



NEWSLETTER

Spring 2016 | Issue 1

MDCCW CONVENTION ISSUE



CONTENTS:

President's Message	1
From the Province Director	2
From Our Spiritual Advisor	2
Leadership Commission	3
Service Commission	4
Spirituality Commission	5
Legislative Commission	6
From the Editor	6
Million Works of Mercy	7
Works of Peace Donations	7
2016 NCCW Convention	7
2016 MDCCW Convention	
Introduction	8
Keynote Speaker	8
Shareshops	9
MDCCW Nominees	9
Convention Agenda	10
Registration	11

Editor: Jane Lepeska Grinde
janegrinde@gmail.com



Rosa Ropers

President's Message

Call to Convention

Dear Ladies of MDCCW,

As your president, it is my privilege to invite all of

the women of the Madison Diocese to come together to celebrate, learn, and pray during our 62nd convention June 7-8. This year's theme is "Women on Fire for the Lord!" The program will reflect on that topic to help us become women who will be willing to speak up for the Lord with enthusiasm and dedication.

Columbia North Vicariate selected Marianne Skrobiak to speak on her faith journey and how the Holy Spirit continues to be active in her life. After lunch she will do a presentation titled, "Seeking a Relationship With God." The second shareshop presenters will be mother and daughter from the "Hosea's Heart" Charity: Mary Kate Martin and Peggy Martin. All three speakers will suggest ways of how they keep the Lord in their life each day.

On Tuesday, June 7, the day will include a board meeting which everyone is encouraged to attend. Later that evening there will be a banquet with special entertainment by the Sister Strings. You are welcome to attend just the banquet and experience the ambiance of like-minded women. Treat yourself to

a time of relaxation, entertainment, and socializing. You all have so much to share with your faith, your ideas, and just being there for one another.

On Wednesday, June 8, a short meeting will be held to update all on the happenings within NCCW. This will be followed by election of officers. Please attend and support these women who have agreed to donate their time and talents to MDCCW. The remainder of the day will include speakers, a beautiful liturgy, a delicious meal, and, of course, the fundraisers and visits to the commission tables.

Columbia North Vicariate is challenging all to make this convention the largest in recent history. Won't you help them meet their goal? Why not make your parish attendance at this convention greater than it has ever been?

Join us on June 7 and 8 at All Saints Parish in Berlin. Come for one day or two; but whatever you choose, you will be glad you attended. Please remember to invite your parish priest to join us for the liturgy and wear the CCW stole.

Continue to recognize all the blessings that God is giving to you,

Rosa Ropers
MDCCW President

NCCW MISSION STATEMENT

The National Council of Catholic Women acts through its membership to support, empower, and educate all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership, and service. NCCW programs respond with gospel values to the needs of the Church and society in the modern world.

Live, Learn, Love, and Share Our Catholic Faith



From Our Province Director

I had the opportunity to attend my first NCCW Board meeting in Washington, D.C., on January 23 and 24. We arrived in D.C. on January 21 and immediately walked to the Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception where we attended the Solemn Opening Mass for the 2016 National Prayer Vigil for Life. Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Archbishop of New York and Chairman of the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities, was the principal celebrant and homilist. It was so heartwarming to see the number of enthusiastic young



people and have the opportunity to talk to some of them. If only the media would report the good in the world instead of focusing only on what they feel is "sensational."

On Friday, we took part in the March for Life just before "Jonas" (fourth worst storm in DC) started. On Saturday and Sunday, we were able to watch the historic snowstorm from inside the retreat house during our board meetings. Total snow reported was 17.8 inches at Reagan airport. Some areas received more.

Year of Mercy

By declaring this year "The Year of Mercy," Pope Francis hopes that each of us will not only realize the abundant mercy and love God has for us, but that we extend that mercy to others. He is asking us to open our eyes to see the misery in the world and realize that it is up to us to help. The Works of Mercy give us the way to measure if we have been living as disciples of Christ. The Corporal Works of Mercy are ways to be charitable to the bodily needs of our neighbors. The Spiritual Works of Mercy are the ways we care for their spiritual needs.

