

The Oxford Hills Rotary Reader



The Rotary Club of Oxford Hills
PO Box 14
Norway, ME 04268

Wednesday, December 20, 2023

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.”

2023-2024 Officers:

Rotary International President: R. Gordon R. McNally, Rotary Club of South Queensbury, Scotland - District 7789 Governor: Marion Cheney, Rotary Club of Dover, NH – Oxford Hills Rotary President – Beth Abbott – President-Elect: Dan Allen – Vice-president: Jeff Noblin - Treasurer: Liz Knox – Secretary: John Griffith – Sgt. At Arms: Stan Brett – Past President: George Rice – Club Service Chair: Vacant – Vocational Service Chair: Jeff Noblin - Community Service Chair: Vacant - International Service Chair: Val Weston – Youth Service Chair and Interact Advisor: Tina Fox

Home Club of PDG George Rice

Good Morning and Welcome! Today is the 354th day of 2023. There are 11 days remaining in the year. This morning we have the OHCHS Chorale with us for their annual Christmas Concert. Lynne Schott is 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. Please remember that when you are program chair, you are expected to lend a hand after the meeting putting away the club paraphernalia.

December:

27 – Connor Burnam and Patty Rice

27 – Charitable Foundation quarterly meeting; 8:45 AM – 9:15 AM

January:

2 – Board Meeting at South Paris town office, 5:00 PM

3 – Club Assembly and George Rice

10 – Students of the Month and Dave Preble

17 – Vocational Service Speaker and Jeff Noblin

24 – Vocational Service Speaker and Ron Morse

31 – Vocational Service Speaker and David Knox

Rotary Moment:

Greeter Bob Schott talked about how this year was the 60th anniversary of the Peace Corps and the 60th Anniversary of the first Rotary Foreign exchange students.

Announcements:

Dan Allen said he checked the cheese wheels just before last week's meeting and there were 27 left, so if you want them for Christmas gifts, better get over and get one or two or.....

Tina Fox talked about Christmas for Kids and Christmas for Teens. They have over 200 requests this year so the need is great.

Last Week:

President Beth led us in the Pledge and 4-Way Test and Curtis gave the blessing. Dan led us in singing "Jingle Bells." Not sure how the students and family members with us knew how to take that!

Beth turned the program over to Tina Fox who gave a brief talk about the Students of the Month program, as usual, and then various club members introduced the November and December students. Their write-ups are following.

50-50: We did not have a drawing last week.

😊 Happy and Sad Dollars 😊

John was happy to present the student he introduced, Mackenzie Van Nest, with a 3rd grade dictionary. It seems Mackenzie was not an Oxford Hills student in 3rd grade, so she did not get a dictionary.

Tina was happy to announce that her daughter had her baby last week. She said this is hers and Charlie's sixth grandchild and said this is the end, quite emphatically.

Bob said he was happy to take his 5 year old grandson skiing last weekend. After a few runs on the bunny slope, his grandson asked to go to the top of the mountain and Bob said he did quite well coming down.

Pun for the Week:

Man, if you think swimming with dolphins is expensive, don't try swimming with sharks. It cost me an arm and a leg!

December is Disease Prevention and Treatment Month:

“Medical science has proven time and time again that when resources are provided, great progress in the treatment, cure and prevention of disease can occur.”

~ Michael J. Fox ~

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

December Birthdays: Curtis Cole – 12/6

December Anniversaries: Ron & Laura Morse – 65 yrs. – 12/20

December Membership Anniversaries: Phyllis Summers – 3 yrs. – 12/30

Make-Ups:

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

www.bethelrotary.org

Bridgton-Lake Region – Thursday, 7:15 AM at the Stella's on the Square, 6 North High St., Bridgton

www.lakeregionrotary.org

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

www.fryeburgrotary.org

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

www.rivervalleyrotaryclub.org

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

December Students of the Month

9th Grade: Grady Miller

Nominating Staff: Susan Hanington

Grady is a fantastic example of a student who CARES or Articulates, Communicates, or Collaborates. Grady is a great student in class, he is consistently prepared, willing to be vocal and answer questions to keep the flow of the class moving and is unafraid to ask questions that will help the class as a whole. He shows regularly that he cares about his success as a student and his depth of learning. He is also a great peer because he keeps students on track, edits and works with peers, and gives effective recommendations. In general Grady's presence makes a class better. Watching Grady in class as we worked on compare/contrast write-ups showed me all of the skills listed above. He worked diligently but asked great questions, he edited his work, collaborated with classmates, etc.

