



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

October 2017 Newsletter

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## Upcoming Events

### XXIX BPW International Congress

23-27 October 2017 | Mena House Hotel in Cairo, Egypt

The International Federation of Business and Professional Women International or "BPW International", will held its 29th BPW International Congress at Mena House Hotel in Cairo, Egypt on 23-27 October 2017.

Register here: <http://cairocongress.bpw-international.org/>

The Congress theme is "Making a Difference through Leadership and Action"

This Congress will gather business and professional women from 110 member countries of BPW to attend this Congress. Leaders from various sectors world-wide world are invite to be speakers at this Congress.

See [Announcement](#) announcing the Keynote Speaker.

### NFBPWC 2018 General Assembly

20 July 2018 | Orlando, Florida

### XXX BPW International Congress

21 August 2020 | [Hilton Buena Vista Hotel](#), Orlando, Florida

## 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

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# eAlert Highlights by Liz Benham, President 2016-2018

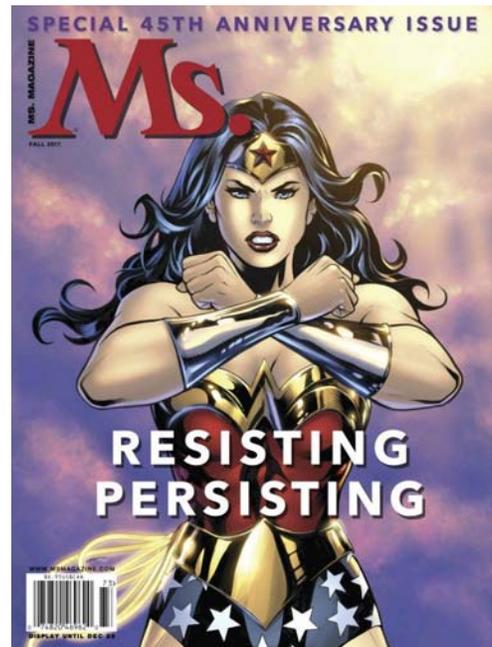
Stay tuned ... our new and very exciting website will go live shortly!

## It is Official!

## Ms. Magazine - Wonder Woman

We have received approval from the United States of America Patent and Trademark Office for our service mark: **The National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc.**

I hope you are all enjoying your Ms. Magazine, which has been delivered in the last week. It is a \$25 benefit of your membership in NFBPWC.



## BPW International Collecting Donations

Please note BPW International is collecting donations for our members to help BPW members in the Caribbean from the hurricanes and in Mexico from the earthquake. Please go to: [www.BPW-International.org](http://www.BPW-International.org) to make a donation with your credit card.



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

## Green News: Vampires Suck!

Several months ago, Xcel  
Energy let me know that I  
use a lot less electricity than

Vampires! Sound a little scary? When I was a kid I was always SO frightened after watching a vampire movie! I would make sure the blanket was up over my neck when I crawled into bed! Also, I remember very well that my parents were constantly nagging me; if I left a room, they'd say, "Turn off the light!" I think we need to get back to some of those conservative habits. I'm thinking we are so used to convenience that we don't realize how our actions are harming us. One of the things I talk about in my "What Can I Do?" Spaceship Earth presentation is electricity. I share a slide with the audience that shows that Americans in the USA use WAY more energy than any other country in the world.

I had heard of "energy vampires" quite a few years ago but never researched it until now. Wikipedia says vampire power—also called standby power, phantom load or leaking electricity—refers to the electric power consumed by electronic and electric appliances while they are switched off (but designed to draw some power) or in a standby mode.

The first bit of information I found is that around 10% of energy used by an average household is from these vampires. That equates to \$100–\$200 dollars a year you could be saving (though you're more interested in saving the planet, right?). A recent report from NRDC said that vampire power costs Americans \$19 billion in electricity every year! And keep in mind that the majority of electricity is produced by coal plants, thus creating lots of CO2 in the air.

There are easy remedies, like unplugging your kitchen appliances (including microwave and coffee makers) when not in use, as well as your bathroom hair dryers, curling irons and shavers. However, the hungriest vampires that cost you the most are your entertainment center equipment. Video and gaming devices use a lot of electricity and are often in pause mode, sucking up to \$100 a year in electricity. If you were to leave your cable box on standby mode for a year, it would add around \$17 bucks to your bill—and if it has DVR capabilities, it could add up to \$43 bucks. Also, plasma TVs use twice as much energy as LED flat screens.

