

NAPLES PILOT LIGHT



Pilot International 2021-22 President Colette Cross




2021-22 FL District Governor Charlotte Edenfield




THE PILOT CLUB OF NAPLES & NAPLES PILOT FOUNDATION, INC., P.O. BOX 8674, NAPLES, FL 34101-8674 December 2021

Pilot International Mission: To influence positive change in communities throughout the world.

Florida District vision is to serve by furthering Pilot International's humanitarian efforts through charitable, educational and research programs



December 18th Santa and Mrs Claus are coming to town for a daytime Pilot Share
Noon to 4PM



Executive Board

- President – Sue Lester ***
- President Elect – Mike Nelson**
- Treasurer – Bessie Brown**
- Secretary – Teddy Plaisted**
- Directors– Joan Hurd & Ruth Fralick**
- Leigh Ann Page *We look forward to the day we have the installation of officers.**

2021 – 2022 Florida District Officers

- Governor – Charlotte Edenfield**
- Governor Elect – Jonda Erwin**
- Secretary – Claire Mikko**
- Treasurer – Missy Ridgway**
- Lt. Governor- Tadzia**
- Lt. Governor –Connie Jones**
- EGR – Susan Kahl**

Santa is coming in December

We love Culver's and these great opportunities to share with the customers what Pilot is and does in the community. Join us for something delicious during the hours of noon and 4 PM. We will have a Pilot display with helmets with bike safety information and BrainMinder puppets to talk to the children. Pilot members are needed to stop in and share!



We are at the end of the 2021 road. Good bye 2021. Here we come 2022. Looking back on the months we have behind us. Looking forward to the future that we have before us. We can make it what we want it to be. They say if you can dream it you can make it happen. Let's do it. Let's dream and set the goals that will make 2022 the best we can make it.

Pilot Member Contribution:

You asked at the Nov. 13 meeting for members to contribute a personal statement as to what being a Pilot means to them to put in the newsletter. Here is my reply:

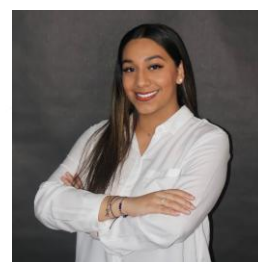
“Pilot has become new heartbeat for me; a connection through Anchor Club service to our community and friendships with my new Pilot sisters. I had not ever heard of the Southern Scholarship Foundation until I became a Pilot & Anchor, and now a whole new dimension has evolved in my work with juniors and seniors in my high school. I look forward to rewarding service projects ahead and new life-long friendships.”

Leigh Anne Page



Sabrina Quijada FSU

Lavern Weddle Pilot Scholarship House



I'm from Miami, Florida, and my dream job is to become a dentist. After graduating this upcoming Fall semester, I plan to move back to Miami in pursuit of a dental career. I have always been passionate about helping others and making them feel comfortable, that is why I believe a career in the medical field will be a perfect fit for me. I have always been extremely passionate about school, and I am incredibly grateful to be pursuing my bachelor's degree at the Florida State University, something that would not be possible for me without Southern Scholarship Foundation. I cannot thank this foundation enough for providing me with the opportunity to further my education at one of the top public universities in the nation. SSF has inspired me to go above and beyond in all aspects of my life, while treating everyone I meet with the utmost respect. With my future at the forefront of my mind, I am constantly working towards my professional aspirations by not only studying, but learning through hands-on experience. I currently have a dental assistant internship with Aspen Dental here in Tallahassee, and I look forward to applying the skills I have learned in the real world. I am beyond excited for what my future holds; however, I would be lying if I said my departure from SSF won't be bittersweet. I am forever grateful for the friends I have made and the experiences I have endured during my time at SSF. If I had to select a favorite memory from my three years at

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Pilot, it would have to be our house trip to Panama City Beach. This weekend getaway was the perfect opportunity for us girls to truly come together and unite as a house, and I will never forget all of our laughter and smiles. Our house trips were always a success, but Panama City Beach was certainly one to remember. I want to thank SSF for providing me with a home away from home, I will cherish these memories for the rest of my life, and I look forward to keeping in contact with those who have truly had an impact on my character.



Tamara Sonera
Laverne Weddle
Pilot Scholarship House

Greetings! I am a current second-year student at Florida State University majoring in social work with minors in psychology and education. I was born on the beautiful island of Puerto Rico and moved to Jacksonville, Florida, at the age of 4. I am currently the Media Coordinator for the LaVerne Weddle Pilot Scholarship House. Life at SSF has allowed me to pursue my dreams of attaining a higher education without financial burdens. Over my past three semesters at SSF, I have had the opportunity to learn and live with so many amazing people! As a first-generation college student and the only person in my family who has been afforded the opportunity to attend college, I hope to give back to my community by actively working to dismantle educational disparities.

