

ROTARY CLUB TO END HUMAN TRAFFICKING

JULY /AUG NEWSLETTER

Rotary



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

First of all, I would like to thank you, my fellow Rotarians, for selecting me to lead our club as President for the next Rotary year. I am honored to be given the opportunity to serve in this capacity. And you have my sincere assurance that I will be dedicated to the cause of Rotary in this role, the same way I have demonstrated my commitment over the past few years since I was first inducted into the club.



LISA PODOLNY

I would like to thank our members who have stepped up to fill the critical board and non-board positions. It is all of you who bring the ambitions of our club into reality by putting our ideas into action. One of the key strengths of Rotary is the diversity in skillsets and vocations among our members, many of whom are successful business leaders and professionals.

As we transition into a new Rotary year it is a good time to remind ourselves that the great opportunities of Rotary service reach beyond what can be achieved through individual pursuits. By contrast, the impact can outlive us for generations to come, and in the process defines us as Rotarians. In my view, Rotary is not about the District Governor, the AG, or the Club President, but rather it is about us as individual Rotarians.... it is about the personal contributions that we make to those in need in our communities that Rotary serves. And, I am so proud to be part of a club whose mission has been and remains to end the humanitarian crisis of human trafficking by engaging partners and local communities across the world.

To that end, I plan to make RY 2023-2024 our year to Focus on Action. Thanks to the drive and vision of our Past President and Club Founder Karen Walkowski and our Immediate Past President Michelle Seets, the Rotary Club to End Human Trafficking is primed to move forward on a number of different initiatives, including developing Satellite Clubs in areas with high rates of human trafficking and proposals for economic development and microloan programs. But, none of these items can come to fruition without the work of our members.

Winston Churchill once said, "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." This is who we are as Rotarians...we know that the more we give of ourselves, the more we are likely to receive so that we can continue to make a difference in the lives of others. While we have accomplished much, there is still much to do moving forward.

In closing, I am truly humbled and honored to serve as your president this year, and look forward to working with the board and each member as we all move forward in pursuit of our goal to end human trafficking.

Newsletter Highlights

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YEAR END PAST PRESIDENT'S LETTER

LET'S KEEP BUILDING!

Our club is now 3 years old and, as with any toddler, milestones are met and growth continues sometimes seemingly overnight and sometimes slowly. In this past year we started to fund our foundation as well as approved our first grant. Our Programs & Projects committee researched and approved a number of organizations our club now endorses. They also approved our first grant and will soon be reviewing another project proposal.



In addition a team has been exploring an economic development idea that includes microloans as well as training for women in high risk areas. More to come on those project possibilities! We added a new Associate Membership level which allows members of other Rotary clubs to join us and those members now make up almost 1/3 of our club. Club members continue to connect and share ideas and collaborate on projects and presentations around the world. On the PR side of the house our brand look and feel was developed last summer and rolled out in our newsletter and other communication tools. Our YouTube channel continues to grow and gain an audience as our past speaker videos are shared with other Rotary clubs as well as the general public. We tweaked our Strategic Plan to include economic development and add a greater emphasis on partnering with groups with proven Outcomes measurement results. And I know many of you have lost sleep worrying about this, but our back end policies and procedures have been kept up to date. All humor aside we share those and other club resources with new clubs to give them a leg up on their governance and people have been sincerely grateful for them.

As is true in any organization, but especially any volunteer group, nothing happens without individual contributions. Our club has grown due to the work of some very key people who I would like to take the time to thank now. In no particular order:

- Lisa Podolny for jumping into the Treasurer role and stepping up as the President- Elect. I am sincerely grateful for your leadership and I look forward to continuing to work with you! The best is yet to come.
- Mary Fiadese for all of your work on the newsletter. AMAZING job and very appreciated! I enjoy your dedication and creativity and our meetings are a highlight of my week.
- Speaking of websites - Jerry Nelson for keeping ours up to date and for keeping all of our policies current. If I listed everything you have done for our club it would take pages so let me just say that without you far less would have been done! Although we may never meet in person I consider you a wonderful friend and I enjoy our volunteer time together.
- Matt Friedman for your continued work on the speaker's committee and for sharing your work with us during many of our meetings. You are an inspiration and global leader in this fight and wonderful person to know!
- Dalton Brannen for leading our communications team and getting things rolling. Although you had to take a break to go to flight school, we hope you will join us again someday. We miss your talent, ideas and energy!

