



Georgia District

Governor's Bulletin

Volume 95 -- Number 6
December 2015

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2015-2016 DEC

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“Happiness” is the Joy of Christmas in my heart!

When this bulletin gets sent out, we will be about to enter Advent, the season to prepare our hearts for the glorious celebration of the birth of Jesus, “the reason for the season.” This time of year is filled with many traditions with origins in countries all over the world. By far, my favorite tradition is the Christmas tree. A legend of the Christmas tree says that St. Boniface, missionary to the Germans in 721 AD, destroyed the “Thunder Oak” of mighty Thor and used a little fir tree as a tool of evangelizing the pagan people. He said, “This little tree, a young child of the forest, shall be your holy tree tonight. It is the wood of peace...It is the sign of an endless life, for its leaves are ever green. See how it points upward to heaven. Let this be called the tree of the Christ-child. Gather about it in your own home where it will shelter deeds and gifts of love and rites of kindness.”

The first tree that I decorate every year is the 10 foot tall Chrismon tree in my church sanctuary. The ornaments on the tree have Christian symbolism and have mostly been hand-made by members of my church. One of my favorites is the butterfly, symbol of Christ's resurrection, that I made from Alencon lace left from making my wedding dress. On its wings are the Greek symbols of the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, that are fashioned in gold beads.

When I was a child, as far back as I can remember, my whole family would go searching through the woods for a tree for Daddy to chop down to carry home for us all to decorate. What wonderful memories I have of those times. One memory is of the Christmas when I got married. I arrived home a few days before Christmas and my wedding to find that there was no Christmas tree. The dining room where the tree was always placed was full of wedding gifts. That being unacceptable, my sister and I drove into Thomson to find a tree. We bought the very last tree to be found and it looked something like Charlie Brown's tree. It took a lot of work but we finally made it look like the prettiest tree the family ever had.

When my own children were small, we followed the same tradition of going to the woods to find a cedar tree. The last year we did this. we searched what seemed like forever. There was no “good” tree to be found so we carried two trees home. The better one went in the tree stand. Then we drilled holes in the trunk where there were bare spots. Branches from the other tree were inserted into the holes to finally get a well shaped tree. This became one of our Christmas tales.....”Do you remember the Christmas when.....” From then on we got our trees at a tree farm.

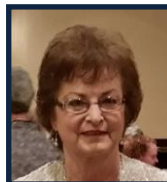
Those family trees were always covered with ornaments made by my three children and the gift ornaments given to them each year from friends. Each child's ornaments were kept in a separate box which went with them when they married and moved to their own homes.

To this day, even though I live alone with my cat G.G., I go to Busy Elves tree farm on Thanksgiving weekend and bring home a fresh tree to decorate. Many of the ornaments placed on my tree have been gifts from friends through the years and souvenirs of places I have visited. G.G. even loves to lie under the decorated tree and stare at the lights and sparkles while I sit by the fireplace and do the same. The lighted star at the top of my tree symbolizes the Bethlehem star of the Christ-child and I am filled with love, joy and peace as I think of God's Christmas gift to the world. Thank you St. Boniface for the wonderful tradition of the Christmas tree.

Many wishes from me to you that your traditions will bring you Joy and Happiness this Christmas!

Grace

Grace Crittenden
GA District Governor



FOCUS for December

Anchor
Leadership
Membership
Fundraising



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Georgia District Website: www.pilotgeorgia.org



Pilot International Website: www.pilotinternational.org

Georgia District Elves Are Busily Spreading Christmas "Happiness"

"Happiness" is....Sharing our Christmas Joy with You!



It is a special Joy to **Shelby** to go with her family to a mountain top tree farm to search out, select and cut the perfect family Christmas tree. A tradition since her childhood.



Grace says, "The true Joy of Christmas comes to me every year when I sing about the birth of Christ with my church choir during our Christmas Cantata."



Cynthia says, "I find Joy and Happiness at Christmas singing carols, enjoying the pretty decorations, remembering childhood Christmas and singing "Silent Night" by candlelight with my Dad at the Christmas Eve church service."



Patsy says, "Happiness is found during the season when more people are focused on the birth of Jesus with Christ plays, musicals, TV programs, spending time with family and finding the right gifts for others."

To **Jenni**, Christmas is a time of comfort as she celebrates the birth of her Lord and Savior who gives all who believe eternal life and the joy of knowing that we will someday join the saints in heaven.



For **Maureen**, Joy and Happiness during the Christmas season revolves around family time; glorious celebrations; music and laughter; praise and thanksgiving.

Katharine didn't live close to grandparents or aunts and uncles when she was growing up. She says, "The once-a-year trip to see them during the holidays brought her many happy and treasured memories."



Pat finds special happiness and joy by seeing Christmas through the eyes of the young children she teaches as they hear her tell them Christmas stories, teach them songs, and make tree ornaments and gifts to give to others.



