Alabama District Governor's Bulletin

"Friendship & Service: The Heart of Pilot"

October 2026, Issue 4

Governor's Message

My October article for the bulletin is not what I planned to say. I was supposed to write about our 2026 Fall Council. As of this writing, you are aware that our Fall Council has been cancelled because of Hurricane Isaias. The DAC was hoping that we would still be able to have our Fall Council in Orange Beach, Alabama but the dates that were available were November 20, 21 and 22, 2026. Those dates were too close to Thanksgiving. As a result, the DAC voted to cancel Fall Council for this year.

I have changed my article to focus on membership. There are several factors that are needed for increasing the membership in Pilot. I have chosen to focus on outreach, communications, follow up, and mentoring. When looking for potential new members, you may want to canvass other organizations that you are a member of because you will see similarities. Good communication is a key to meeting new members. One key to communication is preparedness. Being able to express yourself clearly is essential.

Have several points about Pilot. It is not necessary to try to tell everything at once. We have heard many times that telling your story is crucial. I was invited to a Share Pilot by a coworker. I stayed a Pilot because of the mission of Pilot. Many times, we don't know the influence that we have on the lives of others.

Finally, it is not enough to invite someone to the meeting. Following up after the invitation and their joining Pilot is vital. Mentoring a new member is important. New members need to feel supported and to know that they are a part of the organization.

I would like to end with a quick question, what are you doing to recruit and keep new members?

In Friendship and Service,

Carolyn Williams
District Governor



2026-2027
District Administrative Council

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Governor-Elect's Message

Anchor Updates

Anchor President, Mary Catherine Barnes and her team are already working hard to make this a wonderful Anchor year! Advisors, please make sure that each Anchor member has paid both their Alabama District dues of $7.50 and their International dues of $14.00. All dues must be paid by November 1st. Forms are available at www.alabamapilotdistrict.org. Mellisa King is the Anchor Coordinator and can be reached at mking@andalusiachamber.com.

Mark your calendars for March 6, 2027, for the Anchor Convention in Prattville at the YMCA. Make plans to attend! Details will follow. Let's support the efforts of these young people throughout the state as they aid others.

In Friendship and Service,
Mary Ballard

Lt. Governor's Message



Happy October to My Pilot Family! I hope all is well and that you made it through the hurricane.

I wanted to share a quick update on TBI & Club Rosters:

TBI Camp Update

I have created media kits for you to share with local businesses when requesting sponsorships for campers. These kits include information about how donations are used and who they support. I had several to distribute at Fall Council. If you would like a copy, please contact me, and I will be happy to send you the folder or email you a printable PDF. I have also included a list of items you can donate to campers.

I submitted the grant application and hope Pilot International will consider awarding it to support our camp. Fingers crossed!

Next, I will send the camper's application to Lisa Patterson to post on the district website and distribute to potential campers.

Club Rosters Update

I am still waiting to receive rosters from the following clubs:

- Andalusia
- Cullman
- Demopolis
- Florence
- Heflin
- Jasper
- Pilot Luncheon Club of Morgan County
- Prattville
- Roanoke



Please submit your roster as soon as possible, as both Pilot International and the Alabama District need this information. If you need assistance setting up your roster, please contact me, and I will be glad to help.

Hugs with Pilot Love,

Mollie Riley

The purpose of the District Fundraiser is to provide medical supplies for Camp ASCCA, which is the District Project for this year. If you have not received your raffle tickets, please call or email Mary, Governor Elect, or Ferne, Treasurer.

Secretary's Message

"Alone we can do so little; together, we can do so much." -- Helen Keller

In Pilot much is accomplished by the teamwork that is shown by so many. Whether it is your local club or International, it takes a team. Fundraisers, Projects and monthly meetings take planning, commitment and time. We see the things that go on in our clubs, but did you know that Headquarters is a constant moving machine that takes many hands? Executive Committee, Executive Director, Membership, Office Manager, PIFF, Youth Development, and Communications each play a vital role in the success of Pilot International.

All positions are close to being filled once again in Macon. I am certain that President Lisa has selected just the right people to keep Pilot on track for the future.

Your DAC was so sad to have to cancel Fall Council this year. As always, safety is our top priority. Everything happens for a reason. We worked very hard to plan an eventful weekend and miss seeing each of you. I am already looking forward to our next meeting time as a district; hope you are as well. I am always here and ready to listen if needed.

In Pilot Love,

Joy Wood

Treasurer's Message

Well, I was going to start off with what a great Fall Council we had but Hurricane Isaias had other ideas. I missed seeing everyone. I hope that everyone was safe and didn't have any damage.

