

Baptist

Mississippi

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Highlights of Annual Meeting

by the Editor

The BMA of America held its 2014 meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas, April 28-30. We reported a few facts in the May 1st issue and now we would like to share more highlights.

The meeting was harmonious with this editor not recalling any challenges or questions to the many reports and actions presented by the departments.

At the recommendation of the Coordinating Council and the approval of the messenger body, the LifeWord Foundation has become the BMAA Foundation with each department being able to participate. This was approved by a change to the State of Principles of Cooperation.

The Foundation is now a separate standing committee. Each participating department is allowed to recommend one trustee of the Foundation which totals 9 members. Bro. Charles Attebery was elected as interim director.

DiscipleGuide changes have been made due to the increased cost of operation. The messengers approved the final move of this work from the Texarkana property to the LifeWord building in Conway. The Texarkana property will be placed up for sale. This is part of the integration process that was begun a few years ago. The Missions Department also has moved offices to Conway and the Little Rock property is pending sale.

DiscipleGuide is revamping the literature ministry and beginning with the Fall series of Compass will begin republishing works by Dr. E. Harold Henderson. Scott Attebery emphasized the great treasure that was available from Dr. Henderson's writing. Other products are being offered online and for download. Churches will see these available when they order their literature.

LifeWord plans to strengthen broadcasts around the world and to continue to be helping the Missions Department with media ministries as churches are planted. LifeWord continues to help churches around the world with outreach through



2014-15 Officers - (left to right) Clerks Jerome Cooper, Greg Medenwald, James Ray Raines; 2nd VP Jeff Swart; 1st VP Paul White and President Jason Aultman.

media.

BMA Seminary continues to educate workers, pastors, and missionaries. Good reports were given concerning accreditation and the ability for complete master's degrees to be earned online. President

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New Camp Director Named

The trustees of the Daniel Springs Encampment, Gary, are thrilled to announce Jason Prewitt of Waxahachie, Texas, as the "Camp Director in Waiting." Prewitt has served Farley Street, Waxahachie as student pastor since 2004. Through the years, he has taken groups of youth to church camp, and headed up several volunteer groups to travel to Gary and help in repair work of some of the facilities.

"I have truly come to love the camp, not only because of what she's meant to me but for the way the ministry of the camp has touched so many lives," Prewitt said. "And the vision of past and current leadership of the camp has brought it to where it is today."

Having acquired experience in construction, Prewitt comes to the camp uniquely qualified, having worked in maintenance at Lovejoy ISD, and in working with his Dad and brother, he picked up some experience in laying carpet, hardwood floors, and welding and is known around Farley Street as having the ability to "fix things."

Jason and his wife, Jessica, have three sons; Jacob, 9; Jonas, 7; and Judson, 2. Jessica holds a bachelor's degree in social work from Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, and has served in the Texas Baptist Home for Children for 10 years and as Foster Care Director since 2009. She has a heart for families, which drives her to help and lead others.



Jason Prewitt Family

James Speer has served as director since 1980, and served the national association in the camp ministry for almost 35 years. Through the years, many upgrades have been made to the facilities including enclosing and air-conditioning the tabernacle and cafeteria as well as most cabins. Throughout Speer's ministry, several lodge type buildings have been erected.

Speer will retire from the camp ministry effective December 31, 2014 at which time Prewitt will assume the role of Camp Director. Speer plans to remain in the Carthage area where he and his wife Barbara are faithful members of First Baptist Church.

-from Baptist Progress reports

Volunteers desperately needed in Louisville

Editor's Note: We received the following request for help in cleaning up from the destruction of the recent tornado in Winston County.

The volunteer pool is drying up in Winston County following the April 28 tornado, but plenty of opportunities to help the community remain.

Volunteers who already have specific work plans are asked to come to the Louisville Coliseum across from the high school to sign in so their hours are credited to the county. Those without specific plans can receive directions to victims in need by working through organizations based at the coliseum.

Tony McNeil, a program manager with Samaritan's Purse, said local volunteers typically become scarce as communities recover from a disaster and as media outlets turn their attention to other subjects.

McNeil arrived in Louisville the day after the tornado, and teams began assisting victims on April 30.

"Whether we have eight or 800 volunteers, we can put volunteers to work," he

said. "We have projects for a wide variety of abilities. In other words, we can put anyone to work."

Samaritan's Purse does have limits or stipulations for youth volunteers. Consult their website or come to the Coliseum for details. Samaritan's Purse has addressed about half of the 200 work orders received in the first two weeks after the storm. They provide supervisors and equipment for volunteers. Charitable organizations cannot volunteer on commercial or rental property.

Other organizations also will assist in coordinating volunteers throughout the recovery. Call the Emergency Operations Center for additional information at 405-403-3193.

Winston County Emergency Management

Buddy King, Director
Emergency Operations Center
EOC location: (Old Brickyard)
750 North Church Avenue, Louisville.
EOC cell phone number: 405-403-3193
Open: 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Shattered Illusions - Missionary Seeks Prayer in Troubled Time

by **Jeff Franks**
BMA Missionary
to Ukraine

I will admit we were caught up in a dream of sorts. Here we were, living in a peaceful Ukraine where churches had the freedom to preach the gospel publicly and train their leaders in seminaries. Though the Baptist churches were relatively few, their pastors and leaders could continue to pray and work toward their visions of multiplication. I really didn't see it coming, that in November of 2013 our idyll of a peaceful future here would shatter.

Throughout the winter Maidan square in central Kyiv became both a protest site and a battleground. The Yanukovich administration sent in riot police and introduced draconian laws which restricted the public's freedom of movement and speech. The citizens pushed back, reinforcing their number of protesters. Nationalist, right wing elements, though percentage wise were few, took full advantage and led a more violent resistance. As missionaries, Coleen and I were shocked to

hear that we were now required to register as "foreign agents" and display those words on our official documents. Our illusion of a peaceful Ukraine had been shattered, but things didn't stop there.

