

NON-CIRCULATING

## A Summer in Mexico

By Tracey Harrison  
Recipient 1980-81  
Universidad de las Americas  
Scholarship

When I first heard my name announced as one of the three winners of the Pan American Student Forum's summer scholarships to the University of the Americas, I had really no idea what to expect. I had never heard of Puebla, Mexico, where the school was located, much less the University itself, but I decided that the scholarship presented an opportunity to broaden my horizons I could not afford to waste.

That was probably one of the smartest decisions I ever made. From the word go, every day was guaranteed to bring some new insight into Mexico, its wonderful people and certainly a needed boost to my Spanish.

Mr. Alan Archer, Director of UDLA's summer program, met me at the airport and was always available if any problems arose, but everyone at the University was always more than willing to help you in anyway they could. I had never visited our southern neighbor before and consequently, the first few weeks seemed rather scary, but the people were so un-faillingly eager to help and made you feel so welcome, all my fears were soon dispelled.

The course I took was Intensive Intermediate Spanish, but there is a very large variety of courses to choose from, many of which are given in English, and I must say, this particular course was the best Spanish course in which I have ever been enrolled in all my seven years of taking this beautiful language. Within the class we traveled around the countryside at least once a week, visiting local high points not usually listed in travel guides. All the speaking within the class was always in Spanish, which made things difficult at times, but helped so much in the long run.

I did not limit my traveling to just inside the state of Puebla, however. Some friends and I decided to visit the beaches of Veracruz one weekend, a bus ride of four to six hours from Puebla, and later we traveled to Oaxaca. Oaxaca is a much longer trip, but the views from atop the mountains are so spectacular and terrifying because you just know the bus is going to fall off the edge, that it certainly makes for an unforgettable voyage.

Veracruz presented us with a completely new type of people from those we knew in Puebla. The Veracruzanos were vibrant and forever smiling in contrast to the more industrious, conservative Blandanos.

Oaxaca had much more of an Indian population than either Veracruz or Puebla and of course all the magnificent ruins in the area and market places helped make it one of those magical places with something for everyone.

The most important thing that I learned from my travels through Mexico (I visited Mexico City also for three days) was that Mexico has regions with proud traditions and peoples with special characteristics just like we do, that Mexico is so much more than a sunny vacation spot, but a country trying to grow and gain respect around the world, that the people rarely fit the classic image of a little man

wearing a white suit, poncho and sombrero, sleeping alongside the road. I can truthfully say, I never glimpsed such a spectacle.

I am so very grateful to the Good Neighbor Commission and PASF for all that they gave me and recommend very highly that anyone with the opportunity take advantage of the experiences offered by these scholarships. You can be guaranteed that what you receive will more than repay you for the time spent applying.

# Pan-AmTimes



Official Publication of the

Pan American Student Forum

Vol. XVI, No. 3

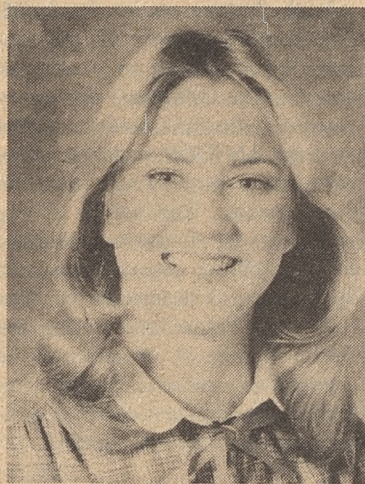
Good Neighbor Commission, Austin, Texas

November, 1981

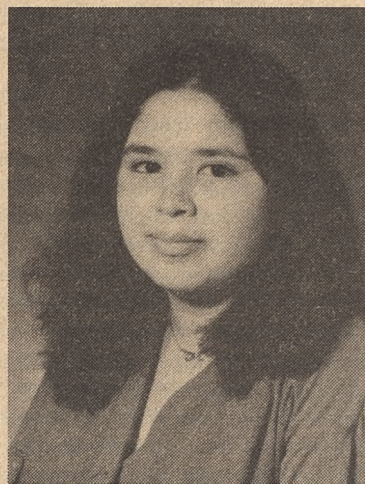
## 1981-82 Board of Directors



Joyce Garcia  
President



Nancy Forbis  
1st Vice President



Nelda Barron  
2nd Vice President



Toni L. Figueroa  
Secretary



Angie Patronella  
Student Director



Rolando Ramirez  
Student Director



Gerardo Pinzon  
Student Director



Doug Atkins  
Parliamentarian



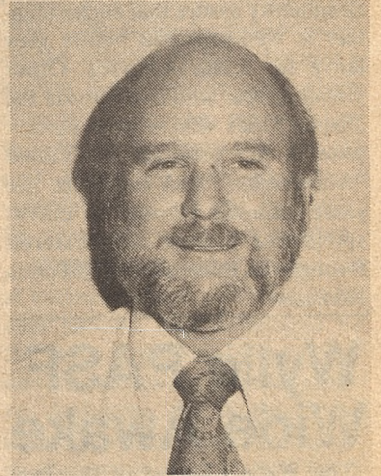
Jorge Ramirez  
State Sponsor



Mrs. Bettye Green Henry  
Program Director



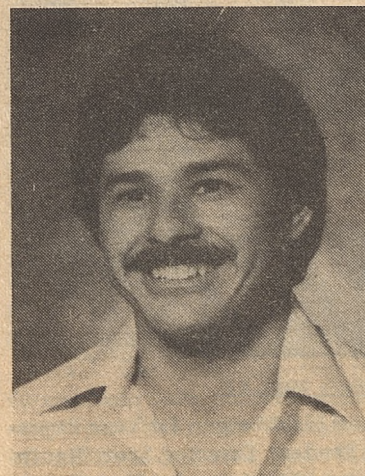
Miss Elida Ramirez  
Educational Activities Director



