

THE GOVERNOR'S BULLETIN



VOL 90 ISSUE 1

**TEXAS DISTRICT
PILOT**

JULY 2026

What an honor it is to write my first article to you as Governor of the Texas District of Pilot International! I am excited, grateful, and just a little surprised that no one changed the locks before I arrived.



July marks more than just the heart of summer, it's our fresh starting line. While the sun is high and the days are long, July 1st quietly ushers in a brand-new year for Pilots. That means new goals, new energy, and yes... new opportunities to shine (preferably with sunscreen on).

As leaders, this is our moment to set the tone for the year ahead. Positivity is contagious (in the best possible way), and optimism is a powerful leadership tool. When challenges arise, and we know they will, how we respond defines our Club's culture. Choose encouragement. Choose solutions. And occasionally, choose to laugh, especially when things don't go exactly as planned. Because let's be honest, if everything always went perfectly, we'd have nothing to talk about at meetings.

So, as we step into this new year:

- Revisit your goals.
- Reignite your passion.
- Reach out to someone new.
- And remember why you started.

Thank you for the trust you have placed in me. I look forward to traveling across our great state, meeting more of our members, and celebrating the incredible work being done throughout Texas. Here's to a fantastic Pilot year ahead; full of service, friendship, and maybe just a little sleep deprivation. Now go out there and lead like it's July-bright, bold, and full of possibility.

Joanne Patterson

*Texas District
Pilot International 2026-2027
District Administrative Council
(DAC)*

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Greetings, Pilots!

My name is Brenda Steelman and I am honored and delighted to serve as the 2026-2027 Governor-Elect. I love everything Pilot and I love making quilts every chance I get to sew!

**In Pilot Friendship and Service,
Brenda Steelman
Governor-Elect**



My name is Laura McGinnis, and I currently serve as Lieutenant Governor of the Texas District. I have been a member of Pilot for seven years and am a charter member of the Pilot Club of Lake Houston, where I serve as treasurer.

Originally from Kentucky, I have been married to my husband, Jerry, for 27 years. We have two sons, Conner and Riley, who are 25 and 21 years old. Our family also includes an adorable dog named Camille.

After many years as a stay-at-home mom, I now work part-time in a hospital gift shop. I enjoy meeting new people and being involved in my community through Pilot.

In my free time, I love traveling, spending time with family and friends, reading, and going to the movies. I am grateful for the friendships and opportunities Pilot has provided and look forward to continuing to serve our organization.



**Laura McGinnis
Lieutenant
Governor**

ALL GOOD THINGS





Hello, Texas Pilot Family!

My name is Jackie Thornton, and I am honored to serve as your 2026-2027 Texas District Lt. Governor. I have been a proud member of Pilot International for 16 years, and I look forward to visiting clubs across our great state, building new friendships, and serving alongside each of you.

Professionally, I have served as the Community Education Coordinator for Harbor Hospice for the past five years. My passion is educating everyone about hospice care while helping people navigate one of life's most difficult journeys with compassion and dignity. I earned my bachelor's degree in social work, with a minor in psychology, from Stephen F. Austin State University. Serving others has always been my calling, which is one of the many reasons Pilot has meant so much, giving me the opportunity to live out that passion through friendship, leadership, and service.

My husband, Glenn, and I have been married for eight years, and share three wonderful children and four amazing grandchildren who keep life full of laughter and joy.

My goal is to encourage and support our clubs, celebrate your accomplishments, and help strengthen the Pilot spirit across Texas. Every act of kindness makes a difference, and I look forward to serving with each of you during the coming year.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve. I cannot wait to see what we carry out together!



With gratitude,
Jackie Thornton
2026-2027 Texas District Lt. Governor

WELCOME TO A NEW PILOT YEAR!

This part of the year is so exciting! The new officers start working together and making plans for a GREAT year. It's always fun to learn new things and have a new start. I hope to see some of you at PI Convention in Oklahoma! It looks like it will be a lot of fun and a good learning experience. Always inspiring, and great to see friends and acquaintances. Plus, the opportunity to make new Pilot friends!



Have a very special 4th of July! 250 years of celebrating!
HUG a VET!!!!

Best wishes,
Kathy Floyd
2026-2027 Texas District Secretary





Hello Fellow Pilots,

I am Becky Taylor of Evening Pilot Club of Baytown and this year I am the Treasurer of the Texas District Pilot Club. This is my second term at this position, and I have learned a lot this past year. I have lived in Baytown for over 35 years, but my heart is in Henderson, Texas where I was born and raised. I am a second generation Texan and proud of it. If you ever need any assistance, don't hesitate to contact me by phone or email. DAC has a great team working for you, remember "Friendship and Service, a Perfect Blend".

