



THE SAWA GAZETTE

Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary of Hood County

Women Doing the Most
Good for our Community

The Salvation Army
Mission

To preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs
in His name without discrimination.

OCTOBER
2025

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October Happenings in Hood County

- **Oktoberfest** Oct 3-5
4-10 pm each night
- **50 Fellas Foodfest**
Oct 18, 6:00—8:30 pm
Granbury Reunion
Grounds
- **Harvest Mood Fest**
Oct. 25-26 On the Square
- **Halloween** Fri. Oct 31
Check out Spooky
Happenings on the
Square!



SAWA Meeting & Luncheon

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

Acton Methodist Church—Youth Building
3433 Fall Creek Hwy in Acton

Meet & Greet: 10:00—10:30 am
Business Meeting & Program—10:30 am



Program

Mary Flores, a SAWA member and **Crime Victim Liaison for the Hood County Sheriff's Office** will present the **GAP program** and how SAWA volunteers can become involved.

October is **National Domestic Violence Awareness Month**, and **EVERYONE** is encouraged to wear purple for a photo shoot.

Luncheon

McAlister's will be providing the **McAlister Club** sandwich, chopped **Savannah Salad**, and a cookie for dessert. Water, tea & coffee will be available as well.

All of this for only **\$15 (cash preferred)! Checks are accepted; no credit cards, please.**

Reservations for everyone who is attending the meeting are necessary. They allow us to prepare the rooms for the meeting and luncheon. Please make your reservation **no later than 5 pm, Monday, October 6, 2025**

Please list your complete name and Y or N (for lunch) on the subject line of your email.

Email us: reservationssawahoodcounty@gmail.com

Chloe Turns 90!

Chloe Steinhagen and I go back a long way. We actually started the Women's Auxiliary in 2009. Chloe and I were at a **Granbury Newcomers** meeting where gifts for children were being collected. Unfortunately, all gifts were being sent to Ft. Worth to be distributed. This gave us the idea to start a unit here so gifts could be provided to children of Hood County. Our growing group met at Chloe's house for several months, until we were able to rent a small office on 144.

Funny story—SA Headquarters said our city was too small, and we couldn't get enough members. We said yes, we can, and we did! Our Service League was born. Our first president was **Chloe Steinhagen**, followed by **Sally Timmons**, and then **Cheryl Troxel**.

After 10 years of highly successful memories, SA Headquarters decided we should be part of a huge number of cities, so **The Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary** was adopted here in Hood County. **In fact, our unit is the star of the whole county because we are an example of what can be done!**

Linda Silver, Former SAWA President



R-L Linda Silver, Birthday Girl Chloe Steinhagen, Sally Timmons, and Cheryl Troxel joined the family celebration.

NEECA'S NOTES

The September meeting was a great kickoff to the upcoming busy holiday season! We have so many awesome volunteers who come together to make a difference in our community. Please consider inviting a friend, neighbor, or coworker to the October meeting to learn about what the Salvation Army does for those in need and how they can be a part of this amazing group. As we learned from the Huddles, there are many ways to be involved. What YOU do makes a difference!

Neece Leitaio, President

MEMBERSHIP

Greeting Ladies!

Please welcome our new members **Denise Huber, Betty Pickard, Amanda Prill,**

Carla Sandifer and Elizabeth Sauls. We now have 173 members in SAWA.

Our September birthday lunch was really nice. It was a great way to get to know each other better. We missed those who could not attend. Our next Birthday Lunch will be on October 22, 2025 (location and time TBD). So, **Mark Your Calendars!** Also, please RSVP **yes or no** to me—972.998.1483, so that I will have a headcount.

We will be holding a **Wanna Know Wednesday** on October 29, 1:30 pm at the SA Office for some of our newer members who would like to learn more about us and how one might fit in. Thank you.

