

The Oxford Hills Rotary Reader



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

Wednesday, April 24, 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! Today is the 115th day of 2024. There are 251 days remaining in the year. Jeff Noblin is program chair this morning. His guest speaker is Scott Berk, owner of Café Nomad, partner in Fiber & Vine and chair of Norway Downtown. Bob 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.

April:

29 – Board Meeting at the South Paris Town office, 5:00 PM

May:

1 – Club Assembly and Patty Rice

8 – Students of the Month and George Rice

15 – Oxford Hills Chorale Concert (tentative) and Dave Preble

18 – May Day Play Day and Touch-a-Truck, OHCHS from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

19 – Road Toll for Food Pantries on Fair Street by the tennis courts

22 – George Rice and Jeff Noblin

29 – Top Students and Ron Morse

Visiting Rotarians and Guests

We did not have any visiting Rotarians or guests last week.

Rotary Moment:

Greeter Lynne Schott talked about an article she read about chickens. It seems that there are 1600 different breeds in the world while most people think there are only two - KFC and Perdue Roasters!

Announcements:

PP George Rice – we have Lobsters for Scholar tickets to sell by May 30 as we want to draw the winners at our first meeting in June. They should be easy to sell, especially to past winners.

President Beth – in the past we have sponsored the Decca Club. This year they have a team going to California to compete nationwide. There are 11 students going and they need to raise \$2000.00 for transportation. Beth made a motion to donate \$500.00 to Decca for this, Tina seconded and the club voted unanimously to approve it.

May Day Play Day on May 18 – along with Community Concepts' Touch-a-Truck.

Road Toll for food pantries on May 19 – in front of the tennis courts on Fair Street.

Bethel Rotary Club's 50th Anniversary on June 8 – Bethel is our parent club, hoping for a good turnout of Oxford Hills members. We will be looking for a suitable gift for them.

District Conference on the Isle of Shoals on June 29. Catch the boat in Portsmouth! More info coming.

Last Week:

President Beth led us in the Pledge and 4-Way Test. We did not have a song nor did I hear an invocation, but I could have missed it over Zoom.

After breakfast, Beth turned the program over to Dave Preble who introduced his guest speaker, Mary Freeman. Mary is the owner of the land where the large lithium deposits were discovered at Plumbago Mountain in Newry. She told us that Oxford County and Western Maine are blessed with an abundance of granite pegmatite. There has been no active mining in Maine for decades due to very stringent mining regulations and she detailed all that she has been going through in order to get the necessary permits to mine this lithium. It was a very interesting program with too much detail to write out here.

50-50: Patty drew Stan's number but Stan didn't have any more luck this week than the rest of us. There was \$62 in the pot.

😊 Happy and Sad Dollars 😊

Dan A. had some remembrance dollars for Jack Richardson, with the thought of something Jack once said, people won't change their mind even when shown incontrovertible verifiable evidence.

Patty had \$40 happy dollars for her 40th tax season with Austin & Associates.

Bob was happy to ski at Sugarloaf recently which gave him 52 days of skiing this season.

Tina said we had only received 4 scholarship applications in hand but that she found out that there are 11 more coming in the mail.

Curtis had a happy \$5 for something but I could not hear what he said through Zoom. Sorry, Curtis.

Puns for the Week:

I need to stay in shape so I've started doing lunges. That's a big step forward for me.

I lost my TV controller. I guess it has gone to some remote destination.

The Rotary Theme for April is the Environment:

Depending on the year, between seven and 14 colonies of monarch butterflies overwinter in Mexico. Partly because of habitat loss — caused by illegal logging in Mexico's Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve; by modern agricultural practices in the United States and Canada, where corn and soybeans no longer share space with milkweed plants; by climate change; by pesticide use on farms and in residential and commercial landscapes; and by urban sprawl and other development — numbers have dropped from an estimated 682 million of the insects in 1997 to 59 million last year. The western monarch population, which migrates primarily within the state of California, has fared even worse, with 29,000 remaining, down from a population of 4.5 million in the 1980s.

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

April Birthdays: George Rice – 4/12; Tally Decato – 4/20; Beth Abbott – 4/24; Mike Morin – 4/26; Michael (Beth) Abbott – 4/26

April Anniversaries: Jeff & Dean Noblin – 4/21

April Membership Anniversaries: None listed

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.