



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

November 2017  
Newsletter

## 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

### In This Issue

Upcoming Events	1
About NFBPWC	2
<a href="#">The XXIX BPW International Congress in Cairo, Egypt</a>	3
<a href="#">Green News</a>	7
<a href="#">Advocacy News</a>	
by Linda Wilson	9
<a href="#">United Nations Corner</a>	
by Elizabeth Vanarden	12
<a href="#">PR and Social Media Committee</a>	
by Chanel Heermann	13
State Federation & Club News	15
NFBPWC <a href="#">California</a> Federation	15
<a href="#">East Los Angeles Montebello</a>	16
NFBPWC <a href="#">Colorado</a> Federation	17
<a href="#">Colorado Advocacy News</a>	
by Sharon Simmons	17
NFBPWC <a href="#">Florida</a> Affiliate	18
NFBPWC <a href="#">La Grange Chicago</a> Affiliate	18
NFBPWC <a href="#">New York City</a> Affiliate	18
NFBPWC <a href="#">North Carolina</a>	20
<a href="#">Pennsylvania</a> Affiliate Chapter	20
NFBPWC <a href="#">El Paso Texas West</a>	21
NFBPWC <a href="#">Houston</a>	21
NFBPWC <a href="#">Paso Del Norte</a>	23
NFBPWC <a href="#">Virtual Club</a>	23

## 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

### Contacting your NFBPWC Executive Committee:

Elizabeth Benham, President  
Megan Shellman, VP Membership  
Linda Wilson, VP Advocacy  
Sandra Thompson, Secretary  
Gloria Flores, Treasurer

president@nfbpwc.org  
vpmembership@nfbpwc.org  
advocacy@nfbpwc.org  
secretary@nfbpwc.org  
treasurer@nfbpwc.org

Advocacy - Linda Wilson  
Business - Manjul Batra  
Bylaws and Resolutions - Sandra Thompson  
Environment - Laurie Dameron  
Finance - Gloria Flores, El Paso  
Health - Maria DeSousa  
International Liaison - Bessie Hironimus  
Membership - Megan Shellman  
Mentoring Taskforce Chair - Titilola Adisa  
PR and Social Media - Chanel Heerman  
United Nations - Elizabeth Vanardenne  
Young BPW - Sarah Matthews

advocacy@nfbpwc.org  
manjulm@aol.com  
info@nfbpwc.org  
ldameron@bpwcolorado.org  
treasurer@nfbpwc.org  
mcdesousa1@gmail.com  
bessie.hironimus@bpw-international.org  
vpmembership@nfbpwc.org  
tytyadisa@yahoo.com  
chanelh@gmail.com  
evanarden27@gmail.com  
smatthews0580@gmail.com

## The XXIX BPW International Congress in Cairo, Egypt

The 29<sup>th</sup> BPW International Congress convened in Cairo, Egypt with members from over 94 countries, surpassing 600 attendees. NFBPWC had 28 members, including 4 out of 5 Executive Committee members.

NFBPWC would like to congratulate the 2017-2020 BPW International Executive Committee:

President

First Vice President, Membership

Second Vice President, United Nations

Executive Secretary

Executive Finance Officer

Regional Coordinator Africa

Regional Coordinator Asia-Pacific

Regional Coordinator Europe

Regional Coordinator Latin America

Regional Coordinator North America & the Caribbean

Young BPW

Dr. Amany Asfour, BPW Egypt

Susan Jones, BPW Australia

Dr. Catherine Bosshart-Pflugger, BPW Switzerland

Bessie Hironymous, NFBPWC USA

Giuseppa Seidita, BPW Italy

Abla Mahdi Abdemoniem Ahmed, BPW Sudan

Dr. Narudee Kiengsiri, BPW Thailand

Dr. Giuseppina Bombaci, BPW Italy

Diana Barragan, BPW Ecuador

Dawne Williams, BPW St. Kitts

Neelima Bassnet, BPW Nepal

(Their profiles and statements can be viewed on the following page: <http://cairocongress.bpw-international.org/index.php/announcements/nominations>.)



Dr. Amany Asfour, BPW Egypt



Dr. Catherine Bosshart-Pflugger, BPW Switzerland



Susan Jones, BPW Australia



We are excited to share with you that President Liz Benham, Past International President 2008-2011, was honored to receive the Lena Madesin Phillips Award, which is the highest award bestowed from BPW International. It recognizes an individual BPW member who has made a significant contribution to the development of BPW at international level and/or to improve the status of women. It commemorates the leadership and dedication inspired by Dr. Lena Madesin Phillips, the founder of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women (BPW International).

A nominee for the Lena Madesin Phillips award must meet the following conditions: 1. She has been a BPW member for over 17 years (which is the number of years that Dr. Lena Madesin Phillips was International President); 2. She holds or previously held one or more international posts, is leading/led international project(s), is/was President of a BPW Affiliate Federation or a BPW Affiliate Club; 3. She is not a member of the current Executive Board. In addition,

President Liz Benham was recognized by Regional Coordinator North America & the Caribbean, Bessie Hironymous, at the Regional Meeting on the first day of the International Congress. NFBPWC is honored and proud to have such an incredible president leading our organization.

