



July 2025 - #1

2025 - 2026 DAC/DEC



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GOVERNOR'S BULLETIN EDITOR

Kirsten Jorgenson, (404) 202-6862
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Message from the Governor

Welcome to the new Pilot year! I am looking forward to the Pilot Convention later this month. The convention will kick off on Wednesday night with the flag ceremony. On Thursday we will conduct the business of Pilot International.

Start your engines for the Thursday night PIFF fundraiser at the NASCAR Hall of Fame. Make plans to visit the Market Place and support other clubs and districts as well as the Founder's Fund.

The Founder's Fund will be conducting several different raffles. One will be the "Speed City" raffle. Each district is donating an item or basket worth \$100. The tickets will be 2 for \$5, 5 for \$10, or 15 for \$20. You will place your tickets in the basket of the item you would like.

The second raffle will be "Lucky Buckets." This will be a live cash raffle Saturday during the President's Brunch. It will be a 40/60 raffle with three winners splitting the 40% payout. Tickets will be 1 for \$5 or 5 for \$20.

The third raffle will be a "Gift Card Basket Raffle." You will buy chances to win various gift cards. The tickets will be 2 for \$5, 5 for \$10, and 15 for \$20.

The Co-Pilots will once again be selling Calcutta Tickets. The tickets are 5 for \$20.

I am looking forward to a wonderful year as we Spread joy through friendship and service in the Georgia District! Please let me know if I can be of assistance at any time throughout the year.

Mary



Pilot Platter Chatter at Ila Restaurant in Madison County!



A big congratulations to The Pilot club of Elberton, who recently celebrated their 90th anniversary! Pictured is the group and members recognized for years of service, as well as our youngest member, Michelle Capell and many Pilot friends.





Inspirational Message

Pilots, as we begin a new Pilot year let us remember this.....that the best gift that we can give anyone that doesn't cost anything is KINDNESS!!! Let the words from this poem wash all over you...as our red cardinal spreads its wings through Pilot friendship and service.....

KINDNESS by Naomi Shihab Nye

Before you know what kindness is
you must lose things,
feel the future dissolve in a moment
like salt in a weakened broth.
What you hold in your hand,
what you counted and carefully saved,
all this must go so you know
how desolate the landscape can be
between the regions of kindness.
How you ride and ride
thinking the bus will never stop.
the passengers eating maize and chicken
will stare out the window forever.

Before you learn the tender gravity of kindness,
you must travel where the Indian in a white poncho
lies dead by the side of the road.
You must see how this could be you,
how he too was someone
who journeyed through the night with plans
and the simple breath that kept him alive
Before you know kindness as the deepest thing
inside,
you must know sorrow as the other deepest thing.
you must wake up with sorrow.
You must speak to it till your voice
Catches the thread of all sorrows
and you see the size of the cloth.

Then it is only kindness that makes sense anymore,
only kindness that ties your shoes
and sends you out into the day
to gaze at b read,
only kindness that raises its head
from the crowd of the world to say
"It is I you have been looking for,"
and then goes with you everywhere
like a shadow or a friend.

JoAnn

JoAnn Akers
Inspirational leader
akersjoann@gmail.com



REMINDER: Our District has a Facebook page, so get your members to sign up.



Georgia District, Pilot International
2025-26 Memorial Forms need to go to:

Mary Turner
GA District Governor
turnerma417@gmail.com

JoAnn Akers
Inspirational Leader
akersjoann@gmail.com

Lt. Governor (for your region)



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

Pilot/Family	Club
Melissa Skinner (Mother)	Jones Co.



Leadership

"The Power of a Smile"

Have you noticed that someone wearing a smile on their face when greeting you tends to get a return smile from you? The atmosphere can be defined by that kind of non-verbal communication. Some simple tactics can make life so much easier when working with people and managing a business...or a Pilot club. This Pilot year my leadership articles will try to prepare you to enter a leadership role with the help of a man popular back in the 1950s and 60s...Dale Carnegie.

