



The National Federation of Business & Professional Women's Clubs, Inc.



December 2017
Newsletter

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Upcoming Events



NFBPWC 2018 General Assembly

20 July 2018 | Orlando, Florida

XXX BPW International Congress

21 August 2020 to 26 August 2020

[Hilton Buena Vista Hotel](#), Orlando, Florida



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About NFBPWC

Develops the business, professional and leadership potential of women.

Our Mission

The National Federation of Business and Professional Women's clubs (NFBPWC) develops the business, professional and leadership potential of women on all levels through education, advocacy, networking, mentoring, skill building and economic empowerment programs and projects.

The National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs (NFBPWC) of the United States of America is an affiliate of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women, which spans across five regions and over 110 countries of the world. In 2017 we celebrated 98 years of empowering women through our mission which is to develop the business, professional and leadership potential of women on all levels through education, advocacy, mentoring, networking, skill building and economic empowerment programs and projects.



President Elizabeth Benham

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Commission on the Status of Women 62

Commission on the Status of Women 62 (CSW62) will be March 12-23, 2018 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.



Themes:

- **Priority Theme** is “Challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls.”
- **Review Theme** is “Participation in and access of women to the media, and information and communications technologies and their impact on and use as an instrument for the advancement and empowerment of women.”

There is more information at: <http://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/csw62-2018>.

People are encouraged you to follow CSW on Twitter and Facebook for updates: https://twitter.com/UN_CSW and <https://facebook.com/UNCSW>.

The Leaders’ Summit is right before CSW62. There is no information on BPW International’s website on registration for the Leaders’ Summit or to be a delegate to CSW62. Last year the registration was open now and until January 27th.

Green News

By: Laurie Dameron, BPW Boulder Member
Chair BPW Colorado Environment and Sustainable Development Committee
Chair NFBPW Environmental and Sustainable Development Committee

It's been two weeks since returning home from Egypt. It was so incredible; it all seems like a dream now! From the moment we arrived at the Cairo airport and then drove into the city, I was overwhelmed with how different everything is from here in the USA!

Looking out the window of our bus at the city's skyline, we noticed that well over half of the buildings remain unfinished, with the steel rods protruding up towards the sky from their tops. We learned that this is the way citizens avoid paying high property taxes. And many of the windows were empty appearing vacant. TV is apparently very important here, though, as there were many satellite dishes!

The next morning, my colleague and I decided to walk the six blocks from our hotel to the Mena House Hotel and Conference Center, where we would spend the next five days for our International Business and Professional Women (BPW) Congress. Big mistake—there was only one traffic light, you could barely make out any traffic lane markings, and the traffic was unlike any I've ever seen, with horns *blaring* away! We could *not* get across the street! Finally, a kind Egyptian man walked out with his arms up and stopped traffic for us. That was the last time we attempted that walk!

The conference was incredibly exciting, with 680 women from 73 countries. I was impressed with the colorful dresses of women from the nearby African countries, as well as the Thai women's fancy costumes! I made connections with Keiko from Japan; Judith and Carol from Australia; Vivian, Vickie, and Hellen from New Zealand; Margarita from Brazil; and some new colleagues from NYC and El Paso, Texas—just to name a few.

There was a lot of talk about our BPW sisters and our brothers in the Caribbean who suffered (and still suffering) from recent hurricanes and many that could not attend the congress.

Our theme for the 29th congress was "Making a Difference through Leadership and Action," and I definitely got to see many leaders in action. This was only the second time in the last 87 years that a congress has taken place in Africa. My friends kept asking why we would have the conference in Cairo, where there seems to be so much inequality. Well, there's part of the answer: Work needs to be done! But also H.E. Abdel Fattah Al Sisi, the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, had previously declared 2017 to be the Year of Women.

I must thank our NFBPWC President, Elizabeth Benham, for making me a voting delegate. That meant I was required to attend the general assemblies every day, where I learned so much. I learned about resolutions, amendments, and voting procedures—which you can imagine can be rather difficult, with hundreds of voters. I got to practice many skills: principles before personalities, detachment with love, and non-judgment. Every time I felt judgment towards someone with a strong personality, instead of judging their behavior as good or bad, I thought of it as strengths and weaknesses. This also extended to self-judgment and being even gentler with myself. Another practice that helps me a lot is, "We believe what they say because it is true for them."

