



# Alabama District Governor's Bulletin

May 2023

Issue 11



## District Leadership

### GOVERNOR

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### GOVERNOR ELECT

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### ECR

Joseph Cunningham  
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## District Governor

Sabine Wlodarski

Hello Pilots!

Wow! What a great Alabama District Convention! We have gained a new Alabama Pilot in our ECR, Joseph Cunningham. ECR Joseph enjoyed the weekend as much as the Alabama Pilots. He was there to welcome the First Timers, greet Alabama Pilots and share in the weekend events. Joseph is welcome to come back to Alabama any time. Thank you to all who worked on the Convention. I especially want to thank the members of the DAC and the Convention committee for their work. I appreciate the legacy of the Past Governors who were there to assist in any way that they could. Congratulations to the 2023-2024 DAC. I know they will do well for the Alabama District. They are making plans for a successful year.

You heard the challenge given by Beverly Kissinger, Chairman of the Pearl Sparks Scholarship to raise enough money to award a third scholarship. I challenge clubs and Pilots to contribute. We have raised \$180 thus far. Please send your money to Treasurer, Maria Traylor by May 15<sup>th</sup>. Look for an announcement in the June Governor's Bulletin.

Don't forget President Rhona's 777 challenge. You still have time to be eligible to win a trip to the Balloon Festival. Registration is still open for Pilot International Convention in Bellevue. Please send your Club Officers' form to Pilot International Headquarters, our ECR Joseph Cunningham and 2023-2024 Governor Karene Henson by May 1, 2023.

Happy Mothers' Day to all the mothers and grandmothers. You play a vital role in your children and grandchildren's lives.

As we wrap up our Pilot year, continue to spread Pilot Sunshine to our communities.

In Pilot friendship and service,

*Sabine*

**INSTALLATION**

One of the highlights of our District Convention was the installation banquet hosted by the Pilot Club of Roanoke. Jewel-toned overlays, glistening gems and rocks, and glowing lanterns adorned the tables, setting the tone for our 2023-2024 theme: "Pilots Dig It: Treasures of Friendship and Service". Each person attending the banquet received a miniature shovel to enable them to go home and start digging for Pilot treasure. Entertainment was provided by our very own special Alabama Anchor, Anna Rae Broome (By the way Anna Rae also provided tech support, sound support, and leg support throughout the convention. She truly "worked for her supper!").

Past Governor Glenda Brooks inspired the DAC and all present with a beautiful, inspirational installation ceremony. She shared how the mythological characters, Deucalion and Pyrrha repopulated Mother Earth after the Flood by throwing stones over their shoulders. As a stone hit the ground, a person was formed. Glenda encouraged Alabama Pilots to repopulate our district by digging in and looking for new treasures in our communities and beyond. Past District Governors passed the Gavel offering words of wisdom. ECR Joseph Cunningham presented 2023-2024 Governor Karene with the Pilot International Charge. Past Governor Claire Plott read our "Code of Ethics".

The evening concluded with a lovely reception honoring the 2023-2024 DAC and ECR Joseph Cunningham. hosted by the Pilot Club of Roanoke. Everyone enjoyed tiny be-jeweled cakes while mingling with the DAC, guests, and other Pilots. I want to give special recognition to the members of the Pilot Club of Roanoke who were able to come, work, and serve this past weekend: Kathy Etchinson, Felicia Vann, Julie Taylor, Joy Morgan, Marilyn Whitlow, and Glenda Brooks.

**SERVICE PROJECT HELPED UNLESS U**

The speaker for our first Business session was Paula Heath, the Director of Community Engagement at Unless U. We had tech issues with her presentation, so I wanted to share with you the website for Unless U. Please take time to view the short videos which explain the origin, the mission, and activities of this unique university for adults with disabilities. You will be so touched. [www.unlessu.org](http://www.unlessu.org)

Our convention service project for Unless U was an overwhelming success. Alabama Pilots are always so generous as we strive to Care More. Two baggage carts were loaded with cleaning supplies, paper products, and craft items to be used by the staff and the students. The DAC also provided two Caregiver Baskets. These will be given to the students' parents through a drawing at the school.

