

The Connection

SPRING 2007

The newsletter of the Texas Democratic Women

Issue 15, Volume 1

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2007 TDW State Convention "Growing... Grassroots Style"

The 20th anniversary Convention 2007 Growing...Grassroots Style! Began early Friday March 2nd with registration at the Wyndham Hotel and Woodard Convention Center in Austin. In the evening attendees visited the famous Austin 6th Street to have a few laughs at Esters Follies before beginning the "real work" on Saturday.

Saturday at 8:30 am came early for over 120 TDW members as the Business meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge to the Texas flag (in honor of Texas Independence Day) by President **Alieca Hux**. The meeting proceeded with DNC highlights by **Betty Richie**. TDP Chairman **Boyd Richie** followed with greetings from TDP and a thank you to TDW for all its support throughout the years. State TDP business continued with minutes being presented by Secretary **Linda Leff** and Treasurer's report from **Wilma Allen**. **Ann Mauzy** surprised the Past State Presidents with a little "pop quiz" on TDW History. Election Committee chair **Judge Susan Criss** recommendations for state officer candidate and board members were approved by the attendees by acclamation. The new officers and Board Members were installed by **Judge Diane Henson**.



After starting the afternoon with the STAR luncheon and awards it was time

to get down to more business. Attendees had the opportunity to learn from fellow TDW members fund raising, membership recruitment, chapter management, financial management, and officer accountability. There were even sessions on Politics "101" and the "how-to" for those interested in running for office.

The Convention concluded Saturday evening with a reception followed by the silent auction 20th Anniversary gala & awards dinner.



Congratulations TDW Award Winners !

Oscar Mauzy Humanitarian Award:
State Rep. Elliott Naishtat

Dr. Mae Jackson Outstanding Democratic Women Office holder:
State Rep. Yvonne Davis

Lifetime Achievement Award:
Ann Mauzy

Distinguished Service Award:
Jo Ann Jenkins

TDW Member of the Year :
Marcia Mainord

Outstanding Newsletter:
Bell County

Texas Outstanding Scrapbook:
1st Place : Nacogdoches County
2nd Place: Ellis County
3rd Place: Bell County



President's Message



Greetings!

Our 2007 TDW convention is over and what a terrific weekend! Thank you to all that helped and all of you that attended. Hopefully everyone went home energized and ready to go to work toward the next election.

Spring and baseball games are around the corner. We can say we have just finished our spring training at our convention. Now we need to work together as a team and have a winning season. It is not too early to think about running for an elective position. Our mission as Democratic women is to promote increased political activity and influence of Democratic women in Texas politics and government. It is time that we all look at ourselves and decide it is time to step up to the plate and make a commitment to get involved. This can be involvement from the local level, right up to the state level. Each and everyone of you can make a difference. You can be a player or you can be a recruiter. Each job is very important, so let's hit the field and **"PLAY BALL!"** (a Democratic ball, that is!)

Proud to be a Democrat and prouder to be a TDW member!

Marcia Mainord

President, Texas Democratic Women



Think Blue!



1st Quarter Board Meeting : On March 4, after the Convention concluded, the TDW Board called to order their quarterly meeting. Various items of business were discussed including the Summer Retreat and a detailed reading of the Treasurer's report. The 2007 Summer Retreat will be held **July 13-14, 2007 in Corpus Christi** and will be sponsored by the **Coastal Bend Chapter**.

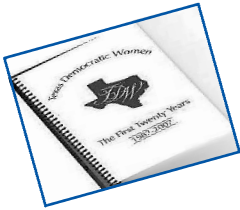
TDW Mission Statement

Texas Democratic Women was organized in 1987 as one response to the growing political interest expressed by mainstream women from across the state. TDW promotes the increased political activity and influence of Democratic women in Texas politics and government. TDW provides statewide training conferences and workshops. In addition, the group serves as a communication network for existing Democratic women's organizations and promotes the formation of new groups.

There are many organized groups which represent certain segments of women Democrats in Texas. Some are tied to a particular city or county in the state; others reflect particular issue agendas or ethnic groups. Some groups attract women in a specific age category or occupation. Of course, there are professional and career women in our party, but there are also many women who work in the home or are retired. None of these organizations currently represent the broad range of women in our Party. Texas Democratic Women works to unite this wonderful diversity of devoted women behind one common goal - the support of our Party and the involvement of women in the political process.

