



#### The Pan American Round Tables of Texas Newsletter

Summer, 2014 Special Events Edition Volume 38 no. 3

# PAN AMERICAN ROUND TABLES OF TEXAS "ROCK'n & ROL'n TO PERU!"

It is with great anticipation that many Pan American Round Table of Texas members wait to attend the XXXIV Biennial Alliance Convention in Lima, Peru. What an amazing opportunity to support the mission of our Movement and extend friendship to our Pan American Sisters living in our neighboring countries!

We are honored that our Sister Elsie Pérez is the Alliance Director General. Due to her service as a past PARTT State Director, most of us have worked with her for several years and know that she shares our belief that to further the Pan American Movement requires "Teamwork" among members of the Pan American Round Tables of Texas and our Sisters of the Alliance.



State Director Lana Harper at the International Friendship Parade Eagle Pass, TX & Piedras Negras Coahuila,

I am very excited that so many of us have committed to attending the Alliance Convention and encourage others to join us October 8-12, 2014 in Lima, Peru. (Reminder: (Don't forget to take your 50's-60's outfit and start practicing the "Jitterbug" – now!)

My special appreciation goes to all of you for the outstanding work this past year. It is a pleasure working with you and I look forward to another great year. Hope to see you soon.

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

Yours in Friendship,

Lana Harper, State Director

#### A Message from Alliance Director General

My Dear Pan American Sisters:

At the beginning of the 2012-2014 biennium I expressed my gratitude to the Tables of Texas for taking part at the Alliance Convention, where you honored me with the task of leading our prestigious organization, which was founded 98 years ago. Now I am saying "Thank You" for all your hospitality, your kindness and thoughtfulness during these past two years as your Director General.

I would like to invite you to our XXXIV Biannual convention from October 8-11, in Lima, Peru.

The convention committee has been working very hard to make this a memorable conference. I do hope that you will join me and all your fellow Pan American members from across the Americas.

My dear friends, let us participate in our work to comply with the mandate that, in the past, was denied to us, with what the present offers us and with the future demands to be made of us. Let us all work together to make our motto a reality.

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

Elsie Pérez, Alliance Director General 2012-2014

# Active Laredo Table

Laredo Table members got into the swing of things by celebrating "Fiesta" at their first general meeting of the year on September 11, 2013 at the Embassy Suites.



L-R Sonia Benavides, Lupita Ramirez & Gloria Zu**ñ**iga



Claudia Flores Cabello, guest, Irma Villarreal and Alicia Cantu



Angeles Elizaldi, Elia Norma Barrera, Ina Pool and Diana Rodríguez

#### 



Shown are some of the members present at the gathering, standing (l-r) are: Thelma P. Nance, Cecilia Vela, Dr. Rosa Mariía Vela, Margaret O'Brien, and Elia Norma Barrera. Sitting: Angie Ruiz, Elvira Jackson, President Angela Mannie Hachar, Ana Flores and Nora V. Peña



Elvira Jackson, President Angela Mannie Hachar and Nora V. Peña.



Presenters: Madeline López Escoto and Kristina L. Hale

# October:

Founder's Day was enjoyed at the General Meeting held on Wednesday, October 9th.



Other members attending were Irma Ramírez and Cecilia Vela

## Laredo Awards Scholarships in November



Macia Jovel (center) presented the scholarships to recipients Paulina Aragon, on the left, and Perla Mireles



Directors of the Day From left to right: Sandra Harriger and Dr. Cruz C. Torres



Karina Villarreal, Irma Perales Mireles and Dora Wolfe

### Mothers' Day Celebrated in May

A special celebration was held at the May 7th meeting honoring Mothers' Day. Table members honored their mothers with a prominent display of their photographs and a program on Guatemala presented.



Display of Moms pictures



Guest Irma Abascal with Alicia Cantu & Irma Mireles.



