

BPW/TN JULY ACHIEVER

Issue 1 July 2014



Be Transformed By BPW 2014-2015

President

Tressy Hart

**Welcome to BPW
2014/2015!!**

**Are you ready to
be transformed?**



I am able to state with absolute sincerity - dreams do come true! I joined BPW in the 90's. I was a young careerist and an ID speaker at the state level and I was in love with the organization and all it stood for. I wanted to help and be involved, but my life interfered and I had to put my dreams on hold for a while. Now I am here and so excited to be your president. I know many of you were not able to make it to convention, and I hope this Achiever (the first of ten for the year) will give you a sense of what you missed. Since I get to go first (a perk of being the president!), I want to say that this was a wonderful convention. We got to hear wonderful speakers, conducted business quickly, and participated in the election process which culminated in the election of a great slate of officers for the coming year.

My goals for this year are three-fold. Personally, I want us to reach out to our sister BPW organizations in the Southeast and Ann Lay, Beth Bates, and Deborah Turner-Brasfield are coordinating that effort. If you have any contacts in the surrounding states, please share them with one of those three ladies. Professionally, I am working with a local marketing professor to create a contest at the college level to create a marketing plan to target the young professionals we need in our organization. Politically, I want us to devise a strategy to pass the ERA to the Tennessee state constitution. Nationally, the ERA has stalled. Time to make some forward progress!

Please let me know if you have any questions or suggestions. I want to hear from you and know what is the best method to share information. Do you prefer email, chat, text, tweets, or is there something new that will make it even easier to communicate what is happening? Communication is a two-way street so don't get stuck in the slow lane - talk and share! It is the only way to get transformation of both yourself and our organization.

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Meet your BPWTN 2014-15 Executive Committee:



President
Tressy Hart



President Elect
Lee Ann Gaddis



1st Vice President
Martha Ervin



2nd Vice President
Jacque Hillman



Secretary
Carol Turpen



Treasurer
Brenda Risner



Region I Director
Sheree Schneider



Region II
Director
Ann Poag



Region III
Director
Carolyn Beverly

The 2014 Convention reviews are in:

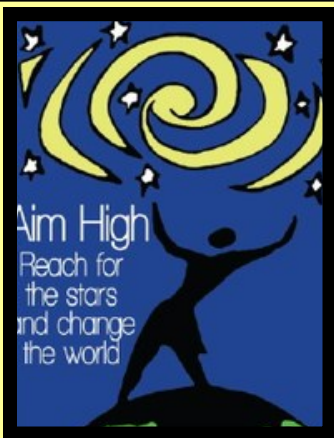


Parliamentarian—Beth Bates— For several days after the convention, I have awoken with happiness, satisfaction and hope for BPWTN. I am happy and satisfied with the state

conference which offered great programming and speakers to our members and the community. I loved the Discovery Park trip; I want to go back. There was no way to listen to all of the oral history and see every thing in one day. I learned things including the following: get more help than you think you will need for registration, get enough sponsor money so that one need not pinch pennies, and don't lose sight of why you are there. You are there to learn, to network, and most of all to help other women. Yes, we did make some money just how much is yet to be seen as USDA has not started its reimbursement. Beth Bates, 2013 BPWTN Convention Chair.

President Elect—LeeAnn Gaddis As always convention is a thrilling ride. You always have new members and experienced members coming together with their knowledge of ideas to harmonize in a way that has proved again this year to be a stunning success. The opportunities given while as an officer, I wasn't always able to attend but it led the way to display BPW/TN as a promoter of education, leader in advertisement, a grant writer, and technology but keeping with traditions as in our Handbook and Bylaws. I have never came away from a Convention not being empowered to continue my participation in the organization and I hope I never do.

Region III Director—Carolyn Beverly. I think it was rewarding and refreshing that the attendees at the 2014 BPW convention were afforded the opportunity to participate in informative seminars. I think listening to powerful females, such as Navy Commander, Cathy Lovelace and Award Winning Author, Lillie Leonardi were profound and memorable moments that the attendees will not forget. All of us walked away with something that we did not have prior to attending the convention. I think it is important that BPW stay focused on being the bridge to usher women into empowerment. We do that by offering opportunities for networking and learning.



