

# Local Pilot Club Sparked 911, Recalls Its New State Governor

BY MARJORIE MEGIVERN

Sherry Roseman has the authoritative, yet charming air you would expect of an activist business leader. Her southern warmth reflects an upbringing in China Grove, while a self-assured, articulate style tells you right away that this is a savvy woman who knows how to get the job done.



ROSEMAN

A new job she has just acquired is that of governor of the North Carolina District of Pilot International. The Pilot Club, since its inception in 1921, has been an organization exclusively for business and professional women, invited to membership in specific categories. Since recent demands that similar men's civic clubs admit women, Pilot is now open to men, as well. There are presently no men in the Brunswick County group.

Having come up through the Pilot ranks as treasurer and governor-elect on the state level, while helping organize the Brunswick County club in 1985 and serving as its first president, and having owned her own florist's business for the last 10 years, Mrs. Roseman is no stranger to leadership.

Furthermore, she seems to be pre-

sent anywhere organization and innovation is taking place. She helped start the Brunswick Horticulture Association in 1988 and is treasurer of the infant St. Luke's Lutheran church, whose birth she also attended.

More important, this Pilot leader was at the forefront of a movement her local club led strenuously for six years before the dream materialized just this month.

"We started in 1986 trying to get the 911 emergency service in Brunswick County," she said. She pointed to a *Beacon* article that reported a public forum held in May of that year to explore the feasibility of such a system.

"It was attended by county officials, rescue squad people, and lots of citizens of the county," she commented. "There were some, especially rescue personnel, who had a standoff attitude toward the idea, because they were afraid of losing some of their power or responsibilities. When we showed that this wouldn't happen, there was good public response."

It was, however, another two years before the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners put money into the budget for 911.

"But nothing more was done about it," Mrs. Roseman said. "All kinds of excuses were given," she said, "such as the contention that the telephone companies wouldn't work

with the county on it, but we proved that this simply wasn't true. We had to push them constantly."

Finally, she said, in 1990, the plan was put in place.

"Streets had to be named, the county mapped and everyone given an address," Mrs. Roseman said.

Meanwhile, leading up to the finalization of plans, the Pilot Club had worked tirelessly to promote it, writing letters to all mayors and rescue squads in the county and distributing information sheets to area businesses where the public could pick them up. Pilot member Tanya Bellamy Long was in charge of this project with all 20 members working on it.

Mrs. Roseman is delighted with the emergence of 911 in early May, but eager to establish for the record the role Pilot played in making this happen.

This is by no means the only contribution made by the Pilot Club in the seven years since it came to Brunswick County. Meeting monthly with the educational programs and social activities common to most groups, Pilot is heavily committed to community service.

"Our emphasis has been mostly on safety, people with disabilities and children," Mrs. Roseman said. "We have brought policemen and firemen and Coast Guardsmen into the schools to give children talks on safety and we've sponsored a lot of

poster and essay contests on the subjects."

One award-winning safety project the club organized a few years ago was a "rest break" for motorists. Members set up a booth at a state rest area at Bolivia, where they signaled travelers to stop for coffee or cold drinks and distributed safety literature to them.

"We were a new club then, but we won first place and \$500 with this project nationwide."

Mrs. Roseman, managing her Seaside florist and gift business, said the new position as Pilot's governor will mean "that I'm going to go crazy." She anticipates a great deal of travel throughout the state evaluating clubs and is responsible for two annual meetings on a state level.

The name for this changing organization is misleading, she says.

"A ship's wheel is part of our logo, and people think of airplane pilots when they see it," she said, laughing. "It actually refers to the old riverboat and the idea of those pilots being guides along the river. The international organization is removing the wheel from the logo."

The parent club spawns groups for high schools, called Anchors, and for colleges and universities, called Compass. Roseman said an Anchor club has been organized at South Brunswick High School, but there is no Compass in the county at present.



STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG RUTTER

## A Face In The Crowd

Meagan Grant of Rock Hill, S.C., was one of thousands of visitors who flocked to area beaches for the Memorial Day weekend. The three-year-old was among those enjoying sunny skies and warm weather Saturday at Holden Beach.

## West Brunswick High Inducts 49 Honor Society Members

Forty-nine students were recently inducted into the National Honor Society at West Brunswick High School.

Graduating seniors among them included Sonja Baines, Tarshall Hill, Rebecca Sinish and Lori Ballenburger.

Junior inductees are Christopher Boone, Aaron Butler, Kim Clemons, Suzanne Jones, Wendi Moore and Maria Turner.

Others inducted, from the class of 1994, are as follows: Douglas Anderson, Machalin Blue, Nadia Bryant, Melissa Caison, Chris Carlisle, Willard Causey, Brian Chestnut, Kim

Davis, Jamie Nicole Foss, Monekia Gause, Laura Galloway, Misty Galloway, Kristi Gibson, Megan Grissett, Vickie Herrin, Gregory Hewett, Tina Renee Hewett and Felisha Hill.

Also, William Ashley Hobson, Jennifer Home, Allison Keill, Heather Kirby, Dawn Marie Lewis, William Bradley Lewis, Ali Karagiannis, Amanda Martin, Craig McLeod, Regecca Mckeithan, Nicole Norris, Mary Rachel Pearce, Sheyna J. Pope, Tamara Roberson, Melissa Robinson, Daniel Simmons, Jared Smith, Jennifer Smith, James W. Stanley, Melissa Trapp, Ellen Wemyss and Chris Ray Wilmeth.