Front: Olga Velasquez and Dr. Irene Ramirez. Standing: Irma A. Villarreal and Claudia Caballero



Standing Patricia Ramirez and Olga Verduzco, sitting Ana Flores and Anna Haynes



standing Cecilia Vela, Thelma Nance, Lupita Ramirez and Linda Villarreal sitting: Dr. Rosa María Vida, Diana Czar and Elvira Jackson



Gloria Guajardo, Rosa María de LLano and Dr. María de los Angeles Flores

# Corpus Christi



Diane Bluntzer, September speaker and new member



Gloria Riddle Table Director

# **September**



Marie Adams, Laura Berlanga and Barbara Dove

# October

The October meeting was held on the 15th at the Corpus Christi Town Club. Ted Oakely was the guest speaker with an interesting talk on the Foster Angel Program. The group was founded to give extras to the children in foster homes, such as laptops or special clothes and to assist them when they reach18 and leave foster care. Yolanda Villarreal and Mary Campbell hosted.



Patsy Boone, Gloria Riddle, Ted Oakley and Susan Mathews with two unnamed members.



Hostesses: Yolanda Villarreal and Mary Campbell,



Speaker Ted Oakley

# Corpus Christi December Meeting

The December meeting was designated as guest day and holiday luncheon. There was no guest speaker and the members enjoyed the guest pianist, who entertained them throughout the social hour and lunch.



Jennifer Bowen and Kathy Tuttle



Pianist Nancy Wilson



Among the members at the front table were Carey Rote (standing) and Gloria Ferguson.

#### Alamo-San Juan-Pharr



1st Associate Director Gloria Cantú, 2nd Associate Director Raquel García, Director María Elena Corona and member Aida Lazo donate toys to Police Chief Arturo Espinosa of the ASJP Police Department for their "Toys for Tots" campaign during the Christmas season.



# El Paso





New members of the El Paso Table were welcomed and introduced on <u>October</u> 15th at the Woman's Club. The program for the occasion was "Piano Music from the Americas". Shown on the right are the new members. Names not provided.

New member Patricia Bailette visits with member Helen Browning



Associate Director Sue Stewart and Corresponding Secretary Pat Sterns are installed by member Barbara Landry

# **CONROE**

#### FOUNDER'S DAY

Conroe celebrated Founder's Day October 8, 2013 at the Carriage Inn.



Members Sue Stewart, Jean Heasley, Mary Byrne, Jeannette DeFee and Woody Hearn role-played the initial meeting of Mrs. Florence Terry Griswold in organizing the Pan American Movement.

#### Conrog Members Participate in Community Affairs



Director Ahia Shabaaz teaches an adult ESL weekly class at the local school district.

Associate Director Sue Stewart teaches ESL and GED at the local women's shelter





Director Ahia Shabaaz represented Conroe at a Cultural Arts Festival in December.

# <u>Conroe December</u> Luncheon



Members Cheryl Fullen, Barbara Landry, Jeanette DeFee and Ruth Strozier enjoy chatting before the Christmas luncheon.





Members Nancy Smith, Woody Hearn. Millie Whaley and Trish Bailette are looking festive for the luncheon.

### January Scholarship Presentations



The Conroe Table was honored to have (l-r): Alliance Treasurer Sylvia Williams and Area A Associate Director Janet Roberts at the January meeting. Joining them on the front row, are Director Ahia Shabaaz, Associate Director Sue Stewart and guest speaker on Puerto Rico, Olga Rondem Rogers. Standing in the back row are other table members.

Member Jeanette DeFee asks questions of student Ninfa Moreno on her future trip to Washington, D.C., to the "Close-Up" program. Ninfa will be representing Hauke High School in

Conroe.



Lauren Swasta, 2014 scholarship recipient, introduced herself and thanked the membership at the January meeting.



### February Meeting



Member Jean Heasley welcomes Hauke High School Principal, Diane Covey and student Ninfa Moreno.

#### **Conroe Welcomes State Director at March Meeting**



Members were happy to welcome State Director Lana Harper (center) at their March



Jeanette DeFee and Director Sue Stewart with State Director Lana Harper.



Conroe Table members enjoyed hearing Attorney Larry Foerster, a member of the Montgomery County Historical Commission, explain how he compiled a timeline of the Montgomery County history. The timeline features the history of the county from the 1500s to 2013. This information is published in a book called "Montgomery County Historical Time Line" with photos and events as they happened.



Attorney Larry Foerster, compiler



Member Bonnie Wilkinson welcomes new member Lynda Sasser to the April meeting.