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- Shirley Hsia for leading the speaker's committee and stepping up for treasurer next year. Your energy and dedication are boundless and I appreciate that you just jump in and get things done. I look forward to working with you more closely next year!
- Veralice Navarro and Brightna Hu who were our summer interns who got our social media channels and newsletter started. They wouldn't exist without your fabulous work!
- Erin Maloney for her work leading the programs and projects committee and for keeping the heart of our club front and center. You share great ideas and are inclusive and caring. It is a joy to know and work with you!
- Michael Podolny for being the best disrupter ever. Full of actionable ideas and motivated to make a difference you are a primary driver for our club and I look forward to where you take us next!
- Cindee Sapoznik for your work on the programs and projects committee and for being a positive light that always shines. Your icebreakers were fantastic and your personal support is even better. Many thanks for just being you!
- Helen Sworn for your ideas and work on the speaker's committee as well as for sharing your wisdom and knowledge with our group. You are a connector and relationship builder making a difference to end human trafficking. I am grateful you are with us.
- Annette Mansfield for your work on the programs and projects committee and your wonderful ideas. Not only do you share your suggestions, but you take steps to make them happen. You are a gift and I look forward to working with you more closely.
- Maria Moreyra for stepping up to be the club's secretary. You bring such a great perspective to the board and always share from the heart. I appreciate your dedication to this cause and our club.
- Ashley Aiken for your efforts starting our fundraising team. Thank you for getting things going.
- Justina Ansah for your work editing and posting our YouTube videos. I am grateful you stepped up to take on this task.
- Colin Christensen for sharing great ideas and for your interest in economic development to combat human trafficking. You will be integral in our solution. Oh and thank you for that cocktail recipe. It is a keeper.
- Anne Delain Clark for jumping in to be both our social chair as well as joining the newsletter team. I like how you think outside of the box and include both head and heart in your suggestions. I really enjoy working with you and look forward to more time together - both virtually and in person!
- Karen Walkowski for creating this club and being an amazing mentor and friend. I can't list everything you have done, but we literally wouldn't be here as a group without you and you are a primary reason I joined. I have truly enjoyed volunteering with you and look forward to where things go next year!

We still have a lot to do and I know we can make them happen. I look forward to continuing to work with and get to know you all better as we move forward making a difference. I appreciate that you are with us!

Moving intention into Action,

Michelle Seets

Rotary Club to End Human Trafficking President, 2022-2023



SUCCESS STORY

THE PACT SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN. AND THE INTERACT TEAM IN JACKSONVILLE, FL.

By RICK NAYLOR

A few weeks ago, Denny Winkelman and I visited the Veterans Memorial of Jacksonville, FL. . Our mission was to place a few thousand American flags in front of the headstones of all those we lost in battle.



It was great to hear about their PACT & Interact (and Rotaract) plans for the upcoming school year. You would think they would be thinking about summer vacation.

We also had the opportunity to meet up with the outgoing and incoming PACT Ambassadors & Rotary Interact Presidents of the high school at First Coast High School. Amazing women.



TRAGAST LIBRARY PROJECT

Presented by: Jerry Nelson

At the Programs and Projects committee meeting on March 16 (with members Annette, Cindee, and Erin present), it was decided to recommend that RCEHT fund the Thailand Rotary Action Group Against Child Slavery (TRAGAST) Library Project.

The TRAGAST Library project is “soft marketing” raising awareness of human trafficking and the fact that Rotary is involved in the fight. Also, by purchasing books written by Matt Friedman we are supporting his excellent work and we know that profits from these books are put back into the fight against human trafficking.

As funding and manpower become available our plan is to duplicate the library project in other cities like Bangkok, Pattaya and Phuket, thus increasing awareness of RCEHT, RAGAS and TRAGAST. For Rotary Year 2023 – 2024 we hope to replace books in existing libraries and install at least 5 new libraries in Bangkok.

The team has free libraries at various locations throughout Chiang Mai. Locations are frequented by the English-speaking community and tourists. Each library has a sign identifying RCEHT, RAGAS and TRAGAST. Each book has the same information on a sticker inside the front cover. The purpose is to attract attention to our organizations and the fight against human trafficking. We monitor each library, keeping close track of Matt Friedman’s books at each location. RCEHT financial support for this project will allow us to expand the library project to other cities; perhaps Bangkok or Pattaya.