NCCW programs give us guidelines to help us carry out our works of mercy. They include Spiritual Adoption of the Unborn, Women Healing the Wounds, Mary's Mantle. New programs are being developed on Human Trafficking, Immigration, and Respite. NCCW has a new logo to be introduced in the May Catholic Woman.

Convention

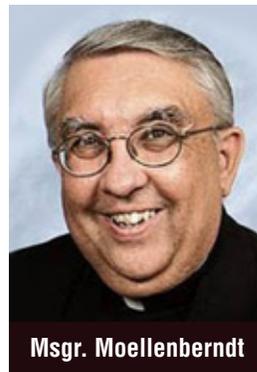
The NCCW convention this year is at the Indianapolis Marriott downtown on September 7–10. Registration remains at only \$320. Keep watching the website nccw.org for details. We expect to have bus transportation from Wisconsin.

Remember the cookbook from 2003? It is being updated, and new recipes can be submitted until July 15. Inserts will be sold for \$8, and full cookbook including the inserts will be \$25. Diocesan presidents will have all of the information that is needed for this and the NCCW convention.

I look forward to your convention in June.

Lucille Brandner

Director, Province of Milwaukee



From Our Spiritual Advisor

St. Francis once said, "A single sunbeam is enough to drive away many shadows." To me that means even a little kindness, an encouraging word, or simple smile can drive away some of the sadness of the world. In other words, you

and I have the potential to make a difference.

Many people seem to think one person is so insignificant that they really can't change much of the darkness and shadows of our contemporary world. St. Francis reminds us we are that sunbeam. We do make a difference. We have an impact on the lives of other people one person at a time. If we are an individual of light, we can change the life of another. If we can be that sunbeam as individuals, imagine how much good we can accomplish together as members of the Council of Catholic Women. Through this organization we as members can bring a great deal of light into our world.

We must remember God is always working through us. What we can't accomplish on our own to make the lives of other people better, God can. The Holy Spirit is with us to help us be the Lord's instruments in the world. With God all things are possible.

God bless you for being a sunbeam in our world.

Msgr. Duane Moellenberndt

Spiritual Advisor



Carol Brennan

Leadership Commission

Many Resources Available

We have many wonderful resources to help us and our organizations through the National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW), especially its website (nccw.org), the Catholic Woman magazine, and

NCCW Connect newsletter.

A few leadership ideas we can do are:

- Share your copy of the *Catholic Woman* magazine and the Connect newsletter, or copy articles to share with others. Give credit to NCCW.
- Encourage attending convention as that is a time to hear wonderful speakers, grow spiritually, and connect with many wonderful Catholic women. It is like a retreat, workshop, and reunion all in one. If needed, hold fundraisers to help defray the cost of convention. Once you go, you'll want to come back.
- Get the next generation involved. Have programs for them or work on their projects.
- Be the Voice of Catholic Women every minute!

God has given us a great gift of NCCW, through its many programs that promote life and protect the human dignity of those with no voice including the unborn, very young, very old, the suffering, and immigrants. As *Catholic Woman* magazine says, "Every Life is Worth Living." Sometimes we get so busy in our lives we forget about others. By becoming **Individual Members of NCCW** or having our organizations become **Affiliate Members**, we enable NCCW to provide

these programs and "we are able to put our faith into action, spread the Good News of Jesus, and have a stronger Catholic voice that instills HOPE."

MDCCW offers these same benefits on a more local scale. We share this information to help your councils be more active and share in your faith journey. CCW is made up of Catholic women with beautiful and amazing gifts. When we come together we can accomplish great things.

A Million Works of Mercy!

Women of Prayer and Action, Celebrating the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, Living the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy Every Day. This is our latest NCCW program and reflects beautifully the Pope's Year of Mercy. We want this program to unite members in a common goal as well as share our dedication to helping others. The program runs from April 3 to November 20. Information is on the website and in other articles in this newsletter.

Consider Being a Leader

It's that time of year again when our organizations are looking for ladies who will serve as officers and committee chairs. Why do we always feel, "I'm not worthy, I could never do that, I don't have any talent for getting up in front of a group, I don't have time, I served my time...?"

