

Pilot Club of Jacksonville

Website: <http://www.pilotclubjax.org>



Sails & Sightings

Newsletter Date April 9, 2024
Volume 2024, Issue 04

President's Message

By: **Leila LeVan**

*"To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow."
Audrey Hepburn*

Dear Pilots,

I am writing this on the Saturday before Easter. This holiday's spirit transcends the boundaries of personal belief, touching upon universal values of hope, forgiveness, and new beginnings. It's a reminder that, regardless of one's faith or background, the principles of compassion and community service are foundational to human connection and growth. As such, the essence of Easter can be seen in acts of kindness and the shared pursuit of a better world for all. And this, my friends, is Pilot and I am proud to say, especially our particular Pilot club!

CONGRATULATIONS to your new officers! Georgia Reed, Barbara Lesso, Audrey Griffin, and Leanne Greene you will be amazing. The nomination committee outdid themselves this year. Thank you for agreeing to serve. It is not an easy job, but it is definitely rewarding! I have loved serving as an officer these last three years and am excited about now serving on a District level.

Speaking of district, who is going to District Convention? If you have never been, I **highly recommend** that you go. It provides you with a better understanding of who Pilot is and how important you are to Pilot. Don't let this scare you but... it did enlighten and encourage me to serve as an officer of our club. It made me proud to be a Pilot and very proud to be a Pilot in our club!

I met some of the most wonderful servant hearted people at district.

Kudo's to Sherrill, Bill and the garage sale army! WOW! Once again you knocked it out of the park. In order for our fundraising to be successful it takes each and every one of us to contribute in some way. We need a venue, we need quality donations, we need those that work **hours** setting up, we need buyers, and we need sellers the days of the sale. We also appreciate that our private chef that always feeds us a delicious lunch! This is our second largest fundraiser, and these dollars are significant. For perspective for new members: our garage sales provide enough dollars to fund at least 5 of our grant recipients!

Thank you, Carolyn and Lucy, for hosting our more intimate new member get togethers. We have gleaned so much information on how the board can better serve our membership. After a few years as a Pilot we often take for granted what people know and understand. We have also been learning how to make our website a more valuable tool for you. We will continue to improve that as well.

PLEASE review the calendar of events when you receive your agenda this month. I also ask that you pray for our Pilot who had surgery, Linda Hone, or our Pilot who is fighting health issues, Linda Kinnealy.

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Gabe Springer our Compass President also just had surgery. We have Pilots on leaves of absence that also need our prayers for healing and comfort. Many Pilots have family members who are suffering. Our Pilot, Inez Thompson and dear friend her sister Diane Siprelle, are on a mission

trip in the Amazon. We wish them protection and success while they minister to those in need.

In Pilot love and friendship,
Leila



Pilots' APRIL Birthday



12 – Cathy Mansor 29 – Sharon Nooney



Pilot Anniversaries



- Congratulations Betty Lou Watson on your 52nd Pilot Anniversary!
- Congratulations Joy Coyle on your 24th Pilot Anniversary!
- Congratulations Barbara Lesso on your 3rd Pilot Anniversary!

Calendar of Pilot Events



- April 9 Business Dinner Meeting at Ramada – 6PM
- April 22 Cooking for K9s for Warriors – please deliver to Yvonne Bulluck by 3:30PM
- April 26-28 FL District Convention - Orlando Marriott Lake Mary
- April 29 & 30 Pace Center for Girls – Assist with Prom Gowns – 2933 Univ. Blvd N. 9AM-1PM
- May 4 Pilot Social – Game night @ 5PM - Fountain Gate Club House 9350 Craven Rd
- May 25 Memorial Garden – Community Hospice – 4266 Sunbeam Rd 8AM-11AM
- July 17-20 Pilot International Convention – Denver, Colorado

Belk Charity Sale – coming up

Belk Charity sale will be June 7-9. Tickets will be available from Carolyn Wright and Judy Marcos at the MAY business meeting. Details on tickets and sale will be distributed at that time.

Florida District Pilot and Anchor Conventions

Orlando Marriott Lake Mary - Lake Mary, FL
April 26-28, 2024



PILOT GAME NIGHT!

Saturday, May 4th at 5pm
Fountain Gate Clubhouse (Craven Rd)



GAMES, FESTIVE FOOD & BEVERAGES and MORE!!!

Spouses, Friends, Neighbors, Prospects are welcomed!

Sign up at the April 9th Business Meeting OR
contact Lucy Markert to confirm attendance:
lmarkert@bellsouth.net or (904) 472-6411



Be sure to dress in your festive attire – prizes awarded!

Initiation March 2024

Pilot initiated at our March business meeting.
We want to welcome to the club Maria Pollock!