After the change of power in Kyiv in February 2014, Russia craftily engineered a takeover of Crimea in March. Then Russian armed forces amassed on Ukraine's eastern border. Eerily reminiscent of the seizure of Crimea, armed men in unmarked uniforms began to take over government buildings in the eastern Ukrainian provinces of Kharkiv, Luhansk, and Donetsk.

Throughout April and May we have witnessed the largely feeble attempts of the new Ukrainian government to wrest back control militarily. Civilians who are brave enough (or in some cases paid) to go on the street take videos of these clashes and post them on Twitter and YouTube. They are hard to watch because of the civilians' extensive cursing, shaming and name-calling of the Ukrainian soldiers, the most common of



Jeff and Coleen Franks
 BMA Missionaries to Ukraine

which is "fashisty," meaning fascists.

Yesterday, on Sunday, May 13, the pro-Russian separatists held an illegal referendum in the Donetsk province, seeking to call themselves independent and autonomous from Ukraine's Kyiv-based government. This was also a repeat of the Crimean scenario, and we fear a similar outcome eventually in Ukraine's eastern provinces.

It is not clear whether Ukraine will be able to defend its territorial integrity, but even

if that is the case, many changes will take place in government and society because of the deep divisions between Ukrainian citizens. At some level the new government will need to account for them. Moreover, the new government will have to deal with Russia's long-range plans and strategies from this point forward. Much has been written about Putin's Eurasian game plan, but I will summarize the current Ukrainian conflict with one phrase: Russia cannot tolerate a pro-Western Ukraine.

The crisis in Ukraine means different things to different people. For some it is East vs. West, the reinstatement of the cold war between Russia and the USA. Some say it is the revival of the old USSR. For those who live in the conflicted regions who have bought into Russia's propaganda it means a choice between civilization with strong executive power and reasonable salaries (Russia) or being under the boot heels of an oppressive neo-Nazi junta, as Russia characterizes Ukraine's interim government. For those

who know better it means an opportunity to build a new nation state on transparency and rule-of-law.

But for Christians this crisis means a call to prayer, to greater dependency on God, to greater unity among believers, and to standing for the truth of the gospel. We must remember that even if the worst possible outcome should occur, nothing in this conflict could change the God-given mission of even a single local church! Our marching orders come from the Lord Jesus Christ who has all power in heaven and on earth! Therefore, our dream remains for the success of the Ukrainian churches, only now unfettered by our former rosy illusions!

Coleen and I are praying to know God's will during these troubled times. We ask you to join us in praying for peace for our Ukrainian friends, not the idealistic kind, but the kind that involves compromise, understanding, and a willingness to listen to one another. Thank you for your prayers!

2014 BMAA Highlights from Front Page

Dr. Charlie Holmes stressed that the Seminary stresses and teaches Christ-centered preaching, Christ-centered worship and Christ-centered discipleship. The Seminary honored graduate Dr. Joel Slayton with the 2014 Kellar Award. Slayton chairs the Bible Department at Central Baptist College in Conway.

Ron Chesser, director of Ministers Resource Services, reported that the average growth for BMA retirement funds for the past 11 years has been 8.03 percent. All BMA churches and departments are urged to enroll their employees in this program.

The Missions department



Messengers from 8 new churches welcomed into BMA

added a number of new missionaries and endorsed others. Recommendations approved by the messengers are listed in a separate block. Church planting and discipleship was stressed by Director Dr. John David Smith.

Eight new churches were added to the Association. They are Clinton Baptist Church, Clinton, Arkansas; Piney Woods Baptist Church, Northport, Alabama; Corner

stone Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Texas; New Heart Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, Mississippi; Center of Life/Centro de Vida, Brenham, Texas; Center Of Life/Centro de Vida, Somerville, Texas; Iglesia Bautista Sin Paredes De Salinas, Salinas, Puerto Rico; and Iglesia Bautista el Mesias in Juana Diaz, Puerto Rico.

The messengers approved the Committee on Arrangements recommendation for the 2017 meeting to be held at the Arlington Convention Center, Arlington, Texas with the Sheraton Arlington as the primary hotel. The meeting dates in 2017 will be May 1-3.



Seminary President Charlie Holmes (left) presenting 2014 Kellar Award to Dr. Joel Slayton.

Recommendations from Missionary Advisory Committee Approved at the 2014 BMA of America Meeting

1. We recommend the election of Jamshed Hadyat as North American church planter in the greater Chicagoland area at a \$2,000 a month stipend.
2. We recommend the election of Trevor Dodson as an associate missionary to work with Ali Chambers in Memphis, TN., at a stipend of \$2,000 a month.
3. We recommend the election of B.J. Sanders as international missionary to Papua New Guinea.
4. We recommend that we endorse Anders Lee as North American church planter to DeSoto County, MS.
5. We recommend a change of roles for Buddy Johnson to become Training Coordinator for International Missions.
6. We recommend that Buddy Johnson move to a regularly funded missionary salary and that he will be allowed to use 40% of the finances he raises for the trips he takes.
7. We recommend that national Michel Poirer be allowed to make more frequent trips to Haiti to help with the new church plants and to do more fundraising for Haiti.
8. We recommend the election of Justin Burdick as an Associate North American Church Planter to work with Anders Lee in Southaven, MS. at a stipend of \$1,000 a month
9. We recommend that the Missions Office become part of an LLC initiated for shared ownership of the Conway campus and for classifying shared employees.
10. We recommend a change of fields for international missionary Fil Kakilala from Hawaii to the Philippines.
11. We recommend a change of status for Prashant Prakash from National missionary to American missionary Status
12. We recommend a status change for Sarah Hebert Hamilton from the Philippines to Missionary Care.

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North Mississippi Senior Adult Conference

by Bobby Lowe

Editor's Note: *Not being able to attend the North Mississippi Senior Adult Conference I asked Bobby Lowe for the following report. Bobby is a member of FBC Shady Grove and an avid musician. He and Bob Saxton were at the meeting helping to provide some of the music. We appreciate his insight to this year's conference.*

Bob Saxton has served many times when a guitarist has been needed around the BMA and in churches of many denominations. He also participates regularly in nursing homes with music and other ministry efforts. Because we frequently play together, Bro. Bryson Haden asked us to join the band at the South Mississippi Senior Adult Conference at Big Creek. After that, we managed to get ourselves invited to the Northern conference at East Fulton Baptist Church May 13th. What a blessing awaited us there!

