



JANUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

HAVE YOU REGISTERED FOR THE ANNUAL CONVENTION - FEB. 9-10, 2018?

President's Letter

I recently spent two weeks in Australia and New Zealand. I admit it was a relief to be away from the constant reminders of the ineptitude and mean-spiritedness of the Trump administration and its acolytes. But even down under, people worry about our President and the likelihood that he will start a nuclear war with North Korea. One New Zealand taxi driver told me that he prayed every night for the generals who keep Trump in check.

I returned home last week just in time for our President's latest racist rant about African countries, Haiti and El Salvador. While the White House denies racism, the facts tell a different story. **The truth is that immigrants from Africa are among the most educated of all with 41% of African immigrants holding college degrees and 16% having advanced degrees** - exceeding the numbers for US born citizens and Norwegian immigrants to the US. One out of three of African immigrant degrees is in the high demand areas of science, technology, engineering and math. They are twice as likely to work in healthcare fields. They have spending power of \$40.3 billion and **the biggest beneficiary of this is Texas where African immigrant spending power is \$4.7 billion.** (See *African Americans are more educated than most – including people born in the US*. Los Angeles Times, January 17, 2018.)

This racism is contributing to the potential shutdown of the federal government and endangering the DACA recipients. Republicans are trying to lure Democrats into agreement on a spending bill by dangling the prospect of funding for CHIP – a children's healthcare program that should have been funded months ago.

America and Texas better than this and it is up to us to prove it by electing representatives with a moral compass who care for all the people they represent. As I see predictions of a blue tsunami in 2018, I worry. First, I worry about over-confidence in a result caused by people not voting or casting protest votes as they did in the last Presidential election. Second, I worry



Carol Jablonski, TDW President



TDW Officers

TDW Executive Board

President: Carol Jablonski - North Dallas
President-Elect: Cindy James - Tarrant
Vice President: Barbara Gardner - Harris Metro
Secretary: Mary Ho - Bell
Treasurer: Susan Barrick - Lubbock
Board Member: Maria Regalado - Hidalgo
Board Member: Doris Perkins - Nacogdoches
Board Member: Sharon Davis - Anderson
Immd. Past President: Susan Shelton - Travis
Parliamentarian: Terry Meza - North Dallas

TDW Board of Advisors

Jeanie Stanley, Ph.D
Mae J. Jackson, Ph.D*

because predictions of Democratic victories are likely to make Republicans work harder to get out the vote. Make no mistake, I am hoping for a blue tsunami this year, but I know it won't happen without effort by each and every one of you. Victory requires every one of you to contribute however you can.

Join your fellow TDW members at the convention in Austin this February 9th through 11th to meet some of our fabulous candidates and get new ideas for how to help them. I look forward to seeing you there.

Your President,
Carol Jablonski

Jo Ann Jenkins
Karen Matkin
Cristy Keul
Molly Beth Malcolm, Ed.D
Nettie Ruth Bratton
Sharon Teal
Roberta McMurtry Hicks*
Betty Richie
Kellie Bailey
Alieca Hux
Marcia Mainord
Gloria Caceres
Susie Blackmon
Joanna Reagan
Rosie Mimms
Donna Beth McCormick
Tammie Hartgroves
Laura Allen
*indicates deceased



2018 TDW CONVENTION – FEBRUARY 9-11 REGISTER ONLINE NOW!

Sarah Weddington, who argued *Roe v. Wade* in 1972, will speak at the *Gala Dinner* on Saturday evening, Feb. 10th. This woman made history for all of us! You cannot afford to miss her!

Friday night will be fun with a comedienne presenting a comedy show at the hotel. We have a hospitality suite starting late Friday afternoon. TDW's annual business meeting is Saturday morning, followed by the Awards Luncheon. Saturday afternoon is filled with break-out workshops with various topics from which to choose. The specific agenda will be published soon.

Go to [TDW.org/Events/2018 Convention](http://TDW.org/Events/2018_Convention) to register for TDW's Annual Convention. You will find instructions and links with exactly what you need to do to register for the convention.