Serving together in Pilot Friendship,

*Karene*

**Treasurer**

**Maria Traylor**

**Welcome to the last quarter of the year!!**

**TBI camp was absolutely incredible – everyone should sign up to help with this at least once (and once is all it will take to get you hooked). The District Convention has come and gone – if you missed it, make sure you are there next year. We had three wonderful young ladies apply for the Pearl Sparks Scholarship. The winner received an \$800 scholarship. Thanks to the Pilot Club of Tuscaloosa, we were able to give a \$500 scholarship to the second-place applicant. This brings us to the third-place applicant – during the convention \$180 was given toward a scholarship to the third-place applicant. Please search your hearts and let's see if we can raise enough for the third-place applicant to receive a \$500 scholarship as well. Please send donations, made payable to Alabama District Pilot with PS Scholarship on the memo line, to me by May 15. I know Alabama Pilots will come through for this!**

**In Pilot Service,**

*Maria*

**District Secretary**

**Pam Langhout**

**What a beautiful Inspirational Service held on Sunday morning. Inspirational Leader Sherre McGinnis from the Pilot Club of Gadsden with the help of the District Music Ensemble provided all with a memorable service as we remembered those Pilots/Co-Pilots/Family Members that had passed away this past year. Even though each of these special loved ones have finished their course they will always be in our hearts and memories.**

**The beauty of a memory is that it is ALWAYS there, carried in our hearts. When our heart becomes heavy and our eyes fill with tears, we can ALWAYS focus on our wonderful memories to ease our pain. Each wonderful memory can bring a smile to our face.**

**In Pilot Service,**

*Pam*

**Governor's Bulletin Editor**

**Pam Langhout**

**I would like thank each of you from the bottom of my heart. To everyone that provided articles, photos, fundraiser flyers and information for the Governor's Bulletin for the past 6 years, you made my job so much easier and rewarding.**

**I will send my last edited Governor's Bulletin in June 2023 and Joy Morgan; Pilot Club of Roanoke will take the helm. Please provide Joy with all the great help you did me.**

*Pam*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- April 2023 Club Officers Form to PIHQ, postmarked no later than May 1, copy. to District Governor Sabine
- May 2023 Registration for PI Annual Convention & Leadership Conference
- June 2023 Pilot Club Officers Installed prior to July 1
- June 28-July 1, 2023 PI Convention, Bellevue, Washington
- September 23-24, 2023 FALL Council, Lake Guntersville State Park
- March 2-3, 2024 Anchor Convention – 2024, Lake Guntersville State Park
- April 12-14, 2024 Alabama District Convention, Marriott Auburn Opelika
- April 19-21, 2024 TBI Camp
- May 20, 2023 PC of Decatur Golf Tournament, Point Mallard Golf Course, 8 am

**LEGEND:** Highlighted in RED is DAC related; Highlighted in GREEN is individual Club related (if any)

## Social Media

Beverly Wilkerson

How fun it is when I am able to share posts from Pilot, Anchor, and Compass to our District and Anchor pages. Such a great and fantastic way for others to see just how very active we are in our district.

If you have not yet "liked" the Alabama District Pilot International and the Alabama Anchor District pages, please do so.

I can invite you if you are a friend of mine on FB. If you are not, I would love to be friends with you. You can find me, Beverly Pritchett Wilkerson.

*Beverly*

## Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Chairperson

Kay Chandler

Traumatic Brain Injury Superhero Camp

April 14-26, 2023

TBI Camp 2023 is a wrap! Thanks to all of the Pilots, Campers, Caregivers, Clubs and Corporate Sponsors for making this year's camp full of Super Heroes!