Mr. Melvin Kruger  
Publicity Director



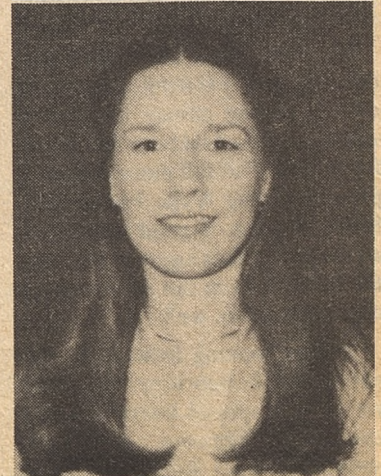
Miss Rosemary Patterson  
Sponsor Director



Mr. Ruben Garza  
Sponsor Director



Mrs. Billie Hulke  
Sponsor Director



Mrs. Susan Wrenn  
Sponsor Director



# Amigos de las Americas

"We give up our Saturday mornings; we work like dogs for the money; we spend our summer vacations in a spot where we don't speak the language very well, invariably get sick . . . and love every minute of it."

A veteran AMIGO summed up the paradox of a unique youth program called AMIGOS de las AMERICAS, an international, nonprofit, private, voluntary organization, with more than thirty chapters nation-wide and headquarters in Houston. Through AMIGOS, young volunteers serve in public health projects in Mexico, the Caribbean, Central and South America. Since its founding in 1965, more than 9,000 AMIGOS volunteers have performed some 10 million individual health services, assuring that the people of the towns and villages are immunized against preventable diseases, drink clean water, enjoy better community sanitation, and have improved vision and healthier teeth.

The Pan American Student Forum and AMIGOS have long been in partnership in Texas, with PASF chapters providing funds for the AMIGOS program. This year, AMIGOS has been designated the PASF state project. Since AMIGOS is a privately funded organization that receives no government money, the help provided by PASF goes a long way to provide the training, transportation, and supplies for AMIGOS volunteers. Only four-fifths of the costs of AMIGOS is paid by the local chapters, and PASF contributions will help make up the difference.

After being selected for participation as an AMIGO volunteer, young people are trained extensively before they go into the field. Chapters in Dallas, Houston, Houston Northwest, San Antonio, Corpus Christi, and the Lost Pines area meet each week from early winter through May and receive more than 125 hours of instruction in Spanish, public health and job skills needed for the projects, self-care such as first aid and CPR, Latin American culture, human relations and community relations. Volunteer adult leaders in the community assure that each volunteer is well-prepared before they leave for Latin America. Other young people who live outside the chapter cities who wish to participate in the program are called "Mavericks," and complete the same training through a correspondence course administered through the International Office in Houston.

## Wylie PASF Wide Awake

The Wylie Chapter of the Pan American Student Forum started the 1981-82 school year with the largest membership yet, consisting of 42 members.

We plan on having a very productive and exciting year. The club is raising money to send to Amigos de las Americas and Pesos for Braces. Our fall money-making project, selling Wylie Pirate spirit hands, is off to a good start since all the Pirate fans support not only the football team but other school organizations as well.

We are looking forward to the convention in February. This year we have a special interest at the convention because one of our members, Scott Reuthinger, will be a candidate for student director.

Wayna Allen  
Wylie PASF Chairman



Water to mix the cement for the losa of the latrine is carried to the site by an AMIGOS volunteer.

Phil Schiff, who was such a Maverick last summer, has just been named AMIGO of the Year by the Board of Trustees of AMIGOS. Last summer, Phil was a volunteer in a small town near Oaxaca, Mexico, where he and his three partners were assigned to build ten latrines. His minimal Spanish speaking ability didn't stand in the way of his starting a library and story hour for the children of this town. Each afternoon, after they had finished work on the latrines, Phil met with the children to share some books he had brought from home. Because the idea was so successful, he went to Oaxaca City for more books. He came back with more than sixty volumes given to him by the book store owner on a variety of subjects including different countries, animals, and children's stories. Phil began filling the role of an unofficial teacher for the children — and their parents as well. Despite weather and supply difficulties, Phil and his teams completed their ten latrines, and they did so much more for the people of San Tomas Tamazulpan, who now know them as friends.

On completion of their six months of training, AMIGOS volunteers spend four to eight weeks on their job assignment in Latin America. Usually they live with a local family. They eat the local diet and participate in village activities. Last year volunteers worked in Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Honduras, Panama, Venezuela, Paraguay, and Ecuador. In addition to constructing latrines, AMIGOS volunteers dig water wells, give immunizations, teach dental hygiene, do vision screening

and distribute eyeglasses, and provide animal health services.

