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BANDSTAND DEDICATION REMARKS - by Beth Keene

Greetings to everyone and thank you so much for coming out today. First I would like to thank Mark, David, Cory and Jerry for the tremendous effort they have each put in to complete this special project. David and his family have been supportive of the effort since day 1, while Mark and Cory have each faced unique challenges in their respective roles of architect and builder. Ocean Park is blessed to have such a leader as Jerry Gosselin. Building a bandstand was not in his job description, but he is the point person who worked tirelessly to shepherd it to completion.

So how did we get here today? The idea for this bandstand started about 12 years ago when Doug was serving as the Ocean Park archivist and came across pictures of the original bandstand that used to sit on this lawn. He was intrigued and found out that it had been torn down in 1924 to make space for the construction of the library. On a subsequent Illumination Night, we were standing ten people deep in the street trying unsuccessfully to view the Bagpipe Band, when Doug said, “wouldn’t it be great to have a bandstand back in OP so everyone could easily view the band.”

The idea grew as we noticed lovely bandstands in towns we visited around New England: Sunapee, NH, New London, NH, Boothbay Harbor, Oak Bluffs on Martha’s Vineyard. So many New England towns had bandstands – why not Ocean Park?

When Doug passed away in 2015, I started to think about how I could make the bandstand happen, in his memory. And I was pleased that yes, due to Doug’s provident nature, it was possible. So thank you Doug, both for the dream of a bandstand and for the financing of it!

Donating the bandstand was motivated by another reason as well. I realized that this was a great opportunity to give back to a community that has been so important in our lives. Like many of you, both Doug’s and my roots in Ocean Park go back several generations. His grandfather Ralph Keene Senior stopped in Ocean Park in 1924 on the recommendation of friends from church in Medford, Massachusetts. He ended up buying a property on Randall Ave and the family has come here ever since – Ralph Jr and Peg Robinson dated here in the summers of 1940 – 41 and purchased their 13 Colby Ave cottage in 1946. Doug had his first birthday in Ocean Park, and …… he had his last birthday in Ocean Park. And you’ve just heard from Doug’s brother David Keene - currently our OPA President. The Keene family has had a long history of active involvement in the community.

On my side, my great grandparents Josiah and Jennie Blood came up to Ocean Park from Lowell, MA, with their two-year old daughter Florence (my maternal grandmother), for the dedication of the Temple on August 2, 1881. And they kept coming back. Three generations later, Doug and I met in Ocean Park in the summer of 1962, working together at the Ocean Park Restaurant. When Doug asked me to take a walk on the beach with him after work one night, I said “yes,” and the rest is history. Since I already have a great grandchild who loves to come to Ocean Park, this makes 7 generations of my family in Ocean Park.

So you can see that Ocean Park has been an extremely meaningful part of our lives. The bandstand is given in gratitude and with great appreciation for everything Ocean Park has meant to me and my family. Thank you Ocean Park for being such a wonderful community! Enjoy your bandstand!

JULY 4TH BUTTON

Getting a button at the Independence Day Parade to help support OPA has been a tradition for many years. The button design this year is a further dedication of the Bandstand done by Ocean Parker Earl Wilcher.

Be sure to get your button early at the parade or you may get them at the OPA office after June 25th.

Note: Buttons from previous years are also available at the OPA office for $3 each!
Jerry Gosselin’s Remarks at the Bandstand Dedication

Good Afternoon one and all! My name is Jerry Gosselin, the Executive Director of the Ocean Park Association. And I welcome you to this dedication of the Ocean Park Memorial Bandstand which is being given in loving memory of Douglas R. Keene as a wish fulfilled.

The early advent of bandstands in North America followed a similar path to the United Kingdom. Bandstands there were often perceived purely as functional pieces of civic architecture, usually placed within civic squares. However, a fresh current in landscape architecture caused North Americans to increasingly view bandstands as vital links between people and nature. This new sensibility dictated that the bandstand should fit picturesquely into a pastoral landscape. Landscape architect Andrew Jackson Downing said it this way, ‘There is scarcely a prettier or more pleasant object for the termination of a long walk in the pleasure grounds or park than a neatly thatched structure of rustic work.’

This bandstand is the dream of both Doug and Beth Keene who were both drawn to similar structures in their travels. And now we are blessed to have our very own here in Ocean Park.

The playing of music is customary in most bandstands across our great land. And I would like to plug two concerts scheduled early in our season to help us begin to get our feet wet at this new venue. On Wednesday, July 3, at 7:30 PM Trevor and Company will be performing classic rock tunes here. And then on Monday, July 8, at 4:30 in the afternoon, the group known as Roll and Go will offer a concert of sea shanty music here at the Bandstand. We hope you will come with your beach chairs and great spirits to enjoy a new tradition here in Ocean Park. If you have recommendations for educational or cultural arts programming suitable for this venue, please share them with me.

