

Meet our Speaker: **Michael Ostrander**

Chef Michael began learning and loving this profession some 47 years ago as a young boy in New Jersey. He was able to continue learning while serving in the U.S. Military and once they discovered his talent and high quality standard, he was quickly promoted to teach other bakers. While serving overseas, Chef Michael took advantage of numerous opportunities to learn authentic baking techniques in various countries and continues to apply those skills today.

Upon leaving the military, Chef Michael continued teaching as pastry educator at the Johnson & Wales Culinary School. His years of baking also include working as Executive Pastry Chef at many upscale resorts such as the Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress in Orlando and the Beverly Hills Hilton in Beverly Hills, CA. His desserts and pastries have delighted celebrities, Presidents, and audiences around the world.

Chef Michael has been in Pinellas County for 10+ years and was motivated to open his own bakery due to disappointment with the lack of quality and standard found in many "bakeries" today. A few years ago, he began an academy to continue teaching others the importance of quality ingredients and baking techniques. The opportunity to learn continues today at St Pete Bakery with Sunday classes, open to the public, and a 6 month program, offered for individuals who are looking to learn a profession or simply impress their family and friends.



Orange Grove Students of the Month:
Payton St. Cyr
Olivia Palmer
Willow Cantfield



ROTARY 2015-2016

SEMINOLE SMOKE SIGNALS

Club Number 4289



September 23, 2015

PRAYER FOR TODAY: Lord, may You touch someone through me this day. Amen.

PROGRAM THIS WEEK: Michael Ostrander, Pastry Chef and Educator

PROGRAM LAST WEEK: Neil Brickfield, PCSO, Police Athletic League

PROGRAM NEXT WEEK: Bill Karns, Jr., Remember Our Children (ROC) Park

Upcoming Events:

Sept 24th: Auction Committee meeting, 5:15

Sept. 29th: Beerfest meeting, 5:30

Oct 3rd: Beerfest

Nov. 14th: Auction

Dec. 4th: Holiday Christmas Party at the Club at Treasure Island

Rotary Club of Seminole Officers 2015-2016:

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| President | Tim Ingold | Sergeant at Arms | Jim Woodworth |
| President Elect | Bob Matthews | Bulletin Editor | Jeff Graves/Ruth Berry |
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| District 6950 Website - www.rotary6950.org | | | |
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| Rotary Club of Seminole P.O. Box 3313 • Seminole, FL 33775-3313 | | | |

Celebrating the International Day of Peace in Central Mexico



Participants in last year's International Day of Peace celebration form a peace circle.

Upon landing in Mexico in late April, I hit the ground running. I was asked to share my amazing experience as a recent graduate of the Rotary Peace Center in Bangkok at a peace conference organized by our local Rotary club and Camino de la Paz. Soon after, I was invited to participate on the organizing committee for International Peace Day.

There is a huge imperative in the world, and in our little community in Central Mexico, San Miguel de Allende, to create peace among our citizens on both sides of a huge social and economic divide. Two years ago, a concerned group of community members came together to promote peace by acting as an umbrella group for all the peace initiatives in town. The group, which includes several Rotary members, calls itself Camino de la Paz — The Way, or Path, of Peace.

The group organized a short conference with staff from Rotary International who talked about Rotary's efforts to promote peace and held a celebration last year on the International Day of Peace that attracted over 800 people.

Continuing its success, Camino de la Paz will celebrate this year's International Day of Peace on Sunday, 20 September, with even greater involvement from the community, Rotary members, and now Rotary Peace Fellows.

Peace is possible

Our motto for this year is "Peace is possible and it is inside every one of us." We have expanded our scope to become a connector between the Mexican and foreign communities, which represent a significant percentage of the population, and between the cultural center and the outlying communities.

For the event, we have united leaders from organizations to take action on peace projects like Allende la Cultura, which seeks greater participation for marginalized youth in the city's many cultural events. Most of these events happen in the center of town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and are not accessible to the youth in outlying neighborhoods due to cost and location. So Allende la Cultura brings the events to them by holding spinoff activities in their own neighborhoods.

Together with Allende la Cultura, we will start the Peace Day celebration — actually a full weekend — on Friday, 18 September, with a rap tournament in which a well-known rapper from Mexico City will draw in youth to rap their freestyle messages of peace and community. These young people will close the peace day event on Sunday with a performance.

San Miguel's two Rotary clubs have donated funds to cover the cost of the rap tournament and will display their peace and development projects. We were also happy to receive a donation for the event from a Rotary club in Portland, Oregon, USA.

Peace is possible around the world, but it needs community, Rotarians, and perhaps a Rotary Peace Fellow. Join us for a post-event conversation on the Camino de La Paz Facebook page, and learn how you can support the Rotary Peace Centers.