



## The Oxford Hills Rotary Reader

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

**Wednesday, September 17, 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

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### Home Club of PDG George Rice

**Good Morning and Welcome!** Today is the 260th day of 2025. There are 105 days remaining in the year. Curtis Cole is program chair this morning. His guest speaker is SAD 17 Superintendent, Heather Manchester. 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 [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:*

9/24 – 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

10/22 – Ron Morse and Tina Fox

10/29 – Dave Preble and Tally Decato

### *Visiting Rotarians and Guests:*

Bob Laux, Dan Hart and Bruce Powell from the Bethel club were our visiting Rotarians. There were no other visitors.

### *Rotary Moment:*

Greeter George Rice updated us on Polio. Polio Plus started in 1985 and was expanded in 1988. Since then the number of polio cases has dropped by 99.9%. Rotary has helped to raise \$2.9 billion dollars and has vaccinated 3 billion kids. Rotary is now looking to fund Polio Plus with \$50 million annually. World Polio Day is October 24<sup>th</sup>.

### *Announcements:*

President Jeff thanked PE Conner for leading the meeting last week. He also thanked Warren and Dave for representing Stephen's Hospital at a recent golf tournament.

The board approved the purchase of a new computer for the club which will make using Zoom and the OWL easier. The computer we have now just doesn't do the job.

There was a meeting at the VFW last Thursday about collecting the flags on Veteran's graves for the winter. Liz was going to attend so I am sure she will have an update this week. This is something we can help with.

It's time for the Dictionary Project. Tina is going to get John the enrollment numbers for the classes and he will order the dictionaries as soon as he gets those figures. We would like to complete this project by the end of October.

We have a lot of tents to set – one in Moore Park for the Recovery Rally and three on October 4<sup>th</sup>. Stan will give more details on time and place for these.

It's also getting close to Cheese! We would like to pre-sell as many as we can so we can have a more accurate count and not be selling cheese into spring next year.

President Jeff presented perfect attendance awards to Liz Knox, 7 years; Ron Morse, 12 years; Curtis Cole, 19 years and Frank Shorey (who was on Zoom) for 41 years.

### *Last Week:*

President Jeff led us in the Pledge and 4-Way Test. Curtis Cole gave the blessing. After breakfast, he introduced DG Emma Bodwell for her official visit to the Club.

Emma began by thanking Jeff and the Club for hosting her. She then opened her presentation on "Sparks," ideas to help clubs grow.

1. Unite for Good
2. The Power of Rotary
3. Rotary is Family
4. The Stories We Tell
5. Engagement Tracker
6. District Governor Fund
7. Membership Matters
8. The Power of Belonging
9. Fun
10. Unite Together

I don't have room to write everything she said about each of these "sparks" but I'm sure if you contact her, she will share them with you.

### *Happy and Sad Dollars*

Postponed until this week

*50/50 – Patty drew Stan's number so she held the cards while he drew a card. Unfortunately, it was the 7 of spades. There was \$104.00 in the pot.*

### **Quote for the Week:**

“There are two kinds of people in this world. Avoid both of them.”

Arthur Schopenhauer (1788-1860) – German Philosopher

### **Pun for the Week:**

I saw a one-legged man at the ATM. He was checking his balance.

### **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.