



Norway-Paris Kiwanis

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Directors 2011-2012

1 year:

Mary Anna Palmer
Diana McLaughlin

2 year:

Bill Stockwell
John Palmer

3 year:

Roy Gedat
Tom Morton

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NEXT MEETING: Noon - Thursday, Dec. 1. So Paris Congregational
PROGRAM: Scott Smith, Black Bear Entertainment: Oxford Casino
Nov. 24 attendance: 15/51 members - 17 total — 50-50: \$430 - Mary Anna Palmer ☹☹☹☹

GUESTS: Speakers Debbie Dembski and Stephanie LeBlond.

KEY CLUB: Delivering 15 Thanksgiving baskets Tuesday afternoon and preparing for Saturday's parade along with Builders. Sign-up sheet filled for basketball concessions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tickets for the \$500 Christmas shopping spree sold out at the DECA craft fair Saturday. If anyone has tickets they don't think they will sell, please return because several members looking for them and time is running out. Cindy said 1,000 have been printed (Biz remember when we used to sell 3,000 tickets). We are considering having the high school print them next year as a project. ☞ Ena Derenburger will be here next week to talk about the **Toys For Tots** program. Bring an unwrapped new toy. There will also be another meeting in December when we will officially be collecting toys. ☞ Mary Anna & John Palmer are again hosting a Christmas party for Kiwanians from 2-4 p.m. Sunday Dec. 11 at their home in Oxford. Bring a dish, something in the finger food world, and they will provide ample and varied beverages. Rabbit Valley Road is a right nearly two miles south of the 121/26 intersection on Rt. 26 just after the casino construction. Go 1.3 miles in, take a right on Caldwell Lane and the Palmer's home is about a quarter of a mile in. If lost, call 539-2304 or 890-8484. For GPS aficionados, the address is 54 Caldwell Lane, Oxford. ☞ The Dec. 29 meeting will be a working meeting with no speaker (looks like Start Cummings gets to skate again on his speaker responsibility). Officers and directors are considering reducing the number of speakers to three a month to allow for opportunities to conduct club business. If anyone has already scheduled a speaker after Jan. 1, please advise. We will be revising the schedule so stay tuned.

HAPPY/SAD DOLLARS

Mary Ann Brown - No grand baby yet but eagerly waiting. Some family members from out of town have already arrived ahead of the storm. Also happy that she came across a UPS truck in

town and convinced the driver to take her return package. She remarked that some people just live right.

Tina Croteau - Happy that at this time next week, she will be on "the island" celebrating her 25th wedding anniversary. She's also hoping to get some jewelry out of it.

Kathy Laplante - The Bruins winning streak up to nine. And goalie Tim Thomas was "superb."

Bob Bizier - Yesterday would have been daughter Gina's 46th birthday, "an emotional time" and "not easy getting through this." She died Sept. 30, 2010. Also today is wife Barbara's 68th birthday.

SPEAKER

Debbie Dembski and Stephanie LeBlond, below, from the Rape Education and Crisis Hotline in South Paris talked to us about the services REACH provides. Stephanie joined REACH last October and is coordinator for the centers in Androscoggin, Franklin and

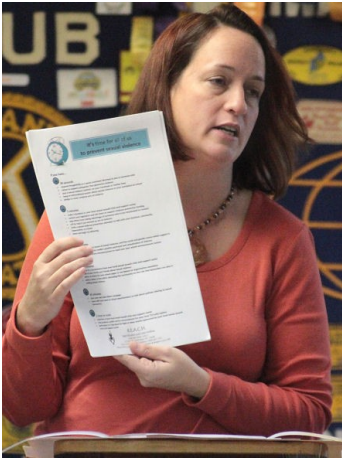


Oxford counties following their merger. She has 16 years experience in child abuse and neglect. Debbie served as director in 1980s and returned to REACH in 2006. She is now Outreach Coordinator, which allows her to work more closely with clients, facilitate two women's groups and bring awareness of sexual violence through community outreach. ☞ Many of today's sexual assault survivors are men and women in the 40s, 50s and 60s who were sexually abused as children. Most are women, who never spoke of their abuse as children because of shame, guilt or threat. The abusers were family, friends of family, authority figures or respected people in our community. "The hard reality is that sexual abuse and sexual assault continues," Debbie said.



The legal system is not "victim friendly" and "sexual abuse cases are among the hardest to prosecute," she said, noting that the legal system does not always result in justice, especially for the victims." Prosecution involves cases with

little evidence that boil down one person's word against another. She challenged us to step up and get involved in the effort to recognize and prevent sexual abuse. "Offending individuals need to know they they own the responsibility for their actions," Debbie said. "There's absolutely no motivation to change when others make excuses for them." 🍷 "The message is simple: Be conscious of each other. Be respectful. Everyone has a right to feel safe," she said. "We must teach those values that reinforce them, not accept unkind or disrespectful words or actions from individuals who are in a relationship....we ignore too much." 🍷 Stephanie said the communities she works with are amazing in their efforts to prevenet sexual violence. She works with churches, businesses, law enforcement. The national theme this year is "It's time for all of us to prevent sexual violence." A bill in the Legislature would manade classes for grades K-5 to teach sexual assault awareness. "The more people are talking about it, the more kids will feel it's okay to talk about it and they will come forward sooner," she said. "Both law enforcement and the district attorney's office have told me that kids are coming forward sooner because of the presentations we're doing in the schools." She added that the schools have been "hugely supportive" of what we're doing. 🍷 Thanks to Steph and Deb for speaking to us.



Speaker Schedule

Dec. 8 - Carl Costanzi: 5210 Let's Go Program - Norway Congregational Dec. 15 - Scott McElavey - Breakfast, 7:30 a.m. - Harper Center Dec. 22 - Lee Dassler, Detert land trust - Oxford Advent Church Dec. 29 - Working meeting, Location yet to be determined.	Jan. 5 - Speaker needed - South Paris Congregational Jan. 12 - Karen Danforth, program chair - Norway Cong. Jan. 19 - Breakfast, Board meeting - Harper Center Jan. 26 - Bill Eaton, program chair - Oxford Advent
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The 50-50 will continue following Mary Anna Palmer's unsuccessful attempt to pull the Joker. She found the King of Hearts instead. The pot continues.