### Officers Installed In May





Member Barbara landry helped initiate the New officer candidates for 2014-2015 at their May Meeting. They are: (1-r) Director Nancy Smith, Associate Director Sue Stewart, Recording Secretary Sharon Gee, Corresponding Secretary Pat Sterns, Treasurer Woody Hearn, Parliamentarian Jean Heasley, Historian Becky Judah, Custodian Joan Tharp and Electronic Communications Chairman Paula Schoppe.

# San Antonio

#### **December**

The San Antonio Table Christmas luncheon was held at the Dominion Country Club. Pictured are Angelica Docog Executive Director of UTSA Institute of Texas Cultures, Lousie Actkinson Table Director and Lana Harper State Director.

# Scholarship Awarded in February



Blake Vera (center) was the recipient of the scholarship award at a luncheon held at Bright Shawl in San Antonio, on Feb. 21st. Pictured l-r: Table Director Louise Actkinson, Molly Montemayor, Millie Mayoral, Rebecca McMinn and Stafani Gonzalez-López, Student Advisor, standing next to Blake.

#### Pan American Day



The Pan American Day Celebration was held on April 24,2014 at the Club Giraud in San Antonio. Honored guests attending from left to right, are Sarah Jane Wise, Criseyda Rios, Shawn Young, keynote speaker Peggy Clark and Susan Matthews. In the back row is San Antonio Table Director Louise Actkinson.

# Odessa

# Odessa Table Uses Creative Idea for Funding Scholarships.

This funny picture is from a project for the-Odessa Table. Olivia Hill created these scarves which she sold to members. All the money raised--\$400+ went into the scholar-ship fund.



## McAllen Celebrates Founder's Day In October



Among the special guests were: Lily Torrez, State Publications Chairman, Norma Woolsey McAllen Table 1st Associate Director, Speaker and former Alliance Director General Carmen Guerra, current Director General Elsie Perez, Table Director Mandy Peña, Ist State Associate Director for Area C Isabel Vezzeti and State Treasurer Norma Linda Castellano from Brownsville.

Several past directors of the McAllen Table were recognized. Seated from left to right are: Carmen Guerra, Mary Lou Treviño, Dardanela Cárdenas, Alice Tavarez, & Bertha Guerra, Standing: Alma De La Garza, Charlene Hertz, Baudelia Crane and Lily Torrez.



The McAllen Table hosted several Valley Tables from Rio Grande City to Brownsville at their Founder's Day luncheon on October 1st at McAllen Country Club.

Director Mandy Peña proudly introduced Former Alliance Director General Carmen Guerra, McAllen Table member, as well as Alliance Director General Elsie Pérez from Edinburg. Mrs. Guerra gave a lively talk about the founding of the Pan American movement.





Members and guests were treated to a recital of Spanish, English and Italian arias by Irma Pérez, accompanied on the piano by Dr. Brendan Kinsella from the University of Texas Pan American Music Department.

### Canada Is Topic of November Program

#### **INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

Shown with 1st Associate Director Norma Woolsey, are Maria Hernandez, Iris Treviño, Raquel Oliva and Lily Rambo, who were inducted as new members at the regular meeting on November 5th.



Guest speaker, Channel 5 news personality, Alan Campbell, with Mandy Peña, Table Director and Hostess Bertha Hinojosa, who introduced the speaker.



### a Traditional Mother/Daughter Luncheon Held in December

Members of the McAllen Table and their daughter guests were treated to a medley of Christmas songs by the "Sweet Adelines" at their annual Mother/Daughter luncheon on December 3rd. Speaker was Pamela Brown, who gave an informative talk about the Project on International Child Abduction.



Pictured from left are: Alliance Parlamentarian Carmen Guerra, Alliance Director General Elsie Pérez, Speaker Pamela Brown, 1st Assoc. Director Norma Woolsey, 2nd Associate Director Deanna Ramirez and member Victoria Guerra, who introduced the speaker.