For today’s dedication, let the first song be led by the Ocean Park Brass. Let us join together and sing America the Beautiful.

On your behalf I want to thank the Ocean Park Brass under the direction of Dan Evans and the members of The Alumni Band under the direction of Debra Peck for providing music for today’s community event.

Invite presenters to share their thoughts on this grand occasion: David Keene, President, Ocean Park Association; Mark Mueller, Architect; Cory Hussey, General Contractor; Beth Keene, Donor

CUT THE RIBBON

We recall the words of the Psalmist: “Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the Lord guards the city, the guard keeps watch in vain.”

As a Chautauqua community, the Ocean Park Association takes seriously its responsibility to help foster a sense of peace and enjoyment for local residents, cottage owners, and visitors to our community. We know we can’t do that without God’s presence and continued blessing. And so we pray,

Holy Eternal God, the people gathered today on this library green in the shadows of this new bandstand are filled with joy. We bless your holy name and thank you for your goodness that has brought us to this moment.

We pray that this bandstand will be a place where everyone can rest, breathe deeply, enjoy a presentation, a concert, a wedding, an anniversary - to renew a friendship or repair a broken one.

Thank you for every child, student, adult, young and old (and all their furry friends) who will be refreshed here.

We humbly pray for your protection and more than enough provision of every kind for the good things that will happen in this place – from the quiet moments of reflection to all the loud joyful moments of entertainment and celebration.

We dedicate this bandstand for these purposes and ask that you confirm our intention with your holy blessing – on this day and for many, many years to come.

To the glory and praise of God! And all God’s People respond by saying… Amen!

Let us now sing our National Anthem

Please stay to eat some food, enjoy one another’s company and revel in the music of the Alumni Band under the direction of Debra Peck. Thank you for being here and enjoy the rest of your holiday weekend!
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**A NEW WAY TO CONNECT WITH OCEAN PARK - ANNOUNCING THE OPA FACEBOOK PAGE**, by Emily Kidd

This month *The Ocean Park Association, Maine* page became active on Facebook. We are excited for this opportunity to connect with members of the Ocean Park community in a new way. As we approach the 2019 season, it’s the perfect time to like or follow [@OPAMaine](https://www.facebook.com/OPAMaine) to stay up to date on happenings in our community this summer.

Social media is all about connections and the OPA Facebook page is all about connecting with our wonderful community. We invite you to join us in our next steps towards exactly that. The page will provide updates on the wonderful events happening this summer in Ocean Park, community announcements and, perhaps most importantly, it will allow us to get to know our OP community even more. Whether you’re a lifetime member of OPA or a future member - we want to hear from you and learn what we can do to keep Ocean Park the magical place it is for generations to come.

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**FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT OCEANWOOD**

We are gearing up for an epic Summer 2019! Our facility is coming alive with the sounds of children running, lawnmowers buzzing, and visitors coming to and fro. Keep an eye out for our horses and horsemanship campers riding within the community, fulfilling their “kindness day” activities, and performing several beach cleanings this summer (town approved). In addition, we invite the community to join us for S’Mores & More Thursday 7/18/19 and Tuesday 8/13/19 from 7-8:30pm on the beach at the end of Randall Avenue.

Looking for a rewarding summer experience? We are looking for a few highly motivated, energetic, and dynamic individuals to join our summer team as either day or overnight camp counselors! What better way to enjoy the sights and sounds of Ocean Park than thru the eyes of our summer campers!??!

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**IN THE LEGACY CIRCLE … You May Have Already Won!** By Maryann Murray

…entrance to the Legacy Circle, that is!

We’re thrilled to report the receipt of two recent gifts from Ocean Park members who generously remembered the OPA in their wills – the Rev. Richard Keach and Mr. George Garmon. While we’re always so excited and appreciative to receive donations, especially when unexpected, we wish we’d had the opportunity to thank the Keach and Garmon families beforehand and welcome them into the Legacy Circle.

Have you considered including the OPA in your estate planning?

Remembering Ocean Park in your will is a thoughtful and generous way to ensure that the community you love remains strong for your family and the generations that follow you. While it’s a gift that is meant to benefit the future, we want to be sure to thank you TODAY! So, please let us know if you are providing for Ocean Park in your plans, so we can include you among the Legacy Circle.

Many, many thanks to the current members of the Legacy Circle. We hope you will consider joining them. Contact OPA Executive Director Jerry Gosselin ([jgosselin@oceanpark.org](mailto:jgosselin@oceanpark.org)) for more information on including Ocean Park in your legacy.

In the process of creating or updating your estate plan? Perhaps you’re among those of us who wonder “What to do with the family cottage?!’”

