

The Prairie Times

News from Wichita Prairie Pilot Club



2023-2024 Officers

President Donna Fisher

President Elect Shirley Annsun

Secretary Lois Stewart

Treasurer Ellen Schwindaman

Directors 1 yr Mona Lingafelter 1yr Becky Noonan 2 yr Connie Foster

PJ FF Rep Donna Fisher

Newsletter Carol Hirsh

Inspirational leader Roberta Yacko

Division Chairs: Fund Raising Mona Lingafelter

Membership Connie Foster

Projects Becky Noonan



Mon, May 6 Wed, May 8 Sat, May 11 Thurs, May 16 Tues, May 21 Fri. May 24 Tues, May 28 Sat, June 1 July 17-20

Mark Your Calendar 5:30 social at Meddy's 122 S Washington 10:30-12:30 Ability Point Lunch bake cookies, help serve lunch May birthdays 10-12 Bicycle Helmet Event at Riverside Elem School, arrive 9:15 Mona Lingafelter May 24 5:00 social and setup time 5:30 Dinner and business meeting THROW 1:45-3:15 BINGO EAST 557 Armour KINDNESS 10:15-2:00 Vet to Vet Luncheon at 1st United Methodist Church AROUND 1:45-3:15 BINGO at WEST 8631 W 29th N IIKF Special Olympics at Maize High 11600 W 45th St N 12-3:30 - CONFRIM International Convention in Denver, CO

## Thoughts from President Donna

The Bicycle Helmet event is almost here! A big THANK YOU to Connie and her committee for devoting many hours to planning for it. I hope that everyone who is able and available will turn out in support of this new project. It will be fun.

What a great time I had at Heartland District Convention in Bartlesville with Shirley, David, Carol, Karen, Ramona, Ellen, and Jeanne, and also with Pilots from around the District. It was wonderful to have so many Prairie Pilots there to share our reflections and ideas with one another. All in all, the convention was well-planned and stayed on schedule. The highlight of the convention for me came when the Awards Jury Chairman announced that Prairie Pilot received the FIRST PLACE AWARD for our Club's newsletter The Prairie Times. BRAVO TO CAROL for creating a consistently informative and attractive newsletter month after month that certainly deserves to be recognized. And a thank you to Shirley for encouraging Carol to submit an entry in the category.

The official business of the Convention was:

1. Election and installation of District Officers for 2024-25-

GOVERNOR Sandra Henry Pilot Club of Miami, OK

GOVERNOR-ELECT Marilyn Sidener Little Apple Pilot Club, Manhattan, KS SECRETARY Patti Nelson Green Country Pilot Club of Bartlesville, OK TREASURER Cindy Burks Pilot Club of Sand Springs, OK

2. Two Minor changes to the District's Standing Rules—Adding a provision for a District Directory and changing the frequency of Governor's Bulletins to be in accordance with Pilot International Policies.

3. Adoption of 2024-25 District Budget-(District portion of our dues will remain at \$15 for next year.)

Always remember—YOU Matter in Pilot, I Matter in Pilot, We ALL Matter in Pilot! –Donna

# Delores Dugger

Our honorary member Delores has been moved to a nursing home and will not be moving back to her apartment. She'd love to hear from her Pilot friends. Send cards to her at Westview Nursing Home, 445 N Westview Dr, Room 208, Derby KS 67037

#### Teresa!

Teresa Snyder, shown with her sponsor Donna Fisher, was officially initiated into Prairie Pilot on April 18. WELCOME to the team, Teresa!!







April... Record Breaking! WAY TO GO team! We had 10 volunteers at Vet to Vet luncheon! (Donna not pictured) A record number for that event! We had 8 attendees at Dist. Convention. This is the most we've had for an out of town Dist. Convention in recent history. Great month!

### Bike Helmet Event

**Riverside Elementary School** Saturday, May 11 from 10:00-12 noon Volunteers arrive at 9:15

May 11 is almost here and all the third and fourth graders at Riverside Elementary School will be invited to bring or ride their bikes to the school grounds for safety checks, a bike rodeo, refreshments, and a free helmet! It will take as many volunteers as we can get to run a smooth and successful event. If you haven't committed to help yet, we hope you will be available. If you haven't read the 3 emails sent by Carol written by Connie, emailed on April 28, please do so. Trying a large and unfamiliar project is a bit daunting but Prairie Pilots always pull together to get things done! Thanks to the helmet committee for their work!

PS If you have a clipboard or two, please bring them to the event for the coloring station as the

table is not a smooth surface. Thanks, Carol



Ready for Saturday night banquet.



Karen won a door prize ... a scented

**Heartland District Convention** in **Bartlesville**! April 19-21





Donna working the sales table.

Shaken baby doll demonstration.



Sec Patti Nelson, Gov Elect Marilyn Sidener, Gov Sandra Henry. They will take over in July.



Receiving 1st place prize for newsletter in clubs 20 or less.

candle.

First timers recognition.

# Spatlight on RENEE JONES

Renee Jones, one of our newest members, is a native Wichitan and we are fortunate to have her on our team! Renee and her husband Vince have been married 36 years and have 2 sons Garrett 29 and Alex 25. Vince (a people person according to Renee) retired from Spirit and is now working in real estate and insurance. Garrett works at Spirit and Alex is an information technology technician. He works for a small local company which provides computer tech assistance for their clients. How nice to have a computer expert in the family!

Renee's early working experiences included part time jobs as a "visual coordinator" setting displays at Montgomery Wards, Lewin's, and other businesses in downtown Wichita. No wonder she does such a great job of helping set up our tables for fundraisers!

After earning an associate degree at Butler CCC and a Bachelor's Degree at Newman University, she worked as an occupational therapist with special needs children at Rainbows and then in small towns through the Sedgwick County Educational Co-op. Before retiring last year, Renee worked in education for 18 years with children in all categorical classrooms (ages 3-21) which also included Life Skills and Structured Learning. She was also part of the interdisciplinary autism team for many years. Renee is to be commended for providing an education for many special needs students!

Renee's interest in volunteerism with focus on brain health is what drew her to Prairie Pilot Club. She has recently spent time at Club Parkinson's which seems would be a great match for her specialized skills!

Hobbies include gardening, home decorating projects, a cat named Charlie, and sister trips which have taken Renee and her 3 sisters and a cousin twice to California, as well as Missouri and Dallas. Renee and Vince have visited sites in NE US and the Caribbean. Renee shared "We leave for a 10 day Mediterranean tour on May 4th. This will be my first trip to Europe. I have a sister trip to MO planned for July and my husband and I are going to Costa Rica with friends in Dec. Busy travel year but excited for each destination!"

Renee, Prairie Pilot is delighted to have you as part of our team!

YOU COUNT IN PILOT!



Parkinson's Club party

Vet luncheon

Ability Point picnic

Easter Sale