



Rotary

The Oxford Hills Rotary Reader

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

Wednesday, April 15, 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.”

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

Good Morning and Welcome! Today is the 105th day of 2026. There are 260 days remaining in the year. George Rice is program chair this morning and Warren Spencer is greeter. Warren said he could handle his temporary job as Sgt. at Arms as well as greeter. Thanks Warren.

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. 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 April is Maternal and Child Health!

Rotary makes high-quality health care available to vulnerable mothers and children so they can live longer and grow stronger.

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 April:

18 – Roadside Clean-up with Roberts Farm Preserve, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Meet at Roberts Farm Preserve.

22 – Dave Preble and **Bob Schott**

29 – Patty Rice and **Lynne Schott**

Calendar for May:

4 – Board Meeting at Harper Conference Center, 5:00 PM.

6 – Lynne Schott and **Patty Rice**

13 – May Students of the Month and **George Rice**

20 – Bob Schott and **Dave Preble**

27 – Top Students and **Ron Morse**

Visiting Rotarian and Guests:

Regina Wilson from Oxford Federal Credit Union was the guest of Patty Rice. We did not have any visiting Rotarians.

Rotary Moment:

Greeter Val Weston talked about International Service. The Bridgton-Lake Region Club has sponsored an individual for peace fellowship and will be attending the University of Queensland in Australia to study peace and conflict resolution. She also noted that there is an on-line course, Rotary Positive Peace Academy, that is available to anyone interested.

Announcements:

President Jeff asked how many of us went to the Bethel Country breakfast and assumed those who went had a good time. I believe there were nine members who went.

Jeff also reminded us of the Opportunity Workshop on Saturday, the 12th, and that if anyone is interested in attending with him, let him know so you can carpool.

And lastly, don't forget the Roadside Clean-up with Roberts Farm Preserve on Saturday, the 18th. Meet at the Preserve at 8:00 AM.

Last Week:

President Jeff led us in the Pledge and 4-Way Test. Mike Carter gave the blessing. After breakfast, Jeff turned the program over to Tina Fox and the Students of the Month. The student write-ups are on the last pages of the Reader.

😊 Happy and Sad Dollars 😊

Mike Carter told us he will miss the next two weekly meetings because he will be in Greece chaperoning the high school students. He said that 38 people are going and he will be happy to not be in charge this time.

Patty Rice had happy dollars for the students and thanked Regina for coming as her guest. OFCU sponsored the student pictures and write-ups in the Advertiser for many years. She also announced that Austin Associates has donated \$100.00 to May Day Play Day.

Dave Preble told us he will be in Florida next week. He and Becky are flying to Miami, renting a car and will be driving to the Keys, something he has wanted to do for some time.

Tina Fox was happy for Easter with her family. There were 22 in attendance.

Curtis Cole was happy he and Terry spent Easter at his son's home in Falmouth.

Bob Schott had happy dollars for spending time with his grandsons.

50/50 – One of our students, Asher, drew Val's number but Val didn't draw the King of Clubs from the deck. There was \$153.00 in the pot.

Puns for the Week:

Rotarians never quit – and neither do our puns!

Why do Rotarians love puns? They're well-aged.

April Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Birthdays: George Rice – 4/12; Tally Decato – 4/20; Beth Abbott – 4/24; Mike (Beth) Abbott – 4/26

Anniversaries: Jeff & Dean Noblin – 25 yrs. – 4/21

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

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.

April of the Month 2026

Creative and Critical Problem Solver who respects his/her peers along the way: Students who can think outside the box to figure out solutions to problems all the while demonstrating consideration for others.

9th Grade: Kayleb Smith
Nominating Staff: Heidi Bigelow

Kayleb takes initiative and works through obstacles without getting frustrated. He comes up with creative solutions when he encounters problems and works through them. When he was building his model farm, he very calmly worked through the challenges and created new structures to help solve his problem.

10th Grade: TJ Cushman
Nominating Staff: Doug Duquay

TJ Cushman was selected as Student of the Month for Respect in recognition of the positive example he sets every day. His kindness, responsibility, and willingness to engage in learning make a meaningful impact on our classroom community. TJ's character and work ethic truly reflect the values this recognition celebrates. He consistently demonstrates consideration for others, completes his work independently, and isn't afraid to ask thoughtful questions. He is a pleasure to have in class and serves as an outstanding role model for his peers—a truly great young man.

11th Grade: Asher Roy
Nominating Staff: Katie Kenney & Tina Fox

Always polite and kind when he comes through my line. Always smiling and seems like he's a good friend. He is a real joy to have in the cafeteria during lunch.

Tina Says:

Asher has been selected as Student of the Month for April in recognition of his respect and consideration for others. A dedicated member of Interact Club since his freshman year, he is also a committed three-season student-athlete who still finds time to give back through community service. Asher's positive personality makes him a joy to work with, and he continues to put in the effort to be a strong and supportive member of the classroom. His experiences and dedication are helping build a foundation for continued success beyond high school.

12th Grade: Mackenzie Henderson
Nominating Staff: Shellie Leger

Mackenzie has been selected as Student of the Month for April for consistently demonstrating consideration for others. She is always on task and works diligently to make up any work missed due to illness, producing thoughtful and high-quality work. During her time away from school, Mackenzie reached out numerous times to stay up to date and keep her teacher informed, showing responsibility, initiative, and dedication to her learning. She consistently goes above and beyond in both her attitude and effort. She approaches challenges with a positive mindset and shows genuine respect for her classmates and teachers. Her perseverance, strong communication, and commitment to doing her best make her a valued member of the classroom community and a wonderful example for others to follow.