

THE ACHIEVER

Business & Professional Women of Tennessee, INC.

Message From Your President

Lee Ann Gaddis



With each new year comes new hopes, dreams, resolutions, and change. Don't forget when celebrating a new year toast BPW/TN starting into their 101st year and the 100th year of the Ratification of the 19th Amendment.

I, myself, am looking for to this new year. I, even, make resolutions. The number one resolution I manage to keep is on making decisions. No matter what decisions I make that day, good or bad, I am able to finish my day looking myself in the eye at night and accept what I did. As a leader, I could second guess myself and worry myself sick about decisions I have made. However, as I have grown older I know that accepting the decisions I make is the key to moving forward in life. As a leader that is the role I was given and offer that experience to those who will come next.

How will you make this year better? In what way will you help contribute to BPW/TN success? Nominating Committee is asking for your leadership in the 2020-2021 year. The information to contact the members of this committee is within this Achiever and on the website.

Join with me and congratulate our State Secretary Amber Farley on being Elizabethton's Woman of the Year. You can find more on this worthy achievement in this Achiever and on their Facebook page.

Lee Ann Gaddis

BPW/TN State President '19-'20

Rockwood BPW President '19-'20

2015-2016 BPW/TN Past State President



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Beth Bates

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Past State President: Beth Bates

By. Samantha Price

Why did you decide to run for state president?

I have been honored to serve twice--2000-2001 and 2016-17. The first time it was a way for me to promote the issues that were important to me and to develop leadership skills. At my work there were a lot of folks of approximately my age and experience and therefore little room to grow. The second time, no one had filed to run and I thought the organization needed me.

What were your goals for your term?

The first time-- establish a website. We did. Looking back it was not great but we have not been without one since. We also worked to pass legislation. I think that year was a state law that made divorcing spouses notify each other if their health insurance coverage had ended. Also, around that time, we worked to enhance the penalties for spousal rape. The second time, we established the Tennessee Business and Professional Women's Education and Scholarship Fund. This year we had enough money to award two scholarships. What is your favorite memory of your term as state president? I was installed as president the first time in Gatlinburg. I remember presiding over the Post Convention Board by stripping off my black suite jacket to reveal a Rosie the Riveter--" We Can Do It" Tee shirt and saying loudly, Good morning, Tennessee. It was cool to be installed again in Pigeon Forge and going out shopping for executive officer gifts at the Moon Pie Store (spur of the moment), giving money to Thistle Farms, and Blue Monarch and saving money for the 100th Anniversary celebration.

What advice would you offer to the current or future state presidents?

Stay positive.

What do you do now?

I am Senior Managing Attorney with West TN Legal Services. I am a Board Certified Social Security Disability Law Specialist. I am BPWTN's parliamentarian.

How long have you been a member of BPW? 32 years.

What local organization are you a member of? Jackson Area

What would you like to see for the future of TN BPW?

I would like for BPWTN to continue to be a place for leadership growth particularly through serving as officers and committee chairs. I would like for BPWTN to continue to train and education its members and the public to be active in public policy. I want us to continue to provide scholarships both to mature women 25 and older through the TN Education and Scholarship Fund and to Aspiring Leaders of Tomorrow ages 18 through 35.

Growing membership continues to be a focus: Do you have any suggestions or ideas of how to help?

Be an active organization. Publicize what we do both locally and at the state level. Stay positive.





MEMPHIS AREA BPW CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS IN UNCONVENTIONAL WAY!



Front L-R: Madra Little, Shirley Hawkins
Back L-R: Martha Ervin, Mary Lynn Carter, Cheryl Yarbrough

In this Christmas season of hustle and bustle, Memphis Area BPW chose to celebrate in a somewhat unconventional fashion. Instead of having the standard Christmas party, we had a quite dinner and a sound meditation for our activity.

