered were the naming of "Sheepscab" Hockman, "Watermelon" McCabe and "Mushroom" Martin.

Former secretary Ben Nicely's futile attempts at calling the roll are considered memorable by several members who are apparently easily amused. Also fondly remembered are Wally Poole's home movies about his wild horse and the donkey softball game and Mouse Tolley's outhouse story about Bennie Fauber. Several members think Kenny Mohler's monthly antics are memorable and most of the "chicken-cooking crew" will always remember, though not necessarily fondly, their activities under the leadership of Chairmen Bud Martin and Fred Whipple, Jr. on Horse Show Day. And it is always fun to guess what time Woody McDonald will show up for the meeting, if he shows at all.

Several members mentioned the dignitaries who had attended our meetings over the years including Govs. William M. Tuck and Mills E. Godwin, Jr., U.S. Senator Harry Byrd, Jr., former U.S. Representative and Secretary of the Army James O. Marsh, Jr., Rep. Jim Olin and Delegates Baldwin Locher and Vance Wilkins.

Many years ago, when the dangers of smoking were being publicly discussed for the first time, one of our meetings was held at the old Orchardside Court Restaurant. Many, if not most, of the club members at that time smoked and there was a cloud of smoke constantly floating around the room. The program that evening was a slide presentation on the dangers of smoking which included several graphic slides showing diseased lungs and postoperative scars. The members who attended that meeting remember a particularly thick cloud of smoke that had settled over the room prior to the lights being turned off for the slide program. As if by magic, when the program was over the the lights were turned back on, the cloud of smoke had disappeared and not a sole in the room lit up a cigarette for the remainder of the evening.

Approximately ten years ago "Rocking Chair" Baker was program chairman and his scheduled program for one of the monthly meetings suddenly cancelled. Finding himself in desperate need of a program, he brought two Abbott and Costello films to show as entertainment for the evening. There were approximately forty members present for the dinner and business session of the meeting. By the time the

movies were shown it had become dark outside and when the lights were turned off it became very dark in the room. All during the showing of the movies you could hear the door at the back of the room opening and closing and when the lights were finally turned on at the end of the movies there were about ten persons left in the room for adjournment. That was the last time we have had Abbott and Costello movies for entertainment at a club meeting.

We welcomed 1985 by electing Dick Brown as our president and began what many consider to be one of the most interesting and humorous years of our glorious history. Dick's efforts in rewriting Robert's Rules of Order caused many of us to anxiously await each monthly meeting. During one of those meetings Virginia State Trooper Jerry Hines presented a program on driving under the influence and, after his speech, asked President Dick to assist him in demonstrating the operation of the alco-sensor machine. Dick's reaction when asked to blow into the machine will be forever remembered by those who attended that meeting.

CLUBS CHARTERED  
DISTRICTS "F", "H" and "L" / NATURAL BRIDGE DISTRICT

| <u>Charter</u> | <u>Year</u> | <u>Club</u>            | <u>District</u> |
|----------------|-------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| 80             | 1939        | <b>Brownsburg</b>      | F               |
| 84             | 1939        | Fairfield              | F               |
| 99             | 1939        | Kerrs Creek            | F               |
| 130            | 1942        | Natural Bridge         | H               |
| 199            | 1947        | Effinger               | L               |
| 314            | 1949        | Mountain View          | L               |
| 319            | 1950        | Eagle Rock             | Natural Bridge  |
| 379            | 1950        | * Rockbridge Baths (D) | Natural Bridge  |
| 404            | 1951        | Fincastle (D)          | Natural Bridge  |
| 408            | 1951        | Ben Wesley             | Natural Bridge  |
| 444            | 1951        | Millboro               | Natural Bridge  |
| 445            | 1952        | Buchanan (D)           | Natural Bridge  |
| 475            | 1952        | Bonsack                | Natural Bridge  |
| 508            | 1952        | Colonial (D)           | Natural Bridge  |
| 622            | 1954        | * Boiling Springs      | Natural Bridge  |
| 634            | 1954        | * Vesuvius             | Natural Bridge  |
| 1032           | 1960        | Dunlap (D)             | Natural Bridge  |
| 1038           | 1960        | Sam Houston            | Natural Bridge  |
| 1206           | 1962        | Falling Springs        | Natural Bridge  |
| 1209           | 1962        | Selma (D)              | Natural Bridge  |
| 1216           | 1962        | Sharon                 | Natural Bridge  |
| 1355           | 1965        | Daleville (D)          | Natural Bridge  |
| 1685           | 1970        | Catawba Valley         | Natural Bridge  |
| 1906           | 1975        | Fincastle              | Natural Bridge  |
| 1939           | 1975        | Jackson River          | Natural Bridge  |
| 2215           | 1982        | Callaghan Area         | Natural Bridge  |
| 2281           | 1985        | West Alleghany Co.     | Natural Bridge  |
| 2303           | 1985        | Covington              | Natural Bridge  |
| 2328           | 1986        | Twin County            | Natural Bridge  |
| 2423           | 1989        | Alleghany High         | Natural Bridge  |
| 2431           | 1989        | Blue Ridge             | Natural Bridge  |

