



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

## February 2019 Newsletter

### Upcoming Events

#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

#### Momentum Club Meeting via Zoom

5 January 2019

8:00 AM Pacific | 9:00 AM Mountain | 10:00 AM Central | 11:00 AM Eastern

Register to attend: <https://www.nfbpwc.org/event-3233657>

#### NFBPWC Board Meeting

4 April 2019

Reports are due to Marsha Riibner-Cady by 28 March 2019 at:  
[secretary.bpw@nfbpwc.org](mailto:secretary.bpw@nfbpwc.org)

#### CSW63 (2019)

11 March 2019 to 22 March 2019

United Nations Headquarters in New York



#### Regional Presidents' Meeting

9 August 2019

Montreal, Canada

#### XXX BPW International Congress (2020)

21 August 2020 to 26 August 2020

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

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**Submission Deadline for the March eNewsletter is Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 pm Mountain Time**

## 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.*

### **Focus Issue**

*Elimination of Sexual Harassment and Sexual Abuse Against Working Women*

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

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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  
Finance, Lourdes Reyna, Paso del Norte  
Health, Marion Waelchli, Pennsylvania  
Mentoring Taskforce Chair, Titilola Adisa, Momentum  
International Liaison, Bessie Hironimus, California  
Leadership & Learning, Kathy Kelly, Colorado  
Public Relations, Daneene Rusnak, Virtual

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Bessie.hironimus@bpw-international.org  
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daneene1124@gmail.com

### **Special Committees:**

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

michele@asecondoffice.com  
manjulum@aol.com

### **Taskforce:**

Elimination of Sexual Harassment, Jackie Melvin  
Rapid Response – Linda Wilson

jamelvin@pacbell.net  
lindalwilson@juno.com

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



By: Sandy Thompson  
President, NFBPWC

Greetings!

I hope you are all off to a wonderful 2019!

I began my year by attending a conference in San Diego that was put on by the National Women's History Alliance (formerly Project). It was a conference to discuss ways to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment Women Win the Vote!

It was an amazing weekend with women (and a few men) from all over the United States. Many states are having celebrations. If you are interested in resources for a celebration, please let me know and I will get you some information.

There is one project called Pasadena 2020 and they are looking to have a float next January 1 in the Rose Parade. The lady heading up this endeavor is a former BPW member from North Carolina. She is 89 years old and determined to see a float in the parade. I will be attending their kickoff meeting the end of January so we will see if we can get the BPW name out there.

I am also hoping to work with my local library to have a display and program(s) next year. This is a great way to get our name out into the community. If anyone is interested in doing something similar, let me know and I will be happy to share what we come up with. The great things about libraries is they usually have the facilities to hold programs and places to display memorabilia.

We will soon have a new National brochure. A huge thanks to VP Megan for designing our brochure and working with the printer. This was above and beyond her duties and she did an outstanding job. If you would like some, please let me know.

*Now on to our History we move into the 1950's*

BPW Foundation was incorporated in 1956, creating a branch to provide research, information, career development programs and scholarships to disadvantaged women, as well as workshops and other training opportunities. While the Foundation is no longer associated with NFBPWC it still exists but no longer is providing scholarships.

## Remember February is Heart month.

*Roses are Red, Violets are Blue*

*I take care of my heart, I hope you do too!*



## Update on Tom's Shoes (End Gun Violence)

Tom's shoes will be delivering over 700,000 postcards to Congress on February 5th. These postcards are to request legislation to require a universal background check prior to being able to purchase a gun. I also understand that such legislation will be introduced this session.

## Celebrate Our 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday

As one way to celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> birthday this year, we are looking at going on a cruise. Here is some info:

Carnival Sunrise to the Bahamas

- Depart Ft. Lauderdale, Fl. Thursday November 7<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m.
- Return to Ft. Lauderdale on Monday November 11<sup>th</sup> at 8 a.m.

On the November 8<sup>th</sup>, we would be at sea and can have a celebration on board.

Cost:

- Ocean View around \$300
- Balcony \$450
- Suite \$650

Rates are per person and based on double occupancy.

If you are interested (no commitment), please email [cruise@nfbpwc.org](mailto:cruise@nfbpwc.org) by February 10<sup>th</sup>.

We need to know if enough people are interested in order for us to reserve some cabins. Please indicate the type of room you would like.

Hopefully we can get together for a fun time and celebrate our organization!

## 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

### Human Rights – 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

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

By: Megan Shellman  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of Membership, NFBPWC

### Which NFBPWC Benefit is most valuable to you?

As our organization continues to grow, we are often asked what value there is to be a part of NFBPWC as a member. The \$45 from your annual membership fee that goes to NFBPWC provides you with many tangible and intangible benefits. From marketing opportunities and formal programs to friendships with women from all over the world, the advantages of being a member are immeasurable when you take advantage of what is offered.

Please email Megan Shellman, 1<sup>st</sup> VP of Membership, with any questions about the opportunities available to all members and share with us which membership opportunity holds the most value to you: [mshellman@bpwcolorado.org](mailto:mshellman@bpwcolorado.org).

NFBPWC members can support their business and professions by utilizing the following benefits:

- Grow through NFBPWC's formal **Leadership and Learning Program**.
- Share your successes on the **NFBPWC Showcase**: <https://www.nfbpwc.org/Our-Showcase>.
- **The Business Network**, <https://www.nfbpwc.org/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 (Email [mshellman@bpwcolorado.org](mailto:mshellman@bpwcolorado.org) to apply for this opportunity.)
- Formal **Mentoring Program** for mentees and mentors.

Are you passionate about women's issues? You can participate and explore benefits only available to members:

- 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.
- **Advocate for women's issues** on a national and international level and **cultivate worldwide friendships** in one of the original women's networking organizations!

### Momentum Club:

The National Federation Business and Professional Women's Momentum Club (NFBPW Momentum Club) is a closed group that operates as a platform from which new BPW clubs/chapters, affiliates, and federations will launch. Current members of NFBPWC who wish to help open a new club or want to connect and support membership growth are welcome to attend. Individuals who would like to start a club in their area are welcome to attend and are invited to join the NFBPWC Momentum Club.

