



Résumé
Thomas Alan Wright
Executive Director
FairTax.org

Summary

As a volunteer, Tom is the executive director of FairTax.org, having recently served as Florida state director and American Farm Bureau Federation national liaison. Over the past eight years, he has also served as floor leader for the national retail sales tax at the Texas Democratic and Republican conventions.

For 13 years, he is or has served as a grassroots organizer, coalition builder, citizen lobbyist, and spokesman for several organizations working to replace the income tax with a national retail sales tax. These organizations include FairTax.org, American Tax Freedom Foundation, Citizens for an Alternative Tax System, the National Ask Your Candidate Campaign, and National Tax Research Committee.

To make the house payment, Tom is director of investor relations and corporate affairs for a Clearwater-based hedge funds: Emory Partners, L.P. Emory has more than \$50 million under management.

Tom joined the hedge fund after taking time off to tend to his wife's health. Prior to this he sold his advertising/public relations/lobbying business to Fogarty Klein & Partners, Houston's largest marketing communications firm. He was co-founder and president of Wright Marketing Communications, a full-service marketing consulting and communications company specializing in technology-based clients. For more than 15 years, his company provided marketing research, strategic planning, and implemented advertising, public relations, and sales support projects for clients ranging from large public corporations to venture-capital-based start-ups.

Tom is also a co-founder of a Houston urban literacy project, partnered with Mayor Lee P. Brown in his middle school violence reduction initiative, co-founded Houston's Tanglewood Academy, and volunteers as a spokesman for other charities involved in school violence reduction, education improvement & literacy, and psychiatric patients' rights.

Family data

Married to Bonnie San Jule Wright (21 years)
Two adopted children: Kate (13) and Patterson (10)

Education

Bachelor of Science, Radio Television Film
University of Texas, 1975; minor in advertising
Extensive post-graduate study

Professional accreditation and licensure

Certified Business Communicator (CBC) sponsored by the Business Marketing Association
Series 3 license via the National Association of Securities Dealers

Professional affiliations

Business Marketing Association (BMA), since 1979

Member of the board; chairman, education committee; frequent speaking engagements at Texas colleges on career opportunities in marketing; manager of student internship program

Houston Ad Federation, 1989

Internship program chairman

MIT Enterprise Forum of Texas, 1984-1989

Volunteer affiliations

Citizens Commission for Human Rights, since 1985, spokesman and citizen lobbyist in Austin, Washington, and Tallahassee

Citizens for an Alternative Tax System, since 1990, national spokesman, citizen lobbyist, and Texas/Florida grassroots organizer

National Tax Research Committee/Americans For Fair Taxation, since 1999

Boy Scouts of America, since 1999, den leader, Pack 313; since 2000, chartered organization representative, Pack 313/Troop 313/Venture Crew 313, Clearwater, Florida

Board affiliations

Tanglewood Academy (private pre- through high school), 1988-2001

Co-founder and member of the board

World Literacy Crusade of Houston (inner city literacy project), 1997-2000

Co-founder and member of the board

Texas/Israel Chamber of Commerce, 1999-2000

Member of the board

Pollack Family Foundation, 2001 to date

Advisor

Awards & honors

Business Marketing Association Education Achievement Award, 1982

Ford Foundation Educational Improvement Grant, 1983

BMA Agency Member of the Year, 1984

Communications Arts, 1984

Society for Technical Communication, 1976 and 1984

Fellow of the Kinkaid School, 1990

CCHR Legislative Achievement Award, 1993

CCHR Legislative Achievement Award, 2001

Personal interests

Film and music history

Automotive restoration

Replacing the income tax with a national retail sales tax

How to contact

Florida office: 727.712.9111 (Ask for Julie.)

Houston office: 713.963.9023 (Ask for Ruth.)

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