

# BPWTN ACHIEVER

Business and Professional Women of Tennessee

JULY 2023 Issue 1



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**A Publication of the Business and Professional Women of Tennessee**

# July Message from the President:

BPW/TN Members,

I would first like to thank each of you for your vote of confidence in electing me as your 2023-2025 President. I am both grateful and excited to work with each of you over the next two years as we enhance and expand organizational programming and grow our BPW/TN membership. I would also like to thank the following members for their continued service to BPW/TN as your elected state officers; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Robin McKamey, Secretary Kelsi Hill, Treasurer Martha Ervin, and West Region Director Carol Turpen; and those on the Board of Directors including our State Parliamentarian Sharon Taylor-Carrillo.



Thank you to each of you who attended and participated in the 2023 State Conference both virtually and in person. It was great to see so many faces and get together for the first in-person state conference since 2019. I am happy to say that we will be working to provide more hybrid meeting options like this going forward but I do encourage all of you who are able to attend in-person gatherings locally, regionally, and at the state level.

There were no bylaw changes made at the convention this year as a new Governance Task Force will be working together this next year to create suggested bylaw changes and handbook updates that will be presented at the 2024 State Convention. Robin McKamey, Governance Chair, will oversee this committee, and if you have any suggested changes you can contact her via email at [robin.mckamey@gmail.com](mailto:robin.mckamey@gmail.com).

Congratulations to all of our award winners, both locals, and individuals, for their achievements during 2022-2023. I would like to recognize Memphis Area BPW's members for their participation in this year's Walk/Run event as every one of their members participated in the event! Let's see how many locals we can have participating fully in 2024! The walk will be held in the last full week of April!

The BPW/TN Board of Directors Post Convention Meeting will reconvene on July 13<sup>th</sup> to vote on the location of the 2023 Interim Board. This meeting will be held both virtually and in person so that all members may attend. More information about registration, fees, and the meeting will be provided in a future issue of the Achiever.

Lastly, I encourage each of you to submit information, photographs, and articles to our Publication Editor, Sharon Taylor-Carrillo for the monthly newsletter at [publication@bpwtn.org](mailto:publication@bpwtn.org). *The Achiever* is a great way for our locals and members to share programming, speakers, and fundraisers, and highlight BPW/TN members.

If you need to contact me, please feel free to drop me an email at [president@bpwtn.org](mailto:president@bpwtn.org) or give me a text at (423)946-9638. I look forward to hearing from you!

Thank you again and I look forward to working with each of you!

Amber Farley



For more information visit

**BPWTN.org**

also

Check us out on Facebook

**Business and  
Professional Women  
of Tennessee**

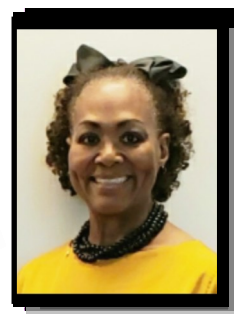
Link is <https://www.facebook.com/BPWTN>



If you have any questions, please contact me via email or text any time.

Thank you, Sharon Taylor-Carrillo  
Past State President 2007-08, 2017-18  
Achiever Editor 2021-2023  
615-319-6531

I hope everyone has enjoyed receiving the Achiever. It has definitely been a great way to keep up with BPW activities and see what was going on across the state. If I get the Bid to continue providing the newsletter, please send me your articles by the 20th of June for the July issue. Have a wonderful summer and I thank you in advance.



