

The Oxford Hills Rotary Reader



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

Wednesday, May 1, 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 122nd day of 2024. There are 244 days remaining in the year. This morning is a Club Assembly. Patty Rice 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.

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 Warren Spencer had a Rotary moment but unfortunately, I could not hear it over Zoom.

Announcements:

PP George Rice – Don't forget to sell Lobsters for Scholars tickets. We need to sell all of them by the end of May.

President Beth, PP George and PP Patty went to the Fryeburg club's 30th Anniversary last weekend and had a great time. Remember that the Bethel Club is having their 50th Anniversary on June 8. We want to make a donation to them but still up in the air about what to do.

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.

Program Chair Jeff Noblin introduced Scott Berk, the owner of Café Nomad. Scott came to Norway in 2004 when he opened the Café. Interested in the revitalization of downtown Norway, he almost immediately became involved with Downtown Norway and with that group, started looking at various programs that the town could use to develop and maintain local businesses. With the goal of preserving Norway's historic buildings, all of the store fronts on Norway's main street are currently occupied with the exception of the Odd Fellow's hall. Main Street Norway is designated as the area from the Lake Store to the hospital to the high school.

Scott also talked about the Opera House, one of the most historic buildings in town. Giving a brief rundown of the prior ownership and lack of maintenance through the years, the town purchased it through eminent domain and sold it to the Opera House Corporation for \$1. The store fronts were renovated with community

grants and I'm sure we all know the story of the roof having to be repaired to keep the building from collapsing. Scott announced, too, that the Corporation applied for and has received a \$1,000,000 grant to continue renovations that were begun many years ago. Very welcome news!

50-50: Stan chose Patty to draw the winning ticket for the second week in a row. This time, Patty drew her own number, but she didn't draw the yellow ball out of the bag. There was \$69 in the pot.

😊 Happy and Sad Dollars 😊

Dan A. was happy for the news about the opera house.

Bob was sad because he hasn't skied for 9 days, but he seemed optimistic that he might get another day or two before all of the ski areas shut down.

Pun for the Week:

Years back in Philadelphia, it seems that William Penn's mother's sisters opened a bake shop. However, their prices were pretty high so even though their wares were very tasty, people did not want to pay the pie rates of Penn's aunts.

The Rotary Theme for May is Youth Service:

Rotary believes in developing the next generation of leaders. Our programs help younger leaders build leadership skills, expand education and learn the value of service.

Interact clubs bring together young people ages 12-18 to develop leadership skills and learn about the world through service projects and activities.

RYLA is a leadership development program for young people who want to learn new skills, build their confidence, and have fun. Events range from one-day seminars to weeklong camps.

Rotary Youth Exchange builds peace one young person at a time. Students learn a new language, discover another culture, and truly become global citizens. Exchanges for students ages 15-19 are sponsored by Rotary clubs in more than 100 countries.

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

May Birthdays: Sharon (Glenn) Huntley – 5/1; Patty Rice – 5/9; Susan (Warren) Spencer – 5/29

May Anniversaries: Dan & Nancy Allen – 5/21; Frank & Connie Shorey – 5/23 (60 yrs. but don't tell anyone).

May Membership Anniversaries: Lynne Schott – 20 yrs. – 5/5; Liz Knox – 6 yrs. – 5/9; Mike Carter – 1 yr. – 5/10

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.