You know what, you are not alone. Moses was called, and he said he wasn't a good speaker. Sarah said she was too old. Mary probably felt she was not worthy or able to handle raising such a special child. Jeremiah said he was too young. Do you think Peter felt worthy when he couldn't even stay awake while Jesus prayed, or after denying that he knew Jesus? Paul had been persecuting Christians so why would God call him?

God knows we are not perfect and he sees potential in us we don't see. Jesus is calling each one of us to go on a life-changing journey that is spiritually fulfilling and directed by God. Listen to his call.

I close with some of my favorite quotes:

Pray for wisdom: in what to say and in what to do.

We are never too old to serve God.

It's one thing to receive gifts of the Holy Spirit; it's another thing to use them.

The next time you hear God calling have the courage to say, "Here I am, Lord. Send me!"

Carol Brennan
Leadership Chair

Women's Care Center

An unexpected pregnancy can be a hard thing to face alone. Women's Care Center can help.

- Pregnancy Testing
- Information on All Options
- Ultrasounds to Verify Pregnancy Viability
- Referrals to Medical and Social Services

Toll-free Helpline: 1-877-908-2341.



Sandra Hull

Service Commission

Restore Donations

While watching TV one day, I heard an ad for Glad trash bags and a project they are sponsoring called "Glad to Give." Glad will give you a free yellow bag to use for donating items.

Upon visiting their web-site the following quote caught my eye, "Make someone's house feel like a home. Fill a Glad bag with gently used household items for a local Habitat Restore and you can help us support Habitat for Humanity's mission to build a world where everyone has a decent place to live." There are two Restores in Madison at 4207 Monona Drive and 5906 Odana Road, and one in Baraboo at 615 South Blvd.

If you want more information on this project check out www.glad.com/glad-to-give/.

Fair Trade Chocolate Sales

Purchasing Fair Trade products insures that the growers of these products receive a fair price for their products. In the

past, many parishes have chosen to sell Divine Chocolate with the profits from these sales going to benefit The Donkey Project. Please consider sponsoring a chocolate sale at your parish. You can order the chocolate from SERRV (a fair trade outlet) located at 2701 Monroe Street, Madison (608-233-4438). For information on The Donkey Project, contact Clarence Mougín, Global Solidarity Partnership Coordinator at 608-850-4084 or email: clarencemougin@charter.net.

Cross Catholic Outreach

National Council of Catholic Women began a partnership with Cross Catholic Outreach in 2011, and many women and children around the world have benefitted from this collaboration. In Haiti, the Sisters of Mary Immaculate are ministering to poor families through the Marie Louise Bayle Center providing nutritional, medical, and educational programs. On the border with the Dominican Republic, the Evangeliste Sisters are helping to fight human trafficking. In Guatemala, the Capuchin Sisters operate the St. Joseph Nutrition Center to help rescue starving children. For more information on this partnership visit nccw.org.

A Million Works of Mercy

To celebrate the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, NCCW wants your help in reaching A Million Mercies! Beginning on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 3, until the Feast of Christ the King, November 20, keep track of the mercies you perform using the form and information found at nccw.org. Many of you will find these are things you are doing on your own or as an organization. You are asked to send in your totals monthly either by email or regular mail.

Sandra Hull

Service Chair

Love is not patronizing, and charity isn't about pity; it is about love. Charity and love are the same — with charity you give love, so don't just give money but reach out your hand instead. — Mother Teresa





Mary Stasek

Spirituality Commission

In preparing ourselves for the birth of Jesus, we might like to think To observe the Year of Mercy, I have listed Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy along with suggestions for each. I'm sure there are more that you can add.

The Corporal Works of Mercy

Feed the Hungry

- Serve healthy food to your family or neighbors.
- Don't waste food.
- Volunteer or donate food at your food pantry or church when they serve food.

Shelter the Homeless

- Help at a homeless shelter.
- Donate money to Catholic Relief Services.
- Clothe the Naked
- Donate good used clothing to St. Vincent de Paul or other places.
- Volunteer at those places in your town.

Visit the Sick

- Visit your local nursing home.
- Call or send a card to someone you know who is sick.
- Drive someone to their appointment or same day surgery.
- Volunteer at your local hospital.

