

Pilots for Patients News

A quarterly publication of Pilots for Patients Summer 2014

Western Tennessee and the Mississippi Valley

Women in the Air

When you get 250 women pilots together in one room, IT IS LIVELY! Ladies from around the world gathered in New Orleans, Louisiana for The Ninety-Nines International Organization of Women Pilots Conference this past July. Representing Pilots for Patients we were honored to attend the conference as exhibitors for PFP in hopes of recruiting more female pilots to join our organization.

We found that several of the 99's fly for other non-profit organizations similar to Pilots for Patients and most of these organizations are part of Air Care Alliance, as is PFP. We felt very privileged to meet such amazing and caring pilots who graciously give back to their communities. We were successful in recruiting Elizabeth Frankowski from West Houston and would like to welcome Elizabeth to PFP and look forward to her flying her first mission very soon.

Women are great at multi-tasking and when it comes to flying, we feel women are just as proficient as male pilots. We enjoy the thrill and freedom of flight just as much as men do. That moment when a pilot pushes the throttle in and lifts the nose off the runway sends a sense of freedom that only a select few have the privilege of feeling.

At this conference all of these women knew of that special feeling and from ex-military to sport pilots, all were gathered, smiling from ear to ear, as they discussed their passion for aviation. It was a wonderful atmosphere filled with wonderful people as pilots of all ages, geographical locations and lifestyles gathered to celebrate the marks that women have made in the aviation industry.

As volunteer pilots, helping others is one of those things we truly love to do. We have heard several times from our patients that they expected to see a man as their pilot...they seem to be pleased and impressed to see a female hop out of the airplane with a big smile. We like to think that our caring touch and smile brings comfort to the patient. Being able to help these patients certainly brings comfort to us. by Florence Bethard and Heidi Higginbotham







Going Home



Pilot Don Imhoff and patient Barbara Overley

The mission of Pilots for Patients is to provide free air transportation to those patients needing diagnosis and treatments at medical facilities not available to them locally. Our goal is to eliminate the burden of travel allowing the patient to concentrate on getting well.

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Patient Amy Avant



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Online Donations can be made on our website at: www.pilotsforpatients.org

PayPal or Credit Card.
Thank You
for supporting
Pilots for Patients !!!

Save The Date

Pilots for Patients will be hosting our 6th annual Awards Luncheon on **Saturday, October 18th** from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Please mark your calendars to attend this very special day with pilots, patients, patrons, staff, and volunteers, who make Pilots for Patients such a wonderful organization. Lunch will be provided by our friends at *The Warehouse*. There will also be some special speakers including Kristianne Stewart from *Compassion That Compels*. Awards will be presented during the Luncheon including the 2014 Pilot of the Year. Come on out and spend a couple of hours having food, fun and fellowship with your fellow pilots and friends.

Special Visitors

Pilots for Patients had some very special visitors recently. A group of local upper elementary school children brought hospitality items for our PFP lounge and office area. These children not only toured our hangar, lounge and office, but were thrilled to be able to watch as a mission took place. Pilot Bo Hunter and Co-Pilot Archie Amos were on hand to fly patient Mindy Jones and her husband Chris to Houston for Mindy's appointments at M.D. Anderson.







Presentation

Pilots for Patients would like to say a huge thank you to S&J Farm & Feed and Stephen & Pam Mann for donating proceeds of the **Crawfish Craze 5D Barrel Run** exhibitions plus an additional \$1,250 to make the total donation \$2,000 in honor of our 2,000th mission milestone! Pictured (left to right) are Tina Owens,



Lori Dunn, Philip Thomas, Sharon Thomas & Pam Mann.

"People will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." ~ Maya Angelou

Pilot Mission Count for 2014

Name	Missions	Name	Missions	Name	Missions	
Alair Tudor	4	Drew Coats	2	Mike Bader	2	
Andy Barham	10	Erle Barham	1	Peter Perez	8	
Bo Hunter	10	Florence Bethard	15	Philip Coyne	3	
Bobby Bailey	2	Guy Williams	3	Philip Thomas	15	
Bradley Jones	2	Heidi Higginbotham	8	Riaz Siddiqi	1	
Brian Barham	6	Hugh McFarland	4	Richard Rose	2	
Brooks Monypeny	1	Jack Hayhurst	1	Robert Bash	6	
Charles Woods	2	James Johnson	12	Ronald Crawford	1	
Charlie Adams	14	James McDonald	14	Troy Kyle	1	
Christopher Trahan	9	Jason Clements	3	Wally Mulhearn	2	
Clay Dean	24	J. Smith Thomas	2	Warner Angelle	2	
Clyde White	4	Larry Lehmann	5	Warren Brown	2	
Danny Jackson	1	Mark Robertson	1	Wayne Petrus	16	
Dolphus McKenzie	3	Marty King	1	William McGehee	2	
Donald Imhoff	18	Michael Harris	1			
(through July 31, 2014)						

Top 10 in 2014

Name	Missions
Clay Dean	24
Donald Imhoff	18
Wayne Petrus	16
Florence Bethard	15
Philip Thomas	15
Charlie Adams	14
James McDonald	14
James Johnson	12
Andy Barham	10
Bo Hunter (through July 31, 2	10 (014)

Mission Milestones

The following pilots have reached significant milestones as members of Pilots for Patients.