Ileane's Joy comes at Christmas by being able to give gifts to those less fortunate and seeing the smiles and hearing the laughter of children as they too are filled with joy.



Karen loves the feel good things of Christmas like the hanging of the greens, children's Christmas programs, live nativity scenes with bathrobe-clad shepherds and midnight Christmas Eve services.

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IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- January 6, 2016**
Newsletter Competition due to your Region Lt. Governor
- February 1, 2016**
Deadline for Pacesetter, 250 Club & member contributions for recognition at District Convention
- February 3, 2016**
District Officer Nomination Form Due to Doretta Broughton, District Nominating Chair
- February 14-20, 2016**
Random Acts of Kindness Week
- February 16, 2016**
District Awards due to Gail Sharber, Awards Chair
- February 26 – 28, 2016**
Anchor Convention Lake Lanier Islands

“Happiness” is Being inspired....

Be present
Let the day flow with grace
Expect joy, be positive
Serve with compassion
Speak only kindness
Impart only love
Never forget you're not alone
Give thanks for everything
See goodness in others

Joan

Joan McCannon
 GA District Chaplain
 jmcc47@icloud.com



Our Mission: Pilot International transforms communities by developing youth, providing service and education, and uplifting families.



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

<u>PILOT</u>	<u>CLUB NAME</u>	<u>RELATIONSHIP</u>
Erin Kett	Atlanta	Grandmother
Gwen Yarbrough	Statesboro	Brother-in-law



Happy Birthday!

Past Governors

NW Lt. Governor
Katharine Banning
December 30

Judy Jackson
PI Treasurer
December 17

Gail Sharber
December 21

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“Happiness” is Being Good Leaders...

From the Bahamas District Governor's Bulletin

One of my favorite reads this Fall has been *SEC Sports Quotes Compendium*, compiled by Chris Warner. The words of wisdom from the most revered of SEC coaches provide great leadership insight for Pilots and other teams and organizations, as well. This month's quotes are from the legendary Steve Spurrier, "Discover the talent that God has given you. Then, go out and make the most of it" and "If I'm a good football coach, it's because of my mistakes. I try to learn from them."

These simple statements are filled with leadership wisdom for Pilots. We need to take on jobs in Pilot and when we do well, continue and do more, making the most of our talents. When you realize what you're good at, it usually makes the job easy and enjoyable. Capitalize on what you're good at and contribute every month and every year to help your club work well, serve others, raise funds, and gain new members. If you're good at publicity, then, take those photos and send them to the paper with a small paragraph of information on your club's project or mission, put them on Facebook and the club's website. If you enjoy talking to others, then be a self-appointed greeter each month to welcome members and find out joys and concerns that might need to be shared.

If you're good at baking and love to do it, bake a cake or two for silent auctions at your meetings. This money could go toward the District PIFF goal. You could also bake and bag cookies for your club to use as Pick Me Ups. If you're a good organizer, then volunteer to organize and plan a major event for your club, even though you may not be on the division that the event falls under. Plan for involvement of all members through work shifts and various assigned tasks, so that none are overworked. Volunteer and follow through—you will be appreciated!

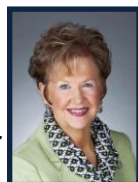
If you're good at motivating others, take on a membership drive or a fundraiser and motivate all members to action to help make it a success. You are using your talent to benefit your club, which in turn, will benefit your community.

Considering Spurrier's second quote, as Pilots, we should learn from our mistakes and strive to change what we did, abandon a weak or unsuccessful project, or tweak it in key ways to make it stronger and better. We should also learn from our mistakes in dealing with others. Vow to listen more, support others more, and make changes in our words and deeds to coach others to action and success. Go Team Pilot!

Wishing you all the blessings of the season,

Judy

Judy Jackson
PI Treasurer and District Leadership Coordinator
jsjshes@att.net



This Christmas end a quarrel. Seek out a forgotten Friend. Dismiss suspicion, and replace it with trust... write a love letter. Share some treasure. Give a soft answer. Encourage youth. Manifest your loyalty in Word and deed. Keep a promise find the Time. Forgo a grudge. Forgive an enemy. Listen. Apologize if you are wrong. Try to understand. Flout envy. Examine your demands on others. Think First of someone else. Appreciate. Be kind, be gentle. Laugh a little. Laugh a little more. Exude confidence. Take up alms against malice. Decry complacency. Express your gratitude. Go to church. Welcome a stranger. Gladden the heart of a child. Take pleasure in the beauty and wonder of the truth. Speak your love. Speak it again speak it yet once again. Have a blessed Christmas & a prosperous New Year



GA District New Members.....

