



NAPLES PILOT LIGHT

PILOT INTERNATIONAL CELEBRATING 100
YEARS! Pilot Club of Naples
Celebrating 64 years of service.

Membership Dues –Due in June!

JUNE 2023

Do More, Care More, Be More!

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

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

The Florida District's Vision: To serve by furthering Pilot International's humanitarian efforts through charitable, educational and research programs.

June Calendar

June 3, 2023 – World Bicycle Day
June 5-June 11, 2023 – Bike Week
June 8, 2023 – Pilot Club Meeting at Perkins - 6PM
June 6, 2023 – Anniversary of D Day
June 11, 2023 – National Children's Day
June 15, 2023 – Pilot Club Dues Date
June 18, 2023 – Father's Day
June 19, 2023 – Juneteenth Day
June 29 - July 1st PI Convention Bellview
June 29 – Culver's Share Night

Pilot Club of Naples Officers

President	Bessie Brown
Vice President	Sue Lester
Secretary	Ralph Brown
Treasurer	Robert Patton
Director	Harriet Patton

2023-2024 Florida District Officers

Governor	Barbara Keck
Governor-Elect	Missy Ridgway
Secretary	Claire Mikko
Treasurer	Chlotte Edenfield
Lt. Governor	Amanda Valdespino
Lt. Governor	Sharon Nooney
ECR	Joseph Cunningham

Project Lifesaver

Our program meeting speaker, Angela Larson representing Project Lifesaver of the Collier Sheriff's Office received a Pilot Foundation check from Treasurer Robert Patton.



Last Thursday of each month

Next Share Night at **Culver's Restaurant**. 8940 Sage Ave. Naples, FL 34120 **From 5 to 8 pm**. Our table showcases what Pilot is and does for our community. Culver's donates to support our Pilot efforts. Our Pilot Club members volunteer to visit with customers at the Pilot information table. Our Pilot Club table displays everything about Pilot and it is fun to visit with the children with our "Brain Minders" puppets and talk about Bike Safety and helmets. We are pleased to have the Pilot Scholarship House residents join us for Share Nights. Mark your calendar and plan to volunteer..

Pilot First Saturday. .Pilot International is the First Saturday of every month. Wear your Pilot shirt to show your Pilot Pride!! Then post your pictures to your social media platforms using the hashtag #PILOTFIRSTSATURDAY-----

Survey conducted by AmeriCorps: 60.7 million people volunteered.

- 40.1 billion hours were contributed by volunteers.
 - \$122.9 billion was the economic value contributed by volunteers.
- Volunteers are the lifeblood of every organization, and we celebrate and thank all who volunteer to make our world a better place!



Pilot Club member and past President of Pilot International Connie Moore performed the installation of the 2023 – 2024 Pilot Club of Naples officers at the April meeting. At Perkin's, Bessie Brown was installed the new President of the club.



2023 – 24 Pilot Club of Naples Executive Board: Robert Patton, Treasurer; Harriet Patton, Director; Bessie Brown, President; Sue Lester, Vice President and Ralph Brown, Secretary.



Pilot member, Harriet Patton and friends/sorority members honored Bessie at the installation with lovely flowers.

ANCHOR The Anchor Club of Cape Coral High project shown is to assemble Child Safety Kits for the Sept. 11th Missing Children's Day.



The future of Pilot is in our Youth and Young Adults, our Anchors and Scholarship House Residents. It is our commitment to support them the best we can.



The new Anchor Florida District officers installation was held at the Pilot Florida District Convention.

Pilot Club of Naples Membership Invite one person to a club meeting for them to see what Pilot is. . . People don't know about Pilot and what we do. The only way they could know is for you to invite them to a meeting. We will pick up the cost of their dinner. Let's work on making this a wonderful meeting. We plan to have a speaker and meet at Perkin's on Pine Ridge Road in the private room at 6 PM. We ask that you confirm with Sue (239.375.0554) on how many to plan on. That is so we can have the room set up without the confusion of moving the tables when they arrive. Make plans to attend and bring someone. . . or two Did you know that it is a fact that people who volunteer and belong to a service organization live longer and are healthier than those who do not. Share the joy of serving the community with our time, our support and care. We support 4 Pilot Scholarship Houses & residents We support the Safe & Healthy Children's Coalition. We offer Bike Safety Rodeos, Puppet Presentations and provide Bike Helmets to schools, after school programs, churches, day care facilities, parks and recreation programs, etc. We support our Anchors. .

We are Proud Pilot Members .