A full listing of Constitution Amendments and Resolutions will be featured in an upcoming E-Alert. Two important Internal Resolutions passed that should be noted:

Resolution 2017-09: Annual Leader's Summit - sponsored by BPW International Past Presidents

Resolution 2017-10: Business Network Committee - sponsored by BPW USA

Please view these resolutions on this page: <http://cairocongress.bpw-international.org/index.php/announcements/resolutions>.

Congratulations to the incredible women of NFBPWC who represented our country at the International Congress.

We were proud of the following members who served as delegates:

IFBPW Past International President, NFBPWC President  
IFBPW Regional Coordinator North America and the Caribbean  
IFBPW Chair of Development, Training, & Employment  
IFBPW Chair of Environment & Sustainable Development  
NFBPWC 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
NFBPWC Treasurer  
NFBPWC Chair of Small Business

Liz Benham  
Bessie Hironymous  
Francesca Burack  
Laurie Dameron  
Megan Shellman  
Gloria Flores  
Manjul Batra

We were proud to see the following members support the General Assembly in the following roles:

Parliamentarian, NFBPWC Secretary  
Teller, NFBPWC Colorado  
Credentials Committee  
Alternate Delegate, NFBPWC Colorado  
Alternate Delegate, NFBPWC Momentum  
Alternate Delegate, NFBPWC Momentum

Sandra Thompson  
Evie Hudak  
Marjorie Hopper  
Kathy Kelly  
Nadia Munawar  
Shirley Zeller

NFBPWC was incredible proud to have the following members present at Congress:

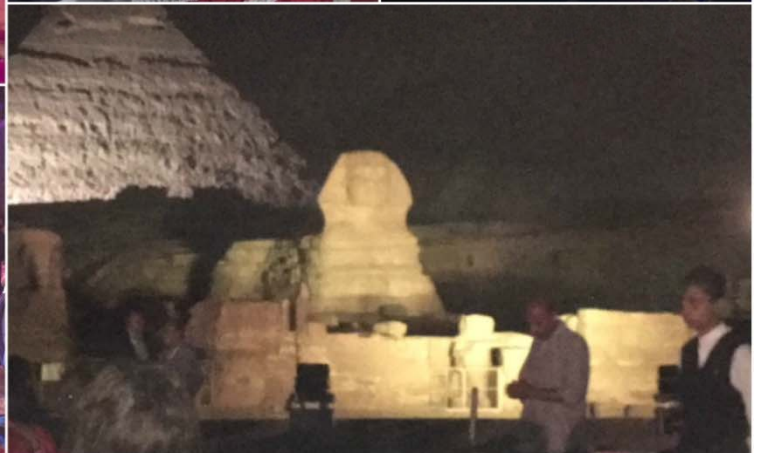
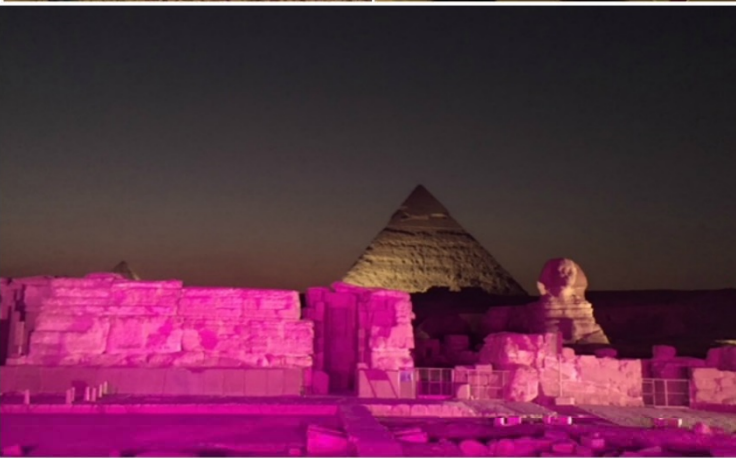
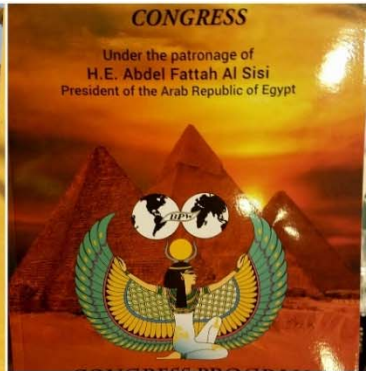
Bessie Hironymous, Regional Coordinator, North America and the Caribbean Regional Conference  
Susan O'Malley, Trainer, Skill Training: "Advocacy at the United Nations"  
Elizabeth Benham, Chair, Workshop: "BPW Business Network"  
Susan O'Malley, Chair, Panel: "Effective Advocacy Strategy for Women"  
Laurie Dameron, Chair, Workshop: "Green Growth Strategies VS Natural Disaster Relief"  
David Hironymous, Speaker, Workshop: "Green Growth Strategies VS Natural Disaster Relief"  
Francesca Burack, Trainer, Skill Training: "Fearless Leadership Skills for Women"

In addition, NFBPWC was proud to have the following members (not previously listed) present at this year's International Congress:

Angie Layton  
Eileen Brennan  
Gail De Angelis  
Grace Hauser  
Hilda Kelley  
Laila El-sissi  
Letitia Veytia  
Lolita del Pozo  
Nancy Ross  
Paola Ferrari  
Shirley Zeller  
Stephanie Miranda  
Sujata Easton  
Sylvia Orozco  
Tommy Alamillo

Please mark your calendars for the 2020 Congress in Orlando, Florida that will be hosted by NFBPWC 21-26 August 2020. We have begun preparations and you can view the initial information here: <https://www.nfbpwc.org/event-2644514>.