# Official 2023-2024 BPW/TN State Roster

Position	Name	Address	City, Zip	Email Address	Contact #
<b>State Officers &amp; Regional Directors</b>					
President	Amber Farley	1414 Highway 133	Shady Valley, TN 37688	<a href="mailto:amberfarley.bpw@gmail.com">amberfarley.bpw@gmail.com</a>	423.946.9638
1st Vice President	Robin McKamey	1018 Secretariat Drive	Mount Juliet, TN 37122	<a href="mailto:robin.mckamey@gmail.com">robin.mckamey@gmail.com</a>	423.957.0243
Secretary	Kelsi Hill	5173 Roxborough Dr.	Hermitage, TN 37076	<a href="mailto:kelsi.hill0619@gmail.com">kelsi.hill0619@gmail.com</a>	423.707.4890
Treasurer	Martha Ervin	1360 Baskins Road	Burlison, TN 38015	<a href="mailto:mervin0613@bellsouth.net">mervin0613@bellsouth.net</a>	901.489.5481
E. Region Director	Vacant				
W. Region Director	Carol Turpen	622 Lanier Road	Alamo, TN 38001	<a href="mailto:cgturpen84@gmail.com">cgturpen84@gmail.com</a>	731.677.4102
<b>Standing Committee Chairs</b>					
Finance Chair	Beth Bates	35 Walnut Grove Cove	Jackson, TN 38305	<a href="mailto:batesb@aol.com">batesb@aol.com</a>	731.427.0465
Issues Management	Robin McKamey	1018 Secretariat Drive	Mount Juliet, TN 37122	<a href="mailto:robin.mckamey@gmail.com">robin.mckamey@gmail.com</a>	423.957.0243
Membership	Pam Rathbun				
Governance	Robin McKamey	1018 Secretariat Drive	Mount Juliet, TN 37122	<a href="mailto:robin.mckamey@gmail.com">robin.mckamey@gmail.com</a>	423.957.0243
Immediate	Martha Ervin	1360 Baskins Road	Burlison, TN 38015	<a href="mailto:mervin0613@bellsouth.net">mervin0613@bellsouth.net</a>	901.489.5481
Past State President					
<b>Sub-Committee Chairs</b>					
Fundraising	Virginia Bates	35 Walnut Grove Cove	Jackson, TN 38305	<a href="mailto:batesv28@gmail.com">batesv28@gmail.com</a>	731.427.0465
Legislation	Robin McKamey	1018 Secretariat Drive	Mount Juliet, TN 37122	<a href="mailto:robin.mckamey@gmail.com">robin.mckamey@gmail.com</a>	423.957.0243
Scholarship	Beth Bates	35 Walnut Grove Cove	Jackson, TN 38305	<a href="mailto:batesb@aol.com">batesb@aol.com</a>	731.427.0465
Equal Pay Day	Sharon Taylor-Carrillo	2403 Gold City Road	Franklin, KY 42134	<a href="mailto:sharonlyrae@aol.com">sharonlyrae@aol.com</a>	615.319.6531
Mentoring	Carol Turpen	622 Lanier Road	Alamo, TN 38001	<a href="mailto:cgturpen84@gmail.com">cgturpen84@gmail.com</a>	731.677.4102
<b>Special Committees, Appointments, Task Forces</b>					
Parliamentarian	Sharon Taylor-Carrillo	2403 Gold City Road	Franklin, KY 42134	<a href="mailto:sharonlyrae@aol.com">sharonlyrae@aol.com</a>	615.319.6531
Publication Editor	Sharon Taylor-Carrillo	2403 Gold City Road	Franklin, KY 42134	<a href="mailto:sharonlyrae@aol.com">sharonlyrae@aol.com</a>	615.319.6531
Historian	Carol Turpen	622 Lanier Road	Alamo, TN 38001	<a href="mailto:cgturpen84@gmail.com">cgturpen84@gmail.com</a>	731.677.4102
Custodian of Financial Records	Beth Bates	35 Walnut Grove Cove	Jackson, TN 38305	<a href="mailto:batesb@aol.com">batesb@aol.com</a>	731.427.0465
Volunteer Attorney	Beth Bates	35 Walnut Grove Cove	Jackson, TN 38305	<a href="mailto:batesb@aol.com">batesb@aol.com</a>	731.427.0465
Webmaster	Martha Ervin	1360 Baskins Road	Burlison, TN 38015	<a href="mailto:mervin0613@bellsouth.net">mervin0613@bellsouth.net</a>	901.489.5481
<b>Local Organization Presidents</b>					
Chattanooga Business Women	Charlotte Buchanan	7005 Lenox Village Drive, #C6	Nashville, TN 37211	<a href="mailto:rbuch49381@aol.com">rbuch49381@aol.com</a>	615.495.5230
Elizabethon BPW	Amber Farley	1414 Highway 133	Shady Valley, TN 37688	<a href="mailto:amberfarley.bpw@gmail.com">amberfarley.bpw@gmail.com</a>	423.946.9638
Jackson Area	Dr. Margaret Taylor	178 Country Club Lane	Jackson, TN 38305	<a href="mailto:margaret@asafwesttn.org">margaret@asafwesttn.org</a>	731.803.8831
Memphis Area	Martha Ervin	1360 Baskins Road	Burlison, TN 38015	<a href="mailto:mervin0613@bellsouth.net">mervin0613@bellsouth.net</a>	901.489.5481
Rockwood	Lee Ann Gaddis	1258 Joiner Hollow	Rockwood, TN 37854	<a href="mailto:leeann4002@yahoo.com">leeann4002@yahoo.com</a>	865.250.8149
<b>Official Address &amp; Phone Number</b>					
Business and Professional Women of Tennessee, Inc.		1360 Baskins Road	Burlison, TN 38015		865.245.9785