Celebrate! We've had a great year

We've run out of fingers to count on! Seriously! We are still counting numbers from our 95th annual convention, "Aim High," because we had so many free passes used by our sponsors, an exciting increase in visitors, but we know at this point we had more than 100 in attendance.

Some didn't fill out their registration sheets and that's OK. They came, they listened, they studied, they met us, and they left with knowledge of business and of BPW/TN. That's what we wanted. We have asked their offices for some details as to their attendance. We gave them excellent business training from a realm of experts, many our own members, and others from Nashville and elsewhere.

I believed this change in convention design would work. This has been one of the most fulfilling years of my life because I stood up for the future of BPW/TN. But I can tell you

that this wouldn't have happened without the members who have backed me and worked hard to make the vision a reality. You stood up for this change, too.

Thank you so much to my convention team in Jackson led by Beth Bates. We had anywhere from 10 to 16 women meeting every month since last July to make this convention happen.

Then you supported the convention with your attendance, and we all learned something from our speakers, Navy Cmdr. Cathy Lovelace and Lillie Leonardi.

I feel more empowered than I ever have in my life, and that's because of our membership.

I had several goals this past year – to speak across the state for BPW, to meet more of our members, to find out what you wanted, and to help BPW grow. I was convinced that if I found my place in BPW, others would, too.

What I found is a core group in BPW/TN who believe absolutely in our focus and our future. I found some who simply want friendship, and that's OK, too. And then I found others who are seeking a more active BPW/TN. They want us out changing the workforce world for the better for women. They want us to actively pursue our legislative platform. Talk is fine; action is better.

What we see before us is a landscape of opportunities just waiting.

What about the small business owner in a little town who wants some advice on running her business? What about the woman who wants to return to college to advance her career and needs advice? We are here for those women.

We are here for the women veterans who need our support.

We are here for the long-time members who enjoy each other's company and want to have dinner together once a month.

I have found through speaking at the Tennessee Economic Council on Women and the Tennessee Woman Veterans Summit is that there are women who are seeking other women who want to – quite frankly – change the world they're living in.

We have added three local organizations this year, one new, and two came back to the state because of our activity helping women everywhere. We have interest in new groups in Knoxville, Murfreesboro and Chattanooga. We have members interested in joining Columbia. Nashville will reorganize this year – I have faith in that from the interest we have had.

As long as we continue to work for bills that help women in the workforce and their families, whether it is at the state or federal level, we are doing good work. Meanwhile, our locals will continue educating members on healthcare, financial decision-making, entrepreneurship, professional skills and more.

Yes, we've restyled our website, freshened our approach, and we have all made great strides.

This past year of successes has been about you and your belief in BPW/TN.

Thank you for helping women achieve their goals and for changing the world.



Jacquie Hillman,
Past President BPW/TN, 2013-2014





2013-2014 BPW/TN Award Winners



Issues Management

Cumberland BPW

Issues Management

Rockwood BPW

Legislation

Hardeman County BPW

Legislation

Jackson Area BPW

Membership Increase

Cumberland Co. BPW

Membership Increase

Greater Memphis BPW

Foundation

Rockwood BPW

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## Certificates of Appreciation

*(to new LO joining or reorganizing.)*

Cumberland County ~ Greater Memphis ~ Paris

## Increase of Membership:

Cumberland County 100% ~ Greater Memphis 100% ~ LaFollette 44%

Iris Award: *(Largest # of Members):* Jackson Area

Mildred Hearne Award: *(largest retention)* Hardeman County 95%

Retention: Rockwood 92%

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Foundation:

Friends of the Foundation Contributors:

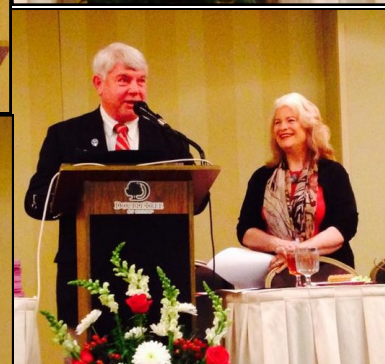
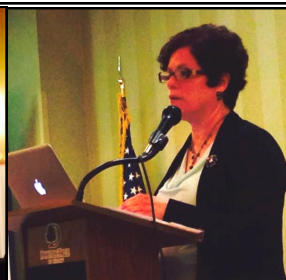
Malinda Yager, Rebecca Layne, Mary Ann Owings, and Geraldine Wallick

Ann Hiegel—Torch Bearer (Silver) for Donations between \$500.00 and \$999.99

Beth Bates — Highest \$ Donation to the BPW Foundation



**2014 BPWTN
Convention
Jackson, TN
June 2014**



**BPW/TN
2014-15
Officers
Installed**

The view from here on MEMBERSHIP!!

