

"ONE FOR ALL  
ALL FOR ONE"



ORGANIZED FEB. 1922

# Panamericana Texana

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**Mrs. Hugh Hillis, Director**

Mrs. Edward L. Rehmann, Chairman of Publications  
Editor of Panamericana Texana

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## Mrs. Hugh Hillis Elected New State Director

Mrs. Hugh Hillis was elected State Director of the Pan American Round Tables of Texas at the State Convention held in Dallas in April.

Mrs. Hillis, former Director of the Beaumont Table, succeeds Mrs. Cleo Seelinger as Director.

Mrs.  
Hugh  
Hillis



## Director's Message

### TO THE MEMBERS OF OUR PAN AMERICAN ROUND TABLES OF TEXAS

I want all of you to know how deeply honored I feel in being permitted to serve as your State Director. For over 30 years it has been my pleasure and inspiration to work in the Beaumont Pan American Round Table.

At the various conventions I have attended I have been delighted to observe the wonderful caliber of the women who comprise our membership. You make me feel humble!

Your very charms, as well as your fine talents and devotion to our cause make me confident that I can depend on you to preserve its purposes and continue to develop, in many innovative ways, the fine programs for which our organization is known.

In the next two years, let us expand our Table memberships, organize new Round Tables, and take long steps toward bringing Mrs. Griswold's dream to full realization.

**Linda Hillis**  
State Director

## Thirty-Eighth State Convention Big Success!

An enthusiastic group of approximately 125 Pan American members and guests assembled at the North Park Inn in Dallas on April 11th! This great event was hosted by Tables I, II, and III of Dallas, with the following serving as Committee Chairmen; Mrs. Houston J. Doswell, Table I, Mrs. A.L. Berthold, Table II, and Mrs. E.R. Schroeder, Table III. ... The customary Board meeting was held on the afternoon of the opening day, and was followed by a delicious buffet dinner honoring State Officers at the home of Mrs. Phil Porter.

An impressive Massing of the Colors by the Highland Park High School R.O.T.C. officially opened the first business session on April 12th, with welcoming speeches made by Mrs. Robert Dooley, State Second Associate, Mr. John Leedom, Dallas City Councilman, and a response by Mrs. Albert Davis of Austin, former State Director. Greetings from the Alliance were extended by Mrs. R.R. Guerra, newly-elected Director-General. ... Following a business session of reports by members of the State Board, the meeting adjourned to allow delegates to attend a "Chuck Wagon Luncheon", hosted by Table I in the South Ballroom of the Inn. The Lovett Family of Dallas presented a delightful program of Country Western singing. ... The afternoon business meeting was devoted to further reports and recommendations of the State Board of Directors, with adjournment at 4:30 P.M. Guests assembled at 6:00 P.M. to be driven by private cars to the Country Dinner Playhouse, where they enjoyed a buffet dinner and saw a delightful comedy "Move Over, Mrs. Markham" starring Cyd Charisse. This event was likewise hosted by Table I.

The business meeting on Wednesday, April 13th convened at 9:00 A.M. and continued with the very interesting reports of Table Directors throughout the State. Adjournment was called at 10:30 A.M. to allow delegates and guests to participate in a scenic tour of Dallas. Hosted by Table III, they were taken in three buses on a guided tour through the beautiful residential sections of White Rock Lake and Turtle Creek Park, finally arriving at the Dallas Fine Arts Museum. The Pre-Columbian exhibit from South America and Middle America was truly outstanding and a privilege to see! A delicious luncheon was served at the Museum. Free time was announced for the remainder of the afternoon, for those interested in further sight-seeing or for those

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# New Table Formed In Odessa

"Having been a member and Director of the Pan American Round Table III in Dallas, I had enjoyed Pan Americanism, and had been to several Texas and Alliance Conventions. So after moving to Odessa, I missed that association and was interested in the possibility of starting a Table there.

Bea Dooley, Second Associate Director of the Texas Tables, learned of my interest, and gave me the State By-laws, purpose, credo, and other material to use. Also, Table III of Dallas lent me scrapbooks and material to display and show.

I had inquired at different organizations, of which I am a member, for interested persons to come to an organizational meeting at my house. And on March 21, 1977 the Pan American Round Table of Odessa was formed, with fourteen members, most of whom are from Texas, but also Argentina, Colombia, and Mexico.

We held our second meeting on April 4, and now have eighteen members. We have elected officers, approved our ByLaws, and plan to have as projects a scholarship for a Latin American student in an area college, Spanish classes, Spanish-speaking teas, and entertaining and escorting of Latin American students and visitors.

