



PIONEER PATHS

Newsletter of the Herb Society of America
Pioneer Unit

July 2

9:00 a.m.

Pioneer Unit
Board Meeting
Home of
Linda Rowlett

July 4

Independence Day



July 22

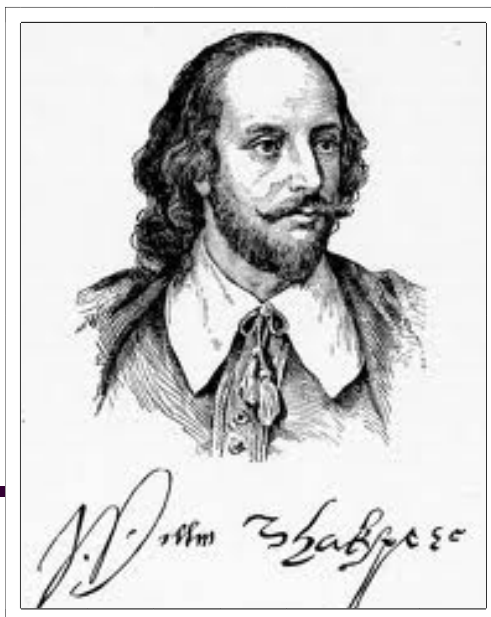
Thunder Full Moon

July 2013

Volume 20, Number 11

MONTHLY UNIT MEETING

- Date: July 11, 2013
- Time: 9:30 a.m. Meet and Greet
10:00 a.m. Presentation and Meeting
- Location: Round Top Christian Fellowship Church
440 East Mill Street, Round Top Texas
- Directions: Take Highway 290 west from Brenham to Texas 237. Go south on 237 and turn left on East Mill Street. The church is on your right.
- Program: Shakespeare's Garden
- Speaker: Kay Scanapico
- Angel: Diana Reed
Hosts: Henry Flowers, Sue Edmundson, Carla Lessard, and Karen Springer
- Lunch: Antique Recipes
- Book Club: Stone Flower Garden by Deborah Smith



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Hello, everyone!

Is the weather hot enough for you? Here at Paradox House Vineyard, we are part of what is probably a small group that is NOT hoping for rain. Our grapes are changing color (called veraison); from this point until harvest, dry, hot weather is best for them.

Of course, my herb garden and veggie garden would enjoy a little rain. As I was working out there in the relative cool of the early morning, I found myself wishing for rain — but I had to call that wish back quickly! I will be turning on the sprinklers during the evening hours and using my watering cans on the potted plants.



For some of the Pioneer Unit Board members, this is a busy time. Everyone prepared end-of-year reports, and Georgia Sowers and I are submitting information to National. Diana Reed has been scheduling programs for our coming year. Georgia will be laboring over the Yearbook with the help of the rest of the Board.

I know all of you are likely busy in your gardens as we try to stay ahead of the weeds — which do not seem to need any water. I hope that you are also enjoying time with family and friends for celebrations of summer, the Fourth, and any other occasions that come your way.

Stay as cool as possible. Be safe. I hope to see you soon.

Linda L. Rowlett
Chair HSA Pioneer Unit

A drop fell on the apple tree,
Another on the roof;
A half a dozen kissed the eaves,
And made the gables laugh.

A few went out to help the brook,
That went to help the sea.
Myself conjectured, Were they pearls,
What necklaces could be!

The dust replaced in hoisted roads,
The birds jocosely sung;
The sunshine threw his hat away,
The orchards spangles hung.

The breezes brought dejected lutes,
And bathed them in the glee;
The East put out a single flag,
And signed the fete away.