The Legacy Circle is sponsoring a free session on Estate Planning, Tuesday, July 23, at 7 pm in Jordan Hall. Come hear Kathleen Kienitz of Lewiston’s Elder Law Offices talk about making your wishes clear, preparing a will, and when a trust makes sense. Bring your questions; even send them to [info@oceanpark.org](mailto:info@oceanpark.org) in advance. We’re all here to learn together!
The following are new Ocean Park Association members approved at the April and May meetings of the Board of Directors:

Regular Members:
- Corinne Foster
- Lisa Caldwell

Youth Members:
- JJ Foster
- Kit Foster
- Gus Foster

Life Members:
- Justin Foster

Please visit the local stores in Ocean Park! The Ocean Park Association provides leases to these businesses, and your patronage helps further our mission.

Thank you!

A BRIEF “NOTE” FROM YOUR MUSIC DIRECTOR,
by Jerry Scheinfeldt

Summer is once again upon us and it is time to celebrate and lift our voices in song!

Our summer Temple worship begins on Sunday, June 23rd and it promises to be an exciting start to the Temple Worship season!

The first Temple Choir rehearsal will be held on Saturday, June 22nd at 5:30 PM in the Temple. As we are preparing for a very special service on June 23rd, we will also rehearse on Sunday morning, June 23rd at 9:15 AM. Please make every effort to be at rehearsal on Saturday, and arrive by 9:00 AM on Sunday morning as we need to finish rehearsal by 10:00 AM.

The Choir Concert will be held on Sunday, August 11th with rehearsals during the two weeks preceding the concert.

All singers are welcome and I hope that you will join us whenever you are able, even if it is for only one Sunday, or for the Choir Concert.

To other musicians: please consider joining the Temple Brass, the Ocean Park Band or the Temple Bells. You may contact me, Dan Evans or Sue Evans (contact info is in the OP Annual "booklet"), or by calling the Ocean Park Association Office.

NEW HIRES FOR THE 2019 SEASON, By Jerry Gosselin

I am excited to announce the hiring of several new seasonal employees for the upcoming programming season:

- Maurice Nadeau - Maintenance
- Jay Gallagher - Maintenance
- Grace Blecharczyk - Rec Hall Co-Director
- Ben Holt - Shuffleboard & Maintenance
- Rod Choroszy - Tennis Assistant
IN MEMORIAM

The following is a list of those friends of Ocean Park whose passing has come to the attention of the Association since the printing of the March Bell Tower.

To notify the Ocean Park Association of the passing of a loved one, please contact the office at (207) 934-9068, extension 0, or opa@oceanpark.org.

L. Garth Turner-Harrington  Exeter, NH and Ocean Park, ME  August 11, 2018
William E. Chetwynd  Wakefield, MA and Ocean Park, ME  November 5, 2018
Robert G. Wade, Jr.  Bonita Springs, FL and Ocean Park, ME  March 6, 2019
Marjorie Hanson Dearth  Stoneham, MA and Ocean Park, ME  March 8, 2019
Rev. Milton Ryder  Ocean Park, ME  March 30, 2019
Josephine Hills  Ocean Park, ME  April 8, 2019
Adelbert “Del” Jakeman Jr.  Ocean Park, ME  May 16, 2019

I LOVED & ADMIRED REV. MILT RYDER, By Larry Nay

• When he came to our church in Antrim New Hampshire, Milt noted in his first sermon that he looked forward to the peaceful quiet of New Hampshire. Little did he know that his second weekend in his new parsonage was the weekend of the annual motorcycle races in Laconia. Worse was that Route 202 passed 30 feet away from his bedroom. That Sunday of his second service in Antrim, an exhausted minister asked his congregation if a thousand motorcycles would pass his house every weekend all year long!

• When Ardis was pregnant with their first child, Milt told us in Sunday school that he was going to name the new baby, C.C. We kids all thought; ‘how cool is it our new minister will have a kid named CC Ryder!’

• A couple Sundays later Milt announced that he changed his mind and that he was going to name the baby, Type!

• A couple Sundays after that Milt announced that he changed his mind again. Now he was going to name the baby, Ghost!

• Milt found out a few of us had a jazz band and were going to play at a local college jazz festival. He asked us about it and told us we could use the Sunday school area to practice since it had a piano. One night we were surprised to see ‘Uncle Milty’ show up with his alto sax in hand. He played with us and we soon realized he was a better musician than we were!

• Milt once saw a group of us playing baseball. He honked at us with that unmistakable sound of his 1964 Volvo 544. Within a few minutes he drove out onto the field, brought out his glove and played ball with us. You guessed it. Milt was also a better ballplayer than any of us!

