



UNITE FOR GOOD

KeyWay Weekly Newsletter

This Week's Program:

Rebekah Enoch of Freedom United



We are honored to welcome Rebekah Enoch, Program Manager at Freedom United, the world's largest community dedicated to ending human trafficking and modern slavery.

Rebekah Enoch became part of the Freedom United team when it joined hands with Human Trafficking Search in July 2023, having served as the HTS Program Director for the two years prior. She has over 20 years of experience leading teams and developing campaign strategies for nonprofits in the U.S. and Australia. As a seasoned leader on issues of human rights and modern slavery, Rebekah specializes in outreach, engagement and community building using strong storytelling skills throughout her work.

She holds a BA from San Francisco State University where she majored in International Relations and a Master of International Law from the University of Sydney. Rebekah is also currently a member of the Global Association of Human Trafficking Scholars and is a 2006 Truman Scholar.

One of Rebekah's fundamental values is that while the world is full of challenges and injustices, she always wants to be part of the team that tries. The team that tries to stop human caused climate change, the team that works to end global poverty and the team that helps end modern slavery. And while those dreams may not be realized today, she is dedicating her life to ensuring they might be realized tomorrow.

Join us to hear Rebekah share insights on how we can each be part of the fight.

August's Theme is Membership & Extension: Fridays: 1, 8, 15, 22, 29



Keyway Report from August 22, 2025 Mr. Imara Canady, AWER Speaker

This meeting of the Rotary Club of Atlanta West End was held at Atlanta Technical College in the **Brenda Watts Jones** Center. The late Dr. Jones, a past president of AWER, also served as a president of Atlanta Technical College. Co-AWER President Elect **Debra Stokes**

introduced **Mr. Imara Canady**, Board Chair of the Hammonds House Museum on 503 Peebles Street, SW in the West End as our speaker.

Imara began by quoting the late **Nina Baldwin** as a way to introduce the work of Hammonds House Museum: "Art has the power to transform, to illuminate, to educate, to inspire and motivate." "Surely," he said, "this is the way of the Hammonds House".

Imara described the Hammonds House Museum as a cultural institution dedicated to celebrating the artists of the African diaspora. Originally a home at 503 Peebles Street SW, it was formerly the residence of Dr. Otis Thrash Hammonds, an esteemed anesthesiologist and an Atlanta physician and art patron.

The property was transformed into a museum through a Fulton County partnership. Former Fulton County Chairman **Michael Lomax** led an approach to Dr. Hammonds' mother about turning her son's Victorian home into a museum. The idea was always to "preserve the house as a repository for the collection" which Ms. Hammonds agreed to allow. The scope was to include it as an art center where work by African American artists is shown. The mission of the museum is to preserve, display, interpret and increase awareness about visual artists of African descent.

Today it houses galleries, community gathering spaces, and the **John Roden** Sculpture Garden, making Hammonds House the only Black American-focused arts institution in the nation with such a collection. The museum's mission has evolved from a research center to a hub for exhibitions, community programming, and cultural dialogue, welcoming thousands of visitors each year.

Board Chair Imara invited Rotarians to support Hammonds House by visiting the museum, becoming members, volunteering, or amplifying their mission through networks and social media. He noted Hammonds House Museum's role as more than an art space. It is a gathering place for families, students, and international visitors alike. Affordable memberships (starting at \$20–25) also provide access to partner museums nationwide. With concerts, family reunions, exhibitions, and interdisciplinary collaborations, Hammonds House creates what they described as a transformative experience, where visitors leave with new perspectives on themselves and the world. For more information, visit hammonshouse.org.

Neil Shorthouse, KeyWay Reporter

An Invitation from M. Agnes Jones:

Join Us for W.O.W. Sessions

Our community partner, M. Agnes Jones Elementary School (MAJ), has extended a special invitation to the Rotary Club of Atlanta West End to participate in their monthly W.O.W. (Working on the Work) sessions.

W.O.W. Sessions

Every 3rd Tuesday | 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

M. Agnes Jones Elementary | 1040 Fair St. SW, Atlanta, GA 30314

As part of their STEAM initiative, "We Are the World: Conquering Hunger through Sustainability and Creativity," MAJ welcomes Rotarians to collaborate with educators and

Atlanta Technical College Brenda Watts Jones Allied Health and Technology Complex

students in shaping hands-on, standards-based learning experiences that directly connect to real-world challenges in the West End.

Over the last two Rotary Years, AWER has proudly invested \$4,000 in District Grant funds to help develop MAJ's STEAM garden and outdoor lab. These sessions are a chance for us to see that investment in action and to deepen our partnership by contributing our expertise, creativity, and community leadership.

Your voice matters. MAJ emphasizes that business owners, urban farmers, chefs, nonprofit leaders, health advocates, and engaged residents all have a role to play in shaping these sessions. Together, we can inspire students to think critically, act creatively, and serve their community with purpose.

This is more than an event—it's an opportunity to stand alongside our partners at MAJ and help empower the next generation of West End leaders.

Building Rotary

August is Membership and New Club Development Month

August is Rotary International's month to celebrate membership and new club growth—reminding us that Rotary's strength lies in both our current members and the fresh ideas of new ones.

At the Rotary Club of Atlanta West End, our impact comes from the diverse talents, perspectives, and commitment of our members. This month, let's each help grow Rotary by inviting someone to a Friday meeting, sharing why we joined, or connecting them to our service projects.

A personal invitation can open the door to Rotary for someone new. Together, we can build a stronger, more vibrant AWER community.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- 9/5: Aretta Baldon - Member Showcase
- 9/12: Dr. Bryan Johnson, APS Superintendent
- 9/14: Streets Alive! *Peachtree St.*
- 9/19: Shelly Goodrum, Washington Cluster Superintendent
- 9/26: Club Assembly
- 9/27: WEND Candlelight Concert
- 10/3: District Governor Steve Ivory
- 10/25: ATL Tech. College 5K
- 10/26: Streets Alive! *West End*

Sign up to be a program chair [here](#) today!

CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday

- 8/11 Debra Stokes
- 8/17 Victoria Seals, PhD
- 8/18 Robert Stephens
- 8/19 Jared Evans
- 9/3 Uku Urb

Happy Anniversary

- 8/23 Richard & Mary Gerakitis

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

RY2025–2026 Board of Directors

President: *Dr. Victoria Seals*

Co-Presidents-Elect: *Debra Stokes & Chris Hempfling*

Immediate Past President: *Jared Evans*

President-Nominee: *TBD*

Secretary: *Neil Shorthouse*

Treasurer: *Rose Caplan*

Club Admin. Co-Chairs: *Debra Stokes & Chris Hempfling*

Membership Chair: *Sonia Hantman*

Public Image Chair: *Jared Evans*

Service Projects Chair: *Carolina Ramos*

The Rotary Foundation Chair: *Debra Stokes*

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair: *Marilyn Jackson*

JOIN ONLINE

Zoom Link - [Click here](#)

Meeting ID: 874 0116 4307

Passcode: Service

Dial In

1-646-558-8656

Meeting ID: 874 0116 4307

Passcode: 846122

Never a Bad Time to Catch Up!

Your membership dues help to keep our service strong. Click [here](#) to pay on the District 6900 website. Your club, your club treasurer, and your community will thank you!

Stay Connected with AWER

 **Email:** inforotaryawe@gmail.com

 **Website:** atlantawestendrotary.org

 **Facebook:** facebook.com/RotaryAWE

 **Instagram:** [@rotaryatlantawestend](https://www.instagram.com/rotaryatlantawestend)

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?