

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

August 2018 Newsletter

Upcoming Events

CSW63 (2019)

11 March 2019 to 22 March 2019 United Nations Headquarters in New York



XXX BPW International Congress

21 August 2020 to 26 August 2020 Hilton Buena Vista Hotel, Orlando, Florida

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Submission Deadline for the September eNewsletter is Monday, August 27th at 5:00 pm Mountain Time

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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.

Contacting your NFBPWC Executive Committee (2018-2020):

Sandy Thompson, President Megan Shellman, VP Membership Nancy Werner, VP Advocacy Marsha Riibner-Cady, Secretary Gloria Flores, Treasurer Liz Benham, Immediate Past President president.bpw@nfbpwc.org vpmembership@nfbpwc.org vpadvocacy@nfbpwc.org secretary.bpw@nfbpwc.org treasurer.bpw@nfbpwc.org

Standing Committees:

Membership, Megan Shellman, Colorado
Advocacy, Nancy Werner, Pennsylvania
United Nations, Elizabeth Vanardenne, Virtual
Environment, Laurie Dameron, Colorado
Mentoring Taskforce Chair, Titilola Adisa, Momentum
International Liaison, Bessie Hironimus, California
Leadership & Learning, Kathy Kelly, Colorado
Public Relations, Daneene Rusnak, Virtual

vpmembership@nfbpwc.org vpadvocacy@nfbpwc.org evanarden27@gmail.com ldameron@bpwcolorado.org tytyadisa@yahoo.com Bessie.hironimus@bpw-international.org kathy@ppiadvantage.com daneene1124@gmail.com

Special Committees:

Military Affiliated Women, Barbara Bozeman, North Carolina Host Planning, Liz Benham, Florida Newsletter, Michele Guarino, Colorado Nominations, Manjul Batra Barbara.bozeman@ymail.com

michele@asecondoffice.com manjulm@aol.com

Taskforce:

Elimination of Sexual Harassment, Jackie Melvin Rapid Response - Linda Wilson jamelvin@pacbell.net lindawilson@juno.com

President's Letter - Sandy Thompson



I bring you greetings from Orlando, Florida!

I am very pleased to have been elected as your President for the next two years. My theme is "Building Together, We Can Do It, We Can Do It,"

We have just completed our 5th General Assembly and Biennial Conference in Orlando. President Liz conducted a very productive and interesting meeting and we ended only 5 minutes late!

We met Friday morning to conduct the Pre-Board meeting. The Federation and Affiliate Presidents made their presentations to bring us up to date on their accomplishments.

In the afternoon the General Assembly and Biennial Conference began.

We held election of Officers and I am pleased to say we had a full slate.

Your new officers are: President Sandy Thompson, California

1st Vice President Megan Shellman, Colorado 2nd Vice President Nancy Werner, Pennsylvania

Treasurer Gloria Flores, El Paso West

Secretary Marsha Riibner-Cady, North Carolina Nominations Chair Manjul Batra, California Immediate Past President Liz Benham, Florida

On Saturday morning we passed 32 amendments to the bylaws, 3 resolutions and the Legislative Platform. These will be put on the website for your information.

At the Post Board Meeting the new EC announced the ratification of several chairs. Please see article for their names. But we still have several openings. If you have an interest in chairing or serving on a committee, please notify this officer.

Saturday afternoon and Sunday, we attended the Regional Conference. We had the opportunity to hear what is happening in our sister countries in our Region. Also, most of the International EC attended and brought us greetings. On Sunday morning, Liz Benham and Dawne Williams presented a Leadership Workshop. In the afternoon, we had the opportunity to attend two workshops of our choice.

The weekend was very productive and interesting. We were sorry all of you were not able to join us.

On behalf of all our members I would like to recognize and thank President Liz for 4 years of dedicated service and leadership to our Federation. She has grown our membership by adding a State Federation, 4 Affiliate Clubs and establishing the Momentum Club for new members. She also got our B back by trademarking our new name National Federation of Business and Professional Women Clubs, Inc. We are very grateful for all her hard work.

I look forward to working with all of you in the coming two years.

We Can Do It!

National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club's (NFBPWC) Advocacy Platform 2018-2020

NFBPWC will employ several education, advocacy, monitoring and tracking strategies to meet the following priorities:

The Alice Paul Equal Rights Amendment shall stand first and foremost above all other items of the advocacy platform until Equal Rights have been guaranteed in the United States Constitution – i.e. "Equality of Rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex."

Economic Equity and Justice

- Access to pay equity and retirement equity
- Access to education, training and promotional opportunities
- Access to equal opportunities in the workplace and corporate boards
- Access to women business enterprise procurement process
- Access to quality, affordable dependent care (child, elderly or disabled)
- Access to funding and capital for entrepreneurial activity
- Access to affordable and attainable housing

Health Equity and Justice

- Access to affordable care
- Reproductive choice
- Paid sick leave
- Family and medical leave
- Equal research funding for women's and girl's health issues
- Health education funding for women's and girl's health issues
- Health education funding for women and girls
- Prevention of pregnancy and infant care discrimination in the workplace (reasonable accommodations for breast feeding/breast pumping and pregnancy related conditions)
- Ensure workplace safety
- Expansion of mental health coverage and services

<u>Human Rights</u> - recognition that women's rights are human rights

- Ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)
- Passage of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)
- Eradicate Domestic Violence and the Electronic and Physical stalking, sexual harassment, sexual abuse and discrimination
- Oppose human trafficking, sexual exploitation and slavery
- Equal education opportunity
- Support equal rights for LGBTQ+ persons
- Support equal treatment of and end discrimination against minority women
- Support policies and practices that promote environmental sustainability
- Support the endeavors of and improve conditions for military-affiliated women

NFBPWC Standing and Special Committee Chairs

The following people have been ratified as the new chairs for committees with 2018-2020. Also listed are committees that do not have chairs. If you are interested in serving on a committee as either a member or as a chair, please let the President know. We can only succeed with your help.

