



The Pilot Club of
Oconee County
WWW.OCONEEPILOT.COM

August 2026
Volume 47 Issue 2
Editor: Vickie Hammond vshammond@gmail.com

Oconee Spokes



ROSA'S COMPASS

A Message from Our President

Dear Pilots,

Welcome to a brand-new Pilot year! I hope everyone has enjoyed a wonderful summer, and I can't wait to see you at our first meeting on Tuesday, August 4.

We're kicking off the 2026–2027 year in a big way as we approve our new Plans of Work and budget and welcome Governor-Elect Nancy Miller for our Official Visit. We have important business to conduct, so please plan to be there as we begin another exciting year together.

Behind the scenes, several committees are already hard at work. Our Audit Committee—Taylor Bankston (Chair), Lisa Backs, and I—will meet to review the 2025–2026 financial records prepared by Treasurer Cathy Moorehead. Meeting details will be announced soon.

I'll also be confirming our meeting dates with Bishop Baptist Church. If your division has events or special dates that should be included on our calendar, please let me know as soon as possible so we can avoid scheduling conflicts throughout the year.

Our Awards Committee—Cathy Moorehead (Chair), Deborah Kinnard, and Taylor Bankston—will soon begin preparing our award submissions, which are due October 15. Lt. Governor Vickie Hammond has all of the updated award forms and information we'll need.

As we begin this new Pilot year, I look forward to serving alongside each of you. Together we'll volunteer, share encouragement through our Pick-Me-Ups, accomplish our Plans of Work, and continue making a meaningful difference in our community—all while enjoying the friendship that makes our club so special.

We truly can Do More, Care More, and Be More when we work together.

Blessings,

Rosa

Rosa Hall
President, Pilot Club of Oconee County



Rosa Hall
President

r4hall@yahoo.com
706-769-1009

Judy Marable
President-Elect

judyarable@gmail.com
706-540-4001

Cathy Moorehead

Treasurer

treknell25@gmail.com
706-714-2048

Lisa Backs

Secretary

lisajbb81@gmail.com
706-424-2788

Taylor Bankston

Director

bankston1977@gmail.com
229-224-0842

Vickie Hammond

Past President

Director (2026–2027)
vshammond@gmail.com
706-254-6738

Contact Us

Mailing Address:

PO Box 833

Watkinsville, GA 30677

Club Business

Meetings:

First Tuesdays,

6:30 Social 7:00 Meeting

Bishop Baptist Church Social Hall

July, Sept., Nov., Jan.,

Mar., and May

Activity/Project

Meetings

Aug., Oct., Dec., Feb.,

Apr., and June

Dates and Locations vary

Please check Spokes for
information

REMINDER: BE A BEACON OF HOPE IN A BUSY WORLD. SHINE BRIGHT, STAND TALL.



Division Reports

Shining the Light on Our Divisions

Each month we'll shine our lighthouse beam on one of the divisions that keeps our club strong. This month, our light falls on the Projects Division—the team that transforms compassion into service and makes our mission visible throughout Oconee County.

PROJECTS DIVISION

Projects Division: Putting Our Motto into Action Do More. Care More. Be More.

Those three simple words are more than our Pilot motto—they're the heart of our Projects Division. As we begin another exciting year of service, we're looking forward to presenting our 2026–2027 Plan of Work for club approval at our August meeting. Together, we'll support these projects through fundraising, membership growth, and active participation from every division. With everyone working together, this promises to be another fulfilling year of serving our community.

Pop Tops for a Purpose

Don't forget to **save your aluminum pop tabs!** Our youth leadership project with Sawyer continues as we collect pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. Please bring your collection to the August meeting. If you've accumulated more than you can carry, just let me know, and I'll be happy to pick them up. We'll continue collecting each month through November 1.

Support Oconee Therapeutic Riding

One of our favorite community service opportunities is just around the corner! Please consider supporting Oconee Therapeutic Riding by participating in, promoting, or volunteering for their annual 5K on Saturday, August 29, at Briarwood Baptist Church.

Pilot volunteers are needed:

- Friday, August 28 at 5:30 p.m. to help with race setup.
- Saturday, August 29 beginning at 6:30 a.m. for early volunteers, with the remaining volunteers arriving by 7:00 a.m.

One of the highlights of the morning is the Lap of Love, where riders and their families take part in a truly inspiring celebration. It's a meaningful reminder of why we serve.

Our friends at Oconee Therapeutic Riding count on Pilot volunteers each year, and we're proud to continue supporting this special event. Even better, your time spent volunteering counts toward your Pilot volunteer service hours since this is a community service project rather than a club fundraiser.

Thank you for helping us continue to *Do More. Care More. Be More.* Together, we make a difference.