Learn more about the Momentum Club and help us grow and thrive by attending the next meeting on February 5<sup>th</sup> via Zoom at 11:00 AM EST. Topics for the Momentum Club meetings are designed to help the members start



their own club and continue the growth of this vibrant organization. Register to attend: <https://www.nfbpwc.org/event-3233657>.

## NFBPWC Virtual:

We welcome all members and individuals to participate in this club and to learn more about growing our organization. If you do not have access to a local affiliation or federation, please consider starting a new club in your area or joining our NFBPWC Virtual. The Virtual club meets monthly and provides a variety of incredible topics with dynamic speakers. (Membership dues to NFBPWC Virtual start at \$60 annually – January to December - for members not associated with another NFBPWC organization.) Click here for more information: [NFBPWC Virtual](#).

## FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY

By: Marsha Riibner-Cady  
Secretary, NFBPWC

Just a reminder:

Our next board of director's meeting will be on April 4, 2019. Board reports are due to me on or before March 28, 2019.

If you would like a quick tutorial on our conference call system, let me know so we can set something up before the next meeting.

Please send me a list of your current officers so that I can update our records.

Happy new year to all. Looking forward to "seeing" you soon!

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT – THERESA M. SZCZUREK, PH.D., CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



NFBPWC would like to congratulate Dr. Theresa M. Szczurek on her new role as the Governor's Office of Information Technology (OIT) Chief Information Officer and Executive Director for the State of Colorado. We are proud that Dr. Szczurek of our Colorado affiliate, BPW Colorado (Boulder), has the honor of serving in the cabinet for Governor Jared Polis. The Governor had this to say about his cabinet:

*"This cabinet is one of the most talented groups of people I've had the pleasure of working with," said Governor Jared Polis. (<https://www.colorado.gov/governor/news/gov-polis-announces-new-cabinet-members>)*

As NFBPWC continues to grow and thrive, it is important to remember how empowering it is to see fellow members succeed. We are very excited to put the member spotlight on

Dr. Theresa M. Szczurek as we share this accomplishment and the numerous others from her exciting career and life as a leader.

Dr. Theresa M. Szczurek, a serial technology entrepreneur and role model for technology leaders, is a senior global executive and strategist who has led and served on the Board of Directors of business-oriented organizations. She is a dynamic business leader in telecommunications, software, and technology industries with experience producing extraordinary results. Engineer who co-founded three technology ventures. Financial manager with multi-million dollar P&L responsibility in global, publicly-traded and private companies who demonstrated business and operating shrewdness. Innovative thinker who established vision and values, developed strategies, and executed plans necessary to create new businesses, drive explosive market growth, and produce performance in highly competitive business segments.

As the Governor's Office of Information Technology (OIT) Chief Information Officer and Executive Director, Theresa is responsible for the operation and delivery of information and communications technology services for over 31,000 state agency employees across 1,300 locations. She leads more than 900 staff at OIT to support Executive Branch agencies with missions critical to "serving people serving Colorado." In her role as a member of Governor Polis' Cabinet, Szczurek has jumped boldly into making a meaningful difference in the lives of Coloradans through innovation.

Theresa is co-founder and former Chief Executive Officer of Boulder-based Radish Systems, LLC. Radish 2.0 ( [www.RadishSystems.com](http://www.RadishSystems.com) ), an award-winning private enterprise software firm, was launched to develop the innovative ChoiceView® – a visual interactive voice response, visual phonebot, visual chatbot, and live assistance platform. This new product is revolutionizing how people use their mobile devices to buy products, receive complex information, conduct business, and obtain customer support or technical assistance.

Previously as co-founder, board member, and Chief Planning Officer of RCS (i.e., Radish 1.0), Szczurek was key in transforming the telecom start-up into a thriving firm that sold for over \$40 million. As CEO of consulting firm Technology and Management Solutions, LLC, she uses her skills to help clients build revenues and profits, transform customers into loyal champions, and build a passionate workforce.

In addition to guiding the board of Radish Systems, Theresa currently serves on non-profit boards: University of Colorado Boulder Alumni Association and Girl Scouts of Colorado Membership Connection Board Committee. Past board service includes: State of Colorado Information Management Commission and private, for-profit companies: Hybrids Plus, Taps Are Talking, and Ecology House. For her board work to guide economic development through business incubation, she received Colorado Technology Incubator (i.e., CTEK) Model of Excellence and Board Member Service Awards. Theresa is a Certified Management Consultant (CMC®) with the Institute of Management Consultants and served on its Board.

Szczurek began her career with seven years at Bell Telephone Laboratories and AT&T International, first designing and greatly improving performance of business information systems, and then producing large-scale revenue growth by managing their delivery into world markets. Theresa wrote the Amazon-bestseller, Pursuit of Passionate Purpose , which provides her proven, step-by-step formula for success. Recognized internationally as a guru in entrepreneurship and business incubation, she co-authored Financing High Technology Ventures with executives from the Polish Chamber of Commerce. Her first book is Champions of Technological Change: How Organizations Successfully Implement New Technology . A highly awarded professional, she was a columnist for Telecom Reseller, BizWest, and Colorado Biz Magazine.

Szczurek has a thirst for helping the underprivileged. Szczurek joined Business and Professional Women of Colorado (BPW/Colorado) in 1985 as the Young Careerist and has been active in a range of roles since then. She received the Woman of the Year from BPW/Boulder, a Spirit Award from BPW/Colorado and National Issues Award from BPW/USA for helping women be competitive in worldwide trade. She was also honored with the BPW



Visionary Award for spearheading the non-profit Colorado BPW Foundation's ( [www.cwef.org](http://www.cwef.org) )endowment campaign to help women attain economic self- sufficiency through education.

Theresa holds a M.S. in Operations Research from Stanford University and an MBA and Ph.D. in Business Administration (with focus in Marketing & Organization Development) from the University of Colorado. After growing up in the Chicago area, she has lived in Colorado for decades with her husband Richard and daughter Annie. She loves the outdoors, dancing, and being a life-time Girl Scout and leader.

Congratulations Dr. Theresa M. Szczurek! Send your own congratulations to her at: [tms1@att.net](mailto:tms1@att.net).