A simple solution is to plug all of your entertainment devices into a power strip and turn it off when not in use. You can do this with your home office as well. A desktop or laptop computer can use 15–20 watts when idle. Plug your computers, printers and cell chargers into a power strip that you can turn off with one click.

my neighbors. I got online to view my account and saw I use about 75% less than all my neighbors. (My neighbors are folks within 3.8 miles of me, 99% of them being in apartments and condos, while I am in a mobile home.) Moreover, I use 51% less than my "efficient" neighbors. When it comes to natural gas, I don't do so well, but still pretty good for a mobile home. So how do I do it? I hang garlic in every corner of the house!

Just kidding! I usually only have one light on at a time. I don't leave on lights (most of which are compact fluorescent lights, or CFLs and some LEDs) when I am out of the house. I don't watch much TV—usually one movie a week—and at night I have one light to read by. I have an ENERGY STAR rated washing machine and always wash in cold water and an ENERGY STAR refrigerator. And I hardly ever use my clothes dryer!

About five years ago, I walked out my door and saw "Earthy Man" walking through our park. I was SO excited as I yelled, "Hey, Earthy Man! Come over and see my beautiful mobile home and meet Croaky the cat!!!"

He came over and took the tour and got to hear how my cat croaks like a frog, hence her name. I don't know how we got on the topic of clothes dryers, but Steele (his real name) started singing me one of his precious environmental songs, "Love on the Line." And then he educated me how much energy dryers suck up—a massive amount! The way he likes to put it is that every time you don't use your dryer, it saves 16.6 square feet of natural habitat for one year. Learn more from Earthy Man at <http://xocearth.org>.

After he left, I rode my bike over to McGuckin's and bought some sturdy string and clothes pins, and then came home and put up a line on my porch. I have been hanging my clothes out to dry ever since! And because we live in such a dry climate, it doesn't take long!

I don't know about you, but I am going to rearrange all my cords to use a power strip to make it easy to keep electrical things off unless I'm using them and save even more energy and money!

### 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

NFBPWC 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. What can NFBPWC do to help get ERA ratified in North Carolina, Florida and Illinois?

Two more Democrats Congress members have been added to the co-sponsors of HJ Res. 53 Speier (CA-D) increasing the number of co-sponsors to 160 – 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.

### 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](mailto: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.

### EQUAL PAY

According to a September 12th news release from the American Association of University Women (AAUW) a, "newly released U.S. Census Bureau data indicates that women working full time on average still make 80 cents compared to every dollar men make. At the current rate of progress in closing the gap, women will not receive pay equity until the year 2119. Prior AAUW analysis found that even when accounting for education, occupation, hours worked, and other factors, women still earned seven percent less than men. Gender discrimination is a significant cause of the pay gap.... A majority of mothers are in the paid labor force, and a growing number of them (42 percent) are responsible for supporting their families. Due to the pay gap and lower wages women who complete college degrees are less able to pay off their student loans promptly, leaving them paying more and for a longer time than men. All of these setbacks compound over a lifetime and can lead to families' financial insecurity. The pay gap is a multipronged problem." September 25th is Native American and Alaskan Native Women's Equal Pay Day. They are paid \$0.57 for each dollar that a white man is paid. We need to do better to acquire pay equity for all women in all States. To find out how your State and Congressional District rates in pay equity – see <http://www.aauw.org/resource/gender-pay-gap-by-state-and-congressional-district/>.

According to the September 15th "AAUW Washington Update," "This week, the House of Representatives voted against funding for salary data collection. The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's (EEOC) collection of summary pay data by gender, race, and ethnicity through the Employer Information Report, known as the EEO-1 would be invaluable to the fight for fair pay. In July, Republicans on the House Appropriations Committee supported language defunding the EEOC's ability to collect that data. Reps. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT), Lois Frankel (D-FL), and Bobby Scott (D-VA) proposed an amendment to restore that funding, but it was voted down by the House of Representatives by a margin of 192 to 223."

