Dear BPW members,

Many events occurred since I last communicated with you!

**FIRST** let us recall March 19, 2024 when, on behalf of CFBPW, our State President, Maria DeSouza received the Proclamation from the City of Fremont, delivered by Mayor Lily Mei, and marking Women History Month.

Our many thanks also go to Mrs Teresa Cox, Council Member, who facilitated this honor.

For more photos: See Manjul’s e-mail dated April 20—11:00 PM!

As a recap, find attached: MINUTES of this CAL NORTH District Conference produced by Katherine Winans, CFBPW Secretary. Thank You!

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**Then ...**

Visit of Joanne Kinsey, BPW-UK President.

I was indeed very happy to receive Joanne as my personal guest (15-20 April), until she had the opportunity of meeting many members from California North at our District Conference. It was Joanne’s very first visit to the States, so, my family and I did our very best to acquaint her with many aspects of our surroundings and familiar ways. Following the Conference, Joanne was to spend another 5 days with Bessie, who, I believe, had prepared for her a lovely tour, presenting to our friend the most beautiful sites of California and Nevada. ... I know that she was thrilled when she returned!

As for our **CALIFORNIA NORTH DISTRICT Conference**, it was very open and friendly and beautifully organized.

Joanne, in particular, spoke to us about the warm exchanges taking place between BPW-UK and BPW-Ukraine and how the strong friendship they have developed is so valuable.

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**Events**

CFBPW
Pre-Conference Board/ Annual Conference/ Post-Conference Board. HYBRID
FRIDAY - SATURDAY
May 17-19, 2024
Sacramento Hilton Arden West
2200 Harvard Street
Sacramento CA 95815

**Next BPW Berkeley Club Monthly Meeting**
will be
Monday
22 April '24
7:00-8:00pm

Monique Lee, BPWBCB Editor
CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!

Letter to: Rosemary ENZER, President California BPW Education Fund Inc.  
From Ellora Easton, Recipient of Education Fund

Dear Rosemary,

Below is a blurb about my current job and how the CEF loan supported me through my academic journey. If it is no longer of use, that’s no problem at all. Thank you so much for reaching out and please let me know if anything else is needed from me going forward.

After graduating from UCLA in 2023 with a Bachelor’s Degree in International Development and a double minor in Entrepreneurship and Global Health, I recently moved to New York to begin my career in healthcare consulting at a public accounting, consulting, and technology firm called Crowe. The CEF Loan was a pivotal stepping stone to my academic journey and success at UCLA, where I had access to fantastic courses and professors and also gained the opportunity to help grow a healthcare nonprofit called ‘Globemed’ focused on water access and sanitation in Uganda, consulted nonprofits through the Social Enterprise Academy at UCLA, and helped lead UCLA’s competitive all-female a cappella group. I am beyond grateful for not only the financial support I have received from BPW, but also for the women of BPW for inspiring and mentoring me as I grow personally and professionally. I am looking forward to all that BPW accomplishes going forward and to how I can help make an impact on others’ lives as they have done for mine.

Thank you again, Ellora

The CFBPW clubs over the years have been giving annual awards to their member as ‘Woman of Achievement’ and recognizing a woman in the community as ‘Woman of the year’.

Monique Lee, Woman of Achievement

Monique Lee, née Delaunay, was born in Paris in wartime France. She studied Law at the Sorbonne and English in London, where she met her future husband, architect Aalon Lee. In 1960, they moved to Hong Kong where she began a varied career as a French Teacher, Air France agent, Consular and Trade Commissioner staff, Public Relations representative, and French Interpreter/Translator for the Hong Kong Supreme Court. In 1972, she started her own company and became the Far East purchasing agent for several major European garment companies. She has travelled extensively throughout Asia, from Pakistan to North Korea, and was one of the first western women to develop international trade with China. In 1979, she co-founded Business & Professional Women (BPW) - Hong Kong, and served as its president for two years. She retired in 1999 and moved with Aalon to London, where she ran the BPW Network London for twelve years. In 2012, they moved to San Jose, California, where she now lives close to her two sons, Pascal, a NASA space scientist, Marco, a neurosurgery professor at Stanford, and her two wonderful grandsons.