From Bessie Brown, President



Florida District Pilot International

The Florida District of Pilot International was organized in 1927 and chartered on April 2, 1928. The Florida District has 28 clubs. During our recent Florida District Convention, Barbara Keck was elected as Governor. Our Lt. Governor is Amanda Valdespino. The new Governor-Elect is Missy Ridgway from the Pilot Club of Ocala. Please keep Barbara Keck in our prayers. She was recently hospitalized for ongoing health issues. Please start preparing for our District Fall Council in Melbourne, Florida – October 13-15, 2023.

President Message - Straight From the Heart

May was a busy and exciting month. It was full of joyful activities. Our club opened our month with a great presentation on Alzheimer's Disease and its effects. There are more than 10 million new cases of dementia each year world-wide. This implies that there is one new case every 3.2 seconds. Many families have been embarrassed when a loved one is diagnosed. They don't know how to deal with the illness and often choose to simply keep their family member away from others. However, when the disease is diagnosed early. There are steps to slow down the pace of the disease and there are also steps to use to help understand and work with people who have this disorder. June is Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month. To that end, our presentation done in conjunction with Project Lifesaver and Collier County Sheriff's Department and the Alzheimer's Support Network, we were offer information to about the illness and pledge our support for these programs. These presentations were made by Angela Larson from Project Life Saver and Community Services Department of Collier County Sheriff's Department and Marianne Troy of the Alzheimer's Support Network.

We also participated in two helmet fittings in Ave Maria. During this time, we were able to partner with the Ave Maria Home Owners Association and the local Veteran's Association. This allowed us the opportunity to fit 97 helmets and to inform the community about the work we do to serve others.

We also participated in services for our 50 year member, Ruth Fralick. She was a beacon of light in our club and our community. She was instrumental making our club an active force in helping others. She was active in all of our programs until she moved from the area for health reasons six months before her death. Because of her commitment to the Pilot Scholarship House Foundation, her family asked that, in lieu of flowers, that we donate to the Pilot Scholarship House Foundation. The scholarship house at FGCU is called The Gresham Kite Scholarship House. Ruth was truly our yellow rose who represented the heart of Pilot.

Our Anchor Club at Cape Coral High School High School, under the leadership of Leigh Ann Page, has a huge project serving all of the elementary students in Lee County Schools. They started their work on May 18th. They are making Child Safety Kits to distribute to these students that will also provide guidance and a DNA sample to assist in finding missing children. This is such an exciting project and we're fully supportive of this effort. Special thanks to Leigh Ann for dedicating her time and effort to this project and all of the work that they do each year.

Suzanne Lester, a Naples Pilot member of 38 years, was honored for her leadership of the Pilot Scholarship House Foundation. We are so appreciative of her and all of her hard work not only with the scholarship house but for her work and dedication to our club. She is one of our greatest heartbeats.

Pilots, June brings many celebrations of new graduates and new jobs. It also brings new challenges to us each day; but our love and commitment to service makes each day special. We care and we use our efforts to serve others. Let us continue to serve and become heartbeats of our community.



GKP Scholarship House residents supported the Great Naples Duck Race April 1st. They sold 50/50 tickets at the Pilot table. The Pilot Club of Naples sponsors the event to benefit the Safe & Healthy Children’s Coalition. Funds as a result of the adoption of the rubber ducks in the race provide swimming lessons and drowning prevention programs. Each of the residents were given a duck adoption and 50/50 tickets and lunch. We sincerely appreciate the girls help. Construction is progressing on the Malthouse Pilot Scholarship House on the FGCU campus. We have already sent a \$100,000 check as part of our \$160,000 commitment. That finishes the inside of the new house with beds, couches, etc. Now we need to stock the kitchen. SSF has given us a list and the cost is not too much. Our plan is to use our tax-free Amazon account for purchases to ship to the Gresham Kite house to hold until needed. We will use funds available for Malthouse in the PSHF treasury and now ask for our Florida Pilot clubs to step forward once again. Your generosity always results in success for this extraordinary organization. A donation of \$40 per club, and a kitchen towel as well, should set us on the way to provide a fully stocked kitchen for this new house. We are truly amazed what our Pilot members can do. Thank you.



Be Positive and Supportive and **#SpreadPilotSunshine**. Laugh at your mistakes but learn from them. Be kind to all, even those who maybe don’t reciprocate, because as my Mother would say to me, they need it the most! Kindness matters.

“This life is yours”

Take the power to choose what you want to do and do it well.

Take the power to love what you want in life and love it honestly.

Take the power to walk in the forest and be a part of nature.

Take the power to control your own life. No one else can do it for you.

Take the power to make your life happy.” Susan Polis Schutz (from Jean Brown May, PI Inspirational Leader)

Pilot District Convention was held April 14 – 16 at the Embassy suites in Altamonte Springs. Bessie and Ralph Brown attended. Sue Lester also was there representing our Club and the Pilot Scholarship House Foundation. Shown below are Sue Lester as President of the PSHF carrying the Pilot Scholarship House Foundation banner and Ralph Brown carrying the Pilot Club of Naples banner in the “parade of club banners”. This is a long time tradition allowing those attending to see the clubs represented in the Florida District of PI.



