

**The Ninth Annual
Rotary
Rising Achievers Program**



Seminole County South Rotary Club
April 19, 2009
Orlando Marriott at Lake Mary

Ninth Annual Rising Achievers Program

The Seminole County South Rotary Club is in its ninth year of sponsoring the Rotary Rising Achievers Program.

This program, held annually in the spring, is designed to honor two outstanding students from each of Seminole County's nine high schools. These students are selected for consideration by their school faculty and submitted to a group of Rotarians who choose two from each school. These are students who have had to face many challenges and adversity, and who have handled many unusual situations and are exercising great effort and intellect to pursue their dreams for the future.

2009 RAP Committee Chairs

Chairman

Avron Satill

Past Chair

Linda Schoonover

Student Recognition

Dede Schaffner

Corporate Sponsors

Fred Poole

Table Assignments

Table Assignments

Karen Almond

Portrait Photography

Peter Burg

Raffle

Paul Crouch

Program/AV

Bill Potter

Ambassadors

Lori Martone

Public Relations

Ruby Homayssi

Silent Auction

Sharon DeRousha

Communications

Chris Sorensen

Evening Schedule

Cocktails

5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Silent Auction

5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Welcome by Emcee

Jim Byrne

Color Guard

Lyman High ROTC

Invocation

Bob Levy

Introduction RAP

Joe Williams

Dinner

Lake Brantley Voices of Freedom Singers

Directed by

Mr. Carlton Kilpatrick

Introduction of Sponsors

Fred Poole

Student Recognition & Awards

Dede Schaffner

Barry Gainer

Live Auction

Ticket Raffle

Dr. Bill Vogel

Close

Jim Byrne

Dinner Menu

Salad

Spinach Salad

Entree

Filet Mignon or
Porcini Crusted Grouper or
Spring Herb Chicken

Garlic Mashed Potatoes &
Vegetable Medley

Coffee, Decaf,
Herbal Teas and Iced Tea
Fresh Rolls & Butter

Dessert

What is Rotary?

Rotary is a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders that provides humanitarian service, encourages high ethical standards in all vocations and helps build goodwill and peace in the world. Approximately 1.2 million Rotarians belong to more than 32,000 clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas.

Rotary club membership represents a cross-section of the community's business and professional men and women. The world's Rotary clubs meet weekly and are nonpolitical, nonreligious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds.

The main objective of Rotary is service — in the community, in the workplace, and throughout the world. Rotarians develop community service projects that address many of today's most critical issues, such as children at risk, poverty and hunger, the environment, illiteracy, and violence. They also support programs for youth, educational opportunities and international exchanges for students, teachers, and other professionals, and vocational and career development. The

Rotary motto is:

Service Above Self.

What is Rotary?

The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International is a not-for-profit corporation that promotes world understanding through international humanitarian service programs and educational and cultural exchanges.

All Rotarians worldwide united with the Rotary Foundation in a campaign for the global eradication of polio. Since the 1980's, Rotary has contributed leadership, more than \$500 million dollars, and an army of volunteers to promote and assist at national immunization days in countries around the world. Today polio is endemic in only 5 countries. The Bill Gates Foundation contributed over \$200 million toward completing the eradication effort.

In addition to the Polio Plus initiative, since 1947 the Rotary Foundation has awarded more than \$1.1 billion in humanitarian and educational grants, which are initiated and administered by local Rotary clubs and districts. The motto of the Rotary International Foundation is

"Doing good in the world".

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We proudly salute the following sponsors who are supporting the "Rotary Rising Achievers Program" and the outstanding charitable work of the Seminole County South Rotary Club.

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Rising Achievers

Chad Albritton - CROOMS ACADEMY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

As an active member of Demolay International, Chad Albritton has volunteered to feed the needy, repaired houses and cleaned streets. At a young age he started volunteering at Magnolia Towers visiting the elderly and helping them with various tasks.



Thus, community service has become an important part of his life. At age fourteen he started working at Semoran Skateway to help out with the family finances where he is still employed. Chad hopes to continue his education at SCC, Stetson or University of Central Florida where he will pursue a career in business.