## Green News

By: Laurie Dameron, BPW Boulder Member  
Chair of BPW Colorado Environment and Sustainable Development Committee  
Chair NFBPW Environmental and Sustainable Development Committee  
USA Representative for the International Environmental and Sustainable Development Committee

I am traveling to Cairo with my Business and Professional Women colleagues in just hours as I write this so my BPW colleague (who is not traveling with us) had generously written the "Green News" for November! Thank you Jessica Dewell!

### Thermal Energy for Heating + Cooling

There is always more than one way (and reason) to consider making lifestyle changes. And, we think of ourselves first - it's easier to talk about, find resources, and add to our lives. In 2016, my family decided to retrofit geothermal heating and cooling into our home.

There are three main reasons people consider changing the energy used to heat and cool their home: to reduce cost of bills; to become less reliant on utility companies; and to stop using fossil fuels. After I describe each, I'll share what made us choose to take on such a large, uncommon endeavor.

### Reduce the Cost of Bills

Heating and cooling a habitat - a home, condo, trailer, townhouse, even a yurt - each has its challenges and tricks to keep energy bills as low as possible.

Our first home was a log home east of Seattle without air conditioning. Even with just one week a year of 90-plus-degree days, those days made our home miserable because it didn't get cool enough at night to change the inside temperature. We chose to find another way - one that didn't involve adding an air conditioner.

That experience gave us insights on how vast the options are to heat and cool without using more natural resources like fossil fuels; materials that wear out and end up in landfills; and chemicals that require special handling and disposal. We took this information to our second home, also east of Seattle, which was much bigger and required much more energy to heat and cool.

It became a priority when we moved into that second home, because our heating and cooling bills tripled (or more) in cost. There were three things we did that helped us:

1. Changed blinds and added curtains on specific windows. We choose honeycomb-style blinds to add more material and provide additional insulation. On the hottest side of the house, in the summer, we hung sheets over the blinds to add another layer of material to add to insulation.
2. Updated a fireplace to have more radiant heat properties with the tile used. This type of fireplace created its own radiant components to use less energy and heat more. For us, this fireplace was electric.
3. Wear slippers in the winter. We stayed comfortable and snuggly. The thermostat told us we were at the set temperature, but it felt colder, which has to do with the ability for building materials to retain heat from the sun even when the air is cool. We made sure to have extra socks and slippers around for all our guests' comfort, too. (Anyone who comes to our home in Boulder will see the basket of slippers by the front door we keep clean and ready to wear.

### Less Reliant on Utility Companies

There are ways to become less reliant on utility companies by using energy generation options like solar panels. A common misconception is that it gets us more off-grid. That may be true in some places, but not in Boulder, as our dwellings are connected to the energy grid.

Both reducing costs and being less reliant on the energy grid go hand-in-hand. Solar panels reduce the cost of energy we use. And the three aforementioned things we do in the homes we've owned reduced our energy consumption, too.

Being less reliant on utility companies was not a driving motivator in our choices.

### Stop Using Fossil Fuels

We are fully in the camp of using less fossil fuels. We strive to make appliance and home improvement choices that use the least amount of fossil fuels possible. Many of our choices over the years have been to switch to electric appliances like furnaces and washer/dryers. This is especially important when we have the option to use renewable sources like water (when in Washington state) and wind. Geothermal further reduces the amount of fossil fuel we use, and we no longer have standalone air conditioning units.

Really, it was a bigger project than we thought it would be. People were inside and outside our house for over eight weeks. It was very disruptive.

Our Reason was #3...

Two of our family values are awareness and responsibility. It is our family's responsibility to understand the impact of our consumer choices, from the cars we drive to the food we eat to the place we choose to live. An awareness of how our actions impacts you and the rest of our global neighbors, is important to us.

We recognize that it is getting more difficult to extract fossil fuels and that such extraction is impacting other parts of our world in negative ways. While alternative energy sources do have their problems, supporting them helps to continue innovation and reduce the problems such renewables face.

This decision was immense on many levels. We had people in and around our house for six weeks. Drilling the holes took a week (and it impacted our neighborhood - the drill was heard for blocks, and a few neighbors were unhappy with the noise). The drill used gas to get the 400-foot holes created.

Even with the disruption, we are happy with our choice and glad to live even more of our values in a way that ripples out to you, our neighbors, and our world.