I have always been passionate about helping others and aiding my community in a way that eliminates systemic barriers. During high school, I participated in a vocational program that focused on Early Childhood Education. I was able to work as a preschool teacher in Title 1 schools for four years. Through my experiences working with children and families in schools, I discovered my passion for advocating for educational equity and wrap-around services for students. After completing my bachelor's in social work, I hope to pursue a combined Master's in Social Work and Public Policy.

In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with my friends and discovering new places in Tallahassee! Balancing academics and social life has been a huge part of my undergraduate experience and success. On a daily, I enjoy distressing by watching Netflix, baking, and taking occasional and well-needed naps! Moving forward, I hope to discover new hobbies and be able to travel to new places. Traveling is something that I have learned to love as it opens your eyes to new experiences and cultures. So, far I have traveled to many Caribbean islands and Mexico. In the future, I plan to travel abroad to expand my experiences.

"It's more than a Scholarship. ...it's an education for life"



Thank you Lisa Heil for contributing articles on Tamara & Sabrina

Gresham Kite Pilot Scholarship House at FGCU- Danarria Stone

I have been really busy with my last semester. For Thanksgiving, only one person will be staying but they will be going to a friends for Thanksgiving day so we are good on that end. We also had our mini "Friendsgiving" last Wednesday and I'll send a mini flyer by tomorrow with an update for the board. A'zhane sent out individual thank you cards to a few Pilot clubs, not sure if they have reached you all.

I will check in with A'zhane about the wish list, I no longer send those in so I'll have her resend it to you so you are sure which one is the correct and updated one. We still have not used our gift cards yet! The last time we fully used our gift cards were about a year ago and we had a brought an air flyer, Ninja blender, and new pillows and rug from Home Goods.

The sign was put it and we thank y'all a bunch for that! I'll be able to get a picture once everyone returns from the Thanksgiving break. The bikes are still good but the ladies aren't using them too often but they are in great condition. We miss you all so much! ♥



Member Pilot Club of Naples
Cpl. Mike Nelson

Winter (Tourist) Season and Safety Thoughts

Pilot Club of Naples member: Cpl. Mike Nelson

It's that time of year in Southwest Florida when all of our seasonal visitors are returning to their winter homes. Visitors are returning to an area that has consistently been voted one of the top places in the country to live, vacation and retire, thanks to our proximity to theme parks, the beauty and history of our state and, of course, our world class beaches, boating, and resorts. Not to mention the fabulous weather.

So what does any of that have to do with bicycling? Everything! Our streets become heavily trafficked. Trails and walkways get more crowded. And the numbers of our pedestrian, bicycling, skating, and other wheeled transportation sources that are out and about skyrocket. This increase in traffic of all types can lead to frustration and anger as we try to navigate to our desired destinations.

The majority of bicycle/vehicle crashes occur during the busy winter months and taper off in June. The lowest risk occurs around August. Predictably, most crashes happen when roads are busiest: weekdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Bike accidents in Southwest Florida are in the triple digits September through May. We all need to work together to fix this. Everyone needs to take responsibility for making it safer. I cannot count the number of times I have seen a group of 10 or more riders blow through a red light to make a right turn, or ignore a stop sign at a four-way intersection. These types of riding behaviors are dangerous and inexcusable. Worse yet, on at least two of the occasions the group that violated the rules had their ride captains and safety officers with them.

Most of our riding groups are safe and courteous and follow the rules. If your group is guilty of breaking the

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 rules of the road, then you need to stop it immediately. It is dangerous and potentially fatal. Also, remember that if you ride on the roadway, you fall under the same rules as a vehicle on the road.

If you are using a pathway or sidewalk, you are governed by the rules for pedestrians, including not crossing until you have a right to do so (green light, or green crossing light, or the right of way). Also, remember that pedestrians have the right of way over a bicycle on a sidewalk. Pedestrians move slower, and are not as fast or agile as someone on wheels. It is your responsibility to yield to pedestrians.

Lastly, if you are riding a bike in a parking lot, act like a vehicle. Don't speed through, going opposite of traffic, weaving in and out around cars, and cutting through parking spaces. Remember, not all injuries are physical and many riders and drivers can tell you stories of being frightened after a near accident, or of an injury from a careless rider or driver. It takes all of us to help keep the numbers of accidents and injuries low. For the greatest part we riders are not the cause, but we are all responsible for safety.

Ride well, be safe, wear a helmet every time you are on wheels, maintain yourself and your equipment, and enjoy the best of what your area and friends have to offer.