50+ missions

Larry Lehmann, Florence Bethard, Keith Odom, Philip Coyne, Clay Dean, and Bo Hunter

100+ missions

Wayne Petrus, Andy Barham, and Donald Imhoff

200+ missions

Philip Thomas

Congratulations and thank you to these pilots for their accomplishments. We appreciate all our pilots who fly or make a difference for others by supporting Pilots for Patients in many other ways.

Our 2000th mission!!!

May 23, 2014 was a very eventful day for Pilots for Patients. Pilot Jimmy McDonald flew patient Mindy Jones and her mother Annette to MD Anderson in Houston for Mindy's treatment. This was Jimmy's 11th mission since joining in February of this year, it was Mindy's 14th time to fly with us, and it was also the 2000th mission for Pilots for Patients! Since our first mission on January 14, 2008, we have transported our friends and neighbors in need over 2000 times. What a blessing! Thank you to all the pilots, volunteers, staff, board members, donors, ground angels, and other supporters who helped make this possible. Keeping the patient our #1 priority makes us the wonderful, caring and giving organization we are today. May we continue to make a difference in the lives of others.



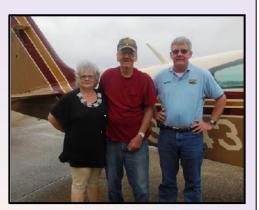
Meet some of our patients and pilots



Companion Mary Boies pilot Troy Kyle patient Jim Boies



Patient Deanna Broce pilot Jason Clements companion Rita Mosely



Companion Frances Fletcher patient Jerry Fletcher, pilot Wayne Petrus



Patient Casey Jenkins companion Jana Jenkins pilot Christopher Trahan



PFP President Philip Thomas patient Abigail Yelverton dad Mark, co-pilot Alair Tudor



Companion Clovis Johnson patient Wilfred Johnson



Pilot Drew Coats patient Becki Cassell PFP Assistant Coordinator Stacey Graves



Patient Shelley Thomas pilot Clay Dean companion Jan Dickson co-pilot Cassie Campbell



Companion Aletha Thompson patient Amy Avant pilot Dean Woods

Million Dollar Smiles



Companion Annette Epps pilot Bobby Bailey patient Mindy Jones



Patient Jan Hebert pilot Andy Barham



Co-pilot Steve Havemann, patient Dealva Auttonberry, companion Ginger Clampit, pilot Peter Perez



Patient Ricky James pilot Larry Lehmann



Monroe Air Traffic Controllers Justin Andrae, Chris Pannone, Trevor Barry, Michael Kimbrell PFP president Philip Thomas



Companion Beverly Bennett pilot Florence Bethard Patient Cresta Burks



Pilot Philip Thomas, Mrs. Carter, Companion Elizabeth Hudson, Patient Jimmy Hudson, Co-Pilot Heidi Higginbotham



Companion Taylor Emfinger
pilot
Don Imhoff
patient Shannon Emfinger



Pilot Clyde White companion Mary Bryant patient Gary Bryant

Mission Milestones

First	Monday, January 14, 2008	Wayne Petrus/Bradley Jones	Linda Fox
500th	Thursday, March 4, 2010	Philip Coyne	Christian Billingsley
1000th	Monday, July 25, 2011	Philip Thomas	Lanece Laseter
1500th	Thursday, October 25, 2012	Mark Robertson	Joseph McKenzie
1600th	Tuesday, April 9, 2013	Clay Dean	Stephanie Bond Temple
1700th	Thursday, July 25, 2013	Don Imhoff	Richard Woodruff
1800th	November 12,2013	Clay Dean	Marie Pleasant
1900th	Saturday, March 15, 2014	Richard Rose	Max McGough
2000th	Friday, May 23, 2014	Jimmy McDonald	Mindy Jones

Please visit the website for details on these and other missions

Can't Fly ???

We realize there are many reasons why a pilot isn't flying at this time but there are many other ways to help.

