

Randolph Rotary Sunrise Club



President: Sue Jacobs Secretary: Tim Schroeder

February 19, 2019 - WEEKLY DIGEST

Funny Story: 10 Sonny Holt

Rotary Minute: Ted Elzey

Ted shared about the Rotary.org opening page:

- People of Action
- Rotary unites more than a million people
- 1.2 million members and 35,000 + clubs
- Rotary Transforms Communities
- 16 million volunteer hours each year
- Rotary solves problems

Go to Rotary.org and check out this great site. It is amazing the scope of global and local projects and programs that Rotary and its members are involved in.

SPEAKERS: Colin Andrzejczyk Jason Finley

Once again we were all amazed to learn what “good works” are going on in our schools. Colin Andrzejczyk and Jason Finley shared with us about their Food For Thought Program that they created out of necessity. Jason is the RTCC’s work-based Learning Coordinator and Colin is the Student Assistant Councilor. Colin has seen the tech center grow and evolve over the last 20 years. This team wants the students to know that

they are cared for far beyond the classroom. There are students who are struggling and their families do not have enough food.

‘It’s hard to learn on an empty stomach’ said Colin. Many students receive free or reduced price lunches. But that does not include the eligible students whose parents did not fill out the paperwork for a



number of reasons. These two guys came up with the idea to give every student a bag of food once a month. What they would do is package the bags up and while the students were on their lunch break, a bag of food was put on every student’s desk. By doing it this way, they did not want to show bias or single-out those students who were struggling the most, and everyone received the same package. These were non- perishable items resourced locally from Shaw’s market. Shaw’s also provides employment for these kids and it was important to work with Shaw’s at this community level.

The goal here is to help students regardless of family income and access too good nutrition. Some of the kids never had to be without food while yet others come to school hungry. This is a good way to teach all of the students to show compassion and to care for each other. By doing so, this monthly food has made a big difference in many students lives.

This project was supported by 2 organizations in 2017-2018 and they were the American Legion and Shaw’s. Additional support by student groups and 20 community and OSSD educational staff members and a mix of students and staff members who help to shop, pack and deliver the food bags to the students. At the end of this pilot program, 2017-2018 the Food for Thought program is now fundraising for the academic year of 2018-2019 with hopes of delivering food to all of the RTCC students for 9 months.

They are anticipating about 160 bags per month. The cost in 2017-2018 was about \$6 per bag. The 2018-2019 yearly cost is projected to be \$8,640.



If you would like to help this great effort, contact RTCC and go to the Food for Thought link. Your donations are tax deductible and will go a long way to help with this great program. Colin noted that area businesses are getting involved as well as many personal donations too. Check out Cecile Smiths excellent in depth article from the Herald December 27, 2018 on this amazing program. Thank You Colin and Jason for your thoughtful and inspiring talk.

Special Announcement: Club Positions (Sunrise Members)
We need a President Elect and a Fund Raising Chairmen for the next FY. If you are interested please let the board know. This is great service work and an opportunity to serve on the BOD.

Save the Date:

District Conference in Sherbrooke Quebec this May 2-5

Next Club Meeting: February 26,2019

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- * Rotary Sunrise Club meets Tuesdays, 7:00 - 8:00 am in the Cafeteria at Gifford Medical Center
 - * For more club info, call Sonny Holt at 728-3664 or email Holt7850@gmail.com
 - * The Randolph Rotary Sunrise Club is one of two Rotary Clubs in Randolph, VT.

Randolph Rotary Sunrise Club
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Randolph Sunrise Rotary Web Site: <https://randolphsunriserotary.com/>

Randolph Sunrise Rotary Club Runner Site: <https://portal.clubrunner.ca/12555/>

Randolph Rotary Sunrise Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RandolphSunriseRotary1/>

Rotary International Web Site: www.rotary.org/?ref=FBad#page-content

District Web Site: <https://www.rotary7850.org>