**Becky Taylor
Treasurer 2026-2027**



Hi my name is Shelby McKee, I am your Texas District Anchor President for 2026-2027. In my district I am ready to lead with a purpose and enthusiasm. I have always believed that leadership is about more than holding a title. My fellow officers and I all gave service to a TBI camp and that is where we have held our first meeting. During this meeting we discussed what we were planning to bring for the Leadership Summit to highlight the true Texas spirit. We also discussed what to expect at the Leadership Summit. After we thoroughly discussed the International convention, we shifted our focus to our convention where we determined what we should do for breakouts, our theme, slogan, and entertainment. We all agreed on the theme of the 80's with the slogan of "Mixed Tapes". So, cue the neon lights, turn up the boombox, and press play because a new era of Anchor Club leadership has arrived! Our best tracks this season are: service, leadership, and unforgettable memories.



**Shelby McKee
Anchor President**



As one Pilot year comes to a close and another begins, my heart is filled with gratitude for each of you and all we have accomplished together.

This past year, we shared our time, talents, and compassion to make a difference in the lives of others. We celebrated successes, overcame challenges, and strengthened the bonds of friendship that make Pilot so special. Because of your dedication, Pilot International continued to shine as a beacon of service and hope in our communities. As we begin this new Pilot year, I invite each of you to embrace the theme: "Believe in Yourself! Believe in Pilot!"

Believe in yourself—because each of you brings unique gifts, talents, and ideas that make Pilot International stronger. Never underestimate the impact of a kind word, a helping hand, or your willingness to step forward and serve.

Believe in Pilot—because together we are part of something greater than ourselves. For more than a century, Pilot members have changed lives through friendship and service. Our commitment to caring for others continues to create ripples of hope that reach far beyond what we can see.

As we transition into this new year, let us honor the accomplishments of the past while looking forward with confidence and enthusiasm. Please welcome your new ECR and begin to form your relationship with her. She will appreciate the warm greetings. Let us encourage one another, prepare for and welcome new opportunities, and continue building Pilot International where every member feels valued, empowered, and inspired.

Thank you for believing in our mission, in Pilot International, and in one another. I am excited about what we will achieve together in the coming year.

Here's to a year filled with purpose, friendship, service, and the confidence to believe in ourselves and in Pilot.

In Pilot Friendship and Love,

Lisa

***Lisa Palmquist
2025-2026 Pilot International President-Elect***





Hello, Pilots!

My name is Susan Pitts, and I am Past President of the Pilot Club of Baytown. I am truly honored to have been appointed as District Project Coordinator by Governor Joanne. I look forward to collaborating with the Project Coordinators from each Club. In addition to this new role, I serve as the Project Coordinator for my own Club, where we have consistently faced challenges in identifying projects to undertake.



At present, our primary community project is sponsoring the Annual Walk To End Alzheimer's, now in its 29th year. Although we partner with the Alzheimer's Association, our Club members play a very active role in planning and coordinating each year to ensure the event is successful and that we achieve the fundraising goal set by the Alzheimer's Association. In the past, we have also successfully created and delivered fidget mats to local assisted living facilities.

Given that our new Pilot year has begun and my Club has a new President with a fresh perspective, we are committed to find a project in which to participate and I am excited to hear and learn from each Club about their successful projects.

If you serve as your Club's Project Coordinator, please send me your email address and a short description of your favorite or newest project. Be sure to include your Club's name so I can follow your activities on Facebook. I hope we can stay connected throughout the year, share ideas, and learn from one another instead of waiting until District Convention for updates.

Governor Joanne and I will be working together this year to develop a hands-on project for District Convention and potentially Fall Councils.

**My email address is suzcequel0@gmail.com.
I look forward to hearing from you!**

**Susan Pitts
Project Coordinator
[suzcequel0@gmail](mailto:suzcequel0@gmail.com)
281-657-5883**



**Pilot International Convention 2026****◆ Suggested Attire Guide ◆**

July 15-18, 2026 Dress in layers; meeting rooms may be cool. Comfortable footwear is recommended for long convention days.

Day /Event: Wednesday, July 15 Opening Session & Convention Kickoff Business Professional / Business Casual Start convention polished and Pilot-proud! Dresses, skirts, slacks, blouses, jackets, cardigans, and Pilot-branded attire are encouraged.

