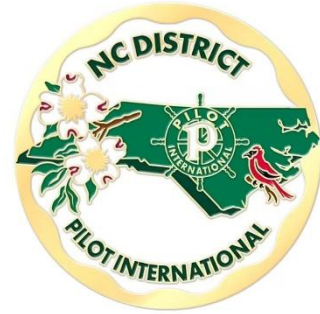


NC Governors Connection
www.pincditrict.org



2026-2027

NC DAC

GOVERNOR

Carole Bulla

dabulla5@yahoo.com

Pilot Club of Asheboro

GOVERNOR-ELECT

Ann Justice

hajji2022@twc.com

Pilot Club of Asheboro

SECRETARY

Elizabeth Deer

Deer7291@gmail.com

Pilot Club of Raleigh

TREASURER

Kimberly Oliver

Kimberlyoliver03@gmail.com

Pilot Club of Greensboro

Message from Your District Governor

Governor's Corner

Be The Change You Wish to See in The World

Hello Pilots!

Can you believe it is August already? Where has the summer gone? It is time for the kids to back to school and the Pilots to get back into the full swing of things! In Pilot Friendship Your DAC has a full slate this year, so get ready.

Pilot International Convention was held in Oklahoma City this year. It was a great and informative convention. President Lisa Palmquest will be awesome this year! We had two first timers this year!

If you have never been to Fall Workshop, then you absolutely don't want to miss this year. It is Sept. 18 and 19 at Crosspointe Baptist Church. Be sure to read closely our flyers to see all the things we are offering this year.

In Pilot Friendship!
Governor Carole



August 15	Plans of Work for Governor
August	Clubs Select PI Ambassador
September	Clubs Recognize PI Ambassador
September 15	Pick Me Up Grants Due
September 18-19	Fall Workshop
April 16-17, 2027,	District Convention
July 14-17, 2027,	PI International Convention

PIFF Message

From your PIFF Representative

Welcome to the 2026-2027 Pilot year! Just a quick reminder that the quarterly grant deadline is September 15th. Do you have a helmet, BrainMinder or Pick Me UP project planned for the fall? Now is the time to request funds from PI. How about that BIG project you have been wanting to do for your community? The matching grant deadline is October 15th. This is the ONLY time to apply for a matching grant. Having difficulty downloading the application from the PI website? Let me know and I will email you a copy.

Bring those PIFF dollars you generously donate back to North Carolina!! Let me know if I can help!

In Pilot service, Amy
ncpilotamy@yahoo.com



Thinking Positive Thoughts Every Day

One of the many books I have cherished over the years is: "Think Positive Thoughts Every Day".
The greatest success in life is to live each day with

As Pilots we can "Inspire a Brighter Outlook on Life" to those around us every day. Who knows who
you will inspire to spread a little "JOY" also.

This is one that I thought would be helpful today.

**"Material wealth definitely has its merits, but it alone
cannot provide the riches of a truly meaningful life.
A truly meaningful life possesses an inherent sense
of both self and purpose.**

**It celebrates truth, love, and freedom and remains
forever appreciative of its blessings.**

**It is a life that gives and cares and makes a difference
in endless poignant ways.**

**It leaves the world a far better and brighter place than
it would have otherwise been.**

**People are often looking for ways to measure the
worth of their lives.**

**The most fortunate among them come to realize that
you need not have the finest education to possess
the greatest wisdom or the biggest bank account to
feel rich beyond measures.**

**For if you are joyful and share your bliss at every
turn, then you walk among the most successful
beings to ever grace this earth. "**