#### Mothers and Daughters attending the Luncheon



Katren Nitsch with Mom



Sonia Silva with Mom Adelina Garza



Eva With Mom-in-law Alice Tavarez



ter in law Monica Martinez



Raqeul Oliva & Daughter Marisa



Yolanda Barrera & Daughter Victoria Cappadona



Lily Rambo & Daughter JoLynn Hasler



Rosario Sear with Mom Rosario Grajales



Becky Strong With Daughter Shelly



Dilia Perez & Daughter In Law Michelle



Anita & Mom Ana Maria Moon



Chris, and Dora with Mother in Law Dardeanela Cardenas (center)

# McAllen's Poet Laureate Featured at January Meeting



City of McAllen's Poet Laureate, Olga Valle-Herr read a selection of poems from her recent publication "Pearl Harvest." at the regular January meeting of the local Table. Shown with Olga, center, are left, Second Associate Director Deanna Ramírez and right, First Associate Director Norma Woosey.

#### Scholarships Awarded in May

Three outstanding students from McAllen High Schools were honored at the May meeting. The Scholarship Committee, chaired by Violette Metz, worked assiduously to select Kassandra Guajardo of McAllen Memorial High School, Brando Lujan from McAllen High School and Rosa Mejia from Nikki Rowe High School. Miss Guajardo and Mr. Lujan each gave a brief presentation to members on their accomplishments and their plans for the future. Miss Mejia was unable to attend. L-r: Brando Lujan, Violette Metz, Kassandra Guajardo, Charlene Hertz, Table Director Mandy Peña and Sylvia Alanis.



# Upper Valley Tables Host Pan American Day

The Upper Valley Tables enjoyed planning and hosting their traditional celebration of Pan American Day on April 12th at the McAllen Country Club. This year's hostesses were members of the ASJP Table, who provided creative table decorations that perfectly complemented the chosen theme: "Connecting the Women of the Americas Through Education". Entertainment, consisting of a Tango and Mexican dance numbers, was provided by Edinburg members. Their selected guest speaker was Dr. Ida Acuña, whose topic was about Education. Not to be outdone were members of the RGC-Roma Table, who presented a spectacular display of flags, all decked out in their colorful countries-of-the-Americas costumes. McAllen was in charge of the invitations and program.

Special guests attending were State Director Lana Harper, ex Alliance Directors General Peggy Clark and Carmen Guerra, Alliance Corresponding Secretary, Margot A. González, representing Alliance Director General Elsie Pérez, Area C Director Isabel Vezzeti, State Treasurer Norma Linda Castellano, State Parliamentarian Ina Pool and State Publications Chairman Lily Tórrez. Table Directors and members from the Lower Valley Tables; Brownsville I and II and San Benito-Harlingen also joined in the celebration.



Special Guests Lily Tórrez, Peggy Clark, Margot Gonzalez, Carmen Guerra and Mandy Peña.



Upper Valley Table Directors (l-r) Marcia Atwood-Edinburg; Bersave Salazar-RGC/Roma; Mandy Peña-McAllen; Maria Elena Corona, ASJP; with State Director Lana Harper, in blue.



Dr. Ida Acuña Guest Speaker



Flag presenters Rio Grande City-Roma Table in costume, with State Director Lana Harper center).



McAllen members Iris Treviño, Irma Zavaleta and Yolanda McCarty, Treasurer.



Director Mandy Pena, Norma Linda Castellano, Lily Tórrez



ASJP Table members



Edinburg Table members

# **Eagle Pass Installs New Officers**



Installation of officers was held on Saturday, May 4th, 2013 at Lucy Mancha's home. State Parliamentarian Ina Pool, on the left, performed the installation ceremony.



Table Director for 2013-2015 Anita Williams with outgoing President Lucy Mancha



Members and their spouses enjoyed the camaraderie.

### Founder's Day Celebrated In October



front row (l-r) Alejandra de la Garza, Tour Guide Bryan Harper, State Director Lana Harper, Historian John Stockey, Magali Rodriguez, Table Director Anita Williams and Sandra Pérez. Not pictured is Bus Guide Juan Mancha.



A visit to the restored historical Maverick County Courthouse was enjoyed by a large group of PART members of Eagle Pass on Saturday, October 5, 2013, as part of the Florence Terry Griswold Day celebration. The group is shown in the Maverick County courtroom behind the beautiful semi-circle balustrade. John Stockley, local Historian, provided the informational background of the courthouse. Following the bus tour, members and guests enjoyed an Oktoberfest celebration under the massive oak tree in the backyard of Director Anita Williams' residence on Quarry Street. Hostesses were members of the Project Committee: Mrs. Williams, Gichi Becker-Perez, Katrina Harper-Trevino, Magali Rodríguez and Sandra Pérez.