Being a delegate, I missed out on some great workshops, but I learned some new things from the one I chaired on the environment. Judith from Australia talked about all of the intricacies that happen when an agency moves in to help with disaster relief. This was something I never gave much thought to...these agencies take over everything needed to rebuild and restore, from carpentry to electrical work—and the local workers are then left jobless!

I learned of a project in Vietnam that is building water stations that filter and treat local water so that tourists or anyone can refill their water bottles. Speaking of water, I have never drunk so much bottled water in my life, but we had to! Developing countries don't have the infrastructure and facilities that we have to provide clean water. There were so many things like this and so much litter that I need to re-think everything!

Neelima Basnet (our newly voted in Young BPW of Nepal) spoke of all the BPW projects she helped to facilitate after the recent earthquake in Nepal. Archana Bhatnagar of BPW India shared about her company, Haylide Chemicals, which offers products

that do not pollute and are not bad for humans, animals, or the environment. If you'd like to see some of the other projects that are going on, please visit <https://www.bpw-memberprojects-experts.org>.

We also voted in a new Executive Board at the conference. I am sorry to see BPW International President Dr. Yasmin Darwich stepping down, as she did such a great job. I think it is very fitting that Dr. Amany Asfour of Egypt will be leading the way as our new BPW International President.

There really are no words to explain it, but something healed in me while I was in Egypt. Our five days spent on a Dahabiya sailboat traveling up the Nile was an especially spiritual experience for me. There were days when we were at least a half-mile from any town, yet we could still always hear prayer times at dawn, sunrise, noon, afternoon, sunset, and night, since the sound from the mosques is amplified by large speakers. I began a practice of stopping to feel the stillness and say a prayer for world peace at every prayer time.

Cairo, Part Two will be continued next month.

YOU ARE A PART OF THE SOLUTION!!!

To sign up for Laurie's monthly music and "Green News," write to WindchimeL@aol.com
Or visit www.LaurieDameron.com

Please visit and LIKE <https://www.facebook.com/WhatCanIDoSpaceshipEarth>

Advocacy News from NFBPWC 2nd Vice President, Linda Wilson

By: Linda Wilson
NFBPWC, 2nd Vice President of Advocacy

There are not a lot of new things to report from advocacy. We continue to watch what Congress is doing. Right now Congress is working on a tax bill. The Senate's bill would eliminate the requirement that people have health insurance which could doom or raise the rates drastically for the Affordable Care Act, which has reduced the estimated percentage of people in California without health insurance to 6.8 in the first six months of 2017 according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

ERA

NFBPW supports the Alice Paul's Equal Rights Amendment, which states "Section 1: Equality of Rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex. Section 2: The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article. Section 3: This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification." It is the number one item on the NFBPWC's Advocacy Platform. It seems the best shot that we have to make the ratification happen is to help two more States ratify ERA and to have Congress remove the deadline on passage of ERA.

One more Democrat Congress member has been added to the co-sponsors of HJ Res. 53 Speier (CA-D) increasing the number of co-sponsors to 163 - all Democrats. This bill removes the deadline for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. Check <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-joint-resolution/53/cosponsors> to see if your Congress person is a co-sponsor of the bill. If he or she is not a cosponsor, contact him or her to urge him or her to support the bill. The Senate bill SJ Res.5 Cardin (MD-D) has 34 co-sponsors - 33 Democrats and one Independent. To find out if your Senator is a co-sponsor, check <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-joint-resolution/5/cosponsors>. If not urge your Senator to be a co-sponsor. In addition, call Representative Steve King for the House Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice (202) 225-4426 and Senator Chuck Grassley for the Senate Judiciary Committee (202) 224-3744 or visit them in their offices to urge them to have hearings on the bills.

CEDAW

Sharon Simmons, President of Boulder BPW, has a tool kit to help other Clubs and Cities pass resolutions and ordinances in support of CEDAW. If you would like a copy of the tool kit, contact Sharon at hawksndragons1955@gmail.com. The Presidents of the Federations and Affiliates received this information and additional materials on CEDAW via an E-mail from NFBPWC Secretary Sandy Thompson.

