



# Norway-Paris Kiwanis

## Officers 2009-2010

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## Directors 2009-2010

### 1 year:

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Tina Ruhland

### 2 year:

Chris Longley

Tony Butterall

### 3 year:

MaryAnna Palmer

Kathy Laplante

[www.npkiwanis.org](http://www.npkiwanis.org)

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**NEXT MEETING:** 7:30 a.m. July 1 - South Paris Congregational  
**SPEAKER:** Maine Handicapped Skiing - Bill Stockwell

June 24 attendance: 25/48 members; 29 total – 50-50 - Becky Toothaker: \$16

**GUESTS:** Ray Laplante of Kathy, Dick Libby of Tony and speakers Suzanne Grover and Mark Robinson.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Fifth Thursday in July will be an evening meeting at 5:30 p.m. at Alternative Modular Homes at the junction of Rts. 26 & 121 in Oxford. The catered affair is \$15 and it's BYOB. We need reservations by July 9 so contact Kathy Laplante at 583-2978. ☞ Tickets are available for Revolution home games into October. Kiwanis Foundation is a partner with the New England soccer team. Contact Tina if you're interested. ☞ The August 20-22 district convention is rapidly approaching if anyone has any interest in attending the Mansfield, MA 92<sup>nd</sup> annual event. ☞ Apparently Lt. Gov. Sarah has volunteered us to be the host club for the annual Governor's visit during Becky Toothaker's presidential year. ☞ Received a thank you letter from senior class advisor Tina Fox for the senior picnic at Range Pond. ☞ The Portland Kiwanis Club is holding a mini-golf tournament Aug. 10 at Joker's. Anyone interested in putting together a Norway-Paris team, contact Sarah.

## HAPPY/SAD \$\$\$

**Tina Croteau** - Several happy dollars for the state baseball champions following a 1-0 "nail biter" Saturday over Biddeford. Parents and players all gathered at her house afterwards. When they left at 7 p.m., she decided she had to go somewhere and have a beer.

**Mary Ann Brown** - Grandson Phoenix had a great graduation - no rain and she knows that Ray had something to do with that the way the clouds parted at the beginning. She hosted a graduation party on "Grampa's Hill" in West Paris for Phoenix and Morgan that was "wonderful." Daughter Debbie and the two graduates then took off for Brazil.

**Bob Bizier** - Sad about Papelbon's meltdown and the Red Sox losses. Happy that he played golf with son and family, noting that the youngster can "really hit the ball."

**Mark Robinson** - Sad dollar because he used to pitch for Biddeford...

**Sarah Glynn** - Sad not able to attend the Oxford Hills baseball game but offered a happy

congratulations dollar.

## SPEAKER

Suzanne Grover, president of Oxford Fair, and Mark Robinson, who owns a public relations firm, spoke on behalf of Black Bear Entertainment, the group attempting to bring a resort casino to Oxford. Scheduled speaker Peter Martin was sick and unable to attend. Suzanne pointed to her 27 years of involvement in the community with her family and business, Grover Gundrilling. Her philosophy has always been to give back to her community, and she sees the casino proposal as a way to do that in light of double-digit unemployment hampering the area's growth. Four sites are currently under consideration if the Nov. 2 referendum passes. She also pointed out that the Lewiston casino proposal will be on the 2011 ballot. The Oxford proposal includes a 100-mile radius limitation on any competing casinos. Mark, whose family owned a camp on North Pond for 35 years, is a Biddeford native. He actually founded Casinos NO! with Dennis Bailey (of Gov. Angus King's office) in 2000 but went his own way in 2003, the year the Hollywood Slots Racino was approved, "which began my personal transformation...to even think about casinos. I didn't have a particularly strong position against gambling at that time," he said. He didn't think about the subject until six years later when he was approached about working for Black Bear investors and decided "I can get behind this." He called it a "modest proposal" involving a four-season resort, which now has the added support of Bob Bahre. Supporters gathered 105,000 signatures in 20 days last fall, "which should be some kind of a record." The proposal includes 1,500 slot machines, 54 table games, a 500-seat convention center, a 200-room hotel, a 250-seat buffet, spa, wellness center and



swimming facilities. The resort would be located on at least 50 acres in Oxford and built over a five-year period. It's expected to bring in 800 year-round jobs along with a similar number of construction jobs. The project has unanimous support from both Oxford selectmen and the Oxford Hills Chamber of Commerce. Thanks to Ted Morton for putting the program together.

### Speaker Schedule

July 8 - Hank Morton - Norway Congregational Church  
July 15 - Spiritual Aims Breakfast - Harper Center  
July 22 - Tom Winsor - Oxford Advent  
July 29 - 86<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration - Alternative Modular Homes

Aug. 5 - Herb Strauss - South Paris Congregational Church  
Aug. 12 - Arnold Weeks - Norway Congregational Church  
Aug. 19 - Breakfast - Harper Center  
Aug. 26 - Juanita Smith, Oxford Advent