Jeff Ware spent four weeks traveling with a vision screening team in Honduras. He tells me of the old lady that was led to the clinic by a small boy. Patiently, in his halting Spanish, Jeff checked her vision against his eyechart, and then rummaged in the box that held the donated, catalogued eyeglasses. As he slipped the glasses into place on her face, she blinked once or twice and burst into tears. She reached out her hands to the boy and then Jeff realized that it was the first time she had seen her grandson's face. "I bathed in the river, ate to my delight; yet the greatest experience was the giving of sight," he wrote on his return.

With the exception of a small, paid administrative staff, the program is run entirely by youth volunteers. The volunteers are supervised in Latin America by a staff of veteran AMIGOS, many of whom have spent three or four years in the program. The safety of the volunteers is, of course, a primary concern of the organization, and the work areas are monitored carefully both before and during the field program. A project will be changed or cancelled at any time there is the slightest question concerning the volunteer safety.

The Ministers of Health in Honduras and Nicaragua credit AMIGOS with wiping out polio in their countries for an entire generation. In Paraguay the chief health office thanked AMIGOS for extending the lives of 300,000 children. In the final analysis, however, the greatest beneficiaries of AMIGOS may not be the people of Latin America, but rather, the youth of America. For many of the participants, the AMIGOS experience becomes the focusing element in their lives. Each volunteer finds the satisfaction of contributing to the well-being of another; the confidence of completing a difficult task well; the enrichment of living immersed in a different culture. AMIGOS volunteers give service, but receive much more in return. It is a youth leadership development program for the young people of America.

AMIGOS is open to any young person who will be 16 years old by June 1 and who is in good health and capable of strenuous daily schedules, and who completes all necessary training and passes the National Proficiency Standards, including a conversational knowledge of Spanish. Chapters fund the necessary \$1,990 per volunteer



Wylie PASF Officers 1981-82

Left to right: (back) Vice President Lori Helmberger, 1st Year Representative Pam King, Candidate for Student Director Scott Reuthinger; President Blake Barry; Treasurer Mike Love, 1st Year Representative Dana Cooper; (front) Secretary Cassie Lee, Local Reporter Gloria Dossett, PASF Chairman Wayna Allen, 1st Year Representative Sherry Cook. (Not shown: Kim Kling, 1st Year Representative.)



Two volunteers in Julticapa, Honduras teach a class how to brush their teeth, using a set of giant jaws, and toothbrushes they have for each child.

through a family contribution and such money-raising activities as bike-a-thons, grapefruit sales, and auctions. Mavericks, who pay their own transportation costs to Houston to begin their South American adventure, are asked to contribute \$1,750. All contributions to AMIGOS are tax deductible. More information about chapters or the Maverick program can be obtained from:

Mariann Marshall  
AMIGOS de las AMERICAS  
5618 Star Lane  
Houston, Texas 77057

Becky Gradolph tells of her summer as an AMIGOS volunteer: "Experiencing the culture, working hard in what I thought was a worthwhile program and getting to know all the people that I was able to meet in AMIGOS has changed my life. I only hope I have given to Honduras 10% of what the AMIGOS program there gave me; with that 10%, all of Honduras would have perfect teeth."

The work areas, the projects and the countries are all so different, but everywhere are the people; people who become friends, AMIGOS.

## Spring Break in Mexico?

If your spring break falls between March 12 and March 22 you can join other students in Mexico! Mrs. Susan Wrenn (PASF Sponsor) and her husband, Mr. Michael Wrenn, of De Soto High School will be taking students on a week-long trip to explore the mysteries of the ancient Mayas while discovering the Mexico of today.

You will spend three and one half days in Mexico City, where you will tour the city and surrounding areas including a trip to the famous pyramids at

Teotihuacan. Next, you'll fly to the Yucatan Peninsula where the rest of the week will be spent touring the city of Merida and going on excursions deep into the Yucatan jungle exploring Uxmal and Chichen Itza.

For only \$799 your trip includes all flights, hotels, two meals a day, and all tours and transportation. Several students have already signed up. Time is of the essence!

For further information, write or call Mrs. Susan Wrenn, De Soto High School, 600 Eagle Drive, De Soto, Texas 75115, (214) 223-3570.

