

Merry Christmas

From your...
Georgia District Officers





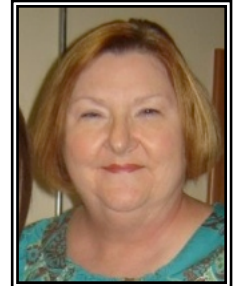
Governor's Bulletin Georgia District



www.pilotgeorgia.org

**Volume 91
Number 6
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"Seasons of Service - Be Inspired"



Hello Pilots,

As we travel through our Seasons of Service this year, you have all been an inspiration to me. Your dedication and hard work are paying off. I'm seeing new members monthly which is terrific, and I'm hearing about your exciting service projects and fund raisers. You all are a blessing to your communities and I know the lives you have touched have been enriched.

As we enter the new year remember it is time to be nominating someone whom your club(s) feel would be interested in serving as a District Officer. (Please note that the deadline to submit a nomination is due by February 10, 2012) this date is later than the Nominating Chair stated, due to the later date of District Convention. Plans are underway for our District Convention scheduled for April 13-15, 2012. More information about the registration fee and room rates will be shared after our Mid-Year planning meeting which is scheduled for January 13-15, 2012.

May you all have a blessed and joyful Christmas as you celebrate with family and friends.

Recipe for Christmas All Year Long

Take a heap of child-like wonder
That opens up our eyes
To the unexpected gifts in life—
Each day a sweet surprise.
Mix in fond appreciation
For the people whom we know;
Like festive Christmas candles,
Each one has a special glow.
Add some giggles and some laughter,
A dash of Christmas food,
(Amazing how a piece of pie
Improves our attitude!)
Stir it all with human kindness;
Wrap it up in love and peace,
Decorate with optimism, and
Our joy will never cease.
If we use this healthy recipe,
We know we will remember
To be in the Christmas spirit,
Even when it's not December.

By Joanna Fuchs

Warm Holiday wishes and lots of hugs,

Yours in Pilot,

Nancy Miller, Georgia District Governor

Please remember to visit the Georgia District website at www.pilotgeorgia.org.

2011—2012 GEORGIA DISTRICT DAC/DEC

Nancy Miller
Governor

Gail Sharber
Governor-Elect

June Henson
Secretary

Merlene Burgess
Treasurer

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Lt. Governor
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Joyce Fleeman
Lt. Governor
Northeast Region

Patricia Whatley
Lt. Governor
Northwest Region

Beverly McKenna
Lt. Governor
Southeast Region

Kathy Berry
Lt. Governor
Southwest Region

Brenda Walker
Lt. Governor
West Central Region

The **Vision of Pilot** is to achieve universal awareness and prevention of Brain-related Disorders and Disabilities.

The Mission of Pilot is to serve by furthering Pilot International's humanitarian efforts through charitable, educational, and research programs in communities throughout the world.





CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

At this special time of the year let each of us pause and remember those special memories of this time of the year...going to Grandma's house and all of those wonderful smells of the goodies

baking - spending time with family and friends - making cookies to share with neighbors - decorating the house with lots of lights - sitting by the fireplace with a cup of hot cocoa - and so many more!

But at the same time it can be a tough time of the year especially when those special people who have been so much a part of our lives are no longer there - this becomes a time when memories can be "bitter sweet". But it also can be a time when new memories can be made, with the help of friends. So lets all of us take some time and ...

-spend the entire afternoon with your family. No distractions. Make sure they know how much they mean to you
-spend some time with a friend whom you know has lost a loved one and let him/her know that you are just there for them
-perform a random act of kindness for someone you care about that they know you do not enjoy (i.e. cleaning the bathroom!). Make sure they know how much they mean to you.
-write a letter (not an e-mail) to someone you have lost touch with whom you have been thinking about lately
-take a ten dollar bill and carry it with you whenever you leave home. There will come an opportunity when you can give this as a gift to someone in need. Make sure they know how much you care about them.

Give away your life and see if God does not give back your life in a way that you need.

May God Grant You Always

A sunbeam to warm you,
A moonbeam to charm you,
A sheltering angel
so nothing can harm you...
Laughter to cheer you,
faithful friends near you,
And whenever you pray,
heaven to hear you.

An Irish Prayer

If you would like to be included on the GA District prayer board, please send me your name and e-mail address. My address is jrakers@bellsouth.net.

