



**Rotary**

## The Oxford Hills Rotary Reader

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

**Wednesday, July 8, 2026**

**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.”

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### **2026-2027 Officers:**

**Rotary International President: Olayinka Hakeem Babalola, Rotary Club of Trans Amadi, Nigeria - District 7780 Governor: Michele Bois-Gilbody, Rotary Club of Freeport. Oxford Hills Rotary President – Conner Burnam – President-Elect: Bob Schott – Vice-president: Vacant - Treasurer: Liz Knox – Secretary: John Griffith – Sgt. At Arms: Stan Brett – Past President: Jeff Noblin – Club Administration Chair: Bob Schott – Service Projects Chair: Beth Abbott - International Service Chair: Valerie Weston – Youth Service & Interact Advisor: Tina Fox**

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**Good Morning and Welcome!** Today is the 189th day of 2026. There are 176 days remaining in the year. Curtis Cole is both greeter and program chair this morning.

Program Chairs: Please let John know what your program is so it can be published in the Reader. You can text or call John at 207-4617158 or e-mail at [huick663speed@yahoo.com](mailto:huick663speed@yahoo.com). Please remember that when you are program chair, you are expected to lend a hand after the meeting putting away the club paraphernalia.

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### **The Rotary theme for the month of July is Maternal and Child Health**

We expand access to quality care, so mothers and children everywhere can have the same opportunities for a healthy future. In 2020, an estimated 5 million children under the age of 5 years died, mostly from preventable and treatable causes. Approximately half of those deaths, 2.4 million, occurred among newborns (in the first 28 days of life). The leading causes of death in children under 5 years can all be prevented or treated with access to affordable interventions in health and sanitation.

## *Calendar for July:*

15 – Tina Fox and Mike Carter

18 – Second Lobsters for Scholars dinner. If you can help, see Dave P. for details.

19 – Rotary at the Sea Dogs

22 – John Griffith and Beth Abbott

29 – Rotarian of the Year get together at Cole's, 5:00 PM. No morning meeting!

## *Rotary Moment:*

Subbing for Tina Fox. greeter Dave Preble told us about the new RI President's message in the latest Rotary magazine and the impact it had on him.

## *Visiting Rotarian and Guests:*

I was wrong when I said in last week's Reader that we did not have any guests on the 24<sup>th</sup> – we did, so apologies to Wesley and Gilbert Ross who were guests of their grandmother, Tina Fox, and also to Donny Foster, who was the guest of Patty Rice.

Last week, Dan Hart visited from the Bethel club and once again, Donny Foster was the guest of Patty Rice.

## *Announcements:*

*Dave P.-* TPlans for the Cornhole Tournament are continuing. We hope to have 4 major sponsors – 3 are already lined up – Maine Health, Norway Savings Bank and Edward Jones. We hope that Ripley & Fletcher Ford will be the 4<sup>th</sup>. Please continue to work on getting sponsors for the prizes.

Dave also thanked those who helped with the first Lobsters for Scholars dinner last weekend.

Reminder that dues are due!

## *Last Week:*

President Conner led us in the Pledge and 4-Way Test. Mike Carter gave the blessing. I don't recall now if it was before breakfast or after breakfast, and as we did not have Zoom set up, Dave called Frank Shorey as Thursday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, was his birthday. We all sang Happy Birthday to Frank. Secretary John remarked that he always remembered Frank's birthday because it was the same day as his grandfather's, July 2, 1886, and that he thought Frank looked pretty good for being 140 years old.

Mike Carter introduced our guest speaker, Theresa Drag who spoke about Quilts of Valor, an organization that started about 25-26 years ago. Theresa got involved some time ago and is now District Coordinator for the Western Maine Group – South Paris Peace Makers. The Mission of the Quilts of Valor Foundation is to cover Service Members and Veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor. Theresa talked about how these quilts, made by volunteers, touch the lives of the service members who receive them. For more information or to nominate a Service Member or Veteran to receive one, go to their website [www.QOVF.org](http://www.QOVF.org)

### Happy and Sad Dollars

**Dan Hart** had congratulations dollars for President Conner and wished him success in the coming year.

**Dave P.** had happy dollars for his and Dan Hart's birthdays which are apparently on the same day.

**Patty Rice** was happy to have Dan Hart with us again.

**Bob Schott** said he was looking forward to going rafting with his 5-year-old grandson.

**50/50 – David Knox drew Bob Schott's number but Bob drew the 6 of Clubs. Not sure what was in the pot, but it must have been around \$250.**

### Puns for for the week:

Sad news. My friend Tom broke up with his girlfriend, Lorraine, because he was seeing another girl named Claire Lee. But it's really good news because he can see Claire Lee now Lorraine has gone.

I was walking through the kitchen just as Shelley dropped an ice cube on the floor. I accidentally kicked it under the refrigerator as I went by. I apologized but Shelley said, "Don't worry. It's water under the fridge now."

### July Birthdays and Anniversaries:

**Birthdays:** Fank Shorey – 7/2; Dave P. – 7/9; Connie Shorey – 7/17

**Anniversaries:** Mike & Joe Carter – 47 yrs. – 7/3; Warren & Susan Spencer – 43 yrs. – 7/23; Dave and Becky Preble – 40 yrs. – 7/26

**Membership Anniversaries:** Frank Shorey – 42 yrs. – 7/1; Val Weston – 39 yrs. – 7/22

## **Make-Ups:**

**Bethel** – Tuesday, 7:30 AM at the Bethel Inn Resort in the Terrace Area of Millbrook Tavern, 21 Broad St., Bethel

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

**Bridgton-Lake Region** – Thursday, 7:15 AM at Bridgton Alliance Church, 368 Harrison Rd., Bridgton

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

**Fryeburg** – Tuesday, 7:30 AM at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, Rt. 5, Fryeburg

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

**River Valley** – Monday, 12:00 noon, at Hope Association, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, 85 Lincoln Ave., Rumford

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

**Interact** – Thursday, 2:15 PM, Room A210, Oxford Hills Comprehensive Hills High School during the school year only.