The meeting opened with a prayer and welcome from Bro. Kenneth Flynt, followed by a rousing eye-opener hymn led by Bro. Bryson Hayden and we picked up more momentum as Bro. Roger Akers implored us to never consider "spiritual" retirement and challenged us to double our efforts as much work for the Lord still awaits us.

Some nice door prizes were given out and Bro. John Adams, director of Moral Action for the BMA of Mississippi and America, gave us an update on his recent efforts. He earnestly requested prayer as he undertakes a virtual "laundry list" of meetings soon on subjects central to our beliefs. Bro. Laird worded this prayer and then we sang until we were winded.

Dr. Gary O'Neal brought us a message from I Samuel that quickly showed us a prior time when God's will was accomplished in spite of seemingly hopeless conditions and circumstances, because Hanna and Eli prayed faithfully. This example serves to assure us that we must never give up.

Several offered testimony, the most memorable of which was given by a feisty lady who, if I understood correctly, was ninety-five! A lunch was served that will not soon be forgotten while five or six die-hard vocalists drifted back to the choir and began singing.

The awarding of more door prizes brought us to the "Gaither" Style Homecoming portion of the meeting and the microphones were moved about as many vocalists soloed on selected portions of songs considered as favorites. During this time, and at other appropriate moments, The Bryson Quartet and other soloists offered songs we all enjoyed.

It was a very enjoyable day for the senior citizens in North Mississippi.

(P.S. If you or your church is in need of someone to tune your piano, I recommend Bob Saxton. He is an accomplished musician. For more information contact Bobby Lowe at 601-580-9553.)

Missionary Advisory Committee

from page 2

13. We recommend the approval of the 2014 budget.
14. We recommend that the salary of Ashraf Sara be the same instead of reducing his salary after three years, but this salary would be examined annually.
15. We recommend the pilot church planting program in Colorado.
16. We recommend a change in the BMAA Principles of Cooperation (Coordinating Council, 2005), Article VII, D. to say "Department of Missions: Annually, this association shall elect an Executive Director of Missions, who may recommend Directors of Operations to be approved by the Advisory Committee and the Association or Missionary Committee, who will work together in the promotion of missions and in the distribution, according to the will of the churches, of all funds submitted to them."
17. We recommend the housing allowance for all directors be set at \$24,000.00 for the year 2014.
18. We recommend that Dr. John David Smith stand as a nominee for the position of Executive Director of Missions.
19. Recommend Sean Richards to Papua New Guinea.
20. Recommend we accept the resignation of Wade Allen.

Southeastern Baptist College

Danny Pitts - Interim President

4229 Highway 15 North, Laurel, Mississippi 39440, (601) 426-6346



Danny Pitts

Serving Christ With a Biblical World View In A Christian Atmosphere

2014 Southeastern College Graduates



Pictured above are the 2014 graduates of Southeastern College. Graduation exercises were held Thursday evening, May 15. Twelve students received degrees. Bro. James Sprayberry, pastor of First Baptist Church, Bay Springs, (in photo at right) brought the commencement address.



Filmmaker: Movie critics 'bullying' traditional values

OneNewsNow.com - The co-director of a family-friendly comedy that hit theaters last weekend says critics of the film are "bullying" the way of life it portrays, calling the movie "sexist" and "insulting."

Directed by brothers Jon and Andrew Erwin, *Moms' Night Out* celebrates motherhood in a true-to-life family comedy that values the role of parenting – and audiences across the nation are enjoying the independent faith-based hit, which ranked #7 among all movies in theaters last week.

But liberal movie critics have labeled the PG-rated movie "anti-feminist," "borderline dangerous," "offensive," and "insulting" – and reviewer Brian Orndorf condemns the movie as "ugly sexism in what's trying to be a harmless feature"

In an interview Thursday on American Family Radio, Jon Erwin said some of the reviews reflect contempt towards the Christian faith.

"At no point in the movie do we condone or preach that everyone should be a stay-at-home mom, but one of them is portrayed in the movie – and for some reason, that has just incensed a lot of these critics," he told radio host Sandy Rios.

"... I think it just shows that our way of life is being bullied, and to me that's what's alarming, especially working in Hollywood and sitting in rooms with conservatives in Hollywood – some of them in tears – talking about how they've lost their job, how they've been made fun of because of their conservative beliefs."

Erwin pointed out that exit

polls find 82 percent of moviegoers (the average is 60 percent) say they would recommend the movie, but critics only give the film a 16-percent rating.

"We are taking a lot of fire from the industry that we work in because we're making progress – and we can have our voice back as conservatives," said the moviemaker. "... Film is a democracy, and your movie ticket is your vote. So I want to challenge everybody: let's go support our way of life."

Moms' Night Out, which cost \$5 million to produce, has grossed \$4.9 million in its first week on the big screen. It opened in 1,044 theaters and averaged \$4,129 over the weekend – the third-highest screen average among the top ten for the weekend.

Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

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601-729-8098

Moral Action

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Don Brown

Mississippi Baptist

Opinion Page

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Don Brown - Editor

New Church Plant Has Personal Ties

A group led by Bro. Anders Lee has begun a new church plant in North Mississippi. This editor is connected to this group through our daughter Kelly's family. She was a classmate of Bro. Lee at Southeastern Baptist College and she, her husband Glen and our two granddaughters, Kiersten and Julia, are members of Central Desoto. Bro. Lee was endorsed by the National Missions office. He is a self-support church planter, but has an assistant, Justin Burdick, who receives a small monthly stipend from the Missions office.

My wife and I worshiped with this group on our way to the national meeting. Pictured here are the Lee and Burdick families. This group is steadily growing and we pray them great success.



Mission News from Ghana, West Africa

by Dale & Celia Broom
BMA Missionaries To Africa

It has been a while since the last newsletter and we apologize for that. Things have been quite busy with school, drilling wells, along with Celia going back to the states for a couple of weeks due to the death of her stepfather.