Emily Dickinson

FROM THE PROGRAMS CHAIR

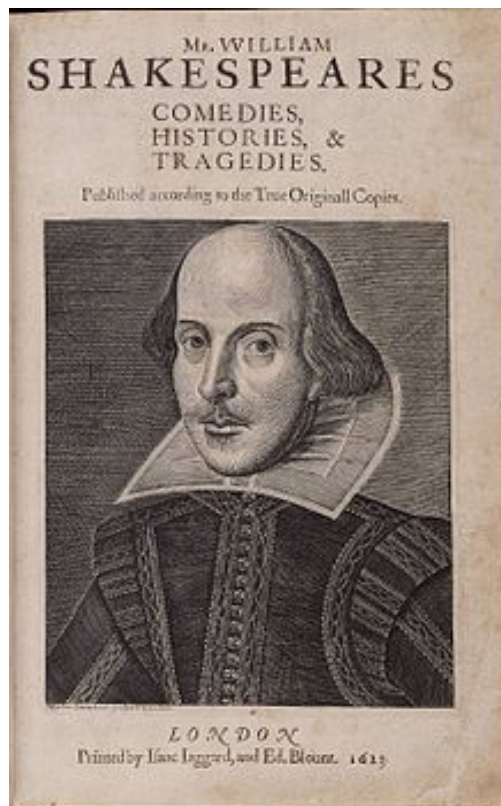
At the June meeting, we all enjoyed a very informative presentation from Linda Wood of Bluebonnet Landscaping Services in Hempstead. Her talk on "Herbs in Landscaping" gave us all new ideas on placement and use of our herb plants! The many, many door prizes she generously shared with us were an added bonus.

It was a very fun morning.

On July 11, 2013, we will welcome "Shakespeare's Garden" starring Kay Scanapico and friends. We will meet at Round Top Christian Fellowship Church at 440 E. Mill Street in Round Top, Texas. This will be an entertaining meeting, a wonderful new approach to extending our knowledge of the herbs of long ago.

In your dish for lunch, please make a little extra food to help feed the Shakespearian guests who will be attending to perform for us.

Dianna Reed
Programs Chair



MINUTES OF UNIT MEETING
HERB SOCIETY OF AMERICA
PIONEER UNIT
June 13, 2013

Linda Rowlett, Chair, opened the meeting.

Georgia Sowers, Membership, introduced visitors Cindy Nash, Diane Holtzclaw, and Cynthia Williams.

Diana Reed, Programs, reminded members that today's lunch was canceled due to double-booking of the meeting location. She thanked the hostesses for the morning goodies. She also said that any program suggestions should be communicated to her as soon as possible. Programs for 2013-14 will be finalized for yearbook publication mid-July.

Diana then introduced Linda Wood, Bluebonnet Herb Farm, who provided members with an informative presentation about "Herbs in Landscaping." Following the program, the herbs Linda brought with her were distributed as door prizes.

Linda Rowlett encouraged everyone to sign up for 2013-14 angels and hostesses, and she said that mid-July is the deadline so that information can be included in the new yearbook.

Susan Lake reported that a workshop about food dehydration will be held July 22nd at 2 p.m. at her house. She listed many advantages for this method of food preservation. Workshop participation will be limited (5 slots) because of the space available. She is hoping to have a variety of dried fruits/vegetables available for participants to take home following the workshop. Contact Carolyn Thomas for sign up information.

Mary Reeves announced that she had brought copies of the latest Round Top Register (Summer 2013), which includes her article on Summer Wildflowers in Central Texas, for dissemination to interested members. She noted that the Prickly Pear Cactus, once nominated for Texas state flower, is highlighted in her comprehensive article.

Carla Lessard, Thyme Well Spent, asked that produce left over from summer gardens be held for a couple of weeks as she will be traveling. Contact her if you have produce or need more information. She announced that she brought Serenity tea (TWSS surplus) for members to take home with them, but she asked that she get the jars back.

Georgia Sowers, Membership, introduced the Pioneer Unit's newest member, Jane Press, who has already been actively participating in Unit activities since her first visit.

Finally, Linda Rowlett reported that hard copies of annual reports are available at this our annual meeting. She plans to have copies uploaded to our website for all to read at their leisure. The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Cornwell, Secretary

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

At our June 2013 Annual Business Meeting, we welcomed three visitor guests. Carolyn Thomas invited Cindy Nash and Diane Holtzclaw to join us, and Euphanel Goad invited Cynthia Williams to visit us. It was a pleasure meeting these ladies, and they were engaging in their participation with our program presenter, Linda Wood from the Bluebonnet Herb Farm in Hempstead, Texas. And all of them excitedly won door prizes! We anticipate they may join our Unit in the near future.

