



Georgia District Governor's Bulletin

August 2026 - #2

2026 – 2027 DAC/DEC



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Message from the Governor

August is here and our Pilot year of 2026-2027 is in full swing! It was so exciting to see so many Georgia District Pilots at International Convention in Oklahoma City this year. You Georgia District Leaders participated in the Council of Leaders Monday evening through lunchtime on Wednesday. The Convention officially started on Wednesday evening with the beautiful Flag Ceremony and a special presentation by the Oklahoma Fancy Dancers – a group of Native Americans from the area who presented native dances in their native “costumes” and explained the meaning of the different movements of each dance.

Beginning Thursday morning, it was all business. We had a total number registered for the Convention of 491. There was approximately 60 Georgia Pilots present and enjoying the activities of the Convention. Several of the Georgia attendees were First Timers! What an exciting time for them.

Several clubs in Georgia District received awards and I am so very proud of all of them:

Outstanding Community Service Award (Clubs 25 or less)

1st – Washington County; 3rd – Carrollton

Pick Me Up Project Award – Gold (41+ members)

1st – Jones County; Silver (25 or less) 3rd – Carrollton

Outstanding Pilot Club Award – Silver (25 or less)

1st – Washington County

Outstanding Pilot Club Growth Award

1st – PC of Eastman; 3rd – PC of Hartwell

I am very proud of all these clubs. Let's all keep up the good work. And remember, you can't win the awards if you don't apply for them.'

Thank you all for your support and all the activities you do to help each of your communities. Please remember to take lots of pictures of your events and share them with Kirsten so she can include them in the Governor's Bulletin and our Facebook page. I look forward to meeting with a lot of you during this Pilot year.

And mark your calendars now – Fall Council is October 2-3, 2026, at Lanier Islands Resort, Lake Lanier. There will be lots more information forthcoming as the plans are set. So, please plan to attend in October at Lake Lanier.

In Pilot Friendship,

Jacquie



PI Director Mary Turner & Governor
Jacquie Hatcher at PI Convention, OKC



Thank you, Pilot Theresa Brown, for creating
such a meaningful work of art for WACO Pilot and
GA District Governor Jacquie Hatcher.





Inspirational Message

10 Facts to Always Remember

1. The past cannot be changed.
2. Opinions don't define your reality.
3. Everyone's journey is unique.
4. Judgements are not about you.
5. Over-thinking leads to sadness.
6. Happiness is within.
7. Smiles are contagious.
8. Kindness is free.
9. It's okay to move on.
10. 10. Time heals all.

And Pilots, let me end this inspirational message with the quote from Marilyn Monroe, used by our ECR...Karen Ferguson Bain, who has a fondness for shoes: "Give the girl (and I would add guy as well!) the right pair of shoes and she (he) can conquer the world." So, check your closets and pull out those special shoes and let's all go "walking" around our communities in the name of Pilot!

JoAnn

JoAnn Akers
Inspirational leader
akersjoann@gmail.com



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



Pilot Club of Bainbridge Club Officers at their June meeting they installed our 2026-2027 officers. Left to right are Gail Sharber, President Elect; Shelby Phillips, Secretary; Catherine Catledge, Treasurer and Missy Belcher, President.

Welcome New Members

New GA District Pilots

Northwest Region
Angel Swanger (Heard Co.)

East Central Region
Mary Ann Bills (Monroe)



Georgia District, Pilot International
2026-27 Memorial Forms need to go to:

Jacque Hatcher
GA District Governor
jacque.pilot25@gmail.com

JoAnn Akers
Inspirational Leader
akersjoann@gmail.com

Lt. Governor (for your region)

Fellow Pilots, if you wish to be included on the prayer and praise emails that go out periodically from the inspirational leader, do let JoAnn know at akersjoann@gmail.com.

of praise



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

<u>Pilot/Family</u>	<u>Club</u>
Sandy Jarrett (Mother)	Cochran
Dene' Dixon (Husband)	Atlanta
Linda Grisham (Son)	Carrollton
Wanda Bush (Father)	Jones Co.
Barbara Bowers (Husband)	Lavonia



District Secretary

It is an honor for me to serve as your District Secretary again. We are off to a good start as each of your club Treasurers have provided me with a copy of your Annual Dues Report and a current club roster. It is our goal to have an accurate count of all members, which includes dues paying Members (Regular), and non-dues paying Members such as Emeritus, 50+ year members and students. With the help of all club Secretaries and Treasurers we can do it! Don't forget to submit a **Notification of Change in Membership Form** anytime you have any change in membership such as new member joins, resignations, death, changes in addresses {home and email}, their phone number or membership status). This form should be sent to Pilot International Headquarters, Governor Jacque Hatcher, Governor-Elect Nancy Miller, Treasurer Avaline Adams, Secretary Ann Lastinger and your Region Lt. Governor. This fillable form can be found on our District website at <https://pilotgeorgia.org/pilot-forms/>. The forms section on the Pilot Georgia International website is now password protected, and the password is Pilotjoy. If you have questions or if I can help you in any way, please don't hesitate to contact me. Let's make this the best year yet of keeping an accurate count of Georgia District members! I am looking forward to a great year as Everybody Can Do More, Care More, Be More.