10th Grade: Garrett Wooster

Nominating Staff: Dan Gilpatric and Kate McCarthy

Dan says: Garrett is always helpful. He helps fellow students understand forestry lessons without being asked.

Kate says: Garrett is an insightful young man. He has a willingness to take risks in class and can handle challenges placed before him. Garrett has the qualities of real leader, and his actions inspire others.

11th Grade: Desirae Vachon

Nominating Staff: Cindi Kugell

Desirae has a growth mindset and a passion for learning new things. She is a dedicated student anxious to learn new skills in photography. Des has an android phone, which is great for taking photos, but she needs to figure out how to problem solve some of the techniques that are more easily done on an iPhone. She meets each challenge with a creative solution. She has created some amazing photographs and it's nice to see her excitement when she produces something fun!

12th Grade: Vivianne McAlister

Nominating Staff: Michelle Roberts

Taking on multiple projects at the same time and being very communicative at each step. Vivianne wanted to do a reptile presentation in the library and talked to Mrs. Lance to set it up. When permission hadn't been gotten after a week of waiting, she took initiative and had a meeting with Mr. Bickford to get permission. She has been very communicative to us with each **step**. She also is doing the Christmas for Teens show posters and made sure to ask about the style before continuing with the posters

November Students of the Month

Theme: November: E - Empathetic, Compassionate, and Kind: Students who exhibit excellent character traits such as kindness, loyalty, respect and responsibility.

9th Grade: Ava Gonsalves

Nominating Staff: Charlee Noble

Ava is a very caring, empathetic, hardworking student. This month's characteristics are: November: E - Empathetic, Compassionate, and Kind: Students who exhibit excellent character traits such as kindness, loyalty, respect and responsibility. Ava represents each and every one of these characteristics. Ava is in my Freshman Tutorial and my Honors class, back-to-back periods so I have had an opportunity to get to know her well with that much time together. She cares deeply for her education, as well as her classmates. Ava will take the time to help anyone in need who may be struggling academically. She even helps clean up my classroom and will make copies/print for me when asked if I am cramped for time/can't leave the room. Sometimes she even offers by asking if I need anything. She is very respectful, responsible, and kind and a joy to have in class. I'm lucky to have her as a student!

10th Grade: Mackenzie Van Nest

Nominating Staff: Laura Shible

Kenzie is a student that goes above and beyond! Not only is she an extraordinary student, but she is also very kind and supportive of others! She is a much-needed extra set of hands for Deb Ladner at the Main Office, which we all appreciate. There is not a specific event... she is kind and always has a big smile when you see her. She is taking a senior class (Spanish 4) and she has been named an "honorary senior" by her peers due to her maturity, collegial attitude and willingness to help others.

11th Grade: Alexzandra Theriault

Nominating Staff: Fred Steeves

Ali is helpful and eager. I was trying to set up a Kahoot for my VST Group and was frustrated because it was not working for me. She said she knew how and would take care of it. When the bell rang for VST to begin, the program was up and running for the first game! She did a great job helping me and making sure the other students would have fun in VST.

12th Grade: Maddison Vaillancourt

Nominating Staff: Tina Fox

Maddy always comes in with a smile, greeting me and her classmates each day. Currently she is taking my STEM class on green day and my math class on gold day. She has a great heart who is compassionate and kind to all of her peers and teachers.

Maddy helped her peers in STEM class when they didn't understand what we were doing without making them feel uncomfortable about not knowing the material. She quietly does the little things that make our class run smoothly. She asks Mr. Roy and I how she can help when we are setting up labs. In math class she will volunteer to answer a question if no other students speak up to answer, she has helped set up material for our lessons too. She is such a pleasure to have in class.