We also welcomed and introduced our newest member, Jane Press, who is Kay Scanapico's friend. Jane and her husband James live in Carmine, Texas, and run the Pecan Grove Inn, a bed and breakfast. She and James have two children and five grandchildren, and she enjoys antique shopping, cooking, and gardening. She is a retired kindergarten and first grade teacher and has an active lifestyle, evidenced by her volunteerism efforts so early on. We are happy to have Jane join us, and she's very friendly so please continue to make her welcome. Her contact information will be in the next print of our Yearbook and Membership Directory. Welcome, Jane!

Our members, active and affiliate, have volunteered numerous hours toward our Unit this year. Your efforts and contributions are most appreciated. Hours reporting is going well, for which Membership is grateful, thank you. As for renewals, most members have renewed as active and just a minute number have elected affiliate status. And one of our affiliates, Sara Holland, a most resourceful and active volunteer who lives in Wimberley, is becoming active with us this month!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about membership requirements, please don't hesitate to email me at gzsowers@att.net or call [979-836-8228](tel:979-836-8228) if I can help you. Our membership body is also a resource for answers to some of your concerns as we are here to help.

Try to stay cool in the shade wherever you find it.

Georgia Sowers
Membership Chair



The Herb Society of America, Pioneer Unit Botany Study Group Data Sheet



Botanical Name/Etymology: *Argemone albiflora* Hornem. subsp. *texana* G.B. Ownbey

Family Name: Papaveraceae (Poppy)

Common Name(s): **white prickly poppy**, Texas prickly poppy, thistle poppy, cardo, cardo santo, bluestem prickly poppy, fried egg plant

Origin: It is considered to be native to Texas and has a range which spreads east into Louisiana and north into Arkansas and Missouri.

Growth Habit: Annual or biennial from 4 to 5 feet when in bloom. Leaves are 3 to 8 inches long, glaucous, and have many spines along the wavy margins. They have a whitish coating which is easily rubbed off. The stems are densely covered with fine prickles. Flowers are about 4 inches across and have six thin, paper-like, white flowers with a mass of golden anthers surrounding a conjoined six-parted pistil with a dark reddish brown stigma. The fruit is a well-armed capsule that contains many seeds. The plant contains a bright yellow juice. Widely distributed by seed, the plant often grows in large colonies.

Growth (Cultural) Requirements: Thrives in rocky, sandy soils, especially those of unkempt weedy fields, vacant lots, railroad paths, and fencerows. They are fairly common in older fields and overgrazed pastures. Michael Moore says, "I have heard otherwise sentient, grizzled old ranchers fussily insist that the plant 'chokes out the grass,' while surveying their sad old pastureland covered in plants that cattle can't eat. And hens mature into eggs."

Propagation: seed – not highly available commercially, but easily collected in the wild. The flower is attractive to honeybees and other small flying insects due to its abundant pollen, but it yields little nectar. Seeds should be sown in the fall as it germinates over the winter.

Folklore and History: The pure seed oil was once used in the place of castor oil. The Shoshoni traditionally used the seeds by mashing them and applying them to boils, splinters, and carbuncles to help bring them to a head and the skin surface, in the same manner that trementina or piñon pitch is traditionally used by New Mexican Spanish folks. -Moore

Chemistry (if known – especially active essential oils): Contains sanguinene, berberine (a well-known antimicrobial and astringent once used in the US for commercial eye drops), protopine, and several other isoquinoline alkaloids (codeine and morphine are in this group of chemicals). It is considered as moderately toxic (class II). It has aphrodisiac and euphoric effects. It is narcotic, sedative, emetic, and can cause blurred vision, GI tract disturbance, and in extreme cases, coma or death. – Wink

Plant Part(s) Used: seeds, sap, or whole plant

Time of Harvest: whenever available

GRAS? (generally regarded as safe): No. It is considered toxic in large doses, but poisoning is rare as its sap is very bitter and the plant is so prickly.

