THE MONTHLY MUDDLE

Gilford Rotary Newsletter — October 2026 Edition

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Fellow Rotarians,

What a beautiful time of year it is in Gilford! The brilliant reds, oranges, and yellows of the fall foliage remind us just how fortunate we are to live in such a wonderful community.

As leaves change and the seasons move forward, so does our Rotary year. I'm grateful for the energy, enthusiasm, and dedication each of you brings to our club. Your willingness to pitch in, lend a hand, and support our community is what makes Gilford Rotary special.

Let's enjoy the beauty of the season, celebrate all that we have accomplished together, and look forward to the opportunities ahead. There is plenty more good work to be done - and I know that, together, we'll make a difference!

Thank you for all that you do, and enjoy this beautiful New England fall!

Yours in Rotary,
JOHN



OCTOBER IS SOCKTOBER

Gilford Rotary Club will be collecting socks throughout the month of October to help support the Interlakes Interact Club.

All types of socks are needed, and those designed to withstand the colder weather are particularly useful, wanted, and appreciated.

Donations may be contributed during weekly club meetings, given to any Gilford Rotarian, and/or dropped off at Gilford Community Church every Friday in October at 7am.

Top left: Clara Jude with one of her kiddos

Bottom left: June Hibbs with two of the kiddos

Top right: John Jude with the newest kiddo

Below: Greg Lemay with Bill Finethy behind him



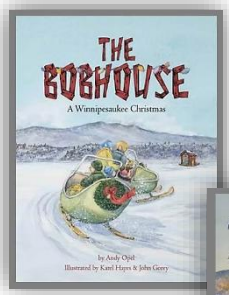


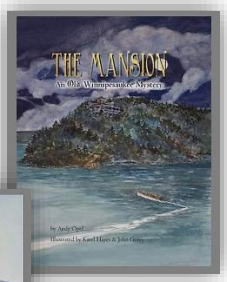


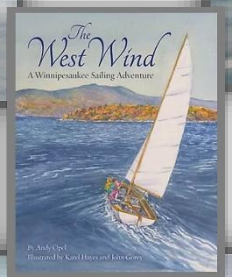


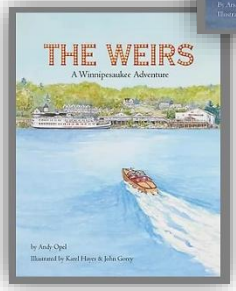


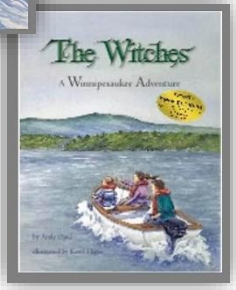
Bottom left & books on right: Andy Opel, Professor at the School of Communication for Florida State University as well as author of children books based on the Lakes Region of NH, recently presented at a club meeting











MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

CAROL DIVENY



1. When did you join Rotary? Have you belonged to more than one club? I joined in August 2026, and was a member of Alton Centennial Rotary.
2. How did you hear about Gilford Rotary? I was a member of Alton Centennial Rotary and knew they were the sponsoring organization.
3. What is your occupation? When I can sit still/slow down, my occupation is being retired, otherwise its being a volunteer.
4. Where did you grow up? In Rutherford, New Jersey (I'm a Jerzeee Girl).
5. What are your hobbies? Being outdoors when I can, photography (birds mostly), kayaking, hiking, thrifting (never knew that was a thing till I moved up here), reading, and mentoring fundraisers.
6. Unknown fact about you that no one in Rotary is likely to know? That I was a Seeing Puppy Raiser with my family. We raised six German Shepherd pups, provided basic training till they went back for advanced training, and had two successful graduates.
7. Do you have any children and/or pets? Yes, one daughter, Erin and an Aruban Cunucu rescue dog named Moomba.
8. What makes you happy? Aside from my family, it's the arrival of fall – the earthy smell of leaves as their colors are changing, the slight chill in the air, and the faint scent of a nice wood fire burning somewhere in the distance.
9. Best vacation ever? In the States, I'd have to say the time we hiked down the Grand Canyon and stayed at Phantom Ranch; Internationally, it was vacationing in St. Martin.
10. Favorite saying? This is my saying: Always have a smile on your face, you never know how it will brighten someone's day.

Below: Katelyn Dassatti, founder of Lakes Region Diaper Exchange, was a recent guest speaker (https://lrdiaperexchange.org)



Left & right: Russ Lunt & Alley Boucher welcomes Carol Diveny, in the center, who joined our club in August







Right: Rotary superhero images designed by our very own Anne Jalbert





Friday, October 2
Speaker(s) will be Russ Lunt talking about travel in Marseille France (www.marseille-tourisme.com/en)

Friday, October 9
Speaker(s) will be Laconia Police Captain Allan Graton sharing on the Command Vehicle Tour (www.facebook.com/p/Laconia-Police-Department-100064950061365)

Friday, October 16
Speaker(s) will be John Beland talking about travel in Portugal (www.turismodeportugal.pt/en)

Wednesday, October 21
Board of Director's Meeting

Friday, October 23
Club Business Meeting

Friday, October 30
Speaker(s) will be provided by June Hibbs



*Did you know we are now on Instagram? Type **gilford_rotary_club** in the search bar, then click the follow button*

*Are you following us on Facebook? Click the icon or go to **www.facebook.com/GilfordRotaryClub***

Rotary