*\*If you're interested in being featured in a future NFBPWC Member Spotlight, please email Megan Shellman at [mshellman@bpwcolorado.org](mailto:mshellman@bpwcolorado.org).*

## LEADER SPOTLIGHT – MEGAN SHELLMAN, NFBPWC 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT FOR MEMBERSHIP



Megan Shellman lives in Arvada, Colorado with a packed household: husband, two children, two cats, two dogs, many houseplants and an organic vegetable garden. She was born and raised in Southern Colorado, but has found a home in Boulder, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, France and Sanborn Western Camps.

Ms. Shellman has served in leadership positions for NFBPWC and BPW since 2008, 3 months after she joined the organization. She began her service as the Chair of BPW Boulder's Celebration of Women event and was honored to be the 2nd place winner of the 2008 BPW Colorado Young Careerist competition. As she grew with BPW, Megan served as the BPW Boulder President for 2 years, the BPW Colorado President for 2 years, the BPW International Sub-Regional Coordinator for Canada and the United States for the N. American and Caribbean Region from 2015-2018, and the BPW Colorado Vice President of Membership for 1 year. Megan is now

serving a second term as the 1st Vice President of Membership for NFBPWC and continues to serve as a member of several committees at the national, state, and local level.

Megan holds a Bachelor of Arts, communication major, from the University of Colorado at Boulder and a Master of Science, organizational leadership major, from Colorado State University. Megan has more than 25 years of experience in a wide variety of disciplines. She brings her former experience in the entertainment industry, strategic and green event planning, advertising sales, print and digital marketing, retail sales, publication and book production, nonprofit leadership, business development and operations management to bear as the owner of her own company: Simple Synergy Consulting. She offers concierge business consulting services to nonprofits, small businesses, and entrepreneurs. Megan is an accomplished change agent with a skill for connecting people in the face of adversity.

As always, please take a moment to thank all of our leaders who volunteer their time, experience, and passion to help this organization thrive and grow.

## ADVOCACY NEWS BY NANCY WERNER

By: Nancy Werner  
NFBPWC, 2nd Vice President of Advocacy

### Equal Rights Update

## Introduction of a Bipartisan Measure to Ensure Women Equal Rights in the Constitution and Virginia Votes Down ERA

**HOT OFF THE NEWSWIRES (1/25/19)** - U.S. Senators Ben Cardin (D-Md.) and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) announced Friday the introduction of a Senate Resolution (S.J.Res.6) that would immediately reopen consideration of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). The resolution would immediately remove the ratification deadline and revive the consideration of the ERA by the states. It would guarantee full and equal protections to women in the Constitution. Article V of the Constitution contains no time limits for ratifications of amendments. And the states finally ratified the Twenty-Seventh Amendment in 1992 regarding Congressional pay raises more than 200 years after Congress proposed it in 1789 as part of the original Bill of Rights. The ERA time limit was contained in a joint resolution, not the actual text of the amendment, and Congress has already once voted to extend the ERA ratification.

It is amazing how many Americans do not realize that the U.S. Constitution does not guarantee women the same rights and protections as men. Here we are nearing 100 years since women fought and earned the right to vote. But for the ERA to be incorporated into the Constitution, we need 38 states to ratify.

Thirty-seven states of the 38 needed have already ratified the amendment, which was first proposed in 1972. Illinois was the last state to ratify the ERA in May 2018. Nevada ratified in March 2017. Only one more state is needed among: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Utah or Virginia.

Now which state should we be focusing our attention-Virginia? In the past year, pro ERA Democratic candidates were elected: Governor, Lt. Governor, and the Attorney General with solid majorities in the House of Delegates. We received emails to contact those whom we knew in Virginia to encourage them to call their representatives. We were so optimistic that we were in striking distance even with the gerrymandered districts that favored Republicans. We were winning so many seats previously thought impossible to attain in Virginia.

BUT today on January 25, 2019, our hopes were dashed. The Roanoke Times published that a Republican controlled committee voted down the gender-equality measure. It is all but dead for this year. Disappointment is not quite the word but we have to "believe." We need to focus on the other 12 states.

Remember the Equal Rights Amendment. It reads as follows:

Section 1. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United State 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.

If two U.S. Senators are willing to cosponsor the bipartisan resolution to the Equal Rights Amendment, then we too can push forward. Senator Murkowski shared, "Women's equality is fundamental to the American way of life and needs to be expressly recognized in the Constitution."

## UNITED NATIONS CORNER BY ELIZABETH VANARDENNE

By: Elizabeth Vanardenne  
NFBPWC United Nations Liaison



To stay on track to realize the SDG's, 2019 will be a critical year for the 2030 Agenda. There will be two High-level Political Forums, one in July under the auspices of ECOSOC, and in September under the auspices of the General Assembly.

Even though progress is being made, gaps are evident. The world has increasing inequality and it is facing armed conflicts, humanitarian and environmental crises, as well as economic, financial and climate challenges.

### UN HAPPENINGS

History was made on December 10. Over 160 countries adopted the "**Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.**"

The 2-day conference was held in Marrakesh, Morocco.

**Finally!** The Global Compact will be focusing on conditions in origin countries; preparations for departures; the migration process; border management; conditions in destination countries; contributions of migrants to development and migrant return and reintegration.

The Global Compact was endorsed by the General Assembly on December 19 and implementation should take place right-away.



In October, the General Assembly adopted formally the "**DECLARATION on THE RIGHTS of PEASANTS & OTHER PEOPLES working in RURAL AREAS.**"

It was approved by a recorded vote of 119 in favor, 7 against, 49 abstentions. It was a victory above all for the peasants themselves, who had been asking for this through their representatives for years. The High Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms. Bachelet, mentioned in a statement: "I hope this Declaration will serve to enhance States' commitment at all levels to uphold and protect the rights and dignity of peasants and other people working in rural areas. They play a critical role in preserving our culture, environment, livelihood and traditions, and must not be left behind as we implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."

