



PANAMERICANA TEXANA

The Pan American Round Tables of Texas

2022-2023 Winter Edition, Volume 42 No. 1

Message from the State Director

I hope that your holidays were filled with many happy memories spent with family and friends. My December was exceptionally enjoyable as I attended several of the Tables' Christmas Celebrations and taking part in their beautiful festivities. Each was unique and emphasized their own flare, style, and customs.

I continue to encourage maintaining an open dialogue between Table Directors, Area Directors and myself in order to share all positive and innovative ideas that have manifested over the last three years under the leadership of my dear friend, Martha M. Stumbo. One of the most important things I see are projects geared towards bringing in new members, while at the same time continuing to nurture all members by fostering interests in your local communities and empowering women to get involved, much like our founder, Florence Terry Griswold. Her wishes were to forge a connection that enables us to understand our ever-changing world, most specifically our hemisphere, through knowledge and participation as a stepping stone for the future.

Many kudos to the Rio Grande Valley (Area-C) Tables for the wonderfully executed 60TH Pan American Round Tables State Convention held in McAllen on June 24-26, 2022 at the McAllen Convention Center. I would like to thank Raquel Oliva, Mariella Gorena, Letty Ramon and all of the ladies that made this convention a memorable one for all of us through their diligent works. In my visits across the state, members that attended the convention recall the many friendships that were made and rekindled during this needed gathering after the uncertainty and confinement during Covid-19.

At the Leadership Seminar held last August, several of the topics touched on understanding our Bylaws, Membership, Programs, and Protocol. It was successfully attended by Table Directors, their officers, and members seeking information. Afterwards there was much discussion. They exchanged ideas and offered many suggestions to better serve our membership. The plans are to hold another seminar this coming August to continue the dialog of encouraging leadership within your tables through knowledge of our diverse organization. I thank all that attended and I hope to see you all for P.A.R.T.-2.

I continue to be very grateful for the honor and privilege to serve you as your State Director 2022-2024 to the best of my ability. I am here to offer guidance and to help find solutions when needed. That is the reason why I have chosen "YOU are the KEY ingredient to our SUCCESS" as the theme for this biennium.

Let us continue to extend the ideals of knowledge, understanding and mutual friendship, until we are:

"One for All and All for One" "Una para todas y Todas para una"



Margot Arevalo-Gonzalez, State Director

Final Texana Message

My dearest Pan American Sisters,

It is with a heart filled with many, many memories that I write this, my final message, as State Director. It has been three years filled with sadness, happiness, joy and much laughter. Sadness since we have lost so many sisters from our Tables these past few years; happiness because we have all shared so many celebrations together at our Tables; joy when I see and hear about the accomplishments of each Table and their members; and laughter because I have shared a good belly laugh with so many of you as we sat at table for a meal, emailed each other a joke or talked on the phone. This job has been time consuming, but it has all been worth it. I can't imagine what I would have done with myself if I had not had this work to do. I thank each of you for all your help during these past three years, for all your support and especially for all that you have done for the Pan American movement. I think that I can proudly say that each of you has Made a Difference both at your Table and at our State organization.

Thank you for Making a Difference!

Martha Miles Stumbo, PARTT State Director 2019-2022

Area A - Austin

In October, the Austin Table dedicated a plaque to the memory of Clara Driscoll, founder of PART Austin in 1922, at her home, Laguna Gloria. Amalia Rodriguez Mendoza showed everyone the plaque naming Clara Driscoll as the founder of PARTT Austin.



Dr. Blandina Cardenas Flores gave a presentation on the Basilica of Our Lady of San Juan del Valle National Shrine during the Table's Spanish Coffee at La Peña Art Gallery.



On October 6, Table members visited the "Hilos de Tradición, Dresses of Mexico" exhibit at the Bullock Museum.



Rudolph and Gloria Munguia



Rae Ann Reeser and Lucinda Hutson.

