



## A MESSAGE FROM GERI RICE

Getting to Know You" was my first Texana message and it has been the most pleasant endeavor of my two-year term! As I have traveled, I have learned that the most important part of our organization is meeting our "sisters" on a one-to-one basis. The electronic age is the millennium movement but it will not replace the necessity and importance of the personal contact.

Visiting the 21 Texas Tables, I have witnessed the love, commitment, and dedication of each Table's member for one another and for the purpose of the Pan American organization. By working together, we have improved the lives of many young women who are attending universities because of your generous financial scholarship contributions. By joining together for meetings, we have built camaraderie and have learned about and demonstrated respect for our different cultural backgrounds. By communicating with each other, we have shared personal illnesses, sadness, and celebrations with compassion, caring, and sensitivity. This is what I have seen and experienced among my Pan American "sisters." You truly are amazing, beautiful women!

New leadership will be elected at the El Paso State Convention bringing new ideas and new directions. It will be an exciting time as we continue our movement forward with vitality, enthusiasm, change, and productivity. Plan to attend and be a PART of this stimulating,



historical event. With your involvement, the convention will be successful and our organization will be stronger because of your input.

I will continue to work for you and Pan American Round Table as the Immediate Past State Director. A special thank you goes to all of my Board members who have performed their duties admirably and who are responsible for the successes of these two years. And with a grateful heart, I thank each one of you for your support, friendship, and love. As Jack Parr said at his last TV show, "This is not a valedictory but a Valentine."

Con mucho amor,  
Geri

## EL PASO STATE CONVENTION March 4 - 6, 2005

The Camino Real Hotel is the site of the 52nd Pan American Round Table State Convention. Reservations can be made by calling the hotel at 1-800-769-4300. The Convention Information packet has been sent to all Table Directors so contact them for the registration form and convention agenda. The DEADLINE for the hotel and registration is FEBRUARY 6, 2005. Check out the Southwest website as this airline has been offering great rates for travel in Texas.

The El Paso women have been working diligently to plan these delightful three days. There will be a dinner for the members of the PARTT Board on Thursday evening March 3rd. The opening night ceremony on Friday, March 4th will be at the El Paso Museum of Art where members will enjoy a delicious dinner and be treated to a touring exhibition of exceptional works of art.

On Saturday following a complimentary continental breakfast, the First Business Session

will be held, followed by an Alliance Workshop in the afternoon. Our Alliance Director General Norma Flores and the 2004 Pan American Woman, Mila de Coquis plan to attend the Convention.

That evening buses will transport everyone to Juarez to the Puelibo Mexicano for that evening's festivities which include shopping, a reception, dinner and an outstanding Folklorico Floor Show.

The Hour of Memory and the Second Business Session will be held on Sunday, March 6th. The Convention will close with a luncheon and the installation of Officers at noon.

A wonderful time has been organized for you. Un mil gracias to Ellie Fenton, Nancy Crowson, Marta Narvaez, and all their committees for their labor of love in organizing and implementing this exciting convention.





Sylvia Williams,  
Zone I Director

## ZONE I ALLIANCE REPORT

The Alliance convention was held in Cordoba, Argentina on September 29 through October 2, 2004. Those of us who traveled to Argentina experienced a country of breathtaking beauty, old world traditions and modern glamour. The hospitality we received from the host committee in Cordoba headed by Elba Bruno de Nogueira was wonderful. The outstanding effort that went into making the convention a success was appreciated by all.

The Alliance of PART is recognized by the Organization of American States (OAS) as a civil society. The OAS is an advocate for democracy and human rights in the Americas. The Alliance participates in discussions and workshops with special interest in education, women and children's issues. For more information visit the OAS website at [www.oas.org/](http://www.oas.org/). Chair of this committee is Gladys Simpson. [gladyssimpson@aol.com](mailto:gladyssimpson@aol.com).

At the Board meeting in Cordoba it was agreed that electronic communication would be the official way to report information. Do visit the Alliance web page at <http://www.alianzamrp.org/>. A world of up to date information can be found there, including pictures taken at the convention.