Standing Committees:

Membership
Advocacy
United Nations
Environment
Mentoring
International
Leadership & Learning
Public Relations

Megan Shellman, Colorado Nancy Werner, Pennsylvania Elizabeth Vanardenne, Virtual Laurie Dameron, Colorado Titilola Adisa, Momentum Bessie Hironimus, California Kathy Kelly, Colorado Daneene Rusnak, Virtual

Special Committees:

Military Affiliated Women Host Planning

Newsletter

Barbara Bozeman, North Carolina

Liz Benham, Florida

Michele Guarino, Colorado

Taskforce:

Elimination of Sexual Harassment

Rapid Response

Jackie Melvin, California Linda Wilson, California

Openings:

Health Small Business Young BPW Finance Bylaws

Orlando Convention Photos



Installation of the Executive Committee (2018-2020) Photo submission by Nancy Werner (PA)



Photo from Sharon Simmons Facebook page: "Our invitation song!! Written by Kathy Kelly and the music by Laurie Dameron. It was fun. Like herding cats to get them all in the shot. haha. a film is out there somewhere. I will try to post it was FUN!"

Resolution Passed - Cloud Office

Whereas, the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. has re-organized and

Whereas, the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. has no paid staff and no physical location and

Whereas, the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. must maintain the storage of the organization's records and official documents on a digital platform that is secure with backups and encryption and set up with a sustainable filing system for continuity, providing access to all the executives, and future executives, for their relevant mandates, that when and if necessary can be transferred without the risk of any organizational memory and archival loss and

Whereas, as a National Organization it is imperative that the day to day documents and official records along with the archive of past biennium work, goals, accomplishments, successes, issues and history need to be recorded and saved in perpetuity and

Whereas, using a secured digital storage service provider ensures continuity of access to and provision of timely backups and safety of the archive knowledge and organizational memory and

Whereas, the use of a cloud based back office and storage platform allows users to send and receive communications, align calendars, edit and reference documents from multiple devices and locations and

Whereas, this allows both internal and external users to collaborate simultaneously on a single or multiple documents, improves version control, and supports scalable storage.

Therefore, be it resolved that the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. will maintain a secured subscription to a cloud storage platform for all organizational knowledge, records and files.

Resolution Passed - Sexual Abuse Against Working Women

Whereas, From the latter part of 2017, investigative news reporters both nationally and internationally began to report to the general public allegations of sexual harassment, assault, and rape made by a growing movement of persons called #MeToo, against, primarily, men in power;

Whereas, "Hollywood" television and motion picture industry women, further, publicly proclaimed sexual abuse incidents over the years and against persons of power in their industry, and created their movement called "Time's Up" to provide assistance for victims within and outside of their industry;

Whereas, Congress has proceeded with national legislation by U.S. Representative Jackie Speier [D-CA] and others to create bills and resolutions that will eliminate sexual harassment within its Congressional environment;

Whereas, The U.S Congress has passed S.534, "Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017" authored by the Honorable U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein [D-CA] and others, amending Titles of the U.S. Code, to prevent the sexual abuse of minors and amateur athletes by requiring the prompt reporting of sexual abuse to law enforcement and created a system of legal counsel for the victims;

Whereas, Sexual abuse has been reported nationally and internationally to have been perpetrated upon multiple worker victims throughout various industries and municipalities;

Whereas, Time Magazine has identified "Silence Breakers" as the 2017 PERSONS OF THE YEAR, and

Whereas, The NFBPWC, as the national Voice of Working Women, does proscribe elimination of sexual harassment and abuse against women in the workplace; therefore be it

Resolved, That the NFBPWC'S focus issue for 2018 - 2020 shall be THE ELIMINATION OF "SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND SEXUAL ABUSE AGAINST WORKING WOMEN."

Passed at the Annual Meeting of the California Federation of Business and Professional Women (CFBPW) on May 19, 2018 in Sacramento, CA.

Resolution Passed - Alyce Daly/Elizabeth "Liz" Benham Sisterhood Fund

Preamble Alyce Marie Daly (1931-2016) was a long time member of BPW and passionate believer in BPW and our Global Sisterhood. She worked tirelessly to get the BPW New York State Federation affiliated with BPW International and was one of the pioneers in women's rights and equal pay for equal work. Her work endures even today and she will forever be remembered. Elizabeth "Liz" Benham has served BPW on many levels including International President and President of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women (2013-2018). Liz has also worked tirelessly to grow the National Federation by bringing in new State Federations and Affiliate Clubs. She has continuously encouraged young women and mentors them to develop their leadership potential.

Whereas, the mission of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. is to develop the leadership potential of women on all levels and

Whereas, it is important for members to be able to attend National and International Conferences of the Federation and

Whereas, it can be economically difficult for members to attend National and International Conferences and

Whereas, it is the responsibility of members of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. to mentor and assist other members to be able to attend National and International Conferences

Therefore, be it resolved that the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. establish the Alyce Daly/Elizabeth Benham Sisterhood Fund to provide funds to assist members in attending National and International Conferences.

Immediate Past President Letter - Liz Benham

It's Official!

Sandy Thompson (CA) is the newly elected president of NFBPWC!

I have known Sandy for more than 15 years and have worked very closely with her for the last 5 years and I am delighted that she will be leading our organization for the next term. Her knowledge, dedication and leadership skills will be of great benefit to our NFBPWC.

Congratulations Sandy and also to all the other members of the Executive, 1st VP Membership Megan Shellman (CO), 2nd VP Advocacy Nancy Werner (PA), Treasurer Gloria Flores (TX) and Secretary Marsha Riibner Cady (NC). What a great team! We wish you all much success!



I am very happy that the NFBPWC General Assembly and the IFBPW North America and Caribbean Conference was a huge success. I have received great reviews from the members which makes all the hard-preparatory work worthwhile. It was a massive job to combine both meetings and our Caribbean sisters from St. Kitts were great in their support.

Our General Assembly was professional and productive, and much was accomplished with updated amendments to our Bylaws, (3) Resolutions passed, Affiliate Reports and Elections. Immediate Past Secretary Sandy will be distributing all the final documents and minutes shortly.