Area A - Conroe



Members worked on their December project of filling candy bags for Runyan Elementary School faculty and staff. L-R Jewel Manders, Marcia Reagan, Annette Ferrell, and Paula Alexander.



A visit from the table director, Marivalle Vásquez, of Caracas, Venezuela to Conroe. Seated from left to right are Mary Margaret Coyle, Marilyn Sommers, Gloria Riddle, Marivalle Vásquez, Jewel Manders, Woody Hearn, and Mary Lou Sartore.

Area A - Houston

Distinguished Latina Lunch Series



October Lunch Meeting



November Lunch Meeting

Christmas (Posada) December Meeting



February Lunch Meeting



March Lunch Meeting

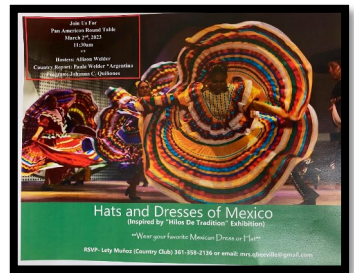


Area B - Beeville



Beeville Christmas Luncheon

The PART Beeville March meeting program featured **Hats and Dresses of Mexico**. It was inspired by the **"Hilos de Tradition"** Exhibition. Members were invited to wear their favorite Mexican Dress or Hat.



Members and guests at March meeting



Hostess, Allison Welder, with collaborators Louise Hall and Alice Louise Box during the March meeting

Area B - Laredo



Program presentation on Cuba by Diana Pena and Rosa Maria de Llano.



L-R Alicia Valdez, Irma Perales Mireles, Irma Villarreal and Edna Mayers.



L-R Magdalena Sanchez, Alicia Cantu, Olga Verduzco, Linda Villarreal, Melissa P. Garcia, Gabriela Mendoza Garcia.



Program on El Salvador— Marilú de la Luz Gorecki and Marcia Jovel.



Seated L-R: Leonor Garcia Gutierrez & Eva Porras. Standing L-R Kim Alexander, María de los Ángeles Elizaldi, Mary Ann Garcia, Diana Czar.

Area B - Del Rio



Del Rio Roundtable celebrating Founder's Day



Zone 1 Director Amalia Rodriguez-Mendoza and Heidi Castillo, wife of Guatemalan Consulate to Del Rio .

Annelies Castro-Rios and Lila Losoya modeling their February raffle prizes.



60th State Convention



Area B - Corpus Christi

Our December meeting was "Remembering Peggy". We were joined by State Director, Margot Arevalo who read a resolution honoring Peggy's life and accomplishments as a member of the Pan American Round table on the local, state and alliance levels.

We were also joined by members from the Beeville table as well as Sylvia Williams, Immediate Past Alliance Director and Peggy's daughter and daughter-in-law via Zoom.



Left to right: Geri Rice, Marie Adams, Christina Garza, Lucinda Garcia, Margot Arevalo Gonzalez, PARTT Director, Laura Berlanga, Joan Wolfe, Glenna Sue Wood, and Yolanda Villarreal.



60th State Convention



Area B - San Antonio



December 2022 meeting.



Diana Durbin (Table Director) and Elise Urrutia (guest speaker). Elise spoke to the Table about her book, *Miraflores: San Antonio's Mexican Garden of Memory*. The Miraflores garden belonged to Elise's great grandfather, Dr. Aureliano

Urrutia, an exile of the Mexican Revolution and a famed Mexican and American surgeon.



October 2022 meeting

Front row: Lydia Garrido, Bea Dracoulis, Jeanne Koplan, Beverly Mauer, Maida Perkins; Second row: Sybil Howell, Cheryl Carson-Rich, Linda DeHoyos, Vilma Howell, Sharon Gee, Molly Montemayor, Diana Durbin, Harriet Romo (guest speaker), Deems Smith, Agatha Wade, Angelika Jansen Brown, Kathleen Beasley, Sandra Brown.