### PASF BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1981-1982

<b>President</b> Joyce Garcia Crockett High, Austin	<b>State Sponsor</b> By-Laws Chairperson Mr. Jorge Ramirez Pharr-San Juan-Alamo High, Pharr
<b>1st Vice President</b> Membership Chairperson Nancy Forbis Decatur High, Decatur	<b>Program Director</b> Program Chairperson Mrs. Bettye Green Henry San Antonio
<b>2nd Vice President</b> State Projects Chairperson Nelda Barrón Homer Hanna High, Brownsville	<b>Educational Activities Director</b> Educational Activities Chairperson Miss Elida Ramirez Corpus Christi
<b>Secretary</b> Resolutions Chairperson Toni L. Figueroa H. M. King High, Kingsville	<b>Publicity Director</b> Publicity Chairperson Mr. Melvin Kruger Anahuac High, Anahuac
<b>Student Directors</b> Nominations Chairperson Angie Patronella Willis High, Willis	<b>Sponsor Directors</b> Asst. to State Sponsor Miss Rosemary Patterson Amarillo High, Amarillo
<b>Credentials Chairperson</b> Rolando X. Ramirez Pace High, Brownsville	<b>Asst. to Program Director</b> Mr. Ruben Garza Crockett High, Austin
<b>Elections Chairperson</b> Gerardo Pinzón Martin High, Laredo	<b>Asst. to Ed. Activities Director</b> Mrs. Billie Hulke Richfield High, Waco
<b>Parliamentarian</b> Doug Atkins S. H. Rider High, Wichita Falls	<b>Asst. to Publicity Director</b> Mrs. Susan Wrenn De Soto High, De Soto

Sponsored by: Good Neighbor Commission of Texas

Chairman: Mr. José Alvarado, Jr.  
Vice Chairman: Mr. Manuel Jara

Mrs. Rosemary Cervantes  
Mr. Haygood Gullely  
Mr. Arnaldo Ramirez  
Mrs. Pic Rivers

Good Neighbor Commission Staff  
Mr. Bob Watson, Acting Executive Director  
Jorge C. Garcés, PASF Coordinator  
Miss Carmen Zavala, PASF Assistant



1981-1982

# Countries of Study



## DOMINICAN REPUBLIC\*

Area: 18,703 square miles  
 Population: 4,300,000  
 Capital: Santo Domingo  
 Currency: peso  
 Language: Spanish  
 Independence Day: February 27  
 National hero: Juan Pablo Duarte  
 National tree: mahogany

The Dominican Republic, discovered by Columbus in 1492, is the oldest and yet one of the most modern of the Caribbean nations. It was the cradle of Spanish-American civilization and the point of departure for explorers, conquerors, and colonizers in the early sixteenth century.

**GEOGRAPHY.** The Dominican Republic occupies the eastern two thirds of the island of Hispaniola, which it shares with Haiti. Four almost parallel mountain ranges, covered with thick vegetation, cross the country from east to west. The largest is the Cordillera Central, which divides the republic into almost equal parts. The highest peak in the West Indies, Pico Duarte (10,206 feet), is in this range. In the north is the Cordillera Septentrional and in the south are the Sierra Neiba and the Sierra de Bahoruco.

The Valley of the Cibao, between the Cordillera Central and the Cordillera Septentrional, is the largest and most important valley. The Vega Real (Royal Plain), often called the "Garden of the Antilles," is the island's granary, producing fruits, vegetables, and sugar cane; its grassy savannas afford excellent pasturage. The capital and principal ports are located on the southern coast. The humid eastern section of this region contains large forests and savannas. Many small islands dot the Dominican coast.

**CULTURE.** The Dominican Republic early became a crossroads for migrations of people from South and Central America and Europe. Cultural life was enriched by this intercourse. The National Museum contains one of the best pre-Columbian archaeological collections in the Antilles, in addition to paintings which date from colonial times to the present day. Dominican music is a composite of Indian, Spanish, and African elements. There is a tendency to emphasize genuinely Dominican themes in both music and dancing, rather than to copy or adapt foreign forms. The popular *merengue* is the national dance.

The Dominican capital, Santo Domingo de Guzmán, was founded in 1496 by Bartolomé Colón, Columbus' brother. There is a striking contrast between its Old World charm and its modernistic steel and concrete structures of the present century. The cathedral of Santa Maria, the oldest in Amer-

ica, contains the remains of Columbus in a vault marked by a marble shrine. The fortress-like castle of Columbus' son Diego, el Alcázar de Colón, stands among beautiful gardens on a hill overlooking the Caribbean. The capital also contains the first seat of higher learning in the New World, the University of Santo Domingo, founded in 1538; and the ruins of the first hospital in the New World, San Nicolás de Bari. Outstanding among the capital's modern buildings are the National Palace, built of native pink stone; the Palace of Fine Arts, the Museum of Modern Art, the National Congress, and business buildings of native stone and hardwood. Luxurious modern hotels overlook the blue Caribbean.

The republic's second city and leading center in the Cibao Plain is Santiago. This city, situated on a high bluff on the Yaque del Norte River, was founded in 1500 and still retains its distinctive, aristocratic air. Many of its churches and public buildings were destroyed by an earthquake and fire and were rebuilt. Today, Santiago is one of the republic's most modern cities. The Dominican Republic has many seaports including La Romana, San Pedro de Macoris, Sánchez, Puerto Plata, and Monte Cristi.

**HISTORY.** The history of Santo Domingo, first European colony in the New World, began with Columbus' second voyage to Hispaniola in 1493. His fleet of 17 ships brought more than a thousand colonists and basic necessities for building a permanent settlement. The first battle with the Indians occurred in the valley of the Vega Real. In 1496 Columbus sailed back to Spain, leaving his brother Bartolomé Colón as governor of the colony. Upon his return, Columbus his brother, and son Diego, and sent them to Spain. It was Governor Nicolás de Ovando who restored peace to the colony and promoted its development in many ways. He was succeeded by Diego Colón. Santo Domingo flourished until the latter part of the sixteenth century. Its *Audiencia Real* (royal tribunal) had jurisdiction over all the Antilles.