We are now halfway through the school year and feel that we have made great progress this year. We have made some modifications on the building and also moving forward with classes and the process of accreditation for the degree program.

We were in Dodowa last month drilling wells at a school there as well as one of our churches. The drilling there was very hard and it was a rocky area. The wells are not yet producing water, but we are working toward obtaining the equipment to go back in and drill deeper through the rock in order to get water for them. Please be in prayer for this project. We would like to thank The Dove Church for funding this project. Without your help, it would not have been possible.

The aquaponic projects are going well.



The water ministry is vital to the people of Ghana.

We now have 3 tanks and are planning to start on the 4th one very soon. We are also going to build another tank at the school to separate the newly hatched fish from the larger fish to keep them from being eaten. We are very excited about the progress of this project.

We now have two new low power FM radio stations, one is in Kenyasi and the other in Offinso. It is always exciting to see more opportunities to reach the people of Ghana with God's Word!

We are also in the process of working on the building for the Women's Fellowship project. As of now, we are installing windows and making preparations to purchase equipment and materials for the training of making bread. This project is to train women with skills to help make a living for their families. They will also be trained to sew, make soap, and other skills.

We would like to thank you for your prayers and support as we continue to work in Ghana. God has blessed us so much! There is still much work to do and we need your prayers. It is our prayer that God will richly bless you all.



Radio antenna broadcasting the Gospel to surrounding areas

Letters From Our Readers

Letters reflect the opinion of the writer and not necessarily this publication or the BMA of Mississippi

Pastor Offers Thanks

To my dear Brothers and Sisters of the BMA,

On April 25th I had open heart surgery at Forest General Hospital in Hattiesburg. I thank my God in heaven that everything went well and I am now recovering at our home in Mt. Olive.

I want to thank everyone who prayed for us. Word has come from far and wide of so many across the BMA who have prayed for us. I fully believe with all my heart that God has heard your prayers on my behalf. I thank God for the phone calls, cards, visits, and love offerings, these things remind us that while we may not be rich in the things of this world, we are rich in the things that matter.

We are so blessed to be a part of this wonderful association. I thank God for my preacher brethren the day of my surgery. Several were able to come early and have prayer with me and my family before surgery. My wife mentioned that many others came during my surgery to be with her and my family to pray with them and encourage them.

I just thank my God in heaven that He has called me into the ministry and placed me in the midst of such a wonderful group of brethren. I feel so unworthy to be a part of this great work. I love each of you in the Lord.

Yours in Christ,
Dewitt Bain

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Little Things Mean A Lot

After our children were born and I watched my wife go through the pains of childbirth, I decided that giving birth was a big deal for her. It was at that time I decided I would always honor her on our kid's birthdays. Every year since they were born, while they have a birthday party, off out of sight in our bedroom little things were given to my wife from me. I called the event, "Happy Birthing Day". I sent her flowers, a small gift and a card which I wrote things like, "Thanks for being the best mom for our kids. You do a

great job and are a blessing to all of us from God. Happy Birthing Day." I still continue this practice today. How does this make her feel? Appreciated? Encouraged? Sure. No matter how old



Family Ark Ministries

Travis Plumlee

parents, or vice versa, can really make us feel good or terrible depending upon the content of the conversation. Doing little things for someone else in your family is like putting oil in the motor. It just helps things run smoother and keeps the engine



going.

There are major things that I discuss in these articles that are necessary for healthy, holy relationships like trust, communication, unconditional love and forgiveness. But in this article I want to tell you that it doesn't have to be big, grand gestures all the time. The small day to day acts of thoughtfulness and kind-

ness can really help or hurt a relationship. One thoughtful act every couple of days over several years can really add up to be a blessing to the receiver. The opposite of that is little digs or ignoring and being uncaring can also make a huge negative impact on a relationship over a several year period.

I was blessed over the years by watching my dad do little thoughtful things for my mom. Things like filling her car up with gas, scraping the frost off of

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First Magnolia calls pastor

First Baptist Church of Magnolia, Arkansas is pleased to announce Brent Summerhill as her new senior pastor.

Originally from Fort Smith, Arkansas, Bro. Summerhill is married to the former Cindy Hart of Sherwood, Arkansas. Their children, Lauren and Hayden are students at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, Arkansas. First Baptist Church is grateful for the prayers, and support of her church staff and for the 27 months of dedicated work of the search committee. Appreciation is also expressed to Bro. Danny Bullock who served as interim pastor for 6 months. Bro. Brent leaves Faith Baptist Church of Cabot, Arkansas after 23 years of service. He will assume his duties at First Baptist Church Sunday, June 8, 2014.



Summerhill

we get, we still need encouraged. We work hard to encourage and praise our children when they are little. This should not ever stop. All people need encouragement, praise, thanks and consideration. I Thessalonians 5:11. Ephesians 4:29. As the world gets more disconnected and people seem to be too busy to show kindness to one another, it is of increasing importance that we do little things of encouragement to our family and friends. Little things mean a lot. We have heard this all our lives. And there is so much truth in this statement. It's little things that can make or break a marriage. Little things that kids say to their

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Church Staff Openings

Arkansas Church Seeks Pastor

South Main Missionary Baptist Church in Malvern, Arkansas, is seeking a pastor. Those led may contact Gene Clements at 501-844-5822 or email resume to gclements@sbcglobal.net. Resumes may also be sent to the church at 2027 South Main Street, Malvern, AR 72104.

North Mississippi Church Seeks Pastor

Greenwood Baptist Church, 1400 Greenwood Church Road, Fulton, Mississippi 38843 is actively seeking a full time pastor. Those led may send resumes to the church address or contact Thomas Brown at 662-862-9375.

Church seeking pastor

Rocky Branch Missionary Baptist Church in Sumrall, Mississippi, is seeking a full-time pastor. For more information please contact Donald Williamson at 601-736-5571.

AVAILABLE FOR SERVICE

Listing of names does not indicate endorsement. This column is for information purposes only.

