

**Forest Hill
Ruritan
Club
Lynchburg, VA**



*Dedicated to
Fellowship
Goodwill
And Community Service*

About Ruritan National

More than 1300 Ruritan Clubs (with around 36,000 members) combine to form Ruritan National with headquarters in Dublin, Virginia. Ruritan, founded in 1928, is a civic (or community service) organization. Unlike Kiwanis, Rotary, Citivan and others, Ruritan's main presence is in rural areas and small towns--including some, like Forest Hill, which have been "gobbled up" by expanding cities. More than half of Ruritan's strength is in Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee. Ruritan's main objectives are straight forward:

- Promote fellowship, goodwill and community service among its members and the citizens of the community.
- Promote better understanding between all people.

National headquarters handles the administrative detail, but each club decides how it wants to promote these objectives, finds the resources, and does it.

About Forest Hill

Although Forest Hill still gets a circle on some maps (near the corner of Link and Old Forest Roads), it never had precise boundaries. Rather, Forest Hill was and still is a neighborhood or community.

While some 'old timers' put Forest Hill's center near the Kroger store on Linkhorne Drive, no one seems to know its boundaries. Instead, people speak of a "help your neighbor" attitude which, in their minds, describes Forest Hill.

Years ago, Forest Hill was separated

from Lynchburg by green grass, and had its own elementary school, volunteer fire department and rescue squad. The Ruritan club house, now owned by the Fraternal Order of Police, was a community center.

Now the green grass is displaced by brick, asphalt and people and Forest Hill is part of Lynchburg, but the “help your neighbor” attitude is still kept alive and well.

About Forest Hill Ruritan Club

The club, sponsored by the Brookville Ruritan Club, was chartered in 1952 with forty-one members, all male. Half were farmers or people who did business with farmers!

The club prospered for many years but dwindled away as the members aged and the area changed from rural to urban. By 1983, only seven active members were left, the club building was sold and the club was (so to speak) “on hold”.

The club revitalized in 1985 when it became one of the first Ruritan clubs to admit ladies to membership and is still going strong.

Dues (subject to change) are \$65 per year.

Currently we meet the 2nd Monday of the month in the fellowship hall of the Forest Road United Methodist Church. Meetings include:

- A fellowship meal
- A business session, where we consider what we have done and plan what we will do during the year to help those in need. This may include a speaker.

Meetings seldom last longer than 1.5 hr.
We plan fund raising efforts during the year (examples are):

- A yard sale in the spring
- A chili supper in late September
- Candy bar sales in the fall

We have several long-established community service projects:

- Each July we award scholarships to graduates of area high schools who apply with an essay on why volunteerism is important to the community.
- We prepare and distribute Christmas food baskets to several local families.

In addition, we make substantial cash contributions each December to worthy community service groups, such as Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, Hunters for the Hungry, Interfaith Outreach, Miriam's House and Salvation Army.

We have bought prescriptions drugs for an impoverished oldster, and made cash grants to people who have been "burned out" by fire or devastated by illness.

We are always looking for other ways to help those in our community.

Members are expected to attend all meetings (with reasonable excuses understood), take part in our deliberations, and help with our projects and enjoy each others company!

WE WOULD WELCOME SOME NEW MEMBERS!

Our bylaws say “membership is extended by invitation.” We can’t invite you unless we know you, and you can’t be receptive to an invitation unless you know us.

So, we’re listing some members for your convenience.

If you are interested in being part of our club and know someone on the list, tell them you want to talk about it.

If you don’t know any of us pick a name from the list, make a phone call and we’ll go from there.

Max Nolder 941-9883

Steve Driskill 846-3023

Jenny Nolder 238-2754

Steve Allen 384-4067

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2805 Old Forest Road, Lynchburg, VA

Ruritan National and the Forest Hill Ruritan Club do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, age, national origin, handicap, political affiliation or sex. The club is composed of concerned citizens in the community. We desire that the membership represent a cross section of the community in which it functions.