Now our immediate goal is to acquire twenty-two members in order to be also a member of the Alliance."

**Mrs. Chas. R. Blythe, (Nancy)**

(At the recent Board meeting held in Dallas, Mrs. Robert H. Dooley moved that the Odessa Table be accepted as the 28th Table, and that a Certificate of Membership be presented to the new Director, Mrs. Charles Blythe. Motion carried.)

## Memorial Donations have been given to the Florence Terry Griswold Scholarship Fund

... by the Austin Table, in memory of:  
Mrs. Fred M. Bullard  
Mrs. Frederick K. Fries

... by the Laredo Table, in memory of:  
Mrs. Esther H. Schwartz  
Mrs. Jennie R. Goodman

## WANTED: OLD COPIES OF TEXANA

Please help to complete our files of  
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to be stored in the State Archives

If you have any old issues or a complete collection of  
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Mrs. Joe W. Neal  
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# Pan American Round Tables of Texas State Officers 1977-1979

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Mrs. A. Gerodetti, Mrs. Irvin Gorner, Mrs. Lofton S.  
Little, Mrs. R. J. Moulton, Mrs. Richard E. Young.



# "Table-Hopping"

## BROWNSVILLE I

Pan American Round Table One is famous for its Costume Review and Merienda, featuring authentic costumes worn by natives of the Western Hemisphere. This has become a yearly event during Charro Days, and was held this year on February 16th. The Review was interesting and enjoyable, and ably narrated by Mrs. F.W. De Stefano. Funds raised by this event are used for the scholarship established at Texas Southmost College by Table I.

Pan American Day was observed on April 1st with a Merienda honoring students of Spanish from the three public high schools of Brownsville. Those attending were selected from the second and third year Spanish classes who had earned a grade average of 90 or better. The affair was held at the Valley International Country Club.



*Left to right: Mr. Gordiano Vela; Mr. Hector Rangel, Mexican Consul; Mrs. Rangel; and Mrs. Vela.*

## CORPUS CHRISTI

Members of the Pan American Round Table, joined by their husbands, held a special dinner meeting on Feb. 15th. Honored guests included the Mexican Consul to Corpus Christi, Mr. Hector Rangel and Mrs. Rangel and Mr. and Mrs. Gordiano Vela, parents of Mrs. Rangel from Laredo. The program was presented by Mr. Don Goodall, Director of the University of Texas Art Museum. He gave a lecture and showed slides on "Emerging Young Artists of South America."

## CORSICANA

Pan American Week was observed with the Table's annual festive Costume Tea, held at Kinsloe House on April 19th. Special honorees were a former Griswold Scholarship girl, Gloria Oporto Valenzuela and her mother, Sra. Rosa Oporto, both from La Paz, Bolivia.

The May meeting featured Cecil Williams of Tatum, Texas, as guest speaker. Mr. Williams was a former teacher at Navarro College from 1957-1970, and an exchange

teacher in Bolivia in 1959. Through his influence many Latin students from Bolivia have since come to Navarro College, and at the present time the College can boast of about 300 foreign students from all over the world. In his talk, Mr. Williams praised the members of the Corsicana Round Table for their enthusiastic welcome extended to these students. He said: "You, the Round Table, have done a lot for the College, the community, and the foreign students, by promoting better inter-American relations with your personal diplomacy."

## McALLEN

This Table recently had the distinction of winning the second prize in a local contest sponsored by the McAllen Opera Guild. Different organizations were invited to decorate a table, and prizes were given for originality, color, etc. ...A description of the picture reads:

"Feast for the Ancient Gods" was the entry of the McAllen Pan American Table. The Table featured all authentic foods and depicted what all Pan American countries have in common — their ancient customs. Food and gifts were brought as an offering to the God on the Pedestal."



*Decorations were by, left to right: Mrs. Francis Linn, Mrs. Richard Heath, and Mrs. John Alger.*

## EAGLE PASS

The May luncheon of the Pan American Round Table was held at the Ft. Duncan Club. Miss Carolina Cerna presided, and introduced the following guests: Sra. Susana

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# "Table-Hopping"

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Musquiz, Director of the Piedras Negras Table; Mrs. Ray Paredes, Director of the Table at Del Rio; Mrs. Burton W. Armstrong, Director of Zone I of the Alliance; and Mrs. Edward Rehmann, Chr. of the Directory Com. of the Alliance. ...Mrs. James Sharp gave a most interesting and informative report on the recent State Convention held in Dallas. Rosendo Villarreal and Rosita Reyes, Instructors in Dancing at the Social Security Cultural Dept. in Piedras Negras, performed some lovely dances typical of Northern Mexico and Vera Cruz. ...After luncheon, the new officers for the coming year were installed in an impressive ceremony conducted by Mrs. Armstrong of San Antonio. The outgoing Director, Miss Carolina Cerna, gave an inspiring talk on the ideals of Panamericanism, and introduced the new Director, Mrs. Tom Schneider.