Sharon reports that Boulder signed a Resolution on October 24th.

EQUAL PAY

Barbara L. Yong (LaGrange-Chicago) has developed a PowerPoint presentation on Equal Pay, which she presented to the Illinois Federation of Business Women's Clubs. Ask her if you would like to use this in your local Chapters or Clubs.

NOW has put together an "Equal Pay Days Social Media Kit 2017." See <https://now.org/leaderdoc/equal-pay-days-social-media-kit-2017/>. There is a great deal of good material that could be used to tell people what Equal Pay Day is and to help prepare for 2018 Equal Pay Day, which will be April 10, 2018.

HR 2418 Pay Equity for All Act which was introduced by Representatives Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), Rosa DeLauro (D-CT), Jerrold Nadler (D-NY), and Jackie Speier (D-CA) would prohibit employers from asking job applicants for their salary

history before making a job or salary offer. It has 24 co-sponsors – all Democrats. For anything to happen with this bill, it needs to have more co-sponsors and a hearing. The related Senate bill – S.819 Patty Murray (D-WA) – has 45 co-sponsors – 44 Democrats and one Independent. It has been referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

Paycheck Fairness Act HR1869 would make it mandatory for employers to show the reason behind any pay differences and how they are not based on gender. The bill would also keep employers from punishing employees for seeking equal pay. It has 198 co-sponsors – 197 Democrats and 1 Republican. It has been referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce. The Senate Version S.819 (this is the bill which is also related to HR 2418) has 45 co-sponsors – 44 Democrats and 1 Independent. It has been referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

Fair Pay Act (HR 2095) would help curb occupational segregation. Women and men still tend to work in different kinds of jobs; this segregation of occupations is a major factor behind the pay gap. Requiring employers to provide equal pay for work of equal value, whether or not the jobs are the same, addresses unequal pay in female-dominated jobs that are objectively rated equivalent to jobs traditionally dominated by men. HR 2095 Eleanor Norton (D-DC-At large) has fifteen co-sponsors – all Democrats. It has been referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce. At this time there is no related bill in the Senate.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM (CHIP)

On September 18th Senators Orin Hatch (R-UT) and Ron Wyden (D-OR) introduced the Keeping Kids' Insurance Dependable and Secure (KIDS) Act S.1827. It has 21 co-sponsors – 16 Democrats and 5 Republicans. It has been referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. The comparable House Bill is HR 3921 Michael C. Burgess (R-TX) and called the Healthy Kids Act. It has no co-sponsors. According to information from the League of Women Voters in Pasadena, "unless CHIP funding is extended, all states are expected to exhaust their federal CHIP funding during FY 2018. Some States, Arizona, District of Columbia, Minnesota and North Carolina will run out of CHIP funds by December 31, 2017 (1st Quarter FY 2018). Many states including California will run out of CHIP funding by the 2nd Quarter of FY 18. No child should go without healthcare." Contact your Congress person to find out what they are doing to restore health insurance for children. This program originally went into effect during the Clinton Administration and the bill is sponsored by both a Republican and Democrat.

