

RUM RIDGE ASSOCIATION A MAINE WOODS COMMUNITY





## Rum Ridge President's Message April 27, 2025

The snow is rapidly receding, and we expect that within a week, most of the remaining snow will be history. Our snow plowing contractor, Mason Lee, did an excellent job keeping the roads plowed and sanded. The winter was mostly uneventful, with very few power outages and only 3 driving mishaps involving vehicles going off the roads.

**Roads-** The roads are currently in excellent condition due to our ongoing maintenance program. When potholes appear, or culverts require cleaning or replacement, the problems are corrected before they worsen. Recently, we added 3 loads of shale to problem areas on the K.I. Rd. hill as well as 3 additional loads on Rum Ridge Rd. From May through October last year, Bill Casey added 16 loads of gravel to the roads, kept them graded on a regular basis and corrected minor problems as they occurred. During the past year Jim Smith has replaced 3 failed culverts and keeps the roads maintained during Mud Season.

**Tree Removals**- During the past several months, we have removed approximately 40 dead/dying trees along Rum Ridge Rd. due to safety concerns for walkers, vehicles, and power lines.

**Docks**- We expect Ice-Out to occur sometime during the 1<sup>st</sup> week of May, and plan to put the docks in on the weekend of <u>May 17, at 8am</u>. Young volunteers (under 65) are encouraged to attend this event offering a couple of hours of assistance.

**Trails**- Harry Tideswell will need some assistance inspecting, marking and clearing the hiking trails for the summer and fall season.

**Reserve Fund-** As discussed at last year's annual meeting, some of the savings realized from the new plowing contract were to be added to our savings. In January, Debbi Webber, our Treasurer, added \$5,000 to our C.D. We now have \$20,513, as of January, with a 3.75% interest rate.

**Board Meeting-** On <u>May 18th</u>, the board will meet at the Hopkins residence, 13 Crows Corner Rd. @ 9am. and everyone is welcome to attend. Coffee and etc. will be available. The purpose of the meeting is to establish the agenda and proposed budget for the annual meeting. This must be sent to all property owners 30 days before the July 26 annual meeting.

Beyond the agenda and budget, I propose we discuss:

- a possible extension of the snow plowing contract for an additional 3 years,
- suggestions for additional road improvement projects and
- culvert replacements, etc.

**Annual Association Workday**- Mark your calendar for <u>October 11, 2025</u> at 8am. with coffee and lunch provided. The various assignments volunteers tackle keep your Association looking good and reduce maintenance costs. Your suggestions on projects are always welcome.

**Annual Association Meeting**- <u>July 26, 2025</u> is the date of this year's "all lot owner" meeting followed by a family picnic at the pavilion. All Association business for the year is discussed including electing Board members. Anyone interested should submit their name prior to voting. There are 7 positions serving 3 year terms so 2 or 3 expire each year. We are very fortunate to have a history of very professional members over many years.

Hope to see a good turnout for all of our activities.

Best wishes.

Rum Ridge Board of Directors

**Blaine Hopkins**