Visit the Imprisoned

- Support agencies that help prisoners.
- Support programs or companies that help rehabilitate prisoners.
- Provide gifts at Christmas for children whose parent is a prisoner. Support the eradication of the death penalty.

Give to the Poor

- Donate to a charity or an organization that helps the needy.
- Buy gift cards from local fast food places to give to needy persons.
- Keep a jar for loose change and use this for your gift cards.

Bury the Dead

- Visit your friend or relative in hospice.
- Attend the Mass of your friend. Have a Mass said for the deceased.
- Go with your friend or relative to visit the cemetery.
- Attend the wake or visitation

The Spiritual Works of Mercy

The Spiritual Works of Mercy are being kind to others spiritually and from the heart.

Instruction

- Learn about your faith and share it with others.
- Read good books and share them with others.

Advising

- Be compassionate, positive, and encouraging when talking to your neighbors and friends.
- Think and say positive things when others speak negatively. Or better yet, just walk away.
- Step in and help a person being bullied; set an example!

Consoling

- To avoid negativity, work on being optimistic.
- Give hope to people who seem to have lost hope.
- In talking to people with hope, encourage them!

Comforting

- Offer words of encouragement to the discouraged.
- Be sympathetic to others who are grieving.
- Think and say positive things to your friend or coworker who is going through difficult times.
- Listen and try to understand what they are going through.

Forgiving

- Ask forgiveness from someone you have wronged or didn't help when they needed it.
- Pray for that person.
- Be kind to a person who is giving you a hard time.

Bearing Wrongs Patiently

- Overlook flaws and mistakes of others.
- Be less critical of others by giving them the benefit of the doubt.
- Pray for those who have wronged you; they may be going through bad times themselves.

I'm sure there are more things we can find to do; just think and pray kind thoughts, and do kind things from the heart, out of love.

Lastly, always pray for the hungry, homeless, naked, sick, imprisoned, poor, and the dead!

Mary Stasek

Spirituality Chair



Coreen S. Marklein

Legislative

(Spirituality Subcommittee)

Wisconsin Catholic Conference

Kim Wadas was named executive director of the Wisconsin Catholic Conference (WCC) upon the retirement of John Huebscher. I have referred to the WCC in previous columns and noted its website (www.wisconsincatholic.org) as being an excellent source of information on legislation. Biennially it sponsors a conference featuring wonderful speakers and workshops in which MDCCW participates.

Prior to becoming executive director, Wadas was the associate director for Health Care and Education. Wadas is a graduate of Marquette University and the University of Iowa College of Law.

Remember in all that we do we should be guided by the Seven Principles of Catholic Social Teaching. In this Year of Mercy, what can you do to show your mercy and follow the principles of Catholic Social Teaching?

Seven Principles of Catholic Social Teaching

- Life and Dignity of the Human Person
- Family, Community and Participation
- Rights and Responsibilities
- Preferential Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
- Dignity of Work and the Rights of the Workers
- Solidarity
- Care for God's Creation

Coreen S. Marklein

Legislative Chair



From the Editor

What wonderful programs each of the vicariates planned for their spring meetings. Information was in the April 14 *Catholic Herald* and posted on the web site. The meetings provide a respite from busy lives and a chance to gather with women of faith, break bread together, pray, have fun, learn, and be inspired by the programs. Below is a quick overview of the meetings.

Columbia North, April 20, St. James Church, Neshkoro. Theme: Mary, the Mother of Us All. Program: Jim Hoegemeier, Executive Director at The Arc-Wisconsin Disability Association, and soon to be ordained a deacon.

Sauk, April 23, St. Patrick Church, Loreto. Theme: Growing in God's Love. Program: Creating a miniature prayer garden in remembrance and honor of Father Larry Bowens, deceased pastor of St. Patrick and MDCCW Spiritual Advisor,

West Dane, April 26, Holy Mother of Consolation Church, Oregon. Theme: We Are God's Helping Hands. Program: Short presentations on helping by council members. JoAnn Russell spoke on Madison SOS Senior Council; Marilyn Rebman on why go to Mass; and Carol Statz, on voting procedures and Wisconsin Shrines and Holy Places.