The 2004-2006 Alliance officers are: Director General: Norma R. de Flores, Peru; Associate Director General: Peggy L. Clark, Corpus Christi, Texas; Recording Secretary: Martha M. de Calderon, Mexico; Treasurer: Elsie Perez, Edinburg, Texas; Historian: Laura A. de Jorin, Mexico; Parliamentarian: Helena Richards, San Jose, California; Corresponding Secretary: Yolanda Colmenares de Arriola, Peru; Director Zone I: Sylvia Williams, Austin, Texas; Translator: Ina Pool, Laredo, Texas; Pan American Women for 2004: Mila de Coquis, Peru.

A new table formed in Zone I is Tulsa II, Oklahoma received its Charter. A new Youth group in Zone I in El Paso, Texas received their certificate of recognition.

Director General Norma Flores will visit the USA in March. She will attend our State Convention in El Paso and visit several of the Texas Tables.

The Zone I Alliance Committee assignments are as follows: Editorial Committee - Ruth Kulesa, Brownsville II; Resolutions Committee - Berta Garcia, Del Rio Table; Organization of American States - Chair: Gladys Simpson, Odessa; Co-chair: Fabiola Chiriboga, Washington, DC and Braulia Espinoze, Washington, DC; Finance Committee - Geri Rice, Corpus Christi; Aida Torres, McAllen and Josie Cappadona, Edinburg and Advisor Carmen Guerra, McAllen; Directory Committee - Chichi Keys, Washington, DC; Revisions Committee - Angela Harper, Miami; Protocol Committee - Co-chairs: Imogene Mecaskey, Fort Worth I and Sara Jane Wise, Corpus Christi; Archives - Janie Wall, Austin and Co-chair, Hilda Duncan, Austin; Youth Groups Committee - Betty Dale, Odessa; World Wide Web and Information Committee - Barbara Wilson, Fort Worth; Pan American Woman - Rosa Ryan, Tulsa; Public Relations - Maria Mercedes Rawlings, Miami.

## McALLEN ROUND TABLE COMMEMORATES 70TH ANNIVERSARY



Mrs. Yolanda Berrera

At their meeting on November 2, 2004, the McAllen Pan American Round Table commemorated the 70th Anniversary of the founding of its table. Past Director, Yolanda Barrera presented a brief history of the original meeting which was called by Mrs. A.F. Vannoy. Frances Metcalf, past State Director, and member of the McAllen Table is the daughter of Mrs. Vannoy. Scrapbooks from earlier years were brought and shared.

When Jacob Oestreich was given an assignment in school to write a research paper about a charitable/civic organization, he checked the internet and found the Pan American Round Table Organization. Through the local newspaper, he found the names of Aida Torres, Director, and Mary Lou Trevino and interviewed them for his article. Jacob won 1<sup>st</sup> place out of all the IDEA Academy 6<sup>th</sup> grade research papers for his entry. Jacob, his mother and father were guests of the table in January and thanks to him, Pan American Round Tables is an organization known to his school and others.

## ALLIANCE TRANSLATOR

Ima Pool, of the Laredo Table, is the official translator for the Pan American Round Table Alliance for 2004-2006. Following the Convention, she has been very busy facilitating communication by translating information from Spanish into English for transmittal to the United States and from English into Spanish for other Alliance members. She would be happy to help you with required translations. Her email address is: [hqip@lmtonline.com](mailto:hqip@lmtonline.com).

Ima is also the Second Associate Director for the Pan American Round Tables of Texas for 2003-2005, as well as Laredo Associate Director.



Mrs. Ima Pool



# BROWNSVILLE GUESTS OF THE CONSULADO DE MEXICO



*Pictured are Lita Ortiz,  
Table Director, and  
Enriqueta Yzaguirre.*

On September 15, 2004, members of Pan American Round Table I, Brownsville, were guests of the Consulado de Mexico, Mexican Consulate, and UTB, TSC, University of Texas Brownsville and Southmost College at Jacob Brown Auditorium for the Ceremonia de la Independencia de Mexico, "El Grito", the 194th Anniversary of Mexican Independence.