Ann

Ann Lastinger
District Secretary
annlastinger@gmail.com





Membership

Happy New Pilot Year!

My name is Wanda Beard, and I am proud to be a member of the Pilot Club of Hartwell. I have been a Pilot for almost five years and have had the privilege of serving as Secretary, President-Elect, and President.

When I joined the Hartwell Club in 2022, our roster had around 12 members, with only 6–8 actively participating. Shortly after I joined, we found ourselves at a crossroads. We gathered around a table one afternoon to make a difficult decision: would we disband, or would we fight for our club?

We chose to fight.

Together, our members are committed to growing our club. We invited prospective members wherever we could and used every avenue available, especially social media. That decision changed everything. Social media became one of our most successful recruitment tools, and during my presidency in the 2024–2025 Pilot year, we welcomed and installed 17 new members.

Today, our club has grown from just 12 members to nearly 40.

Growth is only part of the story. We have learned that the key to retaining members is making them feel included, valued, and empowered from the beginning. We encourage every member to get involved and step into leadership. This year, several of our officers have been Pilots for two years or less, and many of our division leaders, co-leaders, and committee chairs are newer members.

New members bring new ideas, fresh energy, and new perspectives. Because of their enthusiasm, we are expanding our projects, increasing our fundraising efforts, and making an even greater impact in our community.

I truly believe our club is living our motto each day: **"Do More, Care More, Be More."**

If I can be of any assistance with membership ideas or strategies for your club, please do not hesitate to reach out. I would be happy to help.

Wanda

Wanda Beard
Membership Coordinator
wanda30553@yahoo.com



East Central Pilots at their workshop at PI Headquarters in Macon

Anchor



Hi, Y'all! I am so glad to be back as an active part of our wonderful Anchor community! Last year was amazing with Gerianna at the helm, and I look forward to even more amazing things to come! This year we have Ms. Janis Stallings as my Assistant Coordinator, bringing in new perspectives and passion for Anchor. As you know, I eat, sleep, and breathe Anchor...I know she will, too! We are already hard at work planning our Anchor Convention at Unicoi and our International Anchor Summit in Michigan next summer. I hope you are all planning fun and empowering ways to engage your Anchors in Pilot Service as we answer Governor Hatcher's call to Do More, Care More, and Be More! Don't forget to send in your pictures! I'm always an email, text, or phone call away! Reach out to me ANYTIME!

Kerrin

Kerrin Daniel
Anchor Coordinator
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kerrin.daniel@gmail.com



Let's Meet Our GAECR



Karen Ferguson-Bain is the 2026–2027 President-Elect of Pilot International and a proud member of the Pilot Club of Lucaya in Grand Bahama, where she has faithfully served for more than 16 years.

Throughout her Pilot journey, Karen has held numerous leadership positions at the club, district, and international levels, including Club President, Governor of the Bahamas District (2021–2022), and Membership Coordinator for Pilot International. She has also served on several international committees supporting grants, scholarships, membership, and the Anchor and Compass youth programs. Her dedication to service has earned her the Bahamas District Governor's Award.

Professionally, Karen is the Senior Manager of Patient Experience at Rand Memorial Hospital in Freeport, Grand Bahama, where she is committed to improving the patient experience through compassionate leadership.

Karen is married to Kingsley Mark-Anthony Bain, and together they are the proud parents of their son, Kacy, whom she considers her greatest blessing. She believes that leadership is best demonstrated through service, integrity, and empowering others to make a lasting difference.





Georgia Artists with DisAbilities, Inc.

Celebrating Georgia Artists with DisAbilities

Art has the power to inspire, connect, and celebrate the incredible talents within our communities. The Pilot Clubs of the Georgia District are proud to announce the **41st Annual Georgia Artists with DisAbilities Exhibition**, and we need your help making this year's event a success!

The Call for Art is now open to Georgia-based artists with disabilities. Professional, non-professional, and group art projects are welcome, with artwork accepted in a variety of mediums, including painting, drawing, photography, sculpture, jewelry, weaving, woodworking, digital art, and more. **Entries are due August 28, 2026**, and the **Exhibition is September 26, 2026**.

How can you help?

- Share the Call for Art with artists, art teachers, community organizations, schools, and disability-serving agencies in your area.
- Volunteer your time and talents to help with the exhibition and artist celebration.
- Attend the September 26 celebration at the Roswell Visual Arts Center and help us recognize and encourage these talented artists.

