

Rotary



The Oxford Hills Rotary Reader

Wednesday, August 12, 2015

The Rotary Club of Oxford Hills

PO Box 14

Norway, ME 04268

Rotary Theme for 2015-2016:

"Be a gift to the world"

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."

2015-2016 Officers:

Rotary International President: K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran – District 7780 Governor: Sheila Rollins – Oxford Hills Rotary President: Chris Summers – Pres. Elect: Joel Speakman – Vice-pres.: Chris Weston – Treas.: Pat Cook – Sec.: John Griffith – Sgt. At Arms: Stan Brett – Past pres.: Christina Twitchell – Club Service Chair: Ron Morse – Vocational Service Chair: Community Service Chair: Dan Allen; Phil Libby – International Service Chair: Dave Preble – Youth Service Chair: Kim Preble

Home Club of PDG George Rice and AG Beth Abbott

Welcome! Today is the 224th day of 2015. There are 141 days remaining in the year. This morning's meeting will be devoted to Lobster & Steak Fest prep. Joel Speakman is our greeter.

Calendar: *The first name listed is the Program Chair, the second is greeter.* Please let Program Chair Chris Weston know what your program is so it can be published in the Reader. You can reach Joel at 207-515-0060 or at cweston@swiftnet.org. Please remember that when you are program chair, you are expected to lend a hand after the meeting putting away the club's paraphernalia.

8/13 – Songo River Queen cruise with Kiwanis, Naples

8/15 – Lobster & Steak Fest, OHCHS

8/19 – Joel Speakman and Jack Sours

8/20 – Our turn at the Progress Center Community Dinner, 4:30 PM, Progress Center, Cottage St.

8/24 – Pack back packs with school supplies at 9:00 AM, Oxford Hills United Way, Key Bank building, Norway.

8/26 – Paul Thornfeldt and Lynne Schott

8/31 – Board Meeting at 5:30 at TD Bank in Oxford.

9/2 – Christina Twitchell and Bob Schott

9/9 – Miranda Ward and Patty Rice

9/16 – Chris Weston and George Rice

Visiting Rotarians and Guests: There were no visiting Rotarians last week. Ed Lyons and Lynda Jack from the Oxford American Legion joined us. Connie Shorey was the guest of Frank Shorey and Kristi Bancroft was the guest of Tally Decato. Apologies to Herb Strauss for not listing him as the guest of Lois Strauss for our evening meeting on July 29th.

Rotary Minute: Paul talked about make-ups, especially doing them outside of the country if you are traveling. He said he has made up meetings in Sweden, Norway, England and other countries and they are very rewarding to attend. He recently visited a club in Gander, Newfoundland, while on vacation and found the club members to be very friendly and singers. He said he knew when he went in and was greeted right away that this was a club he could join. It is so important to be friendly and greet people.

The Chamber Business After Hours hosted by the Oxford Legion, United Way and Rotary was held on Thursday, August 6th at the Legion Hall in Oxford from 5:30 to 7:00. There was an excellent turn out and the Legion Hall proved to be an excellent place to have the event as there was plenty of room and open space to mix and mingle.

The Memorial get together for Jack Richardson was held on Sunday, August 9th at the Richardson home on Paris Hill Rd. Rotary supplied the tent and Good Food Store in Bethel provided the food. Kathy and her family seemed genuinely pleased that so many people came. President Chris gave a brief but excellent talk about Jack and how much he meant to all of us when he presented the memorial plaque to Kathy that we had made.

Announcements:

President Chris – we were short of a quorum at the board meeting on Monday the 3rd but we still had a good discussion about several topics, among them was the storage trailer. We still don't know for sure what Kiwanis' intentions are for the trailer. They do have things in there and it is about 1/3 full according to Curtis Cole. President Chris is trying to arrange a meeting with Kiwanis to discuss. In the meantime, he has asked Stan Brett to look into the purchase or lease of a trailer.

We are also looking for more recent pictures of club members and events for future promotional opportunities.

Dave Preble - Rotary made history today as it is the 30th Anniversary of Polio Plus. When Rotary started this campaign in 1985, there were 150,000+ cases of polio in 122 countries. In 2015, there are been 27 cases reported, a decline of 99.9%.

Dates to Remember:

September 19th – District Foundation Spending Assembly, USM, Portland, from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Please speak to President Chris if you are interested in attending.

October 19th – RLI at USM in Lewiston. Register on-line if you wish to attend.

October 24th – 2nd Annual World Polio Day Bridgewalk, Kittery-Portsmouth

Last Week:

Jack Sours was his own guest speaker and he gave us an update on the Oxford Casino. In a nutshell, the casino is doing great. Since the casino opened, their market share and revenue have consistently increased each year. There are now 400 employees with good jobs and full benefits. 30%-40% of their market comes from northern Cumberland county. 50% of their total revenue, not net profit, goes to the state. Jack said that it has been a constant struggle to keep the Maine legislature from authorizing more casinos in the state. If a new casino were to open in Scarboro, for example, it would devastate Oxford as 50% of their market share would disappear over night.

😊 Happy Dollars 😊 - Lois was happy that her and Herb's move to their new home was successful. She has one more week to go to her ankle surgery and then will have to spend 8 weeks in bed. **Frank** was happy to awaken after his heart surgery and was happy that Connie has been there for him, He also wished the Tampa Bay Rays continued success. **Lynne** was happy to find her lost cat at camp after it had been missing in the wild for almost a month. **Kim** was happy that someone recognized her as Kim from United Way rather than being asked if she was related to Dave Preble. **Paul and Dawne** had a great trip to Gander, Newfoundland to visit friends they met in Florida. He said they had a great time watching whales, puffins and ice bergs. **George** reminded us of the

upcoming Lobster & Steak Fest. [Chris S.](#) was happy that his mother is visiting from Tennessee again. Bob wants Chris' mother to go rafting and said he was almost done getting in his firewood for 2016-2017.

50/50 – Kim Preble drew George Rice's number but George drew the 8 of Diamonds so the \$258 pot rolls over once again.

Birthdays in August: Lois Strauss – 8/8; Mary Lou Burns – 8/11; Chris S. – 8/17; Irina Kahn – 8/23

Anniversaries in August: None this month

Membership Anniversaries in August: None this month

Make-ups:

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

www.bethelrotary.org

Bridgton-Lake Region – Thursday, 7:15 AM at the Bridgton Alliance Church, Harrison Rd., 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, 2:30 PM, Room B238, Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School



Thanks to Grass Roots Graphics for printing this edition of the Reader!