



The Connect

October 2019

From the President

By Jean Kelly



October brings a change of the season and an awareness that before we know it the holidays will be upon us. This is also Domestic Violence awareness month. The [resource which is available on the website](#) has many suggestions and ideas for you to involve your Council in an activity to bring awareness to your parish or maybe you were on the past member call last May and heard Kathy Bonner go through them.

October is also Respect Life month and many parishes are showing the movie *Unplanned* with some offering time for discussion afterward with the help of a local Pro-Life Group. Thank you for participating in these.

The Convention in Atlanta was a success and thank you to everyone who attended. Thank you to Gwendolyn Scott and her many volunteers, Province Director Yvette Carr, Veronica Way and the purse club helpers, the office staff and all of you who jumped in when it was needed. We could not put on a convention like this and keep the cost the same for all of these years (it was actually lowered a few years ago) without your help. Maribeth Stewart Blogoslowski's theme of Caring for God's Creation was even part of the hotel's initiative to be a fully green property. They contract with Closed Loop Organics, Iron Mountain and Marriott Recycling who collect the garage, leftover food, used linens and send them to their recycling center off site where it is sorted and sent to various facilities to be properly recycled and reused. The food waste is composted and turned into fertilizer.

There is a summary of Convention on the website www.nccw.org along with a link to purchase convention photographs and Bishop Rosazza's Keynote address. You will find the Resolutions that were passed and should be put into action on the NCCW website under "About Us" (click on Protocols). [Also, they are linked here.](#)

Patty Johnson is the recipient of the Our Lady of Good Counsel award and will receive this award in her parish on October 6. We all have been touched by the work and dedication Patty has given to NCCW.

The commissions and committees applications have been sent in and the lists will be published in mid October. Thank you to everyone who submitted one and have offered to share your time and talent with NCCW. I have asked the chairs of these committees to use and highlight the many resources, prayers, retreats, etc., that we already have.

Pat Voorhes is already busy working out details for the Centennial Celebration to be held in Arlington, Virginia next August. I hope you are working on ways to raise funds to help send your Spiritual Advisors and as many members as possible. It will be a special time for all.

May our Lady of Good Counsel bless all of you!

Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
From the President-Elect	2
Call for Nominations	3
From the Treasurer, Spirituality	4
Leadership Commission	5
Service Commission	6
LTD	7
Domestic Violence	8
Legislative Advocacy	9
Education	10

From the President-elect



By Pat Voorhes, President-elect

Thank you to everyone who came to Atlanta for our 99th NCCW Convention. Special thanks to those of you who filled out your evaluation form. We will take your responses into consideration as we plan the next conventions.

I hope you are making plans to celebrate NCCW's 100th Anniversary on August 26-29, 2020 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, Virginia. This will be an event you will not want to miss. The local diocesan team is in place, the speakers are being confirmed and special surprises are being planned. One recommendation many of you had was to have a Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine in Washington D.C. Buses are being planned and this Mass is on the schedule.

The October member call will feature Jane Carter (NCCW Supporting Member) and Genevieve Mougey (Bread for the World) discussing ways to end hunger, just in time to plan for [Bread for the World Sunday](#) (October 20) and NCCW Day of Prayer and Fasting (November 21).

October Member Call

October 16th — The October member call will feature Jane Carter (NCCW Supporting Member) and Genevieve Mougey (Bread for the World)

Member Call information

Call in number : **(515)-606-5163**

Access Code: 703993#

Times are 5 pm (PT), 6 pm (MT), 7 pm (CT), and 8 pm (ET)

1. If you join the call after the start time, please do not announce yourself despite the instruction to do so.
2. When you join the call, please mute your phone by pressing *6. You can take the phone off mute if you wish to speak by pressing *6 again.

If you are unable to join the call, it will be recorded and a link will be posted on nccw.org.