*Mendy Stevens, 1st Vice President—Membership
Vicki Moore and Mary Flores—Assistants*

October



October

Date	Birthday Girl	Date	Birthday Girl
5	Caryn Davis	13	Lisa Lappe
6	Donna Noyes	14	Sammye Rives
9	Connie Chamberlain	17	Debbie Johnson
9	Julie VanderHaar	17	Nancy Marsteller
10	Carole Millhollon	19	Peggy Pultorak



Lynn Morgan will have sign up sheets for our **Christmas Kettle Campaign.** She is looking forward to everyone taking a part. We get to keep the proceeds for Hood County! Sign up!

INSPIRATION

As God's beloved daughters, we are not called to live timidly—we are called to live boldly, love fiercely, give generously, serve humbly, and pray relentlessly. The question isn't just *do we believe?*—it's *do we live like we believe?*

Scripture declares with unwavering truth:



"If God is for us, who can be against us?"

"Greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world."

This isn't just encouragement—it's a divine charge. Charlie Kirk's message, rooted in God's eternal truth, has ignited transformation in countless lives. But the real question remains: *Will we let truth transform ours?*

Let's rise. Let's reclaim our identity.

Let's live like conquerors—because **we are more than conquerors** through Him who loves us.

Belief isn't just a feeling—it's our turning point.

Let it change the way we live.

Let it redefine how we love.

Because when we truly believe, everything changes.

Anita Absher, Chaplain

Doing the Most Good



June 2025

- Emergency Assistance 60
- Program Assistance 86
- Total number served 146**

Total Emergency Assistance: \$ 5,720.29

July 2025

- Emergency Assistance 82
- Program Assistance 947
- RRU Outreach 792
- Total number served 1,821**

Total Emergency Assistance: \$ 7,658.73

Total Program Assistance: \$ 5,098.70

Note: Volunteer hours are at least a month behind because SAWA members record them at the monthly meeting, which goes to Genie Cass on the 1st of the month after the next newsletter comes out.

PROJECTS

Thank You for Supporting SAWA Projects!

A big thank-you to everyone who signed up at the Huddle to support our **Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary** (SAWA) projects this year! Because of your generosity, we're able to reach more neighbors in Hood County through initiatives like:

- **Hope Totes** – Snacks and water for nurses and counselors in Granbury schools
- **Oak Trail Shores** – After-school tutoring program snacks and drinks
- **Rancho Brazos Community Center** – Diapers and baby hygiene supplies
- **Silver Bells** – Christmas wish lists for senior citizens fulfilled by Hood County residents
- **Christmas for Children** – Hoodie collection for local children
- **Operation Back to School** – Sock donations and distribution
- **GISD Weekend Snack Bags** – Friday snack bags for students facing weekend food insecurity.

If you were unable to volunteer for one of these programs at the SAWA September meeting, it's not too late! Contact **Debbie Abeyta** at 281-744-5159.



Christmas for Children Hoodie Drive

Our **Hoodie Drive** kicks off at the October 14 meeting and runs through the first week of December. All sizes are needed, and solid colors without graphics are preferred. Keep an eye out for sales—**Amazon Prime Days** are coming up (**October 7-8**). Let's shop!



Bring donations to our October and November meetings, or drop them off at the Salvation Army Office during business hours.



Our volunteers are the **heart of SAWA**, and we are deeply grateful for everything you do to support Hood County families and neighbors in need.

If you would like to become a volunteer on one or more of our Projects committees, please email Debbie Abeyta (dskushura@hotmail.com).

Janet Brown, Former VP - Projects
Debbie Abeyta, Assistant (817) 845-4142



GAP PROGRAM

The GAP Mentor meeting is **October 6, 2025, 10 a.m.** Located at the Granbury Police Department. 2050 NE Loop 567, Granbury, TX 76048. Our speaker will be **Chad Taylor** with **Interbank**. Topics of discussion will be:

- How to open a checking and savings account for GAP Teens.
- Direct Deposit Information
- What information will the teen need to bring with them when they go to the bank?