Leila(President), Maria, Dianne(Sponsor), Betty Lou & Lucy (membership)

Guest Speaker – K9s for Warriors

Kristian and Carly informed the Pilots that K9s for Warriors also has a program where volunteers are trained to foster and provide temporary housing and care for service dogs in training or their adoptable dogs. Any interest contact: fosterpv@k9sforwarriors.org



Kristian Long, Carly Durnil & Yvonne(Projects)

Pilot Club of Jacksonville 2024 Officers & Board

Officers

Past President – Leila LeVan
 President – Georgia Reed
 President Elect – Barbara Lesso
 Secretary – Audrey Griffin
 Treasurer – Leeanne Green

Board

Linda Hone – 2024-2025 Term
 Sherrill Casey-Bakai – 2023-2025 Term
 Dianne Werner – 2024-2026 Term
 Lucy Markert – 2024-2026 Term

thank you!

Annual Holiday Nut Sale Results and Awards

Georgia Reed, Chair, of the Annual Holiday Nut Sale announced another successful year of pecan sells with an impressive profit of **\$19,438!** As our club’s primary fundraiser, Pilots participate in direct purchases/sells as well as volunteering to work shifts selling nuts at estate sales and the Pecan Park Flea and Farmer’s Market which netted proceeds of \$10,235 including donations of \$410.

All Top Sales Producers of \$500 or more were recognized and presented with Publix Gift Cards at the March business meeting. Reining in the number one ‘super star’ spot was Sue Harrell with sales of \$4,141. She was followed by Sherrill Bakai - \$1,718, Dot Whitten - \$1,452, Gail Pender - \$1,416, Sharon Nooney - \$1,241, Inez Thompson - \$1,111 and Mary Stahler with \$1,004.

We extend special heart-felt thanks and appreciation to former members Dot Whitten and Gail Pender for their continued support of our club’s annual fundraiser! That is true dedication and love of Pilot – thank you; and, to all Pilots who made this another extraordinary year of success!

<u>\$2,500 & Over</u>	Sue Harrell	\$4,141	\$100 Publix Gift Card/Plant
<u>\$1,500 - \$2,000</u>	Sherrill Bakai	\$1,718	\$50 Publix Gift Card/Plant
<u>\$1,000 - \$1,500</u>	Dot Whitten	\$1,452	\$25 Publix Gift Card (mailed)
	Gail Pender	\$1,416	\$25 Publix Gift Card (mailed)
	Sharron Nooney	\$1,241	\$25 Publix Gift Card/Plant
	Inez Thompson	\$1,111	\$25 Publix Gift Card/Plant
	Mary Stahler	\$1,004	\$25 Publix Gift Card/Plant
<u>\$ 500 - \$1,000</u>	Yvonne Bulluck	\$ 929	\$25 Publix Gift Card
	Dianne Werner	\$ 792	\$25 Publix Gift Card
	Judy Marcos	\$ 698	\$25 Publix Gift Card
	Cindy Hartig	\$ 660	\$25 Publix Gift Card
	Carolyn Barrett	\$ 628	\$25 Publix Gift Card
	Leila LeVan	\$ 542	\$25 Publix Gift Card
	Barbara Lesso	\$ 526	\$25 Publix Gift Card



Sue Harrell



Inez Thompson



Mary Stahler



Dianne Werner



Yvonne Bulluck



Carolyn Barrett



Judy Marcos



Cathy Mansor



Carolyn & Cindy Lou Hartig



Inez, Georgia & Sharon

Memory Garden at Community Hospice

Cindy Lou Hartig and husband Bill continue to lead groups of volunteers from our Pilot Club of Jacksonville to continue to cleanup and improve this lovely memory garden on the campus of Community Hospice on Sunbeam Road. Saturday, March 23, Javonna Singleton, Joyce Jamro, Patty Wise, Lucy Markert & Therese Taylor joined Cindy Lou & Bill. (<https://www.communityhospice.com/>)



Patty, Cindy, Therese, Lucy & Joyce(Javonna & Bill were there too!)

The Foundation of Community Hospice & Palliative Care's recent newsletter included a snippet of our club's efforts to help keep their Memory Garden maintained. Thanks to Cindy Lou for keeping us on task.



We extend a special thank you to [The Pilot Club of Jacksonville!](#)

The club generously granted funds to support legacy making projects for families at Community PēdsCare.

Additionally, we appreciate their ongoing efforts to maintain the beauty of our memorial garden at the Charles M. Neviaser Educational Institute.

Pictured left: Therese Taylor with the Pilot Club of Jacksonville and Community Hospice & Palliative Care garden council volunteer.