Grant, April 28, St. Charles Borromeo Church and School, Cassville. Program: Kris Anderson, New Ulm, MN, diocesan CCW board member, certified public accountant, and mother of seven speaking on faith, family and the Catholic Church.

The passing of Fr. Larry Bowens, co-spiritual advisor of MDCCW, brought to light many memories of this caring and compassionate priest. I was always impressed that he was so approachable. I had the pleasure to talk with several past presidents of MDCCW to gather information for the article I wrote for the *Catholic Herald* on Father Larry. They appreciated his honest and compassionate advising and liked him as a person as well! Connecting with Irene Sullivan, Jane Bernhardt, Pat Fisher, Rita Macewicz, and Dorene Shuda reminded me of the excellent, faith-filled leadership MDCCW has had over the years.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the convention in Berlin. Since it is the last week of high school for my youngest of four children, I plan to be there for the second day only. Feeling sorry about missing the first day, I am sure others have similar feelings. A study group is considering whether to hold the convention one day only. Since starting to attend the convention with my mother, I have enjoyed both days. Attend what you can and enjoy and share your comments with the board.

Jane Lepeska Grinde

Editor

Million Works of Mercy

ARLINGTON, Va., March 30, 2016 /Christian Newswire/ — On Divine Mercy Sunday 2016 — April 3rd — the National Council of Catholic Women launched “A Million Works of Mercy” in honor of the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy. “We are the hands and feet and voices of Jesus — in our homes, our parishes, our communities, our nation and beyond our borders through our partnerships with Catholic Relief Services and Cross Catholic Outreach,” says NCCW President Sheila Hopkins.

Members of NCCW are responding to Pope Francis’s call to reawaken our passion to help the poor and needy of our communities through corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

NCCW members will start counting works of mercy — with a goal of one million works before the end of the Jubilee year in November 2016 — as they perform both big and small works of mercy in their councils, parishes, local communities, and beyond. There is a form for members to start counting works of mercy on the NCCW website, www.nccw.org, and the count will be updated monthly.

“We are feeding the hungry and speaking out for adequate funding for school nutrition programs. We are collecting clothing for the needy and advocating for job training and a living wage. We are comforting those who have suffered

loss and visiting the sick and broken. We are making lunches and swinging a hammer with Habitat for Humanity or local home improvement groups and contacting legislators with evidence of housing fraud or insurance redlining,” says Jane Carter, NCCW Supporting Member who designed the initiative.

In this Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope Francis says to each of us: “It is my burning desire that, during this Jubilee, the Christian people may reflect on the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. It will be a way to reawaken our conscience, too often grown dull in the face of poverty.”

Works of Peace Donations Due

All Works of Peace donations must be received by April 30 to be included in this year report.



Convention Registration is Open!

NCCW Convention

September 7-10, 2016 in Indianapolis, IN
Catholic Women – Instruments of Mercy

MDCCW is planning a bus to the convention.

For more information contact Rosa Ropers at (608) 260-5335 or by email at rosa.m.ropers@gmail.com

Visit NCCW.org for event schedule, registration and hotel accommodations.



Madison Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

"Affiliate of the National Council of Catholic Women"

60TH ANNUAL DAYS OF CELEBRATION

May 20 & 21, 2014

WOMEN ON FIRE FOR THE LORD!

June 7-8, 2016 – ALL SAINTS PARISH • N8566 STATE RD 49, BERLIN, WI

Convention Co-Chairs Ellen Martin and Mona Matijevich promise another wonderful convention June 7–8. Columbia North is the host vicariate, and All Saints Church, Berlin, is the site. Ellen and Mona are grateful to the many ladies of the vicariate for all their hard work. "When they say many hands make for light work, we think the Blessed Mother was behind all of this, plus Sister Jude for her faith in all of us and the Holy Spirit! She set the bar high for us." Sister Jude Seaman is Columbia North president.

Convention agenda and registration form are included in this newsletter. Registration starts at noon on Tuesday, June 7. The first day includes a business meeting, recitation of the Rosary, Mass, and a banquet featuring entertainment by the Sister Strings. Bernadette Schaefer and Kitty Mumm are active CCW members from Lancaster. Wednesday registration is from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. with a continental breakfast. MDC-CW President Rosa Ropers will convene the business meeting at 9:00 a.m. to be followed by the keynote speaker Marianne F. Skrobiak who will speak on the theme, "Women on Fire for the Lord."

