

ROTARY O'PINION

Monday, November 9, 2015

Editor: Todd Hale

THIS WEEK: Fellow ROTARIAN Steve Olsen and wife Rikke will speak on their ROTARY Friendship Exchange to Romania.

BIRTHDAYS: Sabra Otteson, Nov. 9, Barry Gillespie, Nov. 10, Kenneth Johnson, Nov. 13, David Effertz, Nov. 14.

STUDENT ROTARIANS: Laura Bloomenrader, Elena Bueltel, Riley Arthur and Thomas Borgerding.

IN-BOUND EXCHANGE STUDENTS: Oscar Christiansen, Norway, Nicolas Valenzuela, Chile

ROTARY NOTES

A BIT OF ROTARY HISTORY: Through the years, ROTARY has become involved in many community projects, but perhaps one of the most remembered is the Christmas program which was held each year for the children at the Owatonna State School. It included reindeer and Santa who all came to Owatonna via the Rock Island Line.

MORE HISTORY: In the days before women were allowed to join ROTARY, a handbook was published in 1975 entitled "So Your Husband is a ROTARIAN". The handbook explained the history and purpose of ROTARY. Wives of ROTARIANS were referred to as ROTARY ANN'S and were encouraged to get together occasionally for coffee, lunches or special parties.

Here's a question for bright ROTARIANS: In many liquor stores, you can buy pear brandy with a real pear inside the bottle. The pear is whole and ripe and the bottle is genuine. It hasn't been cut in any way. How did the pear get inside the bottle (answer below)

The ROTARY club is Cartagena, Columbia, has worked to bring health care to poor children for almost seven decades. Most recently, with support from a ROTARY FOUNDATION Global Grant and ROTARIANS around the world, the club has obtained more than \$200,000 to provide pediatric cardiac care. Past club president German Spiker rounded up funds from Switzerland to Japan to help make it all happen.

AROUND TOWN

The annual Toys for Tots program is now in the midst of its annual toy drive. Look for toy collection bins at over 60 participating businesses in Steele County. New, unwrapped toys may be placed in available boxes through Tuesday, December 15.

The next Veteran's Roundtable will be held at 7:00 p.m. tomorrow night at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Owatonna Mark Rasmussen will relay his service with the 5th Air Force in Korea.

A wine and cheese tasting event will be held to benefit the Owatonna Arts Center this Friday, November 13 at the Arts Center.

So anyway: A golfer walks into the pro shop at the local golf course and asks the golf pro if they sell ball markers. The golf pro says they do and they are \$1.00. The guy gives the pro a dollar. The pro opens the register, puts the dollar in, and hand him a dime to use as the marker. This economic model is also used by the government.

Answer to question for bright ROTARIANS: How did the pear get inside the brandy bottle? It grew inside the bottle. The bottles are placed over pear buds when they are small and are wired in place on the tree. The bottle is left in place for the entire growing season. When the pears are ripe, they are snipped off at the stems.