



KY-OH-WV District of Pilot International

www.pilotkow.org

JUNE 2025

Year 2024-2025

Governor's Message

After what felt like five minutes and five years all at once, this is my final bulletin before I officially become a "has-been."

As I take off my hat one last time, I do so with nothing but pride, joy, and deep gratitude in my heart. This year has been nothing short of extraordinary — not because of the title I held, but because of the people I served alongside.

To every club that soared through service, every officer who led with heart, every appointee and coordinator who stayed grounded yet visionary, and to the District Action Council who helped steer this ship — hats off to you. You made this journey unforgettable.

You've shown me what leadership fueled by passion, purpose, and compassion can look like. You've reminded me that impact doesn't always come from the top, but from every hand that reaches out, every idea shared, and every moment we chose to lift each other higher.

As I leave the Governor's role, I'm not just stepping away from the DAC — I'm leaving behind a legacy we built together. One filled with bold initiatives, heartfelt connections, and a spirit of unity I'll carry with me long after the name tag comes off.

To the incoming DAC and the next pilot at the helm: I wish you waters even calmer than mine. May you lead with bold vision, fearless heart, and the kind of district cooperation that makes history.

It's been my honor.

Hats off to all of you — and hats off to the pilot.

Stephanie



Stephanie Batton 2024-2025 Governor

(Jackson County)

kyohwvgovernor@gmail.com

304-531-1839

Governor Elect Rhonda Stemmer

(Cambridge)

kyohwvgovelect@gmail.com

740-260-1419

Secretary Robyn Ladson

(Dayton)

kyohwvsecretary@gmail.com

937-542-7242

Treasurer Gale Neal

(Huntington)

kyohwvtreasurer@gmail.com

304-634-3307

[Appointees and Coordinators](#)

Click to go to District Website

TO DO CHECKLIST

- **District and PI Dues to be received by June 30th.**

Mail District Dues to:

KY-OH-WV District
c/o Gale Neal
114 Stonewood Drive
Huntington, WV 25705

- [June 15th deadline - PIFF Helmet and Pick Me Up Grants](#) (click to view)
- Clubs' plans of work and budget should be sent to Governor (kyohwvgovernor@gmail.com) and the ECR by August 15.



KY-OH-WV Workshop September 20th, 2025

Hosted by Springfield

June is the end of the Pilot year, and it's time to reflect on our accomplishments and evaluate our projects and fundraisers. What did we do well and how can we improve. This process helps us plan for the coming year. What do we want to repeat and what changes do we want to make in our plans of work. Remember to involve all members in this process, they want to feel valued, and they want to know they have a voice. June is also the month that we install our new officers, so make it special and let them know how much you appreciate them stepping up for a leadership position.

Remember to apply for Brainminders, Pick Me Up, and Helmet grants this year. Each club can apply for each grant once per Pilot year (July through June). Application dates are September 15, December 15, March 15, and June 15. These grants can help you make things happen in your communities. There are also PIFF matching grants that enable you to do bigger projects for your communities. The application deadline is October 15 for this one. Take advantage of the funds that are available to you. Pilot International is here to help you make a difference in your community.

Membership growth is important for Pilot, and we need to share Pilot with friends, family, co-workers, and acquaintances. Let's plant some seeds and see what blooms in the coming year.

There is a quote by Greg Reid that goes: ***"A dream written down with a date becomes a goal. A goal broken down into steps becomes a plan. A plan backed by action makes your dreams come true."***

Dream big, set a goal, make a plan and see what amazing things you can do in 2025 -2026.

The Pilot International Annual Convention and Leadership Conference will be held in Charlotte, NC on July 23 -26. There will be outstanding speakers, workshops, fundraisers, District lunches, the PIFF Nascar Hall of Fame event, PIFF Bingo, the President's breakfast and the Installation banquet. I hope you are planning to attend.

Our service project will support the Charlotte Ronald McDonald House by assembling hygiene and baby kits and stocking their pantry. We are requesting cash donations instead of specific items because Ronald McDonald House requires particular supplies. Please consider donating \$25, \$50, \$75 or \$100 to this cause.

It has been a pleasure to serve as your ECR this year. I look forward to seeing you in Charlotte.

In Pilot Friendship & Service,
Shelle Allen

District FUNdraising Results for The First-Ever KY-OH-WV Cookie Contest 2025



CONGRATULATIONS go

to the Pilot Club of Akron on their hard fought win! The two individual entries submitted by Patti and co-pilot Al Gwyn actually tied for first place! In addition to entering great tasting cookies, their final scores were enhanced by marketing assistance from AI, a clever presentation from Al (that's A-L, not A-I), a beautiful serving platter set, and strong silent auction values. The competition was really tough, but all the promised glory and bragging rights goes to Akron.

Other notable accomplishments:

- There was a truly marvelous collection of sixteen entries from six clubs! Thank you, thank you, thank you to each and every one of you wonderful, generous bakers!
- Five entries tied for the top taste rating of 9 out of 10: Charlene Klinger's Spicy Pumpkin Cookies and Cranberry Orange Walnut Shortbread Cookies, Mary Pearce's Lemon Butter Cookies, Dorathea Fugua's Texas Sheet Cake Cookies, and Al Gwyn's Best Ever Chocolate Chip Cookies. Four others received an "8," so clearly our judges had an enviable job!
- Dorathea's Italian Peach Cookies, perfect representations of little fresh-picked peaches, got the highest silent auction bid at \$40! Patti Gwyn's winning Ooey Goey Lemon Cookies came in second. Drema Davis scooped up both of them along with 2 other favorites, so thank you to Drema for all your enthusiastic support!
- Finally, I believe our District earned \$451 dollars on the contest, netting \$401 after the \$50 prize is paid to the winning club. A huge thanks to everyone for your part!

