

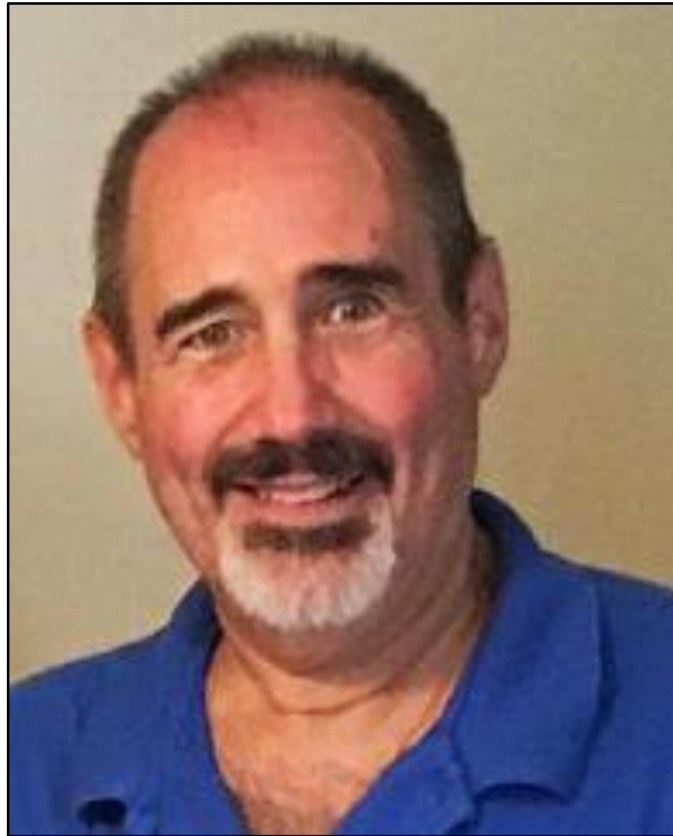
**CLUB SERTOMAN OF THE YEAR
2020-2021**

South Seminole Sertoma Club

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2020-2021 Recipient
ROBERT W. SPITZER
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The South Seminole Sertoma Club is proud to announce this year's Sertoman of the Year recipient and is honored to award him with this organization's most coveted award. We feel that he, above all, exemplifies the true intent and meaning of the award. This recipient began his Sertoma career in June 2003, because his then girlfriend, who is now his wife, was having too much fun at her South Carolina Sertoma events and conventions. He and his wife of 17 years both became members of our South Seminole Club, transferring their memberships when they relocated from South Carolina to Florida. If we were to ask those who know our recipient, "Whom do we know who has the heart of a genuine servant and is always there pulling more than his load in good times and hard times with courage, enthusiasm and an ever present smile?" The resounding answer would be the name of our Club Sertoman of the Year, Robert "Bob" Spitzer.

He has supported the South Seminole Sertoma Club's fundraising activities helping with Golf Tournaments, Bowl-a-thons and White Elephant Auctions. In fact, our White Elephants would never have been as fun or as prosperous without our illustrious auctioneer. It is truly phenomenal the way Bob can fire up the bidders with his humor and enthusiastic presentations of unknown wrapped items. During the school year we honor five elementary "Super Students" each month for their displays of character and good citizenship. At an awards breakfast each is presented with a plaque, a Super Student Cap, and a \$50 check. During Covid we would meet to package these award items and deliver them to the students' schools. Bob was one of our regular volunteers in this effort. He has also served as Santa's Elf at many a Christmas Party. He has worked our Club's Farmer's Market booth using his personality and salesmanship to promote the "Sertoma Safe Ears" program handing out earplugs and teaching attendees about the decibel scale of sounds that can permanently damage the hearing of children and adults. He has maintained our Club's Facebook and kept its postings and photos current.

In addition to local club activities, Bob Spitzer has been a long-time supporter of Sertoma Camps both in South Carolina and Florida.

He has even gone on more than one “Sertomans and Friends Ski Trip” to support Camp Endeavor. He has contributed to the Sertoma Youth Ranch with financial donations as well as short order cooking at a Blue Grass Festival. He has contributed to the Speech and Hearing Center of Florida as well as regular donations at the Fellow Level to the Sertoma Annual Fund. He has attended many a district meeting, Regional Convention and National Convention

Bob has worked for Siemens Energy in Orlando, FL since 2002 as a Principal Manufacturing Engineer. He has just recently applied for long-term disability after receiving a stage four terminal Cancer diagnosis in 2019. We have used the words, “Courage, enthusiasm and an ever present smile” in describing Bob Spitzer. During a long and aggressive treatment for his cancer involving surgeries, oral and IV chemo therapy and radiation Bob has been down, but never out. A certain treatment or a period of treatments may leave him weak and practically immobile for a period, but in a short time he bounces back. Then he’s present and participating as usual, much thinner, but wearing a smile that radiates warmth and optimism.

In addition to his full time job and Sertoma activities he is an active member of Tuskawilla United Methodist Church. He served as Finance Committee Chairman for nearly 10 years. He continues to serve as a Greeter, a Communion Server, and Connectional Care Minister. He is a member of the Men’s Ministry and on the Missions and Outreach team. Bob took over our ministry with our sister Church, La Lima in Cuba. He has organized many a fundraising luncheon to raise funds to help them make repairs to their church as well as getting them items ranging from a laptop to a cistern. If it needs to be done, just call Bob and he is ready to help out.

Bob started participating in the Relay for Life in 2015. Along with participating in the Relay, he helps man the tent the church sponsors and helps with the cooking. His altruistic endeavors don’t stop there. He is always willing to donate no matter the cause, be it ALS, NAMI or another organization to help benefit children.

Bob got involved with the initiative to identify the homeless in the Central Florida area in 2015. He researched the Impact Homelessness website to find a way to help the homeless once they had been identified. To date he has helped to coordinate the assembly of over twenty (20) Make it a Home Kits. These kits contain basic items to essentially allow a homeless person to set up housekeeping. These kits include Items like sheets, towels, pillows, alarm clock/radios, TVs, mops, buckets, brooms, microwave ovens and other assorted kitchen items. He has also coordinated donations of furniture to them as well.

Bob Spitzer is one who truly knows how to do Service in a big way. He is one of the most giving persons you will find. But he is more than one committed to serving mankind, he is an inspiration in his display of faith, courage and optimism. We are so honored to name Bob Spitzer our 2020-2021 Club Sertoman of the year.