



Alabama District Governor's Bulletin

"The Power of Pilot"

MARCH 2026 ISSUE 9

March is here and green will appear. St. Patrick's Day is coming! However, March is a whole lot more than Leprechaun's and Irish Festivities!



March is also Membership month! Do you have someone in mind that would enjoy being a Pilot? Do you know someone that would enjoys giving back to others with a Pick-me-up or a brain issue or someone that could personally benefit from being a part of your club and District? The rewards of being a Pilot Member reach everyone.

It's District Award time! Get your Awards documents submitted to Karene Henson by March 20th. We would love to recognize your club for their dedication and service at District Convention.

Anchor Convention is a one-day Anchor Convention Saturday, March 7, 2026 at the Andalusia Chamber of Commerce Community Room, from 9:00 am – 5:30 pm! Many thanks to all whose vision made this happen and to the Anchor Clubs that are attending their Convention. If you sponsor a club that is not attending this year, please encourage them to attend in 2027.

TBI Camp will be here soon! Get baseball ready, it's "batter-up" April 10-12, 2026!

The Alabama District Convention is rapidly approaching. Make plans now to join your fellow Pilots at the Embassy Suites & Conference Center in Montgomery, April 24-26, 2026. **Room reservations** deadline is **March 24th** and **Registration deadline** for the Convention is **April 6th**.

This is certainly a Convention you don't want to miss. We will have exhilarating speakers booked, training and Pilot sharing information sessions. We are also celebrating our Country's 250th Anniversary! If you haven't been able to attend in a few years, this is the year to get re-acquainted with your fellow Pilots.



Our ECR will be in attendance, and I know she's excited to be coming to Alabama.

It's a weekend you don't want to miss. See you there!

Lisa Patterson
Governor

2025-2026 District Administrative Council

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Governor Elect's Message



There is a saying that, “March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb”. The statement describes March weather that starts harsh and stormy but ends milder and gentler. The month of March is a time of transition from winter to spring. It signals the start of daylight savings time on Sunday, March 8, 2026. It also signals the upcoming changes in the Alabama District of Pilot International.

The 2026-27 District Appointees will meet on April 24, 2026, at 5:00 pm at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Montgomery, Alabama in Salon A. Appointees will soon receive notice from me.

I am looking forward to seeing each of you as we plot the course of the Alabama District for another year.

**Carolyn Williams,
Governor Elect**

Secretary's Report

This year at our District Convention we will be offering 3 floral prints for auction/ raffle. These beautiful prints were created by an artist who is a Pilot. The prints were on sale at the PI Headquarters during the 100-year celebration so you may have seen them. At present they are being temporarily mounted with a plastic covering so that they will be available to be shown as carefully as possible. You will be able to frame them as you wish when you win yours.

You have another opportunity to apply for a Helmet Grant or a Pick Me Up Grant. The due date is **March 15th**. Please make sure that you get your paperwork to PI by 5PM EST. Your next chance will be in June of this year.

Mary Ballard,

**District Secretary
Pilot International Founders Fund**

Treasurer's Message

Are you on our team? TBI Camp will be here in about two months. We need:

Pilots, Anchors and Compass Members at camp to help!



CAMPERSHIPS FOR CAMPERS AND CAREGIVERS: \$300 will send a Camper Caregiver to Camp.

BINGO PRIZES: Our Campers are average age of 60-male and female. We need prizes in the amount of \$5-10 for bingo. They love gift cards, hats, jewelry. scarfs. snacks, ties, Alabama & Auburn things, books, pens, and other miscellaneous things. The rule to go by, if you would like to have it, they would too! Janice Clark (janiceclark1930@gmail.cm)

BACKPACK ITEMS: Flashlights, pen, pencils, small books, snacks, water, little puzzles, Kleenex. Hand wipes and sanitizers, sunglasses, and gum to mention a few. Kay (misskay311@aol.com)

CRAFTS: Need suggestions and supplies. Nancy Bullard (newatts62@gmail.com)

Come join the TBI TEAM! See you on April 10-11-12, 2026 at Camp ASCCA!!

CAMP DATE: APRIL 10-12, 2026 We will see you there!

ALL REGISTRATION AND APPLICATION FORMS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE HOMEPAGE!

**Kay Chandler,
District Treasurer**

AWARDS...AWARDS

Calling all Pilot Clubs! I am sure that all Alabama Pilots have been involved in award-winning outstanding projects! Why not enter them in our District Awards program?

You still have time!

Forms for Brain Related Project and Community Service Project can be found on our district website, www.alabamadistrictpilot.com. Deadline for entry is **March 20, 2026**.

Mail your entries to the address below:

Karene Henson, chair
243 Guy Street
Roanoke, Alabama 36274
rkchenson@outlook.com

Karene Henson, Awards Jury Chair

Membership

Membership Month: Celebrating the Heart of Pilot

Membership Month is a special time to reflect on the impact we make through **Pilot International** and to celebrate the people who make that impact possible — our members.

