

Meet Our Speaker: **Carol Cook**

Elected to the School Board in 2000 Carol Cook has served as chairperson numerous times and represented the board on several local organizations. She is a graduate of the University of South Florida and former teacher in Pinellas County. Prior to her election, Carol served on the Florida PTA Board of Directors for nine years. Her service included Vice President for Regions and Councils, Vice President for Leadership and President of the Pinellas County Council PTA/PTSA

In addition to her work in Pinellas County, Carol is a Leadership Services Consultant providing professional development for school board members and superintendents statewide for Florida School Boards Association (FSBA). Carol has chaired several working committees for FSBA and is currently the Pinellas County delegate to the FSBA Board of Directors and chairperson of the Florida School Labor Relations Services Committee.



SEMINOLE SMOKE SIGNALS



ROTARY 2017-2018

Club Number 4289

December 13, 2017

PRAYER FOR TODAY: Lord, let me not forget that Your blessings are to be shared. Amen.

PROGRAM THIS WEEK: **Carol Cook,**
Pinellas County School Board

PROGRAM NEXT WEEK: **George Donovan,**
20 Countries in 20 Minutes

PROGRAM LAST WEEK: **Bobby Deskings,**
WTSP Channel 10

Upcoming Events:

Dec. 27th **NO MEETING**
Jan 3 Bill Karns - program member
Jan 10 Ed Lurie - program member
Jan 17 Ed Lurie - program member
Jan 24 Dan Mann- Lighthouse for the Blind
Jan 31 Phyllis Stockfisch - program member

Rotary Club of Seminole Officers 2017-2018:

President	CJ Morris	Sergeant at Arms	Frank Tanzella
President Elect	Ginger Hayes	Bulletin Editor	Jeff Graves/Ruth Berry
Secretary	Lorie Whitney	Past President	Bob Matthews
Treasurer	Mike McQuilkin		

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

How Rotary is assisting recovery in Puerto Rico

By José Lucas Rodríguez, governor of Rotary District 7000 (Puerto Rico)

Puerto Rico is an island in the Caribbean, the smallest of the Greater Antilles, which is distinguished by its natural beauties, the talent of Puerto Ricans in music, arts, and sports, and above all for the warmth of its people.

But the so-called island of Enchantment was transformed by what already has been classified as the most catastrophic event in the history not only of Puerto Rico, but of the United States. More than a month after Hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico, our people are still struggling to recover from the impact of this natural phenomenon, which left so much desolation in its wake.

Thousands of families have lost their houses totally or partially, either by winds of more than 185 miles per hour (295 km/h) or by the heavy rains that caused landslides that obstructed a lot of major roads, and overflowed all of our rivers and lakes. The force of the winds snatched the greenery out of our mountains, demolished much of our trees, and caused millions in damages to the infrastructure of the country.

But the response from Rotarians in District 7000 was quick and precise. A few days after the hurricane, several clubs around the island began to provide humanitarian aid to those affected. The help included non-perishable food, water, hygiene kits, water filters, solar lights, and power generators.

Rotarians in Puerto Rico are now focused on the recovery and reconstruction phases. Rotary clubs have developed plans to work with pumping systems for renewable energy projects in communities without potable water, the installation of water filtration systems, and the rollout of community economic development projects for the most affected areas. Disease prevention efforts in areas affected by the hurricane are also taking place, among other initiatives.



Rotary International has established a Donor Advised Fund (DAF) of the Rotary Foundation (number 614), to support projects for the recovery of Puerto Rico. Given the great work that remains ahead, contributions from Rotarians to this fund will be essential to help Puerto Rico get back on their feet.

Without a doubt, the “Isla del Encanto” will need several years to fully recover, and many hands to help its people achieve it. And within those hands will be those of Rotarians from Puerto Rico and around the world with their contributions, ideas and volunteering, which all will make the difference in the lifting of Puerto Rico.

How to help:

A Rotary Foundation Donor Advised Fund designated by donors has been established to accept contributions that will aid hurricane victims in Puerto Rico. Visit the District 7000 website to learn more.