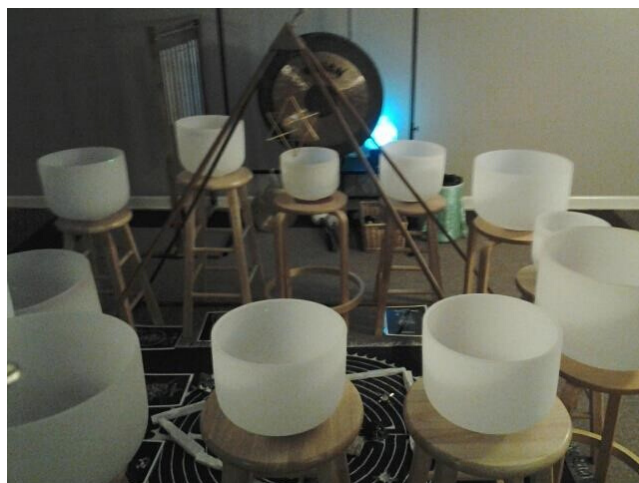
On Saturday, December 22nd, the group started at Los Polares Mexican Restaurant in Bartlett, TN with dinner. The group then met at Ervin Hypnosis Center, also in Bartlett, to have a short meeting before a relaxing sound meditation.

Madra Little, a Memphis Area BPW member, facilitated the sound meditation. Martha Ervin, Memphis Area BPW president, assisted during the meditation.

During the sound meditation, Madra Little leads the participants in a guided relaxation process while she and Martha gently play quartz crystal singing bowls. Crystal bowls of various shapes and sizes are used in the session to create what is known as a crystal sound bath. This lulls the person into a peaceful and mindful state of being.

Just think how you feel when listening to a beautiful piece of music, how your heart and spirits lift. This is the effect strived for in the sound meditations. Sound in general can aid in relieving stress or anxiety, improving mood, or just flat making you feel better.

The members of Memphis Area BPW and their guest reached that goal on Saturday. They relaxed, had fellowship and an overall good time together. It was a Christmas event to remember and one that most certainly will be repeated.



BPW TN Fundraising

Contact fundraising chair: Sharon Taylor-Carrillo
if you would like to purchase either.
sharonlyrae@aol.com or 615-319-6531



**3.5 x 3.5
Stickers
\$1.00 each**

**BPW Pins
\$3.00 each**





State Officers from the past.

NOMINATIONS FOR STATE OFFICE 2020-2021

In January each local organization and other BPW/TN members will be receiving information on candidates for office for the 2019-2020 BPW/TN year. Each Local Organization member seeking office must be endorsed by her local organization and complete the form correctly. Members at Large who wish to run for state office may obtain a Data Form for Members at Large from the nominations committee. [Members at Large are not eligible for the offices of Regional Director.] Members at Large who wish to be a candidate for state office should send their forms to the committee chair, Virginia Bates. Forms are also posted on the website www.bpwtn.org. Forms in duplicate, and pictures for candidates for state office and regional director must be returned to the nominating committee chair or committee member no later than April 10, 2019. Please send digital copies of pictures. All candidates for state office or regional director must have been a member of BPW/TN for at least two years as of the convention at which they are candidates. Candidates for line officers, President, President-elect and 1st or 2nd Vice President, must have served as president of a local organization, current or past, in Tennessee. [Bylaws, Article XII].

Completed Candidate Data Forms should be returned to the nominating committee member in each region:

Region I
Michelle White
134 Chambers Hollow Road
Elizabethton, TN 37643
423-512-1936
Michelle.White12@yahoo.com

Region II
Liz Stanley
3643 Alameda Drive
Paducah, KY 42001
270-243-2294
Liz.Lyrae@gmail.com

Region III
Virginia Bates
35 Walnut Grove CV.
Jackson, TN 38305
731-427-0465
batesv28@gmail.com

It is important for the continuation of BPW/TN that qualified members take advantage of the opportunity to share their leadership skills by participating in the state organization. Please encourage all members. Serving as an officer helps build leadership skills as well.

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN OF TENNESSEE, INC. (BPW/TN)
OFFICIAL DATA FORM FOR CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE

The _____ Business and Professional Women's Local Organization of _____, Tennessee, presents _____

as a candidate for the office of _____ of the Business and Professional Women of Tennessee, Inc. (BPW/TN). She has been endorsed for such office by this local organization.