### YOU ARE A PART OF THE SOLUTION!!!

To sign up for Laurie's monthly music and "Green News," write to [WindchimeL@aol.com](mailto:WindchimeL@aol.com)

Or visit [www.LaurieDameron.com](http://www.LaurieDameron.com)

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



## Advocacy News from NFBPWC 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Linda Wilson

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

### 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.

According to an E-mail from "Equal Means Equal," "The Silent Sentinels were a group of women in favor of women's suffrage organized by Alice Paul and the National Woman's Party who protested in front of the White House during Woodrow Wilson's presidency starting on January 10, 1917. The name Silent Sentinels was given to the women because of their silent protesting, six days a week for OVER TWO YEARS until June 4, 1919 when the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution was passed. Throughout this two and a half year long vigil many of the nearly 2,000 women who picketed were harassed, arrested and unjustly treated by local and U.S. authorities." Equal Means Equal is partnering with Catharsis on the Mall to call attention to the fact that women still do not have equal rights. R-Evolution, a 45-foot tall metal sculpture of a woman by artist Marco Cochrane, will be erected on the National Mall in front of the Washington Monument, facing the White House and Capitol Building. Starting November 10th volunteers are needed to keep up a vigil to stand with her and push for ERA. To volunteer to stand watch in Washington D.C. see <https://demand.equalmeansequal.org/page/s/equal-means-equal---catharsis>.

One more Democrat Congressman has been added to the co-sponsors of HJ Res. 53 Speier (CA-D) increasing the number of co-sponsors to 161 - 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. Cardin (MD-D) has 33 co-sponsors - 32 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.

In January 2018 Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal (D-WA) plans to introduce a new Equal Rights Amendment written by the ERA Coalition, which is being called the Amendment for Constitutional Equality (ACE). It has six sections and deals with all types of discrimination - not just against women and probably would eliminate the Electoral College. At this time the NFBPWC has not taken a stand on this amendment and probably will not until the Assembly next summer.

### 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 [SSimmons@BWPColorado.org](mailto:SSimmons@BWPColorado.org). 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 Albuquerque, New Mexico is working with Colorado BPW on a resolution in support of CEDAW. Along with Lafayette, Louisville and Greeley being on board officially Colorado now has Boulder hopefully signing a Resolution on October 24th. Sharon will be at the BPW International Congress so cannot attend the meeting, but they have a huge contingent showing up to support the Resolution.

## EQUAL PAY

According to a letter from California Senator Kamala Harris dated October 14th, "Today, women make 80 cents for every dollar a man makes. The Discrepancy becomes even wider for Black women, who make only 63 cents on the dollar when compared to white men, and Latinas, who earn 54 cents. Over time, these inequalities compound leaving women \$418,000 behind - and Black women and Latinas at \$840,000 and \$1,044,000 behind respectively - their male counterparts over a forty-year career. This pay disparity is human made discrimination that we must reject. We need to do more to combat the economic injustices that exist at the intersection of gender and race. That's why I've cosponsored the Paycheck Fairness Act, which requires employers to show that pay differences are not due to gender and cracks down on employers who break the rules or punish employees who seek to be paid equally. It's also why I cosponsored the Raise the Wage Act, which would increase the minimum wage." HR 15 Robert Scott (D-VA) has 165 co-sponsors (all Democrats) and has been referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce. The related bill S.1242 Bernard Sanders (I-VT) has 30 co-sponsors (all Democrats) and has been referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, and Pensions. 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 21 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 twelve 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)

CHIP expired on September 30th and Congress failed to extend or renew the program. According to information from the League of Women Voters in Pasadena, "The program was created with bipartisan support in 1997 during the Clinton Administration. It lowered the percent of uninsured children from 14 percent when it began to 4.5 percent in 2015. The program was reauthorized in 2015. CHIP is a bipartisan program designed to provide health insurance to children of low to modest income parents as well as to pregnant women. These are children who are not eligible for Medicaid because their parents' income exceeds the Medicaid income limit, but their parents cannot afford private insurance. To date, nine million children have received healthcare through 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 18 co-sponsors - 13 Democrats and 5 Republicans. It has been referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. The comparable House Bill is HR 39 Michael C. Burgess (R-TX) and called the Healthy Kids Act. It has no co-sponsors. October 19th the House Committee on Ways and Means granted an extension for further consideration ending not later than October 23rd. 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."

## DOMESTIC AWARENESS MONTH

October was Domestic Awareness Month to increase awareness of domestic violence in the United States. October was the 30th anniversary of Domestic Awareness Month. According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, 1 in 3

women and 1 in 4 men will become victims of physical domestic violence in their lifetime. According to the October 5th "Feminist Daily Newswire," "There is a clear connection between domestic violence and gun violence. The likelihood of domestic violence turning into a homicide increases by 500% when a gun is present. 4.5 million women report having been intimidated or coerced with a gun by an intimate partner. Domestic violence doesn't exclusively affect heterosexual couples; according to the CDC National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, 43.8 percent of lesbians, 61.1 percent of bisexual women, and 35 percent of heterosexual women, along with 26 percent of gay men, 37.3 percent of bisexual men, and 29 percent of heterosexual men report having been a victim of intimate partner violence in their lifetime.... Break the silence, get involved, and support survivors."