### Making every drop count - a decade for action.

Access to clean water and sanitation is a basic human right that affects our health and our safety. We need safe water to drink every day and we need adequate sanitation facilities to ensure that everyone has the ability to attend school or work. And we need to manage the flow of wastewater safely. But we have a long way to go! Today, about 4.5 billion people lack safely managed sanitation services, and about 2.5 billion people (36% of the world's population) live in water-scarce regions. More than 2 billion people must drink contaminated water. Globally, 80% of wastewater flows back into the ecosystem without being treated or reused, and droughts and floods are increasing as a result of our changing climate. However.....

Last March on World Water Day the **Water Action Decade** was launched to halt the growing water crisis. It is known as the **International Decade (2018-2028) for Action - Water for Sustainable Development.** The Decade puts

greater focus on sustainable development and an integrated management of water resources to achieve social, economic and environmental objectives, energizing the implementation and promotions of programs and projects. Countries and organizations around the world are already implementing this plan by sharing their experiences on a new website for the decade: [www.wateractiondecade.org](http://www.wateractiondecade.org) ( <http://www.wateractiondecade.org>)

FOLLOW-UP of my report in January on the important meeting on Climate Change (called COP 24), which was taking place on 12/2 till 12/14, in Poland. The outcome is very disheartening!!

After 2 weeks of intense negotiations urgent solutions were dismissed. Even the Women and Gender Constituency (WGC), representing people at the front lines of climate change, could not change the dangerous dismissal and silencing of the real, system changing solutions. But you can be sure that the WGC will keep on fighting and will attend every climate change event.

<http://womengenderclimate.org/>.

Communities of concerned persons throughout the world will continue to put into place real solutions, from the grassroots up, to save our planet and people.

### NEWS FROM OUR GLOBAL SISTERS

**AFGHANISTAN** - In spite of many dangers in the country the Ministry of Education will recruit 30,000 female teachers within 5 years to increase the presence of women not only in the education sector, but to boost up access to education to deprived girls and pave the way for women's economic self-sufficiency.

**ARGENTINA** - Women are speaking out against gender violence. A large mural in Buenos Aires reads "Without equality there is no justice." The women's movement gained great visibility after an explosion of reports of sexual violence against women and children. President Mauricio Macri announced the inclusion of a bill that establishes mandatory training on the gender perspective for public officials of all branches of power.

**CHINA** - Sophia Huang is among a group of feminists, working mostly out of Guangzhou, who have launched and nurtured China's #MeToo movement. A wave of anger that started on campuses has breached the heavy barriers of internet and media censorship. But they have to walk a careful line: balancing their anger and frustration against a regime that has cracked down on any group that might threaten its power. They don't mobilize crowds or state public protests, instead, they come up with feasible solutions that don't challenge the state.

**INDIA** - Women in India are casting their ballots more frequently and in greater numbers. Today, women's turnout has actually been higher than that of men in two-thirds of India's state elections. This is a remarkable turn of events in a deeply patriarchal, conservative society. The women are steadily becoming more literate, educated and wealthier and this could be making them more politically aware. And as they become more politically mobilized, this seems to be changing how Indian candidates campaign and how they govern once they are in office. As India gears up for the 2019 general elections, women's status has become a focal point of campaign rhetoric. Prime Minister Modi has made female-friendly policies a hallmark of his platform. The number of female candidates has gone up, but that is still a long way to go.

**NORTH & SOUTH KOREA** - Reflecting on breakthroughs that brought an easing of tensions on the Korean peninsula in the past year, Thomas Ojea Quintana, the UN Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, urged the DPRK Government to allow him to visit the country. Up to now, the North has refused to cooperate. Quintana said that the human rights situation remains "unchanged" and continues to be "extremely serious." 2019 will represent a critical test, not only for peace and de-nuclearization but also for human rights. Women from the south and their networks have been reaching out to women in the north. At a Human Rights Council Side Event in Geneva a proposal was launched to establish a "Peacebuilding/Partnership Meeting Place for Women" in or near the DMZ.



**TUNISIA** - Tunisia is pushing forward with legislation that would give women equal inheritance rights, despite drawing criticism from some Islamic scholars and sparking debate across the region. The draft law not only breaks with tradition but goes against a Quranic verse that stipulates men should get a share equal to that of two women. In addition to changing inheritance rights, the new law guarantees citizens a choice between following the Tunisian constitution or Sharia law. The country's President, Beji Caid Essebsi, who is a key supporter of the equality legislation, said: "Tunisia is a civil country that is based on three elements: citizenship, the will of the people, and the supremacy of law."



## LEADERSHIP & LEARNING COMMITTEE REPORT (INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM OR IDP)

By: Kathy Kelly  
Committee Chair, Leadership & Learning Committee, NFBPWC

The Lifelong Leadership & Learning Program Committee (L3P for short) is making headway on a series of modules specifically designed to support our mission statement to “develop the business, professional and leadership potential of women through education and skill building.”

We have an incredible committee that provides a range of skills, from business coaching to military leadership, IT, sales and marketing, and every level of service in NFBPWC – including past national and international presidents! This amazing team is proud to have completed the first module (Introduction, History and Benefits of NFBPWC) and Module 2 (Discovering Your Potential – **DISC** factors, **Dominance**, **Influence**, **Steadiness** and **Compliance**) is our next project. We are currently meeting twice a month via ZOOM.

We are looking for a **professional graphic designer** to help us brand these modules and make them more visually appealing.

If you can support this committee in any way, please contact Kathy Kelly, [Kathy@NewHomeMysteryShops.com](mailto:Kathy@NewHomeMysteryShops.com) or cell 303-517-6399.

Thank you.





## GREEN NEWS

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

### I'm a Nazi

No, not that kind of Nazi! But one of the definitions of the word is "a harshly domineering, dictatorial, or intolerant person." I hate to admit it but, yes, I have come off like that!



I work out at the Mapleton YMCA, and I had been noticing that someone was moving the Zero Waste station apart, leaving a space of about 12 inches between the trash, recycle, and compost bins (see the accompanying photos). The other day, I saw one of the pool lifeguards in action moving the bins, and I asked, "Oh! Are you the one who's been doing this? He replied, "You mean me, the Zero Waste Nazi?" I laughed and said, "I'm glad I'm not the only one!" He explained his thinking was that by spreading the bins out, folks will think more about what goes in which bin.

