

July, 2014

Volume 10 Issue 2

Professional Notes



Jackson Area Business and Professional Women

Important

Dates:

- July meeting,
July 14, 2014 –
Baudo's
Restaurant, 559
Wiley Parker
Road, Jackson,
TN

Candidates Forum at the July 14 meeting

The next regular business meeting is Monday, **July 14, 2014**, at 5:30 p.m., at **Baudo's Restaurant, 559 Wiley Parker Road, Jackson, TN**. We will network and have dinner from 5:15 – 6:00 p.m. At 6:00, We will have the Candidates Forum which include the race for Circuit Court Judge, Division III, City Judge, Sheriff and Madison County Clerk. Our business meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. Please plan to attend the meeting and bring a friend (or two).

BPW State Convention

The annual BPW State Convention was a huge success. All the individual speakers did a fabulous job. There were many attendees who had nothing but good comments about the speakers' sessions. Some were even disappointed when the session came to an end. They wanted to hear more.

This year's Keynote Speakers - Navy Commander Cathy Lovelace, APRN, MSN, and Oklahoma University College of Nursing professor, tours in Afghanistan and Germany as a combat nurse; and Award-winning author Lillie Leonardi, retired, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Pittsburgh Division were exceptional. It was a captive audience during their speeches.

If you did not get to attend, you can go online at www.bpwtn.org to see pictures of the event as well as pictures included in this newsletter.



Established in 1956, Business and Professional Women's (BPW) Foundation became the first foundation dedicated to conducting research and providing information solely about working women. Today, BPW Foundation is transforming workplaces by focusing on issues that impact working women, families and employers.

Vision

To partner to create successful workplaces for women, their families and employers.

BPW Foundation Mission

To empower working women to achieve their full potential and to partner with employers to build successful workplaces through education, research, knowledge and policy.

History

The legacy of Business and Professional Women began in 1919. While the organization has transformed over time, the legacy and vision of Working Women Helping Women Work remains intact.

Engage

BPW Foundation supporters, [Legacy Partners](#) and grassroots activists are committed to our mission. Join us by [engaging in our activities and programs](#). Use our grassroots tools to impact your community. Sign up to become engaged and take an active role.

You can also show your support for women veterans and military spouses by becoming a mentor through our [Joining Forces Mentoring Plus™](#) effort.

BPW Foundation is transforming today's workplace. Your participation is essential to provide information and resolution to the problems facing the workplace and workforce. [Sign me up!](#)

Jackson Area Local organization is a Legacy Organization and part of the BPW Foundation family, here is a link to the BPW Foundation grassroots toolkits, as a member may find useful:

<http://www.bpwfoundation.org/index.php/support/info/engage/>

Deborah L. Frett, Chief Executive Officer for the Business and Professional Women's Foundation sends her sincerest thanks for your continued support of the Business Foundation's mission.



2014 BPW State Convention
DoubleTree Hotel, Jackson, TN



Beth Bates, Tawnya Moore and Beth Reitzammer at the BPW
State Convention registration table



Navy Commander Cathy Lovelace



Award-winning author Lillie Leonardi



2014-2015 State Officers



Business and
Professional
Women/TN

President's Report 2013-2014

Jacque Hillman, President

You know, writing about your year as president is like being the beauty pageant contestant standing on stage in the spotlight being asked a key question: Would you vote for Hillary Clinton for president? Why or why not?

True story. I watched a top 5 finalist at Miss Tennessee get that question and say, "Oh, yes, I'd vote for Hillary Clinton! She is smart, amazing in foreign policy, domestic policy, has worked diligently on a national healthcare program." There was a groan from the conservative audience. She'd just lost the top spot. I knew it. Probably her parents knew it. But she stuck to her beliefs.

Sometimes, you are in the spotlight, and you have that chance to stand up for what you believe in. And so, this has been one of the most fulfilling years of my life because I have stood up for what I believe in – the future of BPW/TN.

Someone asked me if I'm tired of the job. Actually, I'm not. I feel more empowered than I ever have in my life, and that's because of our membership. You have been great to me and helped me all year long work to achieve my vision for BPW.

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. They just didn't know what we have to offer, and what I found is that the public doesn't really know about BPW. And we've been doing this since 1919?

And that's why I asked my convention team this year to recreate our convention as a business training conference open to the public, so they can see exactly who we are and what we offer. And boy, when this convention team went to work, all I had to do was let them roll.

Sure, we have some members who really just want to visit with each other. That's fine, too. We all need to be able to sit down with good friends and be comforted in that friendship.

But what 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.

Women veterans, in particular, are fed up with cuts to their benefits, their VA healthcare, and they want to come back to civilian life and find jobs, education, training, and friends – like us. Every one I've met this year applauds our legislative action, and most say, where can I sign up?

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 going good work. I applaud the fact that we worked on the bills we did this year. They will make differences in our lives at work and at home.

Meanwhile, our locals will continue educating members on healthcare, financial decision-making, entrepreneurship, professional skills and more. We serve our communities well.

We've had to take steps to create our brand, to restyle our website, to freshen our approach, but we have made great strides. I've found members who want to see us make those strides.

We have locals reorganizing and coming back to our state organization. Women want to make a difference in the world, and BPW/TN lets them do that in wonderful ways.

In the end, this isn't about me. It's about you. Membership is up 43 percent – because of you.

We are receiving more inquiries on our website for information about joining – because of you.

We have a reputation as women who help other women achieve – because of you.

Thank you for being you, and for making my job easy.

Respectfully submitted,
Jacque Hillman, President, BPW/TN

Jackson Area Business and Professional Women

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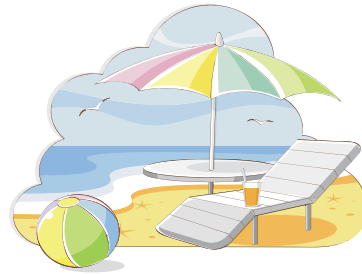
Visit us on our
website at:
bpwjackson.org

You can also follow us on
Facebook!

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

- B for Business is now **Business at 212°**. The next breakfast will be July 11, 2014, at the Jackson Chamber of Commerce. Meeting time is 7:45 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. **“Speed Networking,” Speaker – Joel Newman and Judy Renshaw, Jackson Chamber of Commerce.**
- Long-time member Wilma Utley sadly passed away June 9, 2014. We will all miss her very much. You can send your condolences to Jackie Utley, 590 Wallace Road, Jackson, Tennessee 38305 or e-mail to jutley@aol.com.
- **Congratulations to Jackson Area BPW on receiving the following awards at the convention: 2014 Legislation Award; 2014 Iris Award for the largest number of members; Largest Foundation Contribution – Beth Bates.**



It's summertime, summertime, sum sum summertime!!!!



Spotlight on members Jacque Hillman and Beth Bates

Jackson Area Business & Professional Women would like to congratulate Jacque Hillman, Past State President and Beth Bates, Convention Chair for an awesome 2014 Convention. There were some very powerful speakers, some great vendors and some good networking. We would also like to thank the Convention Team for all their hard work (you know who you are). The convention went very smoothly and all sessions started and ended timely.

Thank you again to everyone for all your hard work and commitment.

Congratulations!

A blue ribbon graphic with a white outline, tied in a bow at the bottom right. The word "Congratulations!" is written in a red, cursive font across the ribbon.