

## Meet our Speaker: **Kenneth Afienko**



Ken became a certified law enforcement officer in 1981 and worked for the Madeira Beach Police Department, rising to the ranks of acting chief before retiring in 1995 to attend law school. After graduating law school in 1998, Ken began his career in personal injury law, but soon started his own law firm in 2002 and became the Pinellas County Fraternal Order of Police's general counsel. As part of his general counsel duties, Ken has represented numerous law enforcement officers in duty-related shootings and self-defense situations. In addition, Ken continues to this day as a reserve law enforcement officer for the Kenneth City Police Department after having worked for the Pinellas Park Police Department for 18-years from 1997-2015.

### **About Critical Incident Seminars**

Critical Incident Seminars mission is to provide information to law-abiding citizens should they ever need to use force to defend themselves or their families. The six-hour seminar, "Before and After the Smoke Clears," offers comprehensive information on what do to both before and after using force in a lawful self-defense incident.

#### **Rotary Club of Seminole Officers 2018-2019:**

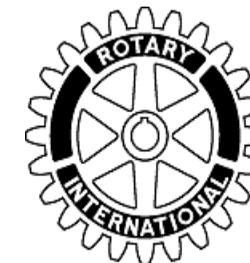
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District 6950 Website - [www.rotary6950.org](http://www.rotary6950.org)  
Seminole Rotary Website - [www.seminolerotary.org](http://www.seminolerotary.org)  
Rotary Club of Seminole P.O. Box 3313 • Seminole, FL 33775-3313



ROTARY 2018-2019

## **SEMINOLE SMOKE SIGNALS**



Club Number 4289

August 29, 2018

**PRAYER FOR TODAY:** Lord, we thank You for this food, for all the blessings which You give. Strengthen our bodies and our souls, and let us for Your service live. Amen

**PROGRAM THIS WEEK:** Attorney Kenneth J. Afienko,  
"Florida's Stand Your Ground" law

**PROGRAM NEXT WEEK:** District Governor's visit

**PROGRAM LAST WEEK:** Marti Gianciola, Principle of  
Pinellas Tech

### **Upcoming Events:**

Sept. 19th	Carolyn Plano, National Director of Liberty Benefits
Sept. 26th	Nathan Witt. - Bay Pines
Oct. 3rd:	Alex Heeren - IT for Pinellas School System
Oct. 10th	Eva Jones
Oct. 17th	open
Oct. 24th	Jen Reynolds, Auction presentation
Oct. 31st	Paul King
Nov 10th	<b>MARDI GRAS AUCTION GALA</b>

## Who is that poster girl?

By Francine Falk-Allen

One of the first misconceptions that confronted me as a handicapped child was that people – children, adults, everyone – would often say, “I saw your picture on the March of Dimes poster!!” The March of Dimes was a campaign initiated to pay for polio vaccinations and patient care. Most of the patients were young children, who were the most prone to severe aspects of the disease. People were asked to send in “even a dime” and there were coin collection placards put out in stores, churches, gas stations, anywhere that people might be able to spare a dime. (A dime in 1950 would be worth about ninety cents in 2018.)

At first, when I heard that comment, I thought that somehow my picture was actually being used for the March of Dimes poster, and I was excited to learn this. I looked forward to seeing myself the next time I saw a placard around town. There I’d be, Francine Allen, the poster child. But I soon saw that it wasn’t my picture, though the girl was about my age, around five or six, wore a brace, used Kenny sticks (a half crutch with a canvas arm band), and had hair similar to mine, although hers was not in the meticulous ringlets my mother created to draw attention away from my limp. (If I looked pretty, it helped to make up for my defect, a concept I have never been able to drop.)

I asked Mama if I was going to be the March of Dimes girl, and she assured me that I wasn’t, and that there were no posters out there with my picture on them. I was a little disappointed, but what bothered me more was that people didn’t recognize that it was not me, that any little girl with Kenny sticks and brown hair looked the same to them. It made me a little angry, that that was my identity: The March of Dimes Poster Girl.

It is possible of course that people thought, “What a brave little girl,” when they saw those posters, and that they thought the same of me. But I didn’t think of that when I was five-and-a-half. I was just perturbed that people could not see it was not me, and that I didn’t have a face to them, I had a limp to identify me. That’s one of my too early adult thought processes, required by the disease that took me away from home and into a hospital for six months when I’d barely just learned to run.

I was not a poster child. Not in reality and not in terms of the smiley, optimistic, never-bothered attitude that is often wished for in disabled people. Certainly that winsome courage is more appealing for the purpose of collecting donations! No, I was “head strong,” independent, ready with a smarty-pants retort, a girl who got out of a wheelchair and onto crutches before I was four years old, growing up a little too soon and missing some of the carefree aspects of childhood.



Later generations in the United States and Europe have not had to face these same issues, at least not with polio, and for this we can be thankful. Wouldn’t it be great if this deadly virus were eradicated once and for all, and all children could live without its specter? It is possible, and with the commitment of Rotary, we are moving toward that goal.

### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

Tim Tran	Sept. 8th
Bob Matthews	Sept. 19th
Ed Lurie	Sept. 26th
Dean LaChance	Sept. 26th
Kip Janes	Sept. 27th
Mindy Rovillo	Sept. 30th

### SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES:

Bob Castles	09/01/1972	46 yrs
Larry Peggs	09/01/1977	41 yrs
Terry Collier	09/01/1987	31 yrs
Bill Sines	09/01/1995	23 yrs
Frank Massaro	09/19/2001	17 yrs
Chris Wujick	09/28/2005	13 yrs
Mike McQuilkin	09/19/2007	11 yrs
Dean LaChance	09/22/2010	8 yrs
Sandy Hartmann	09/12/2012	6 yrs
Phylis Boksen	09/28/2016	2 yrs