Call for Nominations: Treasurer

By Chris Heiderscheidt, Nominating Committee Chair

The Nominating Committee of the National Council of Catholic Women is seeking candidates to represent all members in the office of Treasurer. Information and nomination form with qualifications and requirements for the position are posted on the NCCW website, www.nccw.org. Members can provide valued assistance by directing suggested candidate names and recommendations to the chair of the Nominating Committee, Chris Heiderscheidt, chrisheiderscheidt@gmail.com. The deadline to receive all nomination applications is December 1, 2019.

Treasurer: The NCCW Treasurer should have experience in the position of Treasurer in her CCW or DCCW or a similar organization. She will oversee preparation of budgets and financial statements and be able to provide explanations of these documents to the NCCW Board of Directors at their meetings and annually to the NCCW membership at the annual national convention. She will prepare reports for the *Catholic Woman* magazine and for each issue of the *NCCW Connect*.

The NCCW Treasurer will work with the Executive Director to monitor NCCW bank accounts, prepare check requests, and monitor the stability of NCCW finances. She will perform all duties as noted in the Financial Policies and Procedures Manual reserved to the Treasurer and will ask for updates to that Manual, as needed. The Executive Committee must approve all major financial decisions and expenditures and will receive a monthly update from the Treasurer.

The Treasurer serves as the Chair of the Finance Committee.

Qualifications/Prerequisites: Candidates for the office of Treasurer must be an individual member of NCCW; preferably have held an office on the Arch/Diocesan, subdivision, or local level or served on another non-profit organization's board; be able to attend three Board of Directors meetings a year and other meetings as requested;

be available for monthly conference calls with other members of the Executive Committee.

PROCESS TO APPLY:

Nominations need to be submitted by December 1, 2019, to the chair of the Nominating Committee. Elections are held in May, with the installation at the annual meeting in August 2020. Nominations must include the nomination form (available at www.nccw.org), a letter of endorsement from the candidate's bishop and president of nominee's affiliate, a 100-word statement of the nominee's reason for seeking this position, a resume (details on www.nccw.org) and a current photo.

Consult www.nccw.org for more information or a member of the Nominating Committee: Chris Heiderscheidt chrisheiderscheidt@gmail.com, Jean Bazley ladiebug39@aol.com, Mary Glosson maryglosson@hotmail.com, Rose Guerrero rose_guerrero51@yahoo.com, Deanna Holmer deannaholmer@gmail.com, Debbie Keller kelkrew@gmail.com, Joby Parker jobyparker@hotmail.com.

Voting will take place April 1-midnight May 1, 2020.

From the Treasurer

By Rose Martinet, NCCW Treasurer

I hope that everyone who attended the 2019 Convention in Atlanta had a wonderful experience learning new things and visiting with your CCW sisters from across the country. Sometimes I only had time to give you a quick hug or a smile but I know that CCW women are always there to support me and NCCW. Your generosity to National Council of Catholic Women for the past 99 years is so greatly appreciated. Convention is our largest fund raiser. Other than dues, convention proceeds allow us to fulfill our mission statement to support, empower and educate all Catholic women.

From the liturgy collections Catholic Relief Services (CRS) was sent \$1,297. Cross Catholic was sent \$1,062, Catholic Charities USA was sent \$976, and \$3,331.11 remained with NCCW. The Purse Auction on Friday brought in \$12,470 and our Silent Auction \$3,907 in donations.

Many thanks go out to the members of Associates of NCCW. The grants this year were \$10,150.00 towards the cost of our 100th year History book and \$1,000.00 to the Purse Club.

I hope that you are planning to have a fund raiser in your parish or diocese for NCCW for our 100 4 100 fundraiser. Your continued support will help us on the way to our next 100 years.

Our Lady of Good Counsel, pray for us.

Spirituality Commission

By Kathleen Penno, Spirituality Commission Chair

You formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb. Ps 139:13

Every October the Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month. This year Respect Life Sunday is October 6. The 2019 year's theme is "Christ Our Hope: In Every Season of Life." Perhaps your parish takes an active role in the U.S Conference of Catholic Bishops' year round effort to help Catholics understand, value, and cultivate respect for human life, which is a great blessing. If not, there is so much we can do to promote this important cause by visiting respectlifeprogram.org/October. Ask your parish priest to preach about life on Respect Life Sunday and to pray one intercession at Mass, each weekend in October during the Prayers of the Faithful, for the protection of human life. Offer up personal prayers and rosaries for the conversion of hearts from a culture of death to a culture of life.

