

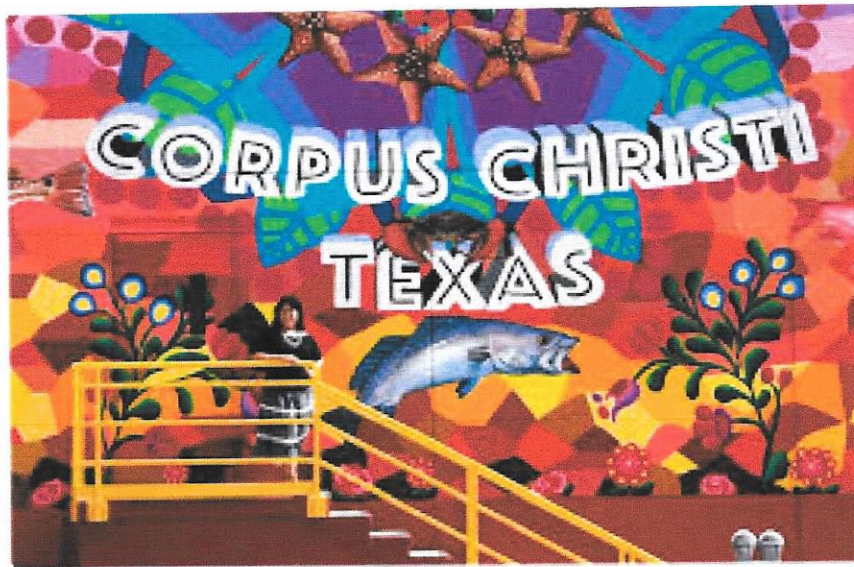


**PAN AMERICAN ROUND TABLE
OF
CORPUS CHRISTI**

2015-2017

Director's Report

Pan American Round Table



Meetings,
Technology, Programs and Scholarships

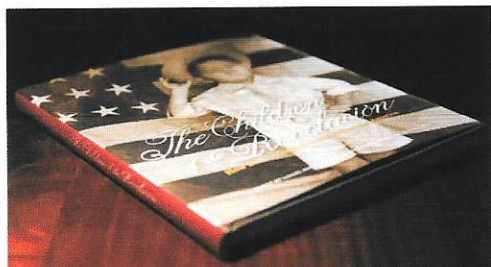
April 22, 2017

2015-2017 Director's Report

The Pan American Round Table of Corpus Christi was established in December of 1955 with 22 members receiving its Charter from the Alliance in 1957 so we are celebrating our 60th year as a table. We now have over 100 members, active membership is limited to 75 and our dues are still \$25 a year. We meet for lunch on the 3rd Tuesday of every month, September through May at 11am except for an evening scholarship fundraising get together at Christmas and our annual Pan American Day celebration couples dinner party.

The last two years have seen significant changes to our table, searching for a new venue for meetings and the introduction of electronic communication for luncheon reservations. We have begun the use of Social Media with a private Facebook page and have created a website (www.partcc.org) where members can dig deeper into the subjects and programs covered by guest speakers at our meetings. These changes have proved difficult for some but are essential to our growth as an organization moving into our second century of existence.

Our programs for the last two years have been outstanding thanks to our incoming Director, Carey Rote who has served as 1st Associate Director and Program Chair. Guest speakers in 2015-2016 included **Dr. Gilda Ramirez, President of the Westside business Association** who spoke on **"Latin American Revolutions and their Descendants!"** Dr. Ramirez introduced us to the award winning 2012 documentary film, "The Children of the Revolution" chronicling the history of the Mexican Revolution of 1910. **Port of Corpus Christi Commissioner, Barbara Canales**, daughter of board member, Yolanda



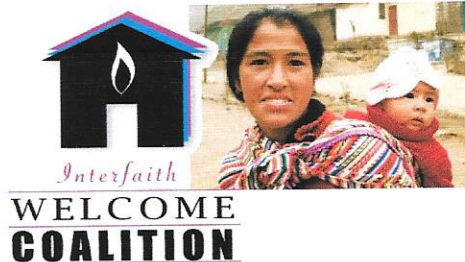
Canales, telling us of a special new collection of **Spanish Colonial Art at the Art Museum of South Texas** which has been donated by the Canales family to the museum in a special new gallery in honor of her grandmother, Dr. Clotilde P. Garcia. The collection consists of Spanish colonial paintings, silver and textiles; Pre-Columbian pottery, sculpture and artifacts; and contemporary works of art by Hispanic artists that draw their inspiration/influence from either Spanish



Colonial or Pre-Columbian material. **Deborah Greer and Marcela Restrepo spoke to us about the "Amigos de las Americas"** an international youth leadership organization which coordinates volunteer abroad programs for high school and college students sending participants to countries in Latin America. They are currently operating in Mexico, Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Uruguay.



