



# O-Pinion

Owatonna, Minnesota

## ROTARY: MAKING A DIFFERENCE

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

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

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November 27: Gaylene Steckelberg: Co-Director: LTO production: Snapshots: Moments, Memories and Music

December 4: Farewell from Jeff, In-Bound Exchange Student

December 11: Bremer Foundation

December 18: Christmas Music by “Credit Report”:...Rotarians Dave Williams and Ryan Gillespie

December 25: MERRY CHRISTMAS...no meeting

January 1: HAPPY NEW YEAR!...no meeting

January 8: Tim Penny: The political climate in Washington

January 15: Roger Wareheim: Owatonna Brew House

January 22: Darci Stanford: Owatonna Brain Training Center

January 29: Jeff Elstad, Supt. of Public Schools

February 5: Tim Truelson, Owatonna Park and Rec...”We All Play”

February 12: Mayor Tom Kuntz, Kris Busse: State of the City

February 19: Bob Randall: “Modern Workforce”

February 26: Pastor Todd Buegler, Trinity Lutheran Church

March 5: Sue Schroeder, Public Schools Social Worker

March 12: Open

March 19: Open

March 26: Open

April 2: Open

April 9: Open

April 16: Open

April 23: Open

## **ROTARY O'PINION**

Monday, December 11, 2017

Editor: Todd Hale

**THIS WEEK:** ROTARIAN Ryan Gillespie will make a presentation on behalf of the Bremer Foundation. The OHS Christmas Carolers will also be with us shortly after noon.

**BIRTHDAYS:** None

**STUDENT ROTARIANS FOR DEC:** Bretton Ruiter, Bryce Knutson, Scott Kingland and Sheldon Jensen

**IN-BOUND EXCHANGE STUDENTS:** Jeff, South Africa, Nado, Indonesia

### **NOTES FOR ROTARIANS**

This Saturday is the 46<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas Bird Count. The count has been chaired all 46 years by Darryl Hill of Owatonna. Interested in participating either in a feeder count or a field count? Contact Darryl at 451-2073.

A review of last year: The weather was terrible with winter storm warnings that advised no travel which lowered the bird count numbers. Last year, 4,025 individual birds were counted which was below the average of 4521 birds. Forty-four different species were counted which was about average. One hundred six different bird species have been seen. Last year we had 85 people counting birds with 71 of them watching at their feeders and 14 counting in the field.

There are no fees charged to participate in the bird count. The Owatonna Izaak Walton League provides financial help for local mailing expenses.

Mentors are still needed for this years STRIVE program at the high school. The commitment is one hour per month for the months of January-May. The program runs from 10:07 a.m.-11:07 a.m. Dates for the program are Jan. 11, Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>, Mar 8, April 12 and May 10. If you are interested in helping, please get ahold of ROTARIAN Michelle Krell.

We are nearing the end of the year. This is a time to remember the ROTARY FOUNDATION. Your gift makes a difference. Give the gift of ROTARY. Make checks to the ROTARY FOUNDATION and forward them to ROTARIAN Roger Wareheim.

The ROTARY FOUNDATION surpassed its goal of raising \$300 million in contributions its centennial year, an achievement that will have lasting effects on ROTARIANS abilities to help communities. What started with Arch Klumph's vision and a donation of \$26.50 in 1917 has evolved into a leading humanitarian foundation that has spent nearly \$4 billion on life-changing sustainable projects. "When we say that our Foundation is saving and transforming lives, we are not exaggerating," says 2016-2017 ROTARY FOUNDATION trustee chair Kalyan Banerjee. "It is happening in communities all over our world....and its been happening for 100 years!"

ROTARIAN Traci Schimek informed the club last week that we will not be receiving a South African exchange student this January. She is, however, seeking host families for an in-bound student beginning next August.

So anyway: Two boll weevils grew up in Alabama. One moved to Hollywood and became a famous actor. The other stayed in the cotton field and never amounted to anything. He became known as the lesser of two weevils.

Something to remember: The statistics on sanity are that one out of every four Americans are suffering from some form of mental illness. Think of your three best friends. If they're ok, then it's you.

Next week we'll relax and get in the Christmas spirit as our program will be presented musically by "Credit Report". (Ryan Gillespie and Dave Williams)