Beth Roessner, Woman of the Year

Beth Roessner has served as the CEO of the Berkeley Chamber of Commerce since 2021. Prior to that she was the Chamber's Director of Operations. She is passionate about serving the business community and working to make Berkeley a more diverse, equitable, unique, and vibrant city for businesses to grow and thrive. She also leads the Women Entrepreneurs of Berkeley steering committee, which produces events and provides resources to female founders and entrepreneurs working in Berkeley. Beth is an active member of the Berkeley Rotary Club, having served on its board of directors and as club president. She has also served as an Assistant Governor within the Rotary Northern California District, overseeing 8 local clubs. She currently serves on the steering committee of the Berkeley Startup Cluster, is a member of the Berkeley Lab Community Advisory Group, and on the board of directors for the Downtown Berkeley Association. She has a B.A. in Art History from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and lives in El Cerrito with her partner Eric and cat Thomas.
CALIFORNIA FEDERATION of BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL WOMEN
104th Annual Conference
May 17-19, 2024 – Sacramento Hilton Arden West
CFBPW REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION – Please, one form for each person attending

FIRST NAME: ______________________________________             LAST NAME: _______________________________
E-MAIL _______________________________   PREFERED PHONE: ________________________

__will be attending via Zoom and understand the registration fees below apply.

May 17-19, 2024 – Annual Conference Registration

2023-2024 STATE POSITION: (Circle Only One)
State Officer                 Standing Chair              Member
Past State President          Special Chair               First Timer
District President/Alternate  District Representative             Guest

REGISTRATION:  (FOR ALL, IN PERSON OR VIA ZOOM)

Zoom Registration –          $ 60 _______
In-Person Registration
Early Bird – Received on or before Monday May 3, 2024    $ 45 _______
Received Between – May 4 and May 10, 2024     $ 50 _______
Received (email, fax or telephone) after May 10 and onsite $ 60 _______

MEALS – (Please select)
Friday Lunch – Roast Turkey BLT Croissant or Grilled Veggie Wrap $47 _______
Saturday Lunch – Chix Toscana or Delta Asparagus Pasta $47 _______
Saturday Installation Banquet – Chix Rosemary or Roasted Eggplant & Veggies $58 _______

*Special requests must be charged and additional $5++($6.50) per request $6.50x____ $__________

Plus $5 late fees for each meal received after May 5     $ _________

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED – PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: CFBPW           $_________

POST CONFERENCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGISTRATION -
POST CONFERENCE BOARD REGISTRATION IS INCLUDED IN CONFERENCE REGISTRATION.
HOWEVER, PLEASE INDICATE YOUR PARTICIPATION

2024-2025 STATE POSITION: (Circle Only One)
State Officer                 Standing Chair              Member
Past State President          Special Chair               First Timer
District President/Alternate  District Representative             Guest

MAIL CHECK, MADE PAYABLE TO CFBPW, AND THIS FORM TO:   PHONE/FAX NUMBER:
Katherine Winans – CFBPW Registration          775 267 0539
1171 Chaparral Court, Minden NV 89423

YOU MAY PAY USING ZELLE. SET THIS UP THROUGH YOUR BANK ONLINE. NO FEES CHARGED.

SEND THROUGH ZELLE USING THIS EMAIL: bpwvsd@gmail.com
With Zelle payments you still need to mail or email the registration form as above.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:
__If you have a disability and require accommodation to fully participate in this activity, please check here. You will be contacted to discuss your specific needs.
*Effort has been made to ensure menu selections can accommodate Vegan/Vegetarian needs.
__If you have dietary restrictions, please let us know: _______________________________
Call to order: President Long called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. PDT at the Health Education Council offices, 7617 Alma Vista Way in Sacramento, CA.

Pledge of Allegiance: Downtown Sacramento Honorary Member Dave Hironimus led The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Inspiration: Manjul Batra provided a Sanskrit meditation chant.

Welcome: President Long welcomed members and guests, including Joanne Kinsey, President BPW United Kingdom and Debbie Oto-Kent, Executive Director of The Health Education Council. Debbie then welcomed the group too, and expressed pleasure in hosting the meeting.

Introductions: President Patricia made the following introductions:
Those seated at the head table, California North District Officers
- Katherine Winans, Secretary
- Sher Singh, Treasurer
- Trudy Waldroop, Parliamentarian
- Patricia Long, President
and CFBPW State Representative, Linda J. Lucas.
Members serving on the international level:
- Bessie Hironimus, Immediate Past Executive Secretary
- Sher Singh, Chair of the Arts and Culture Committee, also serving the National Federation as Chair of the Justice, Diversity Equity, Inclusion Committee.
Those serving the National Federation:
- Trudy Waldroop, Bylaws and Resolution
- Manjul Batra, Nominations
Those serving the California Federation:
CFBPW State President          Maria DeSousa
- Maria DeSousa
Secretary                                 Katherine Winans
Bylaws/Resolutions                Trudy Waldroop
Membership/Marketing          Bessie Hironimus
Young Professional                 Monique Lee
Small Business                        Manjul Batra
CABPW Ed Fund                   Pat Long
CABPW Ed Fund                   Michelle Proctor
CA Woman Editor                  Monique Lee
Bill Screening                        Elaine Sierra
Conference Coordinator         Katherine Winans
First Timers and Guests: Secretary Katherine introduced and welcomed First Timer Usha Gongal with Berkeley BPW, Kenna Cate, guest of Sher Singh and Downtown Sacramento Honorary Member, Dave Hironimus.