Lynn Keachie

~~~~~

### **Joy, Prayers and Concerns**

**Congratulations to our 2026-2027 NC DAC**

**Pilot Club of Rutherford County**

**Lois Huskey as she continues treatment**

**Foothills Pilot Club**

**Zana Whitmire prayers needed**

**Congratulations to all for a successful  
Pilot International Convention**

**Pat Higgins**

**828-287-4408**

**joggums55@gmail.com**

## LEADING TOGETHER

*Because every Pilot Can Lead!*

**Kathy Rogister**  
Leadership Committee



### **Volunteer Leaders vs. Business Leaders: The Heart of Leading in Pilot**

A new Pilot year often brings members who are stepping into club leadership for the first time. Some may have experience as corporate or business leaders, while others may be serving as volunteer leaders for the first time. This raises an important question: how is leading in Pilot different from leading in a business setting?

Leadership in a business and leadership in a volunteer organization may look similar on the surface, but they are fundamentally different. Business leaders often have the authority to hire, assign responsibilities, evaluate performance, and make decisions that employees are expected to follow. Volunteer leaders, however, lead people who choose to give their time, talents, and energy without financial reward. That requires a different kind of leadership.

In Pilot, leadership is built on relationships rather than authority. Members are not motivated by a paycheck but by a shared desire to make a difference in the lives of others. Because of that, successful Pilot leaders inspire rather than command, encourage rather than criticize, and invite participation rather than demand it. They also understand that they do not know every rule, bylaw, or answer, and that is okay. Good leaders are willing to learn, ask questions, and seek guidance when needed.

Volunteer leaders must recognize that every member brings unique gifts, experiences, and abilities to the club. Some members are natural organizers, others are creative thinkers, dependable workers, welcoming faces, or quiet encouragers. Great Pilot leaders help each member discover where they can contribute most effectively and make them feel appreciated for doing so.

Leading volunteers also requires patience, flexibility, and gratitude. Members have families, careers, health concerns, and many other commitments competing for their time. A wise Pilot leader understands these realities, celebrates every contribution, and creates an atmosphere where people enjoy serving together.

Perhaps the greatest difference is that business success is often measured in profits, while Pilot success is measured in lives touched, friendships strengthened, and communities served. When leaders create a culture of respect, kindness, inclusion, and appreciation, members are more likely to stay engaged and eager to serve.

The best Pilot leaders remember that leadership is not about being in charge—it is about caring for people, bringing out the best in others, and inspiring volunteers to accomplish together what none of us could do alone. That is the kind of leadership that keeps the Pilot spirit alive.



NC District Pilot International



## **Treasurer's Tip: A Budget is a Roadmap**

A budget isn't meant to limit great ideas—it's a tool that helps us plan for them. Before committing to a project or expense, take a moment to see how it fits within your club's budget. Thoughtful planning today helps ensure resources are available tomorrow.

— NC District Treasurer, Kimberly Oliver



## 2026 NC District Pilot Fall Workshop 🍁

Join your fellow Pilots from across the state on September 18–19, 2026, for an inspiring weekend of growth, fellowship, and dynamic learning. Hosted at Cross Point Baptist Church in Concord, NC, this year's workshop features fantastic guest speakers, informative training sessions, and plenty of opportunities to connect and share ideas. Registration is just **\$45**, which conveniently includes your Friday night dinner and Saturday lunch!



### Weekend Highlights



🧠 The "Jeopardy" State Challenge: Get ready to cheer! Three of our outstanding Pilots will go head-to-head in a high-stakes, fast-paced Jeopardy! competition representing their sections of the state. Who will take home ultimate bragging rights?

🎨 The Centerpiece Silent Auction: We are turning our tables into canvases of creativity! Each club is invited to bring one unique centerpiece or gift basket to be displayed and auctioned off.



🛍️ The Pilot Marketplace: Looking to promote your club's fundraising? We are bringing back the Marketplace! Spaces are completely free for clubs wishing to sell crafts, baked goods, or club wares.



### Location & Lodging Info

- **Workshop Venue:** Cross Point Baptist Church
  - 1175 Crosspointe Dr NE, Concord, NC 28025
- **Official Lodging:** Country Inn & Suites
  - 580 Dickens Pl NE, Concord, NC 28025
    - Special room rate of \$119 per night
  - Call **(980) 248-1420** for reservations



# Fall Workshop Fundraising Initiatives



## Get Ready for Two Exciting Fundraisers at the 2026 Fall Workshop!

This year's Fall Workshop will feature two high-energy fundraising activities designed to bring us together while strengthening our District's General Operating Fund. Your participation helps ensure our organization remains stable, agile, and ready to serve our communities.