Current BPW office, if any _____

Previous State Service _____

Qualifications for Office _____

Date and local organization which you served as president _____

Number of years membership in a Tennessee BPW organization _____

LOCAL ORGANIZATION PRESIDENT _____

LOCAL ORGANIZATION SECRETARY _____

Date _____ Region _____

Consent to Serve

The duties of an elected officer for regional director of the state organization include attendance at executive committee meetings, state board meetings, planning meetings, regional meetings, and state conventions.

I have carefully studied the requirements for office for which I am a candidate. Neither my job nor my membership in any other organization in any way prevent my support of the organization's objectives and policies, including active support of our state legislative platform.

The _____ Business and Professional Women's Local Organization has my permission to submit my name as a candidate for the office of _____ of the Business and Professional Women of Tennessee, Inc. (BPW/TN).

I agree to serve as _____, if elected. I am able to give the required time to the duties of such office and there is nothing in my health or personal affairs to prevent my serving.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20 _____.

Return form in duplicate to: Nominations Committee Member.

[Candidates for Executive Committee offices also submit photo. Attach bio and photo for publication.]

Candidate _____

Address _____

Place of employment: Name & Address _____

Phones: (H) _____ (B) _____ (FAX) _____

Cellphone: _____ E-mail: _____

WOMAN OF THE YEAR

ELIZABETHTON BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL WOMEN

Featuring BPW/TN Member: Amber Farley

Elizabethton Business & Professional Women closed out 2019 by presenting their annual Woman of the Year award. The 2019 award was presented to Miss. Amber Dawn Farley from Shady Valley, Tennessee at their December event hosted at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Johnson City. Miss. Farley has been a member of Elizabethton BPW since July 2015 and in her time as a member has served two terms as 1st Vice President and is currently serving a term as 2nd Vice President. She is also serving her first term at the state level as the Secretary for Business & Professional Women of Tennessee, Inc. In addition to her officer position Miss. Farley is the Social Media Chair, Membership Chair, and Scholarship Chair for the local organization.

Miss. Farley is presently employed at East Tennessee State University in the Department of Art & Design as the Executive Aide. She loves working in higher education and is thrilled to help not only the faculty and staff, but the students every day. She also received her Bachelor of Fine Arts from ETSU in 2011 and says the department has always felt like home. She knows that for now this is where she is meant to be as it provides her to work within the arts on an administrative side but has given her new opportunities to exhibit her artwork and grow within the field. In the past two years she not only has had artwork purchased for East Tennessee State University's Presidential Art Collection, she has worked with the Johnson City Public Library to teach a Basic Black & White Darkroom Photography course for their Artful Aging program, and offered courses at William King Art Museum in Abingdon, Virginia. Miss. Farley is a skillful multi-tasker so in addition to working at the university, Amber is a photographer working out of Shady Valley, TN and she runs her own virtual assistant business online. She can be found via social media or by e-mailing amberfarleyphotography@gmail.com.

In her spare time, Miss. Farley is an advocate for the American Cancer Society. She has volunteered with many organizations over the years, but her heart lies with ACS. She began volunteering with the organization in 2015 when she signed up for her first Relay for Life and Making Strides Against Breast Cancer events. In that time she has helped to funds to help those battling cancer. Funds are used not only for research but for programs to help those in our local communities such as Road to Recovery and the Hope Lodge. She now works with amazing men and woman who share the same values and hopes she has for a cure to all cancers by working alongside them to raise awareness and funds to continue research. If you would like more information on how you can get involved locally or need information about cancer in general, please visit www.cancer.org.

As the Scholarship Chair for Elizabethton BPW, Miss. Farley would like to invite all current high school seniors from both Carter County and Elizabethton High Schools to apply for this year's annual Elizabethton Business & Professional Women's Scholarship. Elizabethton BPW will make their annual scholarship available to the guidance counselors at all Carter County and Elizabethton High Schools by end of January. Scholarship applications and essays will be due mid-March and the winning student will be notified prior to or at their high school's annual awards day. Applications and instructions will also be available on the Elizabethton BPW's Facebook page which can be found at www.facebook.com/groups/elizabethtonbpw.



ELIZABETHTON BPW CHRISTMAS PARTY

Elizabethton BPW ended 2019 with their annual Christmas dinner held at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Johnson City on December 10th.

