

Barb Kerouac, DCCW President



What “Busy Little Bees” we have been over the summer months!!

**HUMBLY GRATEFUL!!**

This has not been a typical summer for the Salt Lake City DCCW. I want to personally thank each of you who have given of your time and talents to devoting your summer to the DCCW, which typically takes somewhat of a hiatus. We use this summer hiatus to recharge, spend time with family and friends, vacation and complete long-awaited summer activities, whether fun or work. This summer many worked diligently to volunteer for the Eucharistic Revival Mass and Rally July 9, at the Mountain America Expo Center, while also planning to host the NCCW Convention August 24-26, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. Our June board meeting had an unusually busy agenda to coordinate all the activities, plus putting some regular items on the to do list also.

Here’s the check off list:

- ✓ Deanery Accounts ongoing: an AdHoc committee met with Diocesan Financial Office and Msgr. Bircumshaw to finalize expectations of deanery accounts to the Diocese in June, but is still not complete. I was notified that each Deanery needed to close their current account and reopen with another account number to satisfy having the Parish and their FEIN added to their accounts. The Diocese finance office and Wells Fargo were gracious enough to wait until after the NCCW Convention to implement these changes. Hopefully this will be the last step in this long process.
- ✓ Securing Yen Fasano, [A Catholic Speaker with master’s degree in educational leadership, and at the parish she provides faith formation for post-confirmation-aged youths, leads retreats, mentor’s young adults and formerly served as the parish’s director of evangelization. Currently Associate Director of Catholic Schools for Archdiocese of St. Paul & Minneapolis.] as the keynote speaker for the 2024 DCCW Convention.
- ✓ Supported the Salt Lake City Diocesan Delegation to World Youth Day in Lisbon Spain with gift of \$500.00. We were invited to attend their sendoff retreat and Mass July 8, at the Carmelite Monastery. I attended as representative and was able to Display the Eucharistic Miracle Display as part of their retreat.
- ✓ July 9- Eucharistic Revival Mass and Rally, The DCCW supported the rally and Mass with many members volunteering their time and talents. We had an Exhibit table, contributing \$250.00 to have an informational table. It proved fruitful, we obtained the names and contact info of 15 potential interested women from unaffiliated parishes. This information was passed onto the MDR team. Many women had never heard of DCCW or new there were affiliates in their parishes. We were able to answer questions and put a face to the DCCW, bringing hope for growth.
- ✓ “Path of Renewed Encounter” 2023 NCCW Convention Hosts: throughout the summer the planning committee had zoom meetings with Beth Mahoney. Becky Hicks took the lead as volunteer coordinator, what a task, she did a wonderful job using “Sign Up Genius” to fill necessary volunteer times. Congrats to the planning committee for a job well done. The planning committee was composed of:

Becky Hicks: Volunteer Coordinator  
 Becky Colombo/Michael O’Shea: Hospitality  
 Anne Boyer: Liturgical Liaison  
 Bonnie Siegrist/Marcie Downs: Silent Auction  
 Jeanne Audiss: Local information

Nancy Reading: Exhibitors  
 Pat Musich: Hostess Recognition/décor  
 Gracemarie Belvedere: Meditation Room  
 Flowers & Table Décor: Susan Vaughn/Stacey Oliveto  
 Barb Kerouac: Tours

Planning committee: Utah Host Bags

To the fabulous Planning committee, I am so grateful you all said yes, the work you put into each and every duty made hosting the NCCW convention easy. You did exactly what was necessary to show NCCW, we are small but mighty in all we do. THANK YOU! All the ladies (too many to name here) who volunteered their precious time and talents to the “BEE Informed” desk and directing our out of town guests, a **huge heartfelt note of gratitude**. You made this convention a success, without your dedication and service, it would not have been as amazing. The Silent Auction organized by Bonnie Siegrist (& all her support ladies) and Purse Auction each made more money for the NCCW than ever before.

The comments of attendees were positive, it seems they all really enjoyed their stay in Salt Lake City. They loved our “Bee” themed décor, which was easily spotted. The tours were thoroughly enjoyed and even the banquet entertainment “on the fly” was a success. [A huge note of appreciation to Fr. Ariel Durian, SLC DCCW Spiritual Advisor and Fr. Miguel Gonzales, NCCW Spiritual Advisor (each of who gave dynamic performances of 2 songs each); Bishop Solis, for playing along with the shenanigans and sweet Jeannette Fortier, Minnesota guitar sing-a-long queen, for putting on an impromptu, entertaining evening.] God is good and directs all things according to His plan. I think we did Salt Lake City DCCW/Utah proud!

I want to thank Pat Voorhes for leading us throughout the past 2 years as NCCW President. The NCCW Convention would not have been a success without her constant direction and leadership. THANK YOU! She has challenged us to push on in service, by having a “Food Packing Event” for Cross Catholic Outreach. Hopefully we can pull this great event off to serve the hungry of the world, but will need much help in doing so. I am looking more into this service project, it is a huge undertaking. Pray for it!

We pray Amy Kennedy (Salt Lake Deanery), newly installed NCCW Vice-president/president-elect, has very blessed and successful terms in office.

- ✓ September 9, GMAC Enchantment in the Garden fundraiser in Ogden was attended by 10 DCCW members. It was a lovely, enjoyable evening for a great cause.

I am looking forward to this upcoming year and hope to reach out to women who have expressed interest in finding more about CCW. October being Council Recognition Month gives us the perfect time to expand and welcome more women into this amazing organization. Please reach out to all women, young and old, those of other cultures and ethnic backgrounds. We need new faces, ideas, and talents to remain effective. As Fr. Vialpando said at our annual convention.

You GO girls!! ... YOU (Women) Rock!!