As you may know, contamination continues to be the biggest problem in recycling and composting. A few years ago, I heard that several recycling plants in the USA closed down because of contamination—people simply putting the wrong items in the wrong bins "contaminates" the material and the whole batch ends up in the landfill.

There are times when I approach people, trying to educate them. My favorite example is urging people to use real coffee cups. This is my biggest pet peeve, as we send BILLIONS of non-recyclable paper cups to the landfill EVERY DAY! I know that my personality can come off pretty strong. It took me three years to convince my church to use real cups. They did have compostable coffee cups, but I noticed that so many folks would double them to minimize the heat to their hands. Here is what I wrote to one of my fellow churchgoers in an email:



"I hope you won't be offended by me noticing on Sunday you were using two compostable coffee cups. I wanted to say something but didn't want to offend you. But after thinking about it, I wanted to point out those cups are more than twice as expensive for the church to be supplying. It's also using twice the energy to make and to 'get rid of' compost. You're not the only one I see doing that. I know folks tell me they do it so they don't burn their hands. But please consider how this action results in twice the expense to the church and the planet:

- A case of 1,000 Styrofoam cups (heaven forbid the church would use these!) is \$42.
- A case of the Eco cups the church uses is \$98.77 (\$88 on sale).

It takes resources to produce the cups, transportation to get them here, and more transportation to take them to the commercial compost center. Personally, I feel like it's just another way of living as a "disposable society." Good when it's needed, but reuse and reuse are always so much more important."

This person wrote me back; she was offended and said I was shaming her. I answered by apologizing; that was certainly not my intention.

Believe it or not, I am aware of my behavior and am always working on better communication skills. It's just that I am so darn passionate! I love the times when I'm in a really good and silly mood, using my sense of humor to help others by making a positive statement first about how well they are doing something before I point out a mistake.

We all need to be talking about climate change and the things we can do to fight it. When at restaurants, I've made it a habit to say right away, "I don't need a plastic straw with my water, please; thank you." Or when I notice a business in the city of Boulder that does not have recycle or compost bins, I either speak with the manager or email them to remind them of the Zero Waste Ordinance. I was surprised to speak with a couple of residents of Boulder just recently who did not even know about this ordinance, which was passed in 2016. The ordinance requires that all residential homes and all businesses in the city of Boulder to have trash, recycle, and compost. You can learn more about it here: <https://bouldercolorado.gov/zero-waste>.

I liken talking about environmental issues to talking about mental illness and suicide. About 30 years ago, it was very hush-hush to bring up this topic, as there were so many stigmas attached. But once we started talking about it and became more educated, things got much better!

So, yes, I'm going to keep on being a Zero Waste Nazi, but continue trying to do it better by being kinder. I learn from my mentors, "Earthy Man" (check out his fun website <http://xoearth.org/>) and Bonnie Sundance (I call her Miss Mother Nature; her website is <http://www.our-sacred-earth.org>), as they are so upbeat and positive all the time! But I realize that even if I try to be as nice as possible, people might still get offended, taking it personally. Recently, a supportive friend helped me when I was concerned that maybe I should stop sharing my thoughts by reminding me to think of it like planting a seed. When one plants a seed, you have to dig up some dirt, and you might get a little dirty. OK, I'm willing to get a little dirty for all of us on this beautiful planet!

And now where we left off with Pope Francis's Encyclical: *Praise Be to You Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home*:

*Climate as a common good*

25. Climate change is a global problem with grave implications: environmental, social, economic, political and for the distribution of goods. It represents one of the principal challenges facing humanity in our day. Its worst impact will probably be felt by developing countries in coming decades. Many of the poor...

Read the entire encyclical: [POPE FRANCIS](#)

<https://laudatosi.com/watch>

### 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>

## SIGN THE PETITION TO BAN POLYSTYRENE TO-GO CONTAINERS

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

Hello to all my BPW colleagues!

BPW Colorado and NFBPWC are supporting these campaigns below. PLEASE take a minute to sign the petition for Colorado if you are in Colorado and also I have included the link to support it nationally in every state. Spread the word by sharing with your friends by email and social media.

Please read about the campaign by Eco-Cycle and Environment Colorado to ban polystyrene to-go containers in our state (<http://www.ecocycle.org/take-action/reduce-plastic#Sign%20Letter>), an initiative that Business and Professional Women of Colorado ([www.bpwcolorado.org](http://www.bpwcolorado.org)) is supporting. Yes, your signature on this petition WILL make a difference! I strongly urge you to keep containers for leftovers from restaurants, along with your reusable shopping bags, in your car. You may say to yourself, "Ah, using one such container won't help anything." But multiply this action by thousands from other consumers out there, it adds up fast! You DO make a difference!

And here is how to support the ban throughout the entire United States National Campaign at <https://environmentamerica.org/feature/ame/wildlife-over-waste>

In addition, BPW Boulder Chapter is supporting the Vessel project, making reusable coffee cups available for borrowing at local coffee shops. You can learn more about that at <https://www.facebook.com/vesselwrks>

Thanks again!  
Laurie D

## HEALTH COMMITTEE REPORT BY MARION WAELSCHLI

By: Marion Waelschli  
NFBPW Health Committee Chair

February is American Heart health month. Please don't forget to have a checkup. Exercise is the best way to go about having a healthy and happy life.

Get your blood pressure checked as well. With our weather it be snow, mud ... remember to PUSH, do not lift, that puts strain on your heart. If perhaps you are out of shape or sedentary, take it easy. There are different heart problems between

men and women. Women often don't recognize the signs. Something as little as a toothache, pain in your shoulder or arm that comes and goes, please don't ignore these signs. Stay safe and healthy.

February first is National Wear Red Day, let's strut our red. A second chance to wear red is Valentine's day, enjoy!