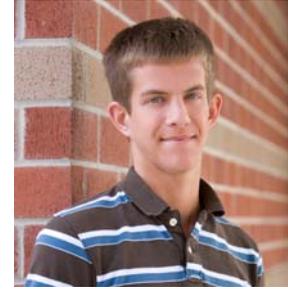
Kevin Jugmohan – CROOMS ACADEMY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Kevin Jugmohan's father told him: "Strive for success and success will follow." And, Kevin takes that to heart. When his father died suddenly in 2007, he was determined to succeed and to follow his dreams. At Crooms he has been active in volleyball, soccer, Future Educators of America, math tutor and Business Professionals of America. Kevin hopes to attend Seminole Community College and UCF where he plans to pursue a degree in Networking Communications.



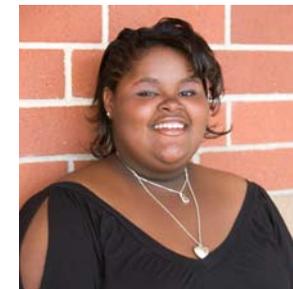
Lee Biedenbarn – HAGERTY HIGH SCHOOL

A well-mannered, personable young man with a quiet, unassuming personality, Lee Biedenbarn has challenged himself at Hagerty High School. He has taken Honors and Advanced Placement classes and has also participated in JV Cross Country, water polo, weightlifting, soccer and basketball. His father's failing health and subsequent death lead Lee to begin working cleaning a 15,000 square foot office building. Lee looks forward to attending University of South Florida to pursue a career in science or history.



Elissa Harvey – HAGERTY HIGH SCHOOL

Challenges since she was six months old have lead Elissa Harvey to appreciate what she has been given today. Before she started high school she was adopted by the Harvey family and her whole life changed. She sings in the chorus at Hagerty High and is involved in her church. She also serves as a teacher assistant. Elissa aspires to open her own business one day so would like to attend massage therapy school as well as a culinary arts program.



Enoc Choi – LAKE BRANTLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Spending the first ten years of his life in the Andes Mountains in Bolivia as the son of missionaries, Enoc Choi learned what it was like to serve others. He learned to speak three languages (English, Korean, and Spanish) and served as an interpreter. He also plays four instruments and leads the Youth Group Praise Team at his church. At Lake Brantley he has won many awards and is currently taking seven Advanced Placement classes. He has been accepted to the University of Florida and has aspirations of following in his parents footsteps to become a missionary.



Brandi Wyant – LAKE BRANTLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Brandi Wyant is a talented artist and wants to pursue a career in art and photography. Helping the grandmother who raised her battle a life-threatening disease, Brandi is working 30 hours a week and still carries a full load at Lake Brantley. In her junior year in high school she partnered with a friend and created a successful web design firm called Fox Web Designs. Brandi plans to attend the Ringling College of Art and Design with the ultimate career goal of being an art director for an advertising agency.



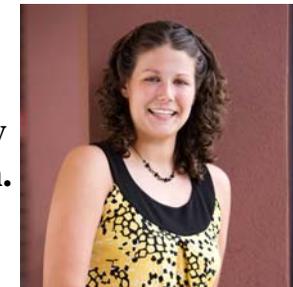
Sydney Barta – LAKE HOWELL HIGH SCHOOL

Diagnosed with cerebral palsy as a child, Sydney Barta has worked hard to mold herself as an individual and adapt her own sense of self because of her disability. But, she does not let CP stand in her way. She stubbornly refuses to use crutches or a walker and has taught herself how to get things done in a way that works for her. She has been involved with theatre and drama but in her junior year she joined the In-flight newspaper staff and this experience has opened her eyes to a career in journalism. She has also been working at Target for a year and a half. “Yes, it is a challenge but it was the life I was given and I am living it the best I can.” Sydney will begin her journey to study journalism at Seminole Community College.