Tonja Merritt - Member Profile

My husband and I moved to Jacksonville in July of 2021 after spending 15 years in Washington State. We had visited my family in Florida a few times and, on the last visit, decided that getting out of the rain and into the sunshine was a good idea. I started working for NOCD in September of that same year. NOCD is a behavioral health group practice that primarily treats people with obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD). When I first joined the company we were a start-up, employing about 100 therapists. NOCD is now in the growth-stage (think growing pains) and employs almost 500 therapists with a presence in all 50 states and Canada. You may have seen a commercial or two as Howie Mandel is our celebrity spokesperson. To learn more about our company, vision, and mission, you can visit our website at www.treatmyocd.com

When we lived in Washington, my husband installed countertops. When we got here, he took a position with Precast & Restoration Services. Some of the projects he has been involved with include the Memorial Park restoration in Riverside, the restoration of the seawall near the Bridge of Lions and, most recently, the old Holy Rosary Church restoration. He's currently doing some work at TPC Sawgrass. To be honest, I have no idea what he is doing there but it involves large slabs of concrete being carried up a bunch of stairs.

My husband and I are about to be first-time grandparents. Unfortunately, the expectant parents are in Oregon so we will not be able to visit as much as we would like. But rest assured that UPS will see a significant uptick in business.

A few things that you may not know about me (and, since I was just initiated in November, that list is pretty lengthy) are that I, along with my sister, sang in a classic rock cover-band, I'm an avid reader, love to cook and will try any crafty project that happens to pop up in my Pinterest feed. I'm not sure that I'm on the same level as Sharon and her gnomes, but I'll attempt it anyway.

For anyone who may not know, Pilot member Cathy Mansor is my mom. I was looking for volunteer opportunities and she spoke very highly of Pilot so I tagged along with her a couple of times to Angel Aid.

In between sorting piles of clothes, I was able to meet several Pilot members and was moved by the welcome that I received as well as the overall sense of purpose that everyone seemed to have. Sorting clothes without a purpose is just like sorting out your closet...not necessarily fun but it needs to be done. The purpose is what matters. I decided to become a member and, in the last few months, have seen time and time again the power of that purpose. It has been watching Georgia sell nuts to people who didn't know that they liked nuts. I've never seen a better salesperson. Watching Bill and Sherrill and all the other Pilots work so hard on the garage sale convinced me of two things: garage sale selling is an art and I never want to put on one of my own. I've been a part of the Pace Family Night and litter retrieval. It doesn't seem to matter which opportunity I take part in, the purpose is always clear and that's why I'm here.



Co-Pilot – Streaker

Saturday, March 2, Ty Payne(Co-Pilot) completed his 47th Gate River Run 15K and is considered a celebrity...aka... **STREAKER**... having participated in every race since the first race held in 1978. Pilot Club of Jacksonville member Diana Payne, his wife, has also completed in a number of these races. Chip time for Ty was 2:44:42 and Diana was 2:15:28. Congratulations to both!



Garage Sale

Beautiful weather for this Spring sale. Thank you to all the Pilots who donated time and items.



Carolyn & Sherrill



Inez



Joy



Leila & Sherrill



Joy, Robin(website) & Lucy



Carolyn & Judy



Georgia



Betty Lou & Alma



Diane & Inez



Sherrill & Diana



Carolyn



Carolyn, Mary & Cindy



Mary & Sharon



Mary & Georgia

Pilot International Convention

Save the Date
Denver Colorado
102nd Pilot International Convention and
Leadership Conference + Anchor Summit
July 17th - 20th, 2024

YOUR PRESENCE MATTERS

Hyatt Regency
DENVER TECH CENTER


Explore
THE MILE HIGH CITY

- 16th Street Mall
- The Stanley Marketplace
- Denver Botanic Gardens
- Red Rocks Park & Amphitheatre
- Denver Zoo
- Cherry Creek Shopping District
- Wings Over the Rockies

Stay in the Know

Pilot Websites

Pilot Club of Jacksonville – pilotclubjax.org
Pilot International – pilotinternational.org
Florida District Pilot International - pilotflorida.org
Anchor Club International - anchorclubintl.org
Compass Club International - compassclubintl.org
Pilot Scholarship House Foundation - pshffl.org

Can also be found on Facebook 

Pictures for our club's FACEBOOK page can be sent to Lucy Markert (lmarkert@bellsouth.net)

Please Bring to the Pilot Business Meeting

Cancelled stamps for Tubfrim (Carolyn Barrett)

Can tabs for Ronald McDonald House (Georgia Reed)

Accepting Payments thru Zelle

Payments can now be made instantly through Zelle to pilotclub.org.jax@gmail.com

Questions? Ask Audrey Griffin

Newsletter Editors

Articles and pictures for our newsletter - Sails & Sightings can be sent to:
Therese Taylor (pvbtkaylor@aol.com) and Carolyn Barrett (cbarret2@comcast.net)

PILOT CLUB OF JACKSONVILLE

Chartered July 25, 1934

P.O. Box 57074

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Pilot Club of Jacksonville's Mission Statement:
To serve by furthering Pilot International's humanitarian efforts through charitable, educational, and research programs in communities throughout the world.
Get to know us and assist us in serving the Jacksonville community

