



## The Oxford Hills Rotary Reader

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

**Wednesday, September 10, 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."

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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

### Home Club of PDG George Rice

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**Good Morning and Welcome!** Today is the 253rd day of 2025. There are 112 days remaining in the year. Our guest speaker this morning is DG Emma Bodwell. PDG George Rice 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 [griffs2@roadrunner.com](mailto: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.

### The Rotary Theme for the Month of September is Basic Education and Literacy

"When you teach somebody how to read, they have that for a lifetime. It ripples through the community, one by one."

**Mark Wilson**  
Rotary Club member

### *Calendar for September:*

9/10 – District Governor Emma Bodwell and George Rice

9/17 – Curtis Cole and Dave Preble

9/24 – Mike Carter and Ron Morse. Mike's guest speaker is from The Table.

### *Calendar for October:*

10/1 – Tina Fox and Liz Knox

10/6 – Board Meeting

10/8 – David Knox and David Knox

10/15 – Liz Knox and John Griffith

### *Visiting Rotarians and Guests:*

PDG Dick Hall from Portland, Carol Madsen from Bridgton-Lake Region, Joanne Landry from Saco Bay, Ariel Jersey from the Philippines via Zoom and Bob and Lois Wilgosz from Estero, Florida were our visiting Rotarians.

### *Rotary Moment:*

Greeter Patty Rice read an article from the *Rotary* magazine about Rotary's clear call to strengthen education throughout the world and unite for good.

### *Announcements:*

We did not have any particular announcements. However, we do have a board meeting this coming Monday, September 8 at the Ripley Medical building. Go in the main door, down the stairs and the meeting room is on the right.

### *Last Week:*

In the absence of President Jeff, PE Conner Burnam led us in the Pledge, 4-Way Test. Curtis gave the blessing and Patty did the table order.

PDG Dick Hall, Carol Madsen and Joanne Landry presented a program on the Rotary trip to the Philippines last spring. Dick introduced himself as the team leader and engineer, Carol as the communicator and Joanne as the dancing queen. Dick said it took 38 hours of travel time from Portland via Boston, Dubai and finally, Luzon in the Philippines. Luzon Island is home to 64,000,000 people and is only 1/3 larger than Maine. The average annual monthly wage is \$480.00. The first few days were filled with lots of entertainment and food. The team found out that the Rotary Clubs there do not have fund raisers. All their projects are self-funded as Rotarians there are the ones with good jobs and incomes. Their club meetings are not time constrained

and can last up to 3 hours. The host club there is always working on projects for potable water, sanitation, food insecurity and music! Dick's Portland club is currently helping with the establishment of a library. Public image is big in the Philippines with Rotary signs everywhere. Ariel Jersey also spoke of a project he is working on which is to upgrade a Rotary Training Center for automotive repair, welding and the leisure industry as those areas are where the good paying jobs are. All in all, it was a very informative and interesting presentation.

### Happy and Sad Dollars

Carol Madsen had a happy \$5 for being with us. She also had information on the Bridgton club's golf tournament on September 13 if anyone is interested.

Patty had happy dollars for Dick, Carol and Joanne for all the work they do behind the scenes.

Conner was happy to see Rotary's image so prevalent in the Philippines.

Bob was happy that Emma Bodwell is coming next week and is then going down the river.

50/50 – Val drew John's number but John drew the 9 of Hearts. No go! There was \$95 in the pot.

### Puns for the Week:

I can cut a piece of wood in half just by looking at it. You might not believe me, but I saw it with my own eyes.

I ordered liver and onions from door dash but they only brought the onions. I guess that's because I asked for it to be de-livered.

### September Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Birthdays: Jo Carter – 9/3

Anniversaries: Stan & Ann Marie Brett – 39 yrs. – 9/20; Chris & Val Weston – 25 yrs. – 9/23

Membership Anniversaries: Beth Abbott – 23 yrs. – 9/11; Jeff Noblin – 24 yrs. – 9/11; Patty Rice – 33 yrs. – 9/23

## **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.