20th Anniversary TDW History: 1987- Charter Members

Karen Warick Abernathy	Nora A. Linares
D'An Anders	Sandra Martnez
Olivia Besteiro	Anne Mauzy
Deborah Lee Bradley	Karen McLeaish
Ms. Roy LaVerne Brooks	Marjorie M. Miller
Millie Brunner	Carol Nasworthy
Madgelean Bush	Hazel F. Obey
Billie Carr	Sue Pate
Judith H. Cassetty	Velda Phelps-Wasson
Jeannette H. Colfield	Frances Ruelas Powell
Patricia Cole	Cecile Russell
Susan Cox	Aurora Sanchez
Annie Dickson	Clara Lou Sawyer
Gay Erwin	Martha Singleton
Annie Foster	Dr. Bettye R. Smith
Felipa Garcia	Jeanie Stanley
Ernestine Glossbrenner	Barbara Stanley
Christine Hernandez	Texas State Teachers
Mary Elizabeth Jackson	Assoc.
Mae J. Jackson Ph.D	Rosa Walker
June L. Karp	Marjorie Wall
Angela K. Lamb	Martha Whitehead
Kay Langford	Nancy N. Williams
Judge Sheila Jackson	JoAnna Woods
Janette Lehman	Del Yarborough



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1987-2007
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Jo Ann Jenkins and Anne Mauzy

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CHAPTER NEWS

Texas Democratic Women is pleased to welcome **Springtown Area Democratic Women and Hidalgo County Chapter / Texas Democratic Women** as our two newest chapters.

KERRVILLE COUNTY— Barbara Young, Chapter President



Yvonne Gutierrez

Yvonne Gutierrez, Director of Communications and Public Affairs for Planned Parenthood Trust of San Antonio and South Central Texas, spoke to the TDW General Meeting January 2. Her topic was "Legislative Issues Affecting Women's Health" addressed actions of the 79th Legislature and outlined important issues of the upcoming session. She said that the major focus for Planned Parenthood will be to recoup monies lost in the 79th session. Other topics of concern are parental consent, birth control counseling, prevention of cervical cancer, and access to medications at pharmacies. **Ms. Gutierrez** will be active in communicating with legislators as soon as legislative committees are appointed. She encouraged TDW members to be activists regarding women's health issue.



TDW Members Geri Wolfe and Gloria Olsen with Ms. Gutierrez

NDTDW (North Dallas) — Lenna Webb, Chapter President

NDTDW is off to another great year of speakers and programs! County Chair, **Darlene Ewing**, spoke with obvious joy about the behind the scenes maneuvering of judicial candidates and the terrific job they did with a consolidated campaign to take back Dallas County. As a result of **Laura Fiffick**, (Dallas Mayor Laura Miller's Environmental issues rep) update on the status of the fight against the new coal plants that were proposed to be built in Texas a number of our members went to Austin to protest and lobby against these plants. We also went to Waco to attend a meeting of the Clean Air Coalition where we found out that the first legal case verdict came in that day, which declared Governor Perry's fast tracking of the permits, to be unconstitutional.



Lenna Webb, Amy Long-Manuel, Evelyn Roberson, & Nancy Caveness at Clean Air Meeting in Waco



Janis Schwarz, Amy Long-Manuel & Lenna Webb heading off to lobby in Austin

February's meeting was all about the Trans Texas Corridor. **Dr. Amy Walla-Klein** and **Sandy Grayson** (former Dallas City Council person) spoke about this very complicated issue. Upcoming programs will feature the head of Dallas County Elections. In April, we will host a debate/forum for the 21 people who have filed to run for mayor of Dallas. Our past debates/forums have been considered some of the best in the County and we hope to make this one just as good. May will bring noted speaker **Randy Mayeux** with a book review of **Collapse** which focuses on important issues from the past from which we need to learn in order to avoid repeating those mistakes.



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TDW MEMBERS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

2007

Apr 28 TDW Board Meeting & SDEC meeting—
 Wyndham Hotel and Convention Center—Austin

Apr 30 Please have 2007 Membership dues into State. Only members **current** on dues will be in the Directory and receive future newsletters.

Jul 13 Summer Retreat
 - Corpus Christi
14 

Dates subject to change—check with Chapter Leaders or see the website for updates.

Thank you.....

To the Sponsors and contributors to our 20th Anniversary Convention: Vali & Bill Brannon (American Campaign Signs & Graphics) & Jim Nickerson for the Hospitality Suite, and the members of Hood county for the contributions to the silent auction.



It is possible to read the history of this country as one long struggle to extend the liberties established in our Constitution to everyone in America.

Molly Ivins (Columnist) 1944-2007

Change of Contact Information

Send any changes of your contact information to our treasurer and our

webmaster:

Wilma Allen

wilmaallen@tdw.org

and

Linda Allen

webmaster@tdw.org

The Connection is published quarterly. Send Chapter “happenings” or ideas for stories, columns, or news to...

newsletter@tdw.org

2007 deadlines for submission of articles

⇒ **March 16th**

⇒ **May 18th**

⇒ **September 7th**

⇒ **December 7th**