



August 2018 NEWSLETTER

Would your chapter like to host the 2019 Summer Retreat?

President's Message



It's getting closer and closer to that big day in November and with the enthusiasm of the Texas Dems, a Blue Wave is rolling in.

This summer has been very busy for us all. Block walking, Town Hall meetings, telephoning, house parties, and post card

writing have kept us feeling excited about the elections. And I am so proud of all the Texas Democratic women who have stepped forward to run for office. Our gratitude to each of you is overwhelming.

We had a wonderful TDW Summer Retreat in Dallas. The speakers were great and full of interesting information. A giant thank you to the North Dallas Texas Democratic Women for hosting this year.

If your Chapter would like to host the 2019 retreat next summer, please give us a heads up. We would like to hear proposals from Chapters at the December TDW board meeting in Austin, and reach a decision about where it will be held in time to put the word out at our state convention next February.

As I write this, there are just 66 days until early voting, and we can't slow down now. TDW members and friends, our candidates need each and every one of you on deck. The future is starting to look up. Let's keep this Texas Blue Wave growing as we "Build a Bridge to a Brighter Future"!

Your President,
Cindy James



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Click [here](#) to read the latest issue of the National Federation of Democratic Women (NFDW) Quarterly Newsletter, The Communicator

Our fellow organizations, **INDIVISIBLE** and **MARCH ON! TEXAS** are hosting the biggest postcard party ever Sunday, August 26. Click [here](#) to sign up on their Facebook Event.

SUMMER RETREAT 2018

North Dallas TDW welcomed this year's retreat attendees with an elegant Meet & Greet reception on the 38th floor of the Sheraton, with beautiful views of the city all around, and at least 25 candidates on hand, including Joi Chevalier, Mike Collier, Steve Kirkland, Roman McAllen, and Kathy Cheng.

Starting early Saturday morning, a full day of presentations focused on ways TDW Chapters can reach out to wider audiences of voters and motivate them to vote Democratic come November. Terri Burke, ACLU of Texas Executive Director and Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins offered opening remarks. Then Kristy Noble (pictured right) of Funky East Dallas Democrats led off with a very enthusiastic description of how to utilize their group's PUMP (Precinct United Mobilization Program) plan. Her presentation was voted by most people to be the one where they learned the most. You can find out more and contact Kristy [here](#).



Kristy was followed by the always inspiring Bruce Elfant, Travis County Tax-Assessor Collector and Voter Registrar, who shared all the creative ways his county has achieved over 90% voter registration of eligible voters.



Dr. Carla Brailey, Vice-Chair of the Texas Democratic Party (pictured left) addressed the retreat during the noon meal, outlining her vision for making the party more inclusive of minorities.

After lunch, a diverse panel of African American, youth, Latino, LGBTQ, Muslim and Asian Democrats responded to vital questions of interest, including "What is the most important issue to your group?" and "What should one avoid when speaking to your group?"

Donna Schmidt of Moms Demand Action discussed how to use the gun issue to switch voters, followed Dr. Daniela Busciglio's enlightening though abbreviated interactive workshop on political messaging and framing when talking to voters. The workshop was cut short by the arrival of Lupe Valdez, the highlight of the whole weekend. Lupe keeps getting better and better every time we see her, and with all our help she could be the next Governor of Texas!



TDW Board Meeting News

On Saturday, August 4th at its meeting following the summer retreat, the TDW board was proud to approve a record total of \$80,000 as contributions to the campaigns of 23 Democratic women.



The next state board meeting will be held on the evening of Friday, September 7 at 6 p.m. at the Austin Wyndham Garden. 3401 South IH-35. Members are welcome to attend.

Websites for TDW Chapters

TDW provides our local chapters the opportunity to have a website and set-up assistance free of charge. Eleven TDW chapters have already set up their websites and started customizing them. For more information about getting started on your chapter's free website please contact [VP Sue Barrick](#).

Looking ahead - Notable Dates

- Sept. 7 - TDW state Board meeting, in Austin
- Sept. 8 - TDP SDEC meeting and Johnson-Jordan Dinner, in Austin
- Oct. 9 - Voter registration ends for the General Election
- Oct. 22 - Early voting begins
- Nov. 2 - Early voting ends
- **Nov. 6 - General Election Day**



NEWS FROM LOCAL CHAPTERS

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

Please send photos and stories about your Chapter's events for next month's newsletter at any time to [VP Sue Barrick](#)

Highland Lakes TDW

Highland Lakes TDW hosted Gilberto Hinojosa, Chairman of the Texas Democratic Party on July 26th. Marti Pogue, Burnet Democratic Party Chairwoman and Dana Rushing, Llano Democratic Party Chairwoman attended, as did Abigail O'Hair, our 2018 Scholarship recipient. Abigail is an elementary school teacher currently working on her degree in administration.



Abigail O'Hair, 2018 Highland Lakes scholarship recipient



Above, Back Row, L to R: Carol Parker, Linda Burling, Betsy Walker, Dana Rushing, Brenda Smith. Front Row, L to R: Gilberto Hinojosa, Chairman of the Texas Democratic Party; Marilyn Harris, Anita Cruver, Ravelle Kundinger



Chairman Hinojosa, center, with Marti Pogue, Burnet Co. Chair (L) and Dana Rushing, Llano Co. Chair (R)

Hood County TDW

TDW of Hood County began an exciting summer of activism at local events and in surrounding counties! On May 17 the Scholarship Committee presented each of three outstanding young women graduates of Granbury High School a \$1,000.00 scholarship at the GISD Awards Ceremony. The Annual Scholarship Luncheon provides funding for the scholarships. A tremendous accomplishment for our small Chapter!



Hood County TDW members Jeri Chappelle (left) and Irene Smith (above) rally with other Families Belong Together participants at the Hood County Courthouse.

On June 4, members began delivering lunches to children at Arrowhead Shores development. This is the 4th year of participating with the Hood County Democrats in the Healthy Kids Summer Lunch Program. Many members carried signs at the Families Belong Together rally on June 30, hosted by Jeannylee Figueroa, at the Hood County Courthouse. On July 6, members helped welcome US senatorial candidate Beto O'Rourke at Celebration Hall in Granbury. Phone banking for Beto began soon afterwards at the Hood County Democrats office (pictured, right).



Members continue to support our candidates by donations of time and money. Some candidates have spoken at our monthly meetings. Among them have been US Representative District 11 candidate Jennie Lou Leeder and Hood County Clerk candidate Gene McNeely. Each month we have had new guests and members under the leadership of President Wendy Davis and the TDW of Hood County Executive Committee. The enthusiasm continues to grow for our efforts to create a BLUE WAVE in November!

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Send your articles and photos to VicePresident@TDW.org - we want to promote you!

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