

## Have a Cookbook Party or Formula for Planning a Meeting

From the January 16, 2019 NCCW Member call led by Jane Carter

Every woman has more cookbooks than she needs—and as an organization we have a commitment to **RECYCLE** and **REUSE**—so a **Cookbook Party is a perfect fit!**

- Bring one, give one, take one—everyone wins!
- Don't be afraid to give away a book with notes in the margins and stains on the pages.
- If you have the opportunity to advertise your meeting at other parish events, wear your NCCW apron!
- Make it a “costume” party by encouraging wearing a favorite apron.
- Add a little party spirit with colored napkins/plates and a few mylar helium balloons from the dollar store.

The Cookbook Party would actually be part of a meeting, but by calling it a **party**, women will arrive with a totally different attitude! Like the old grade school days on a holiday—you still had to do some WORK, but all day you were excited knowing what was coming at the end!

The phone tree or Text Message Committee will remind all your members about the event with an **enthusiastic** “What a perfect time to BRING A NEW FRIEND along with your old cookbooks!”

Combined with the normal social/hospitality time, including snacks and drinks of course---the Party won't add much **time** to the meeting (always a concern).

- Start the meeting with a prayer read directly from one of the cookbooks.
- Ask the hospitality group to make/serve one or more goodies from the cookbooks, and display them with the recipe marked.

If your affiliate CCW prepares meals after funerals, special receptions, homemade goodies for newcomers, lunches for teens—display a list of the food related **service project** on an easel.

Invite everyone to do some table sharing about the cookbook they brought:

- favorite recipe/one they have prepared most often
- how/where/when where they got it

The formula for the Cookbook Party could be used for almost any meeting:

- choose a focus or theme
- give it a catchy name
- have a few simple, fun decorations
- plan an interactive time for members
- advertise your service in this area
- invite friends!

TRY IT—You'll like the results!