



# 1st Quarter Newsletter

2025

## President's Message

Queridas,  
It is an honor to be in the company of the incredible women of HWC! The saying 'Querer es poder' ('To want is to be able to') perfectly



captures the essence of determination and the power of desire in overcoming challenges. HWC embodies the strength and perseverance of women who support and uplift each other. As your President, I am excited for the journey ahead. We have so many events planned for the upcoming year, and I can't wait to see you all there, amigas! Let's make this year one of remembering, celebrating, creating, and learning together!

Abrazos,  
Rosalía Pacheco, PhD

## Member Spotlight

### Rachel Valenzuela

a retired finance professional with a 24-year career at the U.S. Postal Service, following roles at Rust Tractor Co. and Albuquerque National Bank. An Albuquerque native, she studied accounting and business at TVI and UNM.



2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

OurHappyCalendar.com

- Upcoming Events:
- May 4th -Mujeres Valerosas
- June 28th -Retablo Workshop

**The Hispanic Women's Council is a non-profit, inter-generational, organization established in 1988 to promote, support, and create opportunities for Hispanic women.**

## Board of Directors

She is active in several organizations, including the Rotary Club of Albuquerque Sandia, the Hispanic Women's Council, Polka Dot Powerhouse Women, and JASNA. She contributes as a photographer and writer for the Rotary's Facebook page and helps organize fundraisers for various nonprofits.

Previously, she was involved in HOPE, supporting Hispanic postal employees, and the Women's Diversity Program.

**Rosalía Pacheco, PhD.**  
**President**

**Rachel Valenzuela**  
**Vice-President**

**Raqui Martínez**  
**Treasurer**

**MAJ(R) Linda Zamora**  
**Immediate Past President ,**  
**Secretary**

**Jaycee Zamora**  
**Board Member**

## Committee Sign-Ups

Get involved and make a difference! Join one of our committees:

1. Planning Committee – Help organize and coordinate HWC events.
2. Mujeres Valerosas Committee-Help Plan and organize the Mujeres event. ( Next meeting is 4/02/25 )
3. Membership Committee – Assist with member recruitment and retention efforts.
4. Meet and greet Committee– Organize the Meet & Greet event to celebrate scholarship recipients and their families.
5. Masquerade Ball Committee- Plan and organize the Annual scholarship fundraiser.
6. Holiday Party- Plan and organize
7. Annual Meeting- Plan and organize

To sign up, please contact Via the [info@nmhwc.org](mailto:info@nmhwc.org) or the link below.

**Sign up now**



In  
Memoriam

## Viola Florez Tighe

Viola Florez Tighe passed away peacefully on January 21, 2025, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Vi was born on July 30, 1947, to Florence Florez (Hancock) and Jose Merced Florez in Bloomfield, New Mexico.

Vi received her B.A. in Liberal Arts from Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado, before receiving her Master's Degree in Education from The University of Colorado, and then continued her education by receiving her Doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction from Texas A&M University-Kingsville in 1980. After 15 years serving the Texas A&M University System as Professor, Interim Dean, and Acting Vice President, Vi decided to move home and begin her career at the University of New Mexico. Her love and dedication to the educational system in NM was exemplified by her time as Dean of the College of Education and time serving the State as the Cabinet Secretary of the Higher Education Department.

Vi took special joy in spending time with her grandchildren, gardening, and had fond memories of camping with family. She was deeply passionate about

education and her contributions have left a lasting legacy throughout New Mexico.



In  
Memoriam  
**Terrie Samora Sais**

Terrie Samora Sais, age 78, passed away peacefully, with her family by her side, on December 17, 2024, in Albuquerque, NM. Terrie was born in Tierra Amarilla, NM, on March 25, 1946. Her family moved to Albuquerque in 1952, and she attended Lew Wallace Elementary, Washington Junior High and Albuquerque High School (AHS). She earned a B.A. in Economics at the University of New Mexico and completed her career as an Economist at the NM Dept. of Labor, retiring May 2001. Terrie lived with multiple sclerosis for many years and did so courageously. She and Victor delighted in finding creative ways to defy its limitations by living a life of joy, laughter, love, exploration, and enjoying travel on ocean liner cruises. She especially enjoyed planning high school reunions with her fellow alumni (AHS class of 1964), hosting annual Family Halloween parties, cheering for her Dallas Cowboys, playing UNO, and working on a variety of arts and crafts. Terrie was small in stature but mighty in will and resolve.



In  
Memoriam  
**Angelina "Red"  
Buckwald**

Angelina Buckwald, 90, beloved Mother and Spouse, was called to her eternal resting place on February 22, 2025. She entered this world on September 16, 1934 in Cedar Grove, New Mexico, born to Abran and Herculanita Serna. Affectionately called "Red" for her flaming red hair and iconic red lipstick, and "Big Momma", Angie lived life out loud and to its fullest. The room came alive with her larger than life presence.

Her biggest passion was for her family and loved ones.

Angie came from humble beginnings and built a great life for herself and her family. She taught her kids the values of hard work, never giving up, and education.

Angie believed in education. Forced to leave high school in the 11th grade to care for her younger siblings, Angie instilled the importance of education in her children and grandchildren. As grandma, she volunteered at the school and enjoyed the field trips, especially with Englenn, Adan, Michael, and Legenn. She used her native Spanish speaking skills by volunteering at her son Abran's elementary school to help children who were Spanish speaking only, to learn how to read and write in English.

As a devoted Catholic, she had a deep faith in God, which she shared with her children and grandchildren. She prayed the rosary daily and was always praying for her family, loved ones, and the world.

She was very creative and used her talent to create beautiful quilts, embroidery, and crocheted doilies that she gifted to family and friends. Her passions extended to cheering for NASCAR races, especially her favorite - Dale Earnhart; watching the local yard races, playing the marble game and dominos, and joking around. Angie and her brother Pete, were known to send the family ducking for cover from their good natured occasional cow chip throwing fight over who was cheating during the family baseball games.

## Email from Hispanic Women's Council

Angie was a patriot. Her strong belief in supporting the founding principles of the United States and protecting our freedoms and supporting our troops were paramount. She supported her two sons, Glenn & Abnan who served in the Army and Navy respectively with homemade goodies and continuous prayers and letters of encouragement.

Angie believed in giving back and serving her community. She served on the board of the Hispanic Women's Council from 1998-1999 with her daughter, Loretta Guerra to support her when she held the office of President. She held the office of Supreme and Grand Chief for the Pythian Sisters and served as Advisor to the Albuquerque Pythian Sunshine Girls for 20+years. during which time she participated in countless community fundraisers.

Angie was like a pebble cast in a body of water, the rippling effects of her love and energy were felt by many and she impacted their lives in do many ways, and too many to recount. She will be missed. We love you, mom and grandma.

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