Meanwhile, French power grew in the western part of the island. In 1795, by the Treaty of Basel, Spain ceded the eastern part of the island to France. After the Haitian general Toussaint Louverture gained absolute control of the French colony of Saint-Domingue (Haiti), he invaded Spanish Santo Domingo and united the whole island under his rule. In 1809 the Dominicans rose in revolt and with outside aid re-established Spanish rule. In 1821 the Dominicans expelled the Spanish governor and sought

briefly to join Gran Colombia; but this did not materialize.

The Haitians under President Boyer invaded Santo Domingo, annexed the territory, and ruled it for 22 years. On February 27, 1844, the Dominicans, led by Juan Pablo Duarte, Francisco del Rosario Sánchez, Ramon Matías Mella, and others, revolted and proclaimed independence. Political instability and unrest paved the way for a restoration of Spanish rule, and in 1860 Spain annexed the country at the request of General Santana; but poor administration resulted in the War of Restoration and the defeat of the Spanish forces. Thus, the country once more gained its independence in 1865. National life was frequently disturbed by revolutions and financial troubles until 1905, when the United States took over administration of the customs revenues and granted a loan to assist internal development. Another period of political chaos and the outbreak of World War I led the United States to establish a military government in 1916; this lasted until 1924, when democratic elections were held and a new president took office. Thereupon, United States forces departed and Dominican sovereignty was restored.

The dictatorship of General Rafael L. Trujillo lasted from 1930 to 1961, when he was assassinated. The reorganization of the nation under a democratic system of government was immediately undertaken, and the first free elections in 38 years were held in 1962. During the ensuing three years of controversy between rival political groups, the constitutional government was overthrown by a military coup d'état. The continuing conflict erupted into civil warfare in April of 1965, thus creating a grave crisis calling for immediate action by the OAS in restoring peace. This was achieved after 14 months of negotiation and cooperation on the part of Dominican leaders and representatives of the OAS. The will of the people, freely expressed in the model national elections held on June 1, 1966, restored constitutional government, headed by a new president pledged to uphold democratic institutions, representative government, and human rights.

**ECONOMY.** The Dominican Republic has an agricultural economy, sugar, cacao, and coffee being the most important export crops. The country generally ranks third among the principal producers of cacao in Latin America and holds fifth or sixth place among the Hemisphere's banana-producing and exporting countries. Other major crops are rice, leaf tobacco, peanuts, and tropical fruits. Leading imports are textiles, wheat and flour, dairy products, canned foods, iron and steel manufactures, apparatus and vehicles, chemical products, gasoline, and paper and its products. The most important mineral resources are salt, gypsum, bauxite, and iron. Forest products include the famous Dominican mahogany. The processing of agricultural products is the principal industrial activity.

**FLAG.** The Dominican flag is divided into four sections separated by a white cross. The upper left section is dark blue; the lower left is red. On the right side of the cross the colors are reversed. The coat of arms appears in the center of the cross.

## ECUADOR\*

Population: 6,100,000  
 Capital: Quito  
 Currency: sucre  
 Language: Spanish  
 Independence Day: August 10  
 National hero: Eugenio Espejo  
 National tree: cinchona

Ecuador, crossed by the Equator for which it is named, is a country of impressive contrasts. The Andean cities with their background of high, snowcapped volcanoes, contrast with the coastal cities in their setting of tropical forests. Sheep and cattle thrive in the highlands; while the fertile lowlands produce cacao, rice, bananas and other tropical fruits, balsa wood, and kapok. Ecuador's treasures of colonial art, found mostly in the churches of Quito, are its most precious heritage.

**GEOGRAPHY.** The three regions of Ecuador differ widely in topography and climate. Along the Pacific coast are hot, humid lowlands containing rice fields and sugar cane plantations; and the Guayas River, route of ocean-going ships from the Pacific to Guayaquil, the country's major port. The Oriente, a steaming jungle, extends from the eastern foothills of the Andes into the Upper Amazon Basin. Two parallel ranges of the Andes traverse the country from north to south, with cross ranges forming fertile valleys. Dominating the highlands are 22 lofty peaks ranging from 14,000 to more than 20,000 feet in altitude. Cotopaxi is the highest active volcano in the world; and Mt. Chimborazo rises almost four miles above sea level. Ecuador also possesses the Colón Archipelago or Galápagos Islands, crossed by the Equator some 500 miles west of the mainland. These islands, noted for their rare flora and fauna and their volcanic characteristics, have attracted many noted scientists including Charles Darwin; their giant tortoises are famous.

**CULTURE.** The Ecuadorean population is composed primarily of the descendants of the Spanish conquerors and various Indian tribes such as the Caras, Incas, Cañari, and Punaes, with a sprinkling of Negroes in some coastal sections. Most of the people live in the highlands, where many Indians still preserve their native customs. The eastern forests are inhabited by various Indian tribes, among them the Jívaros, and the unique Colorados (red ones) who decorate their bodies with a vivid red dye.

