

TENNESSEE GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP BLACK BELT PROGRAM E-NEWSLETTER



Special points of interest:

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- Program Stats
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- Newsletter Information



Program News

There are 48 members being considered for one or more belt promotions this cycle—almost 25% of the total 206 members! We even have our first candidate under consideration for a Black Belt, but I won't spoil the surprise and tell who that might be until it's been announced!

We'd hoped to be able to award belts at the May TGLC meeting, but committee members' schedules and the sheer number of candidates under consideration prevented that. It should be very soon now, though. If you are under consideration for belt advancement, keep an eye on your e-mails for an announcement soon.

The BBP committee has added four new members since the first of the year. You were introduced to Marcus Dodson, our new chair, in the last newsletter, and we'll be introducing another new member monthly until you've "met" them all.

Mary Moewe is TDOC's CIO. She is originally

from Pittsburg (PA, not TN!), and enjoys helping people grow and excel in their careers, which makes the BBP a great fit for her. Her passion is working closely with the Business teams and Information Systems staff to plan, design, and execute information technology solutions that increase business value and efficiency through agile project management.

Mary attended TGEI in 2014 . We are enriched by her participation on the BBP committee—welcome, Mary!

The Individualized Development category for BBP activities has been renamed. It will become the "Pay It Forward" category, and we'll be revealing details about how it works in the very near future, both in this newsletter and by direct e-mail communication with the entire BBP membership. Watch for it - we think you'll be as excited as we are about the changes!!

Members News

New members since we last published names in the newsletter (in order joined):

- Nikole Avers, Commerce and Insurance
- Melissa Boaz, Comptroller of the Treasury
- Jeremy McBride, General Services
- Karen Hale, Comptroller of the Treasury
- Kimberly Boyle, Human Resources
- Ali Hangul, Transportation
- Marilyn Barbee, Human Services
- Stephen James Reksten, Human Services
- Harvie Franklin III, Financial Institutions
- Travis Williams, Human Services
- Janet LaRosa, Commerce and Insurance
- Cynthia Douglas, Human Services
- Selena Cunningham, Env & Cons
- Mary Moewe, Correction
- Lori Singleton, Treasury Department
- Jessica Montgomery, Advisory Comm on Inter-governmental Relations
- Vincent Barnes, General Services

- Kristin Martin, Correction
- Marla Boles, Finance and Administration
- Jeffrey Kimmell, Human Services
- Laura Stewart, Higher Education Comm
- Steven Chester, Human Resources
- Stacy Balthrop, TN Regulatory Authority
- Laura Isbell, Comptroller of the Treasury
- Randi Tarp, Board of Probation & Parole
- James T. Stinson, TN Regulatory Authority
- Kristi Astafan, Board of Professional Responsibility for the Supreme Court of TN
- Peter Heimbach, Finance and Administration
- Julia Williams, Human Resources
- Rodney Escobar, Treasury Department
- Shanna Sisk-Midgett, Correction
- Janet Neihoff, Dept. Intellectual Disabilities
- Caroline Lansdell, Revenue
- Amy Thompson, General Services
- Shannon Jones, Commission on Aging and Disability

PROGRAM STATS

Current Members: 206

Activity Points Earned by Category

Strategic Development: 13,010

Internal Service: 2,673

External Service: 3,598

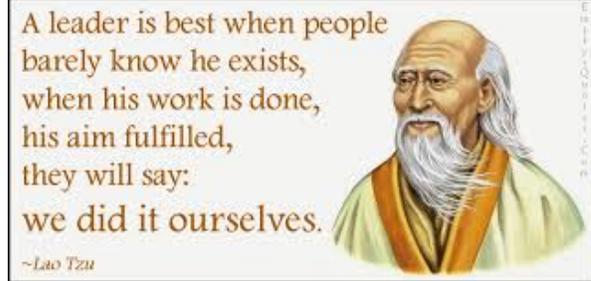
Other: 2,265

Total: 21,546

The range of activities BBP members have completed is astounding!