## WOMEN PIONEERS

According to the October 3rd "Feminist Daily Newswire," in September NASA named its newest building the Katherine G. Johnson Computational Research Facility in recognition of the work of Katherine G. Johnson in mathematics to make the U.S. Space Program successful in its infancy and beyond. The movie HIDDEN FIGURES is about her work and the work of other Black mathematicians in the space program. Katherine G. Johnson is 99 years young.

According to the October 3rd "Feminist Daily Newswire," at the end of September "a women lieutenant became the first woman to complete the Infantry Officer Course for the United States Marine Corps. In the past, 36 women have attempted to complete the Infantry Officer Course but due to its difficulty and rigorous physical demands, none have been able to complete the course until now. IOC is a thirteen week course with approximately a 25% wash out rate, with 10% dropping out on the first day. The lieutenant has requested that her name not be released to the public, but her achievement is a milestone for all women in military service. She will be assigned to the 1st Marine Division in California. The US Marine Corps, which publicly opposed opening all combat roles to women, has recently launched new efforts to recruit more women, including social media campaigns and advertisements that showcase women soldiers. The US military has been subject to scrutiny over its treatment of women soldiers, specifically around the issues of rampant sexual assault and harassment toward women. A recent anonymous military survey reported that 14,900 service members in the US military have experienced some form of sexual assault from 2014 to 2016. Earlier this year, the Marine Corps was the subject of a Pentagon investigation over the leaking of nude photos of women service members on the internet without their permission."

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

## United Nations Corner

By: Elizabeth Vanarden  
NFBPWC United Nations Liaison



It is always interesting to find out who will get the Nobel Peace Prize, since that is such a special honor for the recipient. This year the recipient was ICAN. ICAN? Who is ICAN?

ICAN is the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear weapons, a non-profit organization, founded in Melbourne, Australia, headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. It had a wish, a big wish of a treaty that could ban nuclear weapons. And after years of working, traveling to many countries, lobbying at the UN, it convinced over 122 countries to gather at the UN, 7/7/17, and to approve a nuclear ban treaty, called the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). It will enter into force once it has been ratified by 50 states.

There are 9 nations (US, Russia, France, UK., China, India, Pakistan, Israel, No. Korea) that have together 15,000 nuclear weapons. The risk of these weapons being used is greater than it has been for a long time. We are lucky to have a new generation to take up the fight, and ICAN is leading the way!

Each year the parties, that negotiated what is known as the Paris Agreement (the US withdrew), will hold a meeting to assess progress in implementing the reducing of greenhouse gasses emission. The meeting will be held in Bonn, Germany, 6-17 Nov.

On Oct.6, Dubravka Simonovic, the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women urged the General Assembly that member states must prioritize Women's Protection. Existing international conventions and treaties are not being sufficiently implemented by governments around the world, and fresh action needs to be spearheaded by the UN.

On Oct. 27, the Security Council will hold the annual open debate on women, peace and security. The NGO working group on women, peace and security has sent an open letter to the S C, endorsed and signed by NGO delegates from 156 countries. It touches especially on gender equality, women's empowerment and rights, and women's meaningful participation. We want to be heard!

See: <http://www.womenpeacesecurity.org/resource/open-letter-unsc-wps-anniversary-october-2017>.

With our International Congress in full action and with so many things that are swirling around us, I like to quote the speech that Dr. Lena Madesin Phillips gave in 1931:

"Cooperation among all people cannot remain a dream, but something that must become actuality if our civilization is to survive. We cannot afford to wait long in this changing and changed world. It is now-not in the next century or even in the next generation, but now-that we and the men and women of all nations, must recognize that no man live unto himself no country can live unto itself."



## PR and Social Media Committee



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

We are more powerful together, so we have been working with President Liz to create an invitation to the State Federations and clubs to join our national organization, which will be sent out shortly.

We have also created an infographic (thanks to committee member Angela Gerber!) to be shared on your social media. You can share directly from any of our profiles, or it is also attached here.

We have also created the first of what we hope will be many inspiring messages from President Liz for our YouTube channel. Check it out here: [https://youtu.be/Fmqe4\\_my2xs](https://youtu.be/Fmqe4_my2xs)

We continue to post about important dates and events for women. Please let us know if there's one you would like commemorated. Of late, we sent a special series of social media posts for Women's Equality Day, and developed a press release for Women's Equality Day for use by local/state chapters. We also participated in the Domestic Violence Awareness Month Week of Action with a series of social media posts. 1 in every 3 of your BPW sisters has been a victim of DV at some point in her life. Learn how to take action to stop domestic violence here: <https://nnedv.org/content/week-action-2017/>

We are continuing our Social Media Made Simple classes on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6pm Pacific. Recordings will be available to those who cannot attend live, and questions/requests can be sent in our Facebook group or via email. (Please contact us if you'd really like to attend live and that time isn't workable for you and we'll see what we can do.) Our first class, led by the wise and intrepid Angela Gerber, was a great intro to Facebook pages. Watch for the video and slides to be posted soon! Our next class, a panel on social media etiquette featuring Sue Oser, Daneene Monroe Rusnak, and Chanel Heermann will be held on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Join using our Zoom link here: <https://zoom.us/j/800245290>

We continue to celebrate our official brand - NFBPWC - and the PR and Social Media Committee remains hard at work making sure we become a household name! We continue to meet monthly during rebranding process to provide more timely feedback to our leadership team. If you have expertise in public relations, advertising, or social media - we want you! Please consider volunteering for our committee.

