

# The Connection

SPRING 2009

The newsletter of the Texas Democratic Women

Issue 17, Volume 1

## Inside The Connection

2009 State Convention	1
President's Message	2
Summer Retreat	3
Events Calendar	4

## OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT

Susie Blackmon, Rusk

### PRESIDENT ELECT

Joanna Reagan, Bullard

### VICE PRESIDENT

Wilma Allen, Harker Heights

### SECRETARY

Rosie Mimms, Glen Rose

### TREASURER

Barbara Cline, Corpus Christi

### PARLIAMENTARIAN

Judge Susan Criss, Galveston

### BOARD MEMBERS

Sharon Davis  
Linda Figueroa  
Kathryn Mossom

### PAST PRESIDENT

Gloria Caceres, Corpus Christi

## BOARD OF ADVISORS

Nettie Ruth Bratton  
Roberta Hicks  
Jo Ann Jenkins  
Molly Beth Malcolm  
Karen Matkin  
Jeanie Stanley, Ph. D.  
Betty Richie  
Sharon Teal

Visit the TDW website at  
[www.tdw.org](http://www.tdw.org)



## 2009 TDW State Convention "Our Future Starts Today: Building a Future with Democratic Values"

"Our Future Starts Today: Building a Future with Democratic Values" theme for 2009 Began early Friday, February 27 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.

Over 100 TDW members were present as the business meeting was called to order. After the welcome by President **Gloria Caceres**, the meeting proceeded with DNC highlights by **Betty Richie** and TDP Chairman **Boyd Richie** followed with greetings and thanking TDW members for all its support throughout the years. State TDW business continued with minutes being presented by Secretary **Rosie Mimms** and Treasurer's report from **Barbara Cline**. TDW's own "Thelma and Louise" (a.k.a. **Alieca Hux** and **Marcia Mainord**) presented the Membership report. **JoAnn Jenkins** 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 Susan Criss**.



At the STARS luncheon members had the opportunity to hear speaker **Alice Germond** Secretary, Democratic National Committee after which awards were presented.

The afternoon was quite busy with workshops for members to attend. The sessions covered topics such as Communications, Organization, Fundraising, Membership, Website, and Finance.

After all this information it was great to wind down with some shopping at



the Silent auction and the evening events of the reception and dinner. At the dinner members heard from **Justice Linda Yanez**, and Past President

**Gloria Caceres**. In addition, we had the privilege of hearing from state **Senator Leticia Van de Putte** as keynote speaker.



Congratulations  
TDW 2008 Award  
Winners!

**Dr. Mae Jackson Outstanding Democratic Women Office holder:**  
Justice Linda Yanez

**TDW Member of the Year :**  
Gloria Caceres

**Outstanding Newsletter:**  
1st Place : North Dallas  
2nd Place: Bexar County

**Texas Outstanding Scrapbook:**  
1st Place : Palo Pinto County  
2nd Place: Hood County  
3rd Place: Ellis County



## President's Message

Dear TDW Members,

The 2009 TDW State Convention was a huge success!

I want to take this opportunity to express my thanks and gratitude to everyone who attended. **You** made it a success!

My Convention theme this year was **"Our Future Starts Today; Building a Future with Democratic Values."** I chose this theme because we have a new President who is so inspiring. By working together on issues that are important, then we say **"YES, we can!"**

We had **116** people registered representing **25** of our local chapters; from the Rio Grande Valley to the Panhandle, and from East Texas to West Texas.

I hope everyone was able to attend our informative workshops and were able to take something back to your local chapters that will help you grow and become a more viable and visible organization. This is my goal for Texas Democratic Women this year.

We have such a great opportunity to use the energy and enthusiasm that has been generated from the past year's presidential election. We need your help to keep this momentum going and keep the political pendulum swinging back to **BLUE!**

As Texas Democratic Women we can continue to build our future by keeping our mission statement in mind which is to educate and prepare women to participate in the political process. This does not mean every woman should run for an elected office. We need women in all roles of the process, from being a loyal member to her local TDW chapter to precinct chair and county chair. We also need women to volunteer for civic organizations. Call your local county extension service and volunteer to serve on the county long-term planning committee or to judge the next 4-H fashion or food show. This type of volunteerism will give us visibility and a democratic voice to be heard. I believe that Texas Democratic Women was established to strive for equal representation. Our voices need to be strong when the discussion is about taking care of our families and living the American Dream.

I'd like to close this message with a quote from **Jeanie R Stanley Ph D**, TDW's first president. This paragraph was in her "Message from the President" that was printed in the first TDW Newsletter.