MDCCW Spiritual Advisor Msgr. Duane Moellenberndt will con-celebrate Mass with host pastor, Fr. David Greenfield, and other attending priests. Following lunch, attendees will be able to participate in shareshops on service and spirituality. The convention will close with raffle drawings and prayer.

Deadline for convention registration is May 20. Lodging is available in Green Lake, Ripon, and Berlin. Deadline for the convention rate is May 7. See the registration form for addresses and contact information. Registration cost is \$20 for Tuesday and \$30 for the second day. Fee must accompany the registration form. For questions, contact Ellen Martin at 608-296-4094 or ellenmarymartin@gmail.com.

An annual fundraiser for MDCCW is the convention raffle. Lynn Getz, ways and means chair for MDCCW, coordinates the raffle which features cash prizes as well as Milwaukee Brewer tickets with parking, Wisconsin Badger tickets, hotel stay, statue of Blessed Virgin Mary, and a framed print of

Mother Teresa. Tickets are available ahead of time to councils and are \$5 each or three for \$10. The drawing will be June 8 at 3:00 p.m., and the winners do not need to be present. For ticket information, contact Lynn at 608-354-2213 or lynn.geitz@hotmail.com.



Keynote Speaker

MARIANNE F. SKROBIAK

Women on Fire for the Lord

How can we call women to the table if we don't know who they are? How can we be intentional disciples?

Do you have a fire in your belly? What would that look like for you? Women are relational by nature. We like to connect with others including the Lord. Do you have a personal relationship with Jesus? Are you in love with the Risen Lord? What do you see in others that could be described as being on fire? Stop letting fear of what others think of you stop you from being on fire with the Holy Spirit. There are so many opportunities for us to witness to the power of God in our lives. Let's do it.

Marianne Skrobiak is a retired psychotherapist who was in private practice in the Milwaukee area for over 21 years. She earned a Master's degrees in counseling and theology following her own divorce after a long term marriage. She became active in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in 1978 and serves as the liaison for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Marianne has been active in River of Life Prayer Group for many years and considers the people there to be her spiritual family. She is the mother of two and the grandmother of four (one in heaven). She has had a ministry to the separated and divorced for over 18 years and has a Return to Life DVD set designed to help parishes offer healing to many. Marianne is active in her parish community serving as lector, Eucharistic minister, and presider over communion services. You can check out more about her at her website: www.gentlewhisperonline.com.

Shareshops

Service Shareshop



Mary-Kate Martin **Hosea's Heart**

There aren't many women in their mid-20s who would give up a teaching career and move to a southern African country to help young women in need, but sometimes all it takes is one person to make a difference. Twenty-eight year old Marshall native Mary-Kate Martin is one of those women. A member of Holy Family Parish in Marshall and Waterloo is the founder and executive director of Hosea's Heart. Hosea's Heart exists to empower the girls of Swaziland in Africa to achieve freedom from sexual abuse and hope for a better future by serving their physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. The organization was named for Hosea, a prophet in the Old Testament whom God commanded to pursue and marry a prostitute as a reflection of God's passionate love for His beloved children.

With her mother Peggy Martin, Mary-Kate will tell the story of her work at the shareshop session after lunch on Wednesday.

For more information on Hosea's Heart, including how to support the mission, go to www.hoseasheart.org.

Spirituality Shareshop

Marianne Skrobiak

Seeking a Relationship with God

Keynote speaker Marianne Skrobiak will conduct the second shareshop at the convention on "Seeking a Relationship with God — How do we do that?" She says, "We need first to look at the people in our lives that draw us to the Lord? They seem to have a joy, happiness, and hope that we long for." A retired psychotherapist, Marianne will offer help on creating a stronger relationship with God. She suggests fears as well as other blocks may stop us from reaching out to God. Ultimately, Marianne contends, "All that's required to have a relationship with God is openness — a desire to have one. Open wide the door of your heart, ask the Lord in, and then watch what happens."

