



**PAN AMERICAN ROUND TABLE
OF
EDINBURG**



PART of Edinburg Biennium Table Report: 2015 - 2017
Presented by: Herminia V. Martinez, Table Director
at the
58th Pan American Round Table of Texas State Convention
April 22, 2017

It has been a busy biennium for the Pan American Round Table of Edinburg. During this period, our table experienced both a loss and a growth in membership. Members attended local, regional, state and alliance events, heard many great presentations and shared fellowship and camaraderie with each other as well as with other Pan American Round Table sisters.

Our table met a total of 16 times during the biennium. It undertook the study of eight Pan American countries: Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, and Costa Rica. In addition, our table heard presentations on "The Work of the South Texas Literacy Council in the Rio Grande Valley," "Why We Should Celebrate *el 16 de septiembre.*" and heard an inspiring presentation given by Associate Judge Socorro Leos regarding the plight of children and families in Hidalgo County. Our table also enjoyed a "Day in the Sun," at Quinta Mazatlan in McAllen where we experienced the wonders of nature.

Six of our members passed away during the biennium including one sister that had been a member of our table for over 50 years and two members that had been Table Directors. We recruited, conducted orientation and inducted seven new members that are already busy in committees, making presentations and enjoying working with their Pan American sisters. Our Ceremonies Committee conducted Memorials, a Recommitment Ceremony, Inductions, and a Founders Day Remembrance ceremony for our table that were executed with precision, respect and formality.

The Pan American Round Table of Edinburg also participated in events held by our sister tables throughout the Valley. We visited and attended events held by the Brownsville I, Brownsville II, Harlingen, McAllen, and Rio Grande City/Roma tables. Our table conducted the Presentation of Flags at the Joint Pan American Observance Day event held in McAllen **and** contributed to the Alliance Convention in a couple of ways. Some of our members attended the Re-Dedication of the Bridge Marker ceremony in Laredo prior to the Alliance Convention. At the Alliance

Convention in San Antonio, members of our table helped make and distributed the white flower boutonnieres for the Hour of Memory and eight of our members participated in the Presentation of Flags during the Alliance Convention opening ceremonies dressed in full traditional costumes.

Our most important work and greatest achievement as a table lies in supporting outstanding young women. We awarded eight \$1,000 scholarships to outstanding young women who are pursuing degrees at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley during this biennium. Each young lady was invited to attend our meeting where we learned about their goals and where they were recognized for their achievements.

It has truly been an active two years for the Pan American Round Table of Edinburg and we look forward to the challenges and surprises of the next biennium.

The four event photos which we wish to share with you are:

- #1 Founder's Day Celebration, October 21, 2015** – Our table remembered and honored the original 26 charter member who founded our table in 1958 making it the 23rd table in the State of Texas by holding the "To Light a Candle" ceremony. Additionally, we recognized and honored past table directors including nine that were present.



#2 **Joint Pan American Observance Day, April 2, 2016** - The joint Pan American Round Table Observation Day event has been a Valley tradition for a few decades. Our table participated with our Pan American sister from throughout the Rio Grande Valley in recommitting to the Pan American movement. Our responsibility on this day, was to conduct the Parade of Flags. Honored guest at this event was Alliance Director, Eva Munoz de Manzarraga.



#3 **The 35th Convention of the Alliance of Pan American Round Tables, October 26, 2016 –** Eight of our table members, dressed in traditional costumes, assisted with the “Parade of Flags” at the Alliance Convention. Our group included two pairs of sisters which truly embodies Pan American sisterhood.



- #4 Christmas Social, December 14, 2016** – The Edinburg Pan American Round Table Christmas Social has become a tradition that our sister tables look forward to. Aside from socializing and catching up with old and new friends, a silent auction is held to benefit our scholarship fund. This year's event brought in \$1,000. This helped us award four \$1,000 scholarship to deserving young women from Edinburg this year.



Respectfully Submitted:

Herminia V. Martinez

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Table Director
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