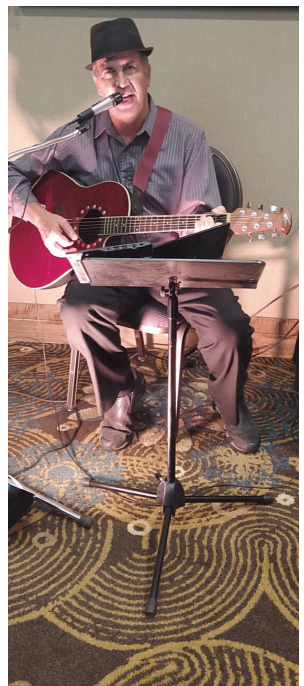
Members enjoyed a delicious dinner catered by the hotel, music by Mike McKamey, and a fun left right Christmas game.

President Robin McKamey welcomed all members and guests and presented their 2019 Woman of the Year award to Amber Farley.



ELIZABETHTON BPW ADOPTS ANGELS

Elizabethton BPW women adopted angels from the TA Dugger Junior High School. Thank you to everyone who contributed to helping these children have a wonderful holiday.



ELIZABETHTON BPW ADOPTS SENIORS

Elizabethton BPW once again took up a collection of items to gift to one of our local senior homes, Ivy Hall.

Ivy Hall has not only holds a special place in some of the member's hearts, but some of the Elizabethton members have lived their themselves or are currently residents at the home.



ELIZABETHTON BPW NEWS

Elizabethton BPW will continue meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Dino's Restaurant. Please follow our Facebook page for up to date meeting information. You can follow Elizabethton BPW at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/elizabethtonbpw>

Next meeting will be Tuesday, January 14th.

WHY CAN'T MOTHER VOTE?

JOSEPH HANOVER AND THE UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF DEMOCRACY

On August 18, 1920, thirty-year-old state Rep. Joseph Hanover of Memphis walked into The Hermitage Hotel in Nashville to be greeted by cheers and jeers. Joe Hanover had become the nation's leading male voice in the fight for woman suffrage and the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment. The most powerful forces in Tennessee opposed him. But Joe Hanover, a Polish immigrant, was not going to back away from the fight. Joe asked: "Why can't Mother vote?" Before the vote was over, he'd be assaulted in a hotel elevator, and Gov. A.H. Roberts assigned a bodyguard to the young legislator and attorney.

Renowned Tennessee author Bill Haltom decided it was time to tell the story of Joe Hanover's role in keeping the votes together for ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment.

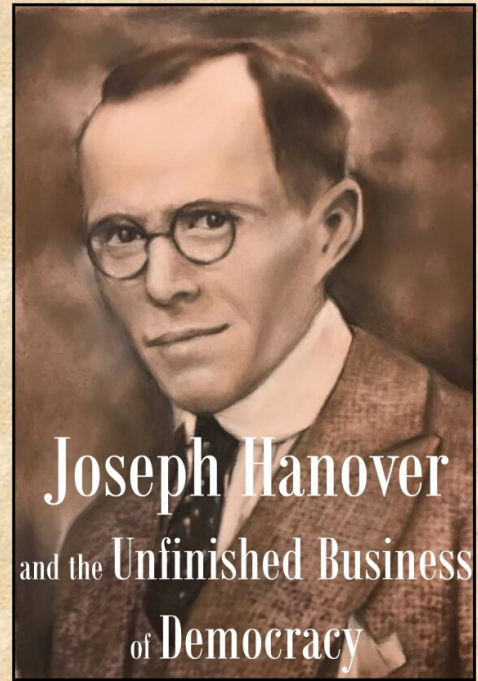
Haltom's book, "Why Can't Mother Vote? Joseph Hanover and the Unfinished Business of Democracy," will be released Dec. 23, 2019. The book launch is from 6 to 7 p.m. on Jan. 7, 2020, at Bounty-on-Broad in Memphis, a well-known restaurant that was once the Hanover Dry Goods store.

The book has already received a five-star review from Readers Favorites: "Why Can't Mother Vote? is the perfect blend of historical accuracy and brilliant writing."