Some very special awards were given at the Gala dinner: Outstanding accomplishments went to Sharon Simmons (CO) for her work on the success of "Cities for CEDAW" campaign, Laurie Dameron (CO) for her passion and commitment as our Chair of Environment. The president's award was presented to Katherine Winans (event planner) and Francesca Burack (NYC president) as the most engaging NFBPWC affiliate with the national president, and for her unending generosity, hospitality and support to any and all members, National and International who visit New York city.

As we did in Cairo, NFBPWC gave our 2nd debut show on the 2020 Congress to the IFBPW Executive and members of our Region. Huge thanks go to Kathy Kelly and Laurie Dameron our choreographers and songwriters for the great success of "we've got the whole world in our hands." We had such fun with it, wearing our Mickey Mouse ears (donated by Kathy Kelly), Floridian Fashion and Patriotic Wear. The Mickey mouse ears were distributed to all our regional members and IFBPW Executives and was a great hit!

I wish to thank the following affiliates and members for their financial support that made this all possible. Your dedication and commitment is a solid anchor for our Federation and is deeply appreciated.

The National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs and the International North America and Caribbean Region extend our deep gratitude to the following sponsors and donors:

USA Affiliates and Members

- BPW California
- BPW Colorado
- Dr Sylvie Heyman
- IFBPW UN Reps
- Harriet and Bob Friedlander
- NFBPWC El Paso West
- NFBPWC Pennsylvania
- NFBPWC Houston
- NFBPWC Florida
- Francesca Burack
- Gloria Flores
- Daniel Flores
- NFBPWC New York City
- NFBPWC North Carolina
- Liz Benham
- Sandra Thompson
- Kathy Kelly
- Affinia Hotel

 Paola Levi (So Fla Member) for all the goodies solicited by Morgan Stanley for the Conference bags

St Kitts

- Bank of Nevis
- Carib Brewery
- CIBC First Caribbean
- FND Enterprise Cooperative Credit
- 4 C's
- Grant Thornton
- Kantours
- Mitchum and Benjamin
- National Insurance Company Ltd
- OT:
- Palm Court Gardens St Kitts
- St Kitts Cooperative Credit
- Securgard
- SKN Homes
- Walwyn Consulting (member)

A big thank you goes to **Nancy Werner (PA)** for the donation of the Nike statues used to decorate the Gala dinner tables. Everyone who took one home will have great memories! Thank you, Nancy!

A very special thank you goes to **Lolita Del Poco (El Paso West)** who took on the sales of our 50 /50 raffle whereby we gained \$500.00! In addition, my deepest gratitude goes to **Katherine Winans (president of BPW California)** and the event planner. We worked for months on all the hotel logistics and negotiations and our success is based on her commitment, skills and expertise Thank you Katherine!

Our IFBPW North America and Caribbean Regional Coordinator, Dawne Williams, is our shining star with her skilled leadership in the lead up to our conference and her presentations at the Leaders' Summit which got rave reviews for the "take home value." Thanks, so much Dawne! It was my great pleasure to work closely with you on all the aspects. Special thanks also go to our St Kitts sisters who did a marathon job of fundraising with many weekend events in order to support this conference financially and many of the Caribbean members to be able to attend.

The Conference program books with information and donor ads will be available on our website for your benefit to download.

We were very extremely proud to have in attendance our almost full board of IFBPW Executives - President Amany Asfour, (Egypt) 1st Vice President Susan Jones (Australia) 2nd Vice President Catherine Bosshart (Switzerland) Executive Finance Officer Guiseppina Seidita (Sicily) Executive Secretary Bessie Hironimus (USA), Regional Coordinator Europe, Pinella Bombaci (Italy), Regional Coordinator Asia Pacific, Narudee Kiengsiri (Thailand) Regional Coordinator Latin America, Diana Barragan (Ecuador), Regional Coordinator North America and Caribbean, Dawne Williams (St Kitts) Young BPW, Neelima Basnet (Nepal)

It has been a privilege and honor to serve this Federation for my (2) terms as president. Thanks to you, the members, who gave your trust to me for this leadership role. You, our members and all those serving have been the inspiration and motivation for making all the work meaningful. Our goal to provide value to our members has been accomplished and this Federation is stronger now and poised to continue the journey of rebuilding our beloved organization to once again take its place as a leader in our country, anchoring our well-established

accomplishments of the last 99 years! I look forward to continuing this journey with all as we move into our 100th year celebrations.

For those members who did not attend, I highly recommend that you commit to attend our next national events as it is a great way to understand, appreciate and enjoy the global work, sisterhood, dedication and friendships of all in our Federation which is a life changing experience.

I was very blessed to have present with me, my adopted Florida family and our South Florida member Joanne Goodwin and Stuart Goodwin who made a very special effort to come and support me.

Lastly, my sincere thanks and appreciation goes to our 2013-2016 and 2016-2018 executives. Together they were a joy to serve with and a "Dream Team" extraordinaire! Thank you all so much for all your hard work and dedication.

With all my best regards

Liz Benham, Immediate Past President

Membership News - Megan Shellman

By: Megan Shellman

Vice President of Membership, NFBPWC

Letter to NFBPWC Members for the 2018-20 Term

As the Vice President of Membership for the National Federation of Business and Professional Women, my goals for the 2016-18 term were to increase tangible membership benefits and to better communicate intangible membership benefits in an effort to grow our membership numbers. As part of this process, we created the Momentum Club last summer. This serves as a springboard for the creation of brand new clubs, assists in the reconnection of heritage organizations, and works on strategies for membership growth for established NFBPWC affiliates. We have made huge strides in our meetings and informal discussions at the Momentum Club.

In consideration of the growing energy and after much discussion with many leaders in our organization, I decided to put my candidacy in for the 1st Vice President of Membership for the 2018-20 term. Thank you to the 2018 NFBPWC General Assembly for supporting this term's candidates for the Executive Committee.

We have made many strides in support of membership and we need to continue the momentum, pun intended. I would like to continue the work that has begun, and I implore each of you to participate in that effort as we rebuild this organization. I believe that with my experience and passion, I will be a conduit for continued growth in membership for NFBPWC as long as I have the support and participation of the members. Remember, each of you is an ambassador for our organization and you are our best recruitment tool. I hope you will join me and proudly wear your NFBPWC badge as you encourage others to join in our efforts to make this world a better place for women on all levels.