# Tennessee Works Tax Act

The Tennessee General Assembly has approved more than \$400 million in tax cuts for Tennessee families and businesses through the Tennessee Works Tax Act, marking one of the largest tax cuts in Tennessee history and supporting future economic growth.

The newly approved legislation touches on three areas:

~~Boosting Small Businesses: \$150 Million in Tax Cuts

~~Helping Families

~~ Supporting Future Economic Growth

## **Below are details of the tax cuts.**

**Helping Families: Grocery Tax Holiday & Paid Family Leave Credit** From August through October 2023, Tennesseans will not pay tax on food and food ingredients sold in grocery stores. On average, each Tennessee family will save over \$100 in taxes. Additionally, local governments will be reimbursed by the state for any tax revenues lost during the period.

The legislation also provides support for families through an optional state paid family leave tax credit for companies that mirrors a similar federal credit. A company offering paid family leave may be eligible for a maximum 50% franchise and excise tax credit.

**Boosting Small Businesses: \$150 Million in Tax Cuts** The legislation provides roughly \$150 million in tax cuts for Tennessee businesses, through several changes to Tennessee's franchise and excise tax and business tax. As a result of the legislation, more than 23,000 businesses in the state will have their excise tax liability reduced to zero, as the bill exempts a company's first \$50,000 in net earnings from the excise tax. The legislation also exempts up to \$500,000 of business property from franchise tax liability.

Roughly 140,000 Tennessee businesses will no longer have to file business tax, as the legislation raises the threshold for filing to businesses with gross receipts of \$100,000 or more per jurisdiction (up from \$10,000). Local jurisdictions will be held harmless through an adjustment to the business tax state revenue share.

**Supporting Future Economic Growth** The new legislation also provides a foundation for supporting Tennessee's continued economic growth. For example, it will align Tennessee with over 30 states by adopting "single sales factor" apportionment for franchise and excise tax. Single sales factor apportionment only takes a company's sales into account, which reduces the tax burdens for businesses that have invested property and jobs in Tennessee.

The legislation also conforms with the federal bonus depreciation provisions of the 2017 Tax Cuts & Jobs Act, allowing businesses to recover capital costs more quickly and reinvest in the Tennessee economy. The legislation extends the carry forward period for franchise and excise tax credits to 25 years, an increase from previous period of 15 years. Finally, it removes the business tax penalty on manufacturers for not having enough on-site storage and adopts changes to sales tax law to make it easier for sellers to do business in Tennessee.

The Tennessee Works Tax Act (SB275/HB323) was carried by Senate Majority Leader Jack Johnson (R-Franklin), House Majority Leader William Lamberth (R-Portland), and House Assistant Majority Leader Mark Cochran (R-Englewood).