\* Sponsored by Brownsburg Ruritan Club

(D) - Disbanded

## NATIONAL, DISTRICT, ZONE LEADERS

### National Treasurer

T. Elmer Huffman (1945)

### District Governor, District "H"

T. Elmer Huffman (1943, 1944)

### District Governor, Natural Bridge District

J. S. Zigler (1950)  
Bruce Slusser (1954)  
Bert Hawkins (1972)  
George Sandridge (1984)  
Bruce Patterson (1987)

### Natural Bridge District Lieutenant Governor

Bert Hawkins (1971)  
George Sandridge (1983)

### Natural Bridge District Treasurer

Kenneth Fix (1963)  
George Sandridge (1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1981)

### Zone Governor, Natural Bridge District

|                   |              |        |
|-------------------|--------------|--------|
| Sam McLaughlin    | (1952)       | Zone 2 |
| Bruce Slusser     | (1953)       | Zone 2 |
| John C. Knick     | (1956)       | Zone 3 |
| Douglas Whipple   | (1959)       | Zone 1 |
| John L. Whitesell | (1961)       | Zone 1 |
| Ed Patterson      | (1963)       | Zone 1 |
| Bert Hawkins      | (1970)       | Zone 1 |
| Lewis Dudley      | (1975)       | Zone 1 |
| George Sandridge  | (1978, 1982) | Zone 1 |
| Bruce Patterson   | (1985)       | Zone 1 |
| Dick Brown        | (1987)       | Zone 1 |

## AWARDS

**National Attendance Award** 1945 (93.94%), 1962 (100%)

Actually finished in 5th place in 1945 behind West Rockingham (which was in the middle of its eighth consecutive year with 100%), Bridgewater (98.06%), Dayton (96.90%) and New Hope (96.57%). All had previously won this award and were thus ineligible to win again. Due to the confusion, the award (our brass gong) was not available for presentation at the National Convention in Elizabeth City, North Carolina and was later delivered to the club.

**National Blue Ribbon Award** 1975, 1976, 1980, 1982  
1983, 1984, 1985, 1986,  
1987

**District Expansion Award** 1954

**District Community Service Award** 1960, 1963

**District Attendance Award** 1961, 1964, 1970, 1971

1961 - Rural Utilities, Agriculture, Education Awards

1962 - Agriculture and Rural Church Awards

1963 - Education, Rural Church and Recreation and Community Good Will Awards

1964 - Rural Church, Conservation and Forestry, Industry and Business Methods Awards

1965 - Rural Utilities and Agriculture Awards

1966 - Rural Church Award

1967 - Conservation and Forestry Award

1968 - Safety and Economic Opportunity for Youth Awards

1969 - Recreation Award

1970 - Industry, Youth and Safety Awards

1971 - Agriculture Award

1976 - Environment Award

1977 - Public Services

1979 - Social Concerns, Runner-up Award

1985 - Business and Professions, 2nd Place Award