

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?

OFFICERS

BRAD MEIER: President

RYAN GILLESPIE: Assistant District Governor

CALEB WHALEN: President-Elect

ANNIE HARMAN: Past President

THOMAS BOTTEMA: Treasurer

LOIS NELSON: Secretary

FACEBOOK PAGE: www.facebook.com/RotaryClubofOwatonna

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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

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

August 10: Scott Kozelka, Preview of 2026 SCFF

August 17: Brian Duncan, Exchange Club "One Nation, Many Stories"

August 24: Owatonna Public Safety Facilities: Jeff Mundale, Josh Srenenson: Police, Jake Bashiel, Charlie Seykora: Fire

August 31: Business

Sept 7: Labor Day, No Meeting

September 14: Rotary "Lift" Program: Bernis Cunningham, Exec. Director, Planting Change Foundation

ROTARY O'PINION

Monday, August 10, 2026

Editor: Todd Hale

THIS WEEK: Scott Kozelka, Executive Director, Steele County Free Fair with a fair preview. Fair dates are August 18-23.

BIRTHDAYS: Jeff Hall, August 11, Chad Lange, August 15

NOTES FOR ROTARIANS

Still looking for volunteers to work at the Aurora Diner at the fair on Wednesday, August 19. Please consider working one of two shifts. Children over age 12 are welcome workers too. You get a reduced price on food! The need is for 8 individuals working 2:15-5:30 or 5:30 to 9:00. Our club gets a \$350 donation for the coverage. A sign-up sheet will be passed around at the meeting or contact ROTARIAN Lois Nelson at lmn0513@gmail.com.

FROM RI PRESIDENT YINKA: "ROTARY recognizes peacebuilding as one of our areas of focus. But, I believe peace must be more than a category of work we set aside for certain projects. It must become a lens, one we choose to look through every time we plan, every time we serve, every time we ask what kind of impact we truly want to leave behind. Peace does not happen by accident. It must be pursued deliberately, built strategically, and woven intentionally into everything we do. That is the challenge I am placing before the ROTARY world this year."

FAIR NOTES

*Two churches, Trinity Lutheran and Good Shepherd Lutheran will provide a hot meal for the carnival workers the night before the fair begins. The workers really appreciate the meal which is probably the only hot meal they have had in weeks! The meal will be served in the beer garden.

*There will be two church services on Sunday, the last day of the fair. The first will be at 9:30 in the Village of Yesteryear. Rev. Barb Streed will be speaking. The second will be in Fair Square Park at 11:00. Josh Geary of Radiant Church will be the speaker.

*Still time to purchase the Mega-Ride tickets for your kids or grandkids. Mega-Ride tickets are \$60.00 and entitle the wearer of the wrist band to unlimited rides on the Gold Star Midway during the fair. The tickets can be purchased until 5 pm the first day of the fair, at the Hy-Vee Service Counter. Wrist bands will be attached beginning at 1 pm on Tuesday at the midway ticket office.

*Trinity Lutheran Church will offer a free shuttle from the church parking lot to the fair Wednesday through Friday from 11 am to 8 pm.

*Finally: old guy: "I never use turn signals. It's nobody's business where I'm going!"