



NAPLES PILOT LIGHT

Pilot Club of Naples News
PILOT INTERNATIONAL CELEBRATING 100

OCTOBER 2023

Do More, Care More, Be More!

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

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

Pilot Club Meeting

**Next meeting October 19th
6 PM Perkins.**

2023-24 Pilot Club Officers

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

2023-24 Florida District Officers

Governor	Jonda Erwin
Governor-Elect	Missy Ridgeway
Secretary	Claire Mikko
Treasurer	Charlotte Edenfield
Lt. Governor	Amanda Valdespino
Lt. Governor	Georgia Reed
ECR	Lisa Palmquist

2023-2024

Pilot International President
Holly Baker



Always a reminder

Websites:

www.PilotClubofNaples.org
www.pilotflorida.org
www.PilotInternational.org

The District Administrative Council (DAC) is pleased to Announce we have filled the position of 2023-2024 Governor. There were several past District Governors that offered to fill the Governor's position for the remainder of the Pilot year. However, many of these past District Governors are also serving in other positions at the District, International or club levels this year. Being the only viable candidate without other commitments, Jonda Erwin has been elected to the position of 2023-2024 Governor by acclamation.

The Pilot International Bylaws state that in the absence of the Governor the Governor Elect can step up to fulfill the rest of that year. However, the Bylaw also states that 6 months service in one office will constitute a full term served. Even though Missy is willing to step up to this position for the District, she would have to forfeit the 2024-2025 year as Governor with the understanding that she would have already served more than 6 months during the 2023-2024 year as Governor. The bigger issue with this option is that per the Bylaws, Missy as Gov. would have to appoint a Governor Elect to fill that vacancy for the rest of the 2023-2024 year and that Governor Elect would automatically become Governor in 2024-2025. As a result of this, the District membership would not have a vote in selecting their Governor for 2024-2025. Missy has also begun lining up the 2024-2025 Appointees, many of which are new Appointees that hopefully will be willing to move up to District Leadership in the future.

If Missy serves as Governor during the 2023-2024 year, then those Appointees will not be able to serve. Due to these circumstances, the DAC felt it was in the best interest of the Florida District to have a past District Governor serve for the remainder of 2023-2024 term.

Thank you to the Past District Governors for offering your services once again and to the Florida Pilots for your patience as we worked through the best option for the District moving forward this year.

In Pilot friendship, Florida District Pilot International
Your District Administrative Council



Barbara Keck will be missed.



Installation of 2023 District Officers: left to right Jonda Erwin, Barbara Keck, Claire Mikko, Missy Ridgeway, Connie Jones, Amanda Valdespino.

THINGS TO KNOW AND THINGS TO REMEMBER. . . Oct 4th -Robert Patton's Birthday

October 8th – Naples Pilot Club Tour of Guadalupe Center

Also, Emergency Response or Matching Grant Applications deadline to Gail Hill

October 12th Pilot Club Meeting at 6 PM

October 13, 14 and 15th – Fall Council Florida District in Melbourne

October 15th – PIFF Grant Applications due to Pilot International

October 18th – Pilot International 102nd Birthday and “Founder’s Day”

October 21st – Naples Pilot Club Helmet Fitting – Ave Maria Fall Festival

October 25th – Wave articles/pictures due to Wave Editor, Leslie at pilotwavefl@gmail.com

October 26th – Naples Pilot Club Share Night at Culver’s on Immokalee Road 5 to 8 PM

Fall Council – Items needed to the “Grab Bags”:

100 bags of Chips \$18 at Sam’s 200 small candy bars (Halloween size) 100 personal size Kleenex

100 cups of applesauce Breakfast bars Bags will be provided. Please donate what you can and bring to the October 12th Club Meeting. Assembly of the bags is scheduled during the meeting.



We always enjoy the Culver's Share Nights when the residents of the Scholarship House join us. Emilee, Brianna, Tiana, Liz and Vanessa, all residents of the Gresham Kite Pilot Scholarship House on the campus of Florida Gulf Coast University shared in September.

Pilot Club of Naples Secretary, Ralph Brown shared helmets at Culver's Share Night . . .September 28th.