Membership Awards Presented at the 2018 NFBPWC General Assembly

The 1st Vice President of Membership, Megan Shellman, and the Executive Committee for the 2016-2018 term would like to congratulate the following members for their efforts in growing and rebuilding the national organization. Your active participation and continued support of NFBPWC is appreciated and deserving of recognition.

- President Elizabeth Benham, NFBPWC Membership Recruitment Extraordinaire
- Nancy Werner, Pennsylvania
- Deborah Fischer, Colorado
- Marsha Riibner-Cady, North Carolina
- Shirley Zeller, Michigan
- Bessie Hironimus, California
- Gloria Flores, El Paso West
- Paola Ferrari, Houston

A special, and continued thanks, to Immediate Past President Elizabeth Benham. Every member of NFBPWC has been touched by her passion for NFBPWC and BPW International. As she has traveled the nation, and the globe, on our behalf she has continually advocated for the growth of NFBPWC. Liz, as we affectionally refer to her, has single-handedly inspired both 'heritage' (organizations previously connected to BPW/USA) and new organizations to become part of NFBPWC. She deserves personal thanks from every member for what she has accomplished in her two terms. Thank you, Elizabeth Benham, for being our shining star and our leader as we enter into a new era of growth and opportunity.

Congratulations to the New Affiliates of NFBPWC for the 2016-2018 Term

- El Paso West, Texas
- North Carolina
- Houston, Texas

What are the BENEFITS of being an NFBPWC member?

- Grow through NFBPWC's formal Personal & Professional Development Program.
- The Business Network to market business and professional services in a public area of the website. Discover
 an international platform of intercultural understanding, languages and travel while establishing connections
 with women around the world.
- Partake in business opportunities for partnering and procurement, nationally and globally through BPW.
- Member Spotlight in the newsletter, e-alerts, website, and social media platforms.
- Private discussion forums on issues relating to women hosted on the website.
- Members' only information related to NFBPWC and women's issues.
- Private Membership Directory supporting members and their organizations.
- Participate in the United Nations System worldwide through CSW and other programs annually.
- Annual Ms. Magazine subscription.
- Formal Mentoring program for mentees and mentors.
- Advocate for women's issues on a national and international level and cultivate worldwide friendships in one of the original women's networking organizations!

What NEW membership BENEFITS have been created in the 2016-2018 term?

- Our NFBPWC Showcase: https://www.nfbpwc.org/Our-Showcase
 - A place to share your successes in a public area of the website.

- Business Network: https://www.nfbpwc.org/Business-Network
 - o A place to share your business and professional services in a public area of the website.
- Member Spotlight: A member is spotlighted on the newsletter and social media platforms.
- Formal mentoring program for mentees and mentors.
- Formal personal & professional development program.

Letter from NFBPWC Secretary - Marsha Riibner-Cady

By: Marsha Riibner-Cady Secretary, NFBPWC

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone who voted for me. I am honored and humbled to be your 2018-20 secretary.

As a first timer to a NFBPWC and Caribbean Congress I was totally in awe of all the amazingly powerful women who attended. Each person I encountered had a more interesting story than the one before. I mean to be able to rub elbows with someone who had been a BPW member for as long as I have been alive is way too cool. (That would be 56 years for those of you who are wondering.) The reports from the states and other countries in attendance were amazing. The wonderful things the clubs are doing in their communities and helping each other succeed was inspiring. The speakers made me want to come back to our state club and say, "Hey, we need to do something!" So, watch out for NC, we will have greatness to report in 2020, maybe before!

The hotel, room service, bar service, and the character breakfast (total surprise) was great. I tried grilled grapefruit and liked it. I also had some adult beverage with frozen cucumber. Let me just say YUM! Truly the breakfast and anything we ordered from room service was mighty tasty as were the meals at congress.

I understand that this hotel looks like a dump compared to the one where the 2020 event will be held. So, what I am trying to say is...Attending congress gave me so much positive energy and motivation to change things in my work life. I can't begin to tell you how supported I felt. I am so glad I went to Congress, it was worth the complicated plane flight, time away from work and family and the money I spent. Start saving now and save the date for August 21-25, 2020. I am.

Hope to see you there! Marsha

Member Spotlight - Elizabeth Benham



NFBPWC owes Elizabeth Benham huge thanks for being one of the sponsors of our General Assembly and Regional Conference in Orlando, Florida. As an inventor of "The Footle," she shared this hands-free attachment for sliding screen doors, with every registered participant of the conference. This incredible invention allows you to use your foot to open it when going in or out on the deck and your hands are filled with dishes, trays, food etc.

Instead of a Hand-le you now also have a Foot-le! You can read more about her invention and get a link to purchase your own Footle here: http://www.thefootle.com/footle.html or on our webpage here: https://www.nfbpwc.org/Our-Showcase

or here: https://www.nfbpwc.org/Business-Network.

*If you're interested in being featured in a future NFBPWC Member Spotlight, please email Megan Shellman at mshellman@bpwcolorado.org.



Green News - OK, I Lied

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

OK, I lied! I said I was going to just share a paragraph or two of Pope Francis's Encyclical for the next few months. But I am so excited after coming home from our NFBPWC (National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs) biennial conference, held July 19–22 in Orlando, Florida, that I can't resist sharing a bit of what went on.

To be honest, the last few months I have felt burned out and cynical about anything environmental. Listening to the daily news will tell you why. But our conference totally rejuvenated me! There were so many strong and intelligent women from the USA, Canada, and the Caribbean, many of whom I met in Cairo last fall at our international conference. Dr. Amany Asfour, our newly elected president of BPW International, traveled here from Egypt and gave a rousing speech, as did many other women—too many to mention here.

