

# 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?

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### **OFFICERS**

**ANNIE HARMAN:** President

**RYAN GILLESPIE:** Assistant District Governor

**TOM PARTRIDGE:** Past President

**KELLEN HINRICHSEN:** President-Elect

**LOIS NELSON:** Secretary

**BRAD VETTRUS:** Treasurer

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

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Stephanie Olson

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Tom Partridge

Kellen Hinrichsen

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Brad Meier

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

### PROGRAMS

August 4: Steele County Fair preview: Scott Kozelka

August 11: Update on Owatonna: Troy Klecker, Community Development Director

August 18: Liane Peterson, President, Steele Humane Society

August 25: Business Meeting/ Classification Talk by Steve Hale

September 1: No meeting...Labor Day

September 8: Michael Schwertfeger: Prairie Cottages

September 15: Dr. Tammy Champa, Supt of Public Schools

September 22: Ann Miller: Trip to Egypt

September 29: Business Meeting

October 6: District Gov. Glenn Bowers

October 13: Nancy Vaillencourt "Hooded History"

October 20: Serenity Knott: Community Engagement Specialist, Big Bro/Big Sis

October 27: Business Meeting

## ROTARY O'PINION

Monday, September 8, 2025

Editor: Todd Hale

**THIS WEEK:** Welcome to Michael Schwertfeger, Director of Marketing and Business Development at Prairie Cottages.

**Birthdays:** None

**STUDENT ROTARIANS:** Welcome to Alexie Olson, Adeline Schroht, Boldin Krause and Amelia Baldwin

**IN-BOUND EXCHANGE STUDENT:** Andrea, Italy

**FROM RI PRESIDENT FRANCESCO AREZZO:** "When I stepped into the role of RI President, the moment came swiftly and unexpectedly. It got me to thinking how the world can change in an instant, and how ROTARY has the power to be a steady force for good in that change. This month, ROTARY'S Basic Education and Literacy month, we have a clear call to action: to strengthen the foundation of learning in every community we serve. Millions of people worldwide remain unable to read. Millions of children lack access to basic education. And yet, we know the solution: sustainable, inclusive, and equitable education, especially for girls and marginalized youth. Literacy is more than the ability to read and write. It is the key to human dignity, economic mobility, and peace. Every book opened, every classroom supported, and every teacher trained becomes a building block of peace".

### **Did you know?**

\*Nearly half of us would rather take a year off our lives than be obese\*

\*Smokers are 70% more likely, on average, to need root canals than those who never smoked.

\*Heart attacks are the top cause of on-the-job death for firefighters

\*Some 21% of all medicines are prescribed to treat conditions for which they're not approved, and some 73% of these uses lack strong evidence supporting their use.

\*LOST, screamed the ad in the Daily Standard in Celina, Ohio. Female medium sized gray tiger cat. Answers to "Lucy" or "Here Kitty, Kitty, Kitty".

I recently ran into the woman who cleans our house and was surprised to hear she was still at it, despite her advanced age. "How do you manage it?" I asked. She explained her secret: "I just keep clients who can't see the dirt any better than I can."

**So anyway:** "What should I do?" said the pet owner at the vet's office. "My dog just ate two bags of un-popped popcorn!" The receptionist responded, "The first thing I would do is keep him out of the sun".