The 2024 TBI Camp will be held at beautiful Camp ASCCA on April 19-21, 2024. Let's get our boots and get ready to "Boot Scoot".

Thank you for all you do for Pilot!

*Kay*



## 2023-2024 Calendar of Events

- **FALL COUNCIL 2023**
  - September 23-24, 2023
  - Lake Guntersville State Park
  - 1155 Lodge Drive
  - Guntersville, AL. 35976
  - \*Room Reservations must be made by July 31, 2023
  - Room Rate \$156.00
  - Hotel #. (256)505-6621                      Group Code 9934
  
- **ANCHOR CONVENTION 2024**
  - March 2-3, 2024
  - Lake Guntersville State Park
  - 1155 Lodge Drive
  - Guntersville, AL. 35976
  - \*Room Reservations must be made by January 31, 2024
  - Room Rate \$156.00
  - Hotel #. (256)505-6621                      Group Code 9935
  
- **ALABAMA DISTRICT CONVENTION 2024**
  - April 12-14, 2024
  - Marriott Auburn Opelika
  - 3700 Sunbelt Parkway
  - Opelika, AL. 36801
  - \*Room Reservations must be made by March 24, 2024
  - Room Rate \$199.00
  
- **TBI CAMP 2024**
  - April 19-21, 2024
  - Camp ASCCA,
  - Jackson's Gap, AL



**2023-2024 Governor Karene Henson's Logo**

**Her theme is "Pilots Dig It: Friendship & Service"**

The 94<sup>th</sup> District Convention theme was "Choose to Shine" and Pilots throughout Alabama did just that. From the opening banner presentation and PI greetings from ECR Joseph Cunningham on Friday, to awards, speakers, and banquet on Saturday, Pilots shining.

Thank you to all who attended the Sunday memorial service. We remembered Pilots and family members who passed away this year with a stone that said "Remember the Goodness of God!". 1 Samuel 7:12. Pilots, Co-Pilots, and Emeritus Members will also be remembered at the PI Memorial Service in Bellevue, Washington.

*The beauty of a memory is that it is there.  
Like a penny in your pocket, you can take it anywhere  
And when your heart is heavy and your eyes are filled with tears,  
You can focus on a memory and travel through the years.  
Your heart can visit happy times, when laughter filled the air,  
And the presence of your loved one will lessen your despair.  
So, as you travel on in life, take comfort as you go,  
In a lifetime of memories of one who loved you so.*

\*\*\*\*\*

The following Alabama District Clubs are in our thoughts and prayers as Pilots, Co-Pilots, and family members were remembered during our Convention Memorial Service:

- |                  |                              |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| PC of Andalusia  | PC of Heflin                 |
| PC of Cullman    | PC of Huntsville             |
| PC of Decatur    | PC of Jasper                 |
| PC of Demopolis  | Luncheon PC of Morgan County |
| PC of Dothan     | PC of Prattville             |
| PC of Enterprise | PC of Roanoke                |
| PC of Florence   | PC of Troy                   |
| PC of Gadsden    | PC of Tuscaloosa             |

**Pilots in need of healing prayers:**

- **PC of Roanoke:** Chris Head could not attend District Convention due to being hospitalized for medical tests. Get well soon cards may be sent to 2131 CR 20, Roanoke, AL. 36274
- **Luncheon PC of Enterprise:** Jacque Hawkins was hospitalized and was unable to attend the District Convention. She is now at home recuperating. Get Well Wishes may be sent to 123 Sioux Street, Enterprise, AL. 36330
- **PC of Roanoke:** Debra Royston recently underwent back surgery. We wish her a speedy recovery. Cards may be sent to 206 Centerway Drive, Roanoke, AL. 36274

In Pilot love and friendship,  
Sherre McGinnis  
[Sam109@bellsouth.net](mailto:Sam109@bellsouth.net)  
256-490-7271  
109 Tuckahoe Circle  
Gadsden, AL 35904