2017 ELECTIONS

According to an article by Ann Sullivan, WIPP (Women Impacting Public Policy) Chief Advocate, there were some serious women winners in the election. She said, "A record number of women were on the ballot in Virginia – 53 to be exact, up 18% from the previous 45. In the Virginia House of Delegates, the number of women increased about 50%. There will be 27 women serving in the lower chamber next session (1 race is still too close to call). In New Jersey, women also showed up on the ballot, with 79 on this cycle, which is a 10% increase from 2013. Milledgeville, Georgia elected its first Black female mayor, Mary Parham-Copelan. Santa Barbara, California, elected its first Latina Mayor, Cathy Murillo. Aurora, Colorado elected Crystal Murillo, a 23-year-old recent graduate who defeated a 79-year-old incumbent. New Jersey elected its first Black lieutenant governor, Sheila Oliver. Charlotte, North Carolina elected its first black female mayor, Vi Lyles. Manchester, New Hampshire elected its first female mayor, Joyce Craig. Seattle elected a woman mayor, Jenny Durkan. Topeka, Kansas elected its first Latina and second woman mayor, Michelle De La Isla. The stories behind these wins are inspirational. Ashley Bennett who won a County council seat (called Freeman in NJ), was motivated to run after hearing the incumbent 'joke' that women belong in the kitchen.... Vi Lyles, the first African American female mayor of Charlotte, NC who outworked her opponent even though she was outspent, saying that Charlotte should be the city of opportunity and inclusiveness, she cited her father's lack of a high school diploma. Seattle picked a female mayor Jenny Durkan. The significance in that race was that it was an all-woman mayoral slate in a major US city. Michelle De La Isla, the new mayor Topeka, Kansas came to office in an environment which would have discouraged most. Homeless at 17 and pregnant at 19 in Puerto Rico, her degree at Wichita State University propelled her life in a different direction.... The nonpartisan She Should Run organization says 15,000 women have inquired about running for office this year – a record number. Given that there are around 500,000 elected positions in the United States to fill, 15,000 inquiries seems like a drop in the bucket but a good start. Not everyone has to run, but women are needed to assist in campaigns and provide much needed financial support for those who are." Sullivan

goes on to say, "It is my firm belief that women in office will change the trajectory of partisan politics regardless of party affiliation."

SMALL BUSINESS WEEK AWARD NOMINATIONS

According to the Women Impacting Public Policy (WIPP) you can nominate yourself or someone else for the Small Business Administration (SBA) National Small Business Week Award. The deadline is Tuesday, January 9th at 3:00 P.M. EST. The winners will be announced during Small Business Week, which is April 29th-May 5th. The award will be shared nationwide. The application and information are available at <https://www.sba.gov/nsbw/awards>.

Clubs and affiliates let me (lindalwilson@juno.com) know what you are doing so it can be shared in eNews.



PR and Social Media Committee



By: Chanel Heermann
Chair, NFBPWC PR & Social Media Committee

We have continued to record our Social Media Made Simple, which is now winding down. Our final class for now was on November 15th, hosted by Chanel Heermann, Daneene Munroe Rusnak, and Sue Oser, with our guest Deborah Fischer. We had a lively conversation about social media etiquette and civil discourse online in the modern era. Check out the recording here if you missed it: <https://youtu.be/tvVimYEQpS8> Enjoy!

We continue to post about important dates and events for women. Please let us know if there's one you would like commemorated.

We will be posting about Equal Pay Day at various times next year, and there are some great social media kits available online for your local Federation or chapter:

- March 7, 2018 – Asian women's equal pay day
- April 10, 2018 for white women – courtesy of NOW: <https://now.org/leaderdoc/equal-pay-days-social-media-kit-2017/>
- July 31, 2018 - Black Women's Equal Pay Day: <http://www.equalpaytoday.org/bwepd-social-media-shareables/>
- September 25, 2018 – Native American Women's Equal Pay Day
- November 2, 2018 - Latina Equal Pay Day: <http://purposefully.wixsite.com/latinaequalpay>

We will also be commemorating Women's History Month in March, and are planning to create a social media kit like the ones above for our chapters and Federations to use. If you have ideas, pictures, memes, quotes, or anything that might make the month more special, please share with us by emailing Chanel Heermann at doctorchanel@doctorchanel.com.

Additionally, if your local chapter is hosting an event or has a resource that would be of general interest to your national NFBPWC sisters, please send us a link, and we'll be happy to share!

We are continuing to work on making our message more inclusive of a diverse population of women. Please hold us accountable to this goal – feedback is welcome!

We are also actively researching how best to connect with like-minded organizations and expand everyone's impact. Request for our members: If you know of a women's group we should partner with, please send a note to Chanel Heermann at doctorchanel@doctorchanel.com and we'll be in touch.

The PR and Social Media Committee still needs more volunteers. If you have expertise in public relations, advertising, or social media – we want you! Please consider volunteering for our committee.