Judy & Donna

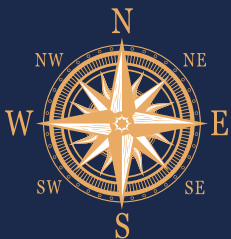


CLUB CONNECTIONS



Projects Division
Coordinators:
Judy Marable
706-540-4001
Donna MacPherson
706-340-8654





Member Spotlight



Celebrate You – Deborah Kinnard

We're delighted to spotlight Deborah Kinnard, who has been a Pilot member for almost a year! Deborah's passion for Pilot comes from its commitment to community service and its dedication to promoting brain health and safety. One of her favorite memories so far has been volunteering at the Belk Charity Event, where she enjoyed serving alongside fellow Pilots. Outside of Pilot, Deborah recently celebrated a very special milestone—becoming a grandmother for the first time on March 26. She is eagerly looking forward to the day her grandson, Henry, calls her "Grandi", a title she already treasures in her heart. We're so glad Deborah is part of our Pilot family and look forward to watching her continue to make a difference!



Celebrate You – Darlene Adams

This month we're celebrating Darlene Adams, who is proudly serving in her 13th year as a Pilot member. Darlene currently serves as the Inspiration Leader for the Projects Division, sharing encouragement and enthusiasm with our club. Her greatest passion is Pilot's commitment to Brain Health and Safety, especially raising awareness and supporting those impacted by Alzheimer's disease and their caregivers. One of her favorite Pilot memories is participating in the BrainMinders Puppet Shows, helping educate children in a fun and meaningful way. Outside of Pilot, Darlene has a fascinating hobby—she spends time exploring cemeteries while researching her family's genealogy. We are grateful for Darlene's compassionate heart, servant leadership, and the unique interests that make her such a special member of our Pilot family.

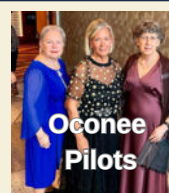
The wait is over... GA District in OKC



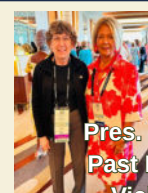
Lt. Gov. Vickie
and
President
Beverly



DEC/DAC Georgia District



Oconee
Pilots



Pres. Rosa
Past Pres.
Vickie



East Central Region
Bounding for Disney Breakfast



Past Lt. Gov.
Donna
Lt. Gov.
Vickie

PILOT INTERNATIONAL UPDATE

Your Pilot International President-Elect Spotlight
Karen Ferguson Bain

Karen Ferguson Bain, a proud member of the Pilot Club of Grand Bahama, Bahamas, serves as Pilot International President-Elect and is the **2026–2027 Executive Committee Representative (ECR) for Georgia District**. Karen is a passionate advocate for Pilot's mission, believing that each member has the opportunity to serve with purpose and make a lasting difference. She is committed to sharing the inspiring story of Pilot International's global impact, from supporting children's health and brain safety initiatives to funding grants, scholarships, and humanitarian projects. Karen is equally dedicated to mentoring future leaders by encouraging Pilots, Anchors, and Compass members to grow in confidence and leadership. She also champions the importance of supporting the Founders' Fund, reminding us that every contribution, regardless of size, helps transform lives. Guided by compassion, service, and generosity, Karen exemplifies what it means to lead with purpose and inspire others to do the same.



Karen Ferguson Bain
PILOT INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT-ELECT
2026-2027 GEORGIA ECR (EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE)
PILOT CLUB OF GRAND BAHAMA, BAHAMAS

Important Reminders

Dues are due!

Submit articles from divisions for Spokes by the 25th of each month to vshammond@gmail.com

Contact Vickie Hammond (email or text) with news or photos. to vshammond@gmail.com or 706-254-6738

On the Horizon

Saturday, Aug 1, 2026-9:00-noon: Leadership Workshop-Pilot International, Macon, GA

Tuesday, Aug 4, 2026:
Executive Board-5:30
Club Social Time-6:30
Business Meeting-7:00
Hostesses: Projects

Saturday, August 29, 2026: Oconee Therapeutic 5K. Volunteers needed morning and day of race as well as Friday Evening, August 28. Times will be announced at August 4 Business Meeting.