## SAN BENITO

In observance of Pan American Day, members of the San Benito Table came dressed in native costumes and displayed flags, maps, and various articles typical of the countries of the Americas. The program featured a most interesting talk by Dr. Charles Hudson on his recent journey by car into South America. Dr. Hudson gave a detailed report with slides on Chile, its climate, its terrain, and most interesting of all his knowledge of the Chilean people. He had the rare opportunity of mingling with the natives, and was invited into their homes.

It was announced that the Pan American Student Forum of San Benito High School had made another contribution to the Table's scholarship fund, and it was recommended that a graduating senior from this Forum receive the Table's scholarship award for this year.

## WACO

Members and guests of the Pan American Round Table selected March 12th for a sightseeing bus trip to San Antonio. The Director, Ruth Hollowell, had previously made a dry run of the proposed trip, and had carefully worked out a schedule of timing and places to be visited. The group left Waco at 7:00 A.M., had breakfast at the Georgetown Inn, and arrived at Los Patios, a unique shopping center at 11:00 A.M. Here the group enjoyed shopping in the various specialty shops, and a delicious luncheon was served at the Gazebo. The next stop was the Institute of Texan Cultures, where a guide conducted a tour through the display of the many cultures of Texas. They again boarded the bus at 3:00 P.M. for a short ride to Alamo Plaza, which afforded an opportunity to visit Joske's Department Store and the old Menger Hotel. Others in the group elected to visit the new city market with its many Mexican shops. Promptly at 5:00 P.M. the bus left San Antonio and arrived in time for supper at Luby's Cafeteria in Austin. Home again at 9:30 P.M. after a long but thoroughly enjoyable day!

## NEW TEXANA EDITOR

Mrs. Sherrill B. Oakes, 712 W. Elizabeth St., Brownsville, Texas 78520, is the new Editor of Panamericana Texana. Please send her a copy of your Yearbook 1977-78, or your new Membership list with addresses, in order that she may compile an accurate and up-to-date mailing list. In the future, please send all news items and photos to Mrs. Oakes.



*Alamo-San Juan-Pharr—Newly elected Board (1977-1978) Left to right: Mrs. C.M. Taylor; Mrs. L.E. Knight; Mrs. L.W. Leighton; Mrs. Julian Chapa; Mrs. J.E. Parks; Director, Mrs. Eugene Kuhn; Mrs. W.C. Womack; Mrs. Robert Balli, Sr.; Mrs. J. Connolly Kelly.*



# Outgoing State Officers Honored

Mrs. Albert R. Davis, state director of the Pan American Round Tables in 1955-57, honored Mrs. Cleo Seelinger, state director for the past two years, and Mrs. Milton Overstreet, state corresponding secretary, at a Tea in her home on April 21st. This lovely event, including invited guests from the Austin Table, was a special tribute to these two outstanding state officers who served so faithfully and so well during their recent terms of office.

Mrs. Davis is a native of Austin, who has been active in community affairs for many years. She is a former Director of the Austin Table, and has served on the Alliance Board. Of even greater interest, she is a Florence Terry Griswold Awardee and therefore a Life Member of the organization.

Mrs. Seelinger's interest in Latin America dates back many years when she resided in Columbia and Venezuela. She has worked in the office of the International Hospitality Committee on the UT campus, has been editor of the Panamericana Texana, and has held several state offices.

Mrs. Overstreet was active in the Brownsville Table before moving to Austin in 1950. She has also served as Director of the Austin Table.



