

FIVE RIVERS DEANERY CONVENTION COMMITTEE

KDCCW Oral Report September 21, 2019

Susan Collins and Kathy DeAngelis

The 2020 KDCCW Convention will be hosted by the 5 Rivers Deanery on April 23-25. There are 4 active affiliates in our deanery and 2 of them do not have the means to host a convention of this magnitude. Four years ago, when we hosted the convention, it was held at Holy Trinity Parish in Jefferson City. They did an outstanding job of coordination and involved several women of their parish in the behind the scenes preparation. To share the wealth, so to speak, we have chosen St. Patrick Church in Morristown as our location this year.

Our committee is blessed with women who have stepped up and said "yes" to assist in the coordination of this convention. They have analyzed why women come to convention, what gifts they bring to convention, and exactly what ambiance we wish to set at this convention... we would like the women in attendance to enjoy the NCCW 100th anniversary celebration that will set the tone for this convention. After looking at area hotels our Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Dan Whitman recommended we place a deposit to hold the date selected, contingent upon Board approval.

The Best Western Plus Hotels & Convention Center is located just 10 minutes from St. Patrick Church and is right off interstate 81 at exit 8. They have 3 meeting rooms that we have tentatively reserved for convention use. To keep in line with our "celebration" they will be providing the meals... buffet style, real plates and forks to keep with the Care of God's creation resolution at NCCW convention and women will not be shopping, prepping, cooking, serving, and cleaning up only to get ready for the next meal again... the women can relax, enjoy each others company and listen to some words of wisdom from a variety of speakers, whose spirituality will enhance the experience.

The cost of the hotel room is equivalent to 4 years ago, \$89.99. The hotel has been totally renovated with brand new carpeting, mattresses and beds. A microwave and mini fridge is located in each room and a covered walkway to the convention center next door.

The Silent Auction goal is 100 gift baskets in keeping with the anniversary theme and you will hear more from our chairperson, Helen Schwintowsky, about challenging each deanery to submit 25 baskets to help make our goal. Our Program Ads, Patrons & Sponsors chairperson, Judy Collins, will be making a challenge to see who will be the 100th submitted for a special recognition. Our Registration chairperson, Aimee Place, will also be on the lookout for the 100th registration and a special prize will await.

Friday night will be a Roaring 20's Trivia Night all based on NCCW information with tables divided into teams as we compete for prizes... and our table leaders will be KDCCW past & present officers. Dress the part ladies because prizes will be awarded to the best dressed!

So in summary, we propose our opening Mass be held at St. Patrick Church, celebrated by Bishop Richard Stika, God willing, followed by a banquet in their parish life center and a key note speaker with the rest of the convention held at the Best Western Plus Hotel and Convention Center.

1st item for voting , the proposed convention venue of St. Patrick Church and Best Western Plus Hotel and Convention Center in Morristown for the April 23-25, 2020 KDCCW Convention....

After careful consideration of the diversity of women who attend convention, our committee looked at the spirituality of our speakers. We compared cost of last convention we hosted and after careful consideration, would like to present the following options.

The Thursday evening banquet is being held at St. Patrick Church, and their locate affiliate has had an annual "Ladies Night Out" where the Knights of Columbus have traditionally served as wait staff for the women of the parish, with a catered meal and a keynote speaker. It is our expectation these women will attend this function in addition to convention attendees. A more mature speaker has been proposed. Pat Livingston has graced our diocese before with her own stories and truth of God's presence. She resides in Tampa, Florida and thanks to direct flights, reasonable airfare is available. She has family in the Knoxville area and is willing to stay with them for the visit. She is willing to develop a talk just for us based on the 3 commissions of NCCW and set the stage for our celebration. It is our hope that she will also address us on Friday morning with her talk on **Creative Nostalgia: Looking back at the past can also evoke a creative energy for the present.** This will tie in well with NCCW 2020 Convention theme "A Vision for the Future."

Our next proposed selection is **Sr. Anna Marie McGuan**, who is also no stranger to the diocese of Knoxville since she is the Director of Christian Formation. A very youthful Religious Sister, educated in Rome, and strong theological values. Take the time to check out her blog and it is our hope that she address on us one of those entitled, "Why do People do good?" scripture based and thus tying into the commission of service plus our "yes" to the willingness to serve as Catholic women.

Our third selection is speaker / author, **Sonja Corbit**, who is an energetic woman passionate about the Catholic faith. She is a convert, a Bible scholar, and resides just outside of Nashville so travel expense is minimal. It is our hope she will be able to do an afternoon workshop on Friday afternoon based on her latest book, Pray like Mary to discover our own prayer styles while she introduces us to learn how to LOVE the Word® like Mary, from Mary. We would like for her to remain with us and present again on Saturday morning giving her talk on the "Magnificat". Mary doesn't sing the Magnificat, Mary is the Magnificat. Follow Mary through her song of the Church, and learn how to be a magnificat, too. Knowing that some women can only come on Saturday due to work schedules, we want a dynamic speaker. With the presentation at the NCCW convention for high school and college students to join for a reduced rate, we would like to invite students to "be our guest" on Saturday to get a taste of convention.

2nd item for voting, to accept the recommendation of the proposed convention speakers, Pat Livingston, Sr. Anna Marie McGaun and Sonja Corbit, contingent upon the approval of Deacon Sean Smith for the April 23-25, 2020 KDCCW Convention....

Our committee has had lengthy discussions on the theme for the 2020 KDCCW Convention. At convention we would like to celebrate the 100th anniversary of NCCW. To embrace the past and look forward to the future of our organization. To incorporate the NCCW 2020 Theme "A Vision for the Future".

We want to express our willingness, our "Yes" as the Council of Catholic Women to serve in the world for the greater good. To be Jesus in all we say and do. To follow in the footsteps of our blessed Mother. Her fiat... her willingness to let it done according to God's word.

With that being said, we as a committee have come to a consensus upon...

"Mary's Yes, Our Yes: A Vision for the Future" or "Mary's Fiat: A Vision for the Future"

Or possibly: "Women Answering Yes: A Vision for the Future"

With of course the reference to the 100th anniversary in the logo design.

3rd item for voting to approve the recommendation of the proposed theme, "Mary's Yes, Our Yes": A Vision for the Future" for the April 23-25, 2020 KDCCW Convention....

And final discussion item is the reimbursing the online registration fees as defined at the last convention. Out of 143 attendees there were 77 online registrations in 2019 with an 8.2% fee for a total of \$457.

Our budget, service project, offertory collections and money from Silent Auction we would like to defer to the January KDCCW Board Meeting.

Madame President, this concludes our report.