Glen Shoemake

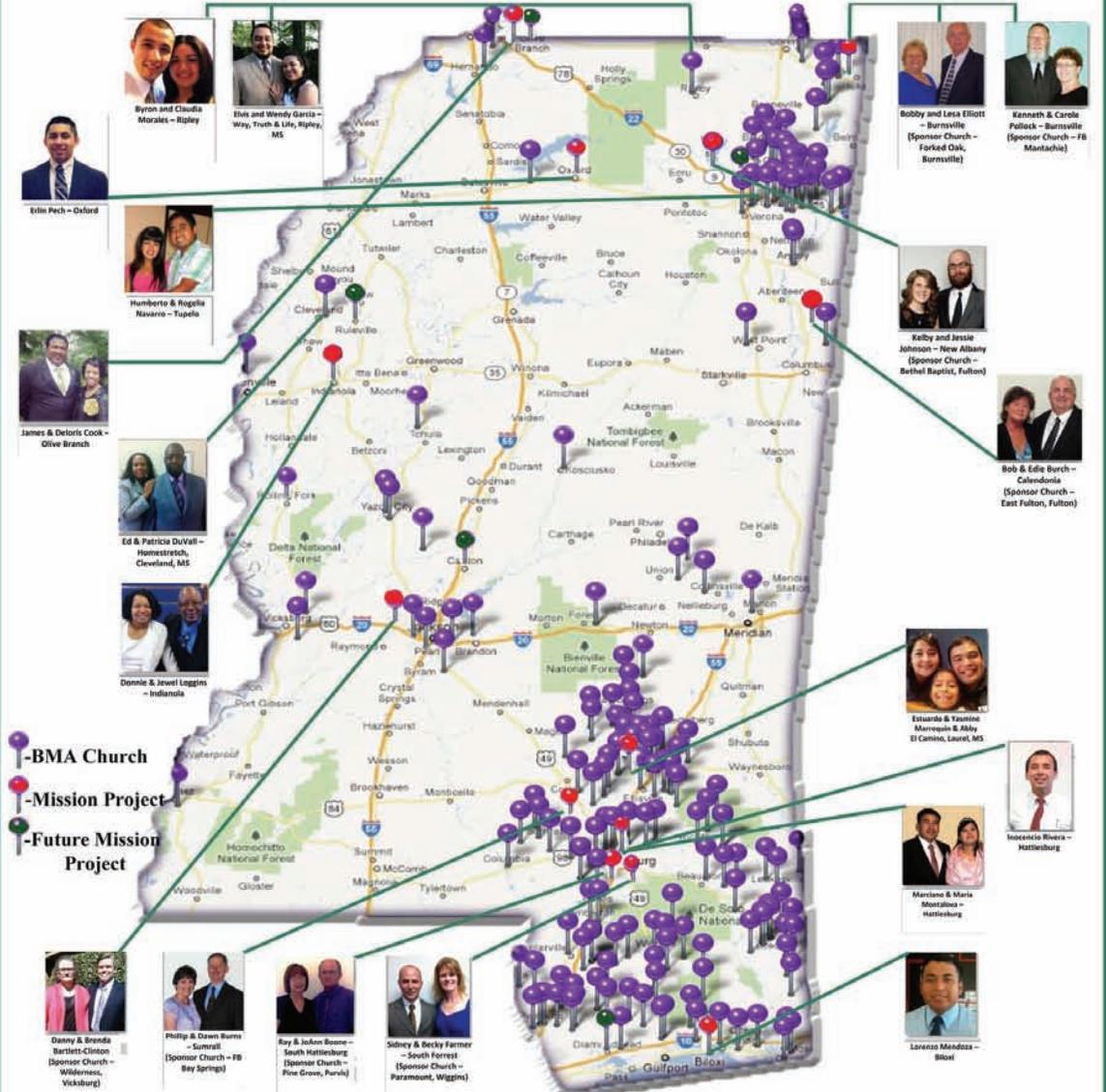
Glen Shoemake is available for pastoral work. He most recently pastored New Bethany Baptist Church near Ellisville, Mississippi, for 13 years. He may be reached at the following numbers - home 601-765-0828 and cell 601-517-4181.

Special Emphasis for State Missions





Our Goal is \$30,000.00





Byron and Claudia Morales - Ripley



Elys and Wendy Garcia-Way, Truth & Life, Ripley, MS



Bobby and Lisa Elliott - Burnsville
(Sponsor Church - Forked Oak, Burnsville)



Kenneth & Carol Pollock - Burnsville
(Sponsor Church - FB Maunabo)



Kelly and Jesse Johnson - New Albany
(Sponsor Church - Bethel Baptist, Fulton)



Bob & Edie Burch - Caladonia
(Sponsor Church - East Fulton, Fulton)



Estelita & Yasmine Marroquin & Abby El Camino, Laurel, MS



Inocencia Rivera - Hattiesburg



Marciano & Marie Marroquin - Hattiesburg



Lorena Mandata - Biloxi



Danny & Brenda Bartlett-Clinton
(Sponsor Church - Wilkness, Vicksburg)



Phillip & Dawn Burns - Sumrall
(Sponsor Church - FB Ray Springs)



Ray & John Boone - South Hattiesburg
(Sponsor Church - Pine Grove, Purvis)



Sidney & Becky Farmer - South Forrest
(Sponsor Church - Paramount, Wiggins)

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601-596-1005
becky@southforrest.org

GMA Retreat 2014

by **Beth Caldwell**
Dir. of Youth Auxiliaries

The State GMA met on March 14 & 15, 2014. Again the State Galileans met with us at Camp Garaywa in Clinton. We welcomed 1st Baptist Mantachie's GMAs. This was their first time to attend GMA Retreat.

The Retreat theme was "In God We Trust," Psalms 118:8 and decorations throughout the campground and meeting room exemplified a patriotic theme. Dr. John Adams, our Moral Ac-

tion Director for the State and National BMA, was the Retreat Pastor. The United States flag was presented and Macey Jones of Hopewell, Laurel, sang "The Star Spangled Banner."