## **Executive Committee Representative (ECR) Message Joseph Cunningham**

**The old adage says, "April Showers bring May Flowers." So what will May bring? More Pilot Sunshine! Our "Pilot Sunshine" has brought a bouquet of new projects, new fundraisers, and new clubs with new members. We have embraced President Rhona's Membership Challenge and are seeing phenomenal results. Let us continue to shine brightly in our communities and share the Friendship and Service of Pilot!**

**May is recognized as Bicycle Safety Month. This would be a wonderful time to order helmets and sponsor a helmet-fitting event in your community. You could also take this opportunity to apply for a Helmet Grant! Helmet Grant applications are due to Pilot International Headquarters by June 15<sup>th</sup>. Apply now!**

**On the subject of grants, Pick Me Up Grant Applications are also due at Pilot International Headquarters by June 15<sup>th</sup>. Introduced in 2013, the "Pick Me Ups - Kind Acts for Those Who Care" program is Pilot's second signature service initiative. We are *Doing More* by celebrating a decade of "little acts of kindness" by showing others that we, as Pilots, *Care More*. I encourage each Pilot Club and each Pilot to find a way to bring a smile and some sunshine into the life of someone who cares for others.**

**We have archived our District Conventions in the history books, posted our adventures on social media, and walked away with enthusiasm and excitement, but we still have more to do! Delegates are responsible for sharing the fun had and the knowledge gained at the District Convention during their club meeting. Club and District officer forms need to be completed and sent to Pilot International Headquarters by May 1<sup>st</sup>. These forms can be found on the PI website and must also be forwarded to the ECR with a copy kept in the district records. Don't delay – send them TODAY!**

**Margaret Cousins said, "Appreciation can make a day, even change a life. Your willingness to put it into words is all that is necessary." Think about what your clubs are doing to promote Pilot in the community. Think about what individual Pilots are doing when "Spreading Pilot Sunshine." Think about how we can show them we appreciate them – through recognition and awards. Pacesetter Clubs, 250 Clubs, 250 members, President's Circle, and Special Giving Level Contributions are all due by June 1<sup>st</sup> for recognition at our Annual Convention. Do you want to acknowledge someone with a beautiful, lasting tribute? Heritage Garden Brick orders are due by June 15<sup>th</sup>. Let's recognize and honor those who have made and continue to make a difference!**

**I feel that our mission as Pilots can be summed up by a quote from Walt Disney – "Do what you do so well that they will want to see it again and bring their friends." Let your Pilot Light shine bright so others will be drawn to it. Each one, reach one!**

**In Friendship and Service,**

*Joseph*

**Joseph Cunningham**

**Executive Committee Representative**

## PEARL SPARKS SCHOLARSHIP

**Thank you to everyone who sponsored a candidate for the Pearl Sparks Scholarship. We had three (3) outstanding candidates. Our winner will receive a scholarship for two (2) years.**

**OUR WINNER IS WHITNEY WRIGHT SPONSORED BY THE PILOT CLUB OF ROANOKE.**

**Whitney is enrolled at the University of Alabama at Birmingham with the goal of being a pediatrician.**

**CONGRATULATIONS, WHITNEY!!!**



**Beverly Kissinger, Pilot Club of Tuscaloosa and Pearl Sparks Scholarship Chairman presenting Whitney Wright the Pearl Sparks Scholarship.**





### AWARDS, AWARDS, AWARDS!!!!

- The Pearl Sparks Scholarship was awarded to Whitney Wright shown on page 8 of the Governor's Bulletin.
- The Pilot Club of Tuscaloosa is awarding the Pearl Sparks 2<sup>nd</sup> Place applicant, Kayleigh Lee from Cullman, a \$500 scholarship for 2023-2024.
- The Pilot Luncheon Club of Morgan County, Past Governor Glenda Brooks from Pilot Club of Roanoke and Ferne Wlodarski from the Pilot Club of Huntsville will sponsor the 3<sup>rd</sup> Place applicant, Ana Grace McCombs from Enterprise, a \$180 scholarship for 2023-2024. They are challenging other individuals or clubs to add to this scholarship. Donations should be sent to 2022-2023 District Treasurer Maria Traylor by May 15, 2023.



