

Meet Our Speaker: DATHAN JOHNSON

Dathan Johnson was born and raised in the city of Philadelphia, Pa to a single parent of 4. Once an 'A' student that become distracted by the streets and as a teen eventually dropped out of high school, and spent years engaging in delinquent acts. Becoming tired of a life going nowhere and thanks to people who never gave up on me, I returned to school.

After working numerous manual labor jobs observing supervisors getting college degrees and subsequent promotions, I realized an education can change your situation, circumstances and future and enrolled into West Chester University in Pennsylvania to earn my Bachelor's Degree in Business Management. This set me on the path of a successful corporate career with public and private companies. After years of success with a Bachelors' degree I returned back to school to earn my Master's Degree in Business Administration. In 2007, this success eventually brought me to Pinellas County Florida in another corporate position.

Once here in Pinellas County, the news media at the time highlighted the underperforming schools, the widening achievement gap, rising high school drop-out rates and youth crime. Having familiarity with that life, I knew the path today's youth was headed and wanted to help prevent them from taking the long path I took and decided to do something about it and formed A Vision of Hope Youth Network Inc. in 2010. As a registered 501c3 not-for-profit organization, we began working directly with the youth in the community by delivering academic and social workshops to youth at existing out-of-school locations during out-of-school hours.

As the Founder and Executive Director of A Vision of Hope Youth Network Inc., the academic workshops offered engage youth in hands-on experiential learning activities combined with field trips, mentors, sponsors and volunteers from the surrounding community. Our social skills & character building workshops teach youth the soft skills needed to be successful. Our goal is to expose workshop participants to academic and social opportunities that guide and direct their educational paths and careers while inspiring participants to pursue S.T.E.M. college degrees and careers.

I am excited at the possibilities we have to change the lives of the youth in our community, helping them to become academically and socially successful, to become productive members



ROTARY 2013-2014

SEMINOLE SMOKE SIGNALS

Club Number 4289

November 20, 2013



PRAYER FOR TODAY: Lord, help me to let the quality of my deeds speak on my behalf. Amen

PROGRAM THIS WEEK: Dathan Johnson, A Vision of Hope, and Club Assembly

PROGRAM LAST WEEK: District Governor Roger Proffer, Sr

PROGRAM NEXT WEEK Joint Meeting with Kawanis Club
Guy Buckmaster, CEO/Founder
Heart for Haiti Foundation

Upcoming Events:

December 4	Former Governor Bob Martinez Holland & Knight, Senior Policy Advisor
December 7	Shopping for the Kids, 8:30am, K-Mart on 66th Street
December 11	Denny Mitchell, Big Cat Rescue
December 14	Christmas Party, 6:15, Bayou Club
December 18	Susan Adger, Author

Rotary Club of Seminole Officers 2013-2014:

President	Hank Houser	Sergeant at Arms	Jim Woodworth
President Elect	Gerry Miller	Bulletin Editor	Jeff Graves/Ruth Berry
Secretary	Al Stephenson	Past President	Bill Slobodkin
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District 6950 Website - www.rotary6950.org
Seminole Rotary Website - www.seminolerotary.org
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