Elaine Weiss, author of "The Woman's Hour," wrote this about the book: "For a century, Joe Hanover has remained a forgotten hero of American democracy, but now his inspiring story is revealed in William Haltom's 'Why Can't Mother Vote.' As a young immigrant to Memphis who believed in the American Dream of equality and opportunity for all, then as a young legislator willing to stand up for justice against fierce opposition, Hanover became a champion of women suffrage. When the fight to ratify the 19th Amendment comes to Tennessee in 1920, Hanover will rise to lead the suffragists' fight in the statehouse. Haltom helps us recognize Joe Hanover as a true patriot, and we need the lesson of his life more than ever."

"Why Can't Mother Vote?" is receiving national attention. The National Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission is sponsoring the Joe Hanover bust on the Memphis Suffrage Monument, and they plan to promote Bill Haltom's book through their website. Haltom is the author of six books and has been a newspaper and magazine humor columnist for over 25 years. He has served as chair of the editorial boards for four magazines, including the ABA Journal, the flagship publication of the American Bar Association. Bill lives in Memphis with his wife (Judge Claudia), his daughter (Princess Margaret) and his two beagles (Atticus and Scout). www.billhaltom.com Email: whaltom@comcast.net

Why Can't Mother Vote?



BILL HALTOM



Author: Bill Haltom

Why Can't Mother Vote? Joseph Hanover and the Unfinished Business of Democracy

Publisher: The HillHelen Group. The HillHelen Group Publishing Co. LLC, Jackson, TN. hillhelengroup@gmail.com. Jacques Hillman, Editor, (731) 394-2894.

ISBN: 978-1-7333626-3-4

Price: \$22.95. Hardcover. 140 p. Books from the author: whaltom@comcast.net

From the publisher: hillhelengroup@gmail.com

From independent booksellers: Burke's Books, Novel Memphis

Online: amazon.com, Barnes & Noble, Books-A-Million

JACKSON AREA BPW CHRISTMAS PARTY

Jackson Area BPW Christmas Party About thirty-six party-goers attended the Jackson Area BPW Christmas party held Dec. 2 at the Samuel T. Bryan Distillery in Jackson. Gourmet Your Way catered the event, and Scott Myatt played a wide range of music for the crowd.

Stacy Miller, second vice-president, planned the party and made all arrangements. The Dirty Santa game was a great hit, and after that, door prizes were given away.

President Jacque Hillman thanked the officers and members for another great year of successes, including Sterling Awards, the Downtown Ghosts A-Walking Dinner Theater, and scholarship presentations.



Mary Jo Middlebrooks, right, and her guests enjoyed talking with Scott Myatt, the evening's entertainer, during his intermission.



David and Wanda Stanfill and Jackie Utley enjoyed dinner together.



Time to play Dirty Santa



Tracey Jones, in red, unwraps a Dirty Santa gift.

WANT TO FEATURE YOUR LOCAL IN THE ACHIEVER?

Please contact Amber Farley and Samantha Price at publication@bpwtn.org.

Information, Articles, and Photographs are due by the 20th each month for the following month's publication!

STATE CONVENTION INFORMATION

Dates: June 12-13th

Location: Hampton Inn & Suites in Mt. Juliet, TN

Deadlines for reports, registration, etc. will be featured in the February Achiever.



If you attended State Convention last year you may remember the granola samples in the Swag Bags- it is made by the ladies in the Blue Monarch program. Blue Monarch has a mission to provide a long-term residential and therapeutic community for women and their children. Their goal is to break adverse cycles and to help these women rebuild their families.

They work with women and children who are dealing with addiction, domestic violence, and economic hardships while focusing on providing a nurturing environment to achieve sobriety, enhance mother/ child relationships, and build better life skills. They believe destructive cycles can be broken and want to serve women who have a desire and commitment to change.

The program started in 2003 but it really began years before that in 1995. Susan Binkley had a powerful dream that described in detail a program like Blue Monarch. At the time Susan realized the dream was significant but didn't fully understand until years later when the dream became a reality.

The property is located in Middle Tennessee near Monteagle mountain. It is actually a 50 acre piece of property that used to be a bed and breakfast. It came completely furnished and provided everything needed to begin serving the women and children. Since 2003 they have served over 775 women and children from across the state.