We're growing! In case you haven't noticed, our membership has grown 43 percent in the last year.

Now we need to continue that growth and retention. As membership chair, I intend to speak across the state whenever and wherever I can about what BPW/TN can do for women in the workforce as we follow our legislative platform and our mission.

From what our local presidents have told me, we are increasing membership by inviting guests to visit and retaining members by fulfilling our long-time members' expectations. Our local presidents are also reaching out to college campuses for college students interested in an active women's organization, and to women veterans who want an organization that is politically active.

The women veterans are tired of losing benefits, tired of poor medical care at the VA, and they want to become politically active. They also seek support and friendship as they transition to civilian life. It isn't easy to make that transition.

My goal is to continue public speaking wherever I can because I have found so many women who don't even know we exist or what our mission is.

For too many years, we have patted each other on the back about how good we are, but we haven't kept the message out in the public. It takes a vibrant core group with energy to do that. And it takes marketing ourselves through our website and The Achiever, plus membership brochures. This year, we have reached out through marketing, and the results are paying off. I see more interest than ever in women in communities across the state.

Lee Ann Gaddis has done a great job as membership chair, and I want to continue her awards system and add a few more:

The Outreach Award: Based on the highest number of times your local president or a designated local member has spoken on BPW/TN at other events, or has had a vendor's booth presenting information about BPW/TN at other events.

The College Student Membership Award: Based on the highest number of collegiate members enrolled either as local members or members-at-large or as groups established on campus.

The Women Veterans Membership Award: Based on the highest number of women military veterans enrolled either as local members or members-at-large.

I'll be reaching out to everyone who has asked for information through our website – that's nearly 40 women right now, most in the Nashville, Murfreesboro and Knoxville areas.

Thank you for supporting our efforts as we reach out and show that "we work for women everywhere."

Jacque Hillman, Membership chair

News from Region I :

Ms. Phyllis Clinger, the 2014-2015 Lafollette BPW president and Ms. Sheree Schneider, the 2013-2014 president represented the Lafollette BPW at the 95th BPW/TN state convention in Jackson. Ms. Clinger is no stranger to the Lafollette business and professional women or BPW/TN; but this was only my second BPW/TN conference.

This year's convention had something for everyone with pre-convention activities earlier in the week and conferences mingled between business sessions on both Friday and Saturday. The BPW ladies from Jackson extended their southern hospitality with all the grandeur one would expect and this year's theme of "Aim High Reach for the Stars and Change the World" was right on target. I'm sure that everyone will have much to say about our keynote speakers. I don't believe there was a dry eye in the room when Navy commander Cathy Lovelace shared her experiences from Kandahar, Afghanistan. Her courage and compassion definitely inspired and enlightened me as I hung on every word of her presentation and was absorbed by her comments.

The tragedies of what happen to America on what we will all remember as 9-11 will forever be engrained in my mind. I know exactly where I was on that tragic day in 2001, but it still amazes me what I didn't know.

Our second keynote speaker, Ms. Lillie Leonardi provided admirable insight on what she felt and saw at that fateful sight where Flight 93 crashed near Shanksville, PA. Again I was mesmerized, especially by her compassion for the families of the victims. I wasn't able to attend many of the conferences but there was one that I really enjoyed. Ms. Wanda Stanfill's presentation on Generation Gaps was awesome. The information she shared regarding the multi-generations in our businesses is something that we can all relate to; and, clearly we need to start looking at our BPW organizations with the same objectives in mind.

Today there are at least three generations, maybe five, that potentially could exist in most of our BPW organizations and we need to meet the needs of these generations if we want to see BPW/TN grow and flourish. We must provide multiple options as well as the necessary tools that will enable each generation to achieve their individual goals. Only by accepting and preparing for these generational needs and preferences can our organizations hope to attract and grow new members.