#### Mexico is November Topic

Members of the Eagle Pass Table celebrated their traditional "Dia De Los Mueertos" with a presentation on Mexico by Lucy Mancha and Amparo García, assisted by Esperanza Deutsch. Hostesses for the month were Alicia Charles and Diane Treviño.

Pictured from left are Zone I Director Martha Stumbo, Director General Elsie Pérez, State Director Lana Harper, Piedras Negras Table Director Anita Galvan, Del Rio Table Director Frances Rodriguez and Eagle Pass Director Anita Williams. Not shown, but also at the meeting, were Lisa Romero and Ann Beitel from Del Rio.

# December Festivities



Table members gathered at State Director Lana Harper's home for the December 14, 2013 afternoon Tea Party & Cookie /Ornament Exchange. Good spirit, good will and happiness abounded at this festive occasion. Standing on the left is Mrs. Harper with all other members.

**Eagle Pass** Nursing Home Activities Director, left, accepts a special gift of various arts and crafts items from the local PART Gifting Project Chair Rosa Castillo. These items are to be used by residents of the nursing home for their weekly arts and crafts activities. Also in the photo are: (l-r) Marge Munt, Maria Moncada, Cynthia Esparza and Romelia Guajardo, who were on hand for the presentation and distribution of individual gifts for the residents. Not pictured, but also assisting in the distribution were: Alejandra de La Garza, Lydia Lerma and Elva Benavides





# <u>January</u>

All PART members present for the January 4th meeting posed for a picture. Some were wearing their New Year diadems, as a continuation of the festive holiday season.

# February

Valentine's Day was celebrated early by he Eagle Pass Table on the 1st, held at the Ft. Duncan Regional Medical Center. Decorations and goodies were all in keeping with this special day. From left, Associate Director Guichi Becker-Perez, hostesses Tina Márquez, Director Anita Williams and Norma Heredia, State Director Lana Harper and immediate past Director Luchy Mancha.



Director Normalinda Castellano addressed the ladies of the Pan American Round I at the first meeting of the new biennium 2013-2014.

#### Brownsville I Starts New Year October, 2013



Maria Enriqueta Yzaguirre presented a program on The Bahamas. Seated at the head table are: (1 to r) Maria Enriqueta Yzaguirre, Tara Putegnat, Associate Director; Shirley Carevich, Corresponding Secretary and Ginny Hale, Recording Secretary.

#### Celebrating the Table's 81st Birthday in November with "Dia de los Muertos"



Greeting guests at the door (l to r) Normalinda Castellano, Director; Lana Harper, State Director; Elsie Perez, Alliance Director General and Isabel Vezzetti, <sup>1t</sup> Associate Director Area C.



Photos by Veronica Villarreal, UTB student. Ladies from the San Benito Table and Ruth Kulessa were greeted by "los muertos and Katrina". Standing (1 to r) Lupita Muniz, PARTT Historian; Mercedes Ramos, Ruth Kulessa, a muerto, Katrina, another muerto, Elsie Perez, Alliance Director General. Seated (1 to r) Martha Zamora Young, and Hortencia Cavazos.





#### **DECEMBER**

Director Normalinda Castellano addressed the members with her Christmas message at the December 6, 2013 meeting. (I to r) Director Normalinda, Associate Director Tara Putegnat, Coreesponding Secretary Bertita Elizondo, and Recording Secretary Ginny Hale.





(1 to r) Norma McKnight presented donated toys to the representatives from Child Protective Services.

#### Scholarship Silver Tea Held in December



I to r) Berta Chapa, Peggy Klinger, Elsie Pérez, Alliance Director General and Suzanne Champion enjoy the delicious food and each other's company at the Silver Tea.



Javier Jaramillo mesmerized the audience with his beautiful tenor voice.

# Installation of New Members at January Meeting



Director Normalinda Castellano installed new Associates. (I to r) Amelia Yznaga and Marie Ramirez at the January 3, 2014

# Bolivia is Program for February



Marsha Betancourt presents her program on Bolivia.