Harriet Romo speaking to the table about her book, *Bridging Cultures: Reflections on the Heritage Identity of the Texas-Mexico Borderlands*

November 2022 meeting. Seated: Sandra Brown and Amanda Bishop, Volunteer Coordinator for the Salvation Army.

Amanda spoke about the Salvation Army operations in San Antonio. For the past few years, the Table has conducted a sock drive benefitting the Salvation Army.



Area B - Eagle Pass



60th State Convention: L-R Belinda Benavidez, Marcela Villarreal, Elva Benavidez, Lana Harper, Alicia Charles and Lucy Mancha.

Lucy Mancha was named State Historian.

PARTT Workshop, San Antonio, L-R Belinda Benavidez, Elva Benavidez, Assoc. Dir., Margot Arevalo - González, State Dir., Lucy Mancha, State Historian, Alicia Charles, Table Dir. & Lana Harper.



September Meeting



October Founder's Day Meeting welcomes Zone I Director Amalia Rodríguez Mendoza.

December Holiday Tour



March meeting and we also honored member and mom to be Marcela Villarreal.

Area C - Alamo-San Juan-Pharr



Christmas Luncheon 2022

Sitting L-R: Talma Benavides, Blanca Garza, Maria Elena Corona, Gloria Cantu, Maria Teresa Tijerina and Alice De Leon. Standing L-R: Idolina Vela, Jane Garcia, Gela Garcia, Mary Bard, Corinne Conquest, Delia Soza, Yolanda Martinez, and Minerva Salazar.



Program Presenter: Talma Benavides - *Traditions: Weaving skills of women from Guatemala.*



ASJP Table members attend the Rio Grande City-Roma Posada.



Attending PART of Edinburg Christmas Scholarship Luncheon, Dec 10, 2022 are: L - R Letty Ramon, PART of Edinburg Director; Alice De Leon, PART of ASJP Member, Margot Arevalo Gonzalez, PARTT State Director, Maria Elena Corona, PART of ASJP Member, Carmen R. Guerra, PART of McAllen Member and Gloria Cantu, PART of ASJP Table Director.

Area C - Brownsville I

90th Anniversary

The Pan American Round Table (PART) I Brownsville celebrated its 90th Anniversary on November 5, 2022. The celebration was held at the Historic Alonzo Building located in Brownsville. Lourdes Deytz, Table Director, welcomed all the guests. In attendance was Minister Judith Arrieta Munguia, Deputy Consul of the Consulate in Brownsville. It was an honor to have her presence as it signifies the

unity between our countries. PART State Director Margot Arevalo Gonzalez welcomed the members and expressed her sincere appreciation for their dedication and commitment to PART. The event was well attended by many PART members from Laredo, Edinburg, McAllen, Pharr-San Juan-Alamo, San Benito, and Brownsville as well as PART Tables Zona V "A" from the State of Tamaulipas, Mexico.

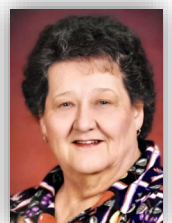


The main highlight of the event was our special guest, Mr. Alex Kirkland, and his wife Carol from Corpus Christi, Texas. Mr. Kirkland is the nephew of Bessie Johnson. The legacy

of Bessie Johnson, PART I Founder began in 1932. He eloquently read a letter written by Bessie where she states the importance of giving. Sandra Maxwell, PART I past Director, and Mr. Kirkland unveiled a beautiful portrait of Bessie Johnson.

Dr. Virginia Wood, Associate Director presented an audio-visual of the life of our founder Bessie Kirkland Johnson. Following was a power-point presentation on the history of PART and Mexican costumes by Isabel Vezzetti. Ms. Vezzetti added to her presentation a venue of costumes while narrating the origin of the costumes from each state of Mexico. Another highlight of the event was honoring Ms. Lita Pashos for her service and dedication to PART I as an active member for the past 62 years. In gratitude and appreciation, Mariachis sang the "Mañanitas" to Ms. Pashos. A raffle of gifts completed this event and made it an enjoyable success.

