Atlanta West End Template

APRIL 28, 2026

This Week's Program: Leo Chancey

Join us to hear a recap of the 2026 Georgia General Assembly legislative session from our own Leo Chancey.

Leo is a senior legislative and policy professional with 17 legislative sessions of experience advising leadership, navigating complex political environments, and advancing high-impact policy initiatives within the Georgia House of Representatives. A trusted advisor with deep institutional knowledge, he specializes in legislative strategy, budget policy, and stakeholder engagement.

Drawing on that experience, Leo will provide a session recap and share perspectives that can help Rotary members better understand how state-level policymaking affects communities.

- Recap of the 2026 legislative session
- Insights grounded in legislative strategy and budget policy
- Context on stakeholder engagement and the legislative process

Leo is also the Atlanta West End club's incoming Membership Director for Rotary year '26-'27. We look forward to welcoming members and guests to this informative program.

JOIN ONLINE: Zoom Link - Click here Meeting ID: 874 0116 4307 Passcode: Service | One tap mobile: +13052241968



Meetings

April is Environment Month

Our Rotary Family BIRTHDAYS

4/3	Leo Chancey
4/4	Richard Gerakitis
4/10	C. Stewart
4/22	Christopher Hempfling

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

4/15	Mark Newman (47)

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

LEADERSHIP

President	Victoria Seals, PhD
President-Elect	Christopher Hempfling
Immediate PP	Jared Evans
Vice President	Debra Stokes
Treasurer	Rose Caplan

KeyWay Report

KeyWay Report on April Club Assembly

Secretary	Neil Shorthouse
Public Image	Jared Evans

At last Friday's Club Assembly, members of the Rotary Club of Atlanta West End came together for a Club Assembly to shape the future of their service and impact in the community. The meeting reflected the heart of Rotary: collaboration, thoughtful planning, and a shared commitment to making a difference.

The gathering opened with a celebration of success. The club was recognized at the recent district conference with two awards for Rotary Year '25-'26. One award was for excellence in public image and another for new member recruitment (yay, **Sonia**!). These honors highlight the club's growing visibility and its ability to attract passionate individuals committed to service. As members reflected on these achievements, the message was clear: we need to do work in the West End that matters, and that gets noticed.

Several members also shared insights from the District Learning Assembly held in Columbus, Georgia. Attendees emphasized the importance of membership growth and engagement as key drivers of Rotary's impact. Conversations with other clubs sparked new ideas and opened the door to potential partnerships, including collaboration with the Midtown Rotary Club on future service projects. These connections reinforce the value of Rotary's broader network and the opportunities that come from working together.

Looking ahead, much of the discussion focused on planning for the 2026–27 Rotary year. A key priority is identifying a meaningful project for the upcoming district grant application, **due May 15**. Members shared ideas rooted in real community needs, including expanding the club's support of Booker T. Washington High School. Building on the success of recent snack drives, one proposal involves developing a more sustainable food pantry initiative to support students year-round. Another idea included launching a pajama drive to address basic needs that are often overlooked.

These conversations reflect a deeper commitment to hands-on service. As members noted, Rotary grants are most impactful when they involve direct participation—"sweat equity"—from club members. This approach ensures that projects are not only funded but truly lived out through service.

The club also reviewed upcoming dates and logistics as the

Rotary year draws to a close. In keeping with tradition, **there will be no meeting on May 22 in observance of Memorial Day weekend**. **Members were encouraged to mark their calendars for June 26, when the club will gather for its annual installation ceremony at Atlanta Technical College.** This event will celebrate incoming leadership and provide an opportunity for family and friends to share in the moment.

Leadership transitions were another important focus of the assembly. **President-Elect Chris**, who will begin his term as club president on July 1, shared his vision for the year ahead. His goals include creating a clear annual calendar, planning quarterly service and social events, and strengthening alignment across club activities. **Jared** will take on a broader leadership role in Rotary as Assistant Governor, supporting multiple clubs across metro Atlanta. Members expressed strong support and pride in his appointment, recognizing it as a reflection of the club's leadership within the district.

Ongoing service initiatives continue to be a cornerstone of the club's work. **The Booker T. Washington High School snack program remains a highlight**, with strong member participation and positive feedback from students and staff. **The final collection for the school year will take place in the week leading up to May 22**, offering another opportunity for members to contribute directly to student well-being.

Additional discussions touched on public image efforts, upcoming speakers, and the importance of maintaining consistent communication through newsletters and social media. **CJ Stewart** was conscripted and graciously agreed to lead the club's public image efforts as Public Image Director beginning July 1. With new tools and leadership in place, the club is well-positioned to continue telling its story and expanding its reach.

While some initiatives—such as the West End Prayer Breakfast—will pause this year due to timing and logistics, members expressed interest in revisiting them in the future with earlier planning and dedicated leadership.

As the meeting concluded, one theme stood out: momentum. From award-winning visibility to growing partnerships and thoughtful planning, the Rotary Club of Atlanta West End is building a strong foundation for the year ahead. With engaged

members and a clear focus on community impact, the club continues to live out Rotary's mission of Service Above Self—right here in the West End.

RI Focus

May is Youth Service Month

Rotary designates May as **Youth Service Month**, highlighting the importance of investing in young people and creating opportunities for them to lead, learn, and serve. For Atlanta West End, this observance is a chance to connect club priorities with the needs and potential of youth in our community.

Youth Service Month can guide clubs in planning speakers, programs, and projects that engage young people directly or support organizations that serve youth. It also offers an opportunity to showcase Rotary's ongoing commitment to developing the next generation of leaders and community-minded citizens.

Examples of activities clubs may consider during Youth Service Month include:

- Mentoring and tutoring programs that support youth education and development
- Youth leadership workshops and speaker events
- Collaborative service projects with schools, youth groups, or local nonprofits
- Public image initiatives that highlight young people's contributions and Rotary's role in supporting them

By centering efforts on youth in May, Atlanta West End Rotary can strengthen community ties, encourage intergenerational collaboration, and demonstrate Rotary's investment in a brighter future.

Calander, Agenda, Connections, & Four-Way Test

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
- May Program Dir. Carolina
- 5/1: Leo Chancey, Legislative Recap
- 5/8: ?
- 5/15: ?
- 5/22: No Meeting
- 5/29: ?
- 5/31: Streets Alive - West End to Grant Park
- **June Program Director Needed!**
- 6/5: ?
- 6/12: ?
- 6/19: No Meeting
- 6/26: Installation Ceremony

Sign up to be a program chair here today! June needs 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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@rotaryatlantawestend

Never a Bad Time to Catch Up (ON DUES)!

District 6900 has updated to a new Stripe ACH payment process. The new method is more convenient and more secure. If you pay your dues via ACH (**and you should!**), go to YOUR PAGE on our club website (Click here) and use the Setup ACH button to relink your account. Should you encounter any problems, click the Contact Webmaster link in the page footer.

THE FOUR-WAY TEST of the things we think, say or do

first Is it the TRUTH?

second Is it FAIR to all concerned?

third Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

fourth Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?