The Alabama District Awards presented at the 94<sup>th</sup> District Convention were as follows:

**Maggie Award** - There was a tie and the winners are

- Tracy Davis Pilot Club of Troy
- Jackie Halford Pilot Club of Andalusia

**Sally Douglas Membership Award** - The Pilot Club of Andalusia (by the deadline had 5 new members with an additional 7 members after the deadline)

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!!!!



**JO VAUGHN AWARD** - Beverly Wilkerson from the Pilot Club of Cullman and Past Governor twice.



**COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD –**

1. **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE – PILOT CLUB OF ROANOKE WITH “CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS”**
2. **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE – PILOT LUNCHEON CLUB OF MORGAN COUNTY**
3. **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE – PILOT CLUB OF DECATUR**

**BRAIN RELATED DISORDERS SERVICE AWARD –**

1. **1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE – PILOT LUNCHEON CLUB OF MORGAN COUNTY WITH “PILOT HELPERS FOR ADULTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS”**
2. **2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE – PILOT CLUB OF DECATUR**
3. **3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE – PILOT CLUB OF ROANOKE**



What busy Pilots! Tell us what you are doing! We have clubs that are very active and sharing the togetherness of Pilot! What is your club doing to share Pilot? Are you having fun and helping your community? Let us know!

Club Presidents- Please share what your club is doing for your community. Please send your photos with a write-up to the Governor and Governor's Bulletin Editor, Pam Langhout at [planghou@hiwaay.net](mailto:planghou@hiwaay.net)



# CLUB AND INTERNATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



Pilot Club of Cullman

Beverly Wilkerson



**BrainMinders Presentations: Pilot Buddies –** Cala Warhurst (Penny Panda), Pam Gasser & Erica Wehl (Gerald Giraffe), Elaine Cole & Tina Chapman (Wise Old Owl), Alena Cook (Martin Monkey), Charlotte Ecklund (Fiona Fox) attended a luncheon training meeting hosted by Tina, Project Chair on March 7<sup>th</sup> and presentations at the Primary School March 21<sup>st</sup>. These Pilot Buddies had a ball teaching Brain Health and Safety to 560 kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade students from 27 classes in 6 sessions. Each student received a BrainMinders coloring book and Certificate of Participation.

Pilot Club of Cullman

Beverly Wilkerson



**The Pilot Club of Cullman’s Membership Committee conducted an Orientation Session for new Member Sonya Fortner.**



**PILOT  
CLUB OF  
DECATUR**

**PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT  
CAMP ASCCA, TBI CAMP,  
PROJECT LIFESAVER & MORE**

# **GOLF TOURNAMENT**

## **REGISTRATION:**

**4 MAN  
SCRAMBLE  
\$75 PER PERSON  
\$300 PER TEAM**

**REGISTER BY MAY 15TH**

**MAY 20TH, 2023  
POINT MALLARD  
GOLF COURSE  
SHOTGUN START 8 A.M.  
DOOR PRIZES AWARDED  
BREAKFAST & LUNCH  
PROVIDED**

**FOR MORE INFO CALL NANCY  
AT 256-642-1321**

## 94<sup>th</sup> Alabama District Convention in Birmingham

The Sounds of Pilot were heard April 21-23, 2023 at the 94<sup>th</sup> Alabama District Convention at the Marriott Bonvoy in Birmingham, Alabama.

- ◇ Friday Night, April 21 - Opening Session, Inspirational Leader Sherre McGinnis led with a "Froggy" inspiration, Pilot Bingo Ice Breaker, Banner Presentation and then a Reception.



