



Rotary

The Oxford Hills Rotary Reader

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

Wednesday, May 20, 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 140th day of 2026. There are 225 days remaining in the year. This morning, Bob Schott is program chair and Dave Preble 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. 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 May is Youth Service

Rotary believes in developing the next generation of leaders. Our programs help younger leaders build leadership skills, expand education and learn the value of service.

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

RYLA is a leadership development program for young people who want to learn new skills, build their confidence, and have fun. Events range from one-day seminars to weeklong camps.

Calendar for May:

20 – Bob Schott and Dave Preble

27 – Warren Spencer and Ron Morse

29 – 31 – District Celebration – Bridgton area

Calendar for June:

3 – Top Students and Liz Knox

10 – Val Weston and David Knox

17 – Beth Abbott and Rob Gunter

24 – Changeover and John Griffith

Visiting Rotarian and Guests:

The May Students of the Month and their guests were our visitors. We did not have any visiting Rotarians.

Rotary Moment:

Greeter Val Weston talked about an article in Rotary magazine about the on-going fight against polio. She recalled how things were before the Salk vaccine came out and how fearful parents were during the summer when polio seemed to be more prevalent. She also remembered how excited everyone was when the polio vaccine came out and how in the schools, students lined up to get their polio shots. She said she was proud and pleased to be part of Rotary's effort to eradicate polio.

Announcements:

President Jeff – it's not too late to sign up for the District Conference, May 29-30. You can register on-line. The Cornhole tournament for Saturday afternoon the 30th is on track. We need to round up some more boards and prizes.

May Day Play Day and Touch-a-Truck are in the history book for this year. From personal observation, it looked to me like a rousing success, perhaps the largest yet since we joined with Community Concepts and Touch-a Truck. We served over 600 hotdogs with a line forming for them from 11:00 AM on. Tina and Beth will probably have more to report this morning.

As I write this, the Road Toll for the OHCHS Chorale's trip to New York City and Carnegie Hall is also in the history book. Thanks to Bob for setting it in motion and to John, Conner, Jeff, Curtis and Sarah Glynn for helping. I'm sure Bob and/or Jeff will have more information this morning.

Dave P. reported that the new pricing for Lobsters for Scholars appears to be working well with several people opting to go for the three tickets for \$100. He reported that he had 18 tickets left to hand out but that does not know how many unsold tickets remain in member's hands. If you have tickets you haven't sold or don't think you will, please get them back to Dave so someone else can try to sell them.

Beth announced that we need a few members to help the Legion put flags on Veteran's graves for Memorial Day sometime this week. This is a project we agreed to help with last year. If you want to volunteer, please contact Beth directly so she can arrange to get in touch with Gilbert Turner to arrange a day, time and cemetery for members to help.

Last Week:

President Jeff led us in the Pledge and 4-Way Test. Curtis gave the invocation. After breakfast, President Jeff turned the program over to Tina Fox who introduced the Student of the Month program. I will include the student write-ups next week.

😊 Happy and Sad Dollars 😊

Curtis talked with former member Dan Allen recently. He also reported that past members Peter and Becky Kaurup are hosting at three different camp grounds in Virginia this summer.

Beth had happy dollars for Tina and thanked her for all she does for the Student of the Month program.

Bob had happy dollars for the Students and reminded us that we are doing a Road Toll fund raiser for the Chorale's trip to Carnegie Hall.

50/50 – Beth drew Tina's number, but Tina drew the 9 of Diamonds. There was \$186 in the pot.

For the nothing to do with Rotary but I found this interesting and hope you do too:

Prior to 1937, customers doing their grocery shopping carried baskets to put their purchases in. These often became heavy and limited the amount of groceries a customer could purchase. One of the first shopping carts was introduced on June 4, 1937, the invention of Sylvan Goldman, owner of the Humpty Dumpty supermarket chain in Oklahoma. One night, in 1936, Goldman sat in his office wondering how customers might move more groceries. He found a wooden folding chair and put a basket on the seat and

wheels on the legs. Goldman and one of his employees, a mechanic named Fred Young, began tinkering. Their first shopping cart was a metal frame that held two wire baskets. Since they were inspired by the folding chair, Goldman called his carts "folding basket carriers". Another mechanic, Arthur Kosted, developed a method to mass-produce the carts by inventing an assembly line capable of forming and welding the wire. The cart was awarded patent number 2,196,914 on April 9, 1940 (Filing date: March 14, 1938), titled, "Folding Basket Carriage for Self-Service Stores". They advertised the invention as part of a new "No Basket Carrying Plan". Goldman had already pioneered self-serve stores and carts were part of the self-serve retail concept.

The invention did not catch on immediately. Men found them effeminate; women found them suggestive of a baby carriage. "I've pushed my last baby," an offended woman informed Goldman. After Goldman hired several male and female models to push his new invention around his store and demonstrate their utility, as well as greeters to explain their use, shopping carts became extremely popular and Goldman became a multimillionaire.

May Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Birthdays: Patty Rice – 5/9; Susan (Warren) Spencer – 5/29

Anniversaries: Frank & Connie Shorey – 62 years – 5/23

Membership Anniversaries: Lynne Schott – 22 yrs. – 5/5; Liz Knox – 8 yrs. – 5/9; Mike Carter – 3 yrs. – 5/10

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.