Blessings always, *JoAnn Akers*



GREETINGS FROM THE GEORGIA DISTRICT ECR

Greetings from your...Executive Committee Representative

Cool crisp mornings have arrived. It's time for sweaters, hot chocolate, and steaming bowls of soup! During the holiday season, I encourage each of you to give thanks for all of your many blessings and remember those who are lonely, less fortunate, or struggling at this particular time in their lives. Lift them up with kind words, a smile, or bless them by fulfilling a need.

As an Executive Committee Member, thank you for the opportunity to serve the Georgia District this year. Las Vegas Nevada is going to be a fantastic destination for the PI/PIF Annual Convention and Leadership Conference July 18th – 21st, 2012. The meetings will reinforce Pilot's major strategic planning initiative and outline a roadmap for our future. The conference will be focused around Governance during Council of Leaders, tools for Strategic Leadership, Mentors for Membership needs and issues based upon our focus of Brain Health and how overall we impact our communities. There will be golden opportunities to listen in on numerous workshop leaders, network with other clubs and vendors from around the globe. Applause to all of you for embracing and requesting changes to improve Pilot International for our membership and community. One item that our membership clearly realized that needed improvement was that the website was not user 'friendly' or meeting the needs of our membership. We are pleased to announce the NEW WEBSITE has been launched, and I hope by now you have had a chance to review the site. Hats off to Executive Committee Member Shannon Clegg for the numerous hours she spent on this successful extreme makeover!

Pilot International members are catalysts for community changes and we are impacting communities around the world. You may be questioning "How and where am I impacting my immediate community? 1) Participating in projects and committees 2) Inviting others to join 3) Taking a leadership position 4.) Sharing your skills you have that can help Pilot International 5) Being positive, involvement and feedback 6) Networking with others strengthening the organization

We are all volunteer leaders within our communities, and as such, we are all stewards of this international organization and can achieve great things by working together. Please use your District Leadership as mentors and resources because they are here to help navigate your path, answer questions, and to be a friend. I am here as your ECR to mentor and guide your district leadership team in the same capacity.



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The Executive Committee is currently working on long term goals and project planning to refocus our efforts to benefit Pilot International. Your involvement and input are critical aspects of this planning as we focus on Brain Health! I encourage you to share your ideas and participate and volunteer. Wouldn't it be great if every single club in your district identified at least 'one' item they'd like to improve upon or eliminate in strengthening the club as a unit. The Club Assessment is an awesome tool to use in identifying areas that need strengthening. This is an area that we are encouraging you to contact your District Club Representative assigned to your club to come out for a visit and allow them to assist your club in any area.

Lastly, I will leave you with a quote: I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can. I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work the more I live. ~George Bernard Shaw We have an amazing group of Pilots, Anchors, Co-Pilots, and Navigators that have numerous skills beneficial to Pilot International and its membership. Please work together towards a positive and lasting community impact. I hope that you will plan to roll in the New Year by taking time for to sip a cup of hot chocolate or steaming bowl of soup—and reflect on the year past, but more importantly to recognize the investment you've made in your community by thinking beyond yourself!

In Pilot Friendship,

Sherry Johnson, ECR Georgia District
sherryj300@yahoo.com



FUNDRAISING IDEAS

Norma McKellar

I love trees. I love the tall pines, the live oaks, and in the fall, there's nothing prettier than the golden ginkgo. And right now I'm decorating my favorite tree for Christmas.

But wait a minute! Aren't we supposed to be talking about fundraising? Well, I'm getting to that. Trees can be the center of several types of fundraising events. So if you're looking for a different subject for raising funds, remember this saying- "*Do not be afraid to go out on a limb...that's where the fruit is.*"

There are two major ways to incorporate trees in your event. You can literally use the tree, as in decorating, or you may choose to sell trees to actually plant.

During the Christmas season many groups raise funds by selling lights as in love lights. You might even consider having a "decorate the tree" contest. In this type event various clubs and/or businesses pay entry fees to display their project. To add to the monies, voting for the best tree

can be done by putting money in containers representing each tree. Last year during the holidays the Pilot Club of Moultrie had an "Angel Tree" at the local public library. The cost for an angel was three dollars and they could be in memory or in honor of someone.

Trees can be decorated with many different themes and shapes. You can use hearts, shamrocks, eggs and stars. Various color ribbons can also be used, such as pink for breast cancer or gray/silver for the brain.