### Jeopardy! State Challenge

Three of our outstanding Pilot leaders will face off in a friendly Jeopardy-style competition — and YOU decide the winner of the “Most Votes” Award!

#### Meet the Contestants:

- **West:** Desi Harris
- **Center:** Laura Keever
- **East:** Leslie McLaughlin

How to Vote: Voting opens August 1st online. You may also cast your \$5 votes (cash or digital) during Friday workshop registration. Voting closes September 18th at 6:00 PM.

#### Click the link to vote:

Invite your fellow Pilots, friends, family, and colleagues to support your favorite contestant. Every vote helps your section pull ahead!

#### Prizes Awarded to Clubs:

- 1st Place – \$200
- 2nd Place – \$100
- 3rd Place – \$50
- “Most Votes” Award – \$100

All prize money will be donated directly to the winners' local Pilot Clubs.

## **Centerpiece Silent Auction**

We're turning our workshop tables into showcases of creativity! Each club is invited to bring one unique centerpiece or gift basket to display at their table. These centerpieces will serve as the silent auction items for the event.

### **How It Works**

- Each club provides one centerpiece or basket.
- Your item will be displayed at your club's table throughout the workshop.
- Members will place silent-auction bids on the centerpieces during the event.
- All proceeds support our General Operating Fund.

### **Prize**

The club whose centerpiece receives the highest winning bid will earn a \$75 cash prize.

### **Why Your Participation Matters**

Every vote, bid, and contribution helps build a financially strong District capable of hosting high-quality events without financial strain. Together, we are creating a sustainable model that keeps our mission front and center.

Mark your calendars for August 1st when Jeopardy voting begins  
—And let's make this our most impactful Fall Workshop yet!



# ♥ Fall Workshop District Service Project Announcement: Supporting the Baptist Children's Home



This year at Fall Workshop, our District Service Project will support the Baptist Children's Home (BCH) through a cash-only giving model. This modernized approach ensures maximum impact and accessibility for all members.

## Why We Are Moving to Cash Contributions

### Greater Impact:

- Cash allows BCH to use their bulk-purchase contracts, stretching every dollar far beyond retail prices.

### Supports BCH Operations:

- Cash eliminates the need for sorting, storing, and transporting physical items — freeing BCH staff to focus on their mission.

### Accessible for All Members:

- A contribution of \$5 is far more manageable than purchasing a full cart of supplies, ensuring everyone can participate.

### District-Wide Participation:

- Members who cannot attend the Fall Workshop can still contribute, expanding our reach and strengthening our collective impact.

Donations can be made via cash or check during fall workshop on  
**September 18-19, 2026**  
or via Zeffy

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/nc-district-pilot-fall-workshop-registration->  
or

Mail to a check payable to NC District Pilot to: District Treasurer  
Kimberly Oliver, 802 Liberty Drive, Thomasville, NC 27360

*\*A photo with Pilots and the Big Check will be taken at Fall Workshop to commemorate our District's collective support.*



## 2026 NC District Pilot Fall Workshop

*Club Registration Form*



**SEPTEMBER 18-19, 2026**

**Cross Point Baptist Church  
1175 Crosspointe Dr NE  
Concord, NC 28025**

**Pilot Club of** \_\_\_\_\_

| NO | NAME | EMAIL | PHONE | AMOUNT |
|----|------|-------|-------|--------|
| 1  |      |       |       |        |
| 2  |      |       |       |        |
| 3  |      |       |       |        |
| 4  |      |       |       |        |
| 5  |      |       |       |        |
| 6  |      |       |       |        |
| 7  |      |       |       |        |
| 8  |      |       |       |        |
| 9  |      |       |       |        |
| 10 |      |       |       |        |
| 11 |      |       |       |        |
| 12 |      |       |       |        |
| 13 |      |       |       |        |
| 14 |      |       |       |        |
| 15 |      |       |       |        |

Use the Zeffy Link Individual or as club:

**NC District Pilot International Fall Workshop Registration**

**Or mail completed form along with a check payable to NC District Pilot to:  
District Treasurer Kimberly Oliver 802 Liberty Drive, Thomasville, NC 27360**



# 2026 NC DISTRICT PILOT FALL WORKSHOP

**SEPTEMBER 18–19, 2026**

*Scan Here to Register*



- **Workshop Venue:** Cross Point Baptist Church
  - 1175 Crosspointe Dr NE, Concord, NC 28025
- **Official Lodging:** Country Inn & Suites
  - 580 Dickens Pl NE, Concord, NC 28025
    - Special room rate of \$119 per night
  - Call **(980) 248-1420** for reservations



2026 NC District Pilot Fall Workshop

# Marketplace Registration Form

**SEPTEMBER 18–19, 2026**

Cross Point Baptist Church  
1175 Crosspointe Dr NE  
Concord, NC 28025

**Pilot Club of** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Person:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Description of items to be sold:** \_\_\_\_\_

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Use the Zeffy Link :

