

# The Oxford Hills Rotary Reader



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

**Wednesday, March 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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## 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

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**Good Morning and Welcome!** Today is the 87th day of 2024. There are 279 days remaining in the year. Ron Morse is program chair this morning and Dan Allen is our greeter. There is also a Charitable Foundation board meeting after our regular meeting.

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.

## April:

**1 – Board Meeting at South Paris Town office, 5:00 PM**

**3 – Club Assembly and Val Weston**

**10 – Students of the Month and Warren Spencer**

**17 – Jeff Noblin and Lynne Schott**

**24 – Dave Preble and Bob Schott**

## Visiting Rotarians and Guests:

We did not have any visiting Rotarians or guests last week. Frank Shorey and John Griffith were on Zoom from Florida.

## Announcements:

Update on May Day Play Day – scheduled for May 18 at OHCHS. We have connected with a company that is going to provide 4 bounce houses / obstacle courses. They will set-up, manage and take down for us which will save a lot of work on our part. Expensive, but will be worth it. We will need to set up two of our tents. Community Concepts will be setting up for family services that they offer.

Beth drew the winning name for the calendar prize. Shelley Cummings won \$50.00 on a ticket sold by Tina Fox. All of the winners are on our Face Book page. For those of you who don't look at FB, the winners for the rest of the week were: March 21 - Jennifer Girouard - \$25.00 Hannaford gift card; March 22 - Sarah Glynn Little - \$25.00 Subway gift card.

John Griffith – I will continue to leave the slate of officers for 2024-2025 in the Reader until the club votes on them. These are the folks who have agreed to serve:

President:	Dan Allen
President-elect:	Jeff Noblin
Vice-president:	Connor Burnam
Treasurer:	Liz Knox
Secretary:	John Griffith
Past President:	Beth Abbott
Club Service:	Vacant
Vocational Service:	Jeff Noblin
Community Service:	Beth Abbott
International Service:	Valerie Weston
Youth Service:	Tina Fox
Sergeant-at-Arms:	Stan Brett

## Last Week:

President Beth led us in the Pledge and 4-Way Test. We did not have a song. Curtis Cole gave the invocation.

PP George congratulated Ron Morse for getting his EREY award.

We did not have a program scheduled so President Beth asked Frank and John to update the club on their activities. Frank said that the Rays have two pre-season games left after which he and Connie will do an inventory of the Ray's store and Frank will once again go back to retirement. He and Connie won't be coming to Maine this summer as they have in the past. Their daughter and son-in-law will be with them as they transition from Rome, where they have been stationed for the last three years, to Beijing, China. Frank and Connie will be taking in their cat (or cats) – I don't remember if he said one or two – so they will not be able to travel for the time being.

John told us his drive from Maine to Florida was uneventful except for a couple of idiots and the fact that everyone seems to go 10-20 mph over the speed limit, and then some, in some cases. He spent the first

night in Harrisburg, PA, the second in Florence, SC, and arrived in Seminole around 6:30 PM the third day. He found everything in good shape but so far had not done much more than clean the house and go to Walmart. He talked with Glenn Huntley in Zephyrhills. He and Sharon are doing well and have some company coming in for visits during the next few weeks.

After Frank and John, PE Dan A. talked about membership. He said that he had had a conversation with PP George. Rotary is now up to 1.3 million members world wide but that membership in the US and Canada continues to decline. Rotary's growth in the last year and a half or so has come entirely from 3<sup>rd</sup> world countries. The concern is that our club has been on a membership decline for the last several years, and while we did bring in a few younger members, they left for various reasons after a couple of years. One new member in particular, whom we thought could help us with marketing, as that was her profession, left because she wasn't comfortable speaking in front of the club, among other reasons. We need to figure out what new members want from us rather than what we want from them.

**50-50: Lynne drew Tally's number but Tally did not draw the yellow ball out of the bag. There was \$31 in the pot.**

### Happy and Sad Dollars

**Dan** had a happy \$5, saying we have a great opportunity once a month to attract new members, namely the parents of our students of the month.

**Patty** had a happy dollar but I was not able to make out what she said over Zoom.

**Frank** noted that we only had twelve in attendance and he wished everyone a good week.

### How about a joke this week?

I had a problem with my computer yesterday, so I called Eric, the 11 year old kid next door. He came over, clicked a couple of buttons and solved the problem. As he was walking away, I called after him, "So what was wrong?" He replied, "It was an ID ten T error." "An ID ten T error? What's that?" Eric grinned, "Write it down and I think you'll figure it out." So I wrote "ID10T." And I used to like Eric.

### The Rotary Theme for March is Water and Sanitation

Clean water, sanitation, and hygiene education are basic necessities for a healthy environment and a productive life. When people have access to clean water and sanitation, waterborne diseases decrease, children stay healthier and attend school more regularly, and mothers can spend less time carrying water and more time helping their families.

### **Birthdays and Anniversaries:**

**March Birthdays:** Val Weston – 3/11; Tina Fox – 3/13; Laura (Ron) Morse – 3/18; John Griffith – 3/21; David Knox – 3/24; Chris (Valerie) Weston – 3/25; Susan (Mike) Morin – 3/30; Ann Marie Brett – 3/31

**March Anniversaries:** None Listed

**March Membership Anniversaries:** Dan Allen – 40 yrs. – 3/7; Bob Schott – 28 yrs. – 3/27

### **Remember the 4-Way Test of the things we think, say or do:**

First – Is it the Truth?

Second – Is it Fair to all concerned?

Third – Will it build goodwill and better Friendships?

Fourth – Will it be Beneficial to all concerned?

### **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 the Stella's on the Square, 6 North High St., Bridgton

[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, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.