

## **PAN AMERICAN ROUND TABLE I of BROWNSVILLE**

In September 1932, Mrs. G. W. Johnson, Sr. gathered a group of interested Brownsville women at the El Jardin Hotel for the purpose of organizing a Pan American Round Table and electing officers. The new Table's twenty Charter Members and three Associates received their "Certificate of Membership" at their first program meeting in November 1932, thus becoming the fifth Table in the State of Texas to be organized.

Members have, since the beginning, represented each of the twenty-one Republics of the Pan American Union, plus Canada. In 2016, the Table expanded the representation to thirty-five countries to include the countries represented by the Alliance of Pan American Round Tables. Programs rotate alphabetically by country and are presented at seven regular meetings. Additionally, in November, there is a Birthday celebration and in April the Table observes Pan American Observance Day. Occasionally, Table I has partnered with Table II of Brownsville and the San Benito Table in the celebration.

Historically, PART I has been very active in community events. In 1938, they helped in the organization of the first Charro Days. In 1939, Table I held its first Merienda, which became one of the highlights of the Charro Days celebration. This tradition continued until 2004. Today the Table continues to present costume reviews to clubs, conventions, schools, and various organizations, locally, in the Valley, and even across the State.

In February 2012, for the first time since 2004, PART I re-instituted the "Merienda" with a "Regional Costumes of Mexico" review in honor of the 75th Anniversary of Charro Days.

In October 2018, Brownsville Table II joined Brownsville Table I thus forming one Brownsville Table.

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