

Pan American Roundtable
of Texas
Long Range Planning Report - 2013 Convention
Eagle Pass, Texas

Concerns and or Questions important to strengthen the PARTT
From Sara Jane Wise, State Director
Survey results:

1) Are the Tables able to keep their active membership numbers steady and members interested and participating in Pan American activities?

An overwhelming number of Tables responded their numbers are holding steady, some indicating their numbers continue to grow. Small and large Tables indicated many members are elderly but attend as much as possible. Some get good coverage and generate interest by sending pictures and articles of their activities to the local newspapers. Activities include interesting programs, guest speakers, book and country reports, evening socials, invitations to past scholarship recipients, fund raisers, silent auctions, school book drives and donations. The ladies try to engage their members, provide interesting meetings to keep members involved. Of course they enjoy having fun and on occasion wear hats, masks, items from different countries. They invite family members at times. One Table makes time for a couple of members to share something personal about themselves at each meeting getting to know one another better. They challenge members to each invite possible candidates for membership at a particular meeting or throughout the year. In this day and age competition for membership is challenged with a host of choices and activities to choose from. Also, large numbers of younger women with young families must work to help with finances. In summery, each Table is engaged in the importance of maintaining and increasing their numbers and they are motivated to succeed.

2) Are the Tables becoming more comfortable using the new technology available to us for communication? (Examples: ECC Committee structure notifications by email rather than snail mail and the Texana being offered digitally with additional pages included.)

Yes and no. Many Tables are moving into the world of technology but struggle due to the fact that some members do not have access to this new means of communication. Some produce their own newsletters to keep their membership informed of activities and business. For many, snail mail is still the main source of communication as well as phone messages and sending the Texana. One Table advised none of their membership or officers are computer literate.

A suggestion was made to hold a workshop for the EC coordinators to educate them on all the benefits.

3) What could we (both State and Tables) be doing to prepare future leaders at the local and state level?

Training, training, training! Several Tables indicated they appreciate training and or resources from the state and local level. Workshops, partnering for new officers or "officers in training" was suggested. The "boot camp" training held by Elsie Perez was mentioned by several ladies indicating it was so valuable to them as well as fun. Also, keeping our scholarship recipients involved and always looking for interesting candidates who can bring in new ideas, talents, knowledge, friendship, and understanding!

4) Also, do you have any additional ideas of importance to be passed on the PARTT leadership to improve the working at the State Level.

Orientation meetings are very helpful but not everyone is able to travel to attend. Possible conference sharing or videos of workshops and training may be something to consider for the future.

Attendance at State and Alliance Conventions seems to spark interest as well as allowing members to experience first hand many interesting people as well as educating ourselves as to our purpose and goals.

Submitted by,

Long Range Planning Committee

Nancy Smith, Chairman/Conroe Table

BJ Kershaw & Patricia Rodriguez/Committee Members