

# Rotary O-Pinion

## SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

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

**GLEN MEGER** President  
**BRAD VETTRUS** Secretary  
**JOHN CONNOR** Past President

**ANN MILLER** President Elect  
**STEVE ARNOLD** Treasurer

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

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Connor	Jeff Hall	Dick Slieter	Jim Brunner
Todd Hale	Dave Effertz	Ann Miller	Ryan Gillespie
Mathew Hughes	Steve Arnold	Lois Nelson	
Brad Vettrus	Lonna Lysne		

**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

February 7: No Meeting...OCC Cleaning.  
 February 14: Keith Hiller, Chief of Police  
 February 21: Brad Meier, President, Chamber of Commerce  
 February 28: ROTARY, 100 Years Strong! Pastor Dave, Angela Gonzales, Randy Rickman, People’s Press  
 March 7: Scott Limberg: The Growth of Owatonna Live  
 March 14: Owatonna Update: Troy Klecker, City of Owatonna  
 March 21: Julie Bleckeberg Fiske, Exec. Dir. of Growing Hope  
 March 28: ROTARY, 100 Years Strong!: Lois Nelson: Steve Arnold, Dave Effertz  
 April 4: No Meeting  
 April 11: Lon Thiele, Steele County Sheriff  
 April 18: Anne Peterson, Manager, Minn. State Orphanage Museum  
 April 25: ROTARY, 100 Years Strong! Lois Nelson  
 May 2: Kathey Huisman, Exchange Club Center for Child Abuse  
 May 9: STRIVE Student Recognition  
 May 16: National Honor Society Recognition  
 May 23: ROTARY, 100 Years Strong! Lois Nelson  
 May 30: No meeting...Memorial Day

# OWATONNA ROTARY O'PINION

Monday, February 28, 2022

Editor: Todd Hale

**THIS WEEK:** ROTARY, 100 YEARS STRONG; Speakers will be Pastor Dave, Randy Rickman, Owatonna Peoples Press and Angela Gonzales, Owatonna Foundation

**BIRTHDAYS:** Ryan Gillespie, March 2

**STUDENT ROTARIANS:** Last day for Suzy Walker, Ashley Schlaideraff, Bailey Manderfeld and Annika Wiese

## **NOTES FOR ROTARIANS**

This past Wednesday, February 23, marked the anniversary of ROTARY. R.I. President Shekhar Mehta notes, "In observance of ROTARY'S anniversary, let us celebrate with more service days, showcasing ROTARY'S work in our area of focus. I encourage you to execute projects that focus on empowering girls, as they have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic. The Empowering Girls initiative is resonating very well with members of ROTARY as well as non-ROTARIANS. The governments and NGOs in various countries are appreciating this meaningful effort. Let us keep focusing on it!"

## **SOME ROTARY MEMORIES**

There are sheets available at the check-in table for you to write memories of the "old days" of Owatonna ROTARY. Please note your remembrances and give them to ROTARIAN Lois Nelson who will forward them to Todd for printing in the O'Pinion.

Here are a couple of memories from members:

Glen Meger: "When I joined the club in 2000, I sat with Buzz Kaplan at our meeting. He offered to trade tickets with me for the weekly cash drawing. Well, that week Buzz won the drawing on my former ticket. Bob Doyle informed me that the ticket Buzz traded me was from the previous week! It was a trick Buzz played on new members.

Todd Hale: "Our club is one of the few who sing at every meeting. Piano accompaniment was provided first by Arnold Krueger, OHS orchestra director followed by Chuck Hoogland, musician and organist at Trinity Lutheran Church. Incidentally, Arnold was the composer of the ROTARY welcome song which is number 1 in our song book. He told me he wrote the song while on an airplane returning from a meeting.

Todd Hale: Dr. Olson was the song leader for all the years he was a member of the club. When he came to the front to direct the singing, he had put a fake sheet of paper in his song book. He picked a song he knew wouldn't be well done by the club. When we were done "trying" to sing the song, Dr. Olson would tear the fake sheet of paper in half and throw it away, making us convinced we would never try and sing it again!"

Todd Hale: Where did the phrase "so anyway" that I use before the weekly joke come from? As I recall, when ROTARIAN Doug Ruth was president, he always had a joke to tell. He preceded each joke with "So Anyway".

So anyway: Frank and Dianne were in the local shopping center. Dianne suddenly noticed that Frank was missing, so she called his cell phone. "Frank, where are you? You know we have lots to do." Frank said, "Remember the jewelry store we went into about 15 years ago and you fell in love with a diamond necklace. I said I couldn't afford it at the time, and I said that one day I'd get it for you." Little tears started to flow down Dianne's cheek and she got all choked up "Yes, I do remember that shop." she replied. "Well", Frank said, "I'm in the Hooter's next door."