



**Rotary**

## The Oxford Hills Rotary Reader

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

**Wednesday, February 11, 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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### **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

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**Good Morning and Welcome!** Today is the 42nd day of 2026. There are 323 days remaining in the year. This morning, we have the February Students of the Month and their guests with us. Liz Knox is our 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 [buick663speed@yahoo.com](mailto:buick663speed@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 February is Peace and Conflict Resolution**

The path toward peace begins with understanding and respect for the differences that make us unique. These are the same types of values that are studied in the peace centers supported by Rotary International in association with several major universities across the globe. The mission of these centers is to “empower, educate, and increase the capacity of peacebuilders through rigorous academic training, practice, and global networking opportunities.” Through this experience, Rotary Peace Fellows build the skills needed to act as leaders and catalysts for peace and conflict resolution both in their communities and around the globe.

### *Calendar for February:*

18 – Conner Burnam and David Knox

25 – Mike Carter and John Griffith

### *Calendar for March:*

**2 – Board Meeting at Harper Conference Room, Ripley Building, 5:00 PM**

4 – Curtis Cole and Tina Fox

**9 – District Grants Training – Zoom at 6:00 PM.**

11 – March Students of the Month

18 – John Griffith and Mike Carter

25 – David Knox and Conner Burnam

### *Visiting Rotarian and Guests:*

We did not have any visiting Rotarians or guests last week.

### *Announcements:*

From President Jeff – we received a thank-you from Moose Maine Kids for our support of their fishing derby. We also received a thank-you from Christmas for Teens thanking us for our donation of 200 pillows.

Jeff has also talked with Dave Preble about our hosting a mini-Cornhole Tournament at the District Conference at the end of May. Dave has agreed to help out, so that is in the works.

The board approved two new prospective members proposed by Patty Rice.

We have a new brochure to hand out to prospective members or anyone we feel might be interested in learning more about what Rotary does.

Bob has put up a winter activities board to keep track of who is skiing, snowboarding and snowshoeing. There might be other activities as well. Not sure what the winner gets at the end of the season other than satisfaction!

Bob also sported a new pin on his shirt – “I’ve got the cheese.” Speaking of which, we still have cheese blocks left to sell.

Patty announced that we received scholarship requests from all eight of the students we selected, and those monies have been sent out to their respective schools. This is the second year in a row that we have given out all eight of them.

We will be selling Lobsters for Scholars tickets beginning in April with the drawing for same during our last meeting in May.

### Last week:

President Jeff led the Pledge and 4-Way Rest. Curtis Cole gave the blessing. After breakfast, Program Chair Beth Abbott introduced our own Rev. Mike Carter as guest speaker. Last Summer, Mike took the church youth group on a community service trip to Beal's Island where they were part of a larger group that helped people in need. Mike's group had five days to paint an elderly couple's home, replace two windows and repair the front steps and railing. They are making another trip this coming summer, also Down East, and we donated \$500 toward their expenses. Mike explained that in working with the youth, he asks them to consider who they are and the legacy they will leave behind and how the Rotary motto of "Service Above Self" fits in with what they are doing. Mike said the kids have worked at Pink Feather, taking photos and sorting clothing. They also shopped for Christmas for Kids. The work they are doing Down East is in conjunction with Maine Seacoast Mission in Cherryfield, Maine, a group founded in 1905. Their mission is to work together, share meals, promote health and support families. They have service learning trips from June through September. Mike said that their mission fits right into Rotary's mission – to help and be of service to others.

### 😊 Happy and Sad Dollars 😊

Dave P. had happy dollars for Patty and our new brochures.

Patty had sad dollars for George having an accident with his truck in front of the old Bessey's garage.

Bob said there was info on the proposed bus garage on the table in back by Stan for anyone seeking additional information.

**50/50 – Patty drew Stan's number but Stan drew the 5 of Diamonds. There was \$80 in the pot.**

### Funnies for the Week:

Did you hear about the truck loaded with Vicks Vapo Rub that overturned on the highway? Amazingly, there was no congestion for 8 hours.

Speaking of Vapo Rub, the inventor of the throat lozenge has died. There will be no coffin at his funeral.

## *February Birthdays and Anniversaries:*

**Birthdays:** Shelley Griffith (John) – 2/4; Ron Morse – 2/24

**Anniversaries:** None found

**Membership Anniversaries:** None found

### **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.