Now that everyone is "going green", actually selling trees could be a very successful fundraiser. Not only would your club prosper from tree sales, but the contribution to your community, along with your service projects, would last for generations. The Arbor Day Foundation is one source you might consider. They even offer suggestions for your event.

To close my December article I want to quote this most fitting song: "Oh Christmas tree, oh Christmas tree, how sturdy God hath made thee! Thou bids us all place faithfully our trust in God, unchangingly! Oh Christmas tree, Oh Christmas tree, how sturdy God hath made thee! Have a very merry Christmas.

FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP CO-CHAIR

Cindy Tatum, Membership Co-Chair



The last article that I wrote for the Governor's Bulletin was in October, and I was encouraging you to work hard to get new members during membership month. I have heard from a couple of clubs and would like to share their results with you.

The Pilot Club of Winder had a Share Pilot with 10 guests. Seven of those guests took membership forms, and they have hopes that they will join. The Pilot Club of Gainesville has gotten 1 new member with the promise of 3 or 4 more in January. They are also reinstating an emeritus member. The Pilot Club of Toccoa had a Share Pilot meeting in October with 7 guests. Five of those guests have joined. This is wonderful news! I must tell you that all of these clubs are in the Northeast Region. I'm sure that clubs in the other regions have new members, too. Please let me hear from you. My e-mail address is tatumcindy@ymail.com. From last month's Governor's Bulletin I learned that Elberton had 1 new member, Statesboro had 1, Jones County had 2, Lavonia had 4, Cochran had 1, and Moultrie had 1.

As Thanksgiving week progressed, I spent a great deal of time thinking about things for which I am thankful. Pilot is near the top of my list. Pilot friends, Pilot projects, Pilot Headquarters staff, Pilot leaders, and new Pilots who are given the opportunity to become active in their communities.



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Now, as Christmas approaches, let us all remember what this holiday means. May we continue to find ways to assist people in our towns and throughout the world, and may we continue to enrich those Pilot friendships that mean so much to all of us.

Please share your success stories with me and with Pat Jarvis, Membership Co-Chair at tatumcindy@gmail.com and pgjarvis@bellsouth.net.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



GA DISTRICT ANCHOR CLUBS

Mary Turner, Anchor Coordinator Anchors

I would like to take this opportunity to invite ALL Pilots to attend our District Anchor Convention March 2-4, 2012 at Legacy Lodge and Conference at Lake Lanier

Islands. This year's theme is "Anchors in Disguise." The masquerade theme will continue all weekend and will culminate in a masquerade mask contest at the awards banquet on Saturday night. If you can't attend the whole weekend, just come for the day Saturday. If your Pilot Club sponsors an Anchor Club, come support them. If you don't sponsor an Anchor Club come and catch the spirit. I promise you will leave energized. Registration will be distributed with the November "Anchor's Aweigh."

Do you know if your Anchor Club paid their PI and District dues? They were due Nov. 1. It is not too late. Get them in soon. The Anchors cannot vote at convention or run for district office unless all dues are paid for the club.

Don't forget to send me your Anchor/Pilot success stories. Send your favorites to turnerma@elberton.net and I will share them in the Governor's Bulletin.



VOLUNTEERING FOR PROJECTS...

Angela Gillis, Projects Coordinator

I wanted to share some tips on being a GOOD volunteer.

Volunteering is fun and rewarding, but it's also a little more complicated than just showing up and having a good time. Here's some advice on how to make the most of your volunteer work:

Be selfless. Selfless is the opposite of selfish. Don't think about what you can do to help yourself. Think about what you can do to help others.

Be well-trained. Know what you're doing as a volunteer. If you need some time to learn your job, take that time. If you need training or need someone to show you what you're supposed to do, speak up. If you're good at your job, it will be much easier to help others (plus you'll have a lot more fun).

Be dependable. Do what you say you'll do, and do your best. Don't show up late, and always keep your promises. People will be relying on you so you don't want to let them down.

Be enthusiastic. Don't moan and groan your way through your volunteer work. If you really don't like what you're doing, find something else. Always have a positive attitude and show others that you're doing this because you WANT to.

Be open-minded. One of the really great things about being a volunteer is the chance to learn and experience new things. Keep your mind open to new possibilities, and you'll probably grow as a person.

Be respectful. Always remember to show respect for other people and other cultures. Keep in mind that your way of thinking or living is not the only way there is.