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!

**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF  
BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL  
WOMEN'S CLUBS, INC.**

# WOMEN LEADING IN AND LEADING: BUILDING BRIDGES IN EQUALITY

It's official - we are now the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs (NFBPWC) and no longer the Enterprising and Professional Women USA. By having a National Federation under one umbrella we have more strength and visibility to build on our legacy and history as a National Federation. We are already a country affiliate of the International Federation of Business & Professional Women.

Learn more: <http://www.nfbpwc.org/heritage>

**1919**  
THE YEAR  
THE NATIONAL  
FEDERATION OF  
BUSINESS &  
PROFESSIONAL  
WOMEN'S CLUBS  
WAS FOUNDED.

**100+** COUNTRIES  
**5** CONTINENTS  
BPW INTERNATIONAL -  
THE NETWORK FOR BUSINESS &  
PROFESSIONAL WOMEN

**ERA**  
EQUAL RIGHTS  
AMENDMENT - OUR  
TOP PRIORITY.  
NFBPWC - BPW USA  
AT THE FOREFRONT  
SINCE 1972.

**CEDAW**  
THE CONVENTION  
ON THE  
ELIMINATION OF  
ALL FORMS OF  
DISCRIMINATION  
AGAINST WOMEN.  
FIGHTING SINCE  
1979.

**MISSION:**  
We work to develop the professional business and leadership potential of women on all levels through mentoring, networking, skill building, advocacy, and economic empowerment. We work on building upon our powerful network to represent and raise the visibility of women on all levels of our society - economically, socially, and politically.

f t in @ ▶ G+

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](mailto:doctorchanel@doctorchanel.com) and we'll be in touch.

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

NFBPWC on Facebook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/NatlFedBPWC/">https://www.facebook.com/NatlFedBPWC/</a>
NFBPWC Facebook Group (we would love your active participation here!)	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/138029257497/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/138029257497/</a>
NFBPWC on Twitter	<a href="https://twitter.com/nfbpwc">https://twitter.com/nfbpwc</a>
NFBPWC on LinkedIn	<a href="https://www.linkedin.com/company/national-federation-of-business-and-professional-women%27s-clubs">https://www.linkedin.com/company/national-federation-of-business-and-professional-women%27s-clubs</a>
NFBPWC on Instagram	<a href="https://www.instagram.com/nfbpwc/">https://www.instagram.com/nfbpwc/</a>
NFBPWC on Google+	<a href="https://plus.google.com/u/0/b/104658286477356273688/104658286477356273688">https://plus.google.com/u/0/b/104658286477356273688/104658286477356273688</a>
NFBPWC on Youtube	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2L_cilxLyvbu1dbBOsV9Tg">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2L_cilxLyvbu1dbBOsV9Tg</a>

# 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

Article Submitted By: Sandy Thompson

### California Federation Valley Sunset District Woman of Achievement

At their 2017 Fall Board meeting members of Valley Sunset District honored two women of achievement.

Helen Follmer is a member of Conejo Valley BPW. Helen grew up on a farm in Illinois along with seven siblings. She has a degree in Education. She has three sons and four grandchildren.

Helen and her husband started their own business manufacturing private labels for pan spray coatings from many different retailers. In the beginning they conducted the science experiments in their kitchen.

She considers herself only “partially” retired now as she is involved in rental real estate, helps transport senior citizens, works on actual home building as a volunteer missionary four weeks each year and travels the globe in between.

Diane Reyes is a member of Burbank BPW. She has a Bachelor in Arts in History and Psychology. She also attended Loyola Law School to earn her Juris Doctorate. She has her own practice which focuses on Dependency, Adoptions and Guardianships and Administrative Hearings.

In 2007 she was appointed as a Juvenile Court Referee by the Presiding Judge of Juvenile court, which is a hearing office in Los Angeles County. She has presided over both Juvenile Delinquency and Dependency cases, both of which center around at-risk youth.

She has been married over 25 years and has two lovely daughters, one is a freshman in College who is looking to study engineering. Her other daughter is a high school senior hoping to study Oceanography.

Diane volunteers as scorer/judge for Constitutional Rights Foundation Mock Trial Program and was a Girl Scout Leader. She is a member of the Los Angeles County Bar Association Diversity in the Profession Committee, Latina Lawyers Bar Association, Loyola Law School Latino Alumni Association, and the Los Angeles County Bar Association.