Dr. Adams presented an inspiring message emphasizing trusting God, patriotism, and honoring the flag with a description and meaning of each part of the U.S. flag.

"God Bless the USA" was sung during the Queens Coronation, directed by Mrs. Jean Knight.



2014-2015 officers: left to right, front row: Lakelan Flynt (Corresponding Secretary), Tori Clark (Pianist), Haley Smith (Song Leader), back row: Kayley Phillips (Jr. Miss GMA), Marissa Francis (Secretary), Addy Roche (Historian), Kimberly Mitchell (President), Clara Williams (2VP), and Brianna Bond (1VP)

Mrs. Becky Farmer, our State GMA Promoter, led in the Presentation Service. Olivia Fairley sang "This is America." Kayley Phillips was named Junior Miss GMA and represented the Northeast District. Kayley is a member of Bethel Church, Fulton. Clara Williams representing the Ten Mile District was named Miss GMA. Clara is a member of Paramount Church, Perkinston.

President Tygh Roche led the business meeting. The following were elected officers for 2014-2015: President Kimberly Mitchell, 1VP Brianna Bond, 2VP Clara Williams, Secretary Marissa Francis, Corresponding Secretary Lakelan Flynt, Song Leader Hayley Smith, Pianist Tori Clark, and Historian Addy Roche. We chose DayStar Baptist Mission (40%), Ukraine Ladies Ministry (40%), and Gen-

eral Fund (20%) as our Project.

Our Retreat next year will be March 20-21, 2015 at Camp Garaywa. Our Retreat Pastor will be Bro. Justin Rhodes. Mark your calendars and plan to attend. The theme will be "As We Go," Matthew 28:19-20 and 2 Corinthians 5:20.

Dr. Adams closed the meeting and challenged us to pray everyday for America.

Mississippi WMA

President - Jessica Hayden
3208 Hwy 29 North
Soso, MS 39480
662-251-0455
Email: blhaden@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary
Mrs. Shirlene Smith
730 Hwy 533, Laurel, MS 39443
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Northeast Mississippi WMA Ladies Retreat

The Northeast Mississippi WMA met at Bethel Baptist Church on Saturday, May 3, for their 2014 Ladies Retreat. Around sixty ladies gathered for a day of fellowship and renewal. After a congregational song and welcome, the speaker took over the service.

Our speaker this year was Mrs. Sabrina Ganaway. Mrs. Ganaway grew up in the Dorsey, Mississippi, area and was a member of Bethel Baptist for many years. She is now a member of First Baptist Church in Tupelo, and has been a nurse with North Mississippi Medical Center for thirty-seven years. Mrs. Ganaway spoke about "Reasons and Seasons", and talked about how we all have reasons not to serve and seasons of life that we go through. Mrs. Ganaway is also a gifted singer and sang several specials during the service.



Sabrina Ganaway

After the morning session, the ladies enjoyed a delicious lunch and some wonderful door prizes provided by each Northeast District WMA group were given out. The ladies then returned to the sanctuary for the afternoon session where Mrs. Ganaway concluded her talk with ideas of how to be of service in any season of life. Mrs. Ganaway was an amazing speaker and the entire day was a great blessing to all who attended. Thank you to Mrs. Gloria Jarrell, Bethel WMA, Mrs. Teresa Green for providing the food, Mrs. Sabrina Ganaway, and all who helped make this retreat possible. It was a very special day!

Reading Takes You On a Lifetime Trip

by **Charlotte Johnson**
National 3rd Vice Pres.

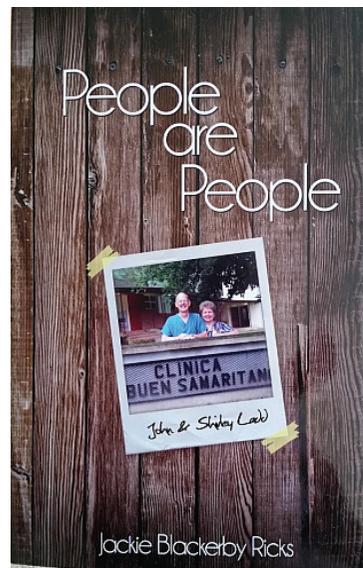
My responsibility as Third Vice President is to promote literature and daily reading of your Bible. While spending 25 years in public school systems as a Reading Specialist, I realized that if a child could read then he/she could accomplish anything in life. Reading takes you places you might never get to visit in real life. In the past years, the use of the television

Hobolochitto WMA

The Hobolochitto District WMA met at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church on April 26, 2014. After the meeting was called to order by President Jean Dunn an opening prayer was given by Ann Hunt. The Mt. Carmel children sang the song "Jesus Loves Me" and the GMA President Kimberly Mitchell gave a report on the GMA work and sang a song entitled "Farther Along."

The sermon was given by Bro. Cedric Lumkin taken from Matthew 27:3-6 and I Peter 1:18-19 about "The Blood of Jesus Christ". The next meeting place will be at Westlawn Baptist Church on July 26, 2014. Benville Baptist Church was awarded the attendance banner. The closing prayer and blessing on the food was given by Bro. Willie Tebo. A wonderful meal was enjoyed by all.

Debbie Lott, Reporter



and the internet has increased and this situation has caused many people to change their likes and the way that they enjoy their free time. Because of television and the internet, many people spend less time reading. As people read, they can improve their knowledge and expand their experiences.

As Christians we should always make time to read the most important book, the Bible. We have some good Christian books available from Christian authors from our local BMA work. Most of you may not understand what our missionaries experience on the mission field, but we have available "People are People" by Jackie Blackerby Ricks which shares a missionary's daily life. This book is a biography of our medical

missionaries Dr. John and Shirley Ladd who have served on mission fields in Nicaragua and Mexico since 1965. As you read this book, you will realize that you don't have to be a preacher to be a missionary. Examples of things that the missionary family experience are given throughout this book and special recipes from Shirley's kitchen are also included.

You may purchase this book from Mrs. Ricks at 612 FM 49, Mineola, Texas, 75773. You may also call her at 903-569-5548 or text her at 903-245-5715. Her email address is jdricks@att.net. The price for the book is \$10.00 including tax. Shipping will be \$5.00.

