DCCW FALL MEETING – NOVEMBER 2018 FIRST VICE PRESIDENT REPORT **BECKY COLOMBO**

It is hard to believe we are already in the month of November. Our Call to Convention letter will be coming out in January... (Don't blink! It will be here before you know it!) Start spreading the word about convention in your affiliates and among your friends and relatives. Let's get an awesome turn out of attendees again this April. I can't stress enough the importance of asking a friend or business owner to consider an ad in the convention booklet to help defray our printing costs. Over the years I have personally honored a relative's 100th birthday; the memory of loved ones we miss every day; and welcomed new additions to our families. What an honor for all to see and read about! Your affiliate or Deanery could place an ad to honor your Woman of the Year, which is so very appropriate for their dedication to all they do. Think about it from now until January when the Call to meeting comes out! I would like to share a beautiful little story I read in my Maryknoll magazine last month. It

seems very appropriate for this time of year (or anytime, really!)

"A couple of years ago I took my five-year-old son with me to Walmart. As we walked into the store, a woman in her late 70s or 80s was playing one of those games just inside the entrance, trying to win a stuffed animal. As we walked in, she screamed with delight as she hoisted up a bright pink raccoon. Deep down I wondered why she was playing this game when she could go inside and buy the stuffed animal, but I quess it was the thrill of the win that apparently made her smile. In all her delight, she turned around and spontaneously handed the raccoon to my son—and his eyes just lit up. That was more than two years ago and he still proudly displays his bright pink raccoon on his bed and cuddles with it each night.

Of all of the influences in the world, a wonderful, energized lady playing a 50 cent game made an impact on my son. What impact can you make today on someone? It could be a simple, funfilled note to an old friend or perhaps a gift to a stranger.

One of our members just wrote me an email about taking goodies to a nursing home so she could spoil all the residents. Can you imagine if the only thing making you smile is the memory of life stuffed in a box until a stranger walks up with goodies and asks how your day is going? That's faith, hope, and love in action! What are you going to do today to surprise someone? Be careful, it becomes contagious." – from Don Fulford, AMM CEO