

The Oxford Hills Rotary Reader



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

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

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 7780 Governor: Marion Cheney, Rotary Club of Dover, NH – Oxford Hills Rotary President – Beth Abbott – President-Elect: Dan Allen – Vice-president: Vacant - Treasurer: Liz Knox – Secretary: John Griffith – Sgt. At Arms: Stan Brett – Past President: George Rice – Club Service Chair: Vacant – Vocational Service Chair: Dan Hart - 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 246th day of 2023. There are 109 days remaining in the year. Patty Rice is our program chair this morning and Liz Knox is our greeter.

Calendar: *The first name listed is the Program Chair, the second is greeter.* Please let Reader editor John Griffith 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 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.

September:

13,14,15 & 16 – Oxford County Fair Parking

20 – Lynne Schott and Glenn Huntley

27 – Bob Schott and Dan Hart

October:

2 – Board Meeting at South Paris Town Office, 5:00 PM

4 – Classification Talk and John Griffith

11 – Warren Spencer and Tina Fox

18 – Chris Summers and Tally Decato

25 – Val Weston and Curtis Cole

Visiting Rotarians and Guests:

Lois Strauss from Estero, Florida, Natalie Donais from Suffield, Connecticut and Ron Smith from the Fryeburg Club were our visiting Rotarians. Bob Wilgosz was the guest of Lois Strauss. No one attended via Zoom. Where was Frank Shorey?

Rotary Moment:

Greeter Ron Morse's moment was that it was a privilege to be a Rotarian and to thank our club for allowing him to be a member.

Announcements:

President Beth - The television that we use for Zoom has died. We can still see and hear who is on Zoom with the computer and they can see and hear us, but the computer screen is way smaller than the TV.

Dan H. – put a plug in for parking at the Fair, which begins next (now this) week. We need people for parking and admissions.

Dave P. – told us about the Cornhole Tournament on Sunday, the 3rd. Even though the turnout was not as high as we had hoped, everyone who participated had a lot of fun. We had 4 advanced teams and 10 social teams and made \$497.00 which includes proceeds from the sale of food.

PP George – our storage trailer is located on his property in South Paris, which with the move to his and Patty's new home, will be sold. Obviously, any buyer is not going to want the trailer on their property, so George is willing to move it temporarily "next door" to his Norway property. However, we need to give some thought as to what we are going to do with it in the future as we cannot leave it there indefinitely.

Last Week:

President Beth led us in the Pledge and 4-Way Test. PE Dan Allen led us in singing the Maine version of "Take me home country roads...." Curtis Cole gave the blessing.

Connor Burnam gave his classification talk. He said he was born in Florida but grew up and attended school in North Carolina. He moved to Maine eight years ago and got into the automotive world. He worked in different garages doing oil changes and the like, and worked at Line-Ex in South Paris before getting into sales at Ripley & Fletcher Ford. In his spare time, he enjoys fishing, snowmobiling and skiing. In response to a question, he said the biggest seller at Ripley & Fletcher is the Ford F-250 pick-up. He joined Rotary because he wanted to get more involved in the community and he thanked Glenn Huntley for inviting him.

George Rice introduced Ron Smith from the Fryeburg club. Ron is PDG of District 7430 in Pennsylvania and has served as Regional Foundation Chair for District 32 as well as many other District positions in his Rotary career.

Ron started off by letting us know that the Fryeburg Club is looking for additional help with their potato booth at the Fryeburg Fair during the first week of October. They are also holding a Pints for Polio event

on October 17 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm – however, I did not catch the place of the event. Ron thanked our club for going above and beyond with our donations to the Foundation considering the size of our club. The Foundation started in 1917 and is now one of the largest and best charities in the world. 91% of donations made go to programs. There are 7 major areas of focus: education and literacy; community economic development; disease prevention and treatment; maternal and child health; peace building and conflict prevention; water, sanitation and hygiene; lastly, the Environment. Ron went on to talk about the Rotary endowment, polio plus, District grants, disaster recovery and World Polio Day which is on October 25th.

50-50: Phyllis drew Curtis' number but Curtis did not draw the King of Clubs. There was \$394.00 in the pot.

Happy and Sad Dollars

Jeff said that having grown up in Florida, he is a big Florida sports fan and was happy the FSU beat LSU on Sunday night.

Patty had said dollars for the passing of Jimmy Buffet. She remembered attending his last concert in Bangor with George and said that she had 15 of his CDs.

Ron Smith was happy for us having him come back to speak and for our club's contributions to the Foundation.

Bob was happy that his granddaughters went rafting 2 days in a row.

Not a Pun For the Week:

I like to help people find things by pointing out that "it's gotta be around here somewhere."

The Rotary Theme for September is Basic Education and Literacy.

"There are no magic answers, no miraculous methods to overcome the problems we face, just the familiar ones: honest search for understanding, education, organization, action...and the kind of commitment that will persist despite the temptations of disillusionment, despite many failures and limited successes, inspired by the hope of a brighter future."

~ Noam Chomsky ~

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

September Birthdays: Jo (Mike) Carter – 9/3

September Anniversaries: Stan & Ann Marie Brett – 9/20; Chris & Val Weston – 9/23

September Membership Anniversaries: Beth Abbott – 21 yrs. – 9/11; Jeff Noblin – 22 yrs. – 9/11;
Patty Rice – 31 yrs. – 9/23

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.