For more than four decades, Georgia Artists with DisAbilities has provided an opportunity for artists with disabilities to have their creativity recognized and their work celebrated. Let's make the 41st Annual Exhibition one of our best yet!

Share it. Volunteer. Attend. Celebrate! Together, Georgia District Pilots can help ensure that more artists have the opportunity to be seen, appreciated, and celebrated.

Chanta

Chanta Whitlow
GAWD Chair
205-223-8423
chanta.whitlow@att.net



Georgia Artists with DisAbilities, Inc. was founded in 1985, to provide disabled artists throughout Georgia with an opportunity to display and sell their original art, compete for awards, and have their artwork displayed in a statewide tour and exhibit.



Members of the **Pilot Club of Hartwell** were proud to participate in the Back-to-School Blast, helping provide school supplies to students throughout Hart County as they prepare for a successful school year.

We had a wonderful time meeting so many local children and families while supporting our community in this meaningful way. Seeing the excitement on the students' faces reminded us why we are so passionate about serving Hart County.



Classic City Pilots delivered Cuddle Buddies and Pick-Me-Ups to the Athens-Clarke Co. Police

Pictured L to R: Mary Ogletree, Gail Mitchell, Sherry McDuffie, Joyce Reynolds, Pat Hale and Club President Nancy Denney.



Northeast Pilots at their workshop at First Baptist Church of Toccoa





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

August 15, 2026

Financial Records Audit

Audit Committee (Club & District)

August 15, 2026

Plans of Work

Governor, Governor-Elect, Region Lt. Governor

August 15, 2026

2026 Fall Council Committees

Assignments due to:

Governor Jacque

August 15, 2026

Club Budgets & Standing Rules

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

September 15, 2026

PI Grants

Pick-Me-Up, BrainMinders™, Matching Helmets

See ECR Karen's article on the right for details

September 20, 2026

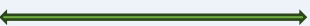
Q1 Club Report

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

September 30, 2026

Club Ambassador Selection

Pilot International Headquarters
\$25 Fee



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



Durrett Moerman
(2022-23 PG)
August 10



Message from our Georgia ECR

Oklahoma City and the 2027 Pilot International Leadership Conference and Convention is a memory and part of our Pilot history. District leaders received training in collaboration, servant leadership, mentoring new members, and from speaker Carrie Grace during Council of Leaders. The convention body was entertained by the Fancy Dancers during Opening Ceremony. Speakers Nancy Norton made us laugh while Mike Breeze taught us how to grow. Speaker John Turner brought smiles with the therapy dogs. The Anchors did a fantastic job with their Cultural Exchange! We donned our Disney Bounding outfits for our President's Breakfast and learned that Orlando would be our site for the 2029 convention. The sparkling finish was with the installation of President Lisa and our leadership team during the Daisies and Diamonds Banquet. Photos will hit the website soon. A post-convention survey will be forthcoming. Please complete it as it will help us prepare for 2027 in Grand Rapids, Michigan!

President Lisa stated that the 2026-2027 Pilot year calls us to honor Pilot International's legacy while boldly shaping its future. She shared that change is hard and often unpopular but is worth it in the end. Embrace change with an open mind and a positive attitude. A kind word and smile can only make it better.

It's that time! Pilot Ambassadors need to be chosen. To be listed in the Pilot Log, the Ambassador's name and a minimum \$25 donation must be made by September 30. Eligibility requirements for Pilot Ambassadors are listed on the website. It's also time for quarterly grants. This quarter's deadline is September 15. There are three grants - Pick Me Up, BrainMinders™, and Matching Helmet. Applications are on the website and are easy to complete. Just remember to have the application properly signed and watch that the date of the event is the required number of days after the deadline. Clubs and Districts are eligible for each grant once in a Pilot year. There's money waiting for you! Apply and Do More! Care More! Be More! In your community.

Yours in Pilot Friendship and Service,

Karen

Karen Ferguson-Bain
Executive Committee Representative
karenfergusonbain@gmail.com



Congratulations
Pilot Club of Lavonia



It was 1st Saturday BINGO at Lynn Haven Health and Rehabilitation Center with five **Pilot Club of Jones Co.** Pilots assisting. There were 14 residents in attendance.





Some Pilot International Convention, Oklahoma City Memories



SE Lt. Gov. Melissa Stephens & Dist. Secretary Ann Lastinger having a fun wait on the plane to come back to Georgia from OKC



Great Flag Ceremony entertainment – Fancy Dancers



2026-27 Executive Council – Our own Mary Turner, PI Director



NE Lt. Gov. Shelby Holland, Madison Co. Pilots Tammy Dalton & Karen Whitfield & Dist. Treasurer Avaline Adams



East Central Region Pilots — Jones County, Eatonton, Macon, Oconee County