*In the words of Sandra Summers,
"Butter and Sugar Rule!"*

Cindy Forman
Fundraising Chair

INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE



Did you know the month of June is designated as Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness month?

Did you know that Pilot International partners with the Alzheimer's Association to support local Walks to End Alzheimer's? www.alz.org

This affiliation with the Alzheimer's Association enables us to further our Pilot focus on brain safety and health and support of caregivers?

Did you know that funds raised from these walks help to advance the care, support and research programs of the Alzheimer's Association?

In keeping with our Pilot International focus on brain safety and health, during the month of June please take time to learn more about Alzheimer's disease, dementia and brain related illnesses. Look for opportunities this month to provide Pick-Me-Ups for caregivers. Promote research and discuss brain health at meetings. Plan a September *Walk to End Alzheimer's* in your community. Clubs in Charleston and Huntington have formed teams for the 2025 Walk.

Go to the *Pilot International Walk to End Alzheimer's* page to locate and join a club team, form a walk team for your club or make a donation in support of a Pilot club team.

https://act.alz.org/site/TR?company_id=313742&pg=national_company

Thank you,

Sandra Summers

Inspirational Leader

Condolences to Pilot Club of Greater Kanawha Valley President Mary Beth Mounts on the recent passing of her beloved uncle, John Young.

Pilot Club of Charleston member Mary Graham would enjoy receiving cards and phone calls from fellow Pilots. She has not been able to attend Pilot events of late and misses everyone. Her contact information may be found in the [2024-2025 KYOHVV District Member Pilot Directory](#).



Thank you, Governor Stephanie Batton, for stepping up to become a PI Director for the 2025-2026 year! Your commitment to Pilot International, our District and your club is AWESOME!!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR FUTURE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

July 15 - 18, 2026

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
at The Omni

July 14 - 17, 2027

Grand Rapids, Michigan
at Amway Grand Plaza

July 12 - 15, 2028

San Antonio, Texas
at San Antonio Marriott RiverCenter

Club students participating in the annual Make St. Albans Shine Cleanup. We also participate in Adopt-A-Highway cleanups throughout the school year.



ANCHOR CLUB

Submitted by
Colleen Jarrel (Cardinal Club) &
Kiersten Potter
Anchor Coordinator
Saint Albans High School



Club students along with other SAHS volunteers placing luminaries at the local cemetery.



Club students baking and decorating cupcakes for Teacher Appreciation Week



SCHOLARSHIP WINNER



Out of a field of four contestants, Shayla Harrison was the winner of the Mary Kay Moore Scholarship of \$500.00 for the Anchor Club at St. Albans High School. This is the only Anchor Club in the KY-OH-WV District, and was sponsored by the District this year. Moving forward, the new Cardinal Pilot Club will be sponsoring this honor.

Shayla's had a 4.51 Cumulative Grade Point Average, scored 1180 on her SAT and served as the President of the Anchor Club this year. In addition to her duties as President of the Anchor Club, she also served as DECA President in her Junior Year, Field Commander of Band, Colorguard Captain, Senior Class Treasurer, St. Albans Solutions President, C.A.U.S.E. club treasurer, and was a member of the National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, Beta Club, All County Band, Girls Soccer team, Rho Kappa and Student Council Her winning essay follows:

How Community Service Will Grow With Me

At least once a week I go into school thirty minutes before my classes begin. Though this sounds minor and it really does not affect the test of my day, it has made a large change in my life. Whether it be the biweekly recycling for Anchor Club or a Student Council meeting, there's something I can count on attending during the mornings. Although at first it seemed a bit of a struggle to wake up and to these events before my "actual" school day started, it became a comfort. Before attending these regular activities, life after school seemed to be grey and out of reach in a sense. With the service I have participated in, I began to possess the skills I have desired since a young age to help add the needed drive to my life. Though it has aided me in my time management and motivation in high school, I foresee it having its strongest effects in my life in my future and career. The discipline and selflessness achieved from serving your community is rewarding unlike anything else I have done. Doing hard things that are not mandatory, but by choice, creates a strong character. Pushing through to go to college always scared me, especially when entering high school. The pressure of not being strong enough to juggle so many things at once or the motivation to get up and out to school and the other aspects of my life seemed like so much. Heading forward now, things do not sound scary knowing I have experienced these things. Going towards my desired career of physical therapy and knowing my life will be based around going to work to help others, service will become my life. These skills I have learned in my high school career will carry forward and guide me through adulthood. Waking up in the morning to go to my class does not sound like a chore but as another step closer to being in the job where I can help people feel better and guide them through a hard time, The character built from recognizing the importance of service has built my character and helped form my own ideals and beliefs, In my future, I am not worried about falling under the influence of what others say and their opinions. I have strived for confidence in my personality and that will continue to grow with my expansion on contribution to society. I my workplace, it will not be life I am just working for money or for a title, but instead to do better and be better for those who need me.