The goals for this project is to :

- Educate every child about the dangers of human trafficking.
- Increase Awareness, especially within the Rotary Community

Strategies :

- Collaboration - Increased awareness and cooperation between actors involved in the fight against human trafficking in Thailand and the Mekong region.
- Prevention - Projects to deliver education curriculum to students in schools and migrant learning centers throughout Thailand, aiming towards 5 – 18 years of age.
- Awareness - increased awareness of TRAGAST through presentations and social media.

The club and foundation boards approved \$450 for this grant which will provide 10 copies of “Where were you” and 10 copies of “Dancing in the Light of the Moon”.



CLUB NEWS

YEAR-END TREASURER'S REPORT

LISA PODOLNY



ROTARY ACCOUNTS UPDATE -

As I commented at the May general meeting - work is still underway transitioning our Rotary accounts to a single bank but invoices have been sent out to everyone for RY 2023-2024 annual dues. If you have not received an invoice or have issues paying, please contact us at treasurer@endhtrotaryclub.org. The RY 2023-2024 budget was developed and approved by the board at the June board meeting. After some discussion, the Board decided to keep our annual dues at \$400 (or \$100 quarterly).

SCHOLARSHIPS - Scholarships are available! YOU are more important to us than your money, so please let us know if you need financial assistance. If, on the other hand, \$400 is easy for you, please consider donating something to our scholarship fund. We have a number of members who live in countries where the cost of living is such that \$400 is a very large sum of money. We also have members who are fresh out of school so, again for those members \$400 is quite a lot. We also offer scholarships for our trafficking survivors as well as for other reasons. We never want money to be the reason someone can't join our club!

FUNDRAISING - In addition to scholarships, the proceeds of donations also go to future Grant recipients. To donate directly to the club scholarship fund or to the Foundation's grant funds, please go to our direct donation dropdown on our website @ <https://endhtrotaryclub.org/> (right corner of our website). Please make sure to pass this information along to anyone who may be interested in donating or applying for a grant.

INCOMING TREASURER - Please welcome incoming Club Treasurer, Shirley Hsia. Shirley has been a long-standing member of our club and previously served as the head of our Speakers Committee. Thank you, Shirley, for stepping up to fill this critical role!



Welcome

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS



David Paul Fagerlie

David is from Minnesota but spent most of his adult life in Seattle. He is an Active member of **Chiang Mai International Rotary Club | Rotary District: 3360**. His career was mostly directing nonprofit organizations in healthcare, higher education, and national/international associations. He has Twenty-six years of paid fundraising experience.



Rajkumar is a retired police officer of a Nepal police organization. He got a post as a senior superintendent of police (S.S.P) and served the United nation peacekeeping mission in Iraq (2002) and East Timor (2009). Now working as a renowned lawyer in Kathmandu, Nepal.

He is a member of the **Rotary Club of Kathmandu downtown**. And had performed much work in the prevention and instigation of human trafficking issues. This Club has been doing excellent work against human trafficking issues.

Conduct different campaigns against human trafficking and modern slavery in community, school, college, and effective coordination with stakeholders.



Rajkumar Baidwar



STANDING MEETINGS

Standing Meeting:

Club Action Day will be on a Thur.
(July. 13) at 7am US Central.

Standing Meeting:

The General meeting will be on a
Thur. (July. 27) at 7am US Central.

Topic:

Empowering Our Students to Take
Action: How Schools Can Lead in
Anti-Human Trafficking.

Speaker:

Veronica McDaniel

**7/30 - World Day against
trafficking in person.**

The United Nation's Office on
Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has
established 30 July as an
international holiday for World Day
Against trafficking in person which
aims to create awareness of
human trafficking.

This year's theme is; "**Reach every
victim of trafficking, leave no one
behind**"

JULY/AUGUST CALENDAR

AUGUST STANDING MEETINGS

Club Action Day will be on a Thur.
(Aug. 10) at 7am US Central.

Standing Meeting:

The General meeting will be on a
Thur. (Aug. 24) at 7am US Central.

Topic:

LOVE146

Speaker:

Erin Glaccum