For more details regarding the Tennessee Works Tax Act, contact your ATA representative.





**Jackson Area BPW  
2023-24 Officers.**

*From left to right:*

Kimberly Jones- 1st Vice Pres.  
Dr. Margaret Taylor- President  
Beth Bates- 2nd Vice President  
Dr. Linda Theus- Secretary



Dawn Mooney  
Treasurer

**J  
A  
B  
P  
W**



(L-R) Beth Bates, Robin McKamey & Linda Rizzuto, Outgoing President.

Congratulations to JABPW who won First place in Legislation; and Second place in Issues Management.

**JABPW Sterling Social**



JABPW Members and Sterling Award winners met on May 25th for a meeting and Social gathering at the Curtis House on historic East Main in Jackson, TN.

**Front row left**, Outgoing President Linda Rizzuto, Leann Braddock hostess and Outstanding Woman Veteran award winner, past Vice President, Wanda Stanfill, Angela Spann-award winner, Kimberly Jones-incoming First Vice President; Dr. Margaret Taylor- New President.

**Second row**-award winner-- performing artist LOLO (Lauren Cobb), Award winner Caitlin Clark.

**Third row**-Beth Bates, Past Award winner Pat Ross, Past President Jackie Utley.

**Next row**-Secretary Dr. Linda Theus, guest Dr. Mechelle Moragne & Past Pres. Mary Jo Middlebrooks.

## **Legislative Platform 2023-2025**

### **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.

### **ECONOMIC EQUITY**

Ensure pay equity, equal educational and economic opportunities at all stages of life; and promote affordable, quality dependent care to help ensure economic self-sufficiency for women.

### **HEALTH**

Ensure reproductive choice and full access to all reproductive health services and education; ensure funds for research into and protections for women's health care needs; and encourage the development of a national health care plan recognizing the special health care needs of women.

### **CIVIL RIGHTS**

Ensure equal rights and remedies for women in all phases of their lives; support affirmative action; eliminate sexual harassment and violence against women. 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.

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Business and  
Professional  
Women/TN



Tennessee's tax free weekend is July 28th. The annual sales tax holiday will begin at 12:01a.m. on Friday and end at 11:59p.m. on Sunday, July 30th. The items that are tax free include clothing, school supplies and computers.



## **2023-2025 Program Platform**

### **Purpose**

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

### **Vision Statement**

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

### **Values Statement**

BPW/TN is focused on equitable economic opportunities for all women in Tennessee. We are a formidable force with a broad base, diverse membership, and on the cutting edge in education, research, and information. In our efforts to achieve equity, we are the catalyst for change in public policy within all levels of government, and we form strategic alliances with businesses, academia, and non-profit organizations. Individually and collectively, we are strong in our commitments, empowering our members.

BPW/TN will be an advocate for economic equity issues through public policy statements.

BPW/TN will be a powerful force within 1.) Government; 2.) Business; 3.) Women's Forums by empowering its members to stand and be heard.

BPW/TN will support members to fulfill their personal and professional potential through individual development, creative programming, mentorship, scholarship, and workshop opportunities.

BPW/TN will build community and increase communication among its members through a variety of electronic and traditional media and meeting opportunities.

BPW/TN will develop strategic alliances that achieve equity for women in the workplace.

BPW/TN will advocate strategies to promote work-life balance in the modern workplace.

BPW/TN will promote activities that improve the lives of all women.

### **Goals**

BPW/TN will increase educational, leadership, and professional development opportunities for all members.

BPW/TN will support women business owners, entrepreneurs, and professionals through programming opportunities.

