

Rotary O-Pinion

UNITE FOR GOOD

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?

OFFICERS

ANNIE HARMAN, President
BRAD MEIER: President Elect
BRAD VETRUS: Treasurer
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RYAN GILLESPIE: Assistant District Governor
TOM PARTRIDGE: Past President

FACEBOOK PAGE: www.facebook.com/RotaryClubofOwatonna

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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

March 30: Business plus Patricia McLeese, Greater Rochester Rotary "Unite for Good"
April 6: Jenna Tuma, City Administrator "State of the City"
April 13: Lon Thiele, Steele County Sheriff
April 20: Andrea, In-Bound Exchange Student
April 27: Ed Boeve, Past District Governor
May 4: Alan Anderson, former OHS grad: "Climate Change"
May 11: Taylor Havelka, Camp RYLA report
May 18: OHS National Honor Society as guests
May 25: No meeting...Memorial Day

ROTARY O'PINION

Monday, April 20, 2026

Editor: Todd Hale

THIS WEEK: We will hear from Andrea, our in-bound student from Italy.

BIRTHDAYS: None

STUDENT ROTARIANS" Sophia Cook, Majorie Pick, Alexandra McGuire and Grace Lu

IN-BOUND EXCHANGE STUDENT: Andrea from Italy

NOTES FOR ROTARIANS

FROM RI PRESIDENT FRANCESCO: "ROTARY'S impact is measured in human moments when people step forward to help others in their most vulnerable hours. When we *Unite for Good*, service becomes more than an ideal. It becomes a lifeline for families, a source of strength for communities, and a promise that ROTARY will continue to go wherever help is needed most."

*Did you know? On December 31, 2025, ROTARY and the Institute for Economics and Peace successfully concluded a seven-year partnership that advanced ROTARY'S commitment to Positive Peace.

*At the International Assembly in January, trustee chair-elect Jennifer Jones declared that the ROTARY FOUNDATION'S 2026-'27 fundraising goal is \$500 million.

*This is ROTARY IMMUNIZATION WEEK to promote vaccines and disease prevention.

AROUND TOWN

Don't forget to send a donation to the flower fund for downtown Owatonna. This year there are 147 flower baskets, 17 more than last year. The flower baskets are funded entirely by donation. You can find the form at owatonnainmainstreet.org or just send a check labeled Flower Fund to the Chamber of Commerce.

*Are you a Steele County artist? This is your opportunity to show your recent creative works in the 73rd annual Steele County Art Exhibition at the Owatonna Arts Center. The show opens Sunday, May 3 and runs all of May. Artists must be residents of Steele County or members of the Owatonna Arts Center and be at least 18 years of age. You can show works in casein, oil, acrylic, pencil, charcoal, pastel crayon, hand-pulled prints, digital, and sculpture. Entry forms are at www.oacarts.org. Entries will be accepted April 21-30.

*Anyway: My wife hosted a dinner party for family far and wide and all were encouraged to bring their children as well. During dinner, my four-year-old niece stared at me sitting across from her. The girl could hardly eat her food for staring. I checked my shirt for spots, felt my face for food, patted my hair in place but nothing stopped her staring. I tried my best to ignore her but finally it got the best of me. I finally asked her, "Why are you staring at me?" Everyone at the table became quiet for her response. My little niece said, "I wanna see how you drink like a fish."