New Governor Barbara Keck announced her appointments. Bessie Brown, our President is on the far right.



2023-2024 Florida District Officers were elected and installed at the District Convention Saturday evening dinner. From left to right are Barbara Keck, Governor, Melissa Ridgeway, Governor Elect, Claire Mikko, Secretary, Charlotte Edenfield, Treasurer and Amanda Valpraisio, Lt Governor.

Our Cares and Concerns: The family of Ruth Fralick - Bob Patton recovering and Mike Nelson .



Ruth at 1976 District Convention



Our Ruth Fralick, 50 year member of the Pilot Club of Naples passed away April 25th. This was the year for her to celebrate with her Pilot International 50 Year pin at the District Fall Council meeting in Melbourne in October. With the help of her son, David and Pilot International headquarters, Ruth has the pin that she was looking forward to receiving. The Pilot Club of Naples has never had a 50 year member and it is a very special honor. David Fralick has been very supportive of the Pilot Club and pledged that he will continue to help where ever he can. Ruth was an amazing member and will be deeply missed at every meeting and event. The service was held at Moorings Presbyterian Church. Sue Lester was asked to speak on Ruth’s dedication and service in Pilot. The traditional single yellow rose representing Pilot friendship and service was given at the church and placed in the flower on the casket when it left the church. Previous members of the club Judy Glover and Marilyn Lewis also attended the service,



Joe and Robin Belenger, two very special friends of the Pilot Club of Naples! They attend our Pilot Share Nights at Culvers and we are always glad to see them. They attend our events and even the installation of officers during the Pilot Meeting. We are looking forward to the day when they are ready to join and become members of the club.

When you visit Culvers on Immokalee Road, let them know how much we appreciate their support of the Pilot Club of Naples. Plan to join us on the last Thursday of each month. Pilot Share Nights are the best community awareness/fund raising events. This is a photo of the Culver's team with a special visitor.

Who can answer this question? Do you recognize the visitor on the far left with manager, Jack?



Gresham Kite Pilot Scholarship House After enjoying a delightful home-cooked meal, a group of girls attended a campus event to get free boba and exchanging funny stories. It was a much needed break from studying and they all left feeling more connected.



Photo was taken May 23rd. The construction of the new Pilot Scholarship House is progressing steadily, with the workers putting in long hours working to ensure the project is completed for 17 new residents to move in. It was my honor to serve at the President of the Pilot

Scholarship House Foundation for two terms. The Board of Officers were dedicated and worked very hard to move the best district project forward building the 5th house. We are making a difference that will affect the future of the residents who are fortunate to qualify to live rent free pursuing their dreams. Thank you for your support. We are looking forward to the dedication celebration at the new Malthouse Pilot Scholarship House.

Suzanne Lester

Contributions to our Newsletter from the Gresham Kite Pilot Scholarship House Residents:

Thursday, February 9th

As part of its Multicultural Meals week, the GKP House residents had the chance to prepare and enjoy cuisine from other cultures, such as Chicken Cabbage Soup, Shrimp Pad



Thai, and Spicy Korean Chicken.

Monday, February 13th Emilee, the House Manager at GKP Scholarship House, drew the Valentine's Day Raffle Basket winner, and the prize goes to Jody Van Cooney. Our sincere thanks go to everyone who donated and participated in the raffle. We hope to host a Valentine's Basket every year from now on.



Outreach Moments

Eagle Expo - As part of the Eagle Expo on February 18th, GKP provided information about the Southern

Scholarship Foundation and the GKP Scholarship House to prospective FGCU students. During their



conversation with over 50 future Eagles and their families, the girls discussed what it was like to live in a communal environment and how the house offered leadership opportunities.

Cape Coral High School -

Emilee, GKP House Manager, visited Cape Coral High School, spoke with students about SSF, and answered questions about the scholarship house.



Thursday, February 23rd : Gresham Kite Pilot Scholarship House residents participating in Culver's Night with Pilot Club of Naples to help raise funds for the Great Naples Duck Race on Saturday, April 1st at Sugden Regional Park.



Volunteering for the Culver's Share Night to benefit the Pilot Club of Naples

L to R: Amanda Catania, Rosa Espinoza, Brianna Martinez and Tianna Henry, GKP Scholarship House residents worked the Share Night at Culvers for the Pilot Club of Naples. We always enjoy the girls and so do the Culvers customers.

Websites:
www.PilotClubofNaples.org
www.pilotflorida.org
www.PilotInternational.org

