THE MONTHLY MUDDLE

Gilford Rotary Newsletter September 2026 Edition

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Fellow Rotarians,

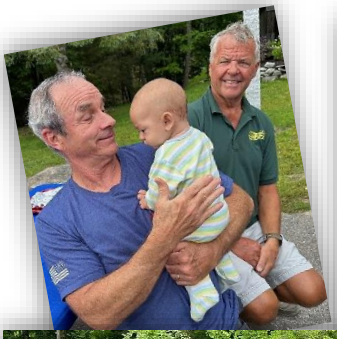
As we begin a new month, I want to take a moment to thank each and every one of you for your hard work and dedication throughout August.

Your time, energy, and commitment to Rotary makes a real difference. From participating in our projects and events to supporting one another and serving our community, your efforts are what make our club strong.

I am truly grateful for everything you do and proud of what we are accomplishing together. Thank you for continuing to live out the Rotary spirit of Service Above Self.

I look forward to all that we will accomplish together in the months ahead.

Yours in Rotary,
JOHN









All around: Friday club meeting and other Gilford Old Home Day weekend festivities [Facebook Reel]







Bottom left: Thank you to all the Rotarians who helped with the Race Track Weekend [Facebook Reel]











"BEST NEIGHBORHOOD FLOAT" 1ST PLACE WIN AT THE GILFORD OLD HOME DAY PARADE

A huge THANK YOU goes to our amazing float makers - Russ, June, Anne, Jason, & John - your commitment, creativity, time, and efforts truly made it all possible, thank you for making the club look so amazing and for achieving an incredible win that we can all celebrate!





MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

NANCY PARKER



1. When did you join Rotary? Have you belonged to more than one club? I joined the Concord Rotary Club in 2012. However, I had to step away in 2024 due to professional obligations. During my time with the Concord Club, I had the privilege of serving in several leadership roles from Sgt. at Arms to Vice President, President Elect, and President. Then from 2019 to 2022, I fulfilled the duties of Treasurer.

2. How did you hear about Gilford Rotary? I visited the Gilford Club 2 years ago, I was immediately struck by the remarkable energy and dedication of its members. The level of engagement and the welcoming atmosphere truly set this club apart, making it an exceptional experience that left a lasting impression.

3. What is your occupation? I am an accomplished executive and operations leader with 25+ years of experience directing nonprofit organizations, community associations, professional services firms, and small businesses. I had served as the Executive Director for Lake Shore Park in Gilford and am now taking a sabbatical to focus on personal growth and new opportunities.

4. Where did you grow up? I was born on an Air Force base in Glasgow, Montana. When my father transitioned out of the military, our family moved to Manchester, NH where I attended school and spent my formative years.

5. What are your hobbies? My hobbies span a wide range of interests – whether it's exploring new places, delving into captivating books, or hitting the golf course. I also enjoy skiing, hiking, kayaking, and gardening. Additionally, I have a passion for visiting historical military sites, offering a fascinating glimpse into the past and enriching my travels.

6. Unknown fact about you that no one in Rotary is likely to know? French was my first language, and I didn't begin learning English until I turned five. As a first-generation U.S. citizen, I've enjoyed participating in my community through various roles. Currently, I serve on the Gilford Planning Board and the Finance Committee for the Gilford Community Church.

7. Do you have any children and/or pets? My significant other is Michael Shanahan and we live together in Gilford. My son Paul, age 38, resides in Thornton, NH with his wife Becca and their daughters, Millie, aged 3, and Taya, just 7 weeks old. My daughter Nikki, age 32, lives in Frankfurt, Germany, alongside her husband Adam and their sons, Teddy, aged 6, and Gus, aged 4. Michael has four children. Liam, 31, lives in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi with his wife Abby. Collin, 28, lives in Georgia, Vermont with his girlfriend, Elise. Clare, 24, lives in Claremont, NH with her boyfriend Seth. Quinn, 23, lives in Gilford, NH, with his girlfriend Abby. Whenever our entire family gathers, we truly become a dynamic group of 18!

8. What makes you happy? Supporting others in reaching their aspirations brings genuine fulfillment. Rather than offering a handout, I believe in providing a hand up – empowering people to achieve their goals through encouragement, guidance, and meaningful assistance. This approach not only helps them succeed, but it also fosters a sense of accomplishment and independence.

9. Best vacation ever? I spent an unforgettable month exploring Scotland and the northern border regions of England, immersing myself in the stunning landscapes and rich history – the experience was both liberating and enriching, allowing me to discover hidden gems and embrace the unique charm of each locale at my own pace.

10. Favorite saying? "Be careful of your thoughts, for your thoughts become your words. Be careful of your words, for your words become your actions. Be careful of your actions, for your actions become your habits. Be careful of your habits, for your habits become your character. Be careful of your character, for your character becomes your destiny." Traditional Chinese proverb, often attributed to Lao Tzu.



Friday, September 4
Club Business Meeting

Friday, September 11
Speaker(s) will be Andy Opel, local author www.andyopel.net
(**08/23/23 Laconia Daily Sun Article**)

Friday, September 18
Speaker(s) will be Katelyn Dassatti to talk about the Lakes Region Diaper Exchange
https://lrdiaperexchange.org

Wed, September 23
Board of Director's Meeting

Friday, September 25
Club Business Meeting

Congrats to this year's recipient of the Cheryl Walsh Scholarship, Maria Tilley, pictured on the right



Facebook Reel

Did you know we are now on Instagram? Type ***gilford_rotary_club*** *in the search bar, then click the follow button*

Are you following us on Facebook? Click the icon or go to ***www.facebook.com/GilfordRotaryClub***

Rotary