

Meet our Speaker: **John Mavros**

John Mavros says he will always remember feeling great being part of something special as an Interact Club member in Wilmington, North Carolina. He later served as a Rotarian in Newark, New Jersey, where he founded a nonprofit to give job search assistance to ex-inmates and provide rides out of Newark and Camden for over one million family members to visit a loved one in a New Jersey correctional facility. John also taught psychology as a professor of liberal arts at Berkeley College in New Jersey before moving to Saint Petersburg in 2010.

A graduate of Princeton, John has served as a substitute teacher and guidance counselor in Pinellas County schools. In his free time, John enjoys dancing, listening to music, golf, exercising, and spiritual activities that keep his mind alert and body alert in shape.

He is writing a book *Enough Is Enough: How Teachers and Parents Can Regain Control with Strategies for a New Day*. It is scheduled for publication this summer and will offer strategies for teachers and parents to stop playing the blame game. John plans to talk today about how a school and teachers can build relationships with the family based on the adage, “parents and students don’t really care how much a teacher knows until they know how much a teacher really cares.”

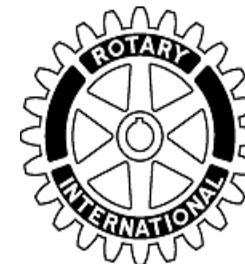
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District 6950 Website - www.rotary6950.org
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Rotary Club of Seminole P.O. Box 3313 • Seminole, FL 33775-3313



SEMINOLE SMOKE SIGNALS



ROTARY 2017-2018

Club Number 4289

April 25, 2018

PRAYER FOR TODAY: Lord, teach us not only to feel love, but to share it. Amen

PROGRAM THIS WEEK: John Mavros , Author, *Enough is Enough*

PROGRAM NEXT WEEK: Gretchen Letterman, School Board

PROGRAM LAST WEEK: Mark Ely, Community Development Director for the City of Seminole

Upcoming Events:

May 9th	Bill Karns - Mitchell Shenkma - Guardian Ad Litem
May 16th	Kip Janes - Fischer House at Bay Pines
May 23rd	Bob Castles
May 30th	Bob Burg
June 6th	Phylis Boksen
June 13th	Phil Crow

Rotary alum turns trash into treasure

Binish Desai's company makes bricks from industrial waste otherwise destined for the landfill.

I started my journey in Rotary as a Youth Exchange Student in 2009-10, hosted by the Rotary Club of Waukegan, Illinois, USA. I'm now a member of the Rotary Club of Bulsar, India, and Rotary helps me live out my dream, a dream I have had since age 11 – giving back to my community in service.



In 2005, I created my first brick using industrial paper waste and chewing gum. Similar bricks of recycled materials would go on to make thousands of stand-alone toilets for rural communities by 2015. The company I founded, Eco Eclectic Technologies, continues to research and invent new products in pursuit of a clean India. It is a vision captured in one of my mantras:

“Nothing is useless in this world. What might be a waste to you is someone else's assets.”

I like to tell people that Eco Eclectic Technologies is a transformation parlor for industrial waste. Neglected and unwanted waste comes to us instead of the landfill, and we transform it into useful items that people can use in their everyday lives.

EcoLights Studio: a micro social enterprise that is connected to Eco Eclectic Technologies, aims to employ non-skilled women and rural artisans. We teach them how to create light fixtures, made entirely of waste, by hand. Every light that is purchased recycles 7 kilograms of waste, helping reduce carbon emission and electronic waste. The lights themselves are 90 percent recyclable.

Bin-Nish means “without darkness, spreading light.” To fulfill the meaning of my name, I teach a waste management course for college and high school students. Students experiment with waste to find innovative solutions. When you start experimenting with waste, you will never end up empty handed. These students represent the hope of finding even more solutions, toward the goal of constantly improving our country.

And throughout this process, Rotary and Rotarians have supported my innovations and have been able to contribute to many of our unique projects. One way we show our dedication to the environment is plant one tree in an industrial area for every light fixture we sell, and ensure they are maintained. It thrills me to know that Rotary shares my concern for the planet, a fact demonstrated by President Ian H.S. Riseley's challenge this year to clubs to plant a tree for every member of their club. It's yet another way I find my own values aligning with Rotary.

Rotary's motto of Service Above Self has always inspired its members to contribute to society. To me, Rotary is family. And I look forward to continuing to make a difference in the world with innovations for a cleaner and more sustainable world, inspired and supported by my Rotary family.



Orange Grove Elementary
Students of the Month
Alina Hernandez
Maliyah Gibson
Liberty Adams



Seminole Elementary
Students of the Month
Dallas Burke
Hayden Cook
Jordan Pope