



Baptist Leader Network
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BLN To Do List

- ◇ Join us at the NACBA Conference in July
- ◇ Come meet and greet at the Baptist Reception on Monday July 14 at the conference
- ◇ Purchase dinner tickets for the Certification and Award Dinner July 15
- ◇ Purchase a membership to the BLN
- ◇ Check out our new web site at BLNetwork.net
- ◇ Tell a friend about the BLN
- ◇ Attend a local NACBA Chapter for National Church Administration Day Oct 16
- ◇ Work on Certification
- ◇ Write a brief article for this newsletter
- ◇ Send us news about you or your church

Baptist Leader Network
Formerly SBCBAA

Summer 2014
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IN BRIEF NEWS

TIME FOR CONFERENCE

Baptist Leader Network members and friends, I can hardly wait to see you at Orlando during NACBA, July 14-18, and for our BLN Banquet Tuesday, July 15!!!

It's not too late to make your plan of attending, and certainly not too late to purchase your ticket to dinner Tuesday evening .It is only \$60 including transportation to our banquet location (First Baptist Orlando). Spouse/friend are welcome, for same \$60 each.

With everything we are responsible for in our church leadership role (construction projects, search for student minister, planning for fall programs, enlistment of Bible group leadership, summer programs going crazy, not to mention a few personal responsibilities – *how about you???*), the days of fellowship with you at BLN Banquet, Monday reception (4.45 pm), hanging out and catching up, and the great NACBA workshops all week are *super important* to maintain sanity and balance!

Our officers have done a great job or planning for BLN events @ NACBA; and have done a great job of converting our name/website – have you checked it out lately, at www.BLNetwork.net. Our desire is to help you meet needs you have in everyday networking and responsibilities. Don't hesitate to call on us.

God bless you, and I am really excited to hear from you/see you in Orlando soon! We will follow-up with another summer newsletter after NACBA/BLN meetings are completed.



Inside this issue

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Special points of interest

- New BLN website up and running at BLNetwork.net
- Our new email is contact@blnetwork.net

Sharing the Journey: Retirement and Reinvention

I am sure all of us have or are thinking of that intersection in our life journey when retirement becomes a real consideration. We say we prepare for it mentally, spiritually, financially, emotionally and listen for that voice saying "it's time."

Following a variety of family, education, business and employment experiences and looking back, I realized God was preparing me for my calling in church administration. Our network of church administration colleagues has played a huge role in my gratitude journal. Thank you for all the years of encouragement, mentoring and support along the way and making a difference in my life! As you approach this year's Orlando conference, pass it on!

I am embracing my retirement with great joy. But as one who "hit the ground running" every day and loved, loved my calling - somehow words cannot describe that other voice saying "what's next"? I gave myself six months before taking on a major commitment. It has served me well and I would recommend it.

In her book *Your Life Calling* Jane Pauley shares a wonderful perspective. We are living to see time in our lives to include a second act and time to pursue something more untapped. We have the opportunity to "reinvent" ourselves for yet another leg of the journey to fulfillment. Reading Pauley's stories of others who reinvented themselves brings great excitement to me for the possibilities yet ahead!

I share three things - no matter where you are in your journey. One, life is too short. Make the most of everyday! Two, juggling the many hats of church administration requires us to strive for a balance with the spirit, health and family. Enter retirement embracing all the joy waiting for you! And three, no one including this writer can tell you how to prepare for retirement. Enjoy the discovery and the journey to reinvention. God will continue to prepare us for that too. Thanks be to God!

Janice Johnson
Retired August 2013
First Baptist Church



BLN Certification and Awards Banquet Tuesday, July 15th

Buses pick up at 6:15 at Gaylord Palms Tour Lobby – Transportation provided by First Class Transportation

Location – First Baptist Church, Orlando, Faith Hall Stage-side

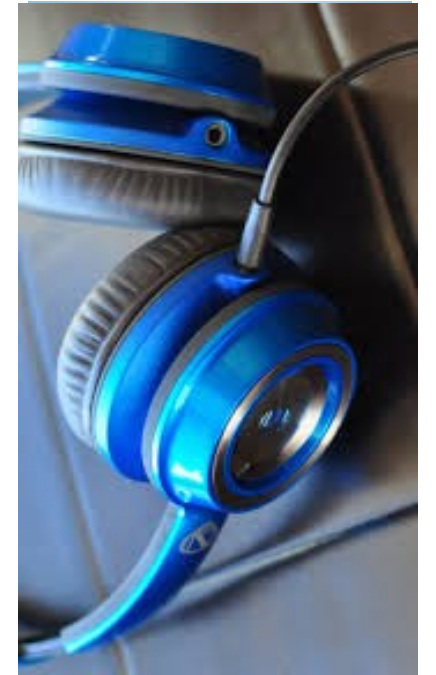
Music Provided by Tiffany Love – Currently sings with the Voices of Liberty at Disney – previous sung with groups such as Babbie Mason, Sandi Patty, Truth and Regeneration to name a few of the groups

Buffet Style – Salad (Toss or Caesar), Meat (Grilled Citrus Chicken or Roast Pork Loin w/Cranberry Relish), Vegetables (Tri Roasted Potatoes, Rice Pilaf, Caribbean Blend Vegetables, Green Bean Meldey), Rolls and Chef Selected Assorted Dessert Station

VIP setting and décor for the evening

Marcus White (Hospitality Directory of FBC) will be the host for the evening and provide brief information on Hospitality Ministry in the local church.

Reservations can still be made at BLNetwork.net under the Fellowship tab. Cost is \$60 per person.



"BLN...Serving Church Administration through training, fellowship, and networking" BLNetwork.net

BLN: Celebrating 25 Years

The Baptist Leader Network will be celebrating 25 years of service to Church Business Leaders. We were formed in 1979 as the Southern Baptist Church Business Administrators Association and our members have been faithfully serving for 25 years. Today we are known as the Baptist Leader Network or BLN and still a thriving network moving

church administration forward.

Please stop by our booth at the NACBA Conference in Orlando located next to the event registration area. We would love to meet and greet you and share our passion for the BLN.

NEW BLN Website is Up and Running

Check us out at www.BLNetwork.net. Take a few minutes and click around and see what we have for you. Recently added under ABOUT US is Our History by Dr. Judy Stamey. A great read!

