

PANAMERICANA TEXANA

The Pan American Round Tables of Texas
 Edinburg, Texas USA

Message from State Director...

My Dear Pan American Sisters:

We have started the New Year with a lot of enthusiasm and dedication in sharing a common goal with our sisters in the Western Hemisphere. Not only the love of learning, developing and guiding our organization but eager to extend our interests to the rest of the hemispheres.

I thank you for your continued support, encouragement and friendship during these past two years that will be coming to a close at the 55th Biennial Pan American Round Tables of Texas Convention in McAllen in April. I ask you to encourage your table members to attend the convention. The convention committee is working very hard to insure that it will be a very enjoyable and memorable event. Make room reservations early and remember that the deadline for hotel and convention registration is February 28th.

Out of the twenty-one Texas Tables, all but four tables do not have the Banner of Peace. I congratulate all of the tables who have received the Banner of Peace at the Alliance Convention in Merida, Yucatan, Mexico. Lets continue to work for peace among the countries of the Western Hemisphere and the world.

Our puzzle is almost complete! We have placed each puzzle piece carefully on the road we have traveled together these

past two years. We have accomplished many tasks in every corner of this great state of Texas by placing each vital piece of the puzzle closer to our organizations goals. Over the past two years, the Texas Tables have given out scholarships in the amount of over \$153,000.00.

I thank you for the opportunity to serve you and for making my two years, as your state director, such a successful and memorable one. "You" are and will always be the "Essential Piece of the Puzzle", we could not have carried out all of these amazing accomplishments without your connecting piece.

With Much love, gratitude and A Big Hug,

Elsie Perez

UPDATE - ALLIANCE CONVENTION - 2010

Greetings Pan American Sisters:

Thank you so much for your friendship, support and your attention to all of my requests during my two years as your Zone 1 Director. These past two years I have learned from you and you have inspired me to continue with the work that our organization performs on a daily basis to help women of the Western Hemisphere.

The Alliance convention held in Merida, Yucatan, Mexico in October 2010 was such a success. Texas was well represented by members and Table Directors who took time from their busy schedules to attend this well organized event.

The new Alliance logo was presented and voted on...so we have a new logo. I have included the list of the new 2010-2012 officers of the Alliance of Pan American Round Tables on the following page. The new Zone 1 Director elected is Ms. Ina Pool of Laredo. Please respond to the emails you receive from her in a timely manner because she needs your input to carry out her duties as your zone director. Continue to do the great job that you have been doing as a member, an officer (local, state or

alliance) and most of all as a dedicated Pan American Sister, joining hands with all of the Pan American Sisters across the Western Hemisphere...until we are...

"One for All and All for One"

"Una Para Todas y Todas Para Una"

Elsie Perez, Past Zone 1 Director



"Pan American Night " during Alliance Convention .

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The Alliance of Pan American Round Tables

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Gladys Simpson (Odessa, Texas)

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You can also reach us on the web at:

www.alianzamrp.org



Pan American Woman 2010 - 2012

Odessan Dr. Gladys Simpson, received the honor of Pan American Woman 2010 - 2012 at the Bi-Annual International Alliance Convention of Pan American American Round Tables in Merida, Yucatan, Mexico.

She was recognized for her lifetime achievements in the organization. Gladys is a founding member of the Odessa Table which began in 1976, where she served as Table Director from 1978 - 1979, Texas State Director 1991 - 1993 and the Alliance Director General from 1992 - 1994. With dedicated enthusiasm she has worked at every level of the organization. Some of her other accomplishments include participating in numerous seminars and workshops across the Western Hemisphere, installation of Table Directors, and organization of fundraisers.

Mrs. Simpson will visit many of the tables of the Western Hemisphere during the next two years, where she will be honored for her dedicated work.

Texas Tables Celebrate:

55th Biennial State Convention

Members of the four Upper Valley Tables, (ASJP, Edinburg, McAllen, and RGC/Roma), have been diligently planning the upcoming Pan American Round Tables of Texas State Convention to be held in McAllen, April 1-3, 2011, at the historical Renaissance Casa De Palmas Hotel. Members from throughout the state as well as those from international Alliance countries of Mexico, Central, and South America are expected to attend.

The theme of the convention, "It's That Valley Magic", will spotlight all that makes the Upper Valley unique - the prevalence of unusual birds and butterflies, the citrus industry, and our incomparable border flistory and culture. Early activities will include a pre-convention State Board dinner at the home of Bertha Martinez and a visit to the Museum of South Texas History, after which members and guests will be feted with Border Buttermilk and Mariachis prior to the opening flag ceremony and dinner hosted by the Edinburg Table.

A citrus costume style show provided by the Citrus Fiesta Museum will highlight the Saturday luncheon in honor of all past State Directors hosted by present State Director, Elsie Perez of Edinburg and the Alamo-San Juan-Pharr Table. Saturday night's gala hosted by the McAllen Table, will include a special dinner, the antics of a master magician and a dance.

The convention ends Sunday as the Rio Grande City/Roma Table bids farewell to all attendees with a luncheon that includes Dr. Cayetano Barrera of McAllen who will speak on his intensive efforts in obtaining legislative actions to erect a historical monument at the State Capitol to depict the role of Hispanics in the development of the state.

We Hope to See Everyone There!

Seated from L to R: Table Directors: Estella Villegas - ASJP, Corinne (Peewee) Guerra - RGC/Roma, Lydia Chavana -Edinburg, Charlene Hertz - McAllen. Standing L to R: Lily Torrez - Convention Chairman, Mary Bard, Elsie Perez - State Director, Dolley Flores, Gloria Cantu, Baudelia Crane, Velma Perez, Marlou Levine, and Blanca Garza.