While rummaging through old boxes of books from my childhood home, I found *How to Gain Friends and Influence People*, by Dale Carnegie in my collection. My father's name was written in cursive on the inside front cover. He was a successful leader so I thought maybe I should read this book too since I was going into the DAC. What an easy book to read and so many great ideas to just be a better person! Now, it is my turn to share some of those ideas with you!

A simple smile can create a welcoming atmosphere and develop trust among club members and the people we serve. Do you greet members as they come for meetings? Do you follow up on absent members with a note or a call? These can make people feel important and wanted, which is instinctually what everyone wants. Let them know that you have a genuine interest in them and what they have to say. Establishing a good rapport with businesses around town can benefit with club fundraising capabilities and with membership opportunities too.

It all starts with a smile, so focus on that this month and see if you have a difference in attitude in the grumpy salesclerk or the tired mailman. Make your smile say, "I am happy to see you" or "Have a good day." It may even make selfies turn out better!

P.S.: My year as Governor has taught me leadership skills that I had read about but, in my career, had never had a chance to fully implement. Those responsibilities eluded me, but I am so happy that I leaped into the leadership role in Pilot and experienced them. Thank you for that opportunity to develop myself while servicing others and to receive so many wonderful friendships along the way. I am smiling and I hope you are too!

Maureen

Maureen Stoy
Leadership Coordinator
mqstoy@gmail.com





Meet your 2025-2026 District Officers



Mary Turner
Governor
Pilot Club of Elberton

Let me introduce myself. I taught Pre-Kindergarten for 30 years. I have a Bachelor's of Science degree in Family and Consumer Sciences, and a Master's degree in Early Childhood Education from the University of Georgia. I have an Education Specialists degree from Piedmont University in Early Childhood Education. I have one daughter Gerianna Moon who is also a member of the Pilot Club of Elberton. I have three grandsons, and two grand dogs. In my free time I love spending time with my family, reading, working in my yard, and crafting.

I have been a member of the Pilot Club of Elberton for 23 years. When I joined Pilot, I never dreamed that I would ever become Governor of the Georgia District. Pilot has helped me overcome one of my greatest fears in life. I have never liked standing in front of groups and talking. I said no several times before I ever said yes to stepping up to a leadership position. When I finally said yes, I learned a lot of valuable leadership skills and was able to overcome my fear of speaking in front of groups of people. Over the years I have enjoyed my time with the Anchors and being able to pass leadership skills to them and watching them blossom. I hope that I was able to make a difference in at least one young person over the years.



Jacque Hatcher
Governor-Elect
Pilot Club of Washington Co.

I am SO excited to be launching into this arena of Governor-Elect and Governor of the Georgia District of Pilot. Many of you know me and have known me for a number of years; however, you may not recognize the name.

In 2000-2001 I served as the Georgia District Governor, but my name then was Jacque Kristoff and Racing was my theme! I had loads of fun visiting with most of the clubs in the District and I am looking forward to visiting with most of you again in the next two years. I have been in Pilot for a number of years and am a member of the Washington County Pilot Club and enjoy working with these members so very much and appreciate all the wonderful activities they do each year for the Washington County area.

I am married to my wonderful husband, Richard, whom you will see as my 'bodyguard' at a lot of the Pilot activities. He enjoys these almost as much as I do! I have two grown children, four grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

In my free time I love to do embroidery work, spend time with my family and travel. I am a member of Davisboro Baptist Church and attend Dixon Methodist Church. I am looking forward to working with Pilot over the next two years as your Governor-Elect and Governor.



Avaline Adams
Treasurer
Pilot Club of Lavonia

I am honored to serve as your Treasurer this year and look forward to working with each club. Since I have been a member of the Pilot Club of Lavonia and Georgia District, I have had the privilege of getting to know many Pilots from around the state. I value each friend I have made and look forward to making many new friends.

My husband, Larry and I, both are natives of Northeast Georgia. We consider Franklin County where we live a little piece of heaven. We love exploring parts of the United States we have never seen and look forward to many more trips. We have six grandchildren that we adore and are fortunate to have four of them that live close by that we get to spend lots of time with and love it! Most any time you can find us either at the softball field, basketball court or the track field cheering our grands on!