I recommend that you read this book because it will help you understand how you can share in the ministry of missionaries as they serve on mission fields for the BMAA.

Attention WMA Ladies

Our Facebook page is National WMA. (Not to confuse it with National Women's Auxiliary - American Baptist Association.)

On it you will find updates and postings about our current project, newsworthy postings from other ladies and prayer requests. You can send items for this to the Facebook page and the administrators will post it.

WMA continued
on page 8

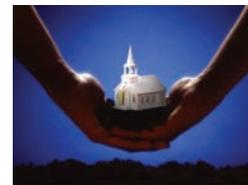


Larry Geraldson
Director



Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Department of Missions and Revolving Loan Fund



State Missionaries and Wives



Bob & Edie Burch



Kenneth & Carole
Pollock



Bobby & Lesa
Elliott



Danny &
Brenda Bartlett



Sidney & Becky
Farmer



Ray & JoAnn
Boone



Kelby & Jessie
Johnson



Phillip & Dawn
Burns



Estuardo &
Yasmine Marroquin



Elvis & Wendy
Garcia



Ed & Patricia
DuVall

601.428.8616

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“Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Jews: And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures, Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ. And some of them believed, and consorted with Paul and Silas:...” Acts 17:1-4a

The activity of a missionary involves a regular and routine

encounter with unbelievers with the intent of sharing the gospel and the hope that some will believe and consort (join in or come together in a common cause) with him. Missionaries are not asked to go out and market the gospel or the church but to meet people and engage them with the gospel from the Word of God, “...faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” Rom 10:17.

This requires the missionary to be conscientious. To be conscientious one must obey his conscience. One might describe conscience as that inherent

awareness of right and wrong divinely sown into the fabric of our nature. In Roman 2:15 we discover that even the unbeliever has a conscience, “Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;...” Even after we come to Christ by faith, the Spirit of God will use the tool of our conscience to faithfully strike the cords of warning when we venture away from right and supply us with peace when we navigate an honorable course along

God’s providential path. In Romans 9:1, Paul said, “I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost...”

When one regularly obeys his conscience we say that he is conscientious. The passage refers to Paul’s “manner” (verb meaning; custom or habit), “...as his manner was...”. Paul was a man of conscience and lived as a conscientious man. In Acts 23:1 the scripture says, “And Paul, earnestly beholding the council, said, Men and brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day.” In Acts 24:16 Paul says, “And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men.”

No doubt the missionary fervor of the Apostle Paul was motivated by love: i.e. his love for the Lord and his love for lost people. But in as much as it was motivated by love, it was driven by his conscience, which is evident when we read what he wrote to Timothy in 1 Tim 1:5, “Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned:...”

I pray for our missionaries who I know are men of conscience, that they will always be men who are conscientious. I pray for our pastors whom I know are men of conscience, that they will always be

men who are conscientious. I pray of our people that they will be people with a conscience toward God and that their “manner” (custom) will always be to conscientiously live out their faith in honor to Jesus Christ.

Thank You – To First Baptist Shady Grove

First Baptist Church of Shady Grove was the site of our 56th Annual Missions and Evangelism Conference. The people of First Baptist did a wonderful job hosting this event. We had a great conference and God blessed us with great fellowship and preaching. We are so thankful for this church and the spirit of hospitality they extended to us. Great job FB Shady Grove!

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MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

118 LOWE ROAD, LAUREL, MISSISSIPPI 39443 - (601) 426-3928
SIDNEY DAVIS - DIRECTOR



SIDNEY DAVIS

Congratulations Graduates

Up until now years of preparation and education have brought this year’s graduates to an important point in their lives. Where will they go from here? The child of God especially understands the importance of serving others. One’s education helps prepare them to contribute to the world the Lord has called them to serve. Up until this point they for the most part have been served, now it is time to return the service. Graduates, may God bless your service to Him and may He use you to better enrich the lives of those around you. Proverbs 3:5,6.

We will be having a sixth grade girl and a kindergarten boy participating in graduating exercises at North Jones Elementary this year. Congratulations Jessie and Michael on your achievements at NJE and God bless you on your future years in school.



Busy Time

At this time of the year a lot of spring cleaning, gardening, and outdoor activity usually takes place on a daily basis. It is good to observe God’s creation as it grows to

remind us that the God we serve is faithful. He is faithful to supply all our needs according to His riches in glory, Philippians 4:19, for which we are grateful and thankful.

After a long, wet, cold, winter the boys and girls are enjoying being able to spend more time in the great outdoors whether it be work or play. As the time for school to be out for the summer I’m sure there will be a great deal more of outdoor activity on the agenda.



Remember in Prayer – Focus Verse

Continue to remember the girls and boys and the ministry of the Home in your prayers. “Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6.

Reports for April 2014			
	High Attendance	Membership	Total Offerings
Church Planters			
Bob Burch	69	24	\$1,378.00
Bobby Elliott	72	41	\$1,974.00
Danny Bartlett	14	6	\$1,077.00
Kelby Johnson	20	14	\$840.00
Ray Boone	41	32	\$3,850.00 (Reporting 3 weeks only)
Sidney Farmer	47	30	\$5,038.00
Phillip Burns	7	4	\$469.00
Hispanic Missions – South (Estuardo Marroquin – Coordinator)			
Hattiesburg	24	6	\$890.00
Biloxi	10	3	n/a
Laurel	118	96	\$5,803.00
Hispanic Missions – North (Elvis Garcia – Coordinator)			
Tupelo	26	16	\$157.00
Oxford	38	2	\$264.00
Ripley	89	78	\$4,761.00
African American Missions– (Ed DuVall – Coordinator)			
Indianola	70	45	\$1,185.00
Olive Branch	35	12	\$1,800.00
Cleveland	23	50	\$2,601.00
Collectively, our missionaries reported 416 new contacts, shared the gospel 232 times, had 25 professions of faith and 5 baptisms and 6 join by letter.			