May our Lady of Good Counsel be your guiding inspiration.



Leadership Commission

2020 NCCW a Vision for the Future

By Ruth Warren, Leadership Commission Chair

Attending Convention is a great time to meet new people, share ideas and take back some helpful tid-bits to share with our members at home who could not attend. This year was no exception. What a great opportunity it is to meet and speak with first time attendees and those who attended the Under 40 reception. I'm a list maker. When I get an idea, I like to jot it down to revisit later. I hope to tackle this list filled with some of the feedback I got at Convention and then to implement these new ideas.

The Leadership Commission has created some great resources for its members that you may want to take a moment to learn about or revisit if it's been a while. A few of my favorites are *Everyone is on the Membership Committee*, *Mentoring: Women to Women*, *12 Ways to Increase Membership* and *Ways to Become a Better Listener*. These can be found on the [NCCW](#) website ([Click on Commissions: Leadership](#)). Listening will be a hallmark of the Leadership Commission. I truly believe everyone has something of value to share. Do you have a suggestion from Convention that you really wished we did? Tell me more! Have you always wished we offered information on XYZ? Let's see what we can do about that!

Membership is our greatest asset and our greatest challenge. Let's make 2020 the year we forge new inroads in membership. If you are a new Individual Member, we want to hear from you! Let's plan to connect you so we can keep you an active member of NCCW. Do you know someone who used to belong to NCCW but they allowed their membership to lapse? Reach out to them and invite them back. Maybe they didn't feel connected. Maybe they want to be asked. Let's commit to trying new things and to being open to change. I feel a bit like Dr. Frasier Crane on the series *Frasier* saying this, but I'm listening.

Call to Action Post Convention:

If you attended convention, what do you do with the information gathered? If you are an Affiliate President, Diocesan President or Province Director how do you share the information and who?

Individual Member:

- Reach out to your Diocesan President with any questions or ideas on resolutions passed
- Share the upcoming theme and inspiration received with others
- Invite a friend to join you at a meeting
- Be open to change and seek opportunities to learn more about NCCW programs

Affiliate & Diocesan Presidents or Province Directors:

- Be sure to inform your members of any passed resolutions, new programs or initiatives and look for ways to implement them
- Communicate the theme to your members. Look for ways to connect your individual members by inviting them to participate in conference calls, meetings and workshops
- Look for opportunities to incorporate mentoring of your members. Consider a buddy system for first time attendees or new members.
- Be open to change, solicit feedback and listen!

Service Commission

By Mary Ann Cummins, NCCW Service Commission Chair

"I slept and dreamt that life was Joy. I awoke and saw that life was service. I acted and behold, service was Joy." -Tagore

Isn't that statement the truth! I am your newly appointed NCCW Service Commission Chair and I do find Joy in serving others. Do you?

I am from Buffalo, Wyoming -- a small town and parish where service opportunities abound. I serve at our church, at the schools, and in the community regularly. I encourage others to serve to beat their depression and anxieties, to meet new people and to stretch beyond themselves. In helping others, there is a satisfaction and a joy to be found as we reach out to those in need by becoming the hands and feet of Jesus.

I hope you will follow this Service Commission Chair and find a way for you to serve others and live in joy!



Offering an Opportunity!

By Jeannie Illian, LTD Program Consultant

October, colorful leaves and cooler temperatures, what better time to look at growing our Councils! We think, "Let's have a recruitment drive," but let's look at recruitment from a different perspective. Inviting ladies to join Council is **offering them an opportunity** to enhance their lives while giving service to their church and community. It can be life changing.