We support the Project Lifesaver Program with the Collier County Sheriff's Office.



Anchor motto:
Impressions for Life Service and Friendship



Cape Coral High School Anchors are generous and giving. They have fun doing it too.



Anchor and Socktober Success.

We were scheduled to present our 1,000 pairs of socks to Hearts & Homes for Veterans. However, CCHS Anchor Club presented 1,103 pairs of new socks to Hearts & Homes for Veterans in Ft. Myers on Giving Tuesday, November 30, 2021. Socks were collected during "SOCKtober", counted, sorted and boxed to deliver to the very grateful directors of H& H, who will be stuffing Christmas Goodie Bags for veterans with useful and needed items such as food, personal hygiene items, Christmas decorations and SOCKS. Many pairs will also be donated to the Homeless Shelter for Vets in conjunction with the Christmas gift give-aways. Anchors enjoyed burgers, fries and shakes afterwards and

discussed our future collaborations with H&H and the distribution of other needed items that most of us take for granted.

The gift of GIVING was touching for Anchors; it was a heartfelt presentation received with grateful hearts and tearful handshakes.

"It is SO wonderful to see teenagers work so hard for this donation; we are truly moved by this generosity," says Director David Santini.

Anchors are looking forward to our **SleighRide for Hunger** in December. Our goal is 500 lbs. of nonperishable food items for the Cape Coral Caring Center. We "CAN" do this!!

Dear Pilots,
 Please know that I am thinking of each of you this holiday season while I am finally with my family after almost two years. Enjoy your families, make memories and have fun. We have all been through a lot these last couple of years, but we survived! I am thankful for that for each of you and me, too!

Best wishes, Joan Hurd



Because Joan will be away for a long time, this picture will help us all to remember her. If she doesn't return, we know how to find her and get her back! Disguise won't



work.

DONATE
FOUNDERS
Fund Giving to Pilot
 International's Founders Fund
 helps to support the ABC
 initiatives of Pilot.

**Feed the Bucket for the Pilot
 Bucket Brigade Parade at District.**



**Each Florida Pilot Club received a
 Bucket at Fall Council. . .**

**Pass it around at your club
 meetings, neighborhood, etc. Share
 it with your club and family
 members. Fill it with cash coins
 and checks for the new scholarship
 house on the campus of Florida
 Gulf Coast University. We have
 until April 29th for the District
 Meeting. Please count the money
 and write a check for the total
 from your club. Our treasurer will
 be thankful and it will be easier
 and faster for her to give us a
 report on the total amount raised.
 Every little bit counts to fulfill our
 commitment for the 5th Pilot
 Scholarship House. We can do
 this. Who knows, we may even be
 able to dream up a special prize
 for the club challenge.**

**Thank you for always stepping up
 for the PSHF. You can be so
 proud to be a part of this amazing
 District Project serving the
 additional 17 students in this new
 house added to the 77 in our four
 current houses Thank you.**



Mail

We received three wonderful letters from a residents living in three of the Pilot Scholarship Houses. Below are just a few words from each of the letters. You are encouraged to read them at our next meeting. They will help you to know the Pilot Scholarship House Foundation is making a difference to those we serve.

Living in the Laverne Weddle Pilot Scholarship House, **Emma Quaid** is a Sophomore studying elementary education at FSU. "I would like to thank you for not only helping me financially, but also for helping to provide me with a great support system and community.

Alaina Caldwell is a freshman at Santa Fe College in Gainesville majoring in Biology. "When I first came to the Mary Ellen Thomas Pilot Scholarship House, I knew that this was my home."

Emilee Alise Perry writes that she is a first year graduate student at Florida Gulf Coast University, Marieb College of Health & Human Services. She is currently working on her masters in School Counseling and is living in the Gresham Kite Pilot Scholarship House at Florida Gulf Coast University.



Concerns

Nicole Rennie
 Surgery on her foot injury
 Dec. 17th at NCH

Anniversary

Bessie and Ralph – Dec. 24th
 50 years! Congratulations

Bessie Brown at the Culvers November Share Night talking about Pilot



I just wanted to make Pilots know that **DECEMBER 3rd** is International Disabilities Day. Let's help someone with disabilities. Remember it doesn't have to be a physical disability. It would be a good time to carry a care package with books, puzzles, etc to someone grieving or with disabilities. So many are lonely during this season.



Wishing you all a most wonderful Holiday with family and friends. May you and yours be healthy and happy. For all you do for Pilot and the Pilot Scholarship House Foundation, I sincerely thank you. Blessings to each of you.

Sue Lester – Newsletter Editor
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www.PilotClubofNaples.org

www.pilotflorida.org.

www.PilotInternational.org