BPW/TN will increase membership

## ~~BPWTN 2023 Calendar~~

Month	Date	Time	Meeting
July	7/ /2023		Achiever Published Online and Mailed to Subscribers
	7/13/2023	6:00 pm CST	Post Convention BOD Meeting
August	7/20/2023		Deadline for submission of material for the Achiever
	8/5/2023		Achiever Published Online and Mailed to Subscribers
	8/20/2023		Deadline for submission of material for the Achiever
September	8/31/2023	6:00 pm CST	Fall Regional Planning Meeting
	TBD	TBD	Governance Committee Meeting
	9/5/2023		Achiever Published Online and Mailed to Subscribers
	9/20/2023		Deadline for submission of material for the Achiever
October	9/30/2023		Career Advancement Scholarship Entry Deadline
	10/5/2023		Achiever Published Online and Mailed to Subscribers
	10/19/2023	6:00 pm CST	Interim Board Meeting Day 1 (Virtual)
	10/20/2023		Deadline for submission of material for the Achiever
	10/28/2023	TBD	Interim Board Meeting Day 2 (In-Person)
November	TBD	TBD	Governance Committee Meeting
	11/5/2023		Achiever Published Online and Mailed to Subscribers
	11/20/2023		Deadline for submission of material for the Achiever
December	12/5/2023		Achiever Published Online and Mailed to Subscribers
	12/20/2023		Deadline for submission of material for the Achiever
January	TBD	TBD	Governance Committee Meeting
	1/5/2024		Achiever Published Online and Mailed to Subscribers
	1/20/2024		Deadline for submission of material for the Achiever
February	2/5/2024		Achiever Published Online and Mailed to Subscribers
	2/20/2024		Deadline for submission of material for the Achiever
March	All Month		Women's History Month
	TBD	TBD	Governance Committee Meeting
	TBA		Equal Pay Day & Unhappy Hour Event
	TBA		Day on the Hill
	3/5/2024		Achiever Published Online and Mailed to Subscribers
	3/7/2024	6:00 pm CST	Spring Regional Meeting
	3/20/2024		Deadline for submission of material for the Achiever
	4/5/2024		Achiever Published Online and Mailed to Subscribers
April	4/20/2024		Deadline for submission of material for the Achiever
	4/22/2024		Virtual Walk/Run Fundraiser (22nd-28th)
	4/30/2024		ALT-YC Scholarship Entry Deadline
	4/30/2024		Annual Membership Dues Payment Deadline -
			For Membership Awards Consideration
May	5/5/2024		Achiever Published Online and Mailed to Subscribers
	5/15/2024		All Reports for Convention due (State Officer, Committees, Local President Report)
	5/20/2024		Deadline for submission of material for the Achiever
	5/23/2024	6:00 pm CST	Pre-Convention EC Meeting
	5/23/2024	6:30 pm CST	Pre-Convention BOD Meeting
	5/31/2024	6:00 pm CST	Convention Meeting Day 1—Opening of Convention—Bylaws
June	6/1/2024	TBD	Convention Meeting Day 2—Awards—Speaker and/or Workshop
	6/1/2024	TBD	Post-Convention EC Meeting
	6/1/2024	TBD	Post-Convention BOD Meeting



# —Memorial Tribute 2023—



## Rebecca G. Peeples



Rebecca G. Peeples of Franklin, TN passed away on **August 30, 2020** surrounded by her family. Rebecca was born on January 17, 1940 to Gladys and Lewis Gamlin in Bruceton Tennessee.

She received her MBA from the University of North Florida & spent many years as the Chief Financial Officer and treasurer for the Episcopal Diocese of Florida. Rebecca was known for her love of quilting, puzzles, and her love of her cats.

Rebecca was a member of Business and Professional Women of TN & served as the state president from 73-74.

## Pearl Williams



Pearl Drinnen Williams, age 98, passed away peacefully Sunday, **April 23, 2023**. She was a Christian, a retired educator, and loving wife, aunt, great aunt and soon-to-be great-great aunt.

Pearl was a long-time, active member of Trenton Street Baptist Church where she sang in the choir and ministered to the homebound.