PICTURED L TO R: DIANE REYES, VSD  
PRESIDENT CONNIE STAHL, HELEN FOLLMER

## East Los Angeles-Montebello BPW Names Community Activist Carol Sullivan - Woman of Achievement for 2017

Submitted By: Linda Wilson  
NFBPWC 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President for Advocacy

The East Los Angeles-Montebello Business and Professional Women (BPW) has selected community activist Carol Sullivan, as its 2017 "Woman of Achievement." She was honored at a dinner in Monterey Park on Wednesday, October 25th.



PICTURED: PRESIDENT MARTA ESCAÑUELAS  
PRESENTING AWARD TO CAROL SULLIVAN  
(PICTURE BY: DAVE BARRON, EDITOR OF  
WEST SAN GABRIEL JOURNAL)

Sullivan is a member of the City of Monterey Park's Community Participation Committee which plans the City's annual trip to the Hollywood Bowl. She was co-chair of the City's Centennial Committee and helped organize and plan the City of Monterey Park's Centennial Dinner and other events for Monterey Park's Centennial. She was on the City's first Holiday Snow Village Committee. She was on the original Committee, which developed the Geranium Festival, including painting electrical boxes on the streets in Monterey Park. She is now back working on the Geranium Festival. She is on the Monterey Park Library Foundation's Board and has helped organize their annual dinner fundraisers and the "Day at the Races." She is an active member of the Family Promise of San Gabriel Valley organizing the basket drawing for the annual Empty Bowls luncheon, hosting breakfasts for the families when they stay at St. Paul's Lutheran Church and participating in other fundraising events for the organization. Sullivan is also a member of the Monterey Park Woman's Club and is on their Committee for the 2018 fashion show. In addition, she has helped her husband Larry with the Monterey Park Breast Cancer relay that was held for two years and with the hosting of Special Olympics. People know if they need someone to help with an event, they can call on her.

Sullivan was born in Hawaii, graduated from Mark Keppel High School and attended East Los Angeles College. While in high school, she worked at the Garfield Theater. From there she worked for St. Paul Fire and Insurance Company for four years. She had a tennis shop for fourteen years, worked for Chicago title for 27 years and from which she retired three and a half years ago.

This recognition program is part of East Los Angeles-Montebello BPW's celebration of National Business Women's Week® (NBWW). National Business Women's Week® lets communities, companies and organizations celebrate the contributions of workingwomen and companies that have made strides toward improving working women's lives in their communities. Emma Dot Partridge, Executive Secretary of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women, came up with the concept of National Business Women's Week® with the first celebration being April 15-22, 1928. In 1938 NBWW moved to the third week of October. U.S. President Herbert Hoover was the first President to issue a letter recognizing NBWW and the contributions and achievements of working women. Every President since then has issued a proclamation recognizing NBWW.

East Los Angeles-Montebello BPW is a member of the California Federation of Business and Professional Women and also a member of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. (NFBPWC) and BPW International.



## 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



By: Deborah Fischer, President, NFBPWC Colorado

The month of October has brought a major event in Boulder Colorado. The Boulder City Council passed a CEDAW (Commission on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women/Girls) resolution. Due to the efforts of our own Sharon Simmons, VP of Advocacy, Veronica Hrutkay, UNA-USA Veterans Affinity Group Leader, and their many supporters, Colorado is quickly stepping up their game in educating cities on the importance of this human rights treaty. See <http://cedaw-colorado.org> for more information and a toolkit to make your city next.

This month we have an amazing group of women taking their time, energy, and money to attend the XXIX BPW International Congress in Cairo, Egypt. Our hearts go with these ladies and we look forward to hearing about your adventures. Be safe!

We sent a survey to all the members to determine our focus. BPW has been supporting women since 1919! I believe in us!

Hugs to All.

### Colorado 2<sup>nd</sup> VP of Advocacy - Sharon Simmons



By: Sharon Simmons  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of Advocacy for BPW Colorado (2016-2018)  
President, BPW Boulder Chapter (2016-2018)

#### Status on CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women)

We have good news for the state of Colorado regarding Cities for CEDAW (the convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women/girls)! Along with Lafayette, Louisville and Greeley being on board officially we now have BOULDER hopefully signing a Resolution on October 24. It was to be Oct 17, but the agenda was too full so we got bumped. I will be in Egypt at the IFBPW triennial congress, so I am sad to miss it.

Six of the BPW Colorado members are traveling to Egypt and will learn much we are sure about our organization/advocacy and how we fit into the world of BPW! I will get some pictures and track how the congress works to report for the next newsletter. I do have hand surgery near the end of November, so crossing fingers I can type!

We only have 2 states left to ratify the Equal Rights Amendments BUT first we must get the folks in DC to extend the ERA so we have an open-ended timeframe to work with. Did you know we ran out in 1982 on the agreement? We have continued to ratify states since then, but it is not official until we get the US government to extend it. I am learning more every day about how this works. So much. Make sure to write your representatives and ask them to work on extending the ERA asap. I am working with ZONTA FOOTHILLS with advocacy and suggest strongly that other BPW chapters connect with Zonta or UNA because we are all doing the same items in different areas. I am learning a ton partnering with these non-profits!