[NC District Pilot International Fall Workshop & Marketplace Registration](#)

**Or mail completed to NC District Pilot to:**

**District Treasurer Kimberly Oliver, 802 Liberty Drive, Thomasville, NC 27360**

# NC DISTRICT FALL WORKSHOP — THIS IS JEOPARDY!

## The North Carolina District Zone Challenge

Three outstanding Pilots representing the West, Center, and East Zones will compete in a live Jeopardy-style challenge at Fall Workshop.

*While their knowledge determines the Jeopardy Champion, your votes determine the Fundraising Champion!*



### EVENT DATE:

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18  
AT FALL WORKSHOP



## TWO CHAMPIONS WILL BE CROWNED!



### JEOPARDY CHAMPION

Determined by the highest score during the live competition.



### FUNDRAISING CHAMPION

Determined by your \$5 votes.

## Meet the Contestants:



West  
Desi Harris



Center  
Laura Keever



East  
Leslie McLaughlin

## How to Vote:



Voting opens  
August 1



Every \$5  
donation = 1 vote



Vote online or  
during Friday  
Workshop registration



Vote as many  
times as  
you'd like



Voting closes  
Friday, September 18  
6:00 PM

SCAN THE  
QR CODE  
TO VOTE!



## CLUB AWARDS



1st Place Club  
\$200



2nd Place Club  
\$100



3rd Place Club  
\$50



Most Votes Award  
\$100

Awards presented to  
the contestants'  
Pilot Clubs.



Every vote supports the  
**NC District Pilot International General Fund.**  
Supporting Pilot's mission of  
Brain Health • Safety • Community Service





## ECR Message



**We deserve a round of applause!**

**Joanne Mason**  
**twessie59@gmail.com**  
**270-929-1568**

Oklahoma City and the 2027 Pilot International Leadership Conference and Convention are a memory and part of our Pilot history. District leaders received training in collaboration, servant leadership, mentoring new members, and from speaker Carrie Grace during Council of Leaders. The convention body was entertained by the Fancy Dancers during Opening Ceremony. Speakers Nancy Norton made us laugh while Mike Breeze taught us how to grow. Speaker John Turner brought smiles with the therapy dogs. The Anchors did a fantastic job with their Cultural Exchange! We donned our Disney Bounding outfits for our President's Breakfast and learned that Orlando would be our site for the 2029 convention. The sparkling finish was with the installation of President Lisa and our leadership team during the Daisies and Diamonds Banquet. Photos will hit the website soon. A post-convention survey will be forthcoming. Please complete it as it will help us prepare for 2027 in Grand Rapids, Michigan!

President Lisa stated that the 2026-2027 Pilot year calls us to honor Pilot International's legacy while boldly shaping its future. She shared that change is hard and often unpopular but is worth it in the end. Embrace change with an open mind and a positive attitude. A kind word and smile can only make it better.

It's that time! Pilot Ambassadors need to be chosen. To be listed in the Pilot Log, the Ambassador's name and a minimum \$25 donation must be made by September 30. Eligibility requirements for Pilot Ambassadors are listed on the website. It's also time for quarterly grants. This quarter's deadline is September 15. There are three grants - Pick Me Up, BrainMindors™, and Matching Helmet. Applications are on the website and are easy to complete. Just remember to have the application properly signed and watch that the date of the event is the required number of days after the deadline. Clubs and Districts are eligible for each grant once in a Pilot year. There's money waiting for you! Apply and Do More! Care More! Be More! In your community.

In Pilot Friendship and Service,

*Joanne Mason*



# **2026 Pilot International Annual Convention & Leadership Conference**

**Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**

## **Convention Highlights & Key Takeaways**

### **Opening Ceremony & Cultural Traditions**

The 2026 Pilot International Convention opened with a celebration of heritage, unity, and fellowship. The Flag Ceremony honored Pilot's international presence and shared mission. The Parade of Banners featured clubs and districts proudly carrying their banners in a vibrant procession. The Oklahoma Fancy Dancers performed traditional Native American dance in full regalia, followed by a Social Dance where Pilots, Anchors, and Compass members reconnected.

### **Inspirational Speakers & Leadership Development**

Convention workshops and keynote sessions focused on strengthening Pilot's mission, expanding organizational impact, and encouraging innovation, collaboration, and renewed commitment to brain health initiatives.

### **Leadership & Service Showcase**

- Kimberly Oliver assembled 100 Mission Bags as a gift of friendship and service to the District Officers of Pilot International. The bags were curated to showcase the 2026–2027 North Carolina District Pilot International convention host city, Thomasville, North Carolina, and to highlight local charities supported by the NC District and the Pilot Club of Central North Carolina. This project provided an excellent opportunity to spotlight Thomasville and share the district's commitment to service with Pilots from around the world.
