



UNITE FOR GOOD

KeyWay Weekly Newsletter

This Week's Program:

Wren's Nest Scribes Summer Writing Camp Participant, Laila Morris, her mom Y'Jori Morris, and Board Member Pam Auchmutey

This Friday, we welcome **Laila Morris**, a youth writer from the **Wren's Nest Scribes Summer Writing Camp**, along with her mother **Y'Jori Morris** and Wren's Nest board member **Pam Auchmutey**.



We hope Laila will share reflections on her camp experience and the personal growth she has experienced through writing, and Y'Jori will speak from the parent's perspective about the impact of the Scribes program on her daughter's creativity and confidence.

Pam Auchmutey can bring a unique perspective on the broader vision of the Scribes program and its future. Pam served as a writer and editor at Emory University for 34 years, where she led alumni publications. She also worked at The Carter Center, producing materials for peace and health initiatives. She and her husband, journalist and author Jim Auchmutey, live in Atlanta and volunteer as board members at The Wren's Nest.

Scribes offers workshops to Georgia students in grades 5 through 8, with genres ranging from fiction to comic books. AWER proudly sponsors one youth each summer to attend this inspiring camp. Learn more about the Scribes and upcoming workshops at wrensnest.org.

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



KeyWay Report on Our Speaker
Dr. Spencer Harden, Alzheimer's Association – Georgia Chapter
July 25, 2025 | AWER Weekly Meeting

AWER member **Ms. Debra Stokes**, director of the Georgia Council on Aging, introduced **Mr. Spencer Hardin, PhD**, Advocacy Manager for the Georgia Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association as our speaker. Spencer began by asking AWER members if they knew a person who had Alzheimer's or dementia - which all said they did. Spencer said he was not surprised because death from Alzheimer's claims more lives in the US than breast cancer and prostate cancer combined. Seven million have it plus some 20 million people are affected by the diseases. He described it as a public health crisis, emphasizing the public's need to know much more.

Alzheimer's is the #1 cause of dementia. Alzheimer's is often caused by the buildup of amyloid plaque proteins in the brain, which leads to cognitive impairment. While Alzheimer's is a progressive disease, early diagnosis and intervention can potentially lead to better outcomes. Dr. Harden mentioned that addressing symptoms early could result in an increased lifespan of possibly 20 years post-diagnosis, compared to 4-8 years if left unaddressed.

He said dementia is an umbrella term for loss of memory and other thinking abilities severe enough to interfere with daily life. Black Americans are disproportionately impacted by Alzheimer's disease: being about twice as likely to be diagnosed compared to their White counterparts. Further, women have a higher risk of developing Alzheimer's with having 2/3s of the diagnoses. Hispanics are 50% more likely than Whites to have Alzheimer's. He explained the Alzheimer's Association is accelerating its goal to end Alzheimer's and all other dementia by accelerating global research, driving risk reduction and early detection, and

Spencer, backed by the science of Alzheimer's and dementia, urged us all to take charge of our brain health because recognizing warning signs and early detection is hugely important. Talk openly with your doctor and loved ones about what could be symptoms, such as noting above average incidents of forgetfulness. He mentioned all need to think about and practice healthy habits, including staying mentally stimulated, being smoke free, being physically active, and maintaining a healthy weight. He urged us to check out [10 Healthy Habits](#) online, and the help line at 800.272.3900.

Spencer listed several things we can all do to advance research that helps everyone: Donate to Rotary's C.A.R.T (Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust); join Walks to End Alzheimer's; visit <https://www.alz.org/georgia>; discuss policy by speaking with Spencer [slhardin@alz.org]; check your own social security benefits to which accessibility at age 65 years. The Alzheimer's Association is accelerating its goal to end Alzheimer's and all other dementia by accelerating global research, driving risk reduction and early detection, and maximizing quality care and support.

Respectfully,

Neil Shorthouse, *Keyway Meeting Reporter*

Building Rotary

August is Membership and New Club Development Month

August is Rotary International's designated month to highlight the importance of Membership and New Club Development. This focus reminds us that the success and sustainability of Rotary relies on the dedication of current members and the fresh ideas of new ones.

At the Rotary Club of Atlanta West End, our ability to make a meaningful impact comes from the strength of our membership. Every Rotarian brings unique talents, perspectives, and a commitment to serving others. Through our weekly gatherings, service initiatives, and community partnerships, we continue to reflect the values that make Rotary a force for good in the West End and beyond.

This month is a time to celebrate what it means to be part of a global movement centered on humanitarian service. It is also a time to welcome others who share our values. Growing Rotary starts with each of us. A personal invitation from you can open the door for someone to discover Rotary for the first time.

This month, we ask every member to take a moment to reach out. Share why you joined AWER. Invite someone to a Friday meeting. Introduce a potential member to our service projects. By personally engaging our networks, we not only strengthen our club, but also help expand Rotary's reach and impact.

Let's each be a bridge to Rotary for someone else. Together, we can grow a stronger, more vibrant AWER community.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- 8/5: WEND National Night Out
- 8/15: Carolina Ramos–Member Showcase
- 8/22: Imara Canady, Board President, Hammonds House Museum
- 8/23: Safe at Home Game
- 8/29: Rebekah Enoch; Freedom United.
- 9/14: Streets Alive! Peachtree St.
- 9/27: WEND Candlelight Concert
- 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

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?