

**OMAHA MORNING ROTARY CLUB**  
111 South 197<sup>th</sup> Street  
Elkhorn, Nebraska 68022



June 9th, 2020

Omaha Morning Rotarians,

Thank you for being a member of the Omaha Morning Rotary Club! The past few months have been without precedent due to the Covid-19 pandemic and we have had to make many changes to adapt to an uncertain environment. We were unable to hold our Spring Fundraiser for Abide Omaha and our meetings went virtual on Zoom as regular attendance requirements were suspended. Many of you have been attending our weekly Zoom meetings and found them to be a great way to stay connected! We have had some great speakers with topics relevant to the current situation. These previous meetings are available for you to watch if you missed them on our Omaha Morning Rotary Facebook page.

While we unable to hold our Spring Fundraiser at the end of March, Abide Omaha let us know of the great need to help with food insecurity due to the economic shutdown. We acted quickly and made an upfront donation of \$25k from our Omaha Morning Rotary Foundation to Abide Omaha to purchase food for their weekly Monday afternoon food pick-ups. This \$25k was based on what our estimated contribution would have been over the next 2 years to Abide Omaha. Club members have also volunteered their time and helped give food and water during the afternoon food pick-ups while practicing social distancing. We will continue to volunteer on the first Monday of the month in the afternoons for the next few months unless conditions improve and Abide no longer needs us. Thank you to everyone that has volunteered. We understand that this a personal choice based on your own risk profile.

I would like to thank President Mike Murphy for his leadership over the past year and last few months as we have managed through these changes and of course Leigh for everything that she has done to keep our Club running smoothly.

If you haven't noticed we have three new members in our Rotary Club, Doug Morris, Manager at McFarlin & Brokke, PC, sponsored by Mike McFarlin, my son Alex Rapp, Digital Lead at Gateway Auto and website developer/entrepreneur at Rapp Creative, and Triston Zachary, Sales Manager, True Grit/Airlite Plastics both sponsored by myself. These 3 new members are our Class of 2020. Our goal for 2019-20 was 5, but the Covid-19 pandemic has slowed our recruiting efforts. Please make sure to say hello and welcome them to Rotary when you see them.

I am writing this letter as your Omaha Rotary Club incoming President beginning July 1st, 2020 - June 30th, 2021 to let you know about my vision for the next year. Every member of our Rotary Club is important in helping contribute to this success!

Membership is key to helping our Omaha Morning Rotary Club grow and serve. I would like to grow our membership in the next year by a minimum of 5 new members and up to 10 if possible. Our Club membership stands at 34. Historically, our Club membership has been closer to 50 members. This is a doable goal, but everyone will need to help. Please recruit to replace yourself if possible or someone that you know would be a good member. If we work together, we can grow our Club to achieve great things and continue to be a force of good in the community and our world.

Dynamic and relevant speakers are also important to our weekly meetings. Over the next the year you

can rest assured that we will have interesting speakers for our meetings on various topics of interest. In 1988-89 I served as Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar from our Rotary District 5650 Nebraska/Iowa to

Rotary District 1020, Edinburgh, Scotland at the University of Edinburgh Law School, and my host was the Currie Balerno Rotary Club. I have reached out to the Currie Balerno Rotary Club to share news and projects throughout the year with us on Facebook and we will be able to do the same. With the availability of Zoom we will have speakers and guests not just locally, but internationally as well.

I also hope to be able to continue President Mike Murphy's Speaker Series by hosting a fall and spring speaker of interest for the community. This may not be possible for this fall, but hopefully in the spring.

We also plan on putting on a Fundraiser to help replenish the funds from our Omaha Morning Rotary Club Foundation since we were unable to hold our Fundraiser this spring. Options for the Fundraiser include holding the event at the new Top Golf venue.

I have also submitted a \$1,000 Rotary District Grant for a project for the Club to help with The Colina Neighborhood Garden located at 2803 N 19th Avenue for 2020-21. This is a community garden project with partners including Kinghorn Gardens and the City of Omaha. \$500 would come from our Rotary Club with a 100% match of \$500 from the Rotary District. The grant has been given preliminary approval at the district level and I am just waiting for the final approval from District Committee and Rotary International. I was unable to write a grant for Abide Omaha since it is an ongoing project that we have already given a donation.

We also plan to continue the monthly "Business After Hours" when conditions allow for us to do this.

I would also like our members to utilize social media such as our Facebook page and Twitter to help stay in contact and keep informed of our activities. Our Club Runner app is an easy way to stay in touch with all members. Please download the Club Runner app to your phone if possible.