\*\*\*Please don't forget to get your flu shot, it's not too late.\*\*\*



## SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND SEXUAL ABUSE AGAINST WORKING WOMEN COMMITTEE

By: Jackie Melvin, NFBPWC Task Force Chair  
[jamelvin@pacbell.net](mailto:jamelvin@pacbell.net)

### CONGRESSIONAL SUCCESS

The Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 Reform Act was passed in Congress before it recessed for the December holidays and before the new Congress took its seat in January and was signed by the President. Kudos to Senator Amy Klobuchar in maneuvering this bi-partisan bicameral bill through the Senate to make perpetrators of sexual harassment within the U.S. Capitol environment liable for their own financial settlements rather than the taxpayers, and for simplifying the victim's process of making a claim. Congresswoman Jackie Speir spearheaded previous passage in the House. This is the first significant bill to get through the Congressional process and be signed by the President.

Congresspersons Speir and Bradley Byrne [R-AL] have announced they will introduce new legislation in the new Congress to reinstate the provisions omitted or altered by the Senate.

### MOONES MONIES

RALLY, the agent for CBS, has decided who should receive some \$20 million in grants as reparation for the sexual harassment activities of its former CEO Leslie Moonves and has informed NFBPWC that we are not one of the 18 organizations selected to receive their monies. "We were looking for established organizations that are working in three key areas of pipeline and leadership development for women; training, education and culture change; and victim's support. In all we vetted more than 100 organizations to assess each one's existing work, successes, proposed work, and ability to absorb funds." Among the first announced were Women in Film Los Angeles, Producer's Guild of America, Time's Up Entertainment, Time's Up Legal Defense Fund, the National Women's Law Center, and the New York Women's Foundation for programs they are initiating to achieve these areas.

Additionally, after a four-month investigation, CBS's Board of Directors said it was stripping its former CEO of his \$120-million severance package over allegations of sexual misconduct, and that it had grounds to fire him for cause after he committed "willful and material misfeasance".

*LA Times* [12-18-18] journalist Meg James noted: He becomes the highest-profile media executive to watch his career - and his once-sterling legacy - collapse under the weight of sexual harassment allegations unearthed in the #MeToo era. Litigation is expected from Moonves, who is said to be worth \$700-million dollars, before his anticipated severance pay.

Producer Susan Zirinsky has made history with her appointment as the first female executive to head CBS News after 46 years at CBS and has said she is committed to improving the CBS News workplace.

### TIME'SUPX2

It's the second year of the Hollywood coalition and its purpose becomes a campaign to double the number of women in workplace leadership positions.

Lisa Borders, hired in October as its first president and chief executive, noted that safety in the workplace depends on equity at every level, that much change has occurred, pointing to the \$22 million raised for the Time's Up Legal Defense Fund [even before the Moonves monies], a fund-raising effort launched a year ago that has allowed at least 90 workplace sexual misconduct cases to get underway.

"It has been just one year, and the progress that has been generated has been extraordinary. The changes that are happening may look incremental, but we are going to reach a tipping point. **DIAMONDS ARE MADE OVER TIME, AND THEY TAKE PRESSURE FROM ALL SIDES TO FORM.**" [*LA Times*, 01/06/19] [The emphasis is mine.]



# 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
Elaine Wakeham	Treasurer
Trudy Waldroop	Parliamentarian

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

By: Katherine Winans, President, NFBPWC California

The new year, 2019, is underway and California *Keeps going forward!* With the diligent work of the CFBPW Public Policy Chair and Vice Chair, Barbara J Davis and Linda J Lucas respectively, the final touches on the 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Public Policy Conference have been completed. Important topics include a report from the CA Department of Fair Employment and Housing and an update from the CA Commission on the Status of Women and Girls. Work sessions on Human Trafficking and Sexual Harassment/Abuse in the workplace are also on the agenda and we will continue work on CA Bill Screening and Position Papers. It promises to be a very full weekend.

Bay Capitol District has been holding meetings in the San Francisco East Bay hosted by the Berkeley Club. The district has equalized its membership plus two.

Northern District's 2018 Fall meeting was held on September 29 in Orland which featured the Pros and Cons of the Initiatives on the November Ballot as presented by the League of Women Voters of Butte County. Their Winter 2019 meeting will be held on February 2 in Red Bluff and their annual meeting will be held in Weaverville on April 20. Northern District has three Clubs:

Chico, Weaverville and the new Oroville Club that was chartered last June. The district has equalized its membership.



Sierra Mar and Valley Sunset District have concluded another very successful Joint District Conference. The attendees 33 attending, including two guests, were from various clubs in the Southern California area. With the theme, "Empowering Women to Be Bold", the guest speakers included Dr. Emerald Archer, director of the Center for the Advancement of Women at Mount Saint Mary's University in Los Angeles and Catherine (Kathy) Wills, L.A. County Deputy Sheriff, Retired. Kathy was the first woman detective in the homicide division of the L.A. County Sheriff's Department.

PICTURED LEFT: CONFERENCE PROGRAM CHAIR  
MARJORY HOPPER WITH MORNING SPEAKER DR. EMERALD  
ARCHER

Also, on the program were BPW National President, Sandy Thompson, Sierra Mar District Program Chair Sally McMahon and Ashley Maria, member of Hollywood BPW who has been chosen to represent the Business and Professional Women (BPW) International delegation to the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW63) in NYC, March 11-22, 2019.



PICTURED ABOVE: CATHERINE "KATHY" WILLMS, FORMER LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPUTY

## NFBPWC COLORADO FEDERATION

### Executive Committee:

Deborah Fischer	President
Heidi Halus	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.BPWCColorado.org>



COLORADO WOMEN'S MARCH JANUARY 2019



By: Deborah Fischer, President, NFBPWC Colorado (2017-2019)  
[president@BPWCColorado.org](mailto:president@BPWCColorado.org)

Our Midyear Legislative Conference and Midyear Board meeting is being planned for Saturday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> hosted by BPW Aurora. The theme is: ***SHE for SHE, Women Advocating for Women.***

Our keynote speaker will be: Marsha Berzins, Aurora City Council, (<http://www.marshaberzins.com/>) with Q & A and a workshop on How to Speak So Men Will Listen will be held by Katherine McGraw Patterson, Business Strategist (<https://katherinemcgrawpatterson.com/>). Other presentations will include Peg Perl from the Women's Lobby of Colorado to present an overview of the current Legislature in regard to women's issues and explain how the Women's Lobby operates and our own BPW CO Legislative Chair, Evie Hudak, will lead a discussion of items we might want to add to the BPW CO Legislative Platform.

