

Meet Our Speaker: **DAWN CURTIS, R.N., A.R.P.N.**

Dawn Curtis is a nurse practitioner in private practice. She received her Bachelors of Science degree in Nursing at the University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire. After four years of active duty in the Navy Nurse Corps, she completed her Master's degree in nursing at the University of South Florida. She is retired from the Naval Reserves and continues to practice as an advanced registered nurse practitioner (ARNP) in Largo, Florida. Ms. Curtis has been teaching community CPR courses for 21 years.

Deep Thoughts...

The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese in the trap.
Support bacteria. They're the only culture most people have.
A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.
Change is inevitable, except from vending machines.
If you think nobody cares, try missing a couple of payments.
How many of you believe in psychokinesis? Raise my hand.
OK, so what's the speed of dark?
When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
Hard work pays off in the future. Laziness pays off now.
How much deeper would the ocean be without sponges?

Rotary Club of Seminole Officers 2013-2014:

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District 6950 Website - www.rotary6950.org
Seminole Rotary Website - www.seminolerotary.org
Rotary Club of Seminole P.O. Box 3313 • Seminole, FL 33775-3313



ROTARY 2013-2014

SEMINOLE SMOKE SIGNALS



Club Number 4289

April 9, 2014

PRAYER FOR TODAY: Grant, O Lord, that the true spirit of service above self enter our hearts, and that our every act be guided by The Four Way Test of Rotary. Amen.

PROGRAM THIS WEEK: Dawn Curtis R.N., CPR and Dibrillator

PROGRAM LAST WEEK: Roger Kraft, What if Mozart had 30 Gigabytes?

PROGRAM NEXT WEEK: Commissioner Janet C. Long, Pinellas County

Upcoming Events:

April 23	Rotary Education Meeting, Claude McMullen
April 30	Kris Hundley----Investigative Reporter Tampa Bay Times
May 7	Alicai Polk ESQ Human Trafficking
May 14	Dan Mann CEO,Lighthouse of Pinellas
May 21	Ken Burke, CPA, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Pinellas County

Water project unites Lebanon clubs across all divides.

A project to provide clean water to all of Lebanon's schools is uniting leaders from many of the country's diverse religious, cultural, and political divisions.



In 2011, Rotary members in northern Lebanon decided to install new tanks and water filters in a few nearby schools with the help of a Rotary Foundation grant. The idea caught on and a few other clubs followed suit.

Two years later, District 2452 Governor Jamil Mouawad and other district leaders saw the potential of creating one giant water project that could reach every school and involve all 24 of the country's Rotary clubs. They formed a committee to handle publicity and gather technical knowledge, while each club was asked to provide volunteers, contribute funds, apply for grants, and secure contributions from outside organizations.

“Every student has the right to drink clean water. It goes without saying that clean drinking water leads to less diseases, healthier students, and consequently, better education,” says Mouawad. “The bigger the challenge, the greater its positive impact on humanity.”

While clean water is the main objective, the leaders also saw the effort as a means of helping heal Lebanon's long history of sectarian strife. A civil war divided the country from 1975 to 1990, leaving an estimated 120,000 people dead. In recent years, Lebanon's government is a shifting coalition of religions, political parties, and sects.

Lina Shehayeb, president of the Rotary Club of Aley, is a Druze by faith. Shehayeb says working alongside club members who are Catholic, Maronite, Greek Orthodox, Armenian Orthodox, and Muslim to promote the project has deepened her understanding of those with different religious or political views.

“We are building peace and understanding,” she says. “There has never been anything quite like this in our country.”

Even the distribution of club responsibilities is designed to foster peace. Each club is responsible for a certain number of schools, some in their area but some in a totally separate region. The clubs nominate a project coordinator, find qualified suppliers, arrange for sponsors, and allocate contributions from sponsors, district funds, and global grants to finance the installation of filters in the schools.

“For example a club from Jounieh, a Christian resort town north of Beirut, might be assigned schools in the southern mountains near the Israeli border, an area that is considerably poorer and primarily Shia Muslim,” explains Mouawad. “After all, who — no matter what their political or religious views — could argue with providing clean water for children?”

The effort could not have come at a better time. With the crisis in Syria, Lebanon's population is ballooning with refugees, including many school-age children. By improving the schools these kids attend, Rotary members are laying the groundwork for future peace in the region.

The committee is working in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, World Vision, UNICEF, and the Red Cross. Red Cross volunteers take water samples in each of the schools a few times a year and send those samples to the Lebanese Agricultural Laboratory Institute for testing.

According to the committee's technical team, it will cost roughly \$2,500 a school to install water tanks, filters, and provide ongoing monitoring. About 200 schools have been covered so far. The goal is to reach all 1,535 schools within three years.