

The Oxford Hills Rotary Reader



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

Wednesday, January 3, 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."

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! The count begins again and it is a Leap Year. Today is the 3rd day of 2024. There are 363 days remaining in the year. This morning is a Club Assembly. George Rice is 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.

January:

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 Patty Rice read an article written by a Rotarian some time ago, titled "Is Santa a Rotarian?" The article came to the conclusion that Santa, indeed, was a Rotarian.

We did not have any Announcements

Last Week:

President Beth led us in the Pledge and 4-Way Test and Curtis gave the blessing. Dan Allen was not with us and of the 12 in attendance, no one else was brave enough to attempt to lead us in singing, much to everyone's relief.

Connor's scheduled speaker was unable to attend, so Mike Carter stepped in and updated us on some happenings at the church. First, Mike told us that the church's free Christmas dinner was a huge success with over 200 meals served by 30 volunteers. Mike was amazed by everyone's generosity in making this happen. Daddy O's and St. Catherine's church also served meals and he said between the three, they gave out 619 meals.

Mike then told us that the church organ, which was built in 1890 and is now 130+ years old, is in need of refurbishment. Some of the pipes are cracking which results in assorted moans and groans when it is played. There is only one organ company in the Eastern US who is capable of the job, Wallace Organ. Their current estimate for the rebuild is \$106,000.00 + inflation between now and January 2026, which is the earliest date they can begin the work. Wallace also wants a deposit to hold that time and it will take 7 months for them to do the work. That also means the church will lose the use of the Sanctuary during that time. It's a huge commitment.

50-50: Val drew Patty's number but Patty drew the 5 of Spades, not the King of Clubs. There was \$22 in the pot.

☺ *Happy and Sad Dollars* ☺

Beth was happy that she was able to help a woman she met at Hannaford with a \$30.00 gift card.

Dave recounted his family's adventure of doing a polar plunge at the lake on Christmas Eve at 7:00 PM. He wore Becky's bathing suit and had a picture to prove it.

My notes aren't particularly clear on this, but *Curtis* told us that through Rick Colpitts taking pictures and social media, CXS flew in a crew to repair the rail line in Rumford that was washed out during last week's storm and that the line was open again in 2 days. He said the closest hotel they could find to stay in was in Windham.

Patty had happy dollars for her and George, that after 7 months, they are moving into their new house this coming weekend. (Hopefully the weather didn't complicate things too much).

Pun for the Week:

What is corn on the cob's favorite holiday? Why "New Ears Day," of course.

January is Vocational Service Month

As we embark on our first Vocational Service month without Dan Hart and the great programs he put together for us these last few years, let's give our full support to Jeff Noblin as he takes over as Vocational Service Chair with some great Vocational speakers on the 17th, 24th and 31st of the month.

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

January Birthdays: Stan Brett – 1/3; Dan Allen – 1/22

January Anniversaries: Dave & Liz Knox – 1/22

January Membership Anniversaries: Dave Preble – 41 yrs – 1/1; Warren Spencer – 42 yrs. – 1/1;
Stan Brett – 30 yrs. – 1/4

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.