### PAN AMERICAN OBSERVANCE DAY April 5, 2014

Ladies from the Rio Grande Valley PART Tables were inspired by BISD Assistant Superintendent Dr. Bertha Peña's speech on the "Success of the Women of the Americas through Education"



Presentation of Colors by Veterans High School ROTC

At the head table are (I to r): Normalinda Castellano, PARTT Treasurer and PART I Director Carmen Guerra, Alliance Parliamentarian; Margot Arévalo-Gonzalez, Alliance Corresponding Secretary; Rachel Ayala, Committee Chair; Bertha Peña, BISD Assistant Superintendent and guest speaker; Mary Ann Boehl, PART II Director. Not picturesd are Lupita Muñiz, PARTT Historian; Gloria Salinas, San Benito Director and Isabel Vezzetti, Area C Director.



# May

In her message to the Table, PART I Director, Normalinda Castellano, stressed the importance of working together towards a common goal.





(l to r) Mary Staves, Janet Vaughan, Sylvia Garza, Teddy Renfrow, Sondra Shands, Norma McKnight, and Grace Uhles

Ginny Hale presented the program on Canada.

### Brownsville I June Meeting—Scholarship Presentations



The 2013-2014 Scholarship recipients were honored with their parents at the June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting . Pictured are (I to r) Teddy Renfrow, Scholarship Committee Chairman' Maria Gavino, recipient of the Table I Members Scholarship; Julie Ann Balogh, recipient of the Susanan Schwarm Scholarship; Veronica Guevara, recipient of the Clara L. Ely Award and Normalinda Castellano, PART I Director. Not shown is Preethi C. Raju, recipient of the Bessie K. Johnson Award. Each scholarship was in the amount of \$1,500.00.



#### Proud Mother! (1 to r) Julie Ann Balogh, 2013-2014 scholarship recipient, Mrs. Balogh, and Gina Balogh, 2009-2010 scholarship recipient.



At the October 2013 luncheon, members were welcomed by Georgette Escutia, Marina García, and Maricarmen Nasr



Shown at the New Board Swearing-In are: María Medina Seidner, Gloria Mata-Pennington, Harriett Breihan, Maricarmen Nasr, Rose Ann Reeser, Doris Scott, María Noack, Amalia Rodríguez Mendoza and Janet Roberts

# February Spanish Coffee



Lynn Cooksey and Marcia Lucas with guests.

# Austin Watin OCTOBER



Present at the 2013 New Member Reception were: Mary Catherine Miller, Amalia Rodríguez Mendoza, Gilka Céspedes, Julie Ballesteros, Martha Chávez, and Alegría Arce





Enjoying the Spanish Coffee, Amalia Rodríguez Mendoza, Table Director.



Spanish Luncheon speaker Eduardo Robles

# Other Austin Members Enjoying the Spanish Coffee



Seated is Julia Mellenbruch and granddaughter, standing behind her with Inés García and Margie Kidd.



Georgette Escutia, Marina Garcia, and Louise Iscoe



Janet Roberts and María Seidner

# San Benito Table Events



# State Director Visits San Benito Table

Front Rrw (L-R)- Martha Zamora-Young, State Historian Lupita Muñiz, Table Director Gloria Salinas, State Director Lana Harper, Mary Torres, Hortencia Cavazos. Standing, first row: Dolores Montiel, Glendora DeLeon, Noelia Davila, Mari Jose Morteo, Margarita Taino, Alma Galvan, Elia López. Standing, back row: Sylvia Cásares, Connie De La Garza, Joan Olsen and Toni Lindsay.

#### 2013 Christmas Tea Scholarship Fund Raiser

L-R: Table Director Gloria Salinas, Guest Speaker Retired US Marine Corp Major General Angela Salinas, Director General Elsie Peéez;, Martha Zamora-Young, and Table Associate Director Angie Gonzales



Table member and 2014 "Ms. Senior South Texas Queen" Mary Jo Vela with Director Gloria Salinas.



## **Dates To Remember**

**Table Directors Meeting** 

San Antonio, Texas August 15-16, 2014 Holiday Inn Express Airport Alliance Convention

Lima, Peru October 8-11, 2014. Convention fees: \$320 Skit for Pan American Night:

"Rock n Roll".

State Convention

Laredo, Texas April 9-12, 2015 La Posada Hotel \$200 registration fee



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