LAREDO TABLE 90TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

The Pan American Round Table of Laredo, the second oldest in existence, is turning "90" this April. Director Alicia Cantu extends a cordial invitation to all of their Pan American Sisters statewide to join them for this celebration. A gala luncheon is scheduled for **Saturday, April 16, 2011** at 12 o'clock noon at the Laredo Country Club (1415 Country Club Drive). Alliance Director General, Ana Maria Acuna de Macedo and Texas State Director, Elsie Perez will be the featured speakers. This special event will also feature a live performance by the Alta Gracia Garcia Castanet Ensemble, plus a style show of unique jewelry and fashions by North, Central, and South American designers. Local art galleries will also feature original works by South American artists.

2011 Spring Edition of "Table Talk"



Brownsville I Scholarship Tea

The Pan American Round Table Brownsville I held its annual Scholarship Tea on Saturday, January 29, 2011. This years theme was "Mardi Gras", the committee members are :

Seated from L to R: Olga Gavito, Karen Ray, Benilde Olvera, Martha Gonzalez, and Peggy Klinger.

Standing Left to Right: Bertha Welker, Irene Gulley, Normalinda Castellano, and Isabel Vezzetti.

P.A.R.T. of Edinburg

Members of the Pan American Table of Edinburg celebrated Founder's Day in October 2010, with a tour of nearby Rio Grande City. The members enjoyed visiting many historic sites in this beautifully quaint town. Among those sites were the Robert E. Lee House, La Borde House and Restaurant, and the grotto at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. The tour was taken aboard a trolley with a guide who provided many interesting historical facts and folklore which included ghost stories. Pictured at left are some of the members who attended the excursion under the direction of Lydia Chavana, Table Director.







Laredo Hosts Scholarship Christmas Tea

The Pan American Round Table of Laredo held their annual Christmas Tea at the International Bank of Commerce Annex building on December 5, 2010. The entrance fee was a donation to the scholarship fund and additional contributions were requested for the Casa Misericordia, a local women and children's shelter. An initiation ceremony was also held for the new table members. They are pictured seated L to R: Cynthia Porras, Madeline Lopez Escoto, Alicia V.Cantu; Director, Irma Villarreal, Cruz Torres. Standing: Georgina Flores, Betty Ball, Guadalupe Benavidez, Gloria Flores, Monica Gonzalez, Kristina Hale, and Thelma Nance.



El Paso Recruits New Members

In October the El Paso Pan American Round Table welcomed nine new members. They are a very enthusiastic group who were ready to join committees and contribute to our first ever book drive.

The new members are seated in the picture at left with committee representatives.

"You are an Essential Piece of the Puzzle"

Alamo, San Juan, Pharr Table

The Pan American Round Table of Alamo, San Juan, Pharr awarded scholarships to two High School students during their May 13, 2010 meeting. Pictured left to right are: Lizeth Soliz, scholarship recipient; Hilda Adame, Scholarship Committee Chairperson; Kimberley Cuchil, scholarship recipient; Diana Cuevas, counselor; and Elvia Linnard, Scholarship Committee member.



<u> ACCOLADES...</u>

Mexican American Trailblazers of Austin and Travis County

An exhibit opened at a reception held at the Austin History Center on August 21, 2010. The exhibit celebrated and recognized the lives of thirty-two extraordinary individuals who have lived in Austin and Travis County and were the fist to blaze a trail within their respective communities in the areas of the Arts, Business, Education, Humanities, Media, Politics, Public Health, Public Service and Sports. Mayor Pro Tem Mike Martinez served as Master of Ceremonies at the reception that was attended by an overflow crowd of more that five hundred persons. A closing reception was held on January 29, 2011. Among the honorees was Gloria Mata Pennington, Director of the Austin Pan American Round Table who was recognized for her leadership and work in the community.





Laredo Table Member Receives Doctoral

Dr. Lola Norris, Laredo Pan American Table Member, was honored at one of our table meetings for having achieved her Doctoral from Texas A & M University. We encourage our members to pursue a college degree or continue their studies towards a Masters or Doctorate degree.

Pictured are Alicia V. Cantu, Table Director, Dr. Lola Norris, and Diana Czar.

Letter from the Editor,

Here we go Ladies!

This will be the final issue I will put together and send to the presses as Publication Chairman. My sincere thanks and appreciation to Elsie Perez, for the opportunity to showcase lots of "good things" in each issue and laud the endeavors and accolades of our fellow sisters. I hope the *Texana* provided you with inspiring glimpses and stirring conversations of Pan American Round Table women throughout the Americas. One shining example is of Gladys Simpson from Odessa who was selected Pan American Woman of The Year. As our State Director, Elsie Perez ,often says "You've got to toot your own horn "to inspire and recognize that each of us must work together to provide an essential piece of the puzzle that makes Pan American Round Table a success.

Respectfully yours,

Margo

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

Attention: All PART Members

The Pan American Tables of Texas Convention is less than five weeks away. We are still looking for some very hard working and dedicated members to fill vital positions at the state level. The deadline is Wednesday, March 2, 2011. Do not hesitate to send in your nominees to:

Jean Hager
Chairman of The State Nominating Committee
507 De Leon
Rancho Viejo, Texas 78575

or E-Mail to: jedicktxva@aol.com

Make State Scholarship Contributions to:

PART Texas Treasurer,

Baudelia Crane

1729 Frontera Road

McAllen, Texas 78504



Important Dates to Remember:

April 1 - 3, 2011

PARTT

State Convention McAllen, Texas

April 16, 2011

Laredo 90th Anniversary Gala Laredo, Texas Newsletter published by:

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