



The Oxford Hills Rotary Reader

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

The Rotary Club of Oxford Hills

PO Box 14

Norway, ME 04268

Rotary Theme for 2026-2027:

"Create Lasting Impact"

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."

2026-2027 Officers:

Rotary International President: Olayinka Hakeem Babalola, Rotary Club of Trans Amadi, Nigeria - District 7780 Governor: Michele Bois-Gilbody, Rotary Club of Freeport. Oxford Hills Rotary President – Conner Burnam – President-Elect: Bob Schott – Vice-president: Vacant - Treasurer: Liz Knox – Secretary: John Griffith – Sgt. At Arms: Stan Brett – Past President: Jeff Noblin – 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 259th day of 2026. There are 106 days remaining in the year. Dave Preble is program chair. His guest speaker is Fred Wilk who will be talking about his mountain climbing adventures. Liz Knox 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 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:

19 – Bridgton-Lake Region Golf Tournament

23 – Patty Rice and Dave Preble. Patty's guest speaker is Ally Genovese, Volunteer Coordinator for Seniors Plus.

23 – Charitable Foundation quarterly meeting, 8:45 AM

30 – Bob Schott and David Knox. Bob's guest speaker is SAD 17 Assistant Superintendent, Amy Marx.

Calendar for October:

7 – Club Assembly and Rob Gunter

14 – District Governor visit and John Griffith

21 – Lynne Schott and Curtis Cole

28 – Warren Spencer and Mike Carter

Visiting Rotarians and Guests:

DGE Michele Varuolo Cole from the Bethel Club was our visiting Rotarian. Our visitors were past members Dan Allen and Lois Wilgosz and Lois's husband, Bob.

Rotary Moment:

Greeter Jeff Noblin told a story about some circus elephants who were tied with a very small rope instead of chains. Their trainer told how they were tied at a very young age and came to believe that the rope would hold them back no matter how large and strong they became. They were conditioned to the rope and believed they couldn't escape. That is the failure part of learning. We need to overcome what we perceive we can't.

Announcements:

Department of Corrections – we don't have any cheese left to sell. We donated what was left to the Harrison Food Bank. My bad!

There were no announcements last week.

Last Week:

President Conner lead us in the Pledge and 4-Way Test. Donnie Foster gave the invocation. After breakfast, George Rice introduced his guest speaker, Jared Mulliner, from Maine Energy Systems. He first talked about the history of wood and pellet stoves, the positives and the negatives. Maine Energy Systems builds

and installs pellet burners in Bethel for use in residential and commercial properties. These burners are fully automated and work just like any other burner or boiler central heating system. They reduce carbon emissions and provide a more uniform heat. Rebates are available to help offset the cost of installation.

😊 Happy and Sad Dollars 😊

Bob took his grandkids down the river and afterwards, his 8-year-old grandson gave him a big hug, which is not something he usually does.

Lois Wilgosz had happy to be back dollars. She and Bob have moved to senior housing in Naples, Florida. They have their own unit, but they get house cleaning once a week and they don't have to cook.

Lois said she is living in bliss!

Bob Wilgosz was happy not to have been in the hospital for the last 10 months as the prior 12 months, he was in the hospital 9 times. We're glad you are doing better, Bob!

DGE Michele Cole was happy to be here with us.

Lynne had a warning dollar – do not try to make butter frosting when you have a cold.

John was happy to wish his son, Daniel, a happy 47th birthday, born 9/9/79.

50/50 – Our guest speaker, Jared Mulliner, drew John's number but he did not draw the King of Clubs. Didn't catch how much was in the pot.

Funnies for the week:

My doctor said I should watch my alcohol intake, so now I drink in front of a mirror!

If you want to lose a few pounds, I recommend the Dolly Parton diet. My friend Joe used it and it made Joe lean, Joe lean, Joe lean.

September Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Birthdays: Jo (Mike) Carter – 9/3

Anniversaries: Stan & Ann Marie Brett – 40 yrs. – 9/20; Chris and Val Weston – 26 yrs. – 9/23

Membership Anniversaries: Beth Abbott – 24 yrs. – 9/11; Jeff Noblin – 25 yrs. – 9/11; Patty Rice – 34 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

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.