*"Democratic women will continue to work with men in our party and on other political activities. We are proud of our party's support for the full participation of women....The formation of Texas Democratic Women affirms the importance of the special contribution women can and do make to the political process. Our state and nation face tremendous challenges in the next few years. Texas Democratic Women will help our party and elected officials meet those challenges."*

Proud to be a Democrat, Prouder to be a Democratic Woman

**Susie Blackmon**

President, Texas Democratic Women

*Thank you!*

*To everyone who helped keep me on track during the convention. Marcia Mainord, Alieca Hux, and Gloria Caceres. Past presidents: Cyndi Reed & Joan Pace, Star Program & Silent Auction; Judy Gillam, Larry & Sharon Davis with registration. - Susie*

### CONGRATULATIONS!



We congratulate TDW member **Becky Moeller** on her recent election as President of the Southern Region of the National **AFL-CIO**. **Becky** is the first Texan to be elected president of the 13 state Southern Region. **Becky** is also the first woman to head the **Texas AFL-CIO!**

*TDW is proud of you Becky!*



### Resolution for FREDERICK MARTIN BARON

At the 2009 TDW State Convention **Past President Alieca Hux** presented a State Resolution honoring Democratic Party member, activist, and TDW supporter Attorney **Fred Baron**. Mr. Barron passed away October 31, 2008. He is survived by his wife, **Lisa Blue Baron**, and five children.

*Thank you for your service to Texas, the Democratic Party, & TDW. You will be missed.*



TEXAS DEMOCRATIC WOMEN  
SUMMER RETREAT

*"Future Starts Today: Building a future with Democratic values"*

JULY 17 - JULY 18, 2008

*The* LODGE of GRANBURY

401 EAST PEARL STREET  
GRANDBURY, TEXAS 76048

Phone: (817) 573-2606 Fax: (817) 573-2077

**\*\* AGNEDA To Be Announced \*\***



2009 TDW SUMMER RETREAT REGISTRATION FORM

----- Detach and mail registration form (with checks) below. -----

NAME:

TDW CHAPTER:

ADDRESS (street, city, zip) :

PHONE (home/work/cell/FAX):

EMAIL:

**CONVENTION REGISTRATION:** (Registration includes convention gift, materials, Friday's activities, business meeting, hospitality room, Saturday breakfast and lunch, workshops and silent auction.)

\_\_\_ \$35, TDW member

\_\_\_ \$45, non-member attendee

\_\_\_ \$25, attendee under age 22

**HOTEL REGISTRATION:**

Single (1 queen bed 1-2 people) \$123.17/night #of nights \_\_\_ total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Double (2 queen beds 2-4 people) \$134.47 /night #of nights \_\_\_ total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Info: \_\_\_ Visa or \_\_\_ MasterCard Account#: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION FORMS & PAYMENTS DUE BY FRIDAY, JULY 10.**

Make convention registration checks payable to **TDW of Hood County.**

Hotel registration payments by check make payable to **The Lodge of Granbury.**

Mail all payments to : **Rosie Mimms, P.O. Box 3237, Glen Rose, Texas 76043.**

For information please contact: **Rosie Mimms (254-898-8167)**



Texas Democratic Women  
 PO Box 2211  
 Austin, TX 78768-2211  
 www.tdw.org



PRSRT STD  
 U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
 Permit No. 1165  
 Austin, TX

**TDW MEMBERS**

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

**2009**

**Jan 1** 2009 Membership renewals were due January 1.  
  
 Membership renewal forms are available through your Chapter Treasurer or the TDW

**Jul 17** 2009 Summer Retreat.  
 -  
**18** GRANBURY

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

*Thank you.....*

To Bill & Vali Brannon and the sponsors of the convention hospitality suite for their contributions of time, great food, and liquid refreshment!



Most of man's problems upon this planet, in the long history of the race, have been met and solved either partially or as a whole by experiment based on common sense and carried out with courage.

Frances Perkins—(1882-1965) US Secretary of Labor 1933 -1945 in the FDR administration, and the first women ever appointed to the US Cabinet. She was instrumental in the development and execution of the New Deal and Social Security.

**Change of Contact Information**

Send any changes of your contact information to our treasurer and our webmaster:  
 Barbara Cline  
[barbaracline@tdw.org](mailto:barbaracline@tdw.org)  
 and  
 Linda Allen  
[webmaster@tdw.org](mailto:webmaster@tdw.org)

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

***newsletter@tdw.org***

**2009 deadlines for submission of articles**

- ⇒ *Spring : March 7*
- ⇒ *Summer: May 18*
- ⇒ *Fall : September 7th*
- ⇒ *Winter : December 7th*