Our just recent past president of NFBPWC, Liz Benham, gave a PowerPoint presentation at the workshop "Leaders' Summit." She shares so much passion, knowledge, wisdom, and experience from her 30 years in BPW that I ALWAYS get inspired. She talked about important virtues: humility, responsibility, respect, honor, and trust, along with the importance of mentoring. She said we need to put aside personal feelings and jealousies and to work side by side. As in Cairo, I reminded myself of some other important ideas: principles before personalities, detach with love, don't take things personally, believe what others say because it is true for them, and do not judge others' qualities as good or bad but instead view them as strengths and weaknesses. Yes, seemingly little ideas, but what a difference they make!

I agree with Benham when she passionately said, "This is THE most important organization you could be part of!"

BPW has been around since 1919 and was the first organization to support the Equal Rights Amendment written in 1923. Now we need only one more state to ratify it for the entire country, so if you live in Virginia, North Carolina, or Florida (states that are more likely to pass it than Arkansas or Alabama), please ask me what you can do!

I cannot begin to tell you how much this organization has done for me personally. My mentors have taught me well and I have learned SO much invaluable information! Believe me, it's done SO much for all women around the world, even if you've never heard of it!

On the final evening, my colleague and past president of BPW Boulder, Sharon Simmons, deservedly received an award for her hard work on Cities for CEDAW (she has been going city by city in Colorado to get them to adopt the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination of All forms against Women). Find out more about CITIES for CEDAW HERE. http://cedaw-colorado.org

Then I was very surprised to hear my name called and to receive an award as the environmental chair of NFBPWC. I was so very honored but felt a tinge of guilt, as I've been resting on my laurels for the past several months. I truly feel I've not done enough since I was elected in 2015. Not enough! It's just NOT ENOUGH!



LAURIE DAMERON AND SHARON SIMMONS OF BPW COLORADO WITH THEIR AWARDS



Time is ticking, but this I promise: We will make great strides this year. I am ready to work harder than ever. Look at what's happening with the push for eliminating plastic straws—all it took was for one big corporation to lead the way. In addition, BPW Boulder and BPW Colorado are going to help EcoCycle and Environment Colorado ban Styrofoam in Colorado. I also want to see single-use plastic banned. My committee (which just got two new members!) and I will be figuring out a Starbucks campaign to decrease the millions of cups going to the landfill every day. We will keep spreading the zero-waste message—and SO much more! I have not done enough, but YOU can help me do more. And I know you will. As the saying goes: If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together!

And here's something from Chapter One, What is Happening to Our Common Home, in the Pope's Encyclical:

"17. Theological and philosophical reflections on the situation of humanity and the world can sound tiresome and abstract, unless they are grounded in a fresh analysis of our present situation, which is in many ways unprecedented in the history of humanity. So, before considering how faith brings new incentives and requirements with regard to the world of which we are a part, I will briefly turn to what is happening to our common home."

Read the entire Encyclical: POPE FRANCIS https://laudatosi.com/

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

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United Nations Corner

By: Elizabeth Vanardenne NFBPWC United Nations Liaison

THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG's)

Report of the Secretary-General (E/2018/64)

In accordance with General Assembly decision 70/1, the **S-G** has to transmit the 2018 report on progress toward all of the 17 SDG's. This report provides a global overview of the situation of the SDG's, based on the latest available data.

Looking at Goal 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls). While some forms of discrimination are declining, gender inequality continues to hold women back and deprives them of basic rights and opportunities.

An excellent comprehensive report is: **The National SDG Scorecard 2018 Global Report,** issued by the "Women Thrive Alliance".

The Scorecard is a data collection tool designed to support grassroots-led research on national level implementation of the SDG's.

Gathering data on: grassroots knowledge of and access to information about SDG's, specifically SDG5; participation in decision-making; advocacy. The report presents the perceptions of 114 grassroots groups in 19 countries across 5 regions.

The direct link to the full 4-page **2018 SDG Scorecard Report** is:

https://womenthrive.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/2018-National-SDG-Scorecard-Report.pdf

STUNNING

When the United Nations-affiliated World Health Organization (WHO) held their Assembly this spring in Geneva, a resolution to encourage breastfeeding was expected to be approved easily by the hundreds of government delegates. Based on decades of research, the resolution says that mother's milk is healthiest, and countries should strive to limit the inaccurate or misleading marketing of breast milk substitutes.

Then the U.S. delegation, embracing the interest of infant formula manufactures, sought to water down the resolution. When that failed they turned to threats. Ecuador, who had planned to introduce the measure, was told that Washington could start trade measures and withdraw crucial military aid. The Ecuadorean government quickly acquiesced. The intensity of Washington's opposition to the breastfeeding resolution stunned public health officials and foreign diplomats.

Note: The full article of this incident was in the July 8 New York Times.

NEWS FROM OUR GLOBAL SISTERS

Tunisia - A 53-year-old pharmaceutical manager, Souad Abderrahim, has been elected the first female mayor of the Tunisian capital Tunis. A move seen as an inspiring development for women across the country. Ms. Abderrahim was chosen by Tunis' municipal council with 26 votes, while her nearest rival had 22.

While Tunisia has numerous problems, including high unemployment and inflation, it is still widely classified as the most successful post-2011 Arab Spring country. One of the positives has been the boost in females' rights-and the women of Tunisia hope that the election of Souad is just the next step on the ladder.

Spain - Spain's King Felipe has sworn in new Socialist government with a record number of 11 women in 17 cabinet posts. Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez said his new team " shared the same vision of a progressive society that was both modernising and pro-European".

Afghanistan - For the first time in Afghanistan, a group of 15 women in Bamyan province received demining training and learned techniques for defusing land mines and explosive ammunitions. The graduate showed courage and a readiness to start their service. The Afghan women are very aware that women and children are the most victims of landmines.

Our salute to these powerful women!

Sexual Harassment / Sexual Abuse Against Working Women Committee

By: Jackie Melvin, NF Committee Chair jamelvin@pacbell.net

Query: Is the United Nations sex abuse scandal related to the creation of the role of UN Women Executive Coordinator and Spokesperson on Sexual Harassment and Other Forms of Discrimination?

