



The Oxford Hills Rotary Reader

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

Wednesday, October 1, 2025

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."

2025-2026 Officers:

Rotary International President: Francesco Arezzo, Rotary Club of Ragusa, Italy - District 7780 Governor: Emma Bodwell, Rotary Club of Bridgton-Lake Region – Oxford Hills Rotary President – Jeff Noblin – President-Elect: Conner Burnam – Vice-president: Vacant - Treasurer: Liz Knox – Secretary: John Griffith – Sgt. At Arms: Stan Brett – Past President: Beth Abbott – Club Administration Chair: Bob Schott – Service Projects Chair: Beth Abbott - International Service Chair: Valerie Weston – Youth Service & Interact Advisor: Tina Fox

Home Club of PDG George Rice

Good Morning and Welcome! Today is the 267th day of 2025. There are 98 days remaining in the year. Mike Carter is program chair this morning. His guest speaker is from "The Table." Ron Morse is scheduled to be greeter.

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 griffs2@roadrunner.com. Please remember that when you are program chair, you are expected to lend a hand after the meeting putting away the club paraphernalia.

The Rotary Theme for October is Economic and Community Development.

This theme highlights the importance of investing in people to create measurable and enduring economic improvements in their lives and communities. The Rotary Foundation plays a crucial role in enabling Rotarians to support these initiatives through various programs and projects.

Club Calendar for October:

10/6 – Board Meeting, Ripley Building, 5:00 PM

10/8 – Curtis Cole and David Knox

10/15 – Dictionary Project and John Griffith

10/22 – Liz Knox and Tina Fox

10/29 – Ron Morse and Tally Decato

Visiting Rotarian and Guests:

We did not have any visiting Rotarians or guests except for our guest speakers.

Rotary Moment:

Greeter Ron Morse shared that it was nice to be associated with people who care and do community work.

Announcements:

President Jeff had a shout out and thank-you to Bob Schott for arranging and obtaining a new Club mug for the District Governor when they visit in the future.

Jeff also announced that John had ordered the dictionaries and that they should be in shortly. John is planning a work meeting on the 15th to put the labels in the books.

Stan announced that he had a tent set this coming week in New Gloucester. If anyone can help with the set or take down, please get in touch with Stan.

Don't forget that there will be a board meeting on Monday, the 6th, at the Harper Center in the Ripley Building at 5:00 PM. John will be in Hershey, Pennsylvania, so would appreciate one of the other board members taking the minutes.

Last Week:

President Jeff opened the meeting with the flag salute and the 4-Way Test. Mike Carter gave the blessing.

Mike was also program chair and introduced our guest speakers, AJ (Anna Jean) Alexander and Donna Pike from The Table. The Table began as a non-profit mission of the Bolster's Mills United Methodist Church in 2017. It has now expanded to include the Norway Grange and volunteer members of the community, where there is always room at the table. They offer FREE clothing give aways at the Yellow School House at 160 Main St. in Norway, Mondays and Tuesdays from 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM and Saturdays from 9:00 AM to

1:00 PM. Donations of men's and children's clothing are their most urgent needs and can be dropped off at The Table the days they are open. They serve 30-60 people each day they are open. They also provide free breakfasts every Saturday at 8:30 AM at the Norway Grange, located at 15 Whitman St. in Norway where they serve 100+ people each week. One of their programs is HOG's (Healthy Outdoor Group) where they offer kayaking from June to September and hiking from October to May. They sponsor LEG's (Ladies Encouragement / Enrichment Group) on Mondays at 6:30 AM at the Square Restaurant in South Paris. They also sponsor AA meetings, NA meetings, grief support groups and worship services. FMI you can contact them at 207-744-2557, thetable160@gmail.com or [facebook.com/alwaysroomatthetable](https://www.facebook.com/alwaysroomatthetable). In addition, the Table is desperately looking for a new affordable space for their clothing store as they have to move everything twice a week to make room for their support meetings. If anyone knows of some space, please reach out to them.

Happy and Sad Dollars

Preb was happy that Christian Ridge Rd., where he lives, that used to be the worst road in Oxford County, has been repaved and beautiful. Cars are loving it and speeding certainly has increased.

Patty was happy to have AJ and Donna as guests and was happy to learn AJ was a woman, as she had seen many Facebook posts and just assumed that AJ was a man! She was also happy for her nephew, Jared Brunjes, who is getting married this weekend and that Curtis used to be his mentor when he was a student at Guy E. Rowe. (Ed. Note: John's wife, Shelley, used to take care of Nick and Jared when they were toddlers. I can remember Jared wanting to go in the truck with his father but his dad wouldn't let him until he was potty trained).

Curtis asked that members please try to bring a guest on October 8 when Heather Manchester will be our speaker. Let's have a good turn out and learn about the Middle school project that will be on the referendum on November 4.

Bob was happy to speak on the phone with Dan Allen and Dan said hello to everyone. Bob was also happy that David and Liz Knox's son bought his concrete maker.

50:50 – Tally drew Conner's number but Conner didn't draw the King of Clubs. The pot continues to grow. (No double meaning intended there).

Pun for the Week:

I once had a hen who could count her own eggs. She was quite a mathemachicken!

October Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Birthdays: Terry (Curtis) Cole – 10/26; President Jeff – 10/30.

Anniversaries: Curtis & Terry Cole – 40 yrs. – 10/6; Mike & Beth Abbott – 45 yrs. – 10/11

Membership Anniversaries: Conner Burnam – 3 yrs. – 10/5; Tina Fox – 9 yrs. – 10/19; Tally Decato – 32 yrs. – 10/20

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

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

www.lakeregionrotary.org

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

www.fryeburgrotary.org

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

www.rivervalleyrotaryclub.org

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

And just so you don't forget, there are 84 days until Christmas!