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 fifteen co-sponsors – all Democrats. For anything to happen with this bill, it needs to have more co-sponsors and a hearing. It has been referred to the House Committee on Education and Workforce Committee. Massachusetts, New York City, San Francisco and Philadelphia passed similar bills during the past year. The related Senate bill – S.819 Patty Murray (D-WA) –

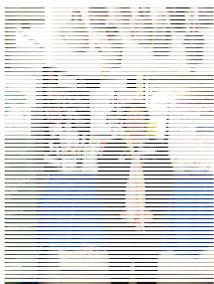
has 45 co-sponsors – 44 Democrats and one Independent. It has been referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

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 five 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.

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

## Advocacy News from BPW Colorado, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, 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)

Good news to report for advocacy in our state of Colorado this month! Sharon and partners from United Nations Association Boulder County/Zonta and her sister, April Simmons, supported and some spoke at the Human Relations Commission (HRC) Meeting at the Boulder City Council Chambers September 18. The purpose of this important meeting was to obtain HRC written response to research on whether Boulder should pass a resolution/ordinance on Cities for CEDAW (convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women/girls). Attendees were so excited to hear that they are passing it back to city council with a draft resolution advising passage. Now back to council!! I hope some BPW Colorado supporters can come this time. We really need to make our cities hear our voices regarding support of women/girls in our communities. I will let everyone know when that council meeting is. They meet on first and third Tuesdays.

Also, we had our first meeting for the Annual Legislative Convention in Denver starring our very own Evie Hudak and the board! It will be awesome so mark your calendars for February 10<sup>th</sup> in Cherry Creek with cocktails the night before. Come and enjoy the company of other women wanting change and help women in our state/country and the world!! More information to come.

**City of Denver, Colorado:** September 8, 2017 communication were made between BPW Colorado and UNA Denver/Denver for CEDAW. Research is still underway from previous calls with Ms. Kim Desmond by UNA Denver and completion of a one-page document and research for it is approximately the end of the year.

**City of Golden, Colorado:** Sharon is in contact with the City Council regarding the status of a resolution request sent in March 2017.

**City of Greeley, Colorado:** Sharon emailed Loretta Scott of Zonta Greeley on August 27, 2017. Ms. Scott communicated with the President of Zonta and stated that they are planning on picking up this item again in the late Fall of 2017. Re-elections are happening and they are waiting to see if friendly persons are running and will work on this important issue with new members of council. They are concerned at this time about moving forward and will get back to our task force when they know more.

For more up to date information on the status of the other Colorado cities and our supporting organizations and companies, please visit our site at: [www.CEDAW-Colorado.org](http://www.CEDAW-Colorado.org). If you wish to add your company or organization to the supporting list, please email Sharon Simmons at: [SSimmons@BPWColorado.org](mailto:SSimmons@BPWColorado.org).

More next month!! So much going on in Colorado!!

**Pride Fest in Boulder (BPW Boulder and BPW Colorado): September 10, 2017**

What a great community we live in Boulder, Colorado! The opportunities are amazing. We partnered with TimeBank Boulder and The Compassionate Humanity Foundation and had a tent at Pride Fest in the park in Boulder. This event was put on by OUT BOULDER and they did a great job! What fun it was to have happy supportive humans, dressed any way they wanted sharing this great day!



The parade started at 10:30 and our crew of 10 or so hit the band shell where we learned our CHANTS for the 6-block parade over to the Pearl Street mall and back. We did scared a few tourists...silly folks wondering what was coming down the street. How fun is that? The transgender woman who led the chants was quite fun and said it was her last year running the event. She will be missed.

Once the parade was done we gathered at the band shell again and honored our LGBTQ veterans with the national anthem. Not a dry eye in the house. The stage was full of honorees and proud people who have and, hopefully, will get to continue serving our country! Then we disbanded (after pictures) to the tents.

Bonnie Sundance and Laurie Dameron were our 'carnie barkers' so to speak. Bonnie gets right out there and nabs folks. So awesome! We got many emails and names to contact from this festival. So many wonderful people of all makes and models in one place. We enjoyed them all. We, of course,

had CANDY of many varieties ... so that helps. Rainbow striped cookies made from scratch by our BPW Boulder Membership/Marketing VP, Jen Bancroft. My sis (April Simmons) and her dog and our other two dogs brought much attention to the booth. At about 4 pm masses of children arrived at the park and wiped out a lot of candy! That helped decide who was taking what home.

Thanks to all who participated and held the banner in our parade. We shared two banners and did well. Where's my water bottle dang it. My dog was happy to get home.