I am only an email or phone call away. Please let me know if you have questions. I look forward to working with everyone this year while we "Spreading Joy through Pilot Friendship and Service". I hope to see YOU in Charlotte in a couple of weeks!



Ann Lastinger
Secretary
Pilot Club of Washington Co.

For the past 19 years I have had the privilege of being a member of the Pilot Club of Washington County, located in Sandersville, GA. I have served in many capacities including three terms as President. Each step has been one of learning and serving. For the past 3 years I have been serving on the district level and the excitement and learning process has continued and magnified. This year I am looking forward to serving as your District Secretary. Over the years I have learned the importance of accurate record keeping and reporting of accurate facts. My goal is to give the best that I can to fulfill the large footsteps that have gone before me.

My initial reason for joining the Pilot Club so many years ago was to establish an identity for myself. I was known as the wife of a prominent member of the county with very few friends to call my own. All that changed after becoming a member of the Pilot Club of Washington County. I now have friends all over the United States as well as Internationally! I look forward to making many new friends this upcoming year as I take on the responsibilities of District Secretary. Please let me know how I can be of help to you as you complete the required forms and documents needed for Pilot International and Georgia District.





Meet your 2025-2026 District Officers



Shelby Holland
NE Region Lt. Governor
Pilot Club of Toccoa

With pleasure, I look forward to the new 2025-2026 Pilot Year as I begin my new position as the Northeast Lieutenant Governor. With this new Pilot year not only comes pleasure for me, but I also anticipate excitement as I become involved with the Northeast Region Pilots. I am already aware of the outstanding leadership qualities found in each of the eight North East clubs.

I have been a Pilot member in the Pilot Club of Toccoa since 2005 and served as Club President during 2013-2014. As I have just completed my term as Georgia District Treasurer during 2024-2025, I look forward to fulfilling my duties as Lt. Governor as I meet new Pilots and make new friendships.

My husband Ron and I continue to enjoy retirement life and look forward to August 2nd this year as we will celebrate our 50th anniversary. We are thankful for each day together. We are blessed with our daughter Hilliary, and son-in-law, Joshua Bentley, being a part of our family that also includes the love-of-our-life granddaughter, Lillian Mae, who will begin the third grade this fall. Also, I focus on my church family and activities with my church which are especially important to me. I enjoy being involved as a Life Director for the Georgia Federation of Women's Clubs as well as being the current President of the Toccoa Woman's Club.

During the coming year, I look forward to sharing together with the Pilots of the Northeast Region as I serve as your Lt. Governor. I am proud to be a Pilot and honored to be a part of an organization that serves others through volunteer service.



Donna MacPherson
EC Region Lt. Governor
Pilot Club of Oconee Co.

It is an honor to serve as your EC Region Lt. Governor. I joined the Pilot Club of Athens in 1999 following an invitation from a coworker, friend and former Pilot Dottie Adams. I am currently a proud member of the Pilot Club of Oconee County. Dottie had included a Pilot International brochure with her invitation to a "Tea" at a member's house. I was intrigued that there was a service organization that served my career's population of the developmentally, multiply handicapped and behaviorally challenged. I worked with these infants to seniors in VA, MD and GA.

Later I worked at Belk's then my parent's used bookstore and currently the antique store since 2011.

I grew up in the southeast in a military family (Dad was a career Marine) and am the oldest of seven children.



Deborah Wilson
NW Region Lt. Governor
Pilot Club of Carrollton

Welcome to an exciting new year in Pilot! Pilot Club Plans of Work remind me of a new school year because each club starts off with a new slate of creative ideas which become engaging projects to perform in their community. I have looked forward to the beginning of the Pilot year for twenty-six years as a member of the Pilot Club of Carrollton. Each year reminds of why I joined Pilot; I want to serve my community and participate in projects which focus on brain-related disorders and diseases and support caregivers as they carry out their daily tasks for people who need them.

