

Pilot Club of Jacksonville



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



Sails & Sightings

Newsletter Date March 12, 2024
Volume 2024, Issue 03

President's Message

By: **Leila LeVan**

“Challenges are what makes life interesting and overcoming them is what makes life meaningful.” *Joshua J Marine*

Dear Pilots,

I love it when I stumble on a quote from someone I don't know. And what's even better is that there is no Joshua J Marine. He is a made-up digital character. While his identity may be fictitious, his words ring true. The pride and satisfaction that comes from persevering gives us a sense of purpose and meaning. It's the struggles that make achievements feel worthwhile. We all have experienced this personally. It can be our health or our career or even struggles within our family. Why do I bring this up in my letter? Because this is what Pilot does for us AND even more importantly what we do for our grant recipients. When you sweat in the gardens of Hospice you are making a place of peace for those facing the saddest challenge. When you donate and serve at BASCA, cook for K9s, sort clothes for Pace or Angel Aid, you are making it possible for their clients to experience the pride and satisfaction of perseverance to make their once seemingly meaningless life wonderfully meaningful. Is there really a greater joy than sowing into the lives of others? I don't think so.

We have another exciting month behind us and in front of us! It is time to elect our officers for the 2024-2025 year. You will be able to look forward to Georgia Reed as your incoming President. Her commitment and enthusiasm for

Pilot has always been contagious. The other officers are a surprise! This year we have initiated some energetic, smart, younger (it seems like everyone is younger than me...he he) members who have great ideas to continue to move our club forward and continue a legacy of service and excellence. Yvonne Bulluck and her committee are busy researching and soon interviewing non-profits for our 90-year birthday grant! Last month a group went to PI and were able to bask in the history and achievements of this amazing organization. We were impressed with the talent they have hired, and we look forward to another 100 years of success and service. And of course we ate and socialized.

This month we have our second largest fundraiser AND one that is great fun! There are so many great reasons to be involved. Personally, you get to bring those items that just don't fit your style or the ones that friends have chosen to eliminate from their closet, house or storage room. Downsizing and decluttering is ALL the rage! The other personal win is purchasing someone else's treasure. Ask me how many really cool items I have purchased at our sales. But truly the best part is spending time with other Pilots. When you are a “newbie” it's a super relaxing way to chat and have some fun. We have a lot of laughs, and we know we are turning our time into money for one of our non-profits in need. So, grab your sponsor and join the garage sale party March 15 thru 17.

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If you are new (and new is 2 years or less), please feel free to ask questions at EVERY function we have. I know that I had question after question. May I recommend that you go to District in Orlando (actually Lake Mary)? That was one of the most helpful things I did as a new Pilot. Not only did I learn so much about Pilot from a Big Picture standpoint, I became closer to my Jacksonville Pilots while meeting Pilots from other clubs. It will make you even more proud to be a Pilot.... especially a Jacksonville Pilot! There is still plenty of time to find a roomie and sign up! Do it today.

Thank you for nominating me for Lt. Governor of District. What an honor! I will do my best to make you proud!

In Pilot friendship,
Leila



Pilots' MARCH Birthday



12 – Inez Thompson



Pilot Anniversaries



- Congratulations Linda Kinnealy on your 14th Pilot Anniversary!
- Congratulations Bill Bakai on your 5th Pilot Anniversary!

Calendar of Pilot Events



- March 11-17 Brain Awareness Week
- March 12 Business Dinner Meeting at Ramada – 6PM
- March 15-17 Garage Sale – 9132 Glendower Ct., JAX(Prep days 3/12 thru 3/14)
- March 23 Memorial Garden – Community Hospice – 4266 Sunbeam Rd 8AM-11AM
- April 4 Registration deadline for FL District Convention
- April 6 Litter Retrieval – Goal Post Sandwich - 3984 Herschel St – 9AM
- April 9 Business Dinner Meeting at Ramada – 6PM
- April 26-28 FL District Convention - Orlando Marriott Lake Mary
- May 4 Pilot Social – Game night @ 5PM - Fountain Gate Club House 9350 Craven Rd

Litter Retrieval coming up on April 6th

Adopt-A-Highway – Litter Retrieval
Meet up at Goal Post Sandwich Shop - 3984 Herschel St
Saturday morning, April 6, 2024 – Starting @ 9 AM

