

MDCCW Convention MEETING MINUTES, Wed, June 14, 2017

Host: St Joseph's in Fort Atkinson

The meeting began with a cheer led by Bernadette Schaefer (copy is in booklet).

Welcome to Convention by Sue Koch & Ellen Martin.

Msgr Moellenberdt gave us a blessing prayer.

Spiritual chair/ Mary Stasek (Mona M has a broken leg) led us in the Our Lady of Good Counsel prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance

5) Adoption of Agenda: Add under New Business: Alice Krystoviak award & Priest ordination. Motion to adopt agenda as changed was made by Catherine Berry/LaCrosse & seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

6) The minutes were approved as read (in booklet) by all.

7) Financial Report: Barb Agassie audited our financial books (savings & checking) on May 23, 2017 and they were found to be in balance with the statements.

8) Convention updates/Dorene Shuda: Thank you to all for coming to convention. Women could have chosen to go somewhere and get a facelift, but instead chose to come to convention and get a "Faith lift". Thanked all the helpers and organizers of this year's convention and made Introductions.

9) Introduction of guests/Board of Directors by Ellen Martin: Jean Kelly/NCCW President-elect & former Province Director; Lucille Brandner/current Province Director from Superior and all the Diocesan Presidents attending; Msgr Duane; MDCCW Exec Board. Then she asked Madison's Vicariate Presidents to sit on chairs with name sashes. Only 4 of the 9 chairs have a President. We were asked to think about how we can fill those 5 empty chairs. Sue & Ellen are here to help.

10) Spiritual Advisor/ Msgr Duane Moellenberndt: Msgr began with a joke about a Fr Murphy going to a bar and asking if people wanted to go to heaven. We all desire to go to heaven. CCW members can work together on projects and support each other to help all of us get to heaven. We share in the ministry and the challenge of bringing Christ to the world. Bring Jesus to our co-workers in the Diocese of Madison. The Lord is working through us.

11) President's Report/Ellen: At last year's NCCW convention, the question was asked "what is CCW?". They said we should be able to give a 10-sec "elevator speech" if someone asked. MDCCW had 1000 wallet-sized cards printed that give a quick overview. (Each placemat had one). MDCCW has items for sale. Ellen's son is a graphic designer and so we now have T-shirts, note cards and pens for sale. We should be PROUD of who we are.

LaCrosse, Green Bay Diocesan CCWs have Vicariate banners, so Madison decided they would also like to have banners. Last year, Sue handed out burlap fabric and had stands donated. We now have four MDCCW Vicariate banners that were displayed at this Convention.

The role of Presidents is to be able to delegate and be decision-makers. Take a look at your bylaws and update as needed. Carol Brennan/Parliamentarian Advisor talked about a standing rule change. Info was sent out previously. **Changed Rule #6:** reimbursement for Convention fees. **#6-1)** The Commission chairs shall receive financial assistance on the even numbered years. The officers shall receive this financial assistance on the odd years. **#6-2)** If the commission chairs or officers are unable to attend, the MDCCW board shall elect replacements (*all funds are subject to availability of funds). **#6-3)** All attendees shall give a written &

oral report to the Board of Directors and submit a report to the MDCCW newsletter. #6-4) Private donations for NCCW convention: If there is no stipulations with the donation, will be distributed as decided by the MDCCW Board.

Sue K talked about the sample letter to Parish Priest from whatever Ladies group is in your parishes. You do not have to be part of a CCW to be part of MDCCW. The more we have together, the louder our voice.

12) Commission reports are in the Convention booklet.

13) **Other Business:** Kathy Loy/MDCCW Treasurer pointed out that \$16,933.36 was donated to Works of Peace. 44 Parishes paid MDCCW dues. There were 15 individual members (4 new this year).

Rock/Green & Jefferson did a great job hosting the Convention, but they don't have an actual Vicariate president. We are all leaders. We take care of running our households.

Alice Krystoviak Award: (Alice was a member of St John's/Princeton. She was a firm believer in Catholic women. When she died, her family donated her collection of Madonna statues. They have been handed out to the youngest first-time attendee. We are now using donations from Joan Slate after Alice's were used. This year's winner was Cathy Jackson (51) from St Francis/Jefferson.

Priest Ordination/Coreen: (Karen Villwock is also chairing). This year, 3 priests will be ordained. It will be held on Friday, June 30, 2017 at St Maria Goretti Parish/Madison. They would like about 10 people to set up serving table, put food on plates, etc and serve lemonade & water. They should be there at 6:30 pm. The committee would prefer prayers & cash donations instead of so many baked items so they could purchase cheese & sausage trays, veggie trays, etc. They will just ask a few people to bake bars so it is easier to coordinate deliveries.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 am. Minutes respectfully submitted by Linda Ripp/MDCCW Secretary.

Sue introduced Travis/Perigino Press in Green Bay (Perigino is Spanish for "pilgrim") to introduce our guest speaker, Fr John Tourangeau. He collaborated with Fr John to publish "To Heaven & Back"—Fr John's story of his death to life experience.

Speaker: **Fr John Tourangeau "Heaven, is it for Real?"** How do we get on with Living and Loving after a traumatic experience?—death of a loved one, stroke or cancer? How do we not give up & get bitter?

Each & every day of our life, we are called to enter into the "mystery" of our Faith, the mission of Jesus (a mystery is not to be solved, need to learn to trust God).

He shared his story of having a heart attack Jan 16, 1993 at age 34, living in New Mexico and his journey, not "to" Heaven, but "INTO" Heaven. Heaven is not necessarily a place, but a Relationship. He "saw", but not with his eyes, but with his Heart, with Faith. He sensed being surrounded by "those marked with the "sign of Faith", Saints. Jesus at his side saying "John, this is your home, but not Today. You need to go back because your mission is not complete. You need to figure out your mission, your relationship with other people.

He told us about 3 Life lessons:

1) Humility (he was taking it easy, his Mom told him his 3 siblings—all married are also living their vocations, so help with dishes.

2) Failure (he was told he wasn't smart enough to go to college)

3) Find your voice (deaf brother—"Did God make a mistake?"), ask first before you do something to "make it better"

Share our lives appropriately. Reconcile, Show in action how our lives can be a Gift.