



WISCONSIN RAPIDS SUNRISE SCRIPT

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March 18, 2021

District 6250 Wisconsin Rapids Rotary – Sunrise – Club No. 31198, Chartered 12/29/95
Box 1181, Wisconsin Rapids WI 54495

Today's Program

Tom Paul – Craig Broeren

“WRPS Referendum Information”

This week Sunrise Rotary is conducting its weekly meeting on Zoom.



Click on this link to Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/76631647715?pwd=RWVteU1aMzhXTmtGa3QyRmtTTi9HZz09>

Meeting ID: 766 3164 7715 Password: 4J7xBF

Dial in: 312 626 6799 Passcode: 960151

Week	Rotarian/Program
Mar 25	Larry Schmick
Mar 32	Steph Schmid
April 8	Tom Schneider - Sharon Schwab "Prairie Chicken Festival"
April 15	Fred Stich
April 22	Avenues of Service – May Food Drive
April 29	Dean Veneman

Rotary News

- We had 25 people on the meeting including Karen Weissinger as well as our two March youth Rotars, John Barten and McKeon Lucas. Dale Davis and Jodi Friday also joined the meeting for the discussion on the community food drive.
- MaryJo presented a check to SWEPS for \$292 from the Charity Chase event
- Tom Schneider shared the attached update on the Wood County Solar Project

May Community Food Drive

- We settled on May 22 with no conflicts as of now and understanding the following similar activities;
 - Feeding America – “Give from Home” March
 - Boy Scouts – Scouting for Food April 10-17
 - Postal Workers – Stamp out hunger May 8th
- Tom and Bonnie Schneider offered to provide a cash match to cash donations up to \$1,000 (Thanks Tom and Bonnie!)
- We are looking for a catchy name for the event, thoughts can be sent to Kyle at kylelaura@solarus.net
- Tentatively planning the event to run between 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
- Tentatively the following possible locations; WR (Cultural Center, YMCA, Wheelers, LHS), Nekoosa (Nekoosa Court of Piggly Wiggly), Port Edwards United Methodist Church, Red Sands Park, River Cities School, Saratoga Town Hall, Rome Town Hall, Crossview Parking Lot, Rudolph Gas Station
- Thinking about promotions including the top ten needed physical donations other than cash as well as options for financial contributions live Venmo or Paypal

OFFICERS 2020/2021

District Governor – Bill Pritchard

President – Carrie Nikolai

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President Elect – Michael Kirshling

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Past President – Dave Guse

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Treasurer – Mary Jo Green

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Current Paul Harris Fellows

Barry Jens

Bob Ebben

Dean Veneman (3)

Dennis McCarville

Fred Stich (2)

John Moffat (3)

Karen Kienert

Kristopher Gasch

Larry Schmick

Mary Jo Green (3)

Mary Wirtz

Nancy Mischnick

Tim Krueger

Tom Paul (4)

Tom Schneider (2)

Club Chairpersons

Vocational Service

Carol Davis, Chair

Community Service

Dave Guse, chair

International Service

Nancy Mischnick, co-chair

Tom Schneider, co-chair

Club Service / Membership

Rick Merdan, chair

R.I. Foundation Liaison

Karen Kienert

Polio Plus Chairperson

Tom Schneider

Youth Exchange Officer

TBD

Youth Exchange Counselor

Tom Schneider

Youth Protection Officer

TBD

Update on the Wood County Solar Project

Dear Tom,

As you may remember, Wood County Solar Project received its state permit application approval by the PSC back in January. We have some project news to share, so I wanted to make you aware of a project update that is currently being distributed via mail to the neighbors of Wood County Solar Project, and emailed to various project stakeholders over the next few days. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding the below details. I would appreciate if you would share this communication to Sunrise Rotary to help us to inform the public about this update.

Project Summary:

1. Wood County Solar Project is a 150 MW solar energy generation facility in Wood County.
2. The 1,200-acre solar array is expected to produce enough energy to power more than 40,000 homes.
3. Over the project's 35-year life, it is expected to bring additional annual revenue of \$350,000 to Wood County and \$250,000 to the Town of Saratoga.
4. May 2020: Alliant Energy announced it entered into an agreement to acquire the project when the company receives regulatory approval and its other contractual commitments are complete. This is anticipated to be in the second quarter of 2021.
5. December 2020: Wood County Solar Project teamed up with Alliant Energy and made a \$2,500 donation to The Family Center in Wisconsin Rapids.
6. January 2021: The Wisconsin Public Service Commission approved Wood County Solar Project's permit.
7. The Project is anticipated to be in commercial operation by the end of 2022.

Development Update:

The next step for Wood County Solar Project is to begin tree harvesting on the project site. The permits for tree harvesting are expected to be submitted this week. With proper permitting, tree harvesting will begin in late March or early April and should wrap up by late summer. Wood County Solar Project, LLC is working in partnership with Alliant Energy, the Town of Saratoga, and the Wood County community to ensure the tree harvesting process meets community standards, is completed as sustainably as possible, and in alignment with the overall project objectives and timelines.

Plans for Harvested Trees:

Wood County Solar Project is talking with local mills where the harvested wood can be used to produce beneficial products. Although the trees are not fully mature, much of the wood is expected to meet the mills' 4-inch thickness requirements. Wood and stumps that don't meet the mills' requirements or cannot be accepted on a timeline that meets the project's requirements will be chipped. The chipped wood is expected to be used in three ways: sent to a local bio-mass plant, used on-site, and some will be made available free for use by community residents.

What to Expect at the Project Site:

During the tree harvesting phase, the project area will be closed to ensure the safety of the public and all workers. We anticipate there will be increased traffic in the area but no road closures. Our employees will be working within the hours designated. We will do all we can to limit the impact of construction, and we're committed to preserving the roads on which our equipment travels.

The development of the solar energy generating facility means the land will be withdrawn as managed forest land. The effects on the community regarding recreation at the project site will be communicated in future updates. Snowmobilers, ATV, and UTV routes will remain open along the right-of-ways. Other access through the property will likely be closed. As harvesting continues, we'll be working closely with community officials to make land available for recreation – that assures the safety of our employees and the public.

Stay Connected:

The project team will continue to provide updates as they become available. Please connect with us and monitor project news and updates at the following:

www.facebook.com/WoodCountySolarProject/

www.woodcountysolarproject.com

www.alliantenergy.com/OurEnergyVision/AdvancingCleanEnergy/SolarGeneration/WisconsinSolar/WoodCountySolarProject

Saratoga, you can be proud of the important role you have in providing our electric grid with clean, sustainable solar power. You've got a bright future in producing renewable energy!

Best Regards,

Kim Griffin

Wood County Solar Project

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