I am a former teacher of 2nd - 7th grades (including French, inclusion, and gifted) and church preschool. Georgia Southern and Georgia State are my alma maters. I am a recent widow with two sons, Ryan and Paul, a daughter-in-law, Claire, and have two sister dogs and 3 cats as grand fur babies. Tampa, FL is my hometown, but I have resided around the metro Atlanta area for most of my adult life. Villa Rica has been my home for thirty-one years. Sometimes, friends refer to me as a professional volunteer because I like to stay busy by serving others at my church and in my community. I love music, so I am a member of my community chorus, sanctuary choir, senior adult choir, and praise team. I have been involved with GAWD and First Readers of Carroll County for several years. I love to travel and have just completed two of eight trips I will take with Pilot and my church, this year. I am serving with my church on two mission trips this summer, in Guatemala and Montana. My wonderful husband, Hal, was always there to support me in my endeavors (48 years). He passed away from Parkinson's last August.

Pilot has given me the opportunity to meet and make new friends who think as I do about Pilot and our communities. As I serve as your Lt. Governor, I look forward to promoting and supporting Pilot and its mission of "spreading volunteerism and serving the varying needs of communities throughout the world and recruiting youth." I love fundraisers and projects, so invite me to your club's events. Wishing you and your club a remarkable year filled with new memories!



Past Governors/Past PI Presidents

Pat Jarvis
(2001-2002 PG)
(2009-2019 PIP)
July 3

Ann Adams
(1979-1980)
July 16

Past Governor/District Governor-Elect

Jacque Hatcher
(2000-2001)
July 9

Past Governor

Cynthia Spearman
(2016-2017)
July 22





Meet your 2025-2026 District Officers

THE MISSION OF PILOT INTERNATIONAL IS: Pilot International's mission is to influence positive change in communities throughout the world. To do this, we come together in friendship and service, focusing on encouraging brain safety and health and supporting those who care for others.

DATES TO REMEMBER

July 1, 2025

GA District Dues
District Treasurer
Avaline Adams

Copy to District Secretary
Ann Lastinger

July 1, 2025

PI Dues & Form
PI Headquarters

August 15, 2025

Financial Records Audit
Audit Committee (Club & District)

August 15, 2025

Plans of Work
Governor, Governor-Elect, Region
Lt. Governor

August 15, 2024

Governor's Cup Awards
Esther Foster
(Awards Jury Chair)
107 Pineview Rd.
Gray, GA 310321

Copy to: Governor, Governor-
Elect, Region Lt. Governor

August 15, 2025

Club Budgets & Standing Rules
Copy to: Governor, Governor-
Elect, Region Lt. Governor

September 20, 2025

Q1 Club Report
Copy to: Governor, Governor-
Elect, Region Lt. Governor

September 30, 2025

Club Ambassador Selection
Pilot International Headquarters
\$25 Fee



**All Forms are on the GA
District Website under Forms
www.pilotgeorgia.org**



Melissa Stephens

SE Region Lt. Governor
Pilot Club of Dublin

I am Melissa Stephens, and I am your 2025-2026 Southeast Region Lt. Governor of the great state of Georgia. I am married with 3 daughters, one son-in-law and one amazing granddaughter who is 3 years old. I have lived in Georgia since 1980, moving from West Virginia after the death of my father at a very early age. I am blessed to still have my mother living next door to who will soon be 83 and in great health, thankfully.

Since July 2019 I have been working full time at the Laurens County Board of Education as a Payroll Specialist/Coordinator. Prior to here, I worked for almost 30 years at a local CPA firm where I worked for a former Pilot Member who introduced me to the club in 2014. Pilot has been a huge part of not only my life since then, but of my families as well.

When I became a member, I never dreamed that I would even be on the Board within my own Club, much less having the opportunity to be Lt. Governor. My motto for this term is not only to DO MORE, CARE MORE, BE MORE, but also to INVEST MORE. Investing time in our Members and our Community should be top priority within all our clubs and I hope to encourage that every time I can.

I am very thankful for this opportunity and look forward to making several new friends in the coming months.



