



Alabama District Governor's Bulletin

July 2026, Issue 1

“Friendship & Service: The Heart of Pilot”

Governor's Message

By Carolyn Williams

The United States will celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, a document that was signed by 56 men. The Declaration outlines the natural rights, including “Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness”. Pilot International will celebrate its 105th Anniversary on October 18th this year. It is through the principles and mission of Pilot that we help our nation to achieve its goal of serving the communities where we live.



I am excited to serve as District Governor of this great District. I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the confidence you have placed in the 2026-2027 District Administrative Council. The DAC is planning the 2026 Fall Council! The Fall Council will be in Orange Beach, Alabama at the Hampton Inn. The dates of Fall Council are October 9-11, 2026.

The gaining of new members is a goal of Pilot International. With that in mind the PI President-Elect is requesting that the DAC present a workshop on membership as we conduct official visits. When I think about membership, I remember how I became a member of Pilot International. A co-worker invited me to come to a meeting. It was their emphasis on scholarships for high school seniors that drew me to the club. I also had the chance to get to know new people with different occupations.

The Alabama District has a wealth of resources, and some are members in your club that are willing to help. I want to encourage you to seek out our Past Governors. They are here to offer assistance and guidance.

Hope to see you at our District meeting in Oklahoma City. Together let's make this the best year ever!

Carolyn

2026-2027
District Administrative Council

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Governor-Elect's Message

Hello sweet Pilot sisters and brothers! Sending wishes for a wonderful 250th Anniversary celebration of this great nation, which we call home.

Club presidents, I am asking you to update your club rosters by July 31, 2026. Please send the updated document to me in a Word document either by email or postal service.

Your DAC is preparing for the new Pilot year. My hope is that each of you will actively participate in your club's new year activities with a happy heart. Our projects are so important to those we serve in our communities. Try something you haven't done before with your club. You are so creative! I am anxious to visit new clubs this year and hear what you are doing.

In my family this year is going to be a joy. My son and his wife will be adding a baby in January. Our youngest daughter, Abby, will be getting married in the Spring, no date yet. Our eldest daughter Molly and her family are going to be hitting the football fields for 8th grade football and flag football for their two boys. Jim and I will be keeping the roads busy.

Enjoy your Summer and be ready to be the wonderful Pilots that you have always been.

The Alabama District rocks!

Mary Ballard

Lt. Governor's Message

Hello, My Pilot Family,

For those who do not know me, I am a member of the Andalusia Pilot Club and have been a Pilot for nearly 20 years. I have been married to my husband, Brian Riley, for 26 years. Some of you may know him from Facebook as "Whatcha Cooking Now, Brian?" We have two children, a son and a daughter, and we are blessed with grandchildren. I also cannot forget my two precious fur babies.

I have had the privilege of serving on the District Administrative Council for two years as District Secretary. This experience has provided me with valuable insights and opportunities for growth, helping me become a better Pilot while serving both my club and our district. I am excited to embark on this next chapter with such a wonderful organization serving as Lt. Governor. I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to the 2025–2026 DAC Officers for their outstanding leadership and dedication. Your hard work has made a positive impact on our district and our members. (continued)



As we move forward, we must continue focusing on building and strengthening membership throughout the Alabama District. By growing our membership and encouraging new leaders, we can ensure that Pilot International's mission continues to thrive for years to come.

Thank you for your support, friendship, and commitment to serving others. I look forward to working alongside each of you as we continue to make a difference in our communities.

Yours in Pilot Friendship & Service,

Mollie Riley

Secretary's Message

Greetings, Fellow Pilot Sisters and Brothers!

My name is Joy Wood, and I am honored to serve as the Alabama District Secretary for 2026-2027. My club is the Pilot Club of Enterprise where I have been a member for 10 years. I have served in numerous capacities with my club. As a member of the Pilot Club Enterprise, we spend the entire weekend at the TBI Camp. The club decorates for the weekend and dance. We prepare memory books and help with bingo.

I have been married to my husband, Jason, for 33 years. We have two boys and three granddaughters, with our fourth grand due in November. I am a proud member of Hillcrest Baptist Church in Enterprise.

I am looking forward to getting to know more Pilots sisters and brothers this year as we will come together to always Do More, Care More, Be More.

In Pilot Love,

Joy Wood

Treasurer's Message

Welcome to another Pilot Year! For those of you that don't know me, I am Ferne Wlodarski of the Pilot Club of Huntsville and am serving as your District Treasurer. I have been a Pilot member since 2005. When not doing things for Pilot I enjoy bowling, quilting and playing on my iPad.