Our sincere condolences to the family of PART BROWNSVILLE I Member Mary Ann Boehl who passed away on March 2, 2023



Area C - Edinburg

Members participated in a **Christmas Tree Forest at IMAS** in McAllen creating ornaments representing countries of the Americas and garnered 3rd place in the Community Organizations category.



The Exec. Board kicked off the year by celebrating at Cordon's Italian Restaurant.

(L to R): M. Arevalo-Gonzalez, M. Atwood-Ply, G. Peralez, S. Saldana, L. Ramon, J. Cappadona, S. Villarreal, E. Ayala, J. Lopez, and C. Perez.



In November, members paid **Tribute to Deceased Members** by lighting candles for members passing since 2020.



In August, members witnessed **installation of officers**. (bottom): J. Lopez, C. Guerra, E. Ayala, M. Arevalo-Gonzalez, L. Ramon, and S. Saldana. (top): H. Martinez, H. Santiago, C. Esquivel, D. Arce, M. Vela, J. Cappadona, M. Salas, S. Villarreal, M. A.Ply, J. Jackson, and R. Stockwell.



Florence Terry Griswold was celebrated on Founder's Day.

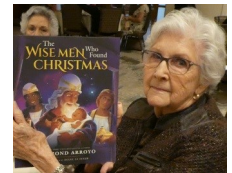
(L to R): C. Perez, L. Ramon, M. Arevalo Gonzalez, S. Saldana, (top) J. Cappadona, H. Martinez, R. Stockwell, S. Villarreal, M. Atwood-Ply, G. Coors, M. Cantu, C. Esquivel, D. Vela, K. McAllen, and M. Salas.

Area C - McAllen



McAllen Table members February 2023 Meeting

The December Mother-Daughter Christmas meeting program was on the Nativity. Table centerpieces featured unique nativity sets from different countries. Alma de la Garza gave the presentation. Alice Tavarez won the book "Wise Men Who Found Christmas".



Rachel Loman and Suzan Phillips presented the Program on the country of **Mexico** during the January 2023 meeting. Entertainment was provided by members of the UTRGV Ballet Folklórico .



Norma Garza and Diana Guerra presented a lively Program on **Jamaica** during the November 2022 meeting.

The February 2023 the Program was on **Nicaragua** which was presented by Irma L. Garza and assisted by Toni Davila.



2022-2023 Officers: Myrna Rodriguez, Annette



Franz, Mariella Gorena, Raquel Oliva, Yliana Esparza, Irma Garza (above).

Area C - San Benito



San Benito and Brownsville- Planning

Standing L-R: Cyndie Rathburn, Glendora De Leon, Rachel Gomez, Elvia Sanchez, Marsha Betancourt
Sitting: Elva Morales, San Benito Table Director and Lourdez Dietz, Brownsville Table Director

Area C - Rio Grande City - Roma



Posada 2022 members & Guests



State and Table Officers attending the Posada: Ramoncita Guerra—Recording Secretary, Nydia Benítez -Treasurer, Letty Ramon, Margot Arevalo-Gonzales, -State Director, Dee Cavazos, - Rio Grande City-Roma Director, Dalinda Pena, - Parliamentarian, and Yolanda Gonzalez, -Associate Director.



Decorating Committee for Observance Day.
Left to right: Glendora De Leon, Rachel Gomez, Elvia Sanchez, Elva Morales, San Benito Table Director and Sylvia Cazarez, Table Treasurer.



March Meeting: Roma Members presented their daughters & granddaughters
Left to Right- Victoria Rosa-Grandmother Leticia P. Garza, Mia Daniela Pena-Granddaughter of Dalinda Pena. Analisa Pena, daughter of Ana Melisa Pena.