Be cooperative. Don't be a "hot shot" or a loner. Don't try to do everything yourself. Work as part of a team to make sure everyone gets a chance to participate and do his or her fair share of work. If someone asks for help, be willing to lend a hand. If you need some help, ask politely for it.

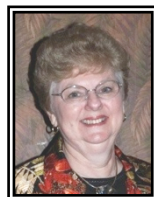
Be understanding. Try to see things through other people's eyes. Try your best to understand what other people are going through; even if it's something you've never dealt with yourself.

Be humble. Humble people don't brag or go around telling everyone about all the good things they've done just to get some attention or feel superior. They're happy knowing that they're making a difference, and don't need to shout about it.

Be friendly. Treat others like friends, and they'll do the same for you. Many people who volunteer meet new people with whom they want to stay friends. You might just meet someone who becomes a buddy for the rest of your life!

Pilots are GREAT volunteers!

LEADERSHIP



Esther Foster, Leadership Coordinator

A Thanksgiving Debacle or A Lesson in Change Management

Thursday was Thanksgiving for those of us in the United States. In grade school we learn that the first Thanksgiving occurred between the Pilgrims and the American Indians, giving thanks for a successful harvest. As adults, we celebrate and look forward to seeing family and friends and remember what we are thankful for.



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Traditionally, most of us celebrate around a big dinner that involves cooking a turkey. Having a turkey on Thanksgiving is a tradition for my family. Four years ago, I told my mom that I wanted to have Thanksgiving. She responded with excitement, that she would not have to labor over such a meal. However, as we got closer to the actual day tension grew between my mom and me. You see, I told her that I was going to cook the turkey a little different than she had cooked the turkey for the past 32 years. I wanted to try something different I saw on the Food Network. My mom's response to my actions of cooking the turkey different from her method was negative. She immediately thought I was insulting her past thanksgiving meals.

I tried to explain to her that the chef on TV said that this will produce a juicy turkey. (That did not help my side of this debate.) Her response was, "What, my turkey is always dry? I did not know you hated my turkey?" I never said her turkey was dry or that I did not like it. I just wanted to try something new. The debate went on and on for the entire week leading up to what I thought was going to be the Great Thanksgiving Debacle of 2008.

However, that day finally arrived. I cooked the bird the way I wanted, and never mentioned again how I cooked it. When we all sat down to eat dinner my mom said it was the juiciest turkey she had ever had. And I graciously said "Thank you." And to this day I do not discuss how I cook my turkey.

My mom's reaction to the change is quite normal. Resistance to change is when someone perceives change as a threat to them. The key words are 'perceive' and 'threat.' The threat need not be real or large for resistance to change. Resistance may take many forms, including active or passive, overt or covert, individual or organized, aggressive or timid.

What happens when you are in the middle of a conversation or meeting and someone speaks out against the change?

The natural tendency of many people is to respond immediately, perhaps butting in or cutting the other person short. But think how this appears to other people? The message being sent is 'public disagreement is not allowed'. A likely effect is that the person resisting now has the sympathy of others (and may recruit the others to their cause). So the very first thing is to bite your lip, hold your tongue and count to three. Take a moment to pause and assess the situation. What are others doing? Is the person speaking cautious or bold? What does the body language tell you?

The next step is to listen carefully not only to what they are saying but also to how they are saying it. Listen for the deeper messages between the lines. Listen to their fears, hopes and ambitions. Hear the tensions and emotions.

Notice how they are coping. You can also draw out further information, tipping the bucket to ensure you have the whole story. Use appropriate questioning techniques to learn more.

Make your initial response one that empathizes with their position. Show first that you understand (even though you may not agree) and respect their right to voice an honest opinion.

Before you open your mouth, think hard about what you are going to say and how you are going to say it. Done wrong, a response will show your empathy to be false and may cause a bitter backlash.

Respond in a way that offers the other person a dignified way out. Seek win-win. Use their language. Reframe their position to show a bigger picture.

Remember, the only person who likes change is a baby in a wet diaper!

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



GA DISTRICT GOVERNOR-ELECT

Gail Sharber – December 21

NE REGION LT. GOVERNOR

Joyce Fleeman – December 12

DATES TO REMEMBER

Pilot Headquarters will be closed – December 26-30, 2011
Newsletter Award submissions mailed to your Region Lt.
Gov. by January 6, 2012
Nominations for District Officers due February 10, 2012
Freedom's Foundation February 23-26, 2012
Anchor Convention, Legacy Lodge, Lake Lanier Islands -
March 2-4, 2012
District Convention, Gwinnett Place Marriott, Duluth, GA -
April 13-15, 2012
PI International Conv., Bally's Hotel, Las Vegas, NV -
July 18-21, 2012



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In Loving Remembrance... The Georgia District extends our deepest sympathies to those who have lost loved ones.