Sr. Barbara Netek from the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament, Dr. Maria De Arman, a military doctor who had been sent on assignment to several detention centers along the border and entitled “For Better or Worse: The Plight of the Immigrant”,



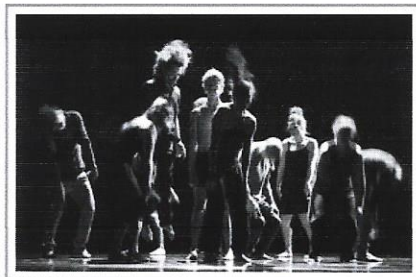
giving us a first hand account of what they had seen at the centers in Dilley and Karnes County and introducing us to the “Welcome Ministry” providing service to and advocacy for women and children seeking refuge status in this country. Dr. Arman gave us a view of the Customs and Border Patrol and their difficult job of handling of immigrants. Created to focus on seizing of illegal drugs, the agents and facilities were not designed for processing so many people hence the issues with overcrowding, etc. An emotional topic but very important

to the times we are living in.

Dr. Claudia Rueda, Assistant Professor of History at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi who spoke to us about “Students of Revolution: The Student Movement in Somoza Era Nicaragua, 1937-1979” focusing on student influence and perception in the political realities of the overthrow of the Somoza regime in Nicaragua. Peggy Clark gave a roll call report on Nicaragua citing newsletters she receives via email from the Managua Table and talked about the crisis the tables went through during the war. Table members at the time were on opposite sides but now work together and remain friends in true Pan American spirit. Having just returned from a trip to Nicaragua, I can attest that this is still a hot topic. People from both side still live side by side and though not all agree with the ruling Sandinista party, all agreed that basic necessities and infrastructure have improved greatly since 1979.



2016-2017 brought **Minta Moore, Founder and Executive Director of New Life Ministries**, a faith based organization that exists to bring awareness to prevent domestic minor human trafficking through education, to build a refuge of healing for survivors, and to partner with other organizations to end the demand of this type of modern day slavery. Minta’s presentation was a shock to so many of us who had no idea of the severity of the problem of domestic human trafficking, her report brought our awareness to the plight of many young women right here at home dispelling the assumption that most human trafficking is linked to border issues.



Jilissa Cotten, Associate Professor of Dance at TAMU-CC and Faculty Enhancement Grant recipient spoke to us about **Danza Universitaria de Costa Rica** and our local **Bailando Dance Festival** and its role in educational and community outreach programs.

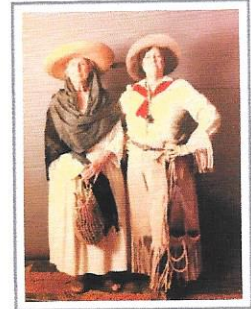


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18 members of our table attended the **XXXVth Alliance Convention** in San Antonio, Texas October 26-29, 2017. I had the great pleasure of helping at the convention with the audio-visual



equipment, something I knew a little about but soon learned a lot. The job gave me the opportunity to meet women from every Pan American country represented as they rushed the table to have their presentations and music broadcast the assembly. The highlight for me was dressing up for Pan American night with my mother, Jeanne, me as a 1916 cowgirl a la Terry Florence Griswold and Jeanne as a "campesina" you might have met in San Antonio



100 years ago when the Pan American Round Table was formed.



Artist, Sandra Gonzalez, "Exploring Identity through the use of Mexican Textiles and Family Garments". She shared her photos and experiences growing up in Laredo, Texas and how it influenced her life and career as an artist. She studied mural painting in Philadelphia and was hired to produce the fabulous mural on the Twigg Street wall of the Corpus Christi Caller Times building. She had so much to share with us that Geri Rice has to postpone her report on Saint Lucia until the March meeting.

Kim Hammer, Soltis Center for Research and Education, Costa Rica came to our meeting in February to speak to us about the Center and the Children's Eternal Rain Forest in Monteverde, Costa Rica. The Soltis Center provides a research lab, environmental education, educational outreach programs to the local residents and hosts a Semester Abroad Program entitled "Costa Rica Biomedical Sciences" from the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences of Texas A&M University.