The BPW Colorado Midyear Board Meeting will be held in the morning. A Friday night Happy Hour will also be hosted by BPW Aurora.



## Colorado Advocacy News by Sharon Simmons

By: Sharon J. Simmons, BPW Colorado VP of Advocacy (2017-2019)  
Cities for CEDAW Task Force Secretariat/Co-Founder  
Human Relations Commission-City of Boulder, Colorado

Our intern from CU (Rebecca) is doing great and we added a new member Christina Coblisch (new member in Boulder). They are busy working on our image and Website for Celebration of Women, however it falls into the event at CU to work on visibility of BPW in our state. They are doing great so far.

### Human Relations Commission Work:

Our commission is working on affordable housing for women/families and section 8 being accepted in Boulder, which it now is due to our hard work! Homeless women/families are on our radar and we did get the Severe Shelter availability changed to all days in the winter, so they don't have to worry about being on the streets if its above 32 degrees/former level that triggered sheltering homeless. I spoke to women in the shelter here. I am learning a lot about our sisters and will work going forward on this issue.

Martin Luther King weekend was full of events that affect all people of color, including women. We made sure to have event related films/presentations represent women/families this year.

It starts Saturday January 19 through Monday January 21. I attended Monday and spread my BPW information/cards around to all who would listen.

### Women's Collaborative of Boulder County:

Join us for **International Women's Day** in Boulder (March 8) at the View of the Gallery 5:30. We will have great speakers to many women's legislative issues and fun snacks. We would love to see you there.

### Women's March:

Laurie Dameron made a meetup and event that we spread everywhere we could. There was transportation provided from Boulder she went with Theresa Szczurek, as she has a FREE parking place now that she works for Jared Polis! We are so excited for her and BPW Colorado, as well as Boulder. She will make a difference in our state. GO THERESA!

### Miscellaneous:

Rita Smith is working on Domestic Violence Against Women, especially since we have not renewed the Violence Against Women Act. She is pounding the pavement and traveling, trying to get the word out and has some great statistics she shares with us.

Sharon is working on a bill/legislation with Edie Hooten and KC Becker, helping affect laws around Modular Home Parks and what is currently going on that has never been acted on. It affects women/families and Evie Hudak is aware and following our bills on this. It has been 11 years working with Senator Kafalas trying to get some kind of regulation on these affordable homes. The greedy owners have found these parks to be gold mines of easy money and bullying the weak to get more money/cheating and making money illegally. I will follow this bill with Evie through to when I go to the capital to testify. Affordable housing affects women all over

Colorado—and Modular Homes are something that can be owned, but renting the dirt becomes a real money maker and potential for bullying/violence and cheating.

The BPW Colorado Bills Committee with Evie Hudak has had one GREAT meeting thus far, discussing bills and legislation. We are tracking every bill that affects women and giving your SUPPORT/NO SUPPORT vote on each. Then we send out final information through the Women's Lobby in CO to help get the word out via their efforts! Last year was a great year and our partnership helped we think!

### Legislative Mid-Year:

BPW Boulder will have Laurie Dameron and Sharon Simmons representing our chapter at Midyear. IS EVERYONE COMING?!? Hope to see you all there!!!

## NFBPWC FLORIDA

### Interim Executive Committee 2018-2019:

Liz Benham	Interim President
Colleen Kelly	Interim Treasurer
Lynne Hale	Secretary
Patty Harris	VP of Membership
Dawne Richards	Interim Vice President of Advocacy

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

## NFBPWC LA GRANGE-CHICAGO

### Executive Committee 2017-2018:

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

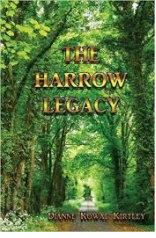
For more information about this club, go to: <https://www.nfbpwc.org/LaGrange-Chicago>

By: Kathleen Ray, President, LaGrange-Chicago BPW

LaGrange-Chicago members participated in our program agenda for 2018-19; highlights were:

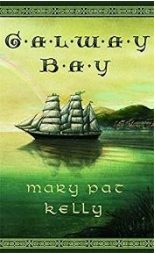
- Ravinia outdoor concert featuring Michael Feinstein & Kristin Chenoweth
- Standard Market in Westmont: wine tasting with appetizers
- Kama (Indian) Bistro for dinner

- Holiday High Tea at Suzette's Creperie in Wheaton
- Book Club upcoming February 12 with two timely works by and about working women:



*The Harrow Legacy* is set against the backdrop of the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains of Asheville, North Carolina, the cultural venues of Paris, and the Midwestern scenes and influence of Chicago. The secrets of a privileged family are bared through the voices of its five members. Well-researched book.

*Author Dianne Kowal Kirtley is our own BPW / BWC long-time member/associate. For 25 years she was a high school English teacher, department chair, and Public Relations Coordinator for a coed, college prep high school in the Chicago suburbs.*



Based on the story of the author's own Irish family, *Galway Bay* is the tale of fishermen and tenant farmers secure in their traditions, ancient faith, and communal celebrations (1839), who, due to natural and man-made disasters leading to potato blight and the Great Starvation, are forced to emigrate from Ireland to America to save themselves. We follow Honora Keeley, her sister Máire, and their two daughters and seven sons through the troubles in Ireland, the journey to Chicago, and the hardships in their new land.

*Author Mary Pat Kelly has written two novels and five non-fiction books. She has also written and directed documentaries, as well as the feature film Proud. She has a PhD from the City University of New York. She has twice been named one of the Top 100 Irish Americans by Irish America Magazine. Born and raised in Chicago, Kelly now lives on Manhattan's Upper West Side.*

- 9th Annual Equal Pay Day Rally, Daley Center Plaza, Chicago, March 28  
**ORGANIZER/Coordinator:** LaGrange-Chicago BPW Vice President Barb Yong  
**SPEAKERS:** Yet to be determined

### **5 Sponsors, 72 Supporting Organizations**

More information will be available later for the Rally and will be communicated at that time.