(White Prickly Poppy — continued)

Culinary Uses: none known

Medicinal Uses: The juice has a rubifacient and slightly caustic effect and is sometimes used externally to treat warts or diluted to treat skin ulcerations. The fresh juice has a long history of use as a treatment for opacities of the cornea. The preserved juice, with three or four parts water, can be used for heat rash, hives, and other such skin ailments, and a tea of the dry plant is similarly used. The whole plant can be boiled into a strong tea and used for bathing sunburned or abraded areas of skin for relief. The dried plant is a feeble opiate and helps reduce pain and bring sleep. The dried parts also have a sedative, narcotic effect when eaten and have traditionally been smoked alone or with tobacco. The Comanche used the sap to treat sore eyes and the Kickapoo used it to treat pinkeye. Great care should be taken if using this plant internally. It should only be used for short periods of time and never by pregnant women.

Other Uses: The whole plant can be used to make a tan dye. Hunters know that the seeds are a great lure for mourning doves and whitewings.

Sources for Seed or Plants: Mother Nature's Vast and Free Nursery

Miscellaneous Information: The White Prickly Poppy is closely related to the Mexican Poppy, *Argemone mexicana*, which is a bit smaller in stature, has fewer prickles, and which has vivid golden yellow petals instead of white ones. It is common in far south Texas and into Mexico. *A. mexicana* contains alkaloids similar to those in *Papaver somniferum* and a milky latex that is sometimes used in parts of Central and South America to treat warts, cold sores, and cataracts. It is used in India in the Ayurvedic medicines as a demulcent, emetic, expectorant, and laxative. The oil of the seeds can be used as an illuminant, lubricant, in soap and fabric making, and in art products.

Bibliography:

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- Bown, Deni. New Encyclopedia of Herbs & Their Uses. 2001 DK Publishing, London.
- Enquist, Marshall. Wildflowers of the Texas Hill Country. 1987 Lone Star Botanical, Austin, Texas.
- Moore, Michael. Medicinal Plants of the Mountain West 2003 Museum of New Mexico Press. Santa Fe, New Mexico.
- Turner, Matt. Remarkable Plants of Texas. University of Texas Press, Austin, Texas.
- Wink, Michael and Ben-Eric Van Wyk. Mind Altering and Poisonous Plants of the World 2008 Timber Press, Portland, Oregon.

It is the policy of The Herb Society of America not to advise or recommend herbs for medicinal or health use. This information is intended for educational purposes only and should not be considered as a recommendation or an endorsement of any particular medical or health treatment.

Submitted by Henry Flowers, July 2013

Herb of the Month: Lavender for July

Lavender is one of those herbs that everybody would love to be able to grow in abundance, but it is more likely that most herb growers in our region have killed it in abundance. I am no exception and neither was Madalene, so here is some information that I have gleaned about lavender over the years that I have grown it. I hope that you find it helpful and that you won't give up on growing this valuable herb.

Lavender is mainly native to the Mediterranean region, so keep that in mind in terms of the growing conditions that it prefers: cool and somewhat moist in the winter and then warm and dry in the summer. It also prefers fairly poor, rocky, well-drained soil. The main problem that we have had at Festival Hill with lavender is too much water in the summer. If you water many lavenders heavily, especially with irrigations systems, in the summer they are very likely to succumb to the onslaught of root pathogens—especially the bad fungi. Tropical



weather (boy I wish we had some now) can also wreak havoc by dumping too much water when it is warm—something that usually does not occur in the Mediterranean. Thus it is best to be very careful about how you water your lavenders in the summer, which may need to be done on occasion. We water with a portable sprinkler and do it very early in the morning so that it is not overly warm and so that the plants will have time to dry out before it gets real hot. Normally we only have to do this 2-3 times a month at the most.