Jeanine Curovic – LAKE HOWELL HIGH SCHOOL

Jeanine Curovic’s life changed her sophomore year in high school. Cancer struck and after many bouts of treatment, thankfully, she is in remission. She says, “I’ve learned a ton in my life and the main things are that I don’t take anything for granted, I stay close with my family, and I live every day to the fullest.” And, that she has! She has been to the state finals in bowling and, after playing basketball since she could walk, she was a key member of the Lake Howell Lady Silver Hawks basketball team that recently won the Florida Class 5A championships! Jeanine will be entering Valencia



Rising Achievers
Community College to pursue a career in nursing.

Sharon Lannaman – LAKE MARY HIGH SCHOOL

Attending three high schools in three years, Sharon Lannaman has seen some challenges but she is happy Lake Mary is the last stop! The most difficult part was meeting new friends and leaving old ones behind. Becoming a parent at age 16 also proved to be a challenge. Sharon is in Invisible Children which is a club that helps children in Africa as well as Pre-Collegiate. She plans to attend Seminole Community College to begin her career in Early Childhood Education.



Desiree Patrick – LAKE MARY HIGH SCHOOL

What separates each of us is how we choose to deal with what life has been given us. Desiree Patrick was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy at birth and eventually moved to Atlanta, Georgia to live with an aunt and uncle. After a few years, they all decided to re-locate in the Central Florida area. Desiree missed her entire junior year in high school due to surgery, therapy and other related issues. But, she says, “I made it! Because it’s not what you have but how you use it. I’m getting there and nothing is going to get in my way. I know I’m destined for greatness no matter what anybody else says.” A poetry writer, Desiree has a part-time job and helps her grandmother with her business. Desiree aspires to be a clinical psychologist.



Timmarie Hutchinson – LYMAN HIGH SCHOOL



Timmarie Hutchinson is one busy girl! She was president of Lyman’s Optimist Club for one year and governor of the North Florida District the following year. Timmarie has volunteered with New Hope for Kids for eight years, most recently serving as a Grief Facilitator helping children who have lost someone close to them. She has helped at Mayflower Retirement Home, Relay for Life and is active in her Bible Club. She works 16 hours a week at a day care and helps her grandmother at home raising her siblings. All this and she has a 4.0 grade point average! Timmarie hopes to attend Rollins College to become a child psychologist.

Chelsea Perrone – LYMAN HIGH SCHOOL



Moving many, many times meant transferring from school to school for Chelsea Perrone. But, “what doesn’t kill me makes me stronger” has become her motto. Her resilience is an inspiration to others and her determination to stay the course and graduate with her classmates is admirable. Chelsea was on the swim team during her freshman year at Lyman and also participated in the American Sign Language club. She is working at Pro Activ in the mall as well as Godiva Chocolatiers. A teacher writes: “If there ever were a young woman alive who was determined to succeed with a great attitude, it is Chelsea Perrone.” Chelsea aspires to attend the culinary program at Valencia Community College.

Rising Achievers

Tien Holmes – OVIEDO HIGH SCHOOL

“Greatness born out of adversity” best describes Tien Holmes. The adversities she has faced in her home life would cripple many of us. But this is a young lady with a mission and her mission is to be a journalist. She is on the newspaper staff at Oviedo High School which won her a scholarship to attend the Knight Minority Summer Journalism Workshop at FAMU. As a senior staffer on the *Lion’s Tale Newspaper*, Tien writes complex articles that are widely read throughout the community. She has a portfolio that stretches over three years. Tien will be attending Florida A & M or the University of Miami.



Dianelys Padron – OVIEDO HIGH SCHOOL

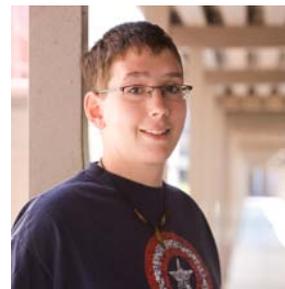
Dianelys Padron came to this country from Cuba when she was 12 years old and struggled to learn English. She helped her Mom support the family until they could bring her father over from Cuba to be with them. Her dream is to create an organization to help young people that are involved in drugs and gangs to become free. Dianelys plans to attend Valencia Community College to begin her studies to become a lawyer or a criminal psychologist.