- May 14 will be our program planning meeting where we also elect officers for 2019-2020.

Current membership in LaGrange-Chicago club: 12.

## **NFBPWC NEW YORK CITY**

### **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](http://www.NFBPWC-NYC.org)

## NFBPWC NORTH CAROLINA

### Executive Committee 2018-2019:

Marsha Riibner-Cady	President
Barbara Bozeman	NBPWC-NC President and Momentum Club Liaison
Tracy Minchin	Concord Cabarrus Club President and NFBPWC-NC Webpage Master
Lea-Ann Berst	Co-Creator of NFBPWC-NC Facebook page
Dr. Jo Naylor	Co-Creator of NFBPWC-NC Facebook page

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



By: Marsha Riibner-Cady, President, NFBPWC North Carolina

Happy New Year from NC!

BPW/NC invite you to attend our state conference June 21-23 in Goldsboro, NC. We are happy to report that one of our featured speakers will be New York City's very own BPW president Francesca Burack! Francesca's is the Chief Fearless Officer of <https://fearlesstalentdev.com/>. Pictured (right) are our NC President Marsha Riibner-Cady meeting Francesca in NYC over the holidays in front of the famous tree in Rockefeller Center!



### Member news:

From the Mother-daughter BPW members, Lea-Ann W. Berst and Ashley Maria, (pictured below) who will be in San Francisco February 19 to keynote at the M3AAWG internet security conference (<https://www.m3aawg.org/>).



On a mission of creating diversity and inclusion education to address the issue of a male dominated membership, the organizers also asked that Lea-Ann & Ashley advance-screen the fine cut of *Pioneers in Skirts* later that evening. Along with the conference attendees, the Mayor of San Francisco has been invited along with several non-profits in the area.

The *Pioneers in Skirts* team is in post-production; finalizing music, graphics, and color correction work efforts. This is the most expensive part of the documentary filmmaking process so we encourage you to support the film by clicking here: <https://www.pioneersinskirts.com/the-documentary-about-ambition/support-the-film/>.

## 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  
President, NFBPWC Pennsylvania

The PA Affiliate Chapter of the NFBPWC wishes to share the activities of the CEDAW Pittsburgh from their newsletter. (Pittsburgh for CEDAW<[pgh4cedaw@gmail.com](mailto:pgh4cedaw@gmail.com)>) Our member, Mary Shaw, is a member of this group and passed this edition on to us. Please feel free to open and read all the details as I will only be providing the highlights.

Pittsburgh's Gender Equity Commission is currently working to better understand gender discrimination in the city. The Commission is selecting an organization to conduct the Gender Analysis which will gather data to address intersectional gender discrimination.

From the results of the analysis, the GEC and the city of Pittsburgh will create a five year action plan to correct the equity disparities identified.

The CEDAW of Pittsburgh has shared that they have joined the Paid Leave for PA Coalition. This group is bringing and keeping women above the poverty line. This allows getting paid family and medical leave as well as equal pay. They have also shared that Title IX was a priority of their group. The Department of Education wants to replace many rules from where the current Title IX now has in place. Lastly, they will be part of the Racial Justice Summit on January 26 at the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.

If you wish to communicate with the group, please write to: Pittsburgh for CEDAW, 5129 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15224-1615. Know they would enjoy sharing their news with everyone across the country.



## NFBPWC EL PASO TEXAS WEST

### Executive Committee:

Rocío González	President
Minerva Villareal	Vice President
Virginia Chacón	Treasurer
Laura Jurado	Secretary
Gloria Flores	Past President

El Paso West meets the second Tuesday of every month at 11:00 a.m. at member's homes and sometimes at La Madeleine Restaurant.

Whether you are in the area and would like to attend, just contact Laura Jurado (El Paso West secretary) for the address at [laurajuradoa@yahoo.com](mailto:laurajuradoa@yahoo.com) (don't miss the 'a' after jurado). We'll be delighted to see you!

## 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>

By: Laura Gerik, NFBPWC Houston

As you may know, our second annual Heart of a Woman event is fast approaching. I'd like to enlist your help in spreading the word to BPW members around the country (and world!) so that they can participate and learn this life-saving information. We are hoping to double our attendance from last year and reach even more women through a live webcast.

This year's event is February 16, 8am-5pm CST at the Houston Methodist Research Institute. We're charging \$20 for attending in person or watching online via webcast (although groups can watch together for the same price!).

Some of this year's highlights are a keynote by Dr. Martha Gulati (one of last year's speakers) and a lunchtime cooking demonstration by Master Chef Season 4 winner Luca Manfe. Chef Luca has prepared an outstanding heart-healthy Mediterranean lunch for attendees to enjoy while he shows them exactly how to make it at home. I've attached an agenda.





2019 invitational video: <https://youtu.be/1Mm99cjbL5I>  
2018 highlights video: <https://youtu.be/EvpNeMFtIOg>

Registration for in-person or webcast attendance and sponsorship/exhibition spots can be found at [events.houstonmethodist.org/how](https://events.houstonmethodist.org/how).

Cheers.

## 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](mailto:ccbpw@aol.com)

### Executive Committee:

Daneene Monroe Rusnak	President
Sue Oser	Secretary
Leona Phillips	Treasurer

By: Daneene Monroe Rusnak  
President, NFBPWC Virtual Chapter

At the time of this submission, the Virtual Chapter was gearing up for their first meeting of the New Year! We will be planning our webinar content and future meeting dates. Be sure to stop by the [Virtual Chapter page](#) on the NFBPWC website. We've added a few "bells and whistles," including a calendar and some of our "open to the public" webinars.

Stay tuned for more updates soon!

Membership Options  
Join/Rejoin (Full Year) \$60.00 USD  
Pay Now

See What We're Up To

Our Calendar

nfbpwcvirtual@gmail.com

Today January 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	Jan 1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	Feb 1	2
Spn Planning						

Events shown in time zone: Eastern Time - New York

Did you miss one of our webinars? No worries!  
Check out a few of them here or pop on over to our [YouTube Channel!](#)

Equal Rights Amendment

## 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](mailto: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 March eNewsletter is  
Thursday, February 21st at 5:00 pm Mountain Time**

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