

Facts & Traditions

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Mission of the Society

To assemble, preserve, and interpret the history of Southeast New Mexico and to promote a greater interest, understanding, and appreciation of the area's past.

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Honoring Our "Beacons of Hope" in 2025

After Roswell's terrible flood in October of 2024, many in the community stepped up to lend a helping hand to friends, neighbors, and even strangers struck by the floodwaters. It's in the spirit of community and volunteering that the HSSNM has chosen to celebrate the 2025 Heritage Dinner in honor of four long-standing community organizations. These organizations have served Roswell for many years and have significant histories here, starting with The Poor Clare Monastery of Our Lady of Guadalupe, founded in November of 1948. Since that time, for over seventy years, the sisters of Poor Clare's have dedicated their lives in intercessory prayer for the Church, the world, and individuals, especially those living in Roswell. In 1975 the Roswell Assurance Home was born, though it didn't formally open its doors until 1979. A result of the passion of founder Ron Malone, who still runs the Assurance Home today, the organization has assisted teenagers between the ages of 12 to 18 for nearly fifty years now, giving them a safe space to call home in times of trouble. The Community Kitchen sprang up not long after, in 1983. Since their founding, the Community Kitchen has served over one million meals to the hungry in Roswell. The Community Kitchen's four full-time staff members have been serving together for over 25 years now. Hot meals are served on lunch trays every weekday, and sack lunches are given out on weekends. The newest of our honorees began humbly in 2001, when retired policemen and pastor Rubie Rubinstein began feeding the homeless population near the Berrendo River Bridge. Since then, what is today Harvest Ministries has served close to one million pounds of food to Chaves County residents in need. Since not all honorees could attend, the event will be celebrated throughout Roswell via our drive through dinner. Every ticket sold helps to both honor and raise awareness for these outstanding organizations and also helps to fund the HSSNM. As of this writing, there's still time to buy a ticket or a pay it forward meal, a bundle or make a donation, so don't delay!

The HSSNM will continue to partner with these amazing organizations throughout the year and log onto our website at www.roswellnmhistory.org for the 2025 Beacons of Hope honorees wish lists and how you can support them. WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER AMEN!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2025 HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOR SENM HERITAGE DINNER AWARD HONOREES... Assurance Home, Community Kitchen, Harvest Ministries, and the Poor Clare Monastery of Our Lady of Guadalupe — Beacons of Hope, impacting lives for future generations all in the name of history.