Missy Belcher

SW Region Lt. Governor
Pilot Club of Bainbridge

It is with great pleasure and humility that I begin my first term as Lieutenant Governor for the Southwest Region in the Georgia District. I have been a member of the Pilot Club of Bainbridge since 2012. I have held various positions, including President, during this time. I love Pilot International and Georgia District and the work that we do.

I am a Christian, married (44 years), I have 2 daughters, 1 son, 5 grandsons and 1 granddaughter. My family is number 1 in my life. In my spare time I enjoy crocheting and crafting. My past careers include Insurance Agent, Administrative Assistant at a CPA firm and currently semi-retired and substituting in our school system.

My number one goal as your Lieutenant Governor is to help you build your club, not only in membership, but increase your club's knowledge regarding Pilot and increase EXCITEMENT so we can Share Pilot with our community. I know we can accomplish this if we work together by communicating our experiences about our projects and fund raisers. I AM HERE TO HELP YOU! Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. I don't have all the answers, but I can find out for you. Thank you once again for this tremendous honor!!

Welcome New Members



New GA District Pilots

Linda Durham (Carrollton)
Debbie Mathis (Carrollton)



2025-2026 Pilot Club of Jones Co. Officers- Directors: Wanda Wellborn, Andrea Riley; Vice President, Cindy Jones; President Elect, Beth Coon; President, Fay Mathews; Treasurer, Wanda Bush; Corresponding Secretary, Terri Wiggins; Recording Secretary, Nancy McCook; Directors: Becky Darley, Karen Bryant and Penny Snyder. Charter Member, Janice Roberts (pictured in middle) installed the officers.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE



There will be a change to the Georgia District Website. Starting on July 1, 2025. You will need a password to access certain information. On the left-hand side you will see a section entitled "Members Only." In this section you will find all the forms, and the Governor's Bulletin. You will need a password to access this section. The password is: **"Pilotjoy"** If you have any questions or problems, please let us know. We hope this will help make our website a little more secure.





2025-2026 GA District Appointees



Pat Jarvis
Parliamentarian
(Elberton)



Maureen Stoy
Leadership
(Cochran)



JoAnn Akers
Inspirational Leader
(Atlanta)



Beth Coon
Membership
(Jones Co.)



Gerianna Moon
Anchor Coordinator
Dist. Photographer
(Elberton)



Kerrin Daniel
Assistant Anchor
Coordinator
(Covington)



Jennifer Downer
Projects
Coordinator
(Elberton)



Karen Fitzpatrick
PIFF Rep.
(Madison Co.)



Rhonda Brummett
PIFF Co.-Rep.
(Hogansville)



Tammy Dalton
Fundraising Coor.
(Madison Co.)



Cindy Weaver
Nominating
Committee
Chair
(Atlanta)



Katharine Banning
Website Editor
(Atlanta)



Genia Mitchell
GPF Rep.
(Peachtree)



Angela Gillis
GPF Co.-Rep
(Peachtree)



Esther Foster
Awards Jury Chair
(Jones Co.)





2025-2026 GA District Appointees



Kirsten Jorgenson
Governor's Bulletin
GA Dist. Directory
(Gainesville)



Carole Simmons
Audit Committee Chair
(Dublin)



Robin Williams
Fall Council 2025 Chair
(Peachtree)



Avaline Adams
Fall Council 2025 Co-Chair
(Lavonia)



Kris Harden
District Convention 2026 Chair
(Dublin)



Bennie Maddox
District Convention 2026 Co-Chair
(Cuthbert)

Peachtree Pilot Club of Atlanta installed their 2025-26 Club Officers at the June meeting earlier today. Gov. Maureen Stoy joined us as the Installing Officer. We were treated to a wonderful "Low Country Boil" prepared by Glynice Hayes. The lovely decorations were provided by Angela Gillis, Carla Tatum and Marca Tigner.

Following the Installation Service, the club proceeded to give final approval to their 2025-26 Plans of Work, and Pilot International's Annual Leadership and Convention activities