## United Nations Corner

By: Elizabeth Vanarden  
NFBPWC United Nations Liaison

Yes, the General Assembly has started and is in action. The UN corridors are filled with talking heads. The delegates are giving their speeches, some interesting, some dull, some belligerent, most of the time too long. The global problems, which are at this moment very serious, are being tackled. And the US delegation is making waves.

But, in the meantime, the many representatives of the many NGO's affiliated with the UN (our BPW rep's are a strong presence) and many other Civil Societies, are working constantly to stay aware of the many women's issues. Are attending important UN meetings; staying in contact with their governments; working together to provide assistance and empowerment to women where needed. Think of **Human Trafficking, Climate Change, Education.**

I like to share with you a message from the WUNRN:

SISTERHOOD OF WOMEN  
Women of the world, girls of the planet,  
We are all sisters.  
Traumas and joys that happen to one,  
Happen to us all.  
Issues and rights, oppression and empowerment  
Are part of woman's challenge for equality, for dignity,  
For we are bonded in the female spirit.  
We reach out to learn, to understand each other.  
Local to global, rural and urban, near to far, hugs and tears,  
Now is our time!

NOTE: WUNRN stands for Women's UN Report Network. It is considered one of the best, most respected comprehensive global resources on women and girls' issues. Provides research, documentation, programs, reports-TOOLS- to move forward advocacy and activism, from local to global, on the human rights, oppression and empowerment of women and girls all over the world.

What is the Security Council??

### **The importance of the Security Council**

Their primary responsibility is the maintenance of international peace and security. The Security Council is the only UN organ whose decisions Member States are obligated to fulfill and implement. It is the only body of the UN to be in permanent session; its members must be on call 24 hours a day ready to meet in the event of any crisis. The Council has 15 members. Five are permanent members: China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States. Ten members are elected by the General Assembly for two-year terms. Each member has one vote, but only the 5 permanent members have the right of veto.

Personal message: Please be aware of what is going on globally, because it affects all of us. Take action locally, then nationally, you can and will make a difference.

## PR and Social Media Committee



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

We are thrilled that NFBPWC is now our official moniker, and the PR and Social Media Committee is hard at work making sure that becomes a household name! We are meeting 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 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.

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

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 are re-starting 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!

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

NFBPWC on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/NatIFedBPWC/>

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\\_ciIxLyvbu1dbBOsV9Tg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2l_ciIxLyvbu1dbBOsV9Tg)

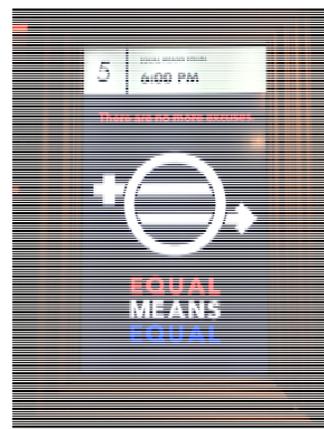
## BPW Day Celebration

BPW Colorado and Colorado Women's Education Foundation held a very successful BPW Day/Women's Equality Day celebration on August 27th with a movie screening at Alamo Drafthouse Cinemas in Denver.

All told, 55 tickets were sold, and women came from all over the community, including a showing by the lovely ladies of Zonta International, who came down from as far away as Greeley and Cheyenne to support our event.

The films - "Equal Means Equal" and "Equal Rights Amendment: Unfinished Business for the Constitution" - were powerful, moving, and filled with important information for those of us working to advance women's rights.

Thank you to everyone who came and helped us raise awareness, as well as raising funds for CWEF and our state organization! We covered all our costs (including having some branded wine glasses left for future fundraising) and were able to donate \$94.80 to CWEF, as well as adding \$94.80 to the BPW Colorado coffers. Well done, ladies!



## NFBPWC - Colorado Chapter



By: Deborah Fischer  
President, NFBPWC Colorado

We celebrated BPW Day with a theater showing of "Equal Means Equal" and "ERA: Unfinished Business for the Constitution". We sold 59 tickets and had an awesome time under the coordination of Chanel Heermann. Read more at: [BPW Day Celebration](#)

Our advocacy program for CEDAW is advancing in Colorado with a vengeance thanks to Sharon Simmons. She is relentless and wonderful!

We're so excited that six of our members are going to Cairo and look forward to their reports and pictures.

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.