Attending leadership or technical conferences
Attend a Toastmaster's International Meeting
Attend other seminars, training sessions, etc.
Attend the monthly Leadership Book Club meeting
Attend your TGL program's Alumni meeting/event.
Be a mentee
Be a mentor (to another state employee or a non-state employee)
Become a certified mentor
Become a LEAN facilitator
Become certified to facilitate a TGL Alumni Leadership Module
Clean a neighbor's yard who cannot do it themselves
Clean up trash along a river, roadway, or park
Coach a little league sport
Complete a second or subsequent DOHR-sponsored statewide (i.e., LEAD, TGMI, TGEI) or agency-specific (i.e., HR Masters, Green Leadership, or Commissioner's Academies) leadership development program.
Complete a semester-long college or university class
Complete TGL Alumni Leadership Module Training (per module)
Create a habitat for wildlife
Develop a project that will use and enhance your leadership abilities and have the potential to improve government effectiveness in some way
Donate Blood or Plasma
Earn 4DX Team Leader Certification
Earn a 6 Sigma belt
Facilitate a LEAN/Kaizen event
Facilitate a TGL Alumni Leadership Module
Help with a neighborhood revitalization or Habitat for Humanity
Honor a U.S. military veteran
Interview a leader in the government arena (state, federal, local), the community, or in business; write up the interview, and submit for publication in the TGL alumni newsletter
Lead a 4DX Team
Make cards for the elderly, soldiers, hospitals, etc.
Organize a self-defense workshop
Other - Please Explain Below
Paint over graffiti
Participate in a Lunch and Learn type activity, webinar, etc.
Participate in Toastmasters International program organizing/planning activities (1 point per hour)
Participate on a LEAN team/in a Kaizen event
Read a book from the approved leadership reading list and complete a summary, including recommendation and reason, for publication in the TGL alumni newsletter
Run or walk in a charity race
Serve as a Big Brother/Big Sister
Serve on community/non-profit boards/commissions
Serve on the TGLC
Serve on your TGL program's alumni or steering committee
Set up a web page for a non-profit agency
Share a talent through teaching a class
Shop or prepare meals for those who aren't able
Start a neighborhood watch program
Take a life saving/CPR class
Teach a class to co-workers or other state agencies that isn't part of your normal job responsibilities
Train and serve as a TNCP Board of Examiners member, completing one full team assignment during the year.
Volunteer as a counselor at local summer camp
Volunteer at a health fair
Volunteer at an animal shelter or animal rescue group
Volunteer at community centers, nursing homes, etc.
Volunteer at local food pantries or hot meal center
Volunteer to assist with the TGL annual leadership conference
Volunteer to do office work at a local non-profit agency
Volunteer to lead a youth club
Volunteer with your TGL program's alumni or steering committee (i.e., organize brown bag lunch, alumni breakfast meeting, etc.)

And the "Other" categories contain even more, non-standard activities! BBP members are truly an inspiration, and a boon, to their agencies, their communities, and the State of Tennessee.

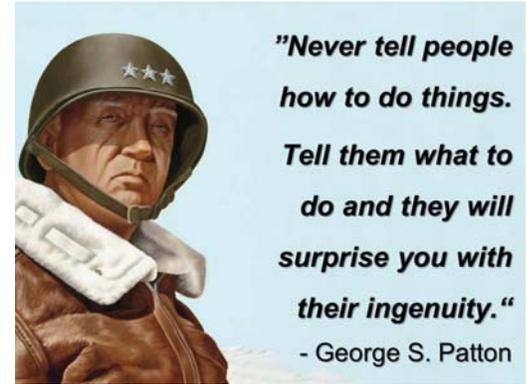
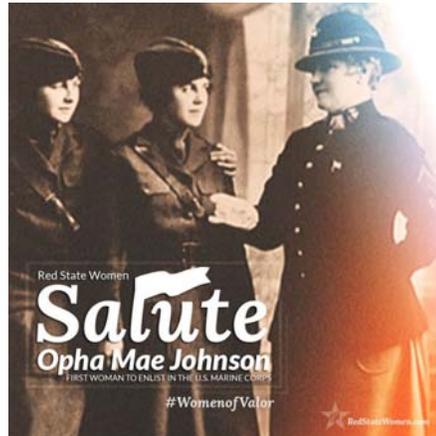
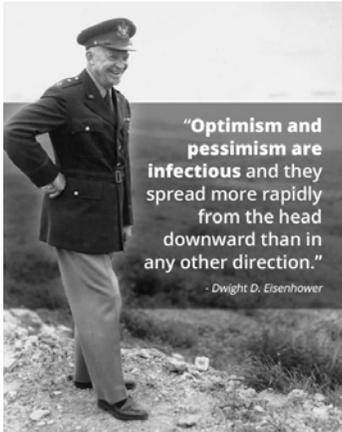


May celebrates Memorial Day

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in service of the United States of America. Let's salute and honor those lost.



Military Leadership Quotes



Volunteer Corner #EarthDayEveryDay

Reduce - Reuse - Recycle - Replenish - Restore!

Although Earth Day was celebrated April 22, our responsibilities as civic leaders in our communities does not end. Targeting ways to be environmentally clean encompasses huge areas of community volunteering.