Thursday, July 16 Business Sessions / Educational Programming Business Professional / Business Casual Another polished daytime look, comfortable shoes are highly recommended because convention cardio is real.

Friday, July 17 (Morning/Daytime) Convention Service Project Pilot T-Shirt from Registration Packet + Casual Bottoms Wear your official convention Pilot tee with neat casual bottoms and comfy shoes as we serve in style!

Friday, July 17 (Later Daytime) Business Sessions / Workshops Business Professional / Business Casual Change after the service project if you'd like, before afternoon programming, not required.

Friday, July 17 (Evening) Pilot IL VE! Friday Night Fun Fun / Festive / Ready-to-Party Attire Think fun, colorful, festive, and comfortable, wear something you can laugh, dance, and bingo in. Sparkle optional, good vibes required.

Saturday, July 18 (Morning) President's Bound to Bloom Breakfast Disney Bounding is encouraged but not required for fun! What is Disney Bounding? See Disney Bounding details below and let your creativity bloom!

Saturday, July 18 (Evening) Installation Banquet - Daisies & Diamonds Formal / Sparkly Evening Wear Bring the glamour! Wear your diamonds, sparkle, sequins, elegant formalwear, and Yes, cowboy boots are welcome. No specific color required...just shine bright.

What is Disney Bounding?

Dress inspired by your favorite Disney characters using color, style, and creativity no costumes required. Bounding is a fashion-forward trend where fans wear everyday clothing not costumes styled to represent specific Disney characters. By using color palettes, fashion, and accessories to evoke a character's essence



Spill the Tea

This section of the newsletter is for Clubs to share their most inspiring events, moments or community successes. The idea is to encourage each other to try new things and brag a little bit when something works. So, submit a picture or two and "spill some tea" with us!



**Pilot Club of
Dallas Installation**

LIFE IN PICTURES



**Pilot Club of
West Chambers
Installation**





Spill the Tea (Continued)



the beautiful moments

*Pilot Club of
Longview
Installation*

*Pilot Club of
Evening Baytown
Installation*





Health, Healing & Remembrance

Inspirational Leader, Karen Hettich

karenhettich@gmail.com



Ann Brewer, PC of San Jacinto, died June 8. Ann had been a Pilot for almost 20 years, holding every office except treasurer. She served as coordinator at a local food bank for several years. She also served her country in the military. Cards may be sent to the family at 12313 Kitty Lane, Houston, TX , 77015.

live life to the fullest



Nan Mosley, PC of Nacogdoches Noon Chapter, died June 10. She had been a Pilot for 44 years. Nan's favorite Pilot projects were the high school scholarships and providing lunch to residents of a memory care facility. Cards may be sent to her daughter, Katy Perry, at 18740 S FM 225, Douglass, TX, 75943.
<https://www.lairdfh.net/obituary/Nannie-Mosley>

Welcome New Pilots!

**Evening Nacogdoches
Chelsey Miller**

**Wharton
Pat Potter
Donna Shimek**

**Winnsboro
Tamala Knisley**





Friendship & Service Opportunities

MOUNTAIN HIGH 2026

If you would like to write letters to the campers who will be attending Mountain High 2026, please email

kellihalexander@gmail.com

and she will forward you a list of campers and their favorite things. The letters need to be to Kelli by the end of August.




YOUTH 100

INTERNATIONAL

ATTENTION

Hello all- you still have time to give to YOUTH 100! By doing so you can fundraise to support programs for our Anchor and Compass clubs at the 2026 Anchor Summit or CompassCon!

With \$100, you can help pour into our Anchor and Compass leaders and that impact is a ripple effect. You will also receive a YOUTH 100 ribbon at Convention. Please note, you do need to give to this "Youth 100 level!" to receive this designation, and you can give over \$100 too! Thank you for your support.

CLICK HERE

DONATE TODAY!

SCAN ME





Submissions for Governor's Bulletin

DUE: 20th of the month

EMAIL TO: klroutree@aol.com

SUBJECT: "Governor's Bulletin" - must be included in Subj Line in email

LIMITS: One or two pictures from Club. Include one or two paragraphs explaining picture. (may be edited for space)



Leading with Heart ♥

To be an effective leader, you must first be willing to do the work yourself. People are far more likely to respect and follow your lead when they know you've stood where they stand and walked the same path. - submitted by Dawn Draper,