



Rotary

The Oxford Hills Rotary Reader

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

Wednesday, May 21, 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."

2024-2025 Officers:

Rotary International President: Stephanie A. Urchick, Rotary Club of McMurray, Pennsylvania - District 7780
Governor: Robert McKenzie, Rotary Club of Kennebunk, ME – Oxford Hills Rotary President – Beth Abbott
– President-Elect: Jeff Noblin – Vice-president: Conner Burnam - Treasurer: Liz Knox – Secretary: John Griffith – Sgt. At Arms: Stan Brett – Past President: Beth Abbott – Club Service Chair: Bob Schott – Vocational Service Chair: Jeff Noblin - Community Service Chair: Beth Abbott - International Service Chair: Val Weston – Youth Service Chair and Interact Advisor: Tina Fox

Home Club of PDG George Rice

Good Morning and Welcome! Today is the 141st day of 2025. There are 224 days remaining in the year. Tally Decato is program chair this morning and Patty Rice is 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 207-461-7158 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.

Calendar for May:

5/21 – Top Students and Jeff Noblin

5/28 – John Griffith and Ron Morse

5/29 – Bridgton-Lake Region Special Event with Mike McGovern, 5:00 PM – 7:00PM

5/30 – Kennebunk Rotary Club 100th Anniversary Celebration

Calendar for June:

6/2 – Board Meeting at South Paris Town Office, 5:00 PM

6/4 – Club Assembly

6/6 – Senior Picnic, 9:00 – 1:00

6/11 – David Knox and David Knox

6/18 – Liz Knox and John Griffith

6/25 – Changeover and Tina Fox

Visiting Rotarians and Guests:

Our visiting Rotarians were Dan Hart and Bruce Powell from the Bethel Club. Our other guests were the May Students of the Month and their parents.

Rotary Moment:

We did not have a Rotary Moment.

Announcements:

Our announcements centered on getting ready for May Day Play Day on Saturday, the 17th. Tina told us that 30 kids had signed up to help which is a tremendous help to us. We also have 800 hot dogs that have apparently been donated and Poland Spring has once again donated water.

Someone pointed out that Bruce Powell didn't know who he was as he had one member's badge on and another member's coffee mug!

PP George presented Conner Burnam with a sticker for his badge for reaching the \$100.00 EREY goal. George also announced that we still have lobster tickets to sell for the Lobsters for Scholars drawing on May 28th. We also have several members who are planning to attend the River Valley Club's 100th Anniversary celebration.

Last Week:

President Beth led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and the 4-Way Test. Mike Carter gave the blessing. After announcements and breakfast, Beth turned the program over to Youth Services Director Tina Fox who introduced the Student of the Month program. For the benefit of the students and parents, she talked about how the program came about, the monthly themes and how the students are nominated and chosen. Their write-ups are on the last pages of the Reader.

Funnies for the week:

Wife: “When I drive my car, it makes a thumping noise and is hard to steer.”

Husband: “You need to change a tire.”

Wife: “Ok, I’ll go put on a dress but I don’t know how that will help.”

“I was sitting around drinking coffee in my slippers when I suddenly realized I needed to clean a few cups around here.”

😊Happy and Sad Dollars 😊

We ran out of time so no Happy Dollars last week.

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

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

May Anniversaries: Dan & Nancy Allen – 5/21; Frank & Connie Shorey – 5/23

May Membership Anniversaries: Lynne Schott – 21 yrs. – 5/5; Liz Knox – 7 yrs. – 5/9; Mike Carter – 2 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.

May Student of the Month - 2025

E -Empathetic, Compassionate and Kind: students who are willing to do what's right despite any unpleasant consequences that may follow

9th Grade: Elja Partridge

Nominating Staff: Laura Shible

I am proud to recognize Elja for her exceptional ability to think creatively and critically when solving problems. Elja consistently demonstrates a talent for approaching challenges from unique perspectives and finding innovative solutions. She is not only intellectually curious but also resourceful in applying what she's learned to real-world scenarios.

Beyond her academic strengths, Elja stands out as a compassionate and dependable peer. She is always willing to lend a hand—whether it's by offering encouraging words, patiently explaining complex concepts to classmates, or stepping in to remind others of the importance of kindness and respect. Her leadership through empathy and thoughtfulness enriches our classroom community every day.

10th Grade: Ryder Dougherty
Nominating Staff: Sue LeBlond

Ryder consistently brings a positive attitude to class and is always willing to support his peers. He brings kindness, empathy and leadership in the classroom. His thoughtfulness and quiet leadership make him a standout student, and I believe he truly deserves to be recognized. Ryder showed great empathy today by reaching out to a classmate who was having a tough time in math. I watched as he struck up a conversation, and before long, his classmate was smiling—despite the rough day. His kindness helped turn things around, creating a more positive experience and strengthening the group dynamic.

11th Grade: Declan Porter
Nominating Staff: Chris Stoechner

I chose Declan for his outstanding problem-solving skills, generosity, and dedication to both his peers and school community. Declan shows what it means to be a creative and critical thinker—consistently approaching challenges with practical insight, innovation, and a strong sense of responsibility.

Whether he's helping a fellow student understand a difficult concept or guiding a classmate through a challenging assignment, Declan is always ready to lend a hand. He doesn't wait to be asked—he sees where support is needed and steps in without hesitation. His commitment to improvement is evident not only in his own academic journey, where he strives daily to be better, but also in the way he encourages and uplifts those around him.

Most notably, Declan recently took the initiative to repair a broken desk by welding it back together, using his time and skills to help the school save money and resources. This act of service reflects his character—resourceful, selfless, and community-minded.

Declan's actions and mindset make him a true role model, and we are proud to honor him this month.

12th Grade: Yuric Tripp
Nominating Staff: Louis Reycroft

I nominated Yuric because he is thoughtful, detail-oriented, and creative problem-solving skills. Yuric approaches each task with care and diligence, ensuring that no aspect of a challenge is overlooked. Whether it's through class discussions or written assignments, Yuric's work reflects a strong ability to think critically and express ideas clearly and effectively.

In a recent study that required a different approach than usual, Yuric adapted seamlessly maintaining the same high level of attention to detail and thoughtful analysis that he brings to all his work. His ability to stay focused and engaged, even when faced with unfamiliar formats or expectations, speaks to his resilience and intellectual flexibility.