Pilot	Pilot Club	Relationship
Elaine Hulst	Statesboro	Son
Jane Whiting	Gainesville	Sister
Emily Yent	Bainbridge	Mother
Gigi Wingate	Atlanta	Mother
Sally Wehr	Atlanta	Husband

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

The Georgia District would like to welcome all the newest members to our organization! WELCOME!!

New Member	Club	Sponsor
Ashley Nix	Jefferson	
Mary Bullard	Moultrie	Reinstated – Cherie Searcy
Susan Sonnier	Chatham Co.	Era Hall
Marilyn Tucker	Chatham Co.	Era Hall
Alisa Adams	Toccoa	Shelby Holland
Diane Carpenter	Toccoa	Reinstated – Joyce Dooley
Maxine Felts	Toccoa	Joyce Dooley
Cindy Mullin	Toccoa	Kathy Harvey
Deborah Phagan	Toccoa	Joyce Dooley



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GPF / PIF



“Seasons of Inspired Giving”

The Georgia District will be holding a joint fundraiser for the Georgia Pilot Foundation and Pilot International Foundation. Over \$9,700 was raised with last year's Angel Baskets with \$4,852 going to GPF and \$4,852 to PIF.



The funds donated by the Georgia District to the Pilot International Foundation allow all our local clubs to help with needs in our communities through PIF Grants and Scholarships as well as helping to insure that the Georgia District is a \$250 District with Pilot International.

The Georgia Pilot Foundation uses the proceeds to help fund scholarships to deserving Anchors. Along with the \$100 donations made by clubs and individual Pilots, we were able to award \$9,000 in scholarships last year. With the current increase in the cost of tuition for our college students, our district scholarships are needed more than ever by our future leaders.

To encourage greater participation by the Clubs we have made changes to this year's fundraiser. We **are not** asking clubs to donate cards or cash for the prizes. \$3,000 in prizes will be awarded from the fundraising proceeds. We will be drawing for nine baskets or bags to help you celebrate the “Seasons of Service”. There will be 8 seasonal bags with \$250 in cash and one bag to celebrate all the seasons with \$1,000 in cash.

We are asking all clubs to please use the \$50 previously used for purchasing gift cards to instead purchase additional tickets for the fundraiser in your clubs' name. This could be a great opportunity for your club to win cash to use for one of your community projects.

Each Pilot Club will be given 60 tickets. Tickets will sell for \$10 each or 4 for \$20 which is a half price savings. Tickets will be distributed to the Club Presidents at Fall Council held in Macon on Saturday, October 8, 2011. Drawing will be held at Georgia District Convention on Saturday, April 14, 2012 at the Atlanta Gwinnett Marriott in Duluth.



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Georgia Pilot Foundation, Inc.



CONTRIBUTION FORM

The Georgia Pilot Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit, charitable foundation, which currently provides post secondary education scholarships to Georgia District Anchor Club members, as well as to benefit people with disabilities and brain related disorders.

Please send your gift, along with this completed form to: **ROBIN PERRY**
GPF CO-REPRESENTATIVE
PO BOX 1427
DUBLIN, GA 31040

Enclosed is a gift of \$ _____ as a:

- Memorial Gift in Memory of _____
- Honorarium Gift in Honor of _____
- Special Gift _____
- Other Gift _____

Please send an Acknowledgement to:

Name _____

Address _____

GIVEN BY: Name _____

Address _____

Pilot Club _____



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The Georgia District Governor's Bulletin is published monthly.
Layout Editor is Tammy Purcell.
Articles are due on the 10th of the month preceding the publication date.
Please e-mail articles to Nancy Miller at nancymiller76@hotmail.com.
Every effort will be made to publish news by clubs.
Articles may be edited to fit space.

Club Presidents: Please pass on a copy of the Governor's Bulletin to EACH member of your club. If lack of money for photocopying is a problem, bring a few copies of the Governor's Bulletin to your meeting and pass them around for everyone to read. Have each member initial it when he/she has read it.



Nancy L. Miller
PI Georgia District Governor
211 Michelle Rd. NW, Milledgeville, GA 31061



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