- Special appreciation is extended to Laura Keever (Pilot Club of Greensboro) and Linda Covington (Pilot Club of Asheboro) for delivering the Mission Bags to Oklahoma City, and to the North Carolina District Officers for assisting with distribution throughout the convention.
- Featured partnerships included Baptist Children's Homes, Communities in Schools, and Holy Ground Ministries.

### **Major Honors & Awards**

Past International Presidents Deb Hays (2019–2020) and Peggy Benton (2020–2021) received Pilot International's Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of their leadership, service, and lasting contributions.



## Bylaw & Amendment Summary

### Article XVIII, Section 8 – District Officer Qualifications

**Status:** *Passed as Amended*

**Present Reading:** “A nominee for Governor, Governor Elect or Lt. Governor will have served as a President of a Pilot Club. A nominee for Governor Elect of a regional district will have served as a Lt. Governor.”

**Proposed Reading (Submitted):** “A nominee for Governor Elect will have served as President of a Pilot Club, served one year on a District Administrative Council (DAC) or District Executive Council (DEC), and attended an International Convention within the past five (5) years. A nominee for Governor Elect of a regional district will have served as a Lt. Governor. A Lt. Governor will have served as a President of a Pilot Club.”

**Amended Version (Passed – Offered by Karen Cupit):** A Governor-Elect nominee must have served as President of a Pilot Club and must have attended an International Convention within the past five (5) years.

This amendment, offered by **Karen Cupit**, simplified the submitted proposal by removing the DAC/DEC service requirement while preserving the intent to strengthen leadership qualifications.

**Rationale (from the submitted amendment):** The qualifications had previously been located in the District Manual and were moved into the Bylaws to ensure they are properly placed and consistently applied. The goal is to ensure that the most qualified and experienced individuals are elected to district leadership roles.

### Article XXIX, Section a – Convention Title & Scheduling

**Status:** *Did Not Pass – Returned to Committee*

**Present Reading:** “The annual convention held by the organization shall be called and/or referred to as the Pilot International Annual Convention and Leadership Conference.”

**Proposed Reading (Submitted):** “The convention held by the organization shall be called and/or referred to as the Pilot International Convention and Leadership Conference.”

**Rationale (from the submitted amendment):** The Long Range Site Committee proposed removing the word “**Annual**” to provide flexibility if Pilot International is unable to hold a convention due to logistical or financial constraints.

**Financial Context:** Convention losses over the past three years ranged from **\$34,000 to \$72,000**, prompting discussion about long-term sustainability.



**Convention Discussion:** During debate, **Past International President Deb Hays** recommended that the committee further review the amendment and specifically address the implications of *not* holding an annual convention — including how Pilot International would manage the **election and installation of international officers** if the convention schedule were altered.

**Outcome:** The amendment **did not pass** and was **returned to committee** for further study.

## **Executive Committee 2026–2027**

The Executive Committee for 2026–2027 is composed of the following officers, including those elected as International Directors:

- **President-Elect:** Karen Ferguson-Bain — Pilot Club of Lucaya, Bahamas District
- **Vice President:** Leslie McLaughlin — Laurinburg, North Carolina District
- **Secretary:** Terez Curry — Pilot Club of Nassau, Bahamas District
- **Treasurer:** Charlotte Edenfield — Tallahassee, Florida District

## **Election of International Directors**

During Thursday's voting session, delegates elected four International Directors who also serve on the Executive Committee:

- **Dorothy B. Tyson** — Scottish Pilot Club, North Carolina District
- **Joanne H. Mason** — Cardinal Club, KY-OH-WV District
- **Julie Fallin** — San Jacinto Club, Texas District
- **Mary Turner** — Pilot Club of Elberton, Georgia District

\* Joanne H. Mason will additionally serve as the Executive Committee Representative (ECR) for the North Carolina District, working directly with our district throughout the year.

## **Convention Schedule Highlights**

### **Thursday**

- Workshop with Nancy Norton
- Voting and officer elections

### **Friday**

- Therapy Pups session with John Turner
- Workshop with Mike Breeze
- NC District lunch meeting, fellowship, and photos

## **Saturday**

- Keynote by Amanda Mae Gray
- President Beverly Hager's "Bound to Bloom" Breakfast featuring Disney Bounding attire
- Diamonds & Daisies Installation Banquet honoring Lisa Palmquist and installing the incoming Executive Committee
- The evening concluded with line dancing.

## **Upcoming Pilot International Conventions**

### **2027 Convention**

July 14–17, 2027  
Grand Rapids, Michigan  
Amway Grand Plaza

### **2028 Convention**

July 12–15, 2028  
San Antonio, Texas  
San Antonio Marriott RiverCenter

