



**Rotary**

## The Oxford Hills Rotary Reader

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

**Wednesday, March 4, 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 63rd day of 2026. There are 302 days remaining in the year. This morning, Jen Kyllonen will be our guest speaker, giving us an update on the Pink Feather Foundation. Tina Fox was scheduled to be greeter, but she cannot attend this week. If someone would like to take over for her, that would be terrific.

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 March is Water, Sanitation and Hygiene**

We share our expertise and partner with communities to increase access to vital water, sanitation, and hygiene services and resources particularly in schools and healthcare facilities so that more communities and people can grow and thrive.

### *Calendar for March:*

**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**

### *Calendar for April:*

**1 – Liz Knox and Beth Abbott**

**6 – Board Meeting at the Ripley Building, 5:00 PM**

**8 – Students of the Month and Val Weston**

**15 – Dave Preble and Warren Spencer**

**22 – George Rice and Bob Schott**

### *Visiting Rotarian and Guests:*

The January Students of the Month and their guests were with us. We did not have any visiting Rotarians.

### *Rotary Moment:*

Greeter John Griffith talked about the Rotary International Themes of the Month and how they relate to the projects we do and the services we perform.

### *Announcements:*

*President Jeff* – participated in a conference call with the District folks concerning the District Conference in May. They definitely want us to put on a Cornhole Tournament from 3:00 PM to 5:30 PM. The cost to participate will be \$10 per person, \$5 will go to expenses and \$5 will go to Polio. The event will be at Pleasant Mountain with the tournament outside the pub area. If it is raining, they have space inside. We will not need to provide tents.

*Warren Spencer* told us that Stan had three stents implanted and hoped to be home today – now last Wednesday.

*Regarding the winter challenge,* it was noted that Jeff and Patty are tied at “zero.”

## Last Week:

President Jeff led the Pledge and 4-Way Test. Curtis Cole gave the blessing. After breakfast, Jeff turned the meeting over to Tina Fox who talked about the Student of the Month program. The write-ups for the students are on the back pages of the Reader.

## 😊 Happy and Sad Dollars 😊

**Tina** had happy dollars for the students and their parents. She was also pleased that the OHCHS girls' basketball team received a sportsmanship award.

**Bob** was happy that all four of his grandchildren joined him in a day of skiing last weekend and that they were going to do a repeat at Pleasant Mountain this coming weekend.

**Patty** had happy dollars for the Gold Medal winning Men's Hockey team at the winter Olympics.

**Curtis** was happy that Norway won the most medals and speculated about any connection between the country of Norway and Norway, Maine.

**Warren** wanted us to all know that he still has all his teeth despite his hockey playing career.

**50/50 – Daphne Noblin, one of our Students of the Month, drew Ron's number. Ron did not draw the King of Clubs from the deck. Not sure how much money was involved, but it will carry over to this week.**

## Pun for the Week:

Cowboys used to hang lanterns from their saddles at night. It's the first known example of Saddle Light Navigation.

## March Birthdays and Anniversaries:

**Birthdays:** Val Weston – 3/11; Tina Fox – 3/12; John Griffith – 3/21; David Knox – 3/24; Chris Weston – 3/25; Ann Marie Brett – 3/31; Emilie Helmer – 3/31

**Anniversaries:** None found

**Membership Anniversaries:** Bob Schott – 30 yrs. – 3/27

## **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.

## **February of the Month 2026**

**Empathetic, Compassionate and Kind: students who show kindness, understanding, and a willingness to give time or resources to those in need.**

9<sup>th</sup> Grade: Daphne Noblin

Nominating Staff: Michele Wood

Daphne shows she cares by being empathetic, compassionate, and kind in the small, everyday ways that really matter. Daphne starts each class with a cheerful good morning and ends with a thank you. She is always the first to congratulate others on their successes. Along with her kindness, Daphne is a strong academic student who takes pride in her work and sets a great example for others. One moment that stands out happened during tutorial when students received their grades for a class assignment. As students began comparing scores, one student was celebrating having the highest grade in the friend group. While this was happening, Daphne was genuinely happy for everyone around her and focused on celebrating her peers' success rather than comparing herself to others. Her reaction showed true kindness, empathy, and support, and it really highlighted the positive attitude she brings to the classroom every day.

10<sup>th</sup> Grade: Braylon Farrar

Nominating Staff: Katie Kenney, and Kate McCarthy

Braylon is always polite and kind. During lunch, he responsibly takes everything he needs to complete his meal, and even when he doesn't come through my line, he makes a point to say, "Have a nice day." Every day, he shows what a genuinely nice kid he is.

Braylon is the student who will say goodbye to the teacher at the end of class. He checks in to make sure he is following the assignment correctly. Always polite, Braylon is the person who will

offer to help a friend or teacher in need, whether it's holding a door open or clarifying an assignment. Braylon is a pleasure to have in class and an outstanding role model to his peers.

11<sup>th</sup> Grade: Nini Nguyen  
Nominating Staff: Charlee Noble

Nini moved to the US from Vietnam at the start of this school year. She has transitioned to OHCHS, and Maine, amazingly and with that has been such an incredible friend to others. Many students have told me how much they love their new friend Nini, and how kind, caring, and sweet she is. Her teachers rave about her kindness and support of others in the classroom. To move to a new country, ready to be a friend to everyone and anyone, shows Nini's unwavering compassion and empathy for others. Nini recently told me about how she has been mentoring another MLL student, who also moved here from Vietnam this year. This other student was very nervous when she first arrived, but Nini has supported her through this transition despite having done so herself only a couple of months prior to her friends move. She helped show her around to her classes, has helped her connect with others, with schoolwork, etc. Nini has also already obtained almost 50 hours of community service and has joined Interact Club!

12<sup>th</sup> Grade: Cody Parker  
Nominating Staff: Cindy Goddard

Cody was empathetic, compassionate and kind: he showed kindness, understanding, and a willingness to give time to help a classmate who needed help to be successfully. While out snowshoeing, Cody let another male student hold his arm while out walking on the trail to keep him steady while on the snow. He did this for two classes. Cody was willing to place this other students' needs before his own. He continues to show understanding and Kindness for others.