**The Oxford Hills Rotary Reader**

** The Rotary Club of Oxford Hills**

**PO Box 14**

**Norway, ME 04268**

**Wednesday, November 27, 2024**

**Our mission:** The Rotary Club of Oxford Hills is a diverse group of service-oriented men and women providing hands on and financial support within our community and beyond. We exemplify “Service Above Self” while encouraging high ethical standards, enjoying friendship and promoting world understanding, peace and good will.”

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**2024-2025 Officers:**

Rotary International President: Stephanie A. Urchick, Rotary Club of McMurray, Pennsylvania - District 7780 Governor: Robert McKenzie, Rotary Club of Kennebunk, ME – Oxford Hills Rotary President – Dan Allen – President-Elect: Jeff Noblin – Vice-president: Connor Burnam - Treasurer: Liz Knox – Secretary: John Griffith – Sgt. At Arms: Stan Brett – Past President: Beth Abbott – Club Service Chair: Bob Schott – Vocational Service Chair: Jeff Noblin - Community Service Chair: Beth Abbott - International Service Chair: Val Weston – Youth Service Chair and Interact Advisor: Tina Fox

**Home Club of PDG George Rice**

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***Welcome!*** Today is the 332nd day of 2024. There are 34 days remaining in the year. Patty Rice is program chair this morning. Her guest speaker is none other than Foundation chair, George Rice, who will be talking about, you guessed it, the Foundation – in honor of November being Foundation month. Beth Abbott is scheduled to be our greeter.

Program Chairs: Please let John know what your program is so it can be published in the Reader. You can text or call John at 207-461-7158 or e-mail at [griffs2@roadrunner.com](mailto:griffs2@roadrunner.com). Please remember that when you are program chair, you are expected to lend a hand after the meeting putting away the club paraphernalia.

***Calendar for December:***

**4 – Yankee Swap and Val Weston.**

**11 – December Students of the Month** and **Warren Spencer**

**18 – OHCHS Chorale Christmas Concert and Lynne Schott**

**18 – Charitable Foundation quarterly meeting after our regular morning meeting.**

**25 – Christmas Day – no meeting**

**30 – Board Meeting at the South Paris Town Office – 5:00 PM.**

***Calendar for January:***

**1 – New Year’s Day – no meeting**

**8 – Club Assembly** and **Bob Schott**

**15 – January Students of the Month** and **Patty Rice**

**22 – Lynne Schott** and **George Rice**

**29 – Bob Schott** and **Dave Preble**

***Visiting Rotarians and Guests***:

District Governor Bob McKenzie from Kennebunk and AG Julie Forbes from Bridgton-Lake Region were our visiting Rotarians. We did not have any other guests.

***Rotary Moment:***

I understand that Greeter Connor Burnam had some Rotary information for his Moment, but President Dan forgot to call on him.

***Announcements:***

***Cabot cheese –*** the cheese is selling. Liz has sales sheets if you need one or didn’t print one off your computer.

***President Dan –*** we have received a request from RI to contribute to the Rotary float in the Rose Parade. We have donated $25 in past years. Dave Preble moved that we donate $25 and his motion was seconded. Bob Schott moved that we increase the amount to $50, but there was no second, so the club voted to donate $25 on Dave’s motion.

We also received a request looking for a camper sponsorship from Camp Susan Curtis. We have donated to them in the past. After some discussion, we tabled the request until a spring board meeting. Beth said she would look in to other things they may need – books, supplies, etc., that we can help with.

***Last Week:***

***President Dan*** – led us in the pledge and 4-Way Test. Curtis Cole gave the blessing. After breakfast and the announcements, AG Julie Forbes introduced DG Bob McKenzie. DG Bob first gave President Dan a Certificate of Appreciation to the club for our Polio donations which we all appreciated. Bob then talked about his career as a fire-fighter and EMT and his transition to police work.

He told us he didn’t do well in school but he became a junior fireman at the age of 14 and fell in love with the work. At 16, he took an EMT class and did very well at it. At 18, after finishing high school, gratefully, he joined the Arundel Fire Dept. and Rescue. At 19, he became a full time EMT for the City of Biddeford. In 1998, he joined the Kennebunk PD as a patrolman and gradually worked his way through the ranks, becoming Chief in 2008. During his time as an EMT and policeman, he spent a lot of time working on drug and alcohol abuse, noting that the “system” would find people guilty, they would spend some time in jail and when they got out, would go back to their old habits, only to be arrested again. After taking a Drug Recognition class, Bob changed his focus to include rehabilitation and the need to tackle the root cause of drug abuse which is the root cause of most crimes. He then told us about his personal story about his son and daughter who have both had addiction problems. This is why rehabilitation and prevention mean so much to him. At the conclusion of Bob’s talk, we presented him a check for $100.00 for his Recovery Initiative.

***Pun for the week:***

**I’ve decided to start raising racing deer to make some extra money. I’m just looking to make a fast buck.**

***November is Rotary Foundation Month***

The Rotary Foundation is organized as a public charity operated exclusively for charitable purposes and governed by a [**Board of Trustees**](https://www.rotary.org/en/about-rotary/our-leaders/trustees). The operations of Rotary International, a member organization, are overseen by its [**Board of Directors**](https://www.rotary.org/en/about-rotary/our-leaders/directors).

The headquarters of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation are in Evanston, Illinois, USA. We have associate foundations in Australia, Brazil, Canada, Germany, India, Japan, Korea, and the United Kingdom

***Birthdays and Anniversaries:***

***November Birthdays:*** Bob Schott – 11/1; Mike Carter – 11/6; Warren Spencer – 11/14;

Liz Knox – 11/16; Connor Burnam – 11/26

***November Anniversaries:*** None listed

***November Membership Anniversaries:*** Ron Morse – 14 yrs. (with OH) – 11/10;

George Rice – 41 yrs. – 11/11;

**Make-Ups:**

**Bethel** – Tuesday, 7:30 AM at the Grace Note Inn, Bethel

[www.bethelrotary.org](http://www.bethelrotary.org)

**Bridgton-Lake Region** – Thursday, 7:15 AM at Bridgton Alliance Church, 368 Harrison Rd., Bridgtonn

[www.lakeregionrotary.org](http://www.lakeregionrotary.org)

**Fryeburg –** Tuesday, 7:30 AM at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, Rt. 5, Fryeburg

[www.fryeburgrotary.org](http://www.fryeburgrotary.org)

**River Valley –** Monday, 12:00 noon, at Hope Association, 2nd floor, 85 Lincoln Ave., Rumford

[www.rivervalleyrotaryclub.org](http://www.rivervalleyrotaryclub.org)

**Interact –** Thursday, 2:15 PM, Room A210, Oxford Hills Comprehensive Hills High School during the school year only.

In case anyone needs a reminder:

1 Day to Thanksgiving!

27 Days to Christmas!