And finally – if you haven't already, please like/follow/engage with our social media profiles:

NFBPWC on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/NatlFedBPWC/>

NFBPWC Facebook Group (we would love your active participation here!)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/138029257497/>

NFBPWC on Twitter

<https://twitter.com/nfbpwc>

NFBPWC on LinkedIn

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/national-federation-of-business-and-professional-women%27s-clubs>

NFBPWC on Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/nfbpwc/>

NFBPWC on Google+

<https://plus.google.com/u/0/b/104658286477356273688/104658286477356273688>

NFBPWC on Youtube

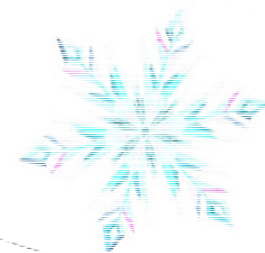
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2l_cilxLyvbu1dbBOsV9Tg

State Federation & Clubs News

NFBPWC California Federation

Executive Committee:

Katherine Winans	President
Lynn Brandstater	Vice-President Advocacy
Elaine Wakeham	Treasurer
Rosemary Enzer	Secretary
Michelle Husby	Immediate Past President
Bessie Hironimus	Membership Chair



CFBPW is very proud of the delegation we sent to the recent International Congress in Cairo and that CFBPW Past State President and current Membership & Marketing Chair Bessie Hironimus was elected BPW International Executive Secretary. Past State President Sandy Thompson served skillfully as Parliamentarian.



Sandy also took a little time to relax...

Other CFBPW members attending were Manjul Batra, Marjory Hopper, Sujata Easton and Laila El-Sissi.

NFBPWC Colorado Federation

Executive Committee:

Deborah Fischer	President
Liz Muth	Vice-President of Membership
Sharon Simmons	Vice-President Advocacy
Cheryl Rotkovich	Treasurer
Teresa McEldowney	Secretary
Nancy Litvak	Immediate Past President
Evie Hudak	Legislative Chair

NFBPWC Florida

Executive Committee 2017-2018:

Leila Moavera
Colleen Kelly
Patricia Harris

Interim President
Interim Treasurer
Interim Secretary



NFBPWC La Grange-Chicago Affiliate

NFBPWC New York City Affiliate

Executive Committee:

Francesca Burack
Christine Forgione
Michelle Kwaka

President
Vice-President of Membership
Secretary

FRANCESCA BURACK
NFBPW NYC PRESIDENT



NFBPWC North Carolina

Executive Committee:

By: Marsha Riibner-Cady
President, NFBPWC North Carolina (2015-2017)
252/423-0819 or romarsci@gmail.com

North Carolina is holding steady with 30 members!

We now have an e-mail address nfbpwcnc@gmail.com. Feel free to contact us there.

Stay tuned for our Facebook page, Lea-Ann B. and Jo N. will be working on that soon.

The newest edition of our state magazine, The Tar Heel Woman, is now available at bpw-nc.org.

On January 20, 2018 a Women's Empowerment and Enlightening event, supporting our Women Joining Forces Program, will take place in Goldsboro, NC. Registration information is found at bpw-nc.org.

Our state convention will be held in Concord, NC June 22-23, 2018.

We want to thank the national delegation for representing us in Egypt. Happy Holidays to all and a happy healthy new year.



Pennsylvania Affiliate Chapter

Executive Committee:

Nancy Werner	President
Catherine Collins	Secretary
Ginny Bailey	Treasurer
Laura J. Whetstone	Parliamentarian
Catherine Collins	Membership
Lilly Gioia	Advocacy

NFBPWC El Paso Texas West

Executive Committee:

Gloria M. Flores	President
Lolita Del Pozo	1 st Vice President
Rocio Sate Gonzales	2 nd Vice President
Blanca Horcasitas	Treasurer
Josie Saenz	Secretary

NFBPWC Houston

Executive Committee:

Paola Ferrari	President
Simin Banister	1 st Vice President of Membership
Desyre Morgan	Vice President At Large
Sheryl Tuttle	Treasurer
Maya Ford	Recording Secretary
Soheila (Sue) Nawamooz	Events Chair



NFBPWC Paso Del Norte

NFBPWC Virtual Club

Please send any Chapter or Committee News to Michele Guarino at: MGuarino@BPWColorado.org to be added to next month's newsletter.