## Minutes Of Meeting Sought In Brunswick Airport Probe

District Attorney Rex Gore has requested the minutes of several Brunswick County Airport Commission (BCAC) meetings in an investigation to determine whether BCAC member Grover Gore acted improperly in collecting legal fees from the commission.

The county board of commissioners last week requested the investigation after an audit of airport commission accounts raised the question of a conflict of interest in the amount paid to the Southport attorney and BCAC treasurer.

The district attorney said Friday it was "not a per-se violation" of state

law for the BCAC to contract with one of its members for services. Such arrangements are allowed in counties that have no town with a population greater than 7,500, he said, so long as the contract does not exceed \$5,000.

At issue is whether the total payments Grover Gore received exceeded the amount allowed by law.

The district attorney said he needs to examine the BCAC minutes to see what services Gore was paid for before determining whether or not the attorney's financial relationship with the commission was improper.

Rex Gore and Grover Gore are not related.

## Ruling May Affect Veterans' Taxes

A recent court decision could be good news for veterans who received disability severance pay at any time since 1976, according to Brunswick County Veterans Service Officer Virgil F. Batten.

Apparently the Internal Revenue Service has been improperly taxing lump-sum disability severance pay, Batten said. In the case *St. Clair v. United States*, the court ruled that such payments are received for personal injuries and are thus excluded from taxable income.

Veterans who think they may be affected by this decision should contact the county veteran service office at 919-253-4307 for additional information.

BY SUSAN USHER

Brunswick Community College trustees last week juggled mixed news from Raleigh and Bolivia regarding next year's budget.

In Raleigh, state legislators are looking at recommendations to increase tuition by 20 percent to help cover a community college system budget request of an additional \$21.6 million to cover enrollment growth, as well as a request for a bond referendum to support capital construction at community colleges across the state.

"I don't think that 20 percent increase will fly," noted BCC President Michael Reaves. "It's not going over well at all with students."

"I personally think it is unfair. We (community college personnel) thought the increase last year was for the biennium."

The legislature will also be considering proposals to eliminate exemptions for some groups that now take courses without paying tuition, including fire, rescue, law enforcement and corrections personnel.

A construction package proposed by Community College System President Bob Scott asks for \$243 million in bonds for construction and equipment. Included in that request is an Allied Sciences building for the BCC campus. Any bonds approved by the General Assembly would have to be approved by voters.

### Pleased With Budget

Both staff and trustees were pleased with the budget allocation for BCC recommended in the proposed county budget presented to the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners last week.

"I was very encouraged that some of our requests had made the first cut," said Chairman David Kelly.

However, Ben DeBlois, vice president for administration, cautioned trustees, "It's not a done deal. That's the county manager's recommendation to the commissioners."

Kelly suggested trustees contact individual commissioners to encourage their support of the proposal.

Last year BCC received \$511,000 from the county, less than the previous year. For 1992-93, it requested \$766,415 to reflect rising costs associated with increased space and enrollment. The county manager is recommending allocation of \$636,244.

### Little Interest In Jobs

Trustees hired Alan Cordle as a library technical assistant and Mary Norwood and Richard Heil as rehabilitation specialists for the Brunswick Interagency Program.

There were only 11 applicants for Cordle's job and five combined for the specialist jobs, which surprised trustees because of the high local unemployment rate.

"I can't understand that," commented Chairman David Kelly.

Added Trustee James Rabon, "It doesn't make much sense."

Mrs. Norwood will oversee a food service program and Heil will oversee a grounds maintenance program, with both projects hiring BIP enrollees in a work-training situation.

### Room Shaping Up

Trustee James Rabon reported that a model classroom being renovated by BCC staff at the Southport campus is looking "pretty good" to him, with about 75 percent of the work completed and the balance-

ceiling and lighting replacement—expected by the end of June.

The college hopes the room will serve as a model for other businesses, industries and groups it hopes will "adopt" a classroom for renovation.

### Other Business

■Voted unanimously to renew the lease of the old cafeteria on the Southport campus to the Boys Club. The club provides recreational programming for about 35 boys at the site.

■Heard from Resource Development Officer Glenn Barefoot that, through a procedure that recognizes students' achievements, five Ambassadors and an alternate have been chosen from among 50 nominees to represent the college next year. Robin Hewett, Jennifer Howard, Kenny Kincaid, Martie Raleigh, Beth Zetlemoyer and alternate Amanda Edmisten will receive scholarships, blazers and special training.

■Ms. Barefoot also announced the Fund for Academic Excellence, a project of the BCC Foundation to support limited state and county funds to ensure excellence at BCC. The fund provides 14 scholarships, work-study program opportunities and money for equipment purchase and faculty/staff development.

■Learned from President Michael Reaves that BCC is in a "Catch 22" position in terms of promoting new

programs expected to be offered starting fall term. One program, recreational grounds management technology, awaits state board approval; several allied health programs need funding. However, if the programs are to attract sufficient students, the sooner promotion can begin the better.

■Heard from Reaves that he expects to advertise for a manager for the Odell Williamson Auditorium within 30 days. "I'm afraid we're going to open the doors and not have anybody using it because we haven't got anyone in," cautioned Kelly.

■Learned that construction of the Odell Williamson Auditorium is "a little bit behind schedule" and that the state construction department is taking an interest in monitoring the project.

■Delayed amending the personnel policy as proposed by Reaves until the respective roles of vice presidents and screening committees in making recommendations are clarified.

■Heard from Reaves, who served on the state task force on diversity, on a proposed Diversification Plan that, if adopted by the state board of trustees as expected, would have each campus look at ways it can enhance diversity, particularly as it relates to females and minorities management positions.

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