Registration Report: Secretary Katherine then provided the Registration Report as follows - Berkeley Members-4, Chico Members-4, Downtown Sacramento Members-5. Total member attendance of 13. Total guests 4. Total attendance 17. Secretary Winans moved the acceptance of the Registration Report. Motion Carried.

Quorum: President Long declared a quorum present.

CFBPW Greetings: State Representative and Past State President Linda J. Lucas delivered Greetings from CFBPW and reminded all of the 104th CFBPW Annual Conference set for May 17-19, 2024 at the Hilton Sacramento Arden West.

Standing Rules: Parliamentarian Trudy Waldroop read the Meeting Standing Rules and moved their adoption. Motion carried.

Minutes: Secretary Katherine Winans reported the following correction to the January 20, 2024 Minutes: The location of the Black History Museum should read Belmont, CA, not Redwood City. She then moved the approval of the minutes. Motion Carried.

Executive Committee Actions: None were reported.

Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer Sher Singh reported no account activity since January 20, 2024 Winter Conference, and the balance remains $6,739.52. She then explained receipts from this meeting will be deposited into and expenses paid from this account and then the account will be moved to Tri Counties Bank with locations throughout BPW California North District. The Treasurer’s Report will be placed on file.

Reports: President Long called for reports.

Committee Reports:

Membership Chair Bessie said she will be conducting a short workshop later on in the agenda.

Public Policy Chair Elaine Sierra provided a brief overview of the Bill Screening activities and thanked members for their input.

Nominations Chair Michelle Proctor reported Consent to Serve and Club Endorsement papers have been received for the offices of President – Bessie Hironimus, Secretary – Katherine Winans and Treasurer – Trudy Waldroop. Papers were not received by the deadline, so all candidates will need to be nominated from the floor.

Club President Reports

Berkeley: Reporting for Berkeley, Monique Lee shared the club has 19 members and regularly holds program meetings although member participation could improve.

Chico: Linda Lucas reported a membership of 6 and they, too, are holding
Downtown Sacramento: Club President Katherine Winans reported the club is working on a 105th Anniversary Celebration set for Saturday, October 19 and asked all to hold the date for the lunchtime event. She recapped activities with the BPW Twinning project with St. Andrew Jamaica including joint programming and a start-up blog. A New Members Welcoming process is being re-developed and the club is exploring scholarship/grant option with Health Education Council and Women’s Empowerment to assisting re-entry women in gaining marketable skills that will provide family supporting wages. Membership is 12.

Programming: Katherine introduced Debbie Oto-Kent, Executive Director of the Health Education Council (host of this meeting) sharing Ms. Oto-Kent is the recipient of the 2019 Al Geiger Memorial Award - a prestigious recognition bestowed upon individuals who have made significant contributions to their community, and the Health Education Council was recognized as California’s Non-profit of the Year in 2023. Debbie shared her journey of a 30+ year adventure to bring education as services to underserved communities in the greater northern California region.

Recess: Lunch recess

The meeting was reconvened at 1:10 P.M.

Programming: Monique Lee introduced Joanne Kinsley, President of BPW United Kingdom who shared information on their Twinning Program with BPW Ukraine and their journey to provide Ukraine with a Resource Van to deliver needed supplies to Ukraine.

District Membership Chair Bessie Hironimus facilitated a short member role playing exercise.

New Business: Nominations Chair – Complying with district bylaws President Long called for nominations for District Nominations Chair. Manjul Batra’s name was put forward and with no further nominations and her consent was elected the 2024-2025 Nomination Chair.

District Representative to State Convention – President Pat asked who was attending the CFBPW Pre- and Post-Convention Board of Directors meeting who does not already have a vote. Monique Lee was appointed by President Long.

Financial Review Jan Walls, Downtown Sacramento, volunteered to Review the Treasurer’s books. Treasurer Singh stated that she had the books with her today and would give them to Jan.

Amendments to the NFBPWC Advocacy Platform - Chico President
Trudy Waldroop presented edits to the National Advocacy Platform as proposed by Chico BPW. Trudy moved that BPW California North District support Chico’s proposed substitute amendment to the NFBPWC Advocacy Platform for 2024-2026 and that it be forwarded to the California Federation for their support and then forwarded to the NFBPWC for final approval. **Motion Carried.**

**Business:**  
**Election of officers** –  
With no slate of nominees, President Long opened the floor for nominations. The following were nominated: Bessie Hironimus (Downtown Sacramento) for President, Trudy Waldroop (Chico) for Treasurer and Katherine Winans (Downtown Sacramento) for Secretary. With only one candidate per office President Long declared those nominated, elected to office for the 2024-25 term.

