



UNITE FOR GOOD

KeyWay Weekly Newsletter

This Week's Program:

Michael Mumper, Executive Director of Georgians for Responsible Marijuana Policy



Help us welcome Michael Mumper, Executive Director of Georgians for Responsible Marijuana Policy (GRMP) and Board President of the Georgia Alcohol Prevention Alliance, as our featured speaker this week. With more than 20 years of leadership in the nonprofit and public health sectors, and a previous career in executive roles at GE Capital, Simon & Schuster, and Turner Broadcasting, Mr. Mumper brings deep insight into youth prevention and community wellness.

As Georgia's marijuana regulations continue to evolve, there may be unintended consequences, particularly for children and teens. Through his leadership at GRMP, Mr. Mumper champions policies that focus on education, public safety, and evidence-based health strategies. His organization monitors the state's medical marijuana program, promotes drug education, opposes recreational legalization, and advocates against synthetic cannabinoids like Delta-8 THC.

Join us for this timely and vital conversation. It aligns with Rotary's commitment to ethical leadership, youth protection, and community health.

JOIN ONLINE	Dial In
Zoom Link - Click here	1-646-558-8656
Meeting ID: 874 0116 4307	Meeting ID: 874 0116 4307
Passcode: Service	Passcode: 846122

October's Theme is Community Economic Development
Fridays: 3, 10, 17, 24, 31



KeyWay Report: District Governor Steve Ivory Visited Rotary Club of Atlanta West End | October 3, 2025

The Rotary Club of Atlanta West End welcomed **District Governor Steve Ivory** as its featured speaker on Friday, October 3, 2025. He was accompanied by **District Governor-elect Cynthia Edwards**. The visit brought energy, inspiration, and a renewed call to service as members reflected on Rotary's core values and the power of community partnership. The meeting also included a celebration of milestones within the club, including the 90th birthday of longtime member and two-time past AWER president **Frances Ellison-Dansby**.

Governor Ivory, a member of the Rotary Club of Peachtree City since 2001, is known throughout District 6900 for his steady, hands-on leadership. A retired U.S. Marine Corps Major and former Director of Quality at Eaton Corporation, he combines the precision of military discipline with the compassion and strategic insight of a lifelong servant leader. During his tenure as club president in the 2020–2021 Rotary year, he led Peachtree City through the challenges of the pandemic, achieving a 254% increase in Foundation giving while fostering creative new ways for members to serve.

District Governor Ivory's presentation, titled "*Imagine What's Next*," invited members to think about the future of Rotary as both an organization and a personal commitment. He began by grounding his remarks in Rotary's seven areas of focus—peacebuilding, disease prevention, clean water, maternal and child health, education, economic development, and environmental stewardship—reminding attendees that "everything Rotary does is connected by one common thread: service."

He highlighted the impact of the Rotary Foundation, which has invested more than \$4 billion globally over the past century. "One of the most powerful things about Rotary," he said, "is that we are almost entirely volunteer-run. That means nearly every dollar we raise goes directly to the work itself." Ivory described the Foundation as the "engine" that fuels Rotary's global impact, from scholarships to health initiatives and local community projects.

He emphasized Rotary's enduring commitment to polio eradication, noting that only a handful of cases remain in the world. Through Rotary's partnership with the **Bill & Melinda Gates** Foundation, each dollar donated to Polio Plus is matched 2-to-1—turning every \$1 into \$3, enough to vaccinate five children. Ivory shared moving accounts of Rotarians delivering vaccines in conflict zones, including one who negotiated with Taliban leaders to continue vaccination campaigns in mosques. "We are this close," he said, "to wiping polio off the planet forever."

Transitioning from Rotary's global reach to the club's local strength, Ivory spoke candidly about membership. District 6900, he shared, is one of the largest districts in Zone 34, encompassing roughly 3,800 Rotarians across 68 clubs. While growth is encouraging, sustaining that growth is an ongoing challenge. He congratulated the Atlanta West End Rotary Club for its Club of Excellence distinction but also pointed out

the need to expand its base from 23 members to its goal of 35, taking into account an attrition rate currently at about 30 percent—double the district average.

“Membership is a team sport,” Ivory said. “It’s not just the job of the Membership Chair. Every Rotarian should be a recruiter, a mentor, and an ambassador for Rotary.” He urged members to focus on retention by engaging newcomers early and aligning them with their passions. Members who stay active for three years, he noted, are statistically likely to remain lifelong Rotarians.

He encouraged clubs to bring prospects first to service projects rather than traditional meetings, explaining that “Rotary sells itself best when people see the work.” He also encouraged flexible engagement—through hybrid meetings, hands-on volunteerism, and satellite clubs—to make Rotary more accessible for today’s busy professionals.

Ivory spoke about Rotary’s commitment to peacebuilding, encouraging every club to consider installing a Peace Pole, a symbolic marker of unity bearing the message “May Peace Prevail on Earth.” He congratulated Atlanta West End for already beginning that process by using District Grant funds to install Peace Poles in Atlanta this Rotary Year.

Finally, he announced that the 2026 District Conference will be held at Lake Lanier Islands, a change from the traditional Jekyll Island venue. The new setting will offer expanded networking and recreation opportunities, including golf, spa services, and lakeside events.

During his visit, Governor Ivory recognized several outstanding members. He honored **Frances Ellison-Dansby** for her pioneering Rotary leadership as the first African American woman to serve as a club president in District 6900 and congratulated **Don Schewe** on his 44 years of service to Rotary.

Governor Ivory closed with a challenge and an encouragement: “Rotary is about doing good in the world—but it’s also about doing good in your own backyard. When we live that out with integrity, we attract people who want to be part of something bigger than themselves.”

KeyWay Program Reporter, Jared Evans & Neil Shorthouse

Community Economic Development Month

October’s Theme

Each October, Rotary highlights Community Economic Development (CED) — one of our seven Areas of Focus. Rotary’s vision is to build a more equitable and inclusive world by creating sustainable opportunities for people who live in poverty, young people, women, refugees, people with disabilities, and other underserved communities.

Why does this matter? Unemployment, lack of opportunity, and limited education are at the root of poverty. By supporting entrepreneurship, creating jobs, and strengthening local economies, Rotary helps communities achieve long-term stability and dignity.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- 10/17: Chris Burke, Executive Director of Community Development for Georgia Tech
- 10/24: GA State Rep. Roger Bruce
- 10/25: ATL Tech. College 5K
- 10/26: Streets Alive! *West End*
- 10/31: Judith Fuller & Threshold Choir Voice of Love

Sign up to be a program chair [here](#) today! *Dec. Jan. Mar. Apr. & June* are **vacant and **need YOU!****

CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

Matt Parrish: October 4
Frances Ellison-Dansby: October 5
Annabelle La Force: October 14
Paul Caplan: October 21
Joel Alvarado: October 21
Don Schewe: October 28
Fabian Wilson: October 29

Wedding Anniversaries

Christopher Hempfling: October 11
Rose Caplan: October 19

Service Anniversaries

Victoria Seals, PhD: 8 years October 6

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*

Secretary: *Neil Shorthouse*

Treasurer: *Rose Caplan*

Club Administration: *Chris Hempfling*

Membership Chair: *Sonia Hantman*

Public Image Chair: *Jared Evans*

Service Projects Chair: *Carolina Ramos*

The Rotary Foundation Chair: *Debra Stokes*

DEI Chair: *Marilyn Jackson*

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?**

Stay Connected with AWER:

Email: inforotaryawe@gmail.com

Website: atlantawestendrotary.org

Facebook: facebook.com/RotaryAWE

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

LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/rotary-club-of-atlanta-west-end