Anyone is welcome to join us for this training, especially if you are interested in learning more about the GAP Program. We will always provide updates concerning the GAP Program during these meetings.



The GAP Team

The GAP Program also has another Administrative Assistant, **Mrs. Mendy Stevens** who joins the team to assist the program. I am super excited that she will be following up with each of the mentor teams each month.

Mendy will be checking to see what resources are needed, giving ideas for types of activities the mentor can do during their visits, and especially checking to see if goals are being met. Mendy will also check on our mentor's needs. The GAP Program is also working hard to take care of our mentors. Mendy will also be helping with other administrative needs for the GAP Program. We are so happy to have her on the team!

Mary Flores
 Crime Victim Liaison
 Hood County Sheriff's Office

Are You a Woman Doing Good? Will You Consider Helping...



at the SA Office for an easy, yet fulfilling, experience? We all know how to answer the phone, so it is perfect. You may learn other skills too! You can make a difference there. Call Rhaegan at the SA Office (682-936-2264). Office Hours: M—Th, 10am—1pm.

SAVE THE DATE:

Charities on the Runway
Tuesday April 14, 2026
Lake Granbury Conference Center



We will have sign-up sheets at our first meeting for volunteers to pick where they would like to help this year. It is important that everyone find something they can participate in. Helping us will ensure a successful event. If you already know what you would like to pick, let me know or sign up at our **October** meeting. **We need everyone to help!**

COTR Committees: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! PICK YOUR SPOT EARLY!

- Advertising Team:** *Get Ads for our Program. Established leads but need new ones too.*
- Bling Tree:** *Pick Tree for Theme and decorate. Help get gift cards, stuff gift card envelopes and work the Bling Tree the day of the event.*
- Catering & Food:** *Help Linda Keithley select the caterer, meal and model snacks. Work with GHS Culinary program.*
- Clean-up:** *Stay after the event and help us quickly tear-down & clean up.*
- Decorations:** *Create themed environment for tabletops and other decorations.*
- Finance/Check Out:** *Help Genie Cass with meeting day ticket sales & event day check out.*
- Charity Style Show:** *Help with selecting and coordinating the charities for their models and event tickets.*
- Charity Models:** *Help the models with outfit selections and event day duties. Set up Model room.*
- Lifetime Members:** *Coordinate a Lifetime member reception and LTM sponsor idea.*
- Live Auction:** *Help get big ticket items for our Live Auction. Set up the day before the event.*
- Merchants:** *Help chose our merchants for models, set-up model appts and help models with outfit choices at appointments.*
- Program:** *Help design the event Program, Proof, and set out on tables event day.*
- Registration:** *Help with ticket sales at meetings and greet on event day.*
- Silent Auction:** *Help Sharon Clark & Lisa Lappe collect items, do description sheets, bid sheets, transport and set-up. Watch items on event day and help with processing out.*
- Set-up:** *Help set up on the day before April 13, typically 11am-6pm, but TBD.*
- Sponsors:** *Coordinates existing and seeks potential COTR Sponsors.*
- Team Tonya:** *Be on Tonya's VIP team that helps her with anything and everything not covered.*
- Technology:** *Help Mendy Stevens with PowerPoints, and music as needed, prepare auction winners list on event day.*
- Thank You's:** *Help write thank you notes before and after the event.*
- Ticket Sales:** *Help with ticket sales at meetings, solicit around Granbury for ticket sales promotion and distribute flyers. Help Elizabeth Ware advertise on social media as needed.*

Thank you, **Tonya Hancock— Ways & Means (432-638-1911)**

We Care!

There are times when each of us needs a boost or hug. If you know that one of your SAWA sisters need a little lift, **Karen Nichols** will send a card to her on our behalf. karen.nichols48@gmail.com.



TURN IN YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS!

Fill in your September hours on the form at the October meeting or email them to gmcass@att.net. Thanks!

