

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

June 22: Kat Linaker, President, Riverland College

June 29: Business

July 6: Renea Fry, County Administrator State of the County

July 13: Michael Jon Pease, Incoming District Governor

July 20: Off-site tour of Oak Hill Community Connections

July 27: Business

August 3: Annie Harman's Story – “The NICU Survival Kit”

August 10: Scott Kozelka, Preview of 2026 SCFF

August 17: Open

ROTARY O'PINION

Monday, July 13, 2026

Editor: Todd Hale

THIS WEEK: We will hear from the Incoming District Governor, Michael Pease.

It would be appropriate to give him a standing ovation when introduced.

BIRTHDAYS: Steve Hale, July 14, Greg Krueger, July 16

NOTES FOR ROTARIANS

From RI President Yinka: "This year we are called to harness the change within ourselves, to look to the future, and to *Create Lasting Impact*". I want to be clear about what those words mean. Change is only the beginning. Impact is what endures. We must think of the long-term impact of every project. How can a new water system contribute to long-term health of a community? Can residents help other communities build their own? How can a new classroom be part of a wider strategy to improve education in the area? That is the sort of thinking we need."

A BIT OF OWATONNA HISTORY: There were days when refrigerators weren't located in every home. The Owatonna State School used stored ice for cooling. The State School museum has done an excellent job of telling the ice harvest story. Each January and February when the Straight River ice got 8 to 12 inches deep, the ice harvest began. Using a huge ice saw, horses, tongs, ropes, chains and a lot of manpower, large blocks of ice were cut and loaded on sleds and delivered to "ice houses" for storage. As the blocks were unloaded, layers of sawdust from local saw mills were placed between the blocks to act as a preservative. These ice blocks lasted throughout the coming year. State School recalled that this was a nasty, cold, wet job with temperatures often at 20 below. Three times a week ice was first cut into smaller blocks and then delivered to kitchens that had "ice boxes". Ice was placed in the top compartment of ice boxes and the foods stored below.

These were the days when temperatures in southern Minnesota reached 20 below, which made great ice making for use at the State School. At private homes, ice blocks were delivered by horse drawn wagons.

A club in Texas has created a set of practices for orienting new members. The President said, "If you walk through the door as a new member and we've never met you, you will immediately be bombarded with attention to make sure you feel included in that room. It's a job for every member of the club.

So anyway: I don't watch football so I don't know who Taylor Swift is....but he sounds fast!