Tuesday, September 1, 2026:
Executive Board-5:30
Club Social Time-6:30
Business Meeting-7:00
Hostesses: Membership

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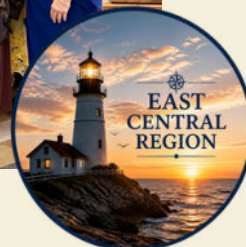
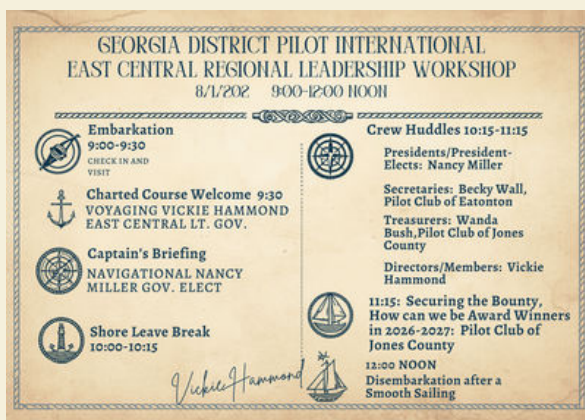
Announcements



LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP

Saturday, August 1, 2026

All club leaders and interested members are encouraged to attend the Georgia District East Region Leadership Workshop. This annual training provides valuable leadership development, networking opportunities, and inspiration for the coming year. See the invitation and agenda. Check email for updates.



AUGUST CLUB MEETING



Tuesday, August 4, 2026 | 6:30 PM Social, 7:00 PM Meeting
Bishop Baptist Church Social Hall

Join us for our **first** business meeting of the new Pilot year! President Rosa Hall will share her vision and goals for 2026-2027. Governor-Elect Nancy Miller will attend and deliver a message from the district. Taylor Bankston will be officially installed as Director. Light refreshments will be provided. **BE SURE TO START BRINGING IN YOUR POP-TABS** for our partnership with Oconee 4-H and Youth Leadership for the Ronald McDonald House.

DUES REMINDER

Annual dues for the 2026-2027 Pilot year are now due. Please submit payment to Treasurer Cathy Moorehead at your earliest convenience. Contact Cathy with any questions regarding your membership status. Dues are \$150 for the year. You can choose to pay quarterly (\$37.50 for August, November, March, May) or semi-annual \$75.00 (August and January). **Treasurer Cathy will contact you if you still have a balance for 2025-2026. Please be prepared to take care of it at the August Business Meeting.**

Pilot International: Do More. Care More. Be More.



Celebrating Our Pilot Family



Cards

can be sent to:

Emeritus Member
June McKenzie
3131 Rocky Branch
Road Unit 250
Watkinsville, GA 30677

Joy Elder
Orchard Senior Living
2750 Atlanta Highway
#144
Athens, GA 30606

Emeritus Member
Sandra Glass
343 Price Street
Statham, GA 30666

Doc and Pam Crawford
1160 Ridgefield Dr.
Bishop, GA 30621

to let them know we are
thinking of them.

“Sometimes in the
darkest places we find
the brightest light”
American author-
Jennifer Niven.



BIRTHDAYS

August 20- Jane Reese
August 24- Judy Marable

PILOT ANNIVERSARIES

There are no Pilot Anniversaries in August.

SUNSHINE REPORT

Thinking of You, Sympathy, Congratulations can be sent to....

Please send needs to our Sunshine Lighthouse Keeper, Pam Crawford. Her email is docsgirl@bellsouth.net. You can contact her at 706-310-9399 (H) and 706-202-4590 (C).

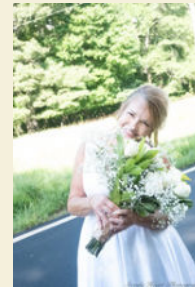
Please also send to Spokes Editor Vickie Hammond at vshammond@gmail.com

Congratulations

Our former Pilot, a new bride, Teresa Hayes Farmer. Congratulations can be sent to:



TERESA AND RICKY FARMER
70 MOORE ROAD
ATHENS, GA 30607



Congratulations to Pilot Lynn
Smith on the arrival of a new
grandson,
Campbell Woods Smith! We
celebrate with you!
Proud parents, Kasi and Chris
Smith and Big Brother, Crosby,
welcome
another son to their family!





Pilot Planner



MONTHLY CLUB MEETINGS 2026-2027

August 4, 2026 - Hostess Team: Projects
September 1, 2026 - Hostess Team: Membership
November 3, 2026 - Hostess Team: Membership
January 5, 2027 - Hostess Team: Fundraising
March 2, 2027 - Hostess Team: Fundraising
May 4, 2027 - Hostess Team: Projects



STEADY AS
SHE GOES

Chart these dates
for the year ahead

"Fair Winds
and
Following Seas"

DISTRICT & INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

2026- 2027 Georgia District East Region Leadership Workshop
August 1, 2026
Pilot International Headquarters, 102 Preston Ct. Macon, GA
Hostess Club: Pilot Club of Macon



2026 Georgia District Fall Council
October 2-4, 2026
Lanier Island Legacy Lodge
Buford, Georgia

2027 Georgia District Convention
April 30-May 1, 2027
Hilton Peachtree City
Peachtree City, Georgia



2027 Pilot International Convention and Leadership Conference
July 14-17, 2027
Amway Grand Plaza
Grand Rapids, Michigan