2016 MDCCW Nominees

MDCCW delegates will elect officers for two-year terms at the Wednesday, June 7, business meeting. As of this issue going to press, we have no candidates for (co)president-elect. At a previous convention the by-laws were changed to allow for co-presidents. Ellen Martin and Suzanne Koch will be installed as co-presidents to succeed President Rosa Ropers. Linda Ripp is a candidate for secretary, and Kathy Loy is a candidate for treasurer.

Co-Presidents

Ellen Martin and Suzanne Koch

Ellen Martin and Suzanne Koch are both from the Columbia North Vicariate. Elected in 2014 as MDCCW treasurer, Martin had previously served a two-year term as president of the Columbia North Vicariate and is a past president and secretary of the Good Shepherd CCW in Westfield. She serves as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and helps lead a mission to recycle used greeting cards into fresh, salable cards. In the community, Ellen has volunteered as an officer and president of the Marquette County Historical Society. She and her husband Brian have two adult sons, Timothy and Philip. Retired from a career with K-Mart, she works in food service for the Westfield school district.

Suzanne started getting active with the CCW in the last eight years as her four children went off to college. A member of All Saints Parish, Berlin, she was president-elect of Columbia North Vicariate, having previously served as president and secretary of her parish CCW. After attending MDCCW conventions for several years, she "greatly enjoyed" attending her first NCCW convention in Grand Rapids, MI. A speech therapist for the Berlin School District, she and her husband John, are empty nesters and are "finding many ways to spend our time, including walking, taking drives and watching movies together."

Secretary

Linda Ripp

Linda is a life-long member of St Martin's in Martinsville, which is near Cross Plains. She has been a member of CCW for almost 30 years and is currently president of her parish CCW. A past-president and current secretary of West Dane Vicariate, Linda played a major role in the success of last year's convention in Middleton. She attended her first National Convention in 2014!

She and her husband David have two sons Michael and John who live in nearby Lodi. She is a preschool teacher in Middleton and serves as secretary of Waunafest, a community festival in Waunakee.

Continued on next page.

Live, Learn, Love, and Share Our Catholic Faith

Nominees

Continued from page 9.

Treasurer

Kathy Loy

Kathy Loy has served as historian and photographer for the MDCCW since 2012 and in that role she has learned a great deal about MDCCW which she has taken back to her vicariate and parish CCWs. She serves as Grant Vicariate treasurer and was active in planning the 2013 convention in Belmont.

The oldest of five daughters (six minutes older than her twin sister, past MDCCW President Coreen Marklein), she has been involved with church activities from the time growing up in Spring Green. She attended St. John the Evangelist Catholic School, River Valley High School and Southwest Technical College.

Kathy and her husband Joe are parents of three sons and have two grandchildren. Since 1985 they have lived in Fennimore where they are active in St. Mary Church which is part of Queen of All Saints parish. Joe is a district deputy for the Knights of Columbus and a member of the Honor Guard with the Fourth Degree K.C. Among the many activities with which they are involved is Come for Supper, a joint ecumenical venture among the churches in Fennimore. It provides 235 to 350 free meals once a month to residents in the Fennimore School District.

Kathy credits MDCCW President Rosa Ropers for getting her more involved with the council. Then a member of the Grant Vicariate, "Rosa asked me to think about serving and perhaps taking an office. I said 'yes' to Rosa at that time after a lot of prayer, a leap of faith, and the support of our Grant Vicariate."

MDCCW Convention Agenda

TUESDAY, JUNE 7

Noon – 1:00 pm	Registration
1:00 – 3:30 pm	MDCCW Executive Board Meeting
5:00 – 5:30 pm	Rosary
5:30 - 6:15 pm	Liturgy
6:30 pm	Banquet Welcome by Sr. Jude Seaman Columbia North CCW Vicariate President Introductions by Rosa Ropers, MDCCW President Entertainment Sister Strings – Bernadette Schaefer & Kitty Mumm