• Years later in the 1980’s when our family was vacationing in Ocean Park, I met Milt on the beach. He asked me what I was doing with my life. I was proud to tell him all about my family and that I was a regional manager working for Volvo of America Corporation. He thought a moment and said, “That explains it. I’ve been wondering why Volvo sales have been dropping so dramatically!”

• When one of our church members passed, there was a group of us by the gravesite waiting for our minister to give a final prayer before burial. We knew Milt was close when we heard the putt...putt...putt of his Honda Vespa motor scooter buzzing down Route 202 at a breakneck speed of 20 mph. Milt was his own man and we loved that about him.

• When he was in college in Philadelphia, Milt bought an old hearse! Who thinks of that? Milt told us he & one buddy dressed up in black suits & ties and sat up front. Their other buddy wore shorts and put on grayish make-up on one leg from just above the knee down to his toes. They left the rear door open just enough to leave the bare grayish leg dangling outside of the hearse. Then they drove through downtown Philadelphia! Milt said the looks they got from people were priceless! Some people laughed while many were shocked, running after the hearse shouting to Milt that the ‘dead guy’ was about to slip out the back of the hearse!

Milt, thank you. I will miss you. Larry Nay
SALES and RENTALS

“Vacation at the Beach”

Phone: (207) 937-5054
Fax: (207) 937-8227
Website: www.oceanparkrealty.com
Email: jeff@oceanparkrealty.com
martha@oceanparkrealty.com

Owners: Most all owners have submitted their available dates. If you are contemplating allowing us to help you rent your property, please check the following link:  www.oob.gov (please search for “Town of Old Orchard Beach business license”). As owners of vacation property, most of you are familiar with all the processes. If not, please feel free to contact me. This is the time of year to start looking at possibly replacing items or adding something new on what might ‘wow’ you if you were renting your home. Past owners, don’t forget to update your license annually.

Renters: If you have not had the pleasure of staying in Ocean Park or if you have decided just recently on your vacation dates, please contact Martha soon and be persistent. There are properties with open weeks and some new rentals.

Sellers: There are many potential buyers interested in Ocean Park. Ocean Park Realty would be pleased to be your full-service real estate company of choice. At this time, available homes for sale are few!

Thank you,
Jeff and Martha

While we are deep into the rental season and rapidly approaching Summer, there are still some openings in a number of cottages. Call or e-mail Martha for our list of available weeks!

Thinking of selling or buying? While there is no specific ‘prime time’ to do so, the seasonal market is often the best calendar time for these activities. Give us a call with your ideas and let Ocean Park Realty help you realize your real estate goals!

Ocean Park Realty

Ocean Park Realty, a subsidiary of the Ocean Park Association, is a full-service brokerage that can serve your real estate needs throughout Southern Maine. If you are looking to purchase or sell your cottage, home or condo, or if you are looking for a seasonal rental, call or stop by the office in Jakeman Hall at 14 Temple Avenue, or call (207) 937-5054. Jeff and Martha are always ready to help you!

Jeff Chute
Designated Broker/Realtor
(207) 937-5054
jeff@oceanparkrealty.com

Martha Blackburn
Broker/Realtor
(207) 937-5054
Martha@oceanparkrealty.com
Even in the off season, the OPA Board of Directors (BOD) has been meeting regularly to make sure the upcoming summer programs are finalized, OPA properties are properly maintained and staffing levels are optimal. The 15 member BOD consists of four officers, seven committee chairs, three at large members and Executive Director Jerry Gosselin.

At the same time, all of the committees have been meeting frequently to formalize traditional programs and to implement new ways of doing things. The budget is monitored continually, new committee and BOD members are being selected, Sunday preachers are lined up and staff for the Rec Hall, tennis courts and shuffleboard courts is put in place. Concerts and other events are planned to take place on the new OP Bandstand!

This summer, the Religious & Cultural Committee will be scheduling early Sunday services at 8:30 am in Jordan Hall as well as traditional 10:30 am services in the Temple. The Development Committee is taking on several new challenges including a Facebook page for the OPA.

Administration & Finance oversees the Tenant Relations Committee which handles leases and relations with our four commercial tenants as well as the newly formed Village Square Group which will be taking surveys to determine your favorite mix of merchandise and food which you think our four merchants should be offering. With the removal of decayed and dangerous pine trees around the Temple Complex, the Property Committee is working on a new landscape plan.

At each BOD meeting, a separate committee is put under the Spotlight, giving committee chairs the opportunity to explain in detail what their committees are planning and how they go about their business. At the same time, this gives all of the other BOD members the chance to ask questions and offer suggestions. As you can imagine, there is a lot of coordination between committees. All BOD meetings are open to OPA members and there is always an opportunity for members who attend to offer comments. All BOD meeting times are posted on the OP website. I hope to see you there!