



As president of Business and Professional Women of Tennessee Inc., I decided, along with my outstanding team of BPW officers and members, that our June 13-15 state convention in Jackson, Tenn. would be redesigned, offering not just business sessions for our regular state delegates, but training and help for women veterans.

We want 200 women veterans in West Tennessee to attend and receive information about education benefits from our colleges and universities; nine business training sessions to strengthen resumes; help understanding their benefits.

We have outstanding speakers: **Navy Commander Cathy Lovelace**, APRN, MSN, and Oklahoma University College of Nursing professor, tours in Afghanistan and Germany as a combat nurse.

Award-winning author Lillie Leonardi, retired, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Pittsburgh Division. In her book, *In the Shadow of a Badge*, Lillie shares what she witnessed at the Flight 93 crash site on 9/11.

As a former military wife of a decorated Vietnam veteran, I am disturbed that nearly one out of five women who served in the military at home or abroad in Iraq or Afghanistan is now without a job, BLS statistics show. The jobless rate for male veterans has declined, but the rate for women has not changed. As more are discharged, the numbers are rising.

These women need job training, resume building, and mentors. I am now a national mentor through BPW Foundation USA. You can find out more about Joining Forces Mentoring Plus at <http://bpwfoundation.org>. Newman's Own Foundation just awarded \$35,000 to BPW Foundation for helping women veterans. **In Tennessee, I need your help.**

As a sponsor, you can help women return to college and/or receive job training skills in Tennessee:

- **Iris.** \$5,000. Benefits include: online publicity at BPW Foundation USA. Opportunity to speak (5 minutes) at opening luncheon and to receive Women Veterans' Mentor Award. Online ads at bpwtn.org begin January 2014 and run through July 2014.
- **Platinum.** \$2,500. Online at bpwtn.org starting March 2014-June 2014. Extra handout in all packets. Listing in article for BPW Foundation USA. Will be introduced at Saturday luncheon.
- **Gold.** \$1,500. • **Silver.** \$750. • **Bronze.** \$500.

You will find the full explanation of benefits at each level in the attached brochure.

If you have any questions, please give me a call on my cell at (731) 394-2894.

Warmest regards,

Jacque Hillman

President, Business and Professional Women of Tennessee Inc.

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