*Left to right:  
Mrs. Cleo Seelinger,  
Mrs. Albert Davis, and  
Mrs. Milton Overstreet.*

## Directors of the Pan American Round Tables of Texas, 1977-1979

Alamo-San Juan-Pharr..... Mrs. Eugene F. Kuhn  
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Brownsville II..... Mrs. Elna Jaquis  
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Bryan-College Station..... Mrs. William W. Krueger  
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Corsicana..... Mrs. Earl Boyd  
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Dallas II..... Miss Lela Hazelle Boyd  
4007 Herschel, Dallas 75219  
Dallas III..... Mrs. Ricardo Rocha  
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San Benito..... Mrs. Lou Anna Harvey  
141 Palo Blanco, San Benito 78586  
Waco..... Mrs. A.R. Sendon  
4901 Lake Englewood, Waco 76710





*Left to right: Miss Drucilla McCormick; Mrs. R.R. Guerra.*

## Border Tables Honor Guerra And McCormick

The luncheon held at the Echo Motor Hotel in Edinburg, Texas on Feb. 5th represented one of the largest gatherings of Pan American members held in recent years. About 175 guests were present, with Tables on both sides of the border attending. Mrs. R.R. Guerra, Director General of the Alliance, and Miss Drucilla McCormick, Pan American Woman of the Year, were the honored guests. Tributes were paid to these honorees in recognition of their outstanding achievements. The following Table Directors were present: Mrs. J. Connolly Kelly of Alamo-San Juan-Pharr; Mrs. E.E. Lynd, Jr. of Brownsville Table I; Mrs. H.R. Wooldridge of McAllen; Sra. Ofelia G. de Salazar of Matamoros, Mexico; Mrs. F.K. La Grange of Rio Grande City - Roma; Professora Delia P. de Plata of Reynosa, Mexico; Mrs. Elna Jaquis of Brownsville II; and Mrs. Maria Elena M. de Monton of Rio Bravo.

It was a colorful occasion, with a presentation of flags of the Americas, accompanied by the singing of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." Members joined in the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mrs. J. Connolly Kelly and the Spanish pledge led by Mrs. Maria Elena M. de Monton. Gifts were presented to the honor guests.

**Beatrice Beltran of Chile, our Florence Terry Griswold Scholarship Awardee for 1976-1977, wrote the following to Mrs. Cleo Seelinger after attending the State Convention:**

"There are not words to describe how much I enjoyed my stay in Dallas. I would appreciate very much if you give my thanks to all the members of the Pan American Round Tables of Texas.

"Being in Dallas among ladies that really know the meaning of the word 'friendship' was one of the most thrilling experiences of my life. As a human being I appreciated the warm reception you gave me. As a student I feel compensated for all my efforts. As a professional I will consider all my work worthy if everywhere I go I find one lady that shows me what the Pan American Round Tables of Texas' members showed me at Dallas.

"Please extend my thanks and say, 'Gracias, muchas gracias to y'all'."

## Convention Big Success

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who wished to take advantage of an excellent opportunity to shop! ... Once again delegates assembled at 6:30 P.M. to be taken by bus to the Willow Bend Polo Club for a Western Dinner Party, hosted by Table III. Mrs. James W. Watson, Director, presided. Guests were served wine, followed by a delicious dinner. Highlights of the evening's entertainment were the special dances performed by the Pan American Folklore Dance Group of Table III, and the presentation of our Griswold Scholarship Awardee, Beatriz Beltran of Chile. Beatriz was introduced by Mrs. Jack Tarver, Scholarship Chairman, and she responded with warm and sincere thanks to all members of the Pan American Round Table for their generous aid in helping her to complete her college education.

Table II was host for the final day of the Convention on Thursday, Apr. 14th. The opening session featured a most impressive Hour of Memory, conducted by Mrs. Howard Dailey of Dallas II. Mrs. Dailey read the names of members who had passed away during the biennium, followed by a moment of silent prayer. ... The slate of officers for the coming two years was presented by Mrs. Sherrill Oakes, Chairman of the Nominating Committee. It was moved and seconded that the slate of officers as presented be accepted. Since there were no nominations from the floor, the new slate was accepted by acclamation. ... Mrs. Herman Guttman extended an invitation to the Convention delegates from the San Antonio Table to assemble in that city two years from now. Motion was made and carried that this invitation be accepted. ... After the Courtesy Resolutions were read by Mrs. Milton Overstreet, the meeting was officially adjourned. ... The final Bluebonnet luncheon was held in the South Ballroom, presided over by Miss Lela Hazelle Boyd, Director of Table II. The Installation of officers followed in an impressive candlelight ceremony, conducted by Mrs. L. D. Giesler of Corsicana. ... Thus ended a most enjoyable and highly successful Convention! We extend our warm and sincere thanks to all the members of the three Dallas Tables who worked so diligently to make this possible! Our hearty congratulations for a job well done! Muchas gracias!

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