



Randolph Parent Newsletter, December, 2005



Greetings to all! As many parents are unable to participate in Parent Group meetings, this newsletter is an attempt to fill everyone in on what's going on and how you can become involved.

The October Pumpkin Festival, sponsored by the Sloop Club in Beacon, is typically our first fundraiser of the year. This year we managed to pull together a nice multi-table booth, with some excellent volunteers making and selling homemade baked goods and the famous Randolph quinoa chili. Match cold, blustery winds with a bumper crop of hot Randolph chili, coffee and cider, and you get – great hordes of people visiting our booth! We made about \$1000 on food and cookbooks – about \$600 more than last year. That should more than pay for pizza and babysitting for the meetings for the rest of the year, and start the ball rolling on our end-of-year gift. Thank you to organizer extraordinaire Rachelle Reis Larsen and the fab volunteers, including some great carriage house students!

Electronics Sale

As we reported earlier, the Randolph Parents Group has had a windfall – a huge amount of electronic equipment has been donated to us by one of the staff! Thanks to this great donation the school is now beautifully equipped with digital cameras, micro cassette recorders and boom boxes! We've also had several individual sales and a great line on someone who may purchase ALL of the short wave radios (Thank you, Greg Priest-Dorman, for your efforts)! We are still looking for a source to sell the inventory for us wholesale, but thought it might be nice to offer the items at incredibly reasonable prices to the Randolph community first. There are still over 600 individual items, including: speakers, stereos, Walkmans, laser disc players, 35 mm cameras, headphones, VCRs, TVs, walkie-talkies, Polaroid film, and radio alarm clocks. See below for more info on purchasing electronics at the holiday party!

Craft Day

We held our annual Randolph Holiday Craft Day this past Sunday, December 11, at the school. According to organizer Jen Stengle, the event, not a *fund* raiser but a *fun* gathering, was filled with lots of smiles and gluey, gooey fingers! This year we had about twenty-five to thirty people, young and old, who came to work with wood, pine cones, glue, wire, beads wool, evergreens, cinnamon sticks, tissue paper, and more. The grown-ups got right into the creativity too, with a little help and inspiration from their kids, of course!

Thanks to Jen and all the great volunteers, our children went home with unique creations and good memories (and stomachs filled with goodies!)

T-shirts!

The order has been placed – and new t-shirts are on the way! This year we've added something new – long sleeves, in a variety of colors. With luck they'll arrive in time for the holiday party – see below for details. If they don't arrive in time, look in future Friday notes for more info.

Holiday Party \$10 Sale!!! This Friday – for one day only, we will be selling a variety of Randolph goods for a mere \$10 each! The cookbooks, usually \$12 each, will be pre-gift wrapped and available for sale for \$10. We will also be bringing a variety of our electronics (see above), in boxes, and ready to take home. A great opportunity for you to pick up a new alarm clock, or a 35 mm camera for only \$10! We will also have children's Randolph t-shirts for \$10.

OK, **NOT** \$10, but also available – adult T-SHIRTS for \$12. If the kids' long-sleeve tees are in they will be available for \$15.

Whole Foods People Cooking Class with Santha Cooke

Former Randolph student and parent and master whole foods chef Santha Cooke will hold a cooking class –come to the school and make a meal, and then sit down and eat it with your fellow classmates! Date: Saturday, January 14, from 4-7 PM. Adults-only (no childcare provided). The meal will be custom-created to meet the participants' health needs and culinary interests. Whole Foods Whole People specializes in healthful, delicious, easy-to-prepare vegetarian and vegan cooking, but non-vegetarian meals can also be prepared if desired. Cost: \$35 per person (paid in advance to hold the reservation) R.S.V.P. by January 6, 2006 to Lora Bonser (896-2836) or thebonsers@msn.com. Limited space available!

January Reggio Emilia Talk

Diane Boujikian and Sonja De Groot Kim will be speaking about Reggio Emilia education on a Tuesday eve in late January. Diane will show slides of the schools in Reggio Emilia and talk about her trip last spring. More info coming soon!

February Valentines Fundraiser

We are planning a fundraiser with the Alps Sweet Shoppe for this February, just in time for Valentines giving. More info soon on sweets from this fabulous chocolatier – support your school and a wonderful old local business!

Spring Tag Sale

Early warning: We are planning a Tag Sale for the Spring – date TBD. Our idea is for Randolph families and friends to buy your own tables and sell your own stuff. So keep this in mind as you're doing any late winter/early spring cleaning!

Parents' Night Out

Here's your chance to have a date, go shopping, whatever – and let your kids have some great fun, too! Sign up for the upcoming *Parents' Night Out* and pay \$10 per child, and then drop your child off at Randolph for a great time while you get three hours to do whatever you want! More info soon. For more information, or to get involved, contact Rachelle Reis-Larson (220-6544).

Labels

It's STILL possible to get great labels for your kids' clothes, lunch boxes, backpacks, shoes, and more, and make a donation to the school! You can pick up the brochure at school, or go online to Stuck On You, <http://www.stuckonyou.biz>, and make sure you indicate that the school donation should go to Randolph School!

Eric's 30th!

Last but certainly not least – it's Eric Tomlins' 30th year at Randolph this year! Anyone who would like to be involved in the planning can contact Diane Boujikian at school, or the event organizers Rachelle Reis-Larson (220-6544) and Karen Teich (297-1523).

The participants in this year's parents group, as always, are all dedicated, BUSY people! We are always looking for new faces – those who would like to participate in or help coordinate events, or just join us for a fun time together, with a chance for the kids to have an equally good time hanging out at school after hours. Please join us!

Parent Group Information

Co-chairs: Rachelle Reis-Larson (220-6544) and Karen Teich (297-1523).

Meetings: *First Wednesday night of each month, from 6pm to 7:30pm, with childcare and pizza provided.*