

# NOMINATIONS

## PRESIDENT



### **MEGAN SHELLMAN-RICKARD, M.S.**

2015 – Present NFBPWC 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

2017 – Present BPW Colorado IT Chair

2016 – 2017 BPW Colorado 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of Membership  
BPW Boulder 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of Membership

2015 – 2017 IFBPW Sub-Regional Coordinator for North America  
BPW Colorado Immediate Past-President

2015-2016 BPW Colorado IT Chair  
BPW Colorado Fundraising Chair  
BPW Colorado Outreach Committee Co-Chair  
BPW Boulder VP of Marketing  
BPW Boulder Grants Chair

2014-2015 BPW Colorado President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Term

2013-2014 BPW Colorado (Colorado Business Women) President, 1<sup>st</sup> Term

2013-2015 BPW Boulder Grants Chair

2014 BPW Colorado (Colorado Business Women) 2014 Midyear Conference Chair  
BPW Colorado (Colorado Business Women) 2014 Annual Convention Chair  
BPW Boulder Young Careerist Chair

2012-2013 BPW Colorado (Colorado Business Women) President-Elect  
BPW Colorado (Colorado Business Women) Strategy Team Leader  
BPW Boulder Immediate Past-President  
BPW Boulder VP Marketing

2012 BPW Colorado (Colorado Business Women) Young Careerist Chair

2011-2012 BPW Boulder President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Term

- 2010-2011 BPW Boulder President, 1<sup>st</sup> Term
- 2009-2010 BPW Boulder President-Elect  
BPW Boulder Celebration of Women Chair
- 2009 BPW Colorado Celebration of Women Chair  
BPW Boulder Young Careerist Mentor
- 2008 BPW Boulder Celebration of Women Chair  
BPW Boulder Young Careerist Representative at BPW Colorado's State Convention - 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

**BPW Accomplishments**

- 2020 Prepared the NFBPWC website for the General Assembly until it was evident it would not be allowed to happen in person. Continued work on the national website and encouraged leadership to create a Zoom interaction to keep the national organization connected. Provided Zoom interactions for affiliates and federations nationwide in an effort to continue communication. Continued work as VP of Membership with both new and Heritage organizations. Through the Momentum Club, four new clubs were formed: Arizona, Michigan, North Carolina – Chatham County, and Colorado Virtual.
- 2019 Attended the NFBPWC 100 Year Anniversary Cruise Celebration for NFBPWC as the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and a member of the Executive Committee. Assisted Past President Elizabeth Benham with logistics due to unforeseen scheduling conflicts. Continued to serve as BPW Colorado IT Chair. Continued to serve as the IT contact for NFBPWC while administering the national website and the Zoom account.
- 2018 Attended the NFBPWC General Assembly and BPW International N. American and Caribbean Regional Conference, “Leaning In and Leading Building Bridges to Equality,” as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and a member of the Executive Committee. Worked with President Liz Benham to create the website, online registration, and logo associated with the event. The Momentum Club successfully launched the NFBPWC Houston Club which was given its charter in March 2018 by President Liz Benham and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Megan Shellman at a celebratory event in Houston, TX. Assisted Liz Benham in connecting newly chartered affiliates, North Carolina and Pennsylvania, to the National and International organizations and their members.
- 2017 Attended the 29<sup>th</sup> BPW International Congress as a voting delegate from NFBPWC in October 2017. Attended BPW International Leaders’ Summit in New York City and CSW 61 as an observation delegate representing BPW International. Created a new website using an online membership management software and website program and moved NFBPWC from the old platform to the new one. Created the Momentum Club for NFBPWC which is a closed group that operates as a platform from which new BPW clubs/chapters, affiliations, and federations will launch.
- 2016 Attended BPW International Leaders’ Summit in New York City and CSW 60 Parallel Events as a BPW International member.
- 2015 As President of BPW Colorado, I facilitated the reconnection with IFBPW and EPW-USA as a federation with 6 chapters and over 100 members. I attended the IFBPW Regional Convention in Grand Cayman and received an award of recognition from BPW Colorado.