Rising Achievers

Joshua Graham – SEMINOLE HIGH SCHOOL

An active member of the AFJROTC at Seminole High all four years, Joshua Graham is currently the safety officer and was on the saber team. He is a member of Student Ventures and plays an important role in the leadership of the youth group at Central Baptist Church. He has been on two World Changers mission trips and goes with his youth group once a month to feed the homeless. All this while battling a continuing brain tumor since fifth grade with surgery, radiation, therapy and all the complications to go with it. Despite all this, he has been able to maintain a class load of both Honors and Advanced Placement classes at Seminole and remains on track to graduate.



Justin Piediscalzo - SEMINOLE HIGH SCHOOL

“Justin Piediscalzo is the number one spirit guy at Seminole High School – just ask anyone in the whole school. He shows the most spirit at pep rallies and games, even coming dressed as arrows and Indians (for the Seminoles).” After losing his hero and best friend, his Dad, to cancer, Justin almost gave up. But, he realized he needed to pull himself together and get back on track because his Dad would want him to succeed. He has worked extremely hard to improve his grades, is always upbeat, and mentors other students who are having difficulty adjusting to school. Justin will be attending Seminole Community College to begin his studies to become a pharmacist.



Rising Achievers

Erica Geer – WINTER SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL

In spite of obstacles including the loss of her mother, Erica Geer has progressed into an excellent student, albeit it with a learning disability. She is a member of the National Society of High School Scholars. Erica is an outstanding encourager with exceptional verbal and organizational skills with a desire to be successful. She is employed at Sonic. Her goal is to become an Early Childhood Teacher.



Sarah Guglielomello – WINTER SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL

On the Color Guard Team through marching season and continuing on with Winter Guard, Sarah Guglielomello has competed throughout Florida. She has also bowled for Oviedo High School and is currently working as a teacher's aide. She is helping as a teacher's assistant in the childcare program at Northland Church and has attended their High School Ministries Program. All this and still dealing with the affects of radiation administered when she was 4 ½ years old fighting cancer. Sarah aspires to be a cosmetologist and will attend a beauty school locally.



Seminole County South Rotary Club

Forty years ago, on March 8, 1969, Rotary International granted the Rotary Club of Seminole South its Charter. Officially a member of the Rotary Family, the club, under the leadership of the first president, Jack P. Toole, commenced its "Service Above Self" with 33 members. Plans were immediately formulated to raise funds for needy charities within the community.

Through the years, the Rotary Club of Seminole County South has contributed much to local and international projects.

Some highlights are:

- Constructed a medical clinic on the Ile de la Gonave, Haiti.
- Repaired a school and administration building and contributed to special projects such as ensuring water supply to La Amiablle, Haiti.
- Sponsored several exchange students.
- Supports the R.Y.L.A. Program (Rotary Youth Leadership) annually.
- Hosted several Group Study Exchange teams: Germany 1999, Brazil 2000, Brazil 2005, Australia 2006, Russia 2006, Australia 2007, Philippines 2008.
- Sponsored three new Rotary Clubs in Seminole County: Casselberry, Forest City and Longwood.
- Led the planning and construction of the Sharing Concern for Seminole County Children's Home.
- Pledged \$30,500 to Rotary International's Polio Plus initiative and met the goal in record time.
- Grants scholarships to students on an annual basis.
- Cooks and serves meals at the "Coalition for the Homeless" quarterly.
- Participated in the Little Wekiva River cleanups.
- Contributes to local charities annually.
- Honor "Rotary Rising Achievers" annually since 2000.
- Completed construction on a Habitat for Humanity house in 2007.
- Built an orphanage in Santiago Chile.
- Attended Rotary International "Clean Water Conference" in Haiti in 2008.

The Rotary Club of Seminole County South will continue to contribute to building a better community and a better world.

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Mail

2425 Silver Star Road

Orlando, FL 32804

E-Mail

service@protechac.com



Rotary Club of Seminole County South
PO Box 160306
Altamonte Springs, Florida 32716