UN Women Executive Director's timely appointment of the distinguished PURNA SEN, the UN Women's Director of the Policy Division, to the new position, to "step up UN engagement on sexual harassment, both in the world at large and in the UN", follows the **FRONTLINE** investigation and television expose` on July 24.

Over the past 15 years, as reported by correspondent Ramita Navai, the UN has recorded more than 1700 allegations of sexual abuse, primarily rape of children as young as 11 years of age, by its peacekeepers, in conflict zones around the world from the Democratic Republic of Congo to Kosovo, from East Timor to Haiti.

The UN authorities have declared the UN has "...no criminal jurisdiction over its employees" and, therefore, prosecution of perpetrators is dependent on the home country.

Interviewed by reporter Navai was Didier Bourguet, the only civilian peacekeeper to have been imprisoned for sexual abuse while working abroad for the UN. He was incarcerated for two rapes but tells **FRONTLINE** on camera that he had sex with about 20 or 25 children while in the Congo.

UNWOMAN interviewed the new Spokesperson in early July [see www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2018/take-five-purna-sen for full story and interview]. Part of her definitive analysis follows here:

"Our engagement needs to go beyond the UN and connect with others, such as academia, activists, the MeToo and other movements, and other employers....

"We have to understand sexual harassment as a sexualized expression of gender inequality. We have to build leadership and a culture where zero tolerance to sexual harassment is a lived reality...

"Right now, international attention is focused on sexual harassment in the work place. But sexual harassment also happens in public spaces. Through UN Women's programmatic work, specifically, the

Safe Cities Global Programme, which looks at sexual harassment and violence in public places, we are well placed to link sexual harassment that happens in public places, work places and private spaces...

"I think we are seeing the biggest, deepest and widest global mobilization against sexual harassment ever known. The civil society movement against sexual violence has always been strong, but the recent focus of #MeToo and related movements has given it a different momentum. Women around the world are saying 'we have had enough, we are giving notice, and we expect to see change' ...

"What women are saying worldwide is: you don't listen to us, you don't believe us, your reporting systems don't work for us, investigations are not independent, and it takes too long to get an outcome.... these issues are ultimately procedural expressions of a culture that devalues women. I don't think we will see lasting change unless we change the cultural expressions of tolerance to male sexual entitlement over women's bodies...

"To change the culture of tolerance of sexual harassment, we need unequivocal leadership. Managers and leaders must prioritize addressing sexual harassment, change human resources and policies at workplaces so that they support reporters of prohibited behavior. We cannot automatically approach women who report sexual harassment with suspicion. Because if you don't listen to and believe those who report, you are essentially siding with the perpetrators. If you don't have a culture of victim support, you do, in effect, have a culture of perpetrator support..."

State Federation & Clubs News

NFBPWC California Federation

Executive Committee 2018-2019:

Katherine Winans President
Rosemary Enzer President-Elect
Lynn Brandstater Vice-President
Maryann Wesson Secretary
Trudy Waldroop Parliamentarian

For more information about this club, go to: https://www.nfbpwc.org/California

NFBPWC Colorado Federation

Executive Committee:

Deborah Fischer President

Liz Muth Vice-President of Membership Sharon Simmons Vice-President of Advocacy

Cheryl Rotkovich Treasurer Teresa McEldowney Secretary

Nancy Litvak Immediate Past President

For more information about this club, go to: https://www.BPWColorado.org



split with our 501(c)(3) sister foundation CO Women's Education Foundation (CWEF)!

<u>Sunday, August 26th is BPW Day!</u> We will be celebrating at The Alamo Drafthouse Cinema in Littleton at 4:30 pm to see the box-office hit RBG: "An intimate portrait of an unlikely rock star: Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. With unprecedented access, the filmmakers explore how her early legal battles changed the world for women." The ticket will include a fun girls-night-out with your BPW friends, plus a complimentary glass of "Sisterhood Sangria" in a special BPW Colorado collector's wine glass. Profits will be

Thank you, Liz Benham, for your service to BPW and a wonderful and educational 2018 NFBPWC General Assembly & BPW International North American & Caribbean Regional Conference! We enjoyed meeting and reconnecting with our BPW sisters. A special thanks to all of the BPW International officers who came! You're all an inspiration to us. In attendance from BPW Colorado were: Megan Shellman, Kathy Kelly, Sharon Simmons, Laurie Dameron, Sarah Matthews, Evie Hudak and myself. Congratulations to the 2018-2020 NFBPWC officers who were installed, including our own Megan Shellman, Vice President of Membership.



BPW has been supporting women since 1919! I believe in us!



From Evie Hudak's Facebook Timeline: "This is the Colorado contingent at the closing gala of the BPW Regional Congress of North America and the Caribbean (including Kathy Kelly's granddaughter, who has been with us throughout the conference). [I look really tall, but it's because I'm standing on a step.]

Pictured from Left to Right: Deborah Fischer, Sarah Matthews, Sharon Simmons, Clara Davis, Kathy Couts Kelly, Laurie Dameron, Megan Shellman, and Evie Hudak.

NFBPWC Colorado VP of Advocacy Report - Sharon Simmons

By: Sharon Simmons, VP of Advocacy, NFBPWC Colorado Colorado of CEDAW Task Force Secretariat Previous President for BPW Colorado Boulder (2016-2018)

Ambassador's Guide for CEDAW: Veronica Hrutkay (UNA USA BC) used our Toolkit done for Cities for CEDAW to start an Ambassador's Guide for the Colorado for CEDAW Task Force. It will help anyone wanting to sign up their city for CEDAW. They just follow the guide. I may do a quick start guide for BPW. This guide we are working on should be out by Mid-August or soon thereafter.

Colorado for CEDAW Task Force Website: Many updates have been down to the site. Look at it if you haven't yet! www.cedaw-colorado.org. Learn how you can jump on board this great work for women/girls in Colorado.

Resolution for Nederland: This month I sent my second letter from the Colorado for CEDAW Task Force in the new format, to ask the Board of Trustees in Nederland to sign a resolution for CEDAW.

Ordinance for Boulder: We officially turned over our proposal for a CEDAW ordinance to the City of Boulder.

