Atlanta West End Rotary Club

KeyWay
NOVEMBER 5, 2025

Nov. 7, 2025

This Week's Program:

MEMBER SHOWCASE: LEO CHANCEY



We're thrilled to spotlight one of our very own this week in our Member Showcase series! Join us as **Leo Chancey**, a dedicated Rotarian and committed public servant, shares his classification talk at our upcoming Friday meeting.

Leo currently serves as a **Senior Policy Analyst** with the **Georgia House of Representatives, House Budget & Research Office**, where he brings over a decade of legislative experience to the table. His analytical expertise spans diverse policy areas. He is currently staffing the following committees: Rural Development, Urban Affairs, and House Rules.

Known for his creative approach to policy analysis and public communication, Leo pairs deep research skills with a flair for public speaking and visual storytelling. Whether in the Capitol or in the community, he's deeply committed to service and advancing the public good.

Leo's leadership style is marked by collaboration, adaptability, and a clear dedication to ethical governance, values that align seamlessly with Rotary's mission. Come learn more about the journey and vocation of this inspiring AWER member!

JOIN ONLINE

Zoom Link - Click here

KeyWay Report on Our Speaker, October 31, 2025

A Threshold Choir — Ms. Judith Fuller, Leader

AWER Program at Georgia Tech | October 31, 2025

Neil Shorthouse introduced **Ms. Judith Fuller**, formerly a 15-year case

MEETINGS

November is Rotary Foundation Month

11/7	Program Speaker
11/14	Program Speaker
11/21	Program Speaker
11/28	Happy Thanksgiving
12/5	Program Speaker
12/12	Program Speaker
12/19	Program Speaker
12/26	Happy Holidays

BIRTHDAYS

11/11	Debra Stokes
11/15	Bridgette Long
11/21	Mark Newman

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

11/23	CJ Stewart (28)

ROTARY ONLINE

https://atlantawestendrotary.org
https://rotary6900.org/
https://rotary.org/

ROTARY CLUB OF ATLANTA WEST END

Fridays, 12:15 pm
Georgia Tech Hotel & Conference Center*
800 Spring St NW
Atlanta, GA 30308

SOCIAL MEDIA

manager with the Georgia Division of Family & Children Services and a former AWER member. In one of the club's most unusual and moving programs, Judith and four members of A Threshold Choir demonstrated and explained the choir's work.

The Threshold Choir is a volunteer organization that provides comfort through song to individuals at the end of life. It is a network of approximately 200 choirs worldwide that sing at bedsides in hospices, hospitals, nursing homes, and private residences. The Atlanta chapter, known as Voices of Love – A Threshold Choir, was established in March 2010 and currently has 15 to 18 active members. The presentation included a live demonstration of their gentle, harmonious singing, explanations of their mission and methodology, and personal stories from choir members about what drew them to this meaningful service. The first Threshold Choir was founded in March 2000 in El Cerrito, California, by **Kate Munger**.

Neil shared a memorable story that reflected Judith's characteristic determination. After retiring from DFCS, she enrolled in law school. In her senior year, her roommate was invited to tour and interview with a top Atlanta law firm, while Judith was not, as her class ranking did not qualify her. Refusing to be excluded, she attended anyway—"crashing" the tour—and ultimately became the only person hired by the firm, despite being technically ineligible for consideration.

The Threshold Choir provides free, non-religious bedside singing to dying individuals and their families throughout metro Atlanta. Key aspects of their service include:

- Regular visits to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Hospice and Harbor Grace Hospice.
- Singing softly in harmony without accompaniment, using hand signals for silent coordination and real-time adjustment to each situation.
- Serving three groups simultaneously — the dying person, their family and friends, and the choir members themselves.
- Rehearsing twice monthly on the first and third Thursdays from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at Emory Presbyterian Church.
- Supporting related end-of-life services, with several members also working as doulas or conscious dying coaches.
- Singing that is fully improvised and responsive to the atmosphere in the room, guided by the needs of those present.
- Sessions typically lasting about 20 minutes.
- No religious affiliation, with songs that are original and copyrighted, focusing on universal themes of peace, spirit, and journey.

Judith shared that her own inspiration for joining the Threshold Choir came from a deeply personal experience in 2005 at St. Joseph's Hospital, where her stepfather was dying. She arrived at his bedside wishing she had music for him. A harpist unexpectedly appeared, played for about 30 minutes, and left just as a priest arrived to perform last rites. Her stepfather took his final breath immediately after the priest said "Amen." When Judith later thanked the nurses for sending the harpist, none knew who the musician was. She described it as a miraculous moment that inspired her eventual leadership with Voices of Love – The Threshold Choir in Atlanta.

LEADERSHIP

President	Victoria Seals, PhD
President-Elect	Christopher Hempfling
Immediate PP	Jared Evans
Vice President	Christopher Hempfling
Treasurer	Rose Caplan
Secretary	Neil Shorthouse
Public Image	Jared Evans

For those interested in learning more or requesting services, bedside singing can be arranged by emailing **Rose Watkins** and Judith Fuller at RequestVOL@thresholdchoir.org or **Susan Patterson** at VoicesOfLove@thresholdchoir.org . Additional information about the international Threshold Choir network, including recordings and choir locations, can be found at thresholdchoir.org. Judith's related end-of-life doula work is featured at bluesparrowdoula.com.

Jared Evans and Neil Shorthouse, KeyWay Speaker Reporters



Calander, Agenda, Connections, & Four-Way Test

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Nov. Program Dir. Debra
- 11/14: Margaret Nagawa, Graduate student, Emory - Art History
- Dec. Program Dir. Bridgette
- 12/7: Jack Gerblick and Bob O'Brien
- Jan. Program Dir. Victoria
- Feb. Program Dir. CJ
- May Program Dir. Carolina

Sign up to be a program chair here today! Mar. Apr. & June are vacant and need YOU!

Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Invocation & Pledge
3. Introduction of Guests
4. Tasse Trivia
5. DEI Moment
6. Announcements
7. Program/Speaker
8. The Four-Way Test
9. Adjournment

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