Ecuadorean culture of the colonial period shows a strong religious influence. Quito's churches are famous for their exquisitely

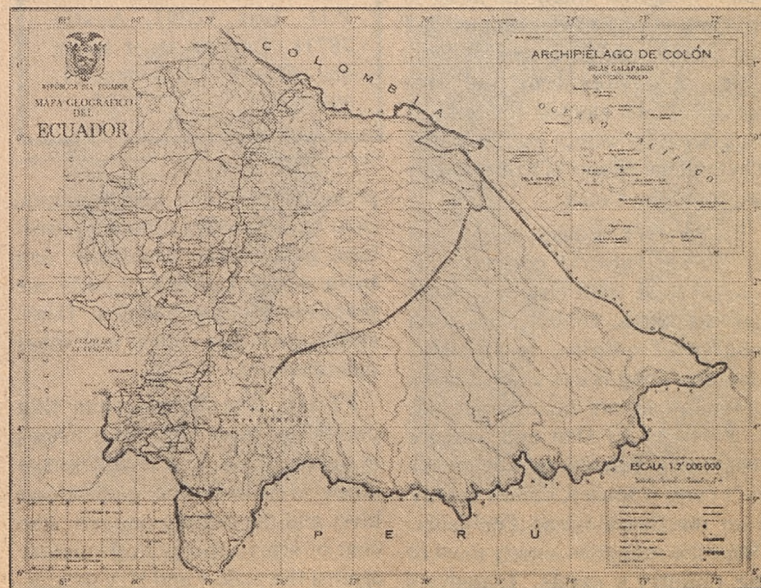
wrought wood and stone sculpture as well as elaborately carved altars, many of which are covered with gold leaf. Ecuador has many outstanding examples of colonial architecture. The Casa de Cultura Ecuatoriana guides many of the country's artistic and intellectual activities today. Ecuador has produced many excellent writers. Both folk and formal music reflect the European and native traditions.

Progressive Guayaquil, site of the historic meeting between Simón Bolívar and José de San Martín in 1822, is the largest city and port and the commercial hub of the country. Its broad avenues bordered by buildings with arcades and balconies, its plazas and sidewalk cafes, and its market overflowing with tropical produce give it a gay, bustling atmosphere. The agricultural and stockraising center, Riobamba, halfway between Guayaquil and Quito, produces textiles, dairy products, and various consumer goods. The "garden city" Ambato is a fruit-growing center and also produces flour, woolens, leather and rubber goods, and textiles. Ambato has a temperate climate, luxuriant vegetation, and majestic Andean views. It is also the birthplace of Juan Montalvo, one of Latin America's greatest writers. Otavalo is famous for its authentic, colorful Indian fair and weaving industry. Gracioso Cuenca, set in a beautiful Andean valley, is a center of handwoven toquilla straw hats (mistakenly called "Panama" hats).

Ancient, fascinating Quito, capital of Ecuador, is located almost on the Equator at more than 9,000 feet of altitude. It lies on the slopes of a deep valley at the foot of the volcano Pichincha. In the battle of Pichincha, General Antonio José de Sucre defeated the Spanish royalists to gain Ecuador's freedom. Quito was the capital of the Indian kingdom of Quitu, conquered about A.D. 1000 by the Caras, who in turn were overthrown by the Incas. Quito was one of the two Inca capitals at the time of the Spanish conquest; during the colonial period it became a leading center of the arts, which flourished in the monasteries founded by the Spaniards. The old part of the city contains ancient colonial churches and buildings; the newer section is very modern.

**HISTORY.** Ecuador, dominated at various periods by different Indian nations, was conquered by the Incas in the late fifteenth century. War between the two brothers Atahualpa and Huáscar, who inherited the Inca empire, weakened the country and facili-

(Continued on Page 4)



\*Information obtained from the Organization of American States.



## Ecuador

(Continued from Page 3)

tated its conquest by the Spaniards. In 1526 Francisco Pizarro landed on the coast of present-day Ecuador. By the end of 1533 the Spaniards had subjugated the land and executed Atahualpa, last of the Inca emperors. In 1534 Sebastian de Belalcázar established San Francisco de Quito on the site of Atahualpa's capital. Quito prospered and in 1563 became the seat of a Royal Audiencia, or governing council. The Audiencia was responsible to the Viceroyalty of Peru until 1718, when it was incorporated in the Viceroyalty of New Granada, remaining thus until independence.