The location is TDW's traditional *Wyndham Garden Hotel*, 3401 South I-35, Austin, TX 78741. You must **contact the hotel directly** to reserve a room, or you may reserve your room online at www.WyndhamAustin.com. (You cannot reserve a room on Act Blue.) TDW obtained a discount for early registrants, less than last year's room price: Double \$105, King \$105, Executive King \$115, and Casita \$125. Enter **02066702TE 001** in the group code field for the discounted rate. For more information, call the hotel at 800/996-3426. **The last date to register for a room at the discounted TDW rate is January 18, 2018.**

SPONSORSHIP UPDATE



Gala Dinner Sponsors

Nueces (\$1500)

Advertising Sponsors

Honorable Susan Bradley

Hospitality Suite

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Tarrant County Democratic
Women

Ms. Kenna Giffen
Honorable Celia Israel
Honorable Carol Kent
Ms. Stephanie Ertel
]

Rio Grande (\$1000)
North Dallas TDW

Red River (\$500)
Texas AFL-CIO
Greater Arlington/Mansfield TDW
Brazos Valley TDW
Rio Grande TDW
Judge Dale Tillery Campaign

Nueces (\$250)
Justin R. Rodriguez Campaign
Chris Turner Campaign
Judge Sergio Leon Campaign
Honorable Susan and David
Bradley



PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGES WERE SENT OUT

The Bylaws Committee and some chapters are proposing major changes to the TDW Bylaws, which will be presented at the business meeting at the convention. A separate eblast was sent to all members with the details. Please study the proposed changes so that you can make an informed vote.

Candidates for TDW Board

The election of new board members is an important part of the business meeting Saturday morning, Feb. 10th. The following persons have applied for a position on the TDW Board:

President: Cindy James, Tarrant County
President-Elect: Maria Regalado, Rio Grande Valley
Vice President/Communications: Susan Barrick, South Plains
Secretary: Mary Ho, Bell County
Treasurer: Kenna Giffin, Rio Grande Valley
Lenna Webb, North Dallas
At-Large: (Vote for 3)
Frank Carlson, Bell
Linda Cryer, Harris Metro
Bobbi Clavon, North Dallas
Sharon Davis, Anderson
Barbara Gardner, Harris Metro
Jessica Holliday, South Plains
Swati Joshi, North Dallas
Angela Martinez, South Plains
Bunnie Sams, Highland Lakes
Glenda Turner, Coastal Bend
Immediate Past President: Carol Jablonski, North Dallas



To the candidates:

The Nomination/Election Committee invites you to have campaign material to be placed in the tote bags. Or, you may pass out materials during registration. For items placed in the tote bags, you must have your material at the Wyndham Hotel on Thursday, Feb. 8th, as tote bags are filled that evening.

If you choose to personally pass out your materials, registration begins at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 9th. TDW members handling the registration prefer that you stand down the hall

from the table as to not impede their work.

During the election portion of the business meeting, you may make a 2-minute speech. Your speech will be timed.

* President and Immediate Past-President are not open races.



LOCAL CHAPTER WEBSITES

TDW is offering each local chapter its own separate website, at no cost to your chapter. See the new State TDW website - www.TDW.org. A workshop will be presented at the convention to show you how easy you can create and maintain your own chapter website.



NEWS FROM LOCAL CHAPTERS

Below are articles from local chapters telling about what's happening in their "neck of the woods."



Hill Country TDW

With incredible timing (in the light of recent actions of the U.S. Attorney General and the California electorate), the Hill Country Chapter of TDW invited [Heather Fazio](#), the Texas director for the Marijuana Policy Project, to speak to the January 2, 2018 luncheon meeting. Fazio was interesting and balanced in her talk, which covered the full range of marijuana policies, from limited medical applications to full legalization.

The Hill Country TDW recommends Fazio to other TDW chapters looking for a speaker who imparts a great deal of knowledge and speaks with authority and experience about a controversial subject. Her talk to our TDW chapter was the basis of a two-part feature article in a local newspaper in rural Kerr County. More information at MPP.org.

Rio Grande Valley



When Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi visited the Río Grande Valley March 11, 2017, to



TDW President-Elect Cindy James visited the Río Grande Valley-Texas Democratic Women chapter March 27, 2017, to present the chapter's charter. TDW Member-at-Large Mari Regalado, right, was instrumental in starting the chapter in 201



Mike Collier, center, one of the Democratic candidates for Texas Lieutenant Governor in 2018, met with Río Grande Valley-Texas Democratic