Now back to business: it is time to pay your 2026 -2027 District Dues. The dues are \$25 a member. The correct form is on our webpage, www.alabamadistrictpilot.com. Please send them to me at the address listed on the form. The only correction is my cell phone which is **256-682-6957**. Remember to send your books to your audit committee. Remember to start selling your raffle tickets. The more we sell the less we have to worry about future fundraising.

It is time to start planning for Fall Council, which will be at the Hampton Inn at Orange Beach this year. The dates are October 9-11. We will send out more information next month. I hope to see you in Oklahoma City for Pilot International Convention and Leadership Conference.

Ferne Wlodarski



Inspirational Leader's Message

Pilot Cares and Concerns

I'm Deroma Montgomery the 2026 – 2027 Alabama District, Pilot International Inspirational Leader. I've been a member of Pilot for 16 years. I've served in club leadership as well as appointee's positions with the Pilot Club of Decatur and the Alabama District. I'm a retired Special Education teacher. During my years of working with special needs children my compassion grew deeper in supporting special children. Through Pilot I have the opportunity to continue serving in my community and working with all ages of the special needs population.

I spend weekends with my family. Sometimes we go to the lake, or we go eat, ride bikes, go to ball games, doing the simplest things. I try to make sure my kids learn about family traditions. My husband Lloyd loves teaching our grands new things and so do I.

I look forward to serving as Inspirational Leader and hearing from you.

Pilot Cares & Concerns

The following Pilot is in our thoughts and prayers:

PC Decatur:

Pilot Summer Evans's husband, Pilot Eric Evans, passed away on June 24th. Cards of sympathy may be sent to 3909 Boxwood Lane, SW, Decatur, AL 35603. A Memorial Service will be planned at a later date.

“May grace and peace be yours in abundance” 2 Peter 1:2

In Friendship and Service,

Deroma

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Club Presidents - Please appoint someone to report your Club's cares and concerns by the 15th of each month. Please refer to the Club Manual for the paperwork to be sent to the Inspirational Leader.

Editor's Message

Greetings!

Although a newer member of Pilot (One year in the Decatur club and heading into my second year as Secretary!), I am no novice when it comes to writing. I majored in Creative Writing in college and had a successful career as a technical writer/editor for many years, both before marriage (36 years) and during our homeschool years. While I won't be the voice of any of the messages in this bulletin, it is a privilege to be able to use my skills to help the DAC communicate with the entire district.

Would you like to print this newsletter to share with your club? When printing from your computer, select “more settings” to pull up a menu of choices. Click “print both sides (flip on long edge)” and choose to print grayscale for the most economical way to print. You may need to change the margins to “minimum” or scale back to 85% in order to ensure that the email format fits a standard paper format. Save a tree!

Pam Powers

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ECR Message

As one Pilot year comes to a close and another begins, my heart is filled with gratitude for each of you and all we have accomplished together. This past year, we shared our time, talents, and compassion to make a difference in the lives of others. We celebrated successes, overcame challenges, and strengthened the bonds of friendship that make Pilot so special. Because of your dedication, Pilot International continued to shine as a beacon of service and hope in our communities.

As we begin this new Pilot year, I invite each of you to embrace the theme: "Believe in Yourself! Believe in Pilot!" Believe in yourself—because each of you brings unique gifts, talents, and ideas that make Pilot International stronger. Never underestimate the impact of a kind word, a helping hand, or your willingness to step forward and serve.

Believe in Pilot -- because together we are part of something greater than ourselves. For more than a century, Pilot members have changed lives through friendship and service. Our commitment to caring for others continues to create ripples of hope that reach far beyond what we can see.

As we transition into this new year, let us honor the accomplishments of the past while looking forward with confidence and enthusiasm. Please welcome your new ECR and begin to form your relationship with her. She will appreciate the warm greetings. Let us encourage one another, prepare for and welcome new opportunities, and continue building Pilot International where every member feels valued, empowered, and inspired. Thank you for believing in our mission, in Pilot International, and in one another.

I am excited about what we will achieve together in the coming year. Here's to a year filled with purpose, friendship, service, and the confidence to believe in ourselves and in Pilot.

In Pilot Friendship and Love,

Lisa Palmquist

2025-2026 Pilot International President-Elect

Dates to Remember

- International dues to PI Headquarters by July 1st
- DAC members discuss with Club Presidents possible dates for their Official Visit
- Club Presidents complete Official Visits Information Form and send to Official Visitor
- District Treasurer delivers books to the Audit Committee by July 31st
- PI Convention Business, Including Bylaw actions reported in 1st Governor's Bulletin following PI Annual Convention and Leadership Conference