



et Tuley, DC, [left] Sister Charity, OLCR.



Sister Elizabeth Anne LeValley, SSJ, [left] Sister Edwina Butler, RSM.

The Sisters Council

Text by Sharon Darnieder
Photos by Susan McKinney

According to their by-laws, one of the purposes of the diocesan Sisters Council (DSC) is to "facilitate the means by which women religious can cooperate and participate in the policy making and decision making processes which affect their lives — in the Church and in society in general — on local, regional and national levels."

And that's just what they've been doing for diocesan Sisters since their first meeting in September 1970. At that time, there were 31 council members.

In addition to congregational representatives, a recent revision in their constitution allowed the 10 regions set up in the diocese to be represented on the council.

Regional elections are cross congregational and any woman within that region is able to self-nominate or be nominated for that post. There are two representatives if there are over 150 Sisters in a region.

Congregational representatives are elected according to the size of the congregation. For example, the largest congregation in the diocese, the Sisters of St. Joseph, has six congregational representatives.

In case members cannot attend, all those on the DSC have alternates. Six diocesan orders also have inactive membership in the council.

Present at the last meeting Jan. 19, but not pictured were Sisters Evelyn Marie, SSND; Florian Reichert, SSJ; Anna Louise Staub, SSJ; Mary Gerard Flagler, SSJ; Janice Morgan, SSJ; Mary Clouser, SSJ; Kathleen Kircher, SSJ; Rosalma Hayes, SSJ; Clare Francis, SSJ; Mary Bernard, RSM; Edwardine Weaver, RSM and Mary Jude, RSM.

Alternates Sisters Patricia Pullman, SSJ and Marie Halligan, RC, were present for members Sisters Carole Proia, SSJ, and Mary Walsh, RC, recording secretary.

Absent were Sisters Therese, MPF, Clare Walsh, MSHS, and Veronica Casey, RSM.



Sister Barbara, SSM1.



Sister Mary John Van Atta, SSJ, editor of the DSC newsletter.



Sister Margaret [left], Sister Anne Marie, ASC, Sister Mary Louise Heffeman, SSJ.