

Rotary O-Pinion

CREATE LASTING IMPACT

Meeting each Monday 12:00 p.m. – Owatonna Country Club
Four-Way Test 1) Is it the truth? 2) Is it fair to all concerned?
3) Will it build good will and better friendships? 4) Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

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THE ROTARY CLUB OF OWATONNA IS THE GO TO AND BELONG TO CLUB FOR CONNECTING PROFESSIONALS, EMBODYING SERVICE AND UPLIFTING YOUTH.

PROGRAMS

Feb. 23: Rick Heidick, Rotary "Lift" Program

March 2: Amber Aaseth, Public Health Nurse

March 9: Anisha Zak: Junior Achievement

March 16: Open

March 23: Tour: Lakeside Foods

March 30: Patricia McLeese. Greater Rocheser Rotary Club and Dist Foundation Chair.

April 6: Jenna Tuma, City Administrator: "State of the City"

TApril 13: Lon Thiele, Steele County Sheriff

April 20: Andrea: In-Bound Exchange Student from Italy

April 27: Ed Boeve, Past District Gov.

ROTARY O'PINION

Monday, February 23, 2026

Editor: Todd Hale

THIS WEEK: Welcome to Rick Heidick who will speak on the ROTARY "Lift" Program.

BIRTHDAYS: None

STUDENTS OF MONTH...FEBRUARY: Last day for Lauren Packard, Attley Klemmenson, Anna Hilgendorf, Lucy Jacobs

IN-BOUND EXCHANGE STUDENT: Andrea, Italy

NOTES FOR ROTARIANS

A Note from former Owatonna Alan Anderson: "In the Nov. issue of the ROTARIAN magazine, Holger Knaack presents a compelling case for 'un-deniable impact' ROTARY makes around the world. He's right. Our collective impact is a positive force in the world. It is also deniable that our continuing dependence on fossil fuels is warming the planet, putting in jeopardy all of the good work we have been doing. Rising global temperatures promise widespread drought, rising sea levels, mass migration and an unstable world. The truth is there will be less peace and more conflict as long as we ignore this problem.

ROTARY has adopted the environment as an area of focus. We are challenged to reduce carbon emissions, slow the rise of temperatures, and preserve the planet for future generations. Climate change is the truth. Taking action will be good for all concerned. There are few initiatives that have the potential of helping more people. If you would like information on how you can help, visit the ROTARY CLIMATE ACTION TEAM NETWORK website at rcatnow.com."

In case you missed last week's meeting: Scott Kozelka, Steele County Free Fair Manager, was our speaker, informing us that the fair board has unanimously approved holding a "Spring into Summer" event to replace the Knights of Columbus "Smokin' in Steele". The KC's have informed the fair they will no longer sponsor the event. Spring into Summer will take place the same weekend that the Smokin' in Steele was to be held. It will be a launch point into the busy fair and festival season. Events already scheduled are a 16 team softball tournament, a backyard barbecue competition, musical entertainment, a 5k fun run sponsored by Tom Thumb Donuts, a Bourbon and cigar sampling evening fundraiser, a corn hole tourney and much more. Watch for more announcements from the fair.

So anyway: Ole and Sven went duck hunting. They worked at it for a couple of hours and finally Sven said, "I vonder why aren't we getting any ducks?" "I don't know," says Ole, "I vonder if we're throwing the dog high enough?"