We hope to get on their 2019 budget/workplan to at least research the possibility of doing this for the women/girls in Boulder.

Human Relations Commission: We are working on a new staff and less commissioners on this board, but moving well. The council and HRC are working on upgrades to the Human Relations Ordinance, to update help for lower income people being able to rent in the City of Boulder without prejudice/or refusal to rent due to income level. Also, it addresses being able to rent/buy due to immigration status. This affects many women our communities. This will go before the council in September of this year. I will be there to testify!

The National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs Inc.-5th Biennial General Assembly and Conference in Orlando FL: Colorado had 7 representatives from BPW Colorado chapters attending our Regional convention (Kathy Kelly, Deb Fischer, Laurie Dameron, Sarah Matthews, Megan Shellman, Evie Hudak and myself). Women from around the world attended. If you have not attended a convention yet, it is quite amazing to be a part of. By representing BPW we get to vote on resolutions, bylaw changes, officers and hear speakers from around the world. It is so rejuvenating to meet our sisters from other countries and, of course, our own as well. This convention started July 19 and went until July 22.



Our National Advocacy VP, Linda Wilson, presented Sharon Simmons with an award for all of the work done with the Colorado for CEDAW Task Force, started in 2016 with Veronica Hrutkay of the United Nations Association Boulder County. We have come a long way and I was very honored be presented with this award. Then at the Gala Dinner on Sunday, Laurie Dameron got an amazing award for her work on Climate Change and Sharon Simmons also got another award for CEDAW, along with a book of the history of CEDAW from our outgoing National President, Liz Behnam.

We elected a new NFBPWC Board for 2018-2020 at our convention. Our new board is: President Sandra Thompson (CA), VP of Membership is our very own Megan Shellman (CO), VP of Advocacy Nancy Werner-

Sparkles (PA)-with over 40 years of membership, Secretary Marsha Riibner Cady (NC), Treasurer Gloria Flores (TX), and finally Nominations Manjul Batra (CA). It was so exciting to welcome them all to our leadership! We had great speakers, lectures from our National President Liz Benham and IFBPW Regional Coordinator North America and the Caribbean Dawne Williams. Both were very inspiring! Liz suggested that we use the old 'he for she' campaign and change it to 'she for she' and start working on our relationships with each other as women. That is our new priority in Colorado for sure.



Liz and Sandra both asked everyone to memorize our mission statement and spread the word:

NFBPWC USA develops the business, professional, and leadership potential of women on all levels through education, advocacy, mentoring, networking, skill building and economic empowerment programs and projects.

Our founder, Dr. Lena Madesin Phillips, quickly sensed in 1919 what power could be generated by a national movement to organize all women who had a business or profession. It has since grown to national and international fame. Get ready for the 2020 Triennial convention in Orlando FL and make sure you start saving up! Everyone from around the world will be there. In Egypt we had around one thousand wonderful women in

native outfits. This is our 100th anniversary! Everyone that can come should attend. It's a once in a lifetime experience. Also, don't forget we have the annual CSW63 coming up in February or March of 2019 at the UN in New York City. Many are already planning to go to that.

Enjoy your August and remember to hop on a committee and help women/girls in Colorado to move forward and grow for the good of ALL WOMEN everywhere. CEDAW is one way to do that. Contact me to get involved. It's not that hard!

NFBPWC Florida

Interim Executive Committee 2018-2019:

Liz Benham Interim President Colleen Kelly Interim Treasurer Patricia Harris Interim Secretary

Dawne Richards Interim Vice President of Advocacy

For more information about this club, go to: https://www.nfbpwc.org/Florida



The convention exceeded our expectations. South Florida Secretary Patty Harris (*pictured to the left at the podium*) read our club summary at the Board of Directors meeting on Friday.

Meeting enthusiastic, beautiful women from 18 countries with such energy was truly inspiring. We found many had been a member of BPW for 30 + years and attended many conventions. It was apparent how the clubs gave many a voice and experience in making noteworthy contributions to their communities.

We especially enjoyed the "Heart of a Woman" breakout session lead by Maya Ford from the Houston Club. Great community effort to educate women on the risks of heart disease.

The reports from St Kitts and Jamaica were fabulous. We want to travel to St Martin to help rebuild their economy after the hurricane. Beautiful women with beautiful hearts. We could have spent the whole week networking with them.

And meeting the incoming President, Sandy Thompson, was a real treat. Really impressed by the entire event! We were so happy that Liz encouraged us to attend.

We look forward to expanding our club initiatives and growth with Immediate Past Pres Liz Benham whom we now have all to ourselves!



HARRIETT ELAM-THOMAS (PICTURED ABOVE)

Thanks,

Colleen Kelly Patricia Harris Carol Lambert Joanne Goodwin



NFBPWC President Sandy Thompson at the podium next to Outgoing NFBPWC President Liz Benham (to her right)

NFBPWC La Grange-Chicago Affiliate

Executive Committee 2017-2018:

Kathleen Ray President
Barbara Yong Vice President
Barbara Miller Secretary
Mary Lou Lowery Treasurer

For more information about this club, go to: https://www.nfbpwc.org/LaGrange-Chicago

NFBPWC New York City Affiliate

Executive Committee:

Francesca Burack President

Harriet Friedlander Vice-President of Membership

Julia Forman Secretary

Isabella Hutchinson Young NFBPWC Michelle Kawka Webmistress

For more information about this club, go to: www.NFBPWC-NYC.org

NFBPWC North Carolina

Executive Committee 2018-2019:

Barbara Bozeman President
Jazmin Caldwell Vice-President
Julie Ueleke Recording Secretary
Marsha Riibner-Cady Nominations Chair

For more information about this club, go to: https://www.nfbpwc.org/NorthCarolina

Report Respectfully Submitted by Marsha Riibner-Cady

Currently we have 20 members.

Three of our members attended Congress in Orlando. Barbara Bozeman, current BPW/NC president, Mary Lou Babinski and me (Marsha Riibner-Cady) past state presidents. We had a wonderful time meeting all our national and international BPW sisters. It made us sad we didn't go to Cairo! We decided we would make up for it by actively participating in NFBPWC. I was voted to become the new secretary and Barbara Bozeman will be helping with the Women Joining Forces Program.

