

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

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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 31: Business: speaker: Morgan Bashiel, Stormwater Specialist, City of Owatonna

Sept. 7: No meeting...Labor Day

Sept. 14: ROTARY LIFT PROGRAM Bernis Cunningham

Sept. 21 : Off Site: Gandy Co.

Sept. 28: Meet the Candidates School Board...Lunch at 11:30

Oct. 5: Meet the candidates" City at Large & Ward 3...Lunch at 11:30

Oct. 12: Meet the Candidates: City Ward 1 and Ward 5...Lunch at 11:30

Oct. 19: Meet the Candidates: State Rep. and State Senate...Lunch at 11:30

ROTARY O'PINION

Monday, September 14, 2026

Editor: Todd Hale

THIS WEEK: Welcome to Bernis Cunningham who will tell us of the ROTARY LIFT PROGRAM

BIRTHDAYS: Laura Brady and Edna Ringhofer, both Sept. 18

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH: Welcome to Reese Mukanov, Sawyer Born, Owen Kaytor and Maebelle Smith

INBOUND EXCHANGE STUDENT: Frederica from Italy

NOTES FOR ROTARIANS

*A note from ROTARIAN Lois: "A basket silent auction will also be a part of this year's HotDish Hootnanny on Saturday, October 10. Needed: any size empty basket for organizing items collected including your own basket with suggested theme around kitchen items, season-Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas, or a kid's basket of games and toys. A white basket will be at the greeters table as we are looking for Chamber Bucks, gift cards from any restaurant, store, gas station to round out baskets. Any questions, ask Ann Miller, Lonna Lysne, Lois Nelson or Edna Ringhofer.

*FROM RI PESIDENT YINKA: "ROTARY has always been about people. Not projects, not numbers...but people. Our goal of reaching 1.25 million ROTARIANS by our 125th anniversary in 2030 is also about people.

I bring up this goal again, not because I expect the number itself to move you. Numbers rarely do. I bring it up because I worry that a goal this large can begin to feel abstract, distant from every day work of our clubs. I do not want that to happen. Here's a simple exercise for your club. Look back over the last 5 to 7 years and find your best year. Maybe it was a year new members arrived, and more meaningful, STAYED. Maybe it was a year your meetings became something members looked forward to, rather than another obligation on a crowded calendar. Find that year. then I ask you to do better than your best."

*ROTARIANS are reminded that there will be a retirement open house for fellow ROTARIAN Jeff Mundale, who is retiring after 31 years of dedicated service to our city. The open house will be from 3:00-5:00 this Thursday, Sept. 17 at the Owatonna Arts Center. Jeff will continue as an active ROTARIAN in our club.

Onward and Upward: ROTARIANS are urged to attend a luncheon this Thursday at the History Center. The Onward and Upward luncheon will address the environment and water resources with a panel of Cherry Swartz, Adrienne Gransee, Rebecca Higgins and our own Lois Nelson. Tickets are \$25.00 for members and non-members, \$35.00.