- Spread the word about the 3 P's Pilots, Patients, Patrons
- Host a fly-in at your home base airport or a fundraiser in your area OR distribute brochures and posters to Airports, FBOs, or Flying Clubs in your area. WE NEED MORE PILOTS !!!!
- H Man a booth at an aviation event on behalf of Pilots for Patients
- H Make a monetary donation and encourage others to do so
- 4 Ask your employer about matching funds for volunteer hours and contributions
- Honor loved ones with a memorial or honorarium gift
- Offer to fly with a new pilot to help him get acquainted with PFP.

Follow us on Facebook Pilots for Patients Visit the Website at www.pilotsforpatients.org

Dr. Ralph Abraham in Mangham, LA is available to give any PFP pilot that has flown 1 mission per year his/her medical exam free of charge. Contact the PFP office to learn more.

You can do so much more on the website than just look at the available missions!

You can update your pilot info, change your password, view your mission records, read what's going on with Pilots for Patients, make an online donation, see our YTD mission stats, link to our Facebook page, read the current newsletter, view milestone mission pictures and information, download forms, and request a mission online. Visit often as there are some exciting additions and changes coming soon.

Just a Reminder

- 4 Once you have accepted a mission, please refer to the Mission Checklist on the back of your ID badge and contact the office at 318 322 5112 if you have any questions.
- H Make sure we have up to date copies of your insurance coverage and medical certificate on file at the office, even if you aren't flying right now. Please fax them to 318 388 4924.
- H Please fax or email the Hobbs time and miles as soon after you complete a mission as possible so we can complete them in our records.
- 4 Please take pictures (if the patient is comfortable with this) and send to the PFP office.
- H If you wish to fly a mission involving Houston, please request it as early as possible to allow time for the ground angel coordinator to find a driver. Remember, even if the available list shows EFD Ellington or another airport, we can usually change it to any Houston area airport that our partners, the Houston Ground Angels, support. Call the office if you need to change the airport on a mission you would like to fly.

PATIENTS - please contact the mission coordinator at 318-322-5112 to schedule your flight requests. Please DO NOT contact the pilots directly. All requests must go through the mission coordinator. Please call or fax your mission requests as soon as you have the dates for your next appointment.

Houston Ground Angels

The Houston Ground Angels (HGA) is an organization whose sole mission is to help patients (primarily those with cancer) access the best possible treatment for their specific illness by arranging free ground transportation from all airports within a 30 mile radius of the Texas Medical Center, Houston, TX to treatment using a network of volunteers (Ground Angels). This improves the patients' chances of survival by getting to cutting edge treatment and at the same time, it reduces their emotional stress, physical discomfort and financial burden.

Based in Kingwood Texas, Houston Ground Angels with a staff of 2 full time employees, one part time employee, and over 150 Ground Angels coordinate and have completed over 2500 missions per year for the last two years and over 11,000 missions since inception in 2000.





Eligibility to participate in their program is open to all ambulatory cancer patients, caregivers, and family who need help getting to The Texas Medical Center. Eligibility is not based on financial need, and patients may travel as often as necessary.

These ground angels provide a very valuable service in the Houston area and Pilots for Patients is just one of the organizations utilizing these angels. Many of our patients use them upon arrival to or departure from one of the smaller, Houston area airports. For many, this service can mean the difference in going to treatment or staying home. Cab fare from the airport to the medical center can be quite expensive. Many of our patients have expressed their gratitude for this "little something extra" that makes the trip easier to bear. Like the pilots that fly them, the only payment these angels will accept is a smile and a hug.

Thank you for all you do. We are proud to be partners with the Houston Ground Angels in making a difference in the lives of others.

Pictured: Upper right Founder - Kathy Broussard, left Mission Coordinator since 2007 - Kathy Cardiff, lower right Coordinator since 2011 - Mary Hutto. To find out more about this wonderful organization, visit their website at Houstongroundangels.org or call 281-900-7377

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

Pilots for Patients would like to give a big thank you to our friends who have donated soft drinks, water bottles, crackers, etc. for our patients and pilots to enjoy while flying in or out of our new hanger at the Monroe airport. These items have come in handy for our pilots and patients.

Currently we are in need of the following:

Fleece throws (50" x 60"). Some of our patients get cold when flying, even in the summertime.

Small packs of Handi Wipes

Pocket size bottles of Instant Hand Sanitizers



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If you or your organization would like to host a fly-in, fundraiser or other event please contact the Pilots for Patients office.

Phone: 318 322 5112 or email: pfp@pilotsforpatients.org

Thank you to our sponsors and friends

Joe and Linda Ford
Cowboy Trailers
Chris & Mindy Jones
Vickie & Billy Husted
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