- 2014 As President of BPW Colorado (Colorado Business Women) and Chair of the 2014 Annual Convention in June, I facilitated a vote to affiliate with IFBPW and EPW-USA that was approved by more than 70% of the voting members in attendance. In addition, an amendment to change our name back to Business and Professional Women of Colorado from Colorado Business Women was approved unanimously.
- 2014 As President of BPW Colorado (Colorado Business Women) at the 2014 Midyear Board Meeting in February, I led an appreciative inquiry process with 30 members to discuss the opportunity to reconnect with IFBPW and EPW-USA. The members approved a nonbinding vote to bring this to the annual convention as an amendment.
- 2013 I was installed as President of BPW Colorado (Colorado Business Women) with my 1-year-old son and my 3-year-old daughter in attendance. As President of BPW Colorado (Colorado Business Women) at the 2013 BPW University, I directed an appreciative inquiry process with key leaders in our organization to discuss how we could broaden our horizons and reconnect with like-minded organizations. The process resulted in the concept of rejoining IFBPW through EPW-USA and the creation of a Bylaws Committee to go forward with the necessary amendment proposals. The 12 members in attendance approved a nonbinding vote to go forward and bring this to our entire membership at our Midyear Board Meeting for input. I was honored as the 2013 Member of the Year for BPW Boulder.
- 2012 As Young Careerist Chair for BPW Colorado (Colorado Business Women), I planned and led a successful Young Careerist program with 6 participants, 3 judges, and 4 areas of competition. This incredible event took place despite 2 feet of snow and resulted in finding a few new leaders for our organization.
- 2011 As President of BPW Boulder, I worked with our Marketing VP to change our logo to better represent our organization and worked on a successful campaign to double membership.
- 2010 I was installed as President of BPW Boulder with my 6-week old daughter in a baby carrier. I then attended the BPW Colorado annual convention as a nursing, baby-wearing, confident new leader when she was only 9 weeks old. I voted to remain connected to BPW Foundation so we could continue to have a national platform in which we could possibly participate.
- 2009 Participated in the discussion and vote about BPW Foundation and how we were going to move forward since it folded and was no longer a membership organization. Joined a taskforce dedicated to determining our future in Colorado and assisted in the decision to change our name to Colorado Business Women until BPW Foundation's motives and operational status could be determined.
- 2008 Ran my first Celebration of Women event for BPW Boulder and publicly spoke for the first time since my college debate years. Participated in my first state convention as BPW Boulder's Young Careerist and received the honor of 2<sup>nd</sup> place and 1<sup>st</sup> alternate for the Annual BPW/USA Convention – after only 8 months as a member.
- 2007 Joined BPW Boulder and checked every single box for volunteer opportunities – I wanted to jump in the deep end and not simply get my feet wet.



## **FRANCESCA BURACK**

### BPW Service

- Development, Training and Employment Standing Committee, Chair
- North American & Caribbean Regional Executive, Events Coordinator
- UN Representative — Committee Member - STOP TRAFFICING OF PEOPLE, the Department" of Global Communications and Education, Learning & Literacy
- BPW International Congresses —Presentations in

### Helsinki, JeJu, Cairo Leadership Roles

#### President, NFBPWC-NYC

When I first became president of this club, we had no website, no regularly scheduled monthly meetings, no transparency and no strategic or action plan for the organization.

I reenergized this club by developing a cohesive executive committee, working as a team to develop a sustainable plan for this club. I held strategic planning sessions yearly, where we came up with yearly themes. All events and programming focused on that theme.

1. A website was developed during the first three months of my first presidency.
2. On-going regular communication between the president, the executive and the members = transparency.
3. Membership — doubled at times. Diversified the membership in age (20-90 years of age) and ethnicity. Three young professionals sit on the executive board.
4. We are an active member of the Equal Pay Coalition (composed of 100 women's groups and two unions) and help to influence the passing of NYC and NYS laws that improve the lives of working women. I representative NFBPWC-NYC on the Leaders' Calls.
5. I represented the group when we have been called on to give testimony at the City

and State level on potential policies and laws.

6. We collaborate with other women's organizations to co-sponsor programs and events.
7. We have successfully transferred from a face-to-face in person organization to a virtual organization. Our "She Talks" attract members from NYC, around the country, the world, and nonmembers too.
8. We promote members.

VP Membership, USA (2012—13)

Our administration served for one year. It was a challenging time. Our focus was on rebuilding National, regaining our strength and expanding our contacts around the Nation. I helped to rebuild the organization, reaching out to potential clubs, connected to our members as a whole and to the different clubs.

My reason for running for President to help NFBPWC take a more visible role in advocating for the social and economic equality for all women. We need to help our young professionals advance in their careers. We need to support our entrepreneurs and help them obtain business and expand their businesses. We need to be the "go-to" organization that the media calls for our opinion when issues affecting working women are being discussed. We need to help each and every member feel supported and appreciated.

This is a Great organization created by our visionary founder Lena Madison Philips and we Must ensure that we continue the work she began 101 (July 19<sup>th</sup>) years ago. Together we can do all of this and more. Together we can work to ensure no woman in this organization gets left behind, and that every woman in this country is treated equally and fairly and without prejudice!

As Margaret Mead said: *"Never doubt that a small committed group of people can change the world...For indeed it is the only thing that ever has."* So let's make it happen!