## PAN AMERICAN NIGHT AT THE ALLIANCE CONVENTION



*Pictured are Odessa's Alternate Delegates Norma Lauderdale and Betty Dale; Past Director General and Chairman of the Revisions Committee Gladys Simpson; Delegate and Director of the Odessa Table Margie Rogers.*



*Pictured L to R are Jody Jennings, Diana Broly, guest Cathryn Berninger, Cheryl Whitworth, Louise Hall, Linda Haas, Leslie Spielhagen, and Karen Savage*

## BEEVILLE TABLE VISITS SAN ANTONIO

Members of the Beeville Table visited the San Antonio Museum of Art to view Latin American Masterpieces.

## EL PASO TABLE'S NEW MEMBERS



*Pictured are Margie Melby, Ann Boling Anchondo, Julianne Navar, and Patricia Saucedo Burdick.*

## A NOTE OF THANKS FROM LINDA

The miracle of this season is that in 2003 Christmas cards were to be mailed in 2004 and 2004 didn't get mailed at all! Will miracles never cease? I do hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and will have a Happy New Year.

2004 was by comparison a year with major traumatic events. It almost seems boring. But there were a few interesting highlights. For example, undergoing two different surgeries which were successful. Waiting for my Red-White-and Blue card called Medicare for my disabilities, receiving it, only to find out that the government has changed all the rules. Placing organ recipients on a waiting list is not as easy as it may seem. There is a good and bad side. The good side is that you are placed on the list according to your lab reports, however if you need an emergency transplant they try to match you right away.

The bad thing is that you have to wait to be sicker than you already are. I have had a reasonably good year and have lots of hope and I pray that all will go well. I seem to be improving my memory. The alertness that I once had has been reduced immensely, therefore, I am not allowed to drive. For a woman who never stopped going, this has been the toughest part of my illness. Thank you for the many blessings, thoughts, and get well cards of good cheer and for all the prayers throughout the continent. May the Love of the infant Jesus continue to be in your hearts.

My Sincere Thanks and Love,  
Linda Economedes  
PARTT State Parliamentarian



# EDINBURG TABLE CONTINUES ITS TRAVELS IN ARGENTINA

After attending the Pan American Round Table Alliance Convention in Cordoba, Argentina, members of the Edinburg Table continued on a Great Circuit Tour of Argentina taking them to Buenos Aires, Bariloche, and across the lakes nestled in the Andes to Chile. Travelers enjoyed Puerto Monti in the tenth district of Chile before flying to Santiago, Chile where side trips included the Concho y Toro Winery, Vina del Mar and Valparaiso on the Pacific coast. The Peru jaunts included Lima, Cusco, the Sacred Valley of the Incas and Machu Picchu. Guides informed members of the history, culture and traditions for each segment of the trip.

*Pictured in the Andes in Bariloche, Argentina are from left to right on front row are Margo Arevalo-Gonzalez, Lucrecia Cavazos, Josephine Williams, Sara Saldana, Elsie Perez, and Lydia Chavana. Second row shows Consuelo Carrales, Helen Jones, Josie Cappadona and Gloria Moore. Not shown are Patricia Chapa ;and Mercedes Ramirez.*



## DIRECTORS' PINS

Those members who are interested in ordering directors' pins should contact the State Treasurer. Orders will take three to four weeks to complete.



## PANAMERICANA TEXANA

Newsletter published  
by Pan American  
Round Tables of Texas  
Jean Hager, Editor  
507 De Leon  
Rancho Viejo, TX 78575



## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER!

Pan American Round Tables of Texas  
**State Convention**  
El Paso, Texas  
**March 4-6, 2005**

Pan American Round Tables  
**Alliance Meeting**  
Corpus Christi, Texas  
**October 11-15, 2006**

Geri Rice  
617 Driftwood  
Corpus Christi, TX 78411