The spirit of revolt flared in a series of rebellions and a continuous state of turmoil, which finally took concrete form under the leadership of Eugenio Espejo, Ecuador's revered national hero. Although he was imprisoned by the Spanish authorities and died in 1785, his inspired political writings exerted a profound influence on leaders of the South American revolutionary movement in Venezuela and Colombia. On August 10, 1809, the president of the Audiencia was deposed by the revolutionists and a supreme governing council was set up. The Spanish royalists, however, aided by troops from other colonies, again seized power. Nevertheless, the efforts of the Ecuadorean patriots gained momentum. Following the final liberation of Venezuela from Spanish rule, General Simón Bolívar dispatched Antonio José de Sucre, his trusted young general and countryman, to Guayaquil, where Sucre gave strong support to the patriots in taking control of the port-city from the Spanish forces in 1821. Sucre then advanced on Quito in the Andes, where on May 24, 1822, the decisive victory on the slopes of Mt. Pichincha assured Ecuador's freedom from Spain. Bolívar, who arrived in Quito a few weeks later, united Ecuador with Colombia and Venezuela to form the Republic of Gran (Great) Colombia. Bolívar then proceeded to Guayaquil to meet General José de San Martín. The confederation was dissolved in 1830, when both Ecuador and Venezuela withdrew to form independent republics. Ecuador adopted a constitution on September 11, 1830, and General Juan José Flores was elected the first president. Vicente Rocafuerte, Gabriel García Moreno, Leonidas Plaza, and Eloy Alfaro, men of capacity and vision, are among the leaders who devoted themselves to the development of Ecuador during the formative republican period.

The Ecuadorean government is divided into three branches: legislative, executive, and judicial. A Council of State renders opinions in important matters and represents Congress when the latter is in recess. Congress is composed of the Senate and Chamber of Deputies. The president and vice president are elected for a four-year term by direct secret ballot. The judicial power is exercised by the Supreme Court.

**ECONOMY.** Ecuador is primarily an agricultural country. Its forests yield such strategic materials as balsa, rubber, cinchona (source of quinine) and kapok. Manufacturing is extremely varied and industries are expanding. Gold is mined in El Oro and Manabí provinces. Petroleum, the country's chief resource, comes mainly from the Santa Elena Peninsula. Domestic refineries supply most of the country's needs. Ecuador's

## Los Gatos Salvajes Off To Good Start

By Donna Poff

Los Gatos Salvajes Spanish Club of Willis High School is off to another great start. We have fifty-four members. Our officers are: President Tina Kozelsky, Vice President Carl Hill, Treasurer Jesse Dietz, Historian Agnes Sepulveda, and Reporter Donna Poff.

Los Gatos Salvajes is very proud to have a state officer this year, Angie Patronella, who is nominations chairman of the Pan American Student Forum of Texas. Since we are one of the few schools in our area involved with PASF, we are trying to recruit neighboring schools to join the organization.

We have already begun fund raising for our state convention expenses and for state projects. We sold picture buttons of the varsity football team, and are going to sell Homecoming ribbons that have the band members, football players, and cheerleaders' names on them. We will sell candy for our other major fund raising project.

For our community project, and to earn extra money, we are going to pick up discarded aluminum cans along the highway in Willis.

We spent a Saturday in September on Stewart Beach in Galveston. Other than a few blisters from the sun, we had a great time! Other social activities we plan are our annual Christmas piñata party, a cookout with swimming and boating at Sam Houston State Park in the spring, and a trip to Astroworld at the end of the school year.

We are really looking forward to convention and hope to see some of the great people we met last year. ¡Los veremos en San Antonio en febrero!

## Design Contest

Enter the contest of designing the 1982 PASF Convention program cover. Create an original design using this year's theme "La Solución Somos Nosotros" and follow rules set up as follows:

1. Use a white sheet of paper or poster board. (14 inches by 9 inches)
2. Create a design in black ink only. No other colors will be accepted.
3. Use the following caption: PASF 39th Annual Convention, February 25-26, 1982, San Antonio.
4. Use this year's theme as listed above.
5. Submit your entry design to PASF Central Office, P.O. Box 12007, Austin 78711. Entries must be in our office by December 31, 1981.

principal exports are bananas, rice, cacao, coffee, toquilla straw hats, gold, tagua, petroleum, and balsa wood. Leading imports are machinery, automobiles, foodstuffs, tires and tubes, and other manufactures.

**FLAG.** The Ecuadorean flag consists of three horizontal stripes in yellow, blue, and red. The top stripe is yellow, the middle one blue, and the bottom one red. The coat of arms appears in the center against the yellow and blue stripes.



Levelland Spanish Club officers are: (top row) Clay Moore and Lynita Dozier, Publicity; Gary Ellis, PASF Reporter; (bottom) Mona Huggins, Secretary; Johnny Lopez, President; and Danny Grappe, Vice President.

## Levelland Club Activities

The Levelland High School Spanish Club of 1981-82 is and will be a highly active club.

On September 25th, we elected the following officers for the new year: President John Lopez, Vice President Danny Grappe, Secretary Mona Huggins, Publicity Lynita Dozier and Clay Moore, PASF Reporters Gary Ellis and Glen Fowler, and Sponsor Elizabeth Holder.

We have many activities planned for the year. To begin, October 15th kicked off our yearly events with a Skit in our High School pep rally. Next, we have a couple of Saturdays set aside for collecting beer cans — these dates being October 17 and November 14. The money we receive from the cans will go to Pesos for Braces, which helps buy braces for crippled Mexican children. On the 16th of December, we have planned a Christmas dinner for the members of the club.

At the beginning of the second

semester at our school we hold our annual Rock-a-thon, which consists of rocking in rocking chairs for a 15 hour time period. The members who plan to participate are required to gather sponsors to pay them a certain amount of money for every hour they rock. This money goes to another charity of our choice. On February 12 (the Friday before Valentine's Day), we will hold our annual carnation sale.