Guest Speaker - AngelWood



Leila LeVan, Damara Farwell & Yvonne Bulluck

Damara Farwell, Chief Development officer at Angelwood was our guest speaker at the February business meeting. She gave a brief history of how Angelwood was started in 1993. It has now grown into 5 group homes that serve children from age 5 until end of life. They provide adult training programs, enrichment music and pet therapy, summer and day camps in addition to job training. Projects Division Coordinator, Yvonne, presented a check for \$1,207 for an outdoor table & chairs. (<https://angelwoodjax.org/>)

Florida District Governor visit

Jonda Erwin, FL District Governor (member of the Pilot Club of Titusville), visited with members at the February business meeting. She updated us on the recently completed Malthouse Scholarship House on the campus of Florida Gulf Coast University. Our club had contributed to the PSHF Strive 4 Five campaign to raise money for this new house and the club was presented a gift. She expressed her excitement for the new Compass Club and how Gabriel Springer had contacted several clubs around the Jacksonville area and the Pilot Club of Jacksonville (Leila LeVan) was the first to respond.



Leila LeVan & Jonda Erwin



Sharon Nooney, Leila & Jonda



Audrey Griffin, Dianne Werner, Georgia Reed, Jonda Erwin & Leila LeVan

UCOM Food Drive



Well done PILOTS - your generosity at February's meeting was overwhelming! On Wednesday, February 14th, Yvonne Bulluck and Inez Thompson delivered your Food Pantry Donations to UCOM. Fellow Pilot, Carolyn Barrett was there as a UCOM Volunteer to help us unload the car. There were 3 full shopping carts - and according to Carolyn, the shelves were bare, so our donations were very much needed! In addition to the WHOPPING 358 lbs of food, we also donated \$500 in Wal-Mart Gift Cards. Thank you, thank you, thank you! What a special way to celebrate Valentine's Day. (<https://ucomjax.org/>)



K9s for Warriors

Pilots who cooked this time around were Barbara Lesso, Pam Vanscoy, Tammy Molter & Therese Taylor.

Here is what was prepared for the February class of female warriors: Chicken Tetrazzini, Taco Soup, cornbread, broccoli salad, brownies & peach cobbler. Barbara and Therese delivered the meals on Friday, February 16th. (<https://k9sforwarriors.org/>)

Thank you so much for blessing our Warrior class with that delicious dinner on Friday night. They enjoyed everything so much and they were so grateful for all the hard work that you and the wonderful ladies of the Club put into preparing it for them. They also thought the menu was fantastic (with a special shout out to your yummy dessert!).

Being a female class, they especially appreciate what all goes into making such a lovely meal, and they asked me to be sure to let you know how much it meant to them.

The female classes are different from our male Warriors, with a few more nerves and apprehensions, and these meals mean a lot. Because they're wives and mothers, they are also the ones that are used to taking care of everyone else. So, it was a special treat for them when they got to sit down and enjoy something so good that they weren't required to either shop for or cook. 😊

Thank you so much for making that night so special for them, it meant more than I can say.



Therese & Barbara

The class graduation was held on Thursday, February 22nd. Pilots joining in on the celebration were Jenny Raulerson, Yvonne Bulluck, Sharon Nooney with grandson Preston, and Inez Thompson.



Memory Garden at Community Hospice

Cindy Lou Hartig and husband Bill remain committed to lead groups of volunteers from our Pilot Club of Jacksonville to continue the cleanup and improve this lovely memory garden on the campus of Community Hospice on Sunbeam Road. Saturday, February 17, Kim Rutkowski, Javonna Singleton and her Aunt Candy, Joyce Jamro, & Therese Taylor joined Cindy Lou & Bill. (<https://www.communityhospice.com/>)



Joyce, Candy, Kim, Cindy Lou, Javonna & Therese

Pilot International Road Trip

There's no better way to express your love (and gratitude) to PI than to visit Headquarters in Macon, GA on President's Day Weekend!!! Seemed quite apropos. February 15 thru 17 with a side trip to Savannah. In addition to hearing from Will Butler (COO) and his team (Lia Smith - Accounting, Joanna Kotlarski - Membership and Molly Wilkins - Communications), we also toured the memorial garden (where there are bricks representing Pilots past and present), Archive Room (where Pilot's history is on full display!!) and Library (which houses various treasures and awards from all the PI districts)!! Thank you, PI Headquarters for being such gracious hosts.

