



**August 18 Guest Speakers
June Wallace and Lt. George Koder**

Last Week’s Program – **Human Trafficking** – Presented by Det. George Koder and Soroptomist Club member and community activist, June Wallace

Ms. Wallace began the presentation noting that she has become very involved in raising the awareness of and fighting human trafficking. The people who perpetuate this crime prey upon the vulnerable. Every minute a person is being bought, sold or forced into slavery. It’s estimated that there are 27 million modern-day slaves that yield \$32 billion annually.

76% of them are sexually exploited and many are children, some as young as 4 years. Florida is one of the top 3 states for human trafficking.

Human Trafficking is defined as the exploitation by force, fraud or coercion of vulnerable people for forced labor, domestic servitude or commercial sex operations. You will find them in: prostitution, exotic dancing, landscaping and domestic work, begging and street peddling, restaurant work, sexual exploitation, construction, hotel housekeeping, day labor, and various criminal among other activities.

Continued ...

**Today’s Agenda
August 25, 2009**

- Invocation – Kevin Donohue**
- Pledge of Allegiance**
- Joke of the Day – Melissa McCormick**
- Introduction of Guests**
- Happy Bucks and 50/50**
- Announcements**

**Speaker: Doug Palonder
St. Petersburg Bowl**

| Upcoming Speakers | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 9/1 | Vinnie Luisi Dunedin Historical Museum |
| 9/8 | Rosa Rodriguez Literacy |
| 9/15 | Dr. Barkley Enlarged Prostate and Prostate Cancer |
| 9/22 | Club Assembly |
| 9/28 | Marilyn Browne Pinellas Education Foundation |

Upcoming Joke of the Day

- 9/1 Need Volunteer
- 9/8 Jeff Rhoads
- 9/15 Need Volunteer
- 9/22 Jim Haley
- 9/29 Earl Tapley
- 10/6 Cheryl Wade
- 10/13 Gus Evans

August 18 Program Summary

Guests:

Vivian Skinner Grant
Diana McCaffrey, guest of Pat Bauer's, and an
upcoming new member of the Club
Jan Sebald, City of Dunedin, guest of Lynn Wargo
Agatha Hobbs, guest of Ted Hobbs

Happy Bucks

Bob Johnson was happy to have spent time with his son, grandson, great grandson, and his great grandson's Mom

Lynn Smeraldo for the Freshman Orientation being held tomorrow at Dunedin High School. She's going to be there to help tell the kids and parents about Interact. She's thrilled about the new teacher assigned to the Interact Club.

Nora Mihopolous' husband, Alex, fell from the restaurant roof and broke several bones. She was happy he was doing better.

Diane Nelson encouraged everyone with a birthday in September, October or November to renew their drivers license early – by September 1 – to save the 100% increase that will take place thereafter. You can renew your car's registration early - up to 18 months in advance. Come early to avoid the long lines or renew on line.

Jonathan Skinner gave a buck for the Dunedin Chamber/Blue Jays networking event and game on Tuesday, Aug. 25. \$5 gets you into the social with three Chambers, Dunedin, Palm Harbor and West Pasco, plus a seat for the game. All are welcome.

Sallie Parks was happy about spending time with family who were vegans, and happy that our lunch wasn't.

Jeff Rhoads was happy to have spent time in Myrtle Beach but was happy to be back in Dunedin.

Pat Bauer was thrilled the Literacy Council trained 12 new tutors last Saturday.

Ed Proefke and Deb enjoyed a 2 week vacation in Denmark. Auto registrations are very expensive there. He wasn't sure about being happy to be back. ☺



Paul Harris Fellow Award Presentation – Ray Kingsbury

Bill Berger was presented with a Paul Harris Fellowship. His name was drawn recently for the honor. Congratulations Bill!

August 18 Meeting Summary Continued

50/50

Sallie Parks drew a Jack of Diamonds trying to win the \$151 pot.

Announcements

Dunedin Rotary Club Foundation Pledges – Bill Francisco & Jeff Rhoads

During his year as President, Bill proposed our Club raise \$50,000 for the Rotary Club of Dunedin Foundation to celebrate our Club's 60th Anniversary. The annual contribution by the Foundation to the Club would be used to provide scholarships for Dunedin High School students and would be awarded each year. Our Club members pledged \$30,000 toward the goal, of which \$11,000 has been collected. We also won the PT Cruiser raffled by the District that year, the sale of which generated about \$13,000. Jeff will have a list of those who pledged and how much they still owe at next week's meeting. Please pay Susan Folsom ASAP. Jeff and Bill will follow up with everyone who pledged. Following their presentation, Vivian Skinner Grant game some money toward the goal.

Rotary International

The Dunedin Rotaty International Committee invites you to participate in a short volunteer experience in another country. Check out www.crossculturalsolutions.org

As a CCS volunteer, you're making a meaningful contribution, working side-by-side with local people and sharing in the goals of a community that warmly welcomes you.

Upcoming Invocations

| | |
|------|-----------------|
| 9/1 | Nora Mihopoulos |
| 9/8 | Lynn Wargo |
| 9/15 | Peggy Rowe |

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Most caught up in human trafficking feel they can't escape because of beatings, dependency upon their captors, debt bondage for transportation to the US, withholding of their legal documents, and threats to their families here and at home.

Runaway children are also very vulnerable to this problem. 3,800 kids were reported as runaways in Pinellas last year.

Clues that may help you identify a possible trafficking victim are: accompanied by a controlling person or boss, not speaking on own behalf, lack of control over personal schedule, money, i.e., travel documents, transported to or from work, lives and works in the same place, debt owed to employer/crew leader, inability to leave job, bruises, depression, fear, or overly submissive.

Here are some key questions you can ask a possible trafficking victim:

What type of work do you do? Are you being paid? Can you leave your job if you want to? Can you come and go as you please? Have you or your family been threatened? What are your working & living conditions like? Where do you sleep and eat? Do you have to ask permission to eat/sleep/go the bathroom? Are there locks on your doors/windows so you cannot get out? Has your identification or documentation been taken from you?

June told us of a 14 year-old girl who was forced to have sex with up to 30 men each day. She asked us personally, and as a Club, to get involved in fighting trafficking. If you suspect human trafficking, please call 727-562-4917 in Pinellas, Pasco or Hillsborough Counties or 1-888-3737-888.

Det. George Koder of the Clearwater Police Department talked of how his Dept. tries to protect victims once they are identified, and the often long time it takes to prosecute their perpetrators. He also answered several questions from Club members.

Clearwater PD coordinates their efforts with all law enforcement agencies in the Bay Area and State.

Victims are drawn into trafficking usually by the promise of a better life. Women and children are usually trapped into prostitution and men into labor, especially in agriculture. Many are immigrants and are threatened with deportation. Most don't understand our culture and believe what they are told.

Det. Koder ended his comments by saying that trafficking happens to American citizens too.

Literature was available after the meeting. Pres. Carole also has some left for Club members.