Reminder that October is Share Pilot Month! Ask someone to be a Pilot and share with them the fun, friendship and service we do. Remember to support our District Project by selling your raffle tickets. Please send me your tickets and money by December 1st.

Here are a few dates to put on your calendar. The Anchor Convention will be March 7, 2027, in Prattville, AL, TBI Camp April 10- 12, 2027 and District Convention April 30 – May 2, 2027, at the Embassy Suites in Montgomery, AL

Reminder: if you haven't paid your District dues, please send them as soon as possible. Please remind your Anchor and Compass Clubs to send in their District and International Dues.



In Pilot Love,
Ferne Wlodarski

Inspirational Leader's Message

Pilot Cares, Concerns, and Celebrations

"In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths" Proverbs 3:6

As October comes, so does fall! Just like you might notice the leaves changing, try noticing changes in your own energy and mood. Cooler days or darker evenings can make it tempting to skip activity, but movement is a powerful tool to mental fitness. Seasonal shifts can sometimes lead to more time indoors and less social connection. Make an effort to reach out with a quick text, plan a coffee date with a Pilot friend, or join a seasonal activity, such as a Pick-Me-Up, with a Pilot group to stay in the loop.

Please remember the following in your prayers:

PC of Enterprise
Sylvia Ann Burch passed away on September 18, 2026. She had served as Club President several terms and had served as a director. Members will remember Ann as a faithful servant to her community. Condolences may be sent to her son Jeff Burch at 4466 County Road 708, Enterprise, Al. 36330.

Debbie Godfrey recently lost her father Richard Burns. Please keep Debbie and her family in your prayers. Cards of sympathy can be sent to her address at 600 Tartan Way, Enterprise, AL 36330.

PC of Heflin
Debbie Parris passed away on September 19, 2026. She served as a director. Condolences may be sent to Doug Parris (spouse) 152 County Road 285, Muscadine, Al. 36269.

Mary Jane Quinn passed away on September 7, 2026. She was remembered as being actively involved through the Gadsden chapter which she joined in 1967 and was reinstated in 1988. She served as a director. Address for closest relative listed none!

PC of Demopolis
Nadeen Ivory's husband Joe Ivory passed away on October 9th, 2026. Please keep Nadeen and her family in your prayers. Cards of sympathy can be sent to her address at P.O Box 1142, Demopolis, AL. 36732.

In Friendship and Service,

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

ECR Message

Embrace the Season of Change

October brings a beautiful reminder that change can be inspiring. As the leaves begin to change and a new season unfolds, we are reminded that every season brings opportunities to pause, reflect, grow, and begin again. What better time to embrace our theme: "Believe in Yourself."

Across our Pilot family, Districts are gathering for their Fall Council Meetings, with training, learning, planning, and fellowship taking place. These gatherings strengthen our leadership, provide opportunities to share ideas, and help prepare our Clubs for a successful year ahead. As you participate in District training, remember you have something valuable to contribute. Believe in your abilities, your ideas, and your ability to make a difference. Encourage those around you to believe in themselves too for leadership positions.

October also brings several meaningful opportunities to celebrate our Pilot legacy and put service into action. October 15 is the deadline for PIFF Matching Grant applications, a wonderful opportunity to turn creative ideas into meaningful community service. On October 18, Founders Day gives us a chance to honor the vision and commitment of those who began Pilot International and the legacy of service they created.

As we celebrate Make a Difference Day on October 25, let us remember that making a difference does not have to be complicated. A helping hand, a kind word, or a simple act of kindness can have a lasting impact.

Looking ahead to November, remember to "fall back" one hour on November 1 where Daylight Saving Time applies, and ensure Anchor & Compass dues are submitted on time. International Care & Kindness Week, November 9–13, culminates in World Kindness Day on November 13 -- a perfect time to let our kindness shine through our words, actions, and service.

As the leaves change, let us embrace our own opportunities for growth. Believe in yourself. Believe in your Club. Believe in your ability to make a difference. Together, let us Do More, Care More, and Be More -- one act of kindness, one service project, and one person at a time. Believe in yourself…because the world needs what you have to give!

Charlotte Edenfield
Executive Committee Representative



Leadership Coordinator's Message

Leadership Quotes about Resilience

The Alabama District of Pilot International is an example of resilience. We will continue to race toward Pilot's mission.

"You may have to fight a battle more than once to win it."
-Margaret Thatcher, former British Prime Minister

"Resilience is knowing that you are the only one that has the power and the responsibility to pick yourself up."
-Mary Holloway, author and speaker

"Champions keep playing until they get it right."
-Billie Jean King, American tennis player.

Eleanor Park
Leadership Coordinator