

**SBBMA Annual Session**  
April 17-18, 2009  
Center for Pastoral Excellence  
Samford University – Birmingham, AL

**Friday, April 17** – Preliminary meetings were held that morning of the Resource Network, Educators, and P.A.L.S. In the afternoon, meetings of the Coordinating Council and the Executive Committee were held. These were followed by an indoor picnic, a report from our National Coordinator, Ray Gilder, and a message from the SBBMA president, Henry Luckel. The evening concluded with a delightful concert by the Shades Mountain Air and an inspiring message by Junior Hill. Larry Barnes gave out 90 packets of books, software, and other material to new members and visiting bivocationalists.

**Saturday, April 18** -- Prior to the business session, breakout sessions were held on “Time Management” (Lloyd Elder), “Evangelism” (Marc Merritt), “Dealing with Church Conflict” (Dale Huff), and “Pastoral Sustenance Network—PSN” (Larry Barnes).

**Annual Business Session** -- The annual business session of the Southern Baptist Bivocational Ministers Association met at Samford University April 17-18, 2009, and was chaired by Henry Luckel, SBBMA president.

Minutes of the previous meeting were distributed and reviewed. Larry Lehr moved they be approved, seconded by Lester Evans; carried.

Joyce Byrd presented the treasurer’s report with a balance of \$10,943.08 in checking and \$10,305.34 in a Trust Fund at the Tennessee Baptist Foundation in Brentwood. The report was accepted unanimously upon motion by Brenda Echols.

The **P.A.L.S.** report was given by Jean Beachum. The officers remain the same as last year: Susan Luckel, president, Jean Beachum, vice-president, and Brenda Echols, treasurer. She reported on a delightful tour and visit at the WMU headquarters that morning.

Larry Orange reported on the officers for the **Educators** for the next two years: Larry Orange, president, Jay Barnett, president-elect, and Landon Preston, secretary. The Educators enthusiastically accepted Union University as a new Regional Bivocational Resource Center, after this past year of their membership and full participation.

Lester Evans will be the convener next year for the **Resource Network**.

Henry Luckel gave a brief summary of actions of the Executive Committee since the last annual meeting in Florida, including the August planning meeting and yesterday’s meeting:

- Ray Gilder’s stipend was increased from \$500 to \$700 a month.
- Secretarial assistance by Galen Brown (Ray’s daughter) was approved at \$300 a month.
- Travel for Ray was approved up to \$3600 annually.
- The Executive Committee endorsed a website change, name change and logo that will be voted on at our next annual meeting in New Mexico in 2010 as follows:
  - [www.bivosmallchurch.net](http://www.bivosmallchurch.net)
  - **Bivocational and Small Church Leadership Network (BSCLN)**  
“A Southern Baptist network providing resources for leadership in the kingdom service of Christ” (still to be refined)

- The logo is being finalized and will be on the website soon for viewing.
- The Executive Committee approved a memorial offering to be taken each year at the annual session in memory of John G. Hall; the money will be deposited into the Trust Fund.

Tom Echols gave a brief explanation of the John G. Hall offering and an offering was taken (\$300).

Lester Evans gave a membership report of 206 names in our database, 4 supporting churches, 2 supporting conventions, and 3 supporting associations. He encouraged each one to renew their membership for 2009 either at this meeting, online, or by mail to Joyce Byrd, 5111 Marc Ct., Nashville, TN 37211.

Landon Preston from the Website Committee gave more detail on their recent task force meeting and the process of changing our server, securing [www.bivosmallchurch.net](http://www.bivosmallchurch.net), [www.bivosmallchurch.com](http://www.bivosmallchurch.com), and [www.bivosmallchurch.org](http://www.bivosmallchurch.org). As soon as the name [www.sbbma.org](http://www.sbbma.org) becomes available (after May 1), we will immediately buy that also and link all of these to [www.bivosmallchurch.net](http://www.bivosmallchurch.net), the official site. He showed a picture of the new logo for Bivocational & Small Church Leadership Network and explained some of the fine-tuning yet to be done.

The Audit Committee (Tom Echols, Brenda Echols, and Shannon Smith) reported they had reviewed the treasurer's books and found them to be complete and in order.

The Nominating Committee (given by Larry Orange) recommended the following as new officers for the coming year, 2009-2010:

- President: Larry Lehr (OK)
- 1<sup>st</sup> VP for Program: Mark Devine (NM)
- VP Membership: Lester Evans (NC)
- VP Finance: Larry Barnes (AL)
- Secretary: Galen Brown (TN)
- Treasurer: Joyce Byrd (TN)
- Directors: 1 year—Tom Echols (TX)
- 2 years—Dan Wilford (MO)
- 3 years—Henry Luckel (CO)

The officers were approved by acclamation. Appreciation was expressed to all outgoing officers.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Following the business session, Michael Wilson our Samford host, led in a brief worship service with a closing message by Bob Fitzgerald, president of the Alabama Baptist Association of Bivocational Ministers.

The next annual meeting will be in Albuquerque, New Mexico, April 16-17, 2010.

Minutes taken by Joyce Byrd in the absence of Rosalind Ray, Secretary