Pearl was a graduate of Carson-Newman College and the University of Tennessee, and worked professionally in the field of public education for 60 years until the age of 82, teaching at all levels, coaching basketball, serving as a guidance counselor, and as an administrator in Roane County Schools. She was active in Delta Kappa Gamma, serving as Treasurer for many years. Pearl was also a dedicated member of Business and Professional Women of Tennessee, serving as the State President, 72-73.

## Elizabeth Strickland McNelly



Mrs. Elizabeth Strickland McNelly of Rockwood, Tennessee, age 85 born February 15, 1938, and transitioned to her Heavenly home on **May 28, 2023**. She was a member of the Pond Grove Christian Church of Rockwood and was a retired hairdresser.

Elizabeth was a dedicated member and served as president of Rockwood BPW.

The 104<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention was a hybrid of virtual and in person meetings this year. The Board of Directors and two of the convention meetings took place virtually using Zoom. The in person meeting took place at the Hampton Inn and Suites in Mount Juliet.



Hampton Inn and Suites

Mount Juliet, TN

June 3rd, 2023



**BPWTN**  
**Past State Presidents at Convention**

Beth Bates, Sharon Taylor-Carrillo, Carol Turpen, Robin McKamey, Lee Ann Gaddis, and seated is the Newest PSP Martha Ervin.



3rd Annual Spring Walk/Run

**Congratulations to Kathy Ervin**

**2023 Spring Virtual Walk Run Participants :**

Kathy Ervin	Beth Bates
Dawn Ervin	Virginia Bates
Martha Ervin	Carol Turpen
McKayla Ervin	Robin McKamey
Rylee Ervin	Suzanne Crisp
Madra Little	Amber Farley
Cheryl Yarbrough	Sharon Taylor-Carrillo

**The BPW/TN Board of Directors Post Convention Meeting will reconvene on July 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00PM Central Time, to vote on the location of the 2023 Interim Board.**

**ZOOM DETAILS**



**Join by Computer**

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9829472921?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9829472921?pwd=OVNna2FJRStaVVBKc2Vab3RLcURyUT09)  
pwd=OVNna2FJRStaVVBKc2Vab3RLcURyUT09

Meeting ID: 982 947 2921

Passcode: 279865

One tap mobile

+13052241968,,9829472921#,,

,\*279865# US

+13092053325,,9829472921#,,

,\*279865# US

**Dial by phone**

• +1 305 224 1968 US

• +1 309 205 3325 US

Meeting ID: 982 947 2921

Passcode: 279865



# 2022-2023 Awards Presentation



CONGRATULATIONS

## Membership Increase of 16%:

Memphis Area BPW

## Membership Increase of 25%:

Rockwood BPW

## Membership Retention:

Chattanooga Business Women

LaFollette BPW

Paris BPW



## Issues Management Program:

1st Place Rockwood BPW

2nd Place Jackson Area BPW

3rd Place Elizabethton BPW

## Legislative Management Program:

1st Place Jackson Area BPW

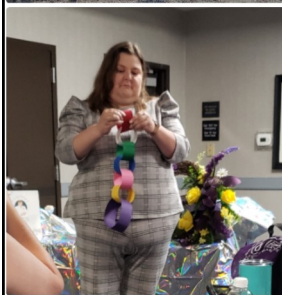
2nd Place Rockwood BPW

## Education Scholarship Donations:

Beth Bates \$200

Rockwood BPW \$100

Carol Turpen \$75



**Amber Farley**  
**2023-2025 BPW TN**  
**President**



# 2023-2025 BPWTN Officers



Amber has previously served as BPWTN First Vice President, state secretary, fundraising chair, convention registration chair as well as publication editor. She works for East Tennessee State University where she is also a graduate student. She has her own photography business.

**President**  
*Amber Farley*



**Vice President**  
*Robin McKamey*

**Secretary**  
*Kelsi Hill*



**Treasurer**  
AND Immediate Past  
State President  
*Martha Ervin*

**West Region**  
**Director**  
*Carol Turpen*

**Parliamentarian**  
*Sharon*  
*Taylor-Carrillo*