Our attitude, enthusiasm, and love of Council is contagious and encourages the stranger to attend a meeting or event. Think about all the wonderful things council does and all it accomplishes. We love Council, love spending time together and find our accomplishments fulfilling and meaningful! This makes women want to be a part of us. This is what we need to communicate.



Photo by [Matt](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Inspiring Your Members

- Invite and include every woman.
- Respond to their needs.
- Encourage their new ideas.
- Use their special skills.
- Reward their contributions.
- Inspire pride in CCW in what we do and in what we have accomplished.
- Welcome participation, no matter how great or how small.
- Support members even when they cannot participate.
- Develop their prayer life and feed members by praying for each other.
- Acknowledge the support and involvement of your Spiritual Advisor.

Inspire

People don't spread the word about anything until they're inspired.

People don't do anything until they're inspired.

But, once inspired, there's almost nothing they won't do.

For information on scheduling a program please contact us at: nccwltldcontact@gmail.com

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

By Kathy Bonner

Here is a small sample of the NCCW's resource to create awareness of this issue in your parish during the month of October. NCCW's planning guide includes the dates, times, and materials to use. Download by going to nccw.org

Ideas to Raise Awareness of Domestic Violence during the month of October

- Check with your parish NOW to see if all or any of these ideas can be implemented.
- The CCW Committee should consist of: One over-all chair and a person in charge of each area: parish, bulletins/social media, involving the youth, using visuals.

Utilizing the Commission/Committee System

The NCCW Commission System offers a good example of how to set up your committee structure and may be helpful in putting together your program:

- **The Chairman** - A person willing to take charge of the overall program. She does not have to be a commission chair/officer but will work with each commission/committee and the President.
- **The Service Commission** - Domestic Violence Awareness comes under this commission/committee,
- **The Spirituality Commission** - The spiritual side of this issue and the involvement of the Church fall under this commission/committee,
- **The Leadership Commission** - The publicity for this project falls under this commission/committee,
- **The Legislative Advocacy Committee** - Can work to bring awareness to current laws that help or hinder victims.

The Parish Staff:

- **The bulletin coordinator:** provide the pre-written items, and the dates for each item to be placed in the bulletin during each weekend of the month. (included)
- **The website coordinator:** provide short awareness information, articles, pictures, etc. to be placed on the parish website and the CCW Website during the entire month (included).

- **The liturgy coordinator:** give them the list of *Prayers of the Faithful* and ask if there is appropriate music to be included when bringing up the gifts (included).
- **The coordinator of the ushers:** suggest the ushers wear the purple lapel ribbons each weekend in October.
- **The coordinator of Ministers of the Eucharist:** suggest wearing the purple lapel ribbons each weekend in October.
- **The coordinator of lectors/readers:** suggest wearing the purple ribbons each weekend in October.
- **The Religious Ed coordinator:** suggest integrating this guide in the October curriculum planning.
- Contact your local **Catholic newspaper** and/or community paper. Provide information listed under Social Media section in this document.

Ideas to Raise Awareness of Domestic Violence during the month of October
nccw.org



FOLLOW CONGRESS AND YOUR STATE LEGISLATURES

Sheila S. Hopkins, Legislative Advocacy Committee Chair

Now that summer is gone , Congress reconvened and is considering the appropriations process and what bills are affected based on the July budget caps agreement. This is a dizzying effort to follow for all of us in the pews. I recently found a source of information , CQ Roll Call, formed by the integration of 3 former organizations into the leading provider of congressional news, legislative tracking and advocacy services. At www.rollcall.com, you can access several topics including Congress, Campaigns, the White House and more. By ordering the Congressional Directory, you have an easy reference guide to who's who in Congress. Of course, some of the online information is sprinkled with partisan advertisements we can choose to ignore.

I found the list of the 50 state legislatures and when they convene for their 2020 sessions except California where they convened 12/3/18 and will adjourn 11/30/20. The overwhelming majority will convene sometime in January, six will begin in February, one in March, one in April and Illinois is scheduled to begin Oct. 27, 2020. Some legislatures do not convene in even years and those states are Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, and Texas.