Reception for 2022-2023 Governor Sabine Wlodarski, Executive Committee Representative Joseph Cunningham from Pilot Club of Columbia, South Carolina and 2022-2023 PI Treasurer, and the 2022-2023 District Administrative Council. Left to Right – Secretary Pam Langhout, Governor Elect Karene Henson, Governor Sabine Wlodarski, ECR Joseph Cunningham and Treasurer Maria Traylor.



- ◇ Saturday, April 22 - Business Sessions I & II, State of District, Pilot International Updates, Keynote Speaker Paula Heath of UNLESS U, Service Project, Registration Reports, Secretary Report, Treasurer Report, Proposals with Votes on each, Standing Rules Changes, Nominating Committee Report, Electing 2023-2024 District Officers, Awards Luncheon hosted by the Pilot Luncheon Club of Morgan County, Pearl Sparks Scholarship Presentation, TBI Camp Update, AFTD Speaker Jerry Horn and Workshops! A full day and Pilots charged through the Business with grace as always! We even had special guests that joined us during this session. A few of the awards and their recipients are below:



A few of the Awards presented are shown in the photos.

**1<sup>st</sup> Photo – Beverly Kissinger, PC of Tuscaloosa and Pearl Sparks Scholarship Chairman presents the Scholarship winner Whitney Wright of Roanoke, AL her certificate.**



**2<sup>nd</sup> Photo – Nancy Lehe, International Member and Past Governor (shown on the right) presents the Jo Vaughn Leadership Award to Beverly Wilkerson, PC of Cullman and Past Governor.**

## SPECIAL GUESTS CAME TO BUSINESS SESSION II



**"Sonny and Cher" appeared at TBI Camp to entertain the Campers and came to entertain us at the 94<sup>th</sup> District Convention.**

- ◇ **Installation Banquet on April 22- The night was filled with pomp & circumstance, jewel tones and the sweet sounds of Pilot when the Outgoing and Incoming Officers were presented. The evening continued with entertainment by Anna Rae Broome from the Handley High School Anchor Club and Director DAAC, a formal Dinner and then the new 2023-2024 DAC was installed for their offices beginning July 1, 2023. On the completion of the Installation, the Pilot Club of Roanoke hosted a reception for 2023-2024 Governor Karene Henson, the 2022-2023 ECR and Governor Karene's 2023-2024 DAC.**



**2022-2023 Governor Sabine Wlodarski was escorted into the banquet by Executive Committee Representative Joseph Cunningham.**

**Anna Rae Broome with 2023-2024 Governor Karene Henson.**



**2023-2024 Governor Karene Henson (3<sup>rd</sup> from the left) with her family at the Installation Banquet.**



- ◇ **Sunday April 23, 2023 Remembrance & Reflection - The Morning was filled with inspirational music and the sweet memories of Pilots/Co-Pilots/Pilot Family Members that we lost this past year. Inspirational Leader Sherre McGinnis read each name and in remembrance each Club stood at the calling out of their loved one and a club member came forward to receive a remembrance stone. What a beautiful ceremony!**
  
- ◇ **Sunday, April 23 - Business Sessions III, Anchor Update, Honorariums for 2022-2023 Governor Sabine Wlodarski and ECR Joseph Cunningham, Invitation to PI Convention and Leadership Conference, Presentation of 2023-2024 Governor Appointees, Governor and Governor Elect Banner Exchange, Recognition of 2022-2023 Governor Appointees, Convention Chair Janice Clark, Convention Vice Chair Kathy Etchinson ad Convention Host Club (Pilot Club of Prattville). Past Governor Nancy Lehe read the "Code of Ethics". The Convention was adjourned with the singing of "Sail on International".**

**The Convention was a wonderful time for the District to gather together. We came together to do business and share "The Sounds of Pilot - Friendship and Service". We missed each of you that could not be with us. You missed a wonderful time. Until we meet again, go forth and do good work in your communities and spread the "Sounds of Pilot: Friendship and Service".**