Of course, no Pilot event would be complete without FOOD!!! Nothing like enjoying some down home, southern soul food - just before getting on the road for a 4.5/5-hour journey back home! I think we all slept really well that night! 😊



Fran Butler, Sharon Nooney, Leila LeVan, Georgia Reed, Audrey Griffin, Lucy Markert, Dianne Werner, Patricia McCullough, Yvonne Bulluck



Will Butler (COO) in the middle of the PC of Jacksonville travelers



PI headquarters staff – Will, Molly, Lia & Joanna



Pilot International Headquarters entrance



Leila, Audrey, Patricia, Fran, Lucy, Dianne,
Yvonne, Sharon & Georgia



Pilot International Memorial Garden



Pilots enjoying each others company with a wonderful meal

Membership Division Information Session

Our first New Member Information Session was conducted on Saturday, February 24, with 17 in attendance - including new members, prospects, sponsors, members of our Membership Division and presenters!! In addition to these large group forums to introduce “everything Pilot”, we have begun having monthly Small Group Dinners to help our Pilots become more intimately familiar with Pilot and our members!!



Lucy Markert organizer of the session



Georgia Reed presenting – there’s also Yvonne Bulluck, Fran Butler & Pam Vanscoy



Barbara Lesso, Carolyn Barrett, Matthew & Jenny Raulerson, Maria Pollock & Therese Taylor



Yvonne & Sherrill Casey-Bakai presenting – Leila, Fran, Pam, Judy Marcos, Georgia, Christine Simmons and Mary Stahler



PACE Center for Girls

Pilot Club was well represented as volunteers for Pace Center for Girls to assist with setup for the Family Event On February 29th, assist during the event and then assist with take down on the next day. Barbara Lesso, Cathy Mansor, Susan Faircloth and Sherrill Casey-Bakai helped with going through donated clothing items and hanging or folding items for easy access for the girls and their families to make selections. Dianne Werner and Tonja Merritt assisted during the evening. Carolyn Barrett and Cathy Mansor helped with the take down the following morning. They had several other organizations there as well helping making the load light. It was great practice to help us get in shape for our upcoming Pilot Club Garage Sale!

Thank you to all the volunteers that made this a great time to get to know each other better!

PACE Center for Girls newsletter:

February Family Night

We celebrated LEAP Day with our families. Together, we shared laughter, good food, and shopping with our girls and their families. With heartfelt gratitude, we extend our sincerest thanks to our incredible staff, dedicated volunteers, and the amazing families who joined us.

Thank you to CSX, JEA, NARBW, AT&T Pioneers, Navy Federal Credit Union, Walker and Dunlap, TOTE, Pilot Club, Beta Sigma Phi and many more volunteers who made this night a huge success.



Cathy Mansor, Sherrill Casey-Bakai, Susan Faircloth & Barbara Lesso



Susan



Cathy



Sherrill



Susan & Sherrill

Fundraising Opportunity – Garage Sale

Actual Garage SALE dates – Friday March 15 thru Sunday March 17

Pre-sale setup dates – Tuesday March 12 thru Thursday March 14

Bill & Sherrill Bakai's home (9132 Glendower Ct, Jax)

Pre-sale shift 3/12 – 10AM – 4PM

Pre-sale shift 3/13 – 10AM – 4PM

Pre-sale shift 3/14 – 10AM – 4PM

SALE shifts 3/15 – 7:30AM – 11:30AM & 11:30AM – 2:30PM

SALE shifts 3/16 – 7:30AM – 11:30AM & 11:30AM – 2:30PM

SALE shifts 3/17 – 10:30AM-2PM & 2PM-4PM



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)

Florida District Pilot and Anchor Conventions

Orlando Marriott Lake Mary - Lake Mary, FL

April 26-28, 2024



April 4 - Registration deadline for FL District Convention

Pilot International Convention



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 (pvbktaylor@aol.com) and Carolyn Barrett (cbarret2@comcast.net)

PILOT CLUB OF JACKSONVILLE

Chartered July 25, 1934

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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