<u>PILOT</u>	<u>CLUB NAME</u>	<u>SPONSOR</u>
Betty Webb	Elberton	Sandra Drake
Erin Hinnant Boettger	Ocilla-Irwin	Becky Cook
Andrea Yawn	Eastman	Nylan Hinson
Ann Shaw	Jones Co.	Jody Faulkner
Nancy McCook	Jones Co.	Betty Coon
Judith Ann Franson	Milledgeville	Rose Smith
Anjannett Griffin	Bainbridge	Virginia Smith
Bebe Reed	Oconee Co.	Dennise Grayson
Jane Reese	Oconee Co.	Jan Thomas

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“Happiness” is keeping your members interested in club activity....

Getting new members is like getting a Christmas present. It is something new and makes us all very happy. A big concern for our Pilot Clubs is changing demographics which can mean a declining membership as current members retire or move away and younger members do not see the value in joining. Members want to feel invested in the club, not just making a donation to keep the organization afloat. We need to have informative and inspirational program meetings. Keep in mind that some members prefer traditional ways of being informed of club activities such as phone calls and club mailings, while others look to social media. Facebook, Twitter, and smartphone apps are especially engaging for younger members. By sharing stories and pictures club members can interact with other members and build stronger ties to the organization. One of our guest speakers was from NAMI and she shared her story and gave us both brochures and websites for those who wanted more information. She was so inspirational that two of our members signed up for a 12 week class sponsored by NAMI. This was for anyone who has a family member or who works with someone with a brain related illness. Another guest speaker was from Inner-Faith Hospitality who had pamphlets and websites for more information. These were great opportunities to invite members of the community to a Pilot Club meeting. Remember to invite your friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers to your Pilot Club meetings. Have snacks, door prizes and a time to socialize.

It is the season of giving so invite prospective members to help with your projects. Many clubs do something special around Christmas which means giving of our time and/or talents. Our club helped with decorations at the STEPs Halloween Party and we plan to do this again for their Christmas Party. Club members brought in decorations so this was no cost to our club.

Many people like to do crafts and we are no exception. One of our fundraisers will be selling items and sharing Pilot on River Street. Get the word out that you need crafty people to help and you may be surprised to see who shows up to help. People who do not like to work on crafts may like to help during the day of the event. Hanging out on River Street and meeting lots of people is fun. So, share your fun times with people who may decide to join your club.

I wish you a Merry Christmas and a new member for your club!

Beverly

Beverly McKenna
Membership Coordinator
bmckenna@georgiasouthern.edu



“Happiness” is Holiday Wishes from our ECR...

“This is that time of the year....” That’s right, for many of us, it’s the holiday season. Whether you celebrate Christmas or Hanukkah, Kwanzaa or Winter Solstice, it’s a time for decorating, for shopping, for gathering together to eat, drink, and spend time with those we love.

As Pilots, this time of year is not only one of celebration, but also one of opportunity. Many clubs host fundraisers during the holiday season, and the possibilities for service are endless.

Let’s all take the time to remember those less fortunate than us, those whose losses make this a season of sadness, and those whose celebrations might be limited by the frailty of their body or mind. As Pilots, let us all do our part to spread a bit of the joy of this season through our friendship and with our service.

And throughout the holidays and the New Year ahead, may we Pilots be a blessing to others, and may we be blessed, every one.

In Pilot friendship,

Karen

Karen Cupit
PI Secretary & GA District ECR
karen.cupit@att.net



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"Happiness" is Anchor Clubs Making a Difference ...

As we approach this season of wonder, Georgia Anchors are busy planning special holiday events. From the "Polar Express" to "Santa's Workshop", Anchor Elves are spreading cheer, presents and good will to children in their communities. Some clubs have adopted needy children, others are collecting food, clothing or toys, ensuring a happy Christmas morning. All are giving the greatest gift...their service!

Please make plans to attend their convention, to recognize and celebrate with our amazing Anchors. We will be returning to Lake Lanier Legacy Lodge, a perennial favorite. The Anchor Board has an exciting weekend in store with the theme "Anchor goes to Hollywood". They are quite competitive, with contests for the most Zambezi books and pop tops for the new Ronald McDonald House in Atlanta. Additionally they will be bringing canned foods and individually wrapped snack bars and treats for Blessings in a Backpack. So help support their projects; they are a win-win for all.

Registration and hotel information is available on the GA District website. All information and forms were sent out with the November issue of Anchors Aweigh, also available on the website if you did not receive a copy. Let me know if you wish to be added to the mailing list. Please share info with Anchor Advisors, mindful of the deadline dates for both.