Every member should also have created an account at the rotary.org website and be familiar with the Rotary District 5650 website - [rotarydistrict5650.org](http://rotarydistrict5650.org) and our own [omahamorningrotary.org](http://omahamorningrotary.org) website.

Over the years the members of our Omaha Morning Rotary Club have been very generous and made contributions to the Rotary International and Omaha Morning Rotary Foundation. While members have the option of making a tax-deductible contribution at any time to either of these 501(c)(3)'s, sometimes the easiest way to make contributions is through an ongoing contribution. In the past this has been called "Every Rotarian Every Year". Unfortunately, we have fallen behind in this annual giving. To help reach this annual goal, an easy way for everyone to participate is to simply direct your annual birthday monies contribution to the Club to be split 50% to the Rotary International Foundation and 50% to the Omaha Morning Rotary Foundation in your name. This will allow you to itemize your contributions and take a tax deduction. We will take care of this for you on your birthday. All you do is write a check to the Club.

We will still have weekly trivia fines, and good news dollars to celebrate our success and help benefit the Club.

I would also like to introduce Yolanda Hoffman as our new Executive Director effective July 1st! She comes to us with many years of experience. She was in Health IT before starting her own small business SoftWorld LLC. SoftWorld is focused on eCommerce Solutions. Yolanda has been a Rotarian for 11 years and was a Rotaractor for 10 years prior to becoming a Rotarian. She also has the experience of being the Executive Director for the Lincoln #14 Downtown Rotary Club. Leigh, thank you so much for your years of service and we wish you the best!! We will miss you!!!

Now let me review the dues for the upcoming 2020-21 to be a member of the Omaha Morning Rotary Club which includes Rotary District 5650 and Rotary International. There are no increases in dues this year.

Annual Dues - \$365 for renewing members except for our 3 newest members who will pay ½ of the dues \$182.50 under the special dues structure for two years. Where does your \$365 go?

\*\$84 per member Rotary International which includes \$12 for the monthly Rotarian magazine

\*\$35 per member to Rotary District 5650

\*\$246 per member to Omaha Morning Rotary Club to help pay for Executive Director and administrative fees.

Your annual dues also include the opportunity to market your business with your logo on our Rotary Club Runner website on a quarterly basis. This is a change from previous years as we were charging for this service.

The price tag of \$1.00 per day is a reminder of the value of Rotary and what we collectively do together makes a difference. For \$1.00 per day, you make a difference in your community, meet great people, listen, and interact with great speakers and help expand the mission of Rotary around the world. As Rotarians we are committed to the principal of “Service Above Self”.

Remember the Four Way Test –

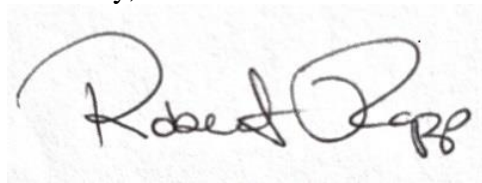
Is it the TRUTH?

Is it FAIR to all concerned?

Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

In Rotary,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Rapp". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robert Rapp  
President 2020/2021

# Rotary



DUES STATEMENT  
ROTARY YEAR  
JULY 1, 2020 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021

Omaha Morning Rotary  
111 South 197<sup>th</sup> Street  
Elkhorn, NE 68022  
402-763-8705

*Due to the strict RI membership reporting date of July 1, members not renewed by June 30 will be removed from the roster until payment received.*

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

**DUES – Full Year** \$365  
*Dues cover all Club Operating Expenses.*

**OPTIONAL and ENCOURAGED CONTRIBUTIONS:**

**BIRTHDAY CONTRIBUTION** – *Donate the equivalent of your age. It will be split equally between Rotary International, Polio Plus and the Omaha Morning Rotary Foundation.* \$\_\_\_\_\_

**OMAHA MORNING ROTARY FOUNDATION CONTRIBUTION** (\$50 suggested donation) \$\_\_\_\_\_

**EVERY ROTARIAN EVERY YEAR** \$\_\_\_\_\_  
*Rotary International requests \$50 per member per year.  
This supports Rotary International work worldwide and counts toward becoming a Paul Harris Fellow.*

**MEALS** *Do you want to pre-pay for any meals? We have punch cards to track them.  
Buy as many as you want now and use your credit card.* \$\_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED** \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Due no later than June 30, 2020**  
**Thank you!**

*You can also pay dues by credit card. Pay in person at the club meeting or go to our online store at <https://omahamorningrotary.square.site/>*