

The

O-Pinion



Owatonna, Minnesota

Meeting each Monday 12:10 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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AREA MEETING PLACES & TIMES

Austin	Mondays	Noon	Holiday Inn	Winona	Wednesdays	Noon	Westfield Golf Club
Janesville	Mondays	6 PM	St. Ann's Parish	Northfield	Thursdays	Noon	Northfield Golf Club
Owatonna Early Edition	Tuesdays	7 AM	Owatonna Fire Hall	Great Rochester	Thursdays	Noon	Kahler Grand Hotel
Rochester Risers	Tuesdays	7 AM	Hilton Garden Inn	Waseca	Thursdays	Noon	Miller/Armstrong
Red Wing	Tuesdays	Noon	St. James Hotel	Albert Lea	Fridays	Noon	Ramada Inn
Faribault	Wednesdays	Noon	Bernie's Grill	North Mankato	Fridays	Noon	Best Western Hotel
Mankato	Wednesdays	Noon	Old Main Village				

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Date

Program

July 30

Business Meeting: Presentation by Outbound Student Harmon Squires

August 6

Preview: 2012 Steele County Free Fair: Jim Gleason and Todd Hale

August 13

Bryan Rossi, NOVATION Education Opportunities

August 20

RFE Outbound Team Presentation...Journey to Turkey

August 27

Business Meeting: Presentation by Outbound Student Christian Russell

Sept. 3

No meeting: Labor Day

Sept. 10

District Governor Visit from Joe Kvarik

Sept. 17

Open

Sept. 24

Business Meeting

Oct. 1

School Board Candidates

Oct. 8

City Council Candidates

Oct. 15

State House and Senate Candidates

October 22

Open

October 29

Business meeting/presentation on Foundation Month

November 5

Alyssa Anderson, Pork Ambassador

ROTARY O'PINION

Monday, July 23, 2012

Editor: Todd Hale

THIS WEEK: An update from Owatonna Chamber of Commerce President Brad Meier and Tourism Director Lisa Havelka.

BIRTHDAYS: Keith Hiller, Ray Stawarz, July 23

ROTARY NOTES

Welcome to special visitors today: Leo Roux, former Exchange Student (2010-'11) from France and his parents, Bruno and Anita and little brother Louis. Also to Sarah Moser, former Exchange Student from Switzerland (2008-'09).

Remember the 9th annual 4-Mile Run to benefit the ROTARY STRIVE program scheduled for Saturday, August 18 at 9:00 a.m. This year's run is sponsored by Owatonna Noon Club, Owatonna Allina Hospital, ISD 761 and the SCFF. Proceeds from the event are used to support scholarship awards to Owatonna High School Seniors involved in the STRIVE program. Advance registration is \$20.00, race day registration fee is \$25.00. Watch for sign-up for volunteers to man corners where the run passes.

“ROTARY pretty much occupies my every waking moment,” the new president of RI playfully admits. Sakuji Tanaka is described by his wife as a “ROTARY nut.” He's been a member of the ROTARY Club of Yashio, Japan for 37 years and has served ROTARY at every level, including district governor, training leader, regional ROTARY FOUNDATION coordinator, member of the Polio Eradication Advocacy Task Force just to name a few. Together Tanaka and his wife are Paul Harris Fellows, Benefactors and major donors. Although she doesn't speak English, he says his wife has a knack for communicating with people through gestures and body language and that she is a “jolly, uplifting person.” She often stands in for him when scheduling conflicts have prevented him from attending business meetings.

AROUND TOWN

Here's a thought passed along from ROTARIAN Charlie Herrmann. The Food Stamp Program, administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is actually proud of the fact it is distributing the greatest amount of free meals and food stamps ever. Meanwhile, the National Park Service, administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior, asks us to “Please Do Not Feed the Animals”. Their stated reason for the policy is because the animals will grow dependent on handouts and will not learn to take care of themselves. This ends today's lesson. AMEN BROTHER!

It's a big week in Owatonna. The Five Days of Fun celebration begins Wednesday and runs through Sunday...Crazy Days begins on Thursday through Saturday. There will be a hog roast Friday evening from 5:30 to 8:00 in the 100 block of North Cedar. Later a street dance will be held. Saturday and Sunday, the Festival of the Arts will be held in Central Park.

Here's an opportunity to enjoy a gourmet dinner party for eight at the Owatonna Arts Center. Sally Alexander and Mary Butler Frazer, both excellent chefs, are auctioning off a private dinner party to benefit the Arts Center. The highest bid receives service for eight, hors d'oeuvres with wine and beer, salad, main entrée with appropriate wine, followed by dessert, all served in the elegant surrounding of the Arts Center. Starting bid is \$650.00. Bids can be mailed to the Arts Center or bid on-line at bids@oacarts.org. Bidding closes July 31.

Lena went to the Missing Persons Bureau to report that her husband Ole, had mysteriously disappeared. “He short and tin,” she told the desk sergeant, “and bald and has no teeth. In fact, most of him was missing before he was!”

PEACE THROUGH SERVICE