**1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT MEMBERSHIP**



## **LARISSA MILLER**

Larissa is a member of the BPW Triangle Club in Raleigh, N. C. and a member of the NFBPWC South Florida Club. She is also President of the Miami, Florida club which is in the formation process.

On the International level Larissa is serving as a member of the Women, Peace and Security Project.

She has been the Keynote Speaker at several conferences including February 2020 BPW Women, Peace and Security Webinar "Refugees: Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities for Women"; April 2020 Leadership in BPW Webinar "Women on Boards: How to Serve"; May 2020 BPW in the Post-COVID World webinar, "The Transformational Future of BPW"; May 2019 BPW International European Congress; September 2019 BPW Latin America Congress; October 2020 Malta 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration; November 2020 BPW Mediterranean Congress

Larisa majored in Political Science with a minor in Hungarian at Rutgers University, and Organizational Leadership at Penn State University before going on to work for Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge, with a focus on public policy. Larisa served as head of business development for the Royal Family in Abu Dhabi, as well as chairwoman of their large non-profit foundation, focusing on education for refugee youth, taking her to refugee camps in Iraq, Yemen, Jordan and in Africa. Currently, Larisa serves as managing partner of Akon Global, the umbrella company for the businesses of multi Grammy-nominated recording star, Akon. Additionally, she is CEO of Phoenix Global; and, a principal partner and executive vice president of STP Capital Partners. An award-winning keynote speaker, Larisa speaks to audiences around the world on topics such as business development and resiliency, 2030 strategies, sustainability, women's empowerment, entrepreneurship, etc.

Active in BPW as a member of the Triangle Chapter, Raleigh NC, and South Florida Chapter, Larisa is currently establishing BPW Miami. Larisa has supported BPW around the world as a member and speaker (Member, BPW International: Women, Peace and Security project/ Keynote speaker: February 2020; BPW Women, Peace & Security webinar "Refugees: Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities for Women" / Keynote speaker: April 2020; Leadership in BPW webinar, "Women on Boards: How to Serve"/Keynote speaker: May 2020; BPW in the Post-COVID World webinar, "The Transformational Future of BPW" / Keynote speaker: May 2019; BPW International European Congress - Galway, Ireland Keynote speaker: September 2019; BPW Latin America Congress -

Quito, Ecuador / Keynote speaker: November 2019; BPW Mediterranean Congress - Nicosia, Cyprus / Keynote speaker: October 2020; BPW (Valletta) Malta, 10th Anniversary Celebration - Valletta, Malta / Keynote speaker: November 2020; BPW Mediterranean Congress - Nicosia, Cyprus

## 2<sup>nd</sup> VICE PRESIDENT ADVOCACY



### DANEENE MONROE RUSNAK

Daneene began her association with BPW when she joined the Berea local chapter in Ohio in 2010. She immediately agreed to fill a recently vacated chair as the Historian.

In 2011 she was the BPW/Ohio Individual Development Speak-Off winner and continued her passion for the ID course by serving as a moderator for Berea BPW's Individual Development classes.

Throughout her tenure with the Berea local, Daneene has held a variety of positions which included three terms as local President, PR/Social Media Chair, 2nd VP/Membership Chair and Region 2 President. In 2014, Daneene was selected as the Berea BPW Woman of the Year and as one of the honorees at the Berea BPW National Business Women's Week event.

At the state level, Daneene has served as Legislation Chair, Corresponding Secretary and Social Media Chair for BPW/Ohio. Currently, Daneene continues to serve BPW/Ohio as the Co-Chair of Website Management, the Social Media Chair, and is in her third term as the BPW/OH PAC Chair.

Daneene has been a member of the NFBPW Virtual Chapter since 2015. She is the current President of that chapter and has served as the Social Media/Technology Chair or Co-Chair throughout her time as a member. In 2017 she joined the PR/Social Media Committee for NFBPWC USA and currently serves as the NFBPWC USA PR Chair. Most recently, Daneene has participated in the Lifelong Leadership and Learning Facilitator Program.

## SECRETARY



**BARBARA BOZEMAN**

BPW offices held:

- State President, BPW North Carolina
- State Vice President, BPW North Carolina
- Local Club President, BPW North Carolina • Local Club Vice President, BPW North Carolina

BPW Committees/Duties:

- State and Local Club webmaster
- State and Local Newsletter Editor
- Women Joining Forces Chair
- State Convention Co-Chair
  
- Recipient of two US Air Force Meritorious Service Medals, multiple commendations
  
- Aircrew Life Support Airman of the Year Award top member of career field, USAF (wide)
- Retired from the United States Air Force at the rank of Master Sergeant in 2009.
- Completed dual majors in Human Resources and Business from Mount Olive College
- Owner/ Chief Photographer for - Sights & Hounds Photography since 2012

## TREASURER

No Nominations Received.



