

The Connection

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"Planting the Seed"

Almost 200 TDW members from around the state attended the annual state convention in Austin on February 25-27 at the Radisson Town Lake Hotel.

At the opening business meeting Saturday morning, delegates elected new officers and board members (listed on the left).

Betty Richie, Democratic National Committee (DNC) member; **Charles Soechting**, chair of Texas Democratic Party (TDP); and **Kellie Bailey**, outgoing TDW president, gave their perspective on the state of the Party.

At the Stars Award luncheon on Saturday, **Linda Allen** was named TDW Member of the Year. **Ann Mauzy**, charter member and first treasurer of TDW, presented outgoing TDW President **Kellie Bailey** with the president's pin. Incoming President **Alieca Hux** presented a gift to **Kellie Bailey** in recognition and appreciation for her two terms of service as TDW President.

A panel composed of **Bill Brannon**, political strategist, and **Judge Jan Patterson** discussed 2004 election cycle outcomes, followed by a Q & A session from the audience.

Harriet Miller, Katy Hubener, Kelly White, and Robin Moore formed a Candidates Panel and discussed their elections: what they learned, mistakes they made, positive things that were done, would they run again, etc. This discussion was also

followed by a Q & A session.

At the Awards Dinner on Saturday evening the Oscar Mauzy Humanitarian Award was presented to Delay-targeted Congressmen: **Lloyd Doggett, Max Sandlin, Chet Edwards, Nick Lampson, Charles Stenholm, and Martin Frost**. Letters of appreciation to TDW from the Congressmen were read.

Molly Beth Malcomb, former state party chair, presented the Outstanding Elected Female Official Award to the family of **Dr. Mae Jackson**, posthumously. Malcomb, long-time friend of Dr. Jackson, gave a warm and moving tribute to the life and achievements of Dr. Jackson. She then read a resolution from TDW Past Presidents, adopted during the business meeting, changing the name of the Outstanding Woman Elected Official Award to the **Dr. Mae Jackson Outstanding Democratic Woman Officeholder Award**. (A copy of this resolution can be found on the website, www.tdw.org.)

Other award winners include:

Certificates of Achievement:

Wichita County TDW

Young County TDW

Scrapbook Competition:

Young County TDW

Newsletter Competition:

Central Texas TDW

Concho Valley TDW

Highland Lakes TDW

Young County TDW

President's Message



As I begin my presidency of TDW, let me thank all those who attended the annual convention in Austin. It is my hope that you returned home with a renewed commitment to TDW and the Democratic Party!

We attempted to “plant the seeds” of hope and inspiration — hope for the future and inspiration to become more involved in the political process. In the coming year, I look forward to communicating with you as we watch these seeds bloom in the form of increased political activism.

Together let us work hard to live up to the standards of TDW.

Thank you again for your support!

Proud to be a Democrat!

Alieca Hux

President, Texas Democratic Women

Report from the DNC

The Democratic National Committee met in Washington, D.C. on February 11 and 12, 2005 for the purpose of electing a new chairman and other DNC officers.

It was exciting to meet with Chair Howard Dean and explain to him that what works in Texas for the Democratic Party is **Texas Democratic Women**.

The information I gained from the speakers at the DNC Women's Caucus Meeting clearly demonstrated that we have a tremendous amount of work to do in bringing women back into the Democratic fold. In the election of 2004, there were 118 million voters. Of that 118 million, 63.6 million were women and 54.2 million were men. So, roll up your sleeves and put on your tennis shoes because we have work to do starting now.

The attitude of the Democratic leaders who attended the DNC meeting was positive and one of hope. “We Are Alive In 2005” is a great message.

I am proud to serve as a voice from Texas as a Democratic National Committeewoman. Please contact me if I can be of any assistance.

Betty Richie

Past TDW President

Q: How many Bush administration officials does it take to change a light bulb?

A: None. There is nothing wrong with the light bulb; its conditions are improving every day. Any reports of its lack of incandescence are a delusional spin from the liberal media. That light bulb has served honorably, and anything you say undermines the lighting effect. Why do you hate freedom?

New TDW Chapters

Chambers County TDW

South Plains TDW

Walker TDW

Welcome!!!



2005 TDW OFFICERS

Front Row from left to right: Wilma Allen, Board Member; Susie Blackmon, Secretary; Gloria Caceres, Board Member; Alieca Hux, President; Harriet Miller, President-Elect; Marcia Mainord, Vice President; Donna Beth McCormick, Treasurer; Pat Wallace, Board Member. Back row: Kellie Bailey, outgoing TDW president; Justice Jan Patterson



Gloria Caceres presents *Linda Allen* the Outstanding TDW Member Award

Meet Linda Allen

Linda Allen is a retired Air Force officer and computer professional who lives in Corpus Christi and is a member of the Coastal Bend chapter. She donates her time and expertise to maintain the TDW website, including the chapter web pages and the new online database, so the only costs to TDW are for the domain name registration and site hosting -- or just under \$200 a year. (This leaves more money to help get Democrats elected.)

She is truly deserving of the Outstanding TDW Member Award!

Mark Your Calendars!

**TDW Summer Retreat
July 22 –23, 2005
Granbury, TX**

Air America Radio, featuring hosts Al Franken, Janeane Garofalo and Rhandi Rhodes, will provide progressive talk radio on Austin's KOKE 1600 AM on the radio dial beginning Monday, March 14. Air America already airs in Corpus Christi.

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Newsletter Ideas

The Connection is published quarterly. The next issue will be mailed June 17, 2005. Send your ideas for stories, columns, or news **by May 30, 2005** to:

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TDW 5 Minute Activist

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