Here's how you can do your part and earn points for your Black Belt:

- Join in **Tennessee Watershed Management** projects. Go here for more information: <https://ag.tennessee.edu/watersheds/Pages/default.aspx>
- Search for recycling events at the links to the right.
- Look in your community for clean up days. Community parks and neighborhood associations are cleaning up their areas and need your help. If you can't find one already organized, create your own! Grab some work gloves, yard trash bags a rake and head to the nearest community area to begin cleaning up!
- Volunteer with charities that reuse clothing and participate in clothing drives such as **Dress for Success**. Go here to find a local affiliate: <https://www.dressforsuccess.org/>
- Volunteer with the Tennessee Environmental Council <http://tectn.org/get-involved-2/volunteer/>



<https://volunteer.linkedin.com/>



TN PROMISE MENTORS SPEAK OUT

In the last edition, several BBP members who serve as TN Promise mentors shared their thoughts on the program, and the impact their participation had on them as well as their mentees. This month, we're going to take the opportunity to share more of those experiences, as well as some pertinent words of wisdom from some other famous mentors throughout history!

The delicate balance of mentoring someone is not creating them in your own image, but giving them the opportunity to create themselves. - Steven Spielberg

I am thrilled to be part of the TN Promise program as a Mentor. I finished my college education as an adult and I am a first generation college graduate. As such, I truly understand and treasure the value of knowledge. The youngest of my three children will graduate from college this spring so I have amassed a great deal of experience navigating the higher education system. It is an honor for me to walk this path with our state's future leaders, especially knowing that many of them are first generation college attendees, like me. The TN Promise is a once in a lifetime experience that may open doors for these young people they never believed possible. It is our duty as Mentors to be their champions and their shepherds. "To whom much is given, much is required" - Luke 12:48
- Leighanne Haynes

Mentoring is a brain to pick, an ear to listen, and a push in the right direction. - John C. Crosby

My first experience as mentor to the fantastic young people was so interesting. As an empty nester I found that sharing my time and knowledge with these energetic young people was beneficial for them but me as well. I wanted to give my time to a worthwhile cause and TN Achieves is certainly worthwhile. These students are our next great leaders!!! Let's give them the best shot they can have at becoming those leaders and making a difference in our communities and State.
- Peggy Birthrong

In a battery, I strive to maximize electrical potential. When mentoring, I strive to maximize human potential. - David Sadoway

The mentoring program for TN Promise provides me an opportunity to transform and grow as a servant leader. During the Mission Possible Leadership Academy I learned, "being a servant leader focuses primarily on the growth and well-being of people and communities to which they belong." Therefore, I am excited and eager about helping the assigned nine out of ten students during their educational journey. As a life-long learner, I believe students should have the knowledge of all available resources to achieve academically. Parents and students have shown their appreciation and partnership by answering my weekly emails. Jack Welch stated, "Before you are a leader, success is all about growing yourself. When you become a leader, success is all about growing others."
- Marilyn Barbee

With every deed you are sowing a seed, though the harvest you may not see. - Ella W. Wilcox

This is such a wonderful program. Becoming a mentor was the best experience. The training and handbook provided have been very helpful. I am happy to report that my team of six students has all completed the required steps to date, and they remain eligible for their scholarships. The Future is Bright in Tennessee! - C.J. McMorran

True education does not consist merely in the acquiring of a few facts of science, history, literature, or art, but in the development of character. — David O. McKay

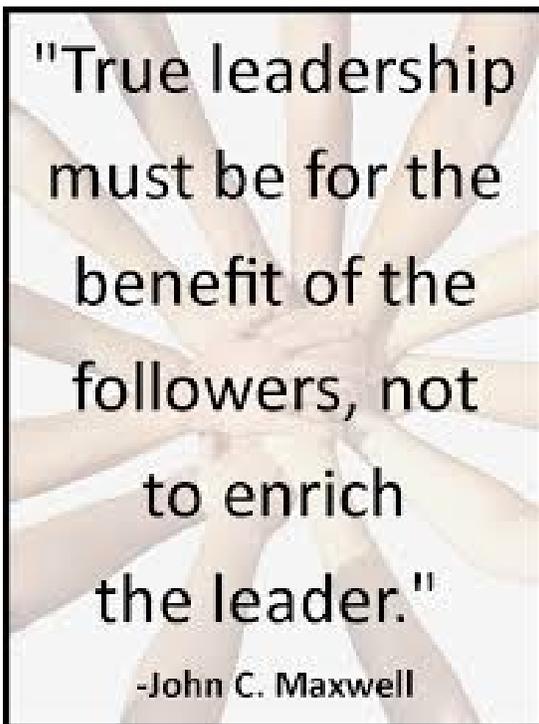
Thank you, BBP members/TN Promise mentors, for your development of the next generation!

Newsletter Information

Remember, we welcome your contributions to the e-newsletter, and there are really no specific rules other than submit, submit, submit! If we can't cram it into the space this month, we'll get it in there next time. Send your feedback or future articles to sendy.parker@tn.gov.



<http://www.tn.gov/dohr/bblp.shtml>



**If you have any questions, feel free to contact any member of the
BBP Committee.**

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