

# Around the Table

**Pan American Round Table of San Antonio  
January Meeting  
Friday January 16, 2026 - 11:30 a.m.  
Panchito's Restaurant, 4100 McCullough Ave.**



## ***BUSINESS MEETING***

*No Guests, please*

*We'll begin the New Year with a look ahead at the events of 2026. The big one, of course, is the 62nd biennial State Convention of Pan American Round Tables of Texas.*

*Here's an exciting update from our director, Sandra Brown:*



**H**appy New Year Everyone! I hope your year is off to a good start. It's an exciting time for our Table as we come closer to our State Convention.

I was informed by our State Director, Dr. Rosa Maria Vida, that

we will have the pleasure of having our Alliance Director General, Marta Aguero Abal de Argañaraz, and Ex Officio Director General, Jani Marichal Hidalgo, attending the convention. There will also be other Alliance members from Mexico attending.

We were planning to have 150 attendees at the convention. However, since the Alliance members will be attending, we are certain we will have a greater number in attendance. Registration will begin sometime before the end of January. Hopefully online registration will be available.

Our January business meeting will provide an opportunity for you to become better informed with

what still needs to be done. The Steering Committee members will be providing details of what has been accomplished and what still remains to be done. Please make plans to attend this most important meeting on January 16th at Panchito's Restaurant, 4100 McCullough Ave. at 11:30 a.m. Luncheon price is \$18.

We'll celebrate January birthdays for **Herlinda DeHoyos, Katie Williams and Bea Dracoulis.**

We need an accurate headcount of all attending. The December meeting headcount was 25; however, 29 attended! We were thrilled to have so many in attendance. It's important that you RSVP by the deadline, which will be January 14th. You may [RSVP online](#) or by text to **Sybil Howell** at 210-237-9498, or by email to [sybillco@att.net](mailto:sybillco@att.net). **Maida Perkins** will be

presenting a country report on Belize! We're excited to continue to learn about countries in the OAS.

Bring your dollars to support our Scholarship Silent Auction!



I look forward to seeing everyone soon.



# It Was All About the Tamales



Christmas in San Antonio is a time for tamales. And we had the queen of the tamale makers as our guest speaker, Dr. Ellen Riojas Clark, AKA “La Mera Mera Tamalera.”

From the ancient history of corn cuisine to the cultural importance of family and community tamaladas, she entertained and educated us.

Pictured in top photo, from left, are Dr. Rosa Maria Vida, our State Director visiting from Laredo; San Antonio Director Sandra Brown, and Guest Speaker Ellen Riojas Clark. Attending the meeting (below) were members Elaine Gottlieb and Agatha Wade with her guest, Ann; Treasurer Sybil Howell with member Vilma Howell (Sybil’s mom.)

Below are slides from Dr. Clark’s presentation.

—Photos by Peggy Betts