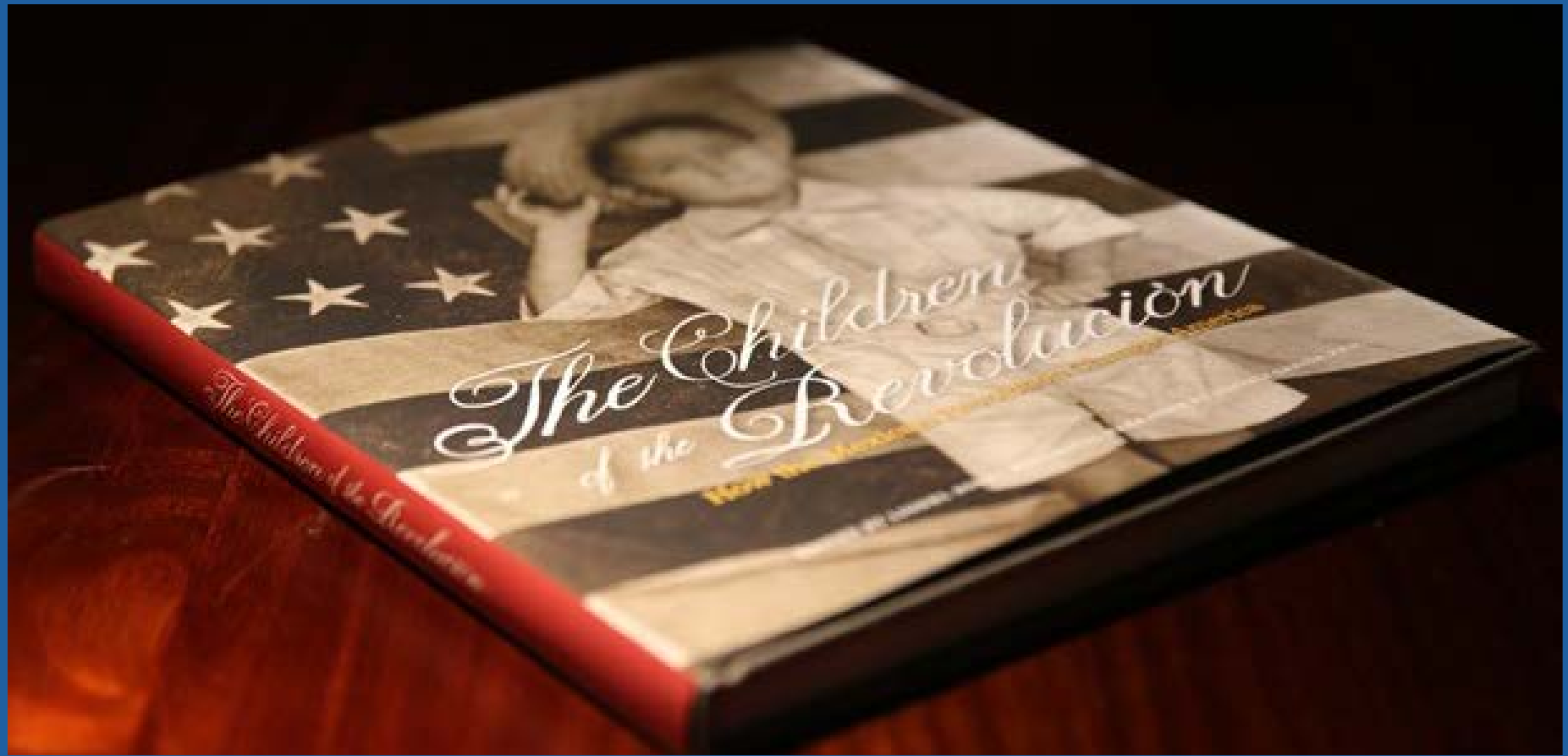
Our table has historically been focused on Scholarships thanks to the generous donations from our membership awarding an average of \$8,500.00 annually to both students and faculty at TAMU-CC, Del Mar College and TAMU-Kingsville. Our Christmas posada is a fun get-together raising around \$1,000 toward scholarship. We are looking forward to the incoming term under the directorship of Carey Rote and the new board plus the addition of 6 new members to our table.

It has been a great honor and privilege to serve as director. I am most grateful to the board, Carey Rote, Madalyn Yochem, Yolanda Canales, Angie Masciale, Susanne Harrold, Michelle Locke, Yolanda Villarreal, Lenora Keas and Gloria Riddle for all the support they have provided.

Sincerely, all for one and one for all,

Marie Adams, Table Director 2015-2017, PART - Corpus Christi, Texas

April 22, 2017



“LATIN AMERICAN REVOLUTIONS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS”

**September 2016 - Dr. Gilda Ramirez, President, Westside Business Association spoke
the 1910 Mexican Revolution and the Emmy Award winning documentary “Children of
the Revolution”**



Interfaith

**WELCOME
COALITION**



FOR BETTER OR WORSE: THE PLIGHT OF THE IMMIGRANT

**January 2016 - Sr. Barbara Netek, Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament
and Dr. Maria De Arman, Military Doctor sent to monitor Detention Camps in South
Texas**



DANZA UNIVERSITARIA DE COSTA RICA

October, 2016 - Jilissa Cotten, Texas A&M University Corpus Christi - recipient of Faculty Enhancement Grant showed photos and spoke about the Bailando Dance Festival and Danza Universitaria



ETERNAL RAIN FOREST

**February 2017 - Kim Hammer presented on Children's Eternal Rain Forest,
Monteverde, Costa Rica and the Soltis Center for Research and Education, San Isidro,
Costa Rica**