At various times during the Spring, club members will visit the local nursing home to assist the residents in their daily activities. On April 14 all members will wear symbols to promote Pan American Day which will be observed at our school. In the latter part of April we will hold our officer elections for the 1982-83 school year. To wind up the successful year for our club, the Spanish Club picnic will be held on May 11.

Gary Ellis  
PASF State Reporter

## WORKSHOPS

It is now time to get involved and sponsor a workshop for the State Convention. This is a very, if not the most, important segment of the State Convention and serves as a learning process along with creating a great deal of enjoyment. The workshops have been a tremendous success in the past and we would like to expand the activities and scope for the ensuing convention. There were approximately 25 workshops last year. We are anticipating an even larger membership and for that reason would like to present these along with many additional ones.

Our theme is La Solución Somos Nosotros and our countries of study are the República Dominicana and Ecuador. We would appreciate additional workshops to include these countries. Letters have been forwarded along with entry forms to all sponsors and chapters relative to the procedure and further information concerning entries. We would again like to list the workshops that were sponsored last year and we do encourage any new ideas that you feel could be utilized. We would like to stress that this is "YOUR" convention and will only be as successful as you make it. Think of this as an opportunity to express yourselves and help others in the process. It would be greatly appreciated if you would respond at your earliest convenience as it is imperative to complete our plans. Please forward your workshop form to: PASF Central Office, P.O. Box 12007, Austin 78711. Submit all entries before January 15, 1982.

## El Club Castellano Sets Busy Pace

By Sini Gandhi

The first official meeting of El Club Castellano, the Pan American Student Forum Chapter in A&M Consolidated High School, took place during the Activity Period on September 24, 1981.

The program, entitled Mexico '81, was under the direction of Emily Pulley. David Hoelscher's slides of the San Miguel, Mexico City, and Oaxaca trip were shown and discussed by the participants.

The following officers were elected: Presidents, Pat Cox and Amy Walker; Vice President for programs, Emily Pulley; Vice President for members, Melissa Pérez; Vice Presidents for projects, Ernest Alderete and Scott Lampater; Secretaries, Claudio and Gloria Carrasco; Treasurer, Lyn Lagan; Reporter, Sini Gandhi; Historian, Monica Izquierdo; PASF Representative, Betsy Freeman; Publicity Officer, Sharon Shumway.

El Club is continuing its can collection. The chairpersons for the 81-82 can drive are Mary Sultemeier and Brenda Boles. The Key Club has been invited to help with El Club's annual UNICEF collection. Black Awareness and ESL Clubs also want to join. El Club sponsored a candy sale beginning October 19. El Club also plans to sell Advent calendars from Germany with the French and German Clubs before December 1.

## Marble Falls Club is Busy

The Marble Falls Spanish Club has elected these new Officers: Marla Stevens as President, Marcie Huffman as Secretary, Toni Donoho as Treasurer, and Kim Ramirez as Reporter. Our goals this year are to raise money for the convention and have lots of fun. In the future, if we raise enough money, we would like to go on a trip to Mexico.

Our Spanish Club also had a food day. There were lots of things to eat that looked delicious. The foods we ate included tortillas, beans, burritos, chili con queso, and corn tortillas chips.

The Spanish Club just recently went to Austin to see the Ballet Folklorico Mexicano de Jorge Tyler. The program began with the Azteca dance, an Indian dance performed by the priests of an ancient Aztec civilization.

The Veracruz dance had music that consisted of a native harp, violins, and small guitars. The music they played were Zapateado, El Torito, and La Bamba.

The Jalisco dance used mariachi bands. Men and women danced in this particular dance.

The dance that everyone in our Spanish Class liked the best was the Venado dance. This was the deer dance and is also a type of Indian dance.

All the dances from the beginning to the end were very good, and our whole Spanish Club enjoyed the program.

## 'Los Amigos' Is Colorado High Spanish Club

I would like to introduce you to Los Amigos, the 1981-82 Spanish Club of Colorado High School.

There are 17 members of which 13 are new members. The officers of our club are: President Willie Martinez, Vice President Linda Mendoza, Secretary Barbara Heredia, Treasurer Tom Rees, and PASF Representative Bridget Turner. Our club sponsor is Miss Kathryn Wilson, CHS Spanish teacher.

Our group, which is very active, has learned the song "O Noble Pan America" which we sing to begin our club meetings. We have learned some interesting PASF history. We have already started the year with a bang. Our club is proud to have received second place with our float in the homecoming parade in September. We also do activities which include the entire student body, such as the selling of carnations and sealed sentiments and singing telegrams for Valentine's Day.

Our club has also planned a Halloween party, to be held on October 26, for club members and their guests. We plan to have a Christmas Party for our members too.

Our club meetings are held on the second Monday of each month, and for this month's meeting, our guest speaker will be Raymond Bassinger, who will present a program about his trip to the Dominican Republic. Los Amigos is also planning to attend the convention in San Antonio.

All the members of the Spanish Club would like to thank Miss Wilson for all the interesting facts we have learned and will learn and for all our festivities.

Bridget Turner  
PASF Representative