In my opinion the 95th BPW/TN state convention was a huge success. Kudos to Past President Jackie Hillman and her team. As the newly elected Region I Director under the leadership of President Tressy Hart, I'm looking forward to serving the BPW locals in East Tennessee. I believe Region I was represented well at this year's state convention and I'd like to extend a special thank you to the ladies who made the trip. There's a huge distance between east and west Tennessee! We had representatives from Cumberland County, Lafollette, and Rockwood. As the opulence of the 95th state convention fades, I'm looking forward to a great upcoming year in BPW and the 96th State Convention in Middle TN. I'm excited to be a part of such a prestigious organization.

Sheree Schneider, Region I Director

2014-15 BPW/TN

Legislative Platform



PREAMBLE

The Equal Rights Amendment, as authored by Alice Paul, shall stand first, foremost, and above all other items which may appear on the platform of this Federation until equal, legal rights for women and men become guaranteed in the United States Constitution, because all statutory law derives there from.

THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

Alice Stokes Paul was an American suffragist and activist. Along with Lucy Burns and others, she led a successful campaign for women's suffrage that resulted in the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1920

PLATFORM

Economic Equity

Actively work to support equal educational opportunities; equal treatment for women in all areas of employment, including adequate retirement benefits, improved programs for women re-entering the workforce, and implementation of equal pay for work of comparable worth.

Health

Actively work to strengthen and enforce legal protection for full access to all health care services including reproductive choice, funding for research into and protection for women's health care and educational programs concerning women's health issues.

Civil Rights

Actively work to pass legislation, which will ensure equal rights and remedies for women in all phases of their lives, including support of affirmative action programs; and eliminate all forms of harassment against individuals.

Dependent Care

Actively work to strengthen and improve enrichment programs, physical facilities, and funding for affordable quality dependent care of all ages.

Military Veterans

Actively work to pass legislation to benefit military veterans.

Victim Rights

Actively work to strengthen and enforce legal protection for all individuals who are victims of violent acts including domestic and/or sexual violence; promote violence prevention programs; support services and facilities for survivors of this violence and the funding thereof; and support legislation, which provides compensatory and punitive damage awards to victims.

Policy Items

Actively work for the election of and appointment to policy-making positions those who support the BPW Legislative Platform.

The organization supports issues of importance, which promote the goals, objectives, and mission statement of the Business and Professional Women of Tennessee, Inc. (BPW/TN). The placement of the Platform items in no way indicates importance or priority of one item above another.



Program Platform

Purpose

Our mission is to achieve equity for all women in the workforce through advocacy, education, and information

Vision Statement

BPW/TN is the leading advocate for working women across our state.

Goals

Personal – Reach out to sister organizations in the Southeast region to reconnect and share.

Professional – Create a college marketing plan to reach our prospective members.

Political – Aggressively pursue a state constitution amendment for equality.

We cannot fast forward
time to know if it's
worth it.

So we trust our hearts
and hope it turns out right.



2014-2015 BPW TN Roster

Position	Name	Address	City, State, Zip	Email	Contact #
<i>President</i>	Tressy Hart	132 Warren Hollow	Minor Hill, TN 38473	tressy.hart@gmail.com	931-556-2604
<i>President-Elect</i>	Lee Ann Gaddis	1258 Joiner Hollow	Rockwood, TN 37854	leeann4002@yahoo.com	423-562-5024
<i>1st Vice President</i>	Martha Ervin	1360 Baskins Road	Burlison, TN 38015	mervin0613@bellsouth.net	901-419-8655
<i>2nd Vice President</i>	Jacque Hillman	127 Fairmont Ave.	Jackson, TN 38305	hillmanjacque@yahoo.com	731-554-1894
<i>Treasurer</i>	Brenda Risner	155 Gore Rd	Lawrenceburg, TN 38469	brenda.risner@myfirstfarmers.com	931-762-0539
<i>Secretary</i>	Carol Turpen	2355 Lanier Road	Alamo, TN 38001	cgturpen@rockett.net	731-667-4102
<i>Region I Director</i>	Sheree Schneider	183 Don Jessie Lane	Speedwell, TN 37870	Sheree.Schneider@lmunet.edu	423-489-9731
<i>Region II Director</i>	Ann Poag	1509 Massey Ave	Lawrenceburg, TN 38469	NA	931-762-1391
<i>Region III Director</i>	Carolyn Beverly	18 Penny Lane	Jackson, TN 38301	Carolyn.Beverly@ttcwhiteville.edu	
<i>Parliamentarian</i>	Beth Bates	35 Walnut Grove Rd	Jackson, TN 38305	batesb@aol.com	731-427-0465