Scholarship applications are also available for Anchors. The Georgia District Anchor Scholarship is open to all eligible Anchors. The Georgia Pilot Foundation is open to one Anchor per club. In the case of multiple applications one applicant will be put forward, determined by the sponsoring Pilot Club. Copies of these applications were also attached

to the Anchors Aweigh and are available on the website. Pilot International also offers Anchor Scholarships; forms available on AnchorClubIntl.org. Please encourage your Anchors to apply. I recently had the honor of attending the 2015 Partnerships for Success Leadership Conference held at the Lanier Charter Career Academy in Gainesville. Program Coordinators Colleen Lambert and Cindy Saylor were guests at our Fall Council, and will be joining the Anchors at Lake Lanier.

The mission of PFS Clubs is to provide students with and without disabilities experiences in recreation, socialization, and community service to help students discover who they are, where they want to go, and how they will get there. There are currently PFS programs active in 19 schools across 9 GA counties, several in schools with Anchor Clubs. Students from Chesatee HS, Lanier Career Academy, North Hall County HS, and Decatur HS participated in exciting and creative team building activities. Dottie Adams and I shared the Zambezi Schoolbook Project and they voted to join that effort. With our closely aligned missions, the dream is to blend our clubs in a way that includes and benefits everyone. Please feel free to contact me for further information or to share your ideas!

Happy Holidays!

Sheryl

Sheryl Merrey
GA District Anchor Coordinator
sherylmerrey@gmail.com

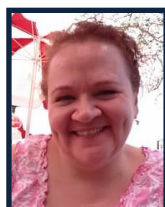


"Happiness" is Making Money for Our Projects ...

Thanksgiving has passed and Christmas and the New Year are almost upon us. Some say this is the busiest time of year, and it is true. Between family, work and Pilot obligations, we often feel pulled in a million directions. But with careful planning and hard work from all Pilots in your club, a Christmas time fund raiser can be a huge success for your club and community. These three clubs have upcoming fundraisers, I'm sure they would love to see fellow Pilots attend and lend their support!

Kate

Kate Caswell
Fundraising Coordinator
katiedid333@yahoo.com



Pilot Club of Dublin Polar Express
Laurens Baptist Association, Trinity Road, Dublin
December 4, 5, 11 & 12 from 6:00-8:00 PM
Tickets \$7.00
For more information contact-Robin Perry
perryco@bellsouth.net, (478) 998-2762

Pilot Club of Conyers "Christmas Tour of Homes"
featuring private homes in the historic district of Olde Town Conyers
Sunday, December 6, 2015 from 1:00-5:00 PM
\$12.00 Advance Tickets/\$15.00 Day of Tour
For more information contact-Lillis Brown (770) 483-8849

Pilot Club of Cochran "Winter Wonderland Express"
December 3, 5, 11 & 12 from 6:00-8:00 PM
For more information contact-Patsy Washburn
pjwashburn@comsouth.net



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Spotlighting Our Clubs.....

Pilot Club of Oconee County recently presented a \$200.00 check, food items and cleaning products to The Cottage in Athens. The Cottage provides intervention, advocacy, referrals and support for survivors and families impacted by child abuse and sexual assault.

Pictured left to right are Darlene Adams, Sally Shepherd (The Cottage) and Gayle Christopher



Pilot Club of Warner Robins officers Left to Right: Linda Harris, Treasurer; Krista Kortum, President; Brenda Walker, Fundraising Chair; Monica Nix, Projects Chair; Bea Lowder, President-Elect; JoAnn Harrell, Director; and Linda Gilliam, Secretary stand in front of the Douglass Theatre after their "Still Alice" movie screening fundraiser.



The Pilot Club of Macon donated Bicycle Helmets to the Bibb Sheriff's Department as part of their goal to help prevent brain injuries and brain disorders. The helmets will be given to children during the annual Christmas Bicycle Giveaways for The Kids Yule campaign. Pictured left to right Officer Christopher Dunn, President Bessie Brown, Sheriff David Davis, Pilot Carolyn Glover.



Members of Battlefield Pilot Club were honored to have a visit from Gov. Elect Cynthia Spearman on Saturday morning. A great time and a great breakfast was had by all at Susan Restaurant in Flintstone, GA.

Pictured are Barbara Autry, Gov. Elect Spearman, Kay Cooke, Barbara German, Patsy Stickel, Brenda Noblitt, and Patricia Cooke.



Pilot Club of Elberton Pilots & friends at Explorations of Antiquities in LaGrange, GA. They sponsored a day bus trip to visit the Antiquities (a Jerusalem village replica) and the estates of Hills and Dales. They netted approximately \$800.



The Mayor gave the Pilot Club of Cochran a proclamation stating October 18th will be Pilot International Day in Cochran Georgia. Happy Founder's Day!

Pictured: r to l. Mayor Mike Stoy, Lisa Chastain, President Vickie Cheek, Maureen Stoy.

Pilot Club of Bainbridge with the Mayor receiving our proclamation on Founders Day.

Mayor Edward Reynolds, Emily Yent, Catherine Catledge and President Missy Belcher



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