Bed preparation is something that is critical when it comes to growing lavender. The most important thing to pay attention to is drainage. If the planting has a good slope, then it will likely drain well on the surface. Internal soil drainage is important as well. If the soil has lots of moisture-retaining clay, then you may want to loosen the soil by adding gypsum, expanded shale, and/or gritty soil. The addition of beneficial, mainly mycorrhizal, fungi to the soil will also help to keep the bad guys at bay. If you don't have great drainage, then you may want to consider raising the bed or going to the use of containers.

Other considerations for the planting site are sun, good air circulation, and the type of mulch used. Lavenders prefer full sun and can't be given too much of it. If you don't have full sun all day, then try to at least give the plants morning to mid-day sun and possibly afternoon shade. Good air circulation is also important as this will help dry out the plants if they do get wet. Thus it isn't a good idea to plant lavender in tight areas surrounded by high walls or under or near lots of trees or shrubs. Madalene did experimentation with mulching and lavenders and found that an inorganic mulch such as pea gravel or sand helps, and she theorized that it was because these mulches don't hold as much water in them (although they do help greatly to hold it in the soil beneath) and thus dry out faster and don't hold moisture so near the plant. They also hold heat and can greatly help to dissipate moisture when it falls on warm summer days. In the Mediterranean bed at Festival Hill, you will see a raised bed that is sloped for drainage, has loose soil that is not heavily amended with organic matter, that is in an open area with full sun and good air circulation, and that is mulched with many inches of pea gravel. We prefer the look of pea gravel over that of sand, which can be messy when it splashes and can more easily grow weeds as it is tighter in texture. Even in this bed, we occasionally lose lavenders, but in general have found it to be fairly successful.

Another very important consideration when considering growing lavender is the varieties that are available. Some do better in cooler and wetter climates than ours and some will thrive in our heat. English lavenders (varieties of *Lavandula angustifolia*) may grow here, but we find that they don't normally thrive. They tend to stay fairly small and rarely bloom well, likely because they like cooler winters than what we normally have.

(Lavender continued)

Thus I don't recommend them. A group of lavenders that does well in general is known as the "lavandins" or "intermediate lavenders" - under the botanical name of *Lavandula X intermedia*. The "X" in the botanical name implies that these are hybrids of two different species, but I'll not bore you with the details. All you need to know is that these make fairly large plants for lavenders and that they do well for us, especially varieties such as 'Provence' and 'Grosso'. These are some of the most commonly grown plants in lavender farms of the Hill Country.

Another group to contemplate are the Spanish lavenders—varieties of *Lavandula stoechas*. These lavenders do very well for us. They are moderate in size, about 1 to 1.5 feet in height, and usually have greener leaves than the lavandins. They bloom early, often starting in February, and may bloom all the way through April and into May. Their flower heads are tight with multiple small flowers and often an unusual set of colorful bracts at the top which are commonly referred to as "bunny ears." The main drawback to this group is that the foliage and flowers don't smell like the lavender that we know and love for use in sachets, potpourri, and for culinary purposes, but for ornament and reliability they are hard to beat.

My favorite lavender is not in a group, but just resides alone botanically. It is called "sweet lavender" and goes by the name of *Lavandula X heterophylla*. I hope you guessed that this is another hybrid and if you remember some of my botanical Latin lessons you may recall that "hetero" means changeable or of variable form and "phyla" refers to the leaves. Sometimes the leaves have simple margins and sometimes they have a lobe or two. This lavender gets 1-2 feet in height and width and blooms well in the spring with long flower stems and a good aroma. It may not be as sweet in aroma as English lavender, but it is very pleasant and is a reliable bloomer. Like most lavenders you are lucky to get 2-3 years out of it if it is happy, so treat it as a short-lived perennial and plant a new plant or two every other year to make sure to have new plants coming along.

A few other varieties to consider are French lavender—*Lavandula dentata* (with dentate/toothed leaf margins) and fern leaf lavender—*Lavandula multifida*. Both of these are not reliably cold hardy, but they do well in the heat and bloom repeatedly. The French lavender has a wonderful aroma to its leaves and flowers, and fern leaf lavender is great for blooming constantