

**FLORIDA  
DISTRICT**



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**JUNE  
2008**

# 75th Florida District Convention

**April 18-20, 2008**

Convention Chair, Lois Valentine called the 75th Convention of the Florida District to order at 8:15 p.m. Friday Evening in the Grand Cyprus Ballroom. Welcomes and greetings were presented by Governor Debbie DiFranco, Ian Black of the Marriott Ft. Lauderdale North, South District Lt. Governor Lorraine Dey, Pilot Club of Ft. Lauderdale President Alyce Aspler, the City of Ft. Lauderdale and Pilot International Director Mary Sue Stages.



*Governor Debbie DiFranco, Pilot Club of Orange Park and District Secretary Claire Mikko, Pilot Club of Tallahassee at the dais..*



*The busy registration table Friday.*



*Pilots enjoy shopping at the conveniently located Marketplace.*



*Governor Debbie at a Regional Meeting Friday evening.*



*Florida District 2007-2008 DEC.*

**PEACE AND LOVE, FRIENDSHIP AND SERVICE**

**2007-2008 Florida District  
Executive Council**

**GOVERNOR**

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**NORTHWEST REGION**

Vacant

**NORTHEAST REGION**

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**WEST CENTRAL REGION**

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**EAST CENTRAL REGION**

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**SOUTH REGION**

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**FROM THE  
DISTRICT  
CHAPLAIN**

I Believe.....

I believe- that we don't have to change friends if we understand that friends change.

I believe- that no matter how good a friend is, they're going to hurt you every once in a while and you must forgive them for that.

I believe- that you can do something in an instant that will give you heartache for life.

I believe- that you can keep going long after you can't.

I believe- that we are responsible for what we do, no matter how we feel.

I believe- that regardless of how hot and steamy a relationship is at first, the passion fades and there had better be something else to take its place.

I believe- that heroes are the people who do what has to be done when it needs to be done, regardless of the consequences.

I believe- that money is a lousy way of keeping score.

I believe- that my best friend and I can do anything or nothing and have the best time.

I believe- that sometimes the people you expect to kick you when you're down, will be the ones to help you get back up.

I believe- that it isn't always enough to be forgiven by others. Sometimes you have to learn to forgive yourself.

I believe- that our background and circumstances may have influenced who we are, but we are responsible for who we become.

I believe- that just because two people argue, it doesn't mean they don't love each other And just because they don't argue, it doesn't mean they do.

I believe- that two people can look at the exact same thing and see something totally different.

I believe- that even when you think you have no more to give, when a friend cries out to you you will find the strength to help.

I believe- that credentials on the wall do not make you a decent human being.

I believe- that the people you care about most in life are taken from you too soon.

Rene' Naughton, PC of St. Augustine, 6 Lakeshore Dr., St. Augustine, FL 32080 904-471-3853, [prayingpilot@yahoo.com](mailto:prayingpilot@yahoo.com)

*Blessed are the flexible, for they shall not be bent out of shape.*



***Peace and Love,  
Friendship and  
Service***

## 75th Florida District Convention Continued

The Business Session began with the entrance of the Color Guard from Coconut Creek High School JROTC, followed by the Parade of Presidents and their club banners.



The Registration Report showed a voting strength of 110 with a total of 194 Pilots and guests attending.

Pilots elected Jacqueline "Jackie" Klein, Pilot Club of Greater Gainesville to the office of Governor Elect. Also serving for the 2008-2009 year will be Pat Furr, Pilot Club of Marianna as Northwest Region Lt. Governor, Rene Naughton, Pilot Club of St. Augustine, Northeast Region Lt. Governor, Mary Jane McMillen, Pilot Club of So. Brevard as EastCentral Region Lt. Governor, Deborah



*Governor Elect  
Jackie Klein*

King, Gulf to Lakes of Citrus Co. Pilot Club as WestCentral Region Lt. Governor and Barbara McKenzie, Pilot Club of St. Lucie County as South Region Lt. Governor.

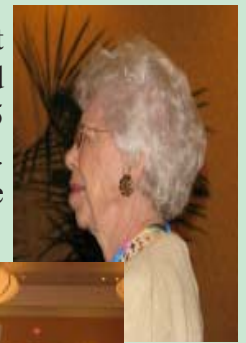
Nancy Bierema, Pilot Club of Ocala will serve as Florida District Treasurer.

For the Pilot Scholarship House Foundation Board, Sara "Bunny" Mason, Pilot Club of Sumter Co. continues to serve as Treasurer. Joan Spangler, Pilot Club Space Coast of Titusville was elected Director.

During the Governor's Friendship Luncheon, Sirley Solbert, a St. Jude patient parent, spoke about his experience with St. Jude Hospital and his appreciation for Pilot support of their program. Son, Lucas added his thanks.



Dorothy Biegert of the Pilot Club of Zephyrhills was recognized for holding Pilot membership for 45 years. Two Pilots who joined the Ft. Pierce club on April 10 shared the newest Pilot honors.



Florida District Membership remained stable. July 2007 count was 1,083 and April 2008 is 1,081.



District Awards were given in the following categories:

### Newsletter

1st Place - Halifax Area

2nd Place - Ocala

3rd Place - Tallahassee

Honorable Mention: Naples, St. Augustine, Marianna

### Patriotism

1st Place - St. Augustine

2nd Place - Daytona Beach

3rd Place - Ft. Pierce

Honorable Mention: Naples

### Outstanding Brain-Minders Program

1st Place - Miami

2nd Place - Pensacola

3rd Place - Naples

**Outstanding Brain Injury or Disorder Project**

1st Place - Pensacola

2nd Place - Naples

3rd Place - Ocala

Honorable Mention - Tallahassee

The District Development Team honored clubs with membership gains.

**Percentage Net Gain**

Plant City 23%

Naples 20%

St. Lucie County - 17%

**Number Net Gain**

Ft. Myers Beach - 6

Plant City and Naples - 5

Titusville - 4

PI Executive Committee Representative Mary Sue Stages, PI Director traveled from Baker, Louisiana to enjoy the Pilot Friendship at Florida District. She encouraged Pilots to talk about their clubs and sponsor new members.



*2007-2008 DEC with ECR Mary Sue Stages*



*Banners and Pins Are Exchanged*



# NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

## **Hello South Region Pilots,**

Congratulations to all the clubs of the South Region for the many awards won at District Convention! I'm particularly impressed with the number of new members some of the clubs have initiated. Keep up the good work!

It has been a busy two years acting as your Lt. Governor. I've enjoyed visiting with all of you and making many new friends. Thank you all for allowing me this opportunity. Your new Lt. Governor, Barbara McKenzie will be a wonderful asset to you and the DEC. Lorraine Dey

## **Final East Central news for the 2007-2008 year**

How fast time flies by. Our year is almost finished and here is my final news for the Wave. We have all worked very hard this year and by now almost all projects and fund raisers are complete. Congratulations on a year well done.

I had a chance to visit all clubs and even got to go to various fund raisers. It was wonderful. All the clubs in this district made me feel so welcome and I thank each one of you for your kind hospitality.

You have a new Lt. Gov. taking over July 1st and she is another McMillen. Mary Jane McMillen. Please keep in contact with her and let her know all your club's activities. I send my best wishes to all the new club year officers. I hope to see everyone at fall council and next year at district. It has been a wonderful two years and a special blessing that I shall never forget...I urge all members to think about taking an office in your club or in the district. It is most rewarding. Remember, each day you live is not a dress rehearsal. It is all you have so fill it with good things. Good things for your community, your family, your club and most of all, for yourself. God Bless you all.

With Pilot Love and Friendship,

Lt. Gov. Jeannie

## **GREETINGS NE PILOTS:**

MEMORIES are made of this so goes the song. YOU have made memories for me that will last a life-time. Thank YOU for letting me be on your team. YOU were all very helpful and quick in giving me information that was needed by our DEC. It was a rewarding experience as NE Lt. Governor that presented a learning curve that lasted my whole term. YOU gave me the chance to "stretch" and become a better Pilot.

I finally discovered how to use the manual. Just read it so you know where to find the information you need because all the answers are in it.

Appointees will be meeting May 30th and 31st in Gainesville at the Mary Ellen Thomas Scholarship House. The weekend will offer a great learning experience with our new Governor Joyce. You will leave town with lots of good ideas.

PI convention and Arizona here I come. Some of you know my daughter lives in Scottsdale, and I will have a chance to "mother" her again. I am looking forward to seeing YOU there. Convention dates are July 8th through July 11th. Let's show the other districts how proud we are to be Pilots.

Know in your hearts how much I thank YOU for the privilege and honor of serving YOU and the Florida District.

In Pilot Friendship,

Jackie Klein NE Lt. Governor

## **West Central Lt. Governor Linda Deuel**

We are drawing close to the end of another Pilot year, we are finishing up on the last of our Projects and Fund Raisers and we are preparing for the New Year to come. I wish you a very successful 2008-2009.

This has been a very busy year, we've been to PI in Norfolk then on to Fall Council in Tampa then north again to The Heritage Center Dedication in Macon, we had a "BLAST FROM THE PAST" with the Anchors in Kissimmee and then to District in Ft. Lauderdale. Let's not forget the trips to Blue Heron PC in Bushnell, Gulf to Lakes PC in Lecanto, Plant City PC in Plant City, and Winter Haven PC in Winter Haven and PC of Zephyrhills in Zephyrhills. I was able to attend a fund raiser with the Crystal River Club and Sumter County, you're stuck with me. I encourage all who are able to visit other clubs in the District; you'll get new ideas and make some new friends.

District Convention was a wonderful experience, it is always exciting to renew old friendships and make new ones. Congratulations to the new Florida District Officers and Appointees, I am proud that all have chosen to "STEP ON UP" and serve your District. I know that there are wonderful plans in the works for next year so start marking your calendars now for International, Fall Council and District Conventions; I hope to see you there.

Thank you West Central for your love and support for the last two years. You have been truly wonderful to me and I feel as a part of each club, I love you all.

HOPE TO SEE YOU IN PHEONIX!

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

June 30th - Pilot Scholarship House Foundation due due.

July 1st - 2008-2009 District and International dues must be paid by the 1st

July 1st - Last date for Installation of Club Officers, per PI

July 8th-11th - Pilot International Convention

**J. W. Marriott Desert Ridge Resort Phoenix, AZ**

## GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE



This is the last Wave for the 2007-2008 Florida District Pilot year. I would like to thank all the wonderful Florida Pilots that made this year so special for me as Governor. The Wave celebrates successes at the club level and there were so many very different projects, fund-raisers, and events in Florida this year. The local clubs are the heart of the Florida District and of Pilot International. Keep sending your pictures and stories to be printed in The Wave. While international and district leadership are important it is in the individual communities where Pilot Clubs have the most impact. I am proud to have served the Florida District as Governor. I will continue to honor our Code of Ethics by remembering the many Pilot friends I have made and joyfully serving my community as a member of the Pilot Club of Orange Park. Peace and love, Debbie DiFranco

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### THE SANDBOX SINGERS



At a recent meeting, the Pilot Club of Panama City was entertained by The Sandbox Singers. The children are in the Head Start Program and are recipients of bicycle helmets supplied by Pilot Club members. The helmets are provided by a grant from the Department of Health, Division of Health Access and Tobacco, Office of Injury Prevention and a grant from the Epilepsy Foundation. Pilots teach children as part of their BrainMinders program, to "Play Safe, Play Smart."

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### *New Wave Editor*

*This is my last issue of the Florida District Wave. It has been a pleasure to serve you for the past few years. The new editor is Claire Mikko of the Pilot Club of Tallahassee. Information for the September Wave is due mid August. Claire's address is 1993 Vineland Dr., Tallahassee, FL 32317, (850) 294-1188. e-mail: bikndon@comcast.net.*

### SUSAN TULL WINS JEFFERSON AWARD



The 16th Annual Jefferson Awards were held in Panama City, FL recently. One of the award winners was a member of the Pilot Club of Panama City, Susan Tull.

In 1972, the American Institute for Public Service and the Jefferson Awards were founded in Washington, D.C. The Jefferson Award is given annually to those who serve, help and heal their communities across America. One of its major goals is to reach into communities across the country and reward individuals who might otherwise go unnoticed.

In addition to her work with Pilot, Susan is involved with graduate students at FSU/PC with studies in autism, instrumental in establishing the Luminaries of Love event and volunteers at local schools as the "Penguin Lady" wearing a penguin costume and educating children about the survival of endangered penguins.

**INFORMATION TO BE FOUND ON THE FLORIDA DISTRICT WEBSITE**  
**([WWW.PILOTFLOIDA.ORG](http://WWW.PILOTFLOIDA.ORG))**

As this Pilot year finishes up, I wanted to let you know what you can find on the District website. A lot of changes were made to the website this year and I hope you've been able to use the information. Here's what you'll find:

- Home page with the current Governor's message
- Governor's Bulletin, going back to 2005 editions
- Current Governor's goals
- District Officers link to:
  - District Officers with Appointees and Presidents shown at the bottom of the page
  - Nomination Packages
- Policies/Procedures:
  - Current edition of the District Policies and Procedures
  - Current edition of the Standing Rules
  - Current Edition of the Strategic Plan
  - Publication Information
- Florida Clubs
  - Shows the Regions, clubs within each region, Charter Date and club website
- Membership Types
- Forms
  - Awards Form, New Member Form, Epilepsy Helmets Request, Invitational Letter, Official Visit Reimbursement Form, Club Transfer Form, Official Visit Form, Expense Voucher, Club President Information Form, Change in Membership Form, Plan of Work Form, Club News to PI Form, Information for District Chaplain Form, PI and Florida District Pro-Rated Fees, Grant Application Form, Pilot Excellence Program (PEP) Report, Prospective Member Form, Officer Nomination Package
- Growth Ideas
- Club Fundraisers
- District Anchors:
  - Anchors Officers
  - Anchor Clubs
  - Forms/Rules/Bylaws/Treasurer's Report
  - Anchor Convention
- Pilot Scholarship House Foundation (PSHF))
  - PSHF Board
  - Policy and Procedures
  - PSHF Bylaws
  - Scholarship Houses
- Pilot International Link
- Convention/Council:
  - Convention Information
  - Minutes from last District Convention
  - Fall Council Information
  - Awards from last District Convention
  - Information about St. Jude
- The "Wave", going back to 2004

Hope this helps you find what you're looking for. If you have any questions, send me an email at [bikndon@comcast.net](mailto:bikndon@comcast.net) and I'll try to help. CLAIRES

## There's Big Bucks In Spaghetti!

The Pilot Club of St. Lucie County held its second Spaghetti Dinner of the year in February. It was the best they ever had. They raised over \$1400.00. Some of the funds raised were used to purchase treats to fill easter bags for the children at the George W. Truitt Family Center and to fill Easter Baskets for the residents of a local assisted living facility. The club also purchased 25 bike helmets and presented them to the George W. Truitt Family Center. They are going to use some of the helmets for the children while at the center and the others will be available for parents to purchase with their "baby bucks" they earn while volunteering at the center.

## PILOT CLUB OF NAPLES HONORED

The Pilot Club of Naples was awarded the Honoring The Community Award." The award honors chasritable, non profit organization through Collier County.

Naples also was well represented at the Florida District Convention.



President of The Pilot Club of Naples, Sue Lester, accepted certificates for Honorable Mention in the Newsletter and Patriotism Awards.

In the Brain-Minders Program Award, The Pilot Club of Naples won Third Place for their puppet shows with helmet fitting and giveaway.

For Outstanding Brain Injury or Disorder Projects Award, The Pilot Club of Naples won 2nd Place for their 5K Run to benefit Project Lifesaver.

The Pilot Club of Naples took home three Certificates: Number Net Gain, District Growth Award and Percentage Net Gain.

Along with the Pacesetter Certificate, 250 Club Certificate and The Pilot Excellence Program Certificate, the members of the Pilot Club of Naples went home very proud.



Members of the Pilot Club of Greater Gainesville are shown collecting money from the winners of the Silent Auction items at it's 5th Annual Mother's Day Fashion Show & Brunch. Last year the club grossed over \$16,000, awarding \$8,000 to Project Lifesaver.



Pilot Club of Naples table at Market Place with member Evelyn Dickerson.



"Miami meets Naples" at District Convention. These two Pilot Club Presidents enjoyed meeting for the first time sharing their successes.



Dorothy Moore, left, President 2008-09  
Alyce Aspler, right, President 2007-08

Dorothy and Alyce were busy, busy, busy at the Florida District PI Convention in April. The convention held right here in Fort Lauderdale was attended by 15 members of the Fort Lauderdale Club and a good time was had by all. Since Fort Lauderdale was the host club the Goody Bags that were given to each attendee were provided by our club. We would like to thank every individual and club that participated in this fun project.



What a wonderful District Convention we had! It is always good to see familiar faces and so many first timers! The workshops were fun and informative and Governor Joyce looked beautiful. How proud her family is of her (as they should be!).

Again, we thank our fellow Pilots for their generous donation throughout the year and at convention. Between our bake sale, 50/50 raffle (\$100.00 which was donated back to PSHF) and Pilot donations a total of \$4,440.00 was raised. \$2,524.42 was designated to the Endowment Fund. We need to reach our \$100,000.00 commitment level before we can start using the interest for our houses. Thanks so much Pilots!

We welcome our new board members to PSHF, Joan Spangler from Space Coast Titusville as a three year Director and Jackie Klein, Governor Elect as a Director/DEC Liaison, both will be an asset. We thank Anne Batchelder for her work on the board for the last three years. Her input was excellent as were her photographs. We'll miss you on the board!

Please remember to bring "items" for our houses to Fall Council. We will have a room set up for donations. Our Ladies can always use household items, paper goods, gift certificates, etc. We have requested a wish List from each house for larger items also, computers, printers, ink, etc. We will be sure to put this on our web page as soon as we have the completed list.

**Club Treasurer's** a reminder that your club dues of \$5.00 per member are due to PSHF no later than June 30, 2008. Please send them to Bunny Mason, Post Office Box 53, Coleman Florida 33521.

We will have at least two of our PSHF residents attending Fall Council. Our ladies will be helping at the PSHF marketplace selling more homemade goodies along with 50/50, and joining us for fun and friendship.

Please keep the PSHF Board in mind for your program meetings. We would love to come to your clubs and talk about the Pilot Scholarship House Foundation.

We look forward to seeing everyone at Fall Council!

Lynne Stephenson  
Director & Past President