I hope all of you who have state Catholic conferences, if you are not already connected, will contact them about their plans to engage in the legislative process. If you do not know if you have a state Catholic conference, go to www.nasccd.org and click on the bar for the Directory. The conferences represent the dioceses in the state to coordinate public policy concerns of the Church. Our bishops call us to be faithful citizens by advocating for the least among us.

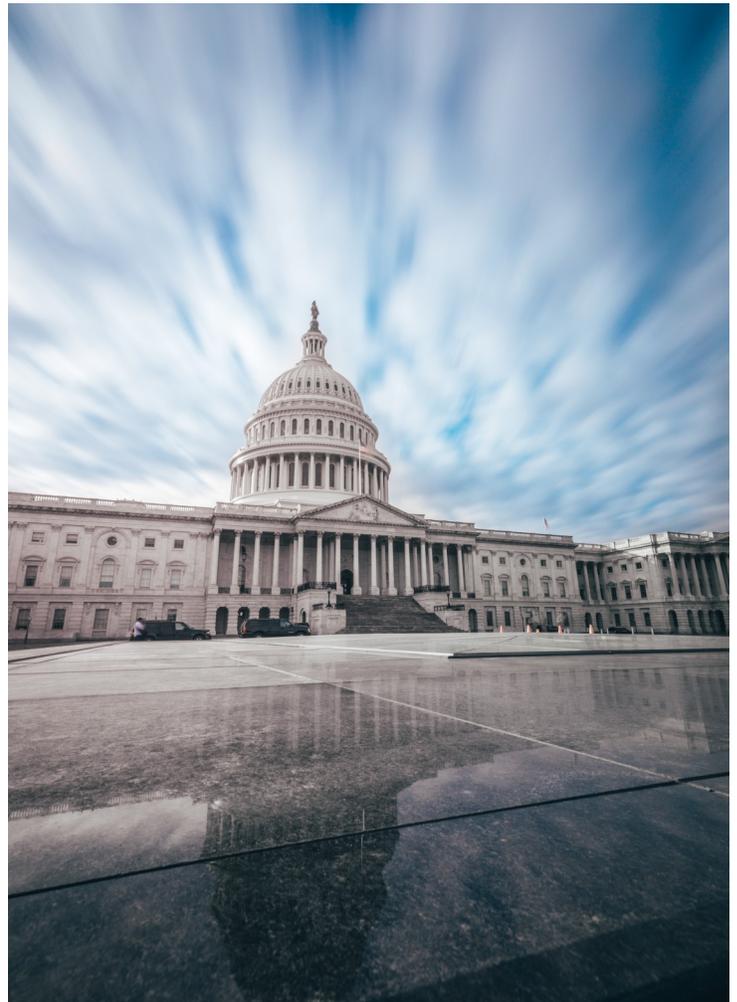


Photo by [Andy Feliciotti](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Education Committee

By Ellen Bachman, Education Committee Chair

This committee will build on the work of the past committee, and that is to find ways to bring young women and young girls into the Council of Catholic Women.

Guidelines were developed to help start a high school group. You can find those on the [NCCW Website under membership](#) on the bottom of the page. If you are starting a junior Council, or high school group, please let us know.

At Convention the Committee shared an idea that came from the Archdiocese of Chicago. It was a way to celebrate the young high school girls in every parish. They shared how they did it, and we know since convention, other Councils are using this idea in their dioceses.

We would like you to share with us what you are doing for young women in your Council. We want to share ideas from around the country. What works in one place doesn't necessarily work in another. Please, send what you do to Ellen Bachman (pennyln99@aol.com). We look forward to hearing from you!



Craft Corner

By Jane Carter

Monthly Project to do with children and grandchildren:

In October we celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi - Cut and paste a Creation Collage using pictures of animals, flowers, and landscapes cut from magazine or printed from the internet. (St. Francis is also credited with creating the first creche scene, so why not save the collage and put a creche scene in front of it in December!)