President Long, with congratulations, announced the new BPW California North District elected:

- **President:** Bessie Hironimus  
- **Secretary:** Katherine Winans  
- **Treasurer:** Trudy Waldroop

**Officer Installation:** CFBPW State Representative and Past State President Linda J Lucas conducted the officer Installation.

At the conclusion of the Installation Ceremony, Berkeley Member Usha Gongal announced she would be willing to serve at BPW California North Vice President. Her appointment will be ratified at the first Executive Committee meeting of the 2024-2025 year.

**CFBPW State Representative closing Comments:**  
State Representative Linda J Lucas congratulated the District on providing a well conducted and successful meeting with excellent programming, full member and guest participation.

**Announcements:**  

May 17, 18 and 19, 2024 CFBPW Annual Conference will be held at the Hilton Arden West in Sacramento

**Collect:** The Collect was led by Usha Gongal, Berkeley.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned: 2:05 p.m. PM.
Thursday 9th May, 2024 - 5:00 pm PT - 8:00 pm ET
Register: https://www.nfbpwc.org/event-5558806

Final Presentation on our series in J - D - E - I -
"Inclusion - an Extension of Equality and Diversity."

Ms. Gallop West is a native of Baltimore, Md. She is a graduate of the prestigious Elizabeth Ann Seton High School, Baltimore, MD.

She holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Social Work (BSSW) from Spalding University, Louisville, KY and she is a graduate of the Department of Army, Army Management Staff College, (IC 08/08). Alice holds several certificates and advanced graduate course work from the University of Kentucky, School of Social Work, Department of Defense, Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI) Special Emphasis Program Manager Course (SEPM) (August 2007), Department of Justice, National Victim Assistance Academy, School of Applied Studies, Washburn University, Washburn KS (2001), and has received National Certifications as an Information and Referral Specialist, from Alliance of Information and Referral Specialist (1997) and most notably as a Comprehensive Victim Intervention Specialist (Intermediate) Credentialed Advocate; National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA), 2012.
In 2005 she completed a yearlong legal mentorship program, as a protégé to the Deputy, Staff Judge Advocate and Legal Advisor with the United States Army Recruiting Command, Mr. James H. Weise, Esq., LTC, USA, ret.

In 2004 Ms. Gallop West was recognized by the American Corrections Association (ACA) and the Department of Defense, as being the Best of the Best in Army Corrections. The Best of the Best award is presented annually to a military/civilian member of a DoD service branch, in recognition of the awardee’s significant contributions to the military corrections program. She has more than 28 years of Active Federal service, beginning with her Active-duty military career in the US Army, which began in June 1985. Her military and civilian travels have allowed her to live abroad in South East Asia, Fort Lewis, WA; Fort McClellan, AL; Fort Monmouth, New Jersey; Jefferson City, TN, Fort Knox, KY and Chesapeake, VA.

Now retired, Alice devotes her time to supporting Veterans, Victims, and her community. In July of 2022, Alice was appointed as the Chair, Military Affiliated Women’s also know as, MAW under the National Federation of Business and Professional Women’s Clubs, for a two-year term. Additionally, she continues to serve with passion the following organizations she is a Life-Time Member of The Disabled American Veterans (DAV), an Honorable Kentucky Colonel, Business and Professional Women of North Carolina, Camouflaged Sisters, The Elizabeth City Chapter of the Links, Inc. and is an enrolled member of the Algonquian Indians of North Carolina, Inc.

WHO AM I?

- Online English as a Second Language Teacher and textbook editor/proofreader – Carrot Global – 2014 – current
- Part-time Freelance writer and editor
- Volunteer staff member and DJ for NK Airplay Radio.
- New Facilitator for Scrambled Eggs Support Group.
- Volunteer – National Transgender Equality/NCTE Action Fund – data entry

BPW/NFBPW activities –
- Past BPW/MI president 2017-19; Current BPW/MI Monday Minute editor, program and social media chair
- Past NFBPW Virtual President – 2014-15; Current NFBPW Rapid Response Chair, LGBTIQ+ Liaison and committee member; in various committees; IPFPW Arts and Culture Committee member
Let us shine!

This year’s Installation dinner will sparkle under a starry, starry night sky.

Valley Sunset District invites you to wear sparkly attire. It does not need to be formal so please don’t go to any expense.

Stay comfortable with whatever sparkly and glittery favorites you have….shiny jewelry, a sparkly hat, shoes that glitter like those famous ruby red slippers, a shiny dress, overwrap, blouse or scarf.

Light up the night sky!