When you become a Pilot, you join a legacy of service, leadership, and friendship that has strengthened communities for more than a century. From promoting brain safety and supporting those affected by traumatic brain injury to mentoring youth and serving families in need, our work is compassion in action.

Membership is more than attending meetings — it is about connection. It is about building lasting friendships, developing leadership skills, and working side by side with others who share a passion for making a difference. Pilot offers each of us the opportunity to grow personally while serving purposefully.

Every new member brings fresh ideas, renewed energy, and expanded reach. When we invite others to learn about Pilot, we open the door to greater impact in our communities and ensure our mission continues for generations to come.

Call to Action — Alabama District

This Membership Month, **Alabama Pilots** are encouraged to be ambassadors of possibility. Reach out to friends, family, neighbors, coworkers — anyone who shares a heart for service and connection — and invite them to learn about Pilot and what we do in the Alabama District. Whether someone is curious about supporting community projects, excited to grow as a leader, or simply looking for meaningful friendships, there's a place for them in Pilot. Visit the Alabama District club directory or membership inquiry page to help a prospective Pilot find a local club near them and take the first step toward joining our community of service.

Together, we grow.

Together, we serve.

Together, we are Pilot.

Maria Traylor, Membership

Pilot Cares, Concerns and Celebrations

**“After the clouds, the sunshine, after the winter, the spring.
After the shower, the rainbow, for life is a changeable thing.
After the night, the morning, bidding all darkness cease.
After life’s cares and sorrows, the comfort of sweetness and peace”.**

Helen Steiner Rice

The following Pilots are in our thoughts and prayers:

PC of Heflin: Past District Governor, Sherre McGinnis’ husband Jerry McGinnis passed away February 12th after an extended illness. Condolences may be sent to 109 Tuckahoe Circle, Gadsden, AL 35904. Memorial donations in his honor can be made to the Hokes Bluff Methodist Church at 3001 Alford Bend Rd. Hokes Bluff, AL 35903 or the Alabama District.

PC of Lee Co: Mechele Gullatte lost her mother-in-law, Sarah Hovey Gullatte February 20th. Cards may be sent to Michelle and her family at 6006 Lee Road, Salem, AL 36874

* **Note to Club Presidents:** If there has been a death of a Pilot or Co-Pilot in your Club this year, Please provide me with a photo to be used for the District and PI Memorial services. You may submit by email or post mail by **April 10th for District** and **May 30th for PI.**

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

In Pilot Friendship and Service,

Sherre McGinnis,

Inspirational Leader
sam109@bellsouth.net
256-490-7271



Executive Committee Representative

March ushers in Spring, with longer daylight hours, increased warmth, blooming flowers as we are “Pilots In Bloom”. Yes, Spring is in the air! Are you excited? Are you looking forward to a great time in Pilot? March is significant in Pilot because you are planning for your District Conventions, looking forward to seeing your friends and making new ones, installing new officers, strengthening your relationships with your Anchors and Compass members, eating good food, fun and again, fellowship! Have you received your call to Convention from your DAC/DEC? But most important, have you answered the call?

Brain Awareness Week is March 16 – 22, 2026, and it is the official week to promote brain safety and research. Since 1992, Pilot International has focused on brain related service and developed our BrainMinders™ educational program. Over the years, Pilot Clubs have presented numerous programs about brain safety to provide education to both our children and seniors using the BrainMinders™ Buddy puppet shows.

The deadline of March 16, 2026 for the Project LifeSaver Scholarship. The deadline for other **Anchor Awards** is also April 15, 2026. Awards include Anchor Advisor of the Year, Anchor Club of the Year, Anchor Club Star Award, Dreams Ahead Award, Ruby Newhall Anchor Service Award, Anchor Community Service and Visibility Award, BrainMinders™, Pick Me Ups, United Nations International Youth Day Essay Contest and Support of Anchors Award for Pilots. Visit www.anchorclubintl.org/awards for deadlines, requirements, application and to download the 2026-2027 Scholarship Flyer.

The deadline of March 16, 2026 for the LAIN Compass Scholarship. **Other Compass Awards** include the Compass Service Star Award, the Elizabeth Leonard Compass Service Award, Outstanding Compass Club Award, the Outstanding Community Service Award and the Dreams Ahead Award.

Visit www.compassclubintl.org for deadlines, requirements, applications and to download the 2026-2027 Scholarship Flyer. Award winners will be announced and celebrated in Oklahoma City. We look forward to celebrating with these wonderful young leaders and their respective clubs!

In Pilot Love, friendship and service!

May the early spring
Awaken your soul and
Remind you to
Celebrate the season with the
Hope and joy it brings!



Stephanie Batton

Executive Committee Representative