

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Sue Koch and Ellen Martin, Membership Co-Chairs

MAY 2019

Our members at the affiliate, vicariate, and diocesan levels are most valued. We have put together some suggestions on how to recruit and retain new members. We hope you find them helpful.

M—Mentor. Elections will soon be held at the affiliate, vicariate and diocesan levels. Ladies may be hesitant to sign up for an office or commission chair. Be sure you discuss that they will be side by side with a mentor who has done the same position for however long support is needed.

E—Encourage. Make sure to encourage all women in your affiliates and vicariates to check out the Catholic women websites that hold so much information about who we are and what we do. These are mdccw.com and nccw.org.

M—Market. We need to shine our light whenever, and however, we can. Be sure to wear your t shirts and aprons at various functions; submit pictures and articles about events in the Catholic Herald; put short write-ups in your bulletins about upcoming events; and once a year, put in the bulletin all the donations you have made the previous year. There are so many other ways to be heard and seen.

B—By Laws. Revise and update your affiliate, vicariate and diocesan bylaws as needed. Make sure they are feasible and “user friendly” for your group of busy women in the 21st century.

E—Educate and Empower. All women, especially young women of today, need to know that their women’s church group is ever ready to walk with them on their daily journey of faith. Provide opportunities for them to grow in their love for God, for others in their communities and throughout the world.

R—Revitalize. With the busy lifestyles that women lead today, it is important that they take some time to reenergize and revitalize their Catholic faith. The yearly MDCCW convention can often serve to do just that. It will be held June 6, 2019 at St. Cecilia’s Catholic Church in Wisconsin Dells. Plan now to attend. Ask a friend.

S—Support, Spirituality and Service. It is part of our National Council of Catholic Women’s mission statement, and it is what we do.

Editor’s note: Sue Koch and Ellen Martin served as the first co-presidents of MDCCW. They talked about what they did in their diocese to make this happen and how it worked for them on the April NCCW call-in program.