60th State Convention

L-R: Noelia Davila, Lupita Muniz, Angie Gonzalez, Elvia Sanchez, Elva Morales, Table Director, Rachel Gomez and Glendora De Leon.



Thank you, Leonardo Sanchez, for being our guest at the Pan American Round Table - Rio Grande City-Roma's monthly meeting, at Jesse Pena's Magical Garden. The presentation was interesting & informative. It was great learning about the history of our local Ancestral Craft Spirits, which is made in Roma, Texas!

Salud!
Life is tasty with #Blasfemus

Area D - Fort Worth

Fort Worth's September 9 th 2022, member meeting
Door Prize Winners!



Rachel Ortiz
Assoc. Dir.



JoAnn Jensen,
Assoc. State Dir.



Vivian Alifano &
Cristina Orozco



September 9 th 2022, Member Lunch.

Top left (Vivian Alifano, Member at Large) ; (Monica Morilla, Member) ; (Nora Sanchez, Member) ; (Cristina Orozco, Guest); (Rachel Ortiz, Associate Director); (JoAnn Jensen, Associate State Director) Bottom left (Kay Hines, Member); Center (Kathy Ehmann-Clardy, Recording Secretary) Bottom Right (Leticia Clay, Past Dir).



Fort Worth's Member Meeting Lunch and our Scholarship Recipient Guest on October 8, 2022.

Left: Belinda Sierra, Anelia Banda, Magda Vallarino, Yaneth Arteaga , Elsa Gonzalez, Blanca Charria, Glenda, Monica Morillo, Ximena Tineo, JoAnn Jensen, Nora Sanchez, Cristina Orozco, Victoria Garlarza, Vivian Alifano Left Front Row: Table Members (Grace Villanueva), (Trevone Antoine, Scholarship Recipient), (Kamila Tobin, Guest), Beth Dorcas.



November meeting luncheon!

Grace Villanueva,
Egleyda Perez ,
Vivian Alifano.

Officers and Directors

Texas 2022-2024 Officers

State Director - Margot Arevalo Gonzalez
1st Assoc. Director Area D - Carmen Guerra
2nd Assoc. Director Area B - Shirley Wyatt
3rd Assoc. Director Area C - Raquel Oliva
4th Assoc. Director Area A - JoAnn Jensen
Recording Secretary - Susan N. Elias-Assi
Corresponding Secretary - Leticia "Letty" Ramon
Treasurer - Mariella Gorena
Historian - Lucy Mancha
Parliamentarian - Rosa Maria Vida, Ph.D.
Scholarship - Ana P. Flores
Immediate Past State Dir. - Martha Miles Stumbo

Table Directors 2022-2023

- **Alamo-San Juan-Pharr** - Gloria Cantú
- **Austin** - Diana Ferguson
- **Beeville** - Cecile Rochard O'Connor
- **Brownsville I** - Dr. Lourdes Deytz-Gómez
- **Conroe** - Gloria Riddle
- **Corpus Christi** - Laura Berlanga
- **Del Rio** - Scarlett Elkins
- **Eagle Pass** - Alicia Charles
- **Edinburg** - Leticia Ramon
- **El Paso** - Ruth Ellen Marcus Jacobson
- **Fort Worth** - Belinda Sierra
- **Houston** - Laura Cervantes
- **Laredo** - Thelma Porras Nance
- **McAllen** - Mariella Gorena
- **Rio Grande City/Roma** - Dee Cavazos
- **San Antonio** - Diana Durbin
- **San Benito** - Elva Morales

Texana Panamericana Editor-Raquel Oliva



PARTT Leadership Seminar San Antonio, Texas August 27, 2022



PART members attending the "Benito Juárez: Child to Man" statue that was unveiled at the Chamizal National Memorial in El Paso.

Area D - El Paso



60th State Convention



60th State Convention