Attached are some pictures of us at congress. We thank Liz and the entire committee for the excellent program and all their hard work to make the event a success.



Pictured from Left to Right: Marsha, Barbara, Goofy, Mary Lou, and our adopted NC Sister Titi

Our future goals with NC include recruiting more members and finding a project to bring our members together. We will choose one of the 17 global goals to work on during the upcoming year. We plan on bringing at least 6 members to the 2020 convention. Can you imagine 3 additional NC women attending? Watch out for us!



Marsha receiving an award from Megan Shellman, NFBPWC VP Membership



Pictured from Left to Right: Mary Lou, Marsha and Barbara

Report Respectfully Submitted by Barbara Bozeman

Pictured to the right is a closer look at the bracelets presented by outgoing President Liz Benham to the newly elected Executive Committee for NFBPWC. They have been crafted by NC BPW members Julie Ueleke and Tracy Minchin. If you are interested in finding out more about them, or ordering these bracelets, please contact Julie and Tracy via: julie@dandelionbling.com. The price per bracelet is \$20





Even the journey to the NFBPWC General Assembly and Conference in Orlando, included time for some "leadership learning." Shown above, Marsha Riibner-Cady, President of the NFBPWC-NC, spent the 90-minute flight soaking in some leadership tips from "A Leadership Growth Journey" an article from the May issue of Strategic Finance. (http://sfmagazine.com/post-entry/may-2018-a-leadership-growth-journey/)

Pennsylvania Affiliate Chapter

Executive Committee:

Nancy Werner President
Cathy Collins Vice-President
Marion Waelchli Recording Secretary

Nancy Thomas Treasurer

Laura Whetstone Parliamentarian
Cathy Collins Membership

Lilly Gioia Advocacy/Public Policy

For more information about this club, go to: https://www.nfbpwc.org/Pennsylvania

By: Nancy Werner, EPW-PA President

"A Dream is a Wish Your Heart Makes" could not have been more appropriate as three members from the PA Affiliate made their dream come true by traveling to the Orlando, Florida for the NFBPWC 5th Biennial General Assembly and Conference from July 20-21, 2018. Trying to keep pace with Cinderella was no easy feat. Cathy Collins, Denice Robinson and I arrived on Thursday to take a good look at the beautiful hotel, the Hilton Lake Buena Vista Palace, and explore its many lovely surroundings. But it was the meeting of the many members who traveled from California, Colorado, Texas, Michigan, North Carolina, New York, Florida and PA that made us see the bigger picture of the NFBPWC. There was lots of discussions and networking taking place.



With our Mickey Mouse ears, sunglasses, visors, and definite Florida look, Denice Robinson, Nancy Werner, and Cathy Collins, all dressed for the promotion for the upcoming 2020 International Conference. Everyone sang a revised song, "We Have The Whole World in Our Hands" with words to fit the IFBPWC and the NFBPWC. It received a 99 on the Pop Chart! Another memory from the conference. (We gave our ears to members of the North American and Caribbean Islands as gifts.)

We experienced many pages of by law changes, advocacy platform recommendations and a good look at the financials of the organization. But we did have a highlight for PA. I received a certificate of appreciation for my work towards the increase of membership growth and the support of the National Federation. I was most humbled but most appreciative of the member back in PA that offered so much information on me. That was a huge surprise. Thank you, Laura.

The blending of the North America and the Caribbean Regional Conference with our General Assembly showed empowerment as we met so many members from Canada and the islands. All the members were motivated to make a difference and share their success stories as a BPW member. Plus we had so many



NANCY WERNER GETTING A HUGE HUG FROM HER FAVORITE DISNEY DOG, PLUTO. HE CAME TO BREAKFAST WITH HER.

International leaders join us and they each had a message to share with us.



PICTURED LEFT: NANCY WERNER ACCEPTING A CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION FROM MEGAN SHELLMAN, NFBPWC VP OF MEMBERSHIP

Almost forgot, we had another highlight with my being elected to the NFBBPWC Officer position of Second VP/Advocacy for 2018-2020. The installation by Bessie Hironimus, International Relations Chair, was most meaningful as we continue to expand our goals for increased national membership. This was a heart made wish for a dream that came true.

NFBPWC El Paso Texas West

Executive Committee:

Gloria M. Flores President

Lolita Del Pozo 1st Vice President Rocio Sate Gonzales 2nd Vice President

Blanca Horcasitas Treasurer Josie Saenz Secretary

El Paso West meets the second Tuesday of every month at 11:00 a.m. at the Paco Wong Restaurant.

For more information, please email: Gloria_m.flores@elp.rr.com

For more information about this club, go to: https://www.nfbpwc.org/Texas-El-Paso-West

NFBPWC Houston

Executive Committee:

Paola Ferrari President

Simin Banister 1st Vice President of Membership

Desyre Morgan Vice President At Large

Sheryl Tuttle Treasurer

Maya Ford Recording Secretary

Soheila (Sue) Nawamooz Events Chair

For more information about this club, go to: https://www.nfbpwc.org/Texas-Houston

NFBPWC Paso Del Norte

For more information about this club, go to: https://www.nfbpwc.org/Texas-Paso-del-Norte

NFBPWC Virtual Club

For more information, you can visit the website at: https://www.nfbpwc.org/Virtual

Or email: ccbpw@aol.com

Executive Committee:

Carol Comito President Sue Oser Secretary Leona Phillips Treasurer

NFBPWC Young BPW

For more information, you can visit the website at: https://www.nfbpwc.org/Young-BPW

- Photos, poems, collages, and creative writings are welcome for submissions for future newsletters.
- State and Local Chapters Have you reached a milestone or an accomplishment that you would like to share? Toot your own Horn!

Send your submissions to Michele Guarino at: Michele@ASecondOffice.com

DISCLAIMER: We reserve the right to reject any submissions that are not in line with the mission statement of The National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs.

Submission Deadline for the September eNewsletter is Monday, August 27th at 5:00 pm Mountain Time