Standing & Sub Committee Chairs

Finance	Jewell Walker	415 Collinwood Dr	McMinnville TN 37110	jewell.walker@secfed.net	931-668-2987
<i>Fundraising</i>	Wanda Stanfill			wanda.stanfill@wtbc.edu	
<i>Foundation</i>	Andrea Young	2165 Sain Rd	Boliver, TN 38008	ayoung@1stsouth.com	731-609-9250
Leg/Issues Mgmt	Martha Ervin	1360 Baskins Road	Burlison, TN 38015	mervin0613@bellsouth.net	931-556-2604
<i>Individual Development</i>	Deborah Brasfield	2095 Exeter #80-274	Germentown, TN38138	OnTheSquareGandG@aol.com	901-652-7517
<i>Day on the Hill</i>	Zulfat Suara	P.O. Box 824	Bolivar, TN 38008	zsuara@advancebussiness.org	731-658-6808
<i>Equal Pay Day</i>	Mary Jo Middlebrooks	P.O. Box 1985	Jackson, TN 38302	mmiddl9469@aol.com	731-668-5139
Membership	Jacque Hillman	127 Fairmont Ave.	Jackson, TN 38305	hillmanjacque@yahoo.com	731-554-1894
<i>ALT</i>	Lee Ann Gaddis	1258 Joiner Hollow	Rockwood, TN 37854	leeann4002@yahoo.com	423-562-5024
<i>Mentorship</i>	Ann Fletcher			ann-fletcher@att.net	

Special Committee Chairs

<i>Historian</i>	Sharon Taylor-Carrillo	2403 Gold City Road	Franklin, KY 42134	SharonLynae@aol.com	615-319-6531
<i>Publication Editor</i>	Sharon Taylor-Carrillo	2403 Gold City Road	Franklin, KY 42134	SharonLynae@aol.com	615-319-6531
<i>2014 Interim Board</i>	Charlotte Buchanan	7005 Lennox Village#C-6	Nashville, TN 37211	rbuch49381@aol.com	615-834-4261
<i>2014 IB Registration</i>	Treasa Newton	362 Morris Drive	Ringgold, GA, 30736	bhgeorgia@att.net	706-891-0490

2015 State Convention
2015 State Registration

Task Forces and Appointments

<i>Custodian of Financial</i>	Records-Beth Bates	35 Walnut Grove Rd	Jackson, TN 38305	batesb@aol.com	731-427-0465
<i>Volunteer Attorney</i>	Mary Jo Middlebrooks	P.O. Box 1985	Jackson, TN 38302	mmiddl9469@aol.com	731-668-5139
<i>Global Outreach</i>	Ann Lay	1008 Cunniff Rd.	Ashland, TN. 37015	dragin90@AOL.com	615-792-7142