Church News

East Central Association Meeting

The East Central Association held its May meeting with Canaan Baptist Church. Pastor Jason Howard welcomed the association. Bro. Phillip Reynolds brought the evening message. Reports were heard from Bro. Danny Pitts, Southeastern Baptist College; Bro. Paul Lee, Prisoners Bible Crusade; Bro. Sidney Davis, Children's Home; and Bro. Jerry Overstreet, Senior Adult Commission.

We enjoyed a time of food and fellowship after the meeting.

Henry Lott, Reporter

Harmony Report

The Harmony Association met Friday, May 9, at Parkview Baptist in Baldwin. We enjoyed a delicious meal served by the host church before the meeting. The evening message was brought by Bro. Larry Tramel entitled "Trading What is Right with Anything Goes". There were 8 churches represented with 39 present. Next months meeting will be held at Providence in Amory, with the church to be in charge of the program. Reports were given by Bro. Bobby Elliott of Freedom Church, also Bro. Mark Jones representing the Brotherhood and Galileans.

Mike Smith, Moderator
Tony Marolt, Reporter

WMA from page 6

Again, we want to utilize the modern technology that is available without it being costly. We the WMA of the BMAA want to serve you.

Thanks,
Janet Widger, President

Missions from page 7

Thank You – To the Disaster Relief Team

I want to express my appreciation to the disaster relief team from Midway First Baptist in Sumrall for all their hard work assisting people in the Mantachie, Mississippi, area who were hit by the tornado. This team spent a week on the ground removing debris. We really appreciate their labor of love and sacrifice of time to help those in need.

Thank You – To the Big Creek District Brotherhood

Each year the Big Creek District Brotherhood conducts a fundraiser to help raise funds for the project which they have adopted. This year they chose to help Bro. Phillip Burns, State missionary to Sumrall. I want

Little Things Mean A Lot

Continued from page 5

her car windshield in the morning, letting her walk ahead of him into places, etc. These little things showed a little boy what it means to be in love and care about somebody besides yourself. I followed in his footsteps as children always do and do these things for my wife today. I didn't know this at the time, but God had me in that family so that I could observe this behavior because He was going to call me to a ministry where I could teach others about such things decades into the future. I didn't realize this when I was a little boy, but God did. God is good! I always feel compelled to add a line in here at this time saying that we did not have a perfect

family. Some people won't take heed to the message because they think, "O, he thinks his family is perfect". No, I don't at all. There are no perfect families. But I won't apologize because I loved my mom and dad and was happy as a child growing up in a home where Jesus reigned.

This is part of my ministry. If you have a healthy home life, then build upon it and make it better by doing little things. If you were raised in an abusive home or are living in a dysfunctional family today, then it is never too late to allow God to use you as a change agent to better your home life. None of us will still have a perfect home, but we

Pledge ruling: 'God' isn't a dirty word

A Massachusetts court has ruled that a "heckler's veto" will not be tolerated in public schools when it comes to the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dianna Verm, an attorney with the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, tells OneNewsNow that the American Humanist Association, an atheist advocacy group, filed suit demanding a change in the Pledge in the state's schools.

[T]hey disagreed with the words of the Pledge – specifically the words 'under God' – and the court upheld the Pledge of Allegiance with a resounding victory for religious liberty," the attorney explains.

In fact, the vote was unanimous. But Verm rushes to add the school policy isn't a burden on anyone. "The Pledge treats everyone the same way," she says. "Anyone can say it and anyone can choose not to say it if they don't want to – and they don't have to give a reason."

Notice from the Missions Warehouse

BMA Missions has asked that items (literature, clothes, etc.) not be taken to the Missions Warehouse in Little Rock until after their move to Conway is complete. As soon as they are settled, they will notify you through the Mississippi Baptist as to when and where those things can be delivered.

cially supporting them through a special offering.

Revolving Loan Fund (as of May 13, 2014 and since August 1st, 2013)

Gross assets are now at \$18,235,572.00, an increase of \$771,652.00 since August 1st. Net assets are now at \$3,083,991.00, an increase of \$134,571.00 since August 1st. We have 9 new loans totaling \$1,097,172.00 since August 1st. Our current loan rate is 4.25%. If your church is in need of a loan to expand or build new facilities, we encourage you to give us a call.

Visit Our Website and Facebook Page

Our website is www.bmams.org. Like our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/bmamsmissions>.

can always strive for contentment and be in a state of growing better. The room for improvement is the biggest room in my house.

I asked women at a marriage retreat what was something their husbands could do to show they loved them and they rattled off one answer after another. Most of them were little things like 'help me in the kitchen', 'make supper', 'pick up their clothes' and 'help me with the kids'. The men said little things like 'give me 30 minutes alone some times to just be by myself and think', or 'making little notes and sticking them in a lunch box'. Little things mean a lot.

Let's try and start making a conscious effort to do acts of kindness towards one another. Ephesians 4:32. Have a party

someday when your child has been having a rough time. Buy a sheet cake at the store. Put up some silly decorations and make them feel special one day. Make a CD and put it in your spouse's car and stick a note on there that says, "just for you". A rose on a pillow at night. For me it would be a doughnut on the pillow at night. Ha! Just do little things to show you care and you are thinking about them. This was a character trait of Jesus - Thoughtfulness. It is contagious, and other family members and friends will start doing it also. But don't do it because you seek praise back. Your motivation is to do it out of love. Because you love Jesus and He has commanded us to love one another. Do some little something today for someone. Little things mean a lot

2014-15 Brotherhood Officers



2014-15 WMA Officers



WMA 2014 Resolutions

WHEREAS, we live in a society that is moving further and further away from the concepts of God and His Word, we shall resolve to:

1. Be more committed to our own personal study of God's Word, spending time in prayer and preparing ourselves to be better fit for His service.
2. Be available and willing to work and serve in each of our own local churches and strive to help make a difference in our communities.
3. Be faithful and supportive in our State Associational work.
4. Join together nationally, with urgency as we realize the soon return of our Savior, to help the Baptist Missionary Association of America keep the Great Commission and carry the Gospel to the world.

Resolutions Committee
Jodi Rhea - Oklahoma
Debbie Clark - Oklahoma