



## ROTARY O'PINION

Monday, January 30, 2017

Editor: Todd Hale

**THIS WEEK:** Welcome to Melanie Tschida, Executive Director, American Red Cross/Southeast Minnesota

**BIRTHDAYS:** Steve Olsen, Feb. 1

**STUDENT ROTARIANS:** Last day for Rebekah Bendorf, Amy Oldenburg, Tori Urch and Grace Valen

**IN-BOUND EXCHANGE STUDENTS:** Jeff, South Africa, and Leticia, Brazil

**FEBRUARY EXCHANGE STUDENTS:** Mariah Dant, Britta Gantert, Sophia Paley, Sara Wall

**FEBRUARY GREETERS:** Matt Ketelson, Mark Randall, Edna Ringhofer

### **ROTARY NOTES**

LED Bulbs...or bust? LED light bulbs lower energy costs and can last decades, but don't waste money when not needed, advises The Family Handyman magazine. Avoid more expensive LEDs inside an oven (the heat destroys them) and refrigerators or freezers (short operating times). LEDs can interfere with garage door remote controls; check the manufacturer website to see which LED bulbs are compatible with your opener.

Did you know? Little Theater of Owatonna was actually born in 1941. The first production opened November 12 that year when Betty Cashman directed the play "George Washington Slept Here." The present LTO was born almost to the date 25 years later when Veta Alexander directed, "Three Men on a Horse."

How long has it been since you've checked your headlights, tail lights, and brake lights on your car? It's amazing at the number of cars one sees in town that have at least one of those lights not working. Some cars indicate a burned out light on the dash board. It's hard to detect a headlight out unless you go to the front of the car and look. Again, a burned out headlight is sometimes indicated with a note on the dash. On the new cars, a burned out bulb isn't just as simple as replacing it with a new bulb...it's a major job that only a mechanic can do.

Owatonna has been hit with a major outbreak of the "crud". No, I'm not talking about compacted snow on the bottom of your car. I'm referring to bronchitis. Your editor experienced it last week and it literally put me down in bed for a day. I finally gave up and went to urgent care at the clinic. Monday last week, there was a line from the check-in desk at urgent care almost to the hospital entrance! If you haven't gotten it, pray you don't...it's no fun!

February 23 marks the 112<sup>th</sup> year since the founding of ROTARY. The first ROTARY Club met in Chicago with Paul Harris as its president.

ROTARY has risen to so many challenges in its 112 years. We've answered conflict with peace, and poverty with education. We've responded to a lack of basic health care with projects large and small, from equipping clinics in tiny villages to eradicating polio across the globe!

### **As a ROTARIAN, I will:**

- 1: Act with integrity and high ethical standards in my personal and professional life.
- 2: Deal fairly with others and treat them and their occupations with respect
- 3: Use my professional skills through ROTARY to: mentor young people, help those with special needs, and improve people's quality of life in my community and the world.
- 4 Avoid behavior that reflects adversely on ROTARY or other ROTARIANS.

My wife and I were discussing aspects of our future so when it was my turn I asked her "What will you do if I die before you do?" After some thought, she said that she'd probably look for a house-sharing situation with three other single or widowed women who might be a bit younger than herself. Then she asked me, "What will you do if I die first?" I replied, "Probably the same thing." THAT'S WHEN THE FIGHT STARTED!