Our legislative annual convention team is moving along the planning stages! BPW Denver is doing a great job of coordinating it and we have a great venue! It will be February 10 from 9-5 p.m. Evie Hudak and the Denver Chapter have some awesome speakers lined up! Everyone is invited to join us.

### BPW Colorado in Egypt





## 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!

Check out our page on the NFBPWC.org website. A big thank you goes out to Tracy M. for making it happen. Stay tuned for our Facebook page, Lea-Ann B. and Jo N. will be working on that soon.

Around our state the Sanford and Concord Cabarrus clubs had events during National Business Women's week. The Triangle Club will have the secretary of the state of NC speak soon. The Virginia Dare BPW will have an event on Nov. 3. For more information on these events, please go to our state website bpw-nc.org.



CONCORD CABARRUS CLUB (2016 CONVENTION)  
PHOTO FROM NFBPWC NC WEBSITE

The next edition of our state magazine, The Tar Heel Woman, will be available on our website on November 21.

Our NFBPWC-NC chapter has had one online meeting and we hope to have a virtual "get together" before the holidays.

On January 20, 2018 a Women's Empowerment and Enlightening event supporting our Women Joining Forces will take place in Goldsboro, NC. More information on that soon.

We want to thank the national delegation for representing us in Egypt and look forward to hearing from them soon!

## 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 <sup>st</sup> Vice President
Rocio Sate Gonzales	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President
Blanca Horcasitas	Treasurer
Josie Saenz	Secretary



SOURCE: ELIZABETH BENHAM,  
NFBPWC PRESIDENT FB POST  
08.26.2016

## NFBPWC Houston

### Executive Committee:

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

Submission By: Paola Ferrari

### Houston, We Have a New Chapter

NFBPWC Houston held its Inaugural Meeting on September 25, 2017. Technically, this was the chapter's third meeting, as we spent a lot of time confirming our desired mission, vision, and areas of focus before we incorporated. Our first order of business was to install our club's officers. Our officers (shown to the right) are *Paola Ferrari*, President; *Simin Banister*, 1st Vice President of Membership; *Desyre Morgan*, Vice President--At--Large (not photographed); *Maya Ford*, Recording Secretary; *Sheryl Tuttle*, Treasurer; and *Soheila (Sue) Nowamooz*, Events Chair.





With an authentic representation of Houston's profound diversity, sixteen ladies from various ages, ethnicities, cultures, and talent brought their best thought leadership to our meeting. The remarkable balance made the concept of "inclusion" more potent than "membership", and we see this as a sign of our most visible strength. Our strengths can be proven in both intellectual and economic power, as our inaugural meeting was also a formidably successful first fundraiser. We offer each other and our courageous leadership a big congratulations on a very successful first step for Texas.

## Texas Two-Step

In addition to our official launch of the NFBPWC chapter, we got down to business. The Houston chapter's first project is to support research, development and programming for professional women who are victims of domestic violence. In recent years there has been an alarming rate of abuse against women that society assumes should "know better". This hit home as an esteemed Houston--area female surgeon was tragically murdered as a result of domestic abuse. We see abuse to women and girls as a human rights issue and opt to make no assumptions about perceived knowledge or environments that this kind of trauma occurs.



As an effort to lead the charge, our chapter decided to begin research on how we can leverage our collective resources to be of service to ongoing work to prevent professional women from having to endure domestic violence. Dr. Barbara Bass, Chief of Surgery at Houston Methodist Hospital, took the floor to present *Intimate Partnership Violence Against Professional Women*. Dr. Bass illustrated the scope and format of the preliminary work she is leading on this issue in her own field, surgeons and nurses, and will assist us in tailoring a proper course of research and articulation of the topic for a NFBPWC initiative.

We concluded the meeting with the decision to convene a working committee meeting by the end of October. This kind of action is what we call the Texas Two--Step.

## Focused on the Future

It's no tall tale that good ideas usually come in waves! On September 20, 2017, the European Union and UN launched a new joint initiative to eliminate gender violence. Abuse against women and girls is one of the most widespread and devastating human rights violations around the globe. These concepts resonate even deeper when we understand women make up more than ½ of the 7 billion humans on the planet. Areas of focus for the initiative include sexual and gender-based violence and harmful practices; trafficking and economic exploitation; femicide; and domestic and family violence. While interventions will be predominantly focused on improvements in Africa, Latin America, Asia, the Pacific and the Caribbean; the goal to strengthening legislative frameworks, policies and institutions, preventive measures, and access to services are global. As such, the NFBPWC Houston chapter will consider all of our efforts as part of the equation for a holistic solution for the safety of women across the globe.

We could go on for days with the good ideas in Houston, but one of our faves is that the founder and President of the NFBPWC Houston chapter, Paola Ferrari, will be attending the 29th BPW International Congress October 23--27 in Cairo, Egypt. Clearly she'll be representing the United States (HOUSTON, specifically), but she'll also be spreading the word about the next conference to be held in Orlando, Florida in 2020. How's that for the perfect *focus on the future*!?

## NFBPWC Paso Del Norte

## NFBPWC Virtual Club

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