The **September Pilot Club** meeting was a very special one with initiation of new members and special guests. Five representatives from Guadalupe Center and Shannon Livingston from Sunlight Home of Collier County. Each talked briefly about their mission. Initiation of Valerie and Bill Alexson and Barbara Powell followed. Peg Reiley was unable to attend and we look forward to seeing her at the next meeting for her initiation. We are so proud to have these important people become members of our Club.



Susan Berg attended the September meeting and announced that she will return as a member. Susan was a long time member and helmet fitter for us at many events. We are pleased to see her return. Joe and Robin Belanger have been attending meetings and helmet fittings. Hopefully, they will become members soon.

October – A Time To Celebrate

October is a month of celebrations for all Pilots. It is the month that we celebrate the founding of Pilot International which was created 102 years ago by a group of 40 women led by Elizabeth Leonard united to serve their communities in spirit and in love. They chose the name Pilot because they were inspired by the mighty riverboat pilots of that day who represented leadership and guidance. We will be celebrating all month long. But at our October meeting, we will try to recreate our history with a “Roaring 20’s “ theme. Remember to wear your hats, dresses etc. to get in the spirit of the 20’s.

We are influencing positive change in communities throughout the world. To that end, we will begin our Florida Project of collecting socks for programs in our community. We have set a lofty goal of collecting 2500 pairs to socks to serve the residents of Friendship House in Immokalee and the Migrant Program. This initiative is called the “Sock It To Me” Project. We’re so excited to provide this for our community.

Five Pilots will be attending The Florida District Fall Council, October 13-15, 2023 in Melbourne, Florida. Hopefully, we will get new and exciting programs to help our community. October is also leadership month. Let’s celebrate our local leadership by being beacons of light in our community. To that end, we will continue our support of Project Life Saver and our Sheriff’s Department and make more people aware of our community services.

As we enter this fall season, let us remember those who are fighting breast cancer and are cancer survivors. More and more women and men have become long term survivors. Let us celebrate their victories – not only by donating to their research programs; but by becoming proactive with our health.

October is exciting. We’re now in the fall season. Although our weather does not allow us to see changing colors of fall, we can celebrate this change of season by committing to do more and be more for our community.

“ Every man and woman is born into the world to do something unique and something distinctive and if he or she does not do it, it will never be done.” Let’s be the ones to get things done – not to seem; but to be.

Let us celebrate life!

Serving my community with love and service,
Bessie Brown, President

Supervisor of Elections Charles Miller, Election Worker Coordinator has sent us notice of registration for the Adopt A Precinct Program. The Pilot Club of Naples has participated in this program as a fundraising project for over 15 years. We will be contacted later in the year regarding staffing and training. Members of the Club and urged to consider volunteering. The only qualification is that the volunteers are registered voters in Collier County and willing to work the polls on voting days. The volunteers are not required to be members of the Club, so you can recommend someone.



Malthouse Pilot House. . . Plans are underway for the dedication of the new house. Watch for the updates. The Pilot Club of Naples will be involved.

House “wish Lists” for each of the scholarship houses will be available soon. The newest PSHF campaign “DRESSer FOR SUCCESS” will be presented at Fall Council.

The Southern Scholarship House Foundation is our partner in the Pilot Scholarship House Foundation efforts. Without the SSHF we would not be able to offer this outstanding Pilot District Program. They take care of all the aintenance and purchasing, etc. For example, when an airconditioner fails, a pipe breaks or any malfunction, Who are you gonna’ call? The Southern Scholarship House Foundation, that’s who! They are responsible for the entire construction project of the new 5th Pilot House. We, as Florida District Pilot members have raised funds and we are assigned to provide support where it is needed. 2023 has been an exciting year and we will see the finished house and the sign posted Malthouse Pilot Scholarship House next to the Gresham Kite Pilot House. Joan Midgett has volunteered to arrange the Grand Opening Dedication of the house. Plan to attend when the date is set.



There is a new logo for the Southern Scholarship House Foundation. The new logo brings several concepts together. House: Housing, Tree: Residents’ growth, Base Alumni, donors’ and partners support. “ A living and learning opportunity”

Guadalupe Tour-October 8th, Bessie will send the details.