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8

7:00 – 8:00 am	"Nature Walk" Mascoutin Valley State Trail SEE NOTE***
7:30 – 9:00 am	Registration – Continental Breakfast
9:00 – 9:45 am	MDCCW Annual Board Meeting
10:00 – 10:45 am	Keynote Speaker Marianne Skrobiak "Women on Fire for the Lord"
11:00 – 12:00 pm	Liturgy & Installation of New Officers
Noon	Luncheon Buffet
1:30 – 2:00 pm	SHARESHOP Mary Kate Martin & Peggy Martin "Hosea's Heart"
2:15 – 2:45 pm	SHARESHOP Marianne Skrobiak "Seeking a relationship with God"
3:00 pm	Raffle Drawings
3:15 pm	Closing Prayer

Note**** This is not a strenuous walk, feel free to wear your convention clothes for the day but wear walking shoes. And also ... meet on the east side of the BP gas station near Countryside Hotel/park car across street and meet Sue Koch in bright yellow shirt at 7. For those driving from Ripon or Green Lake, take Hwy 49 about 1.5 miles north of church. Weather Permitting.



Madison Diocesan Council of Catholic Women
 "Affiliate of the National Council of Catholic Women"
 62nd Annual MDCCW Convention

**WOMEN ON FIRE
 FOR THE LORD!**

June 7-8, 2016 – ALL SAINTS PARISH
 N8566 STATE RD 49, BERLIN, WI

Please indicate only one person per Registration Form, make copies as needed and be sure to invite your parish priest/priests.

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 PARISH: _____ VICARIATE: _____
 E-mail _____

I am a Voting Delegate. Yes No

If yes, Please select one of the following:

I am a member of the current MDCCW Board I am a Past President of the MDCCW
 I am a Parish President I am the Designated Representative for _____
 I am a first- Time Attendee
 I have special dietary needs: _____
 I have the following special needs: _____
 I need babysitting service: ages of children: _____

I WISH TO REGISTER FOR:

TUESDAY, JUNE 7 (Registration, Board Mtg., Hospitality, Rosary/Mass, Banquet, Entertainment) **\$20.00** \$ _____
 Banquet Buffet: Stuffed Pork Tenderloin, Rice, Green Beans, Salad & Dessert
 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8 (Continental Breakfast, Meeting, Keynote Speaker, Liturgy,
 Luncheon: Wraps: Turkey, Ham, Vegetarian, afternoon Share Shops) **\$30.00** \$ _____
 Parish Priest/Religious **\$10.00** \$ _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED: CHECK # _____ **AMOUNT \$** _____

ROOM ACCOMMODATIONS FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 7

Everyone is responsible for making their own Reservations by calling: HOTEL DEADLINE MAY 7, 2016.

1. *Countryside Lodge, 920.361.1800, 227 Ripon Road, Berlin \$79.99A block of rooms are reserved for MDCCW members and guests at a special rate of \$79.99 for a double occupancy room with 2 queen beds.*
2. *Comfort Suites Royal Ridges, 920.748.5500, 2 Westgate Dr, Ripon \$127.44 (a block of 10 rooms reserved.) 12 miles away.*
3. *Green Lake Inn, 920.294.3417 or 920.400.9386, W1970 S. Lawson Dr., Green Lake (Block not reserved & no discount but only \$79.00 If more than 2/room \$10/person. 8 miles away.*

REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR CONVENTION IS DUE BY MAY 20, 2016

Please make your checks payable to: **Columbia North Vicariate CCW Convention**

Mail this form with your payment to: **Darlene Krentz, 118 N. Howard St., Princeton, WI 54968**

Any Questions, please call Ellen Martin 608.296.4094 or ellenmarymartin@gmail.com

Your fee must accompany your Registration Form. Registrations are transferable but not refundable.



Prayer to Our Lady of Good Counsel

God of heavenly wisdom, you have given us Mary, Mother of Jesus, to be our guide and counselor. Grant that we may always seek her motherly help in this life and so enjoy her blessed presence in the life to come. O Mother of Good Counsel, patroness of the National Council of Catholic Women, intercede for us, that we may be wise, courageous, and loving leaders of the Church. Help us, dear mother, to know the mind of Jesus, your son. May the Holy Spirit fill us with reverence for God's creation, and compassion for all God's children. May our labors of love on earth enhance the reign of God and may God's gifts of faith and living hope prepare us for the fullness of the world to come. — Amen