

# Rotary O-Pinion

## THE MAGIC OF ROTARY

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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### **OFFICERS**

**ANN MILLER:** Past President

**TOM PARTRIDGE:** President

**ANNIE HARMAN** President-Elect

**LOIS NELSON:** Secretary

**BRAD VETTRUS:** Treasurer

**RYAN GILLESPIE:** Assistant District Governor

**KELLEN HINRICHSEN:** President-Elect Nominee

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**FACEBOOK PAGE:** [www.facebook.com/RotaryClubofOwatonna](http://www.facebook.com/RotaryClubofOwatonna)

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dick Slieter

Ann Miller

Lois Nelson

Tom Partridge

Lonna Lysne

Ryan Gillespie

Brad Vettrus

Tom Dufresne

Kellen Hinrichsen

Jim Brunner

Mike Jensen

Glen Meger

John Connor

Annie Harman

**THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF ROTARY IS TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY INITIATIVES THAT INCLUDE LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES SO THAT MEMBERS WILL ENGAGE IN SERVICE ACTIVITIES THAT PROMOTE YOUTH IN OUR COMMUNITY AND AROUND THE WORLD.**

### PROGRAMS

July 29: Business Meeting: Classification talk: Jim Wendorff

August 5: Scott Kozelka: Preview of Steele County Fair

August 12: Glenda Smith, Chamber of Commerce Tourism Director

August 19: Brady Geary, District Exec. Scouts BSA

August 26: Business Meeting: Classification talk by Sean Gillen

September 2: No meeting...Labor Day

September 9: Kat Lineke: President, Riverland College

September 16: Ed Marek and Bruce Morlan: "Braver Angels"

September 23: Business Meeting: Mike Jensen, "A look into ROTARY Exchange Student Program"

September 30: Meet the Candidates (To be announced)

August 7: Meet the Candidates (To be announced)

August 14: Meet the Candidates (To be announced)

August 21: Meet the Candidates (To be announced)

## ROTARY O'PINION

Monday, August 19, 2024

Editor: Todd Hale

**THIS WEEK:** We will hear from Brady Geary, District Executive, Boy Scouts of America

**BIRTHDAYS:** Lonna Lysne, August 19, Kriss Busse, August 21, Tom Partridge, August 22

**IN BOUND STUDENT:** Welcome to Lea from Belgium

### **NOTES FOR ROTARIANS**

Rotarians who worked at the Aurora Diner last week included Kris Busse, Harold Storm, Sara McKay, Lonna Lysne, Brad Vettrus, Diane Holland, Lois Nelson, Matt Bissonette, Bruce Paulson, Tom Partridge, and our newest member Kristina Wright Peterson and her daughter Harper. Our club received a \$350 contribution for future projects.

**FROM RI PRESIDENT STEPHANIE A. URCHICK:** “The ROTARY Club of Holyoke, Mass., was forced from its meeting place because of rising costs after COVID. Members took this setback and turned it into strength. The club started meeting in a library community room that was available for no charge and catering lunch from a nearby deli. Lunch costs \$10.00 per person but it’s optional so no one has to spend money to attend a meeting. What a great way to work being “fair to all concerned”. Since making this change, the club has gained 13 members, I suspect part of its membership growth is due to the club’s sense of inclusivity...the first step toward belonging”.

Your gift to the ROTARY FOUNDATION’S Annual Fund empowers ROTARY members to take action and create positive change in communities close to home and around the globe. When you donate to the Annual Fund Share, your contributions are transformed into grants that fund local and international projects, scholarships, and other activities. You can give by making a check to the ROTARY FOUNDATION and pass it along to ROTARIAN Dick Slieter.

Another very successful Steele County Free Fair is over. Fair dates for next year are August 12-17. The fair theme for next year is “Good Vibes in 2025”.

Josh Meillier of Alexander Lumber donated some of the proceeds of the auction from the wood carving display to the Owatonna Foundation. The Foundation granted close to \$20,000 for renovation and new clerestory windows in the Great Outdoors Center.

36 neighbor block parties took place during the recent “Night to Unite” sponsored by the police department.

So anyway: I’m excited that I have completed the first item on my bucket list. I have the bucket!