Out of the Blue Granola provides onsite employment for the women participating in the Blue Monarch program. It is an all-natural product, carefully baked by hand using local honey. Inside every bag is a photograph of one of the women who bake the granola with her special story of recovery on the back. For this reason, it is often called "gift granola."

However, it is also called "Granola with a Purpose" because it helps Blue Monarch and the women and children they serve in a variety of ways:

- It offers job training and flexible employment opportunities at a time when it would be quite difficult to obtain or maintain a job.
- Out of the Blue Granola helps to develop a positive work history despite possible felony charges.
- Once the women begin to earn an income, they are also able to contribute a portion back to Blue Monarch to support the services they have received.
- Blue Monarch gains financial support from folks who learn about the program through purchasing the granola.
- Many of the women of Blue Monarch have had poor work histories or struggled to earn an honest income. This job provides a valuable opportunity to gain self-respect and develop self-sufficiency, often for the first time.

Out of the Blue Granola
is sold online at
www.outofthebluegranola.com,
as well as through select
Whole Foods and Kroger stores,
restaurants, and gift shops.



Business & Professional Women of Tennessee

2019-2020 Calendar of Events

January 6th, 2020	Tentative mailing date for January Achiever
January 20th, 2020	Deadline for submission material for February newsletter
February 3rd, 2020	Tentative mailing date for February Achiever
February 20th, 2020	Deadline for submission material for March newsletter
March 3rd, 2020	Tentative mailing date for March Achiever
March 2020	Day on the Hill
March 2020	Region I Meeting, Knoxville, TN
March 7th, 2020	Region II Meeting, Lebanon, TN
March 14th, 2020	Region III Meeting, Jackson, TN
March 31st, 2020	Equal Pay Day
April 1st, 2020	Deadline for submission of material for April newsletter (Candidates for Office)
April 10th, 2020	Deadline for nominations (State Officers, Regional Directors) to Nominations Chair. (60 days before the first business session of Convention).
April 10th, 2020	Deadline for submitting bylaws amendments tbc at BOD (60 days prior)
April 10th, 2020	Approve all committee appointments for upcoming year (60 days prior to Convention)
April 10th, 2020	Executive Committee approve convention budget
April 10th, 2020	Tentative mailing date for April Achiever
April 30th, 2020	Deadline for Membership numbers for awards
April 30th, 2020	Contributions to Foundation to qualify for awards
April 30th, 2020	Deadline for submission for Kaye Culbertson Mentoring Award to Mentoring Chair
May 1st, 2020	Deadline for submission material for May newsletter
May 4th, 2020	Early Registration Deadline for Convention
May 11th, 2020	Tentative mailing date for May Achiever (Convention Information)
May 15th, 2020	Deadline for LO officers information form to Pres-Elect, Treasurer, and Webmaster
May 15th, 2020	Deadline for President's Reports (award qualifications, officers) to President, 1st & 2nd VPs, and Legislative Chair at www.bpwttn.org .
May 15th, 2020	Reporting Foundation contributions to Carol Turpen
May 15th, 2020	Deadline for room reservations for Convention
May 15th, 2020	Deadline for all reports to State President for Convention
May 15th, 2020	Deadline for all reports to President-Elect for Post-Convention EC and BOD
June 12-13th, 2020	BPW/TN Convention

ROCKWOOD BPW NEWS

Rockwood BPW will **not** be meeting in January 2020. The next meeting will be held on February 18th.

NEW MAILING ADDRESS

The Business & Professional Women of Tennessee, Inc has a new mailing address. Please make sure to send all mail to the following address.

1824 Roane State Highway Box 218
Harriman, TN 37748



SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER PARK LANE JEWELRY

The BPW/TN Education and Scholarship Fund has teamed up with Park Lane Jewelry and will be hosting a fundraiser in January to benefit the scholarship fund.

Orders can be made until February 5th.

Contact Beth Bates or Jan Bynum for more information. You can also check out the BPW/TN Facebook page for information.



**Business & Professional
Women of Tennessee, Inc.**
1824 Roane State Highway Box 218
Harriman, TN 37748