2014-15 BPW/TN Calendar of Events

June 25, 2014	Achiever Deadline - Convention Recap Issue
July 3, 2014	Mail Date - Achiever
July 25, 2014	Achiever Deadline - Equality Day Issue
August 3, 2014	Mail Date - Achiever
August 25, 2014	Achiever Deadline - ID & ALT Issue
August 26, 2014	Women's Equality Day
September 3, 2014	Mail Date - Achiever
September 19, 2014	Deadline for submitting bylaws amendments to be considered at IB
September 25, 2014	Achiever Deadline - NBWW Issue
October 3, 2014	Mail Date - Achiever
October 19-20, 2014	Tennessee Women's Economic Summit
October 19-25, 2014	National Business Women's Week
October 24, 2014	Deadline for LOs to submit candidates for Nominating Committee to President
October 25, 2014	Achiever Deadline - IB & Women Vets Issue
October 31, 2014	Deadline for Officer & Committee Reports for IB (to Tressy Hart)
November 3, 2014	Mail Date - Achiever
November 7, 2012	IB Executive Committee Meeting
November 8, 2014	Interim Board of Directors, Holiday Inn Cool Springs.
November 25, 2014	Achiever Deadline - Parliamentary Procedure Issue
December 3, 2014	Mail Date - Achiever
December 22, 2014	Achiever Deadline - Mentoring month Issue
January 3, 2015	Mail Date - Achiever
January 25, 2015	Achiever Deadline - BPW Foundation Issue/ DOH
February 1, 2015	Deadline for District Director nomination qualifying papers to Nominations Chair
February 3, 2015	Mail Date - Achiever
February 25, 2015	Achiever Deadline - Region Meetings / Women's History Issue
02/??/2015	Day on the Hill
MARCH	Women's History Month
March 3, 2015	Mail Date - Achiever
March 8, 2015	International Woman's Day
March 7, 2015	Region III Meeting,
March 14, 2015	Region II Meeting, Lawrenceburg
March 21, 2015	Region I Meeting,
March 25, 2015	Equal Pay Day Issue
April 3, 2015	Mail Date - Achiever
April 10, 2015	Deadline for nominations for State Officers and Regional Directors
April 14, 2015	Equal Pay Day
April 25, 2015	Achiever Deadline - Convention Issue
April 30, 2015	Membership Dues Deadline & Foundation Contribution Deadline
May 3, 2015	Mail Date - Achiever
May 5, 2015	All President's reports due to President, 1st VP, and 2nd VP
May 5, 2015	Deadline for Convention Registrations
May 5, 2015	Deadline for all reports to State President for Convention
	Deadline for all reports to State President-Elect for Post Convention Board
June 5, 2015	Pre-Convention Executive Committee Meeting
June 5, 2015	Pre-Convention Board of Directors Meeting
June 5-6, 2015	BPW/TN Convention, Doubletree Hotel, Murfreesboro, TN
June 7, 2015	Post-Convention Board of Directors

Women are a sisterhood.
They make common cause in
behalf of the sex; and, indeed,
this is natural enough, when we
consider the vast power that the
law gives us over them.

William Cobbett



Tax-Free Time In Tennessee

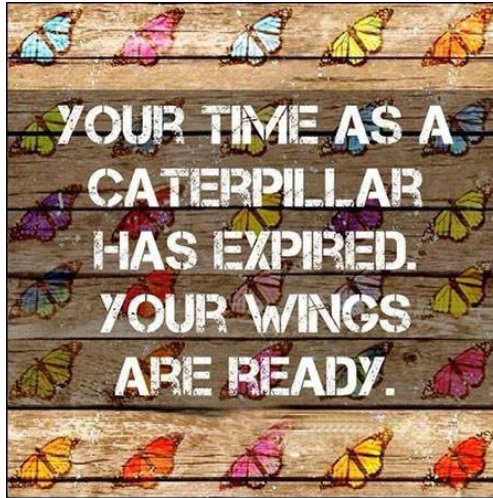
Aug. 1-3 is the State of Tennessee's annual Sales Tax Holiday, and it comes just in time for back-to-school or "just because" shopping. 2014 Sales Tax Holiday: August 1-3 ... This year's tax-free holiday weekend begins at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, August 1 and ends Sunday, August 3 at 11:59 p.m.. For these three days, clothing of \$100 or less per item, school supplies of \$100 or less per item or computers of \$1,500 or less are exempt from sales tax. There are a few exceptions, so for details be sure to visit www.tn.gov/revenue/salestaxholiday.

NOTE: *Deadline to submit material for Achiever is the 25th of each month.*

Send to :

SharonLyrae@aol.com

Articles received after the 25th will be in the next months issue.



Upcoming Monthly Highlights

August 26	Women's Equality Day
September	ID & ALT
October	NBWW
November	Interim Board & Women Vets
December	Parliamentary Procedure

Thought for the Month: Too often we stop ourselves from taking action and getting involved in a challenging project or situation because we sometimes doubt our ability to make a difference as just one individual. We have a tendency to think small rather than let our light shine. You and I can do so much more than we ever thought possible, especially when our cause is just and the outcomes we help generate through our actions inspire others to follow.

Be Transformed By BPW



718 Thompson Lane,
Suite#108-323
Nashville, TN 37204

**Business and Professional
Women of Tennessee**