



Texas Democratic Women

Quarterly Newsletter



**María Regalado
President**

From the Office of the President

I would like to thank Membership Chair Barbara Gardner for a fabulous project she is working on - Area Ambassadors to reach out to counties without a TDW Chapter. As she says, "We women know our communities, we know our culture, and our phone calls will be answered." That is how it is in Hidalgo County, and we are like most of the state, it's got to be one-on-one, not just email or internet.

Get ready now for our 2020 Convention February 7 - 9 at the Austin Wyndham Garden Hotel. Hotel rates and registration fees are the same as last year.

Our bylaws direct us to receive certain nominations and bylaws amendments at least 60 days before Convention, so the deadline is December 10. Cindy James will receive the Statewide Awards nominations as Chair of the Awards Committee, and Carol Jablonski will receive bylaws amendments, as Chair of the Bylaws Committee. Details are in this newsletter.

Just a reminder - members please, don't forget TDW bylaws policy. We may not endorse one Democrat in opposition to another Democrat. It isn't always easy when we have to include all of the Democrats running for a particular office at events we sponsor, but it is very important. TDW has a reputation for fairness we must keep up as an official caucus of the state Party.

Thank you TDW members. I will see you soon.

Mark Your Calendars

Chapters - Bylaws Roundup!

Chapter Presidents, please email your current Chapter Bylaws to TDW Bylaws Chair, [Carol Jablonski](#).

And, if you haven't already, please email your list of 2019-2020 officers to [VP Kassandra Elejarza](#).

Coming soon . . .

- **Huddle with the TDW Board** - Oct. 4
Austin Wyndham Garden 6 p.m., Rm 168

Will be here before we know it . . .

- **Executive Board Meeting** - December date TBA by the State Party
- **Star Awards, Statewide Awards Nominations, Bylaws Amendments, Officer Ballot Applications DEADLINE** - December 10

We Are Looking for Leaders - Think you have the right stuff?

Then consider running for a position on your TDW State Board. Elections will be during the Annual Meeting at State Convention, on Saturday, February 8, 2020. Officers and board members must attend four board meetings per year - so plan on them if you run. The first will be Sunday, February 9 at 9 a.m.. The second and fourth will be in conjunction with the 2nd and 4th quarter SDEC meetings and the third will be at the Summer Retreat on August 1 at 1:30 p.m. Only members in good standing whose dues are current for 2020 are eligible to run. The office of President Elect requires two years previous experience on the State Board.

To download the qualifications and key duties for each office, and an application for a place on the ballot at Convention, click here: [Ballot Application, Qualifications and Duties](#). Print out and complete the application form, and scan and send it along with a digital photo of yourself to Elections Committee Chair [Tammie Hartgroves](#). Candidates who send in their materials by December 10 will have their names printed on the ballot, and their information published in the TDW pre-Convention newsletter. Names may additionally be placed in nomination from the floor of the Convention.

Chapters - Bidding is Open for the 2020 Summer Retreat!

TDW's Summer Retreat is a time for conversation and reflection on the current state of our organization and thinking ahead together about its future. Chapters wishing to host the 2020 Retreat on July 31-August 1st are invited to submit a bid showcasing their community and the accommodations they can offer. Please email VP [Kassandra Elejarza](#) now to notify the TDW board of your chapter's interest in hosting. The final decision about the location of the 2020 Retreat will be on the agenda of the December meeting of the Executive Board.

Things to know when preparing to bid –

- The host Chapter is financially responsible for all aspects of the Retreat. It may solicit donations for t-shirts or hold a silent auction to help recover costs.
- Retreat attendance varies from about 70 to 100.
- The TDW President sets the theme, solicits program speakers and focuses the content.

[Download Complete Retreat guidelines here.](#)

Bids may be presented in person, by email, or on paper. Chapters may send a representative to (or participate by phone in) the December meeting of the TDW board, to be held in conjunction with the 4th quarter SDEC meeting when the exact date of that meeting is set by the state Party.

TDW Statewide Awards - Don't Wait, Nominate

Much of the success of our 2020 Convention will be thanks to TDW members and Chapters who nominate deserving individuals for an annual statewide award. There are four statewide awards specifically for TDW members and Chapters. Two awards, however, are given in honor of two amazing Texas Democrats that some of us new to TDW or Texas may not know much about.

Dr. Mae Jackson, Ph.D., was a social worker, a civil rights worker, and a trailblazing Democrat. Among her many accomplishments, she was the first African American woman Mayor of the city of Waco. Justice Oscar Mauzy served two decades in the Texas Senate, fighting for progressive policies to make life better for all Texans. He then served as an Associate Justice of the Texas Supreme Court where he wrote the unanimous decision that declared the Texas system of financing public schools to be unconstitutional. Look them up - you will have a great little Texas history lesson!

Think of the outstanding Democratic women elected officials you know of who live up to the commitment represented by Mae Jackson, and Texas Democrats you know of who embody the fighting spirit for the progressive agenda championed by Oscar Mauzy, and **nominate them**. Then we are sure to have an inspiring, memorable Gala evening and a full house to enjoy it. Recipients of these two awards need not be members of TDW. **Nomination deadline: December 10.**

[Download Complete Guidelines & Nomination Form for all 6 Statewide Awards here.](#)

Due Date December 10

December 10 looms large on the TDW 2020 Convention Calendar. It is the deadline for submitting

proposed Bylaws amendments, ballot applications, Star Awards, and Statewide Award nominations. See articles above for links to information about the ballot application and Statewide Award nominations.

Star Award forms and instructions can be downloaded [here](#).

Any proposed Bylaws amendments should be emailed to [Carol Jablonski](#), TDW Bylaws Committee Chair by 12/10 to be placed on the Annual Meeting agenda. Download a copy of the current bylaws [here](#). Please cite the article and section where changes would occur, and indicate words to be removed and words to be added along with the reason(s) for the amendment when emailing her.



NEWS FROM LOCAL CHAPTERS

Please help us make this a better newsletter that represents the wonderful diversity of our statewide organization!

Photos and stories about your Chapter's events for next month's newsletter can be sent at any time to [VP Cassandra Elejarza](#).



Highland Lakes Democratic Women's Fall Fundraiser and Membership Social was held on September 9th. It was a collaborative effort between HLDW and Save the World Brewing, a 100% philanthropic craft brewery. Nancy Hill, Chapter President introduced her executive committee and explained how TDW and its chapters provide financial support to local and state Democrats who need help mounting successful campaigns.



TDW Harris kicked off Hispanic Heritage Month with the Chapter's members, elected officials, and candidates from Harris County.



TDW 2019-2020 OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

President: Maria Regalado
President-Elect: Sue Barrick
VP: Cassandra Elejarza
Secretary: Mary Elizabeth Terry
Treasurer: Kenna Giffiin
At-Large Board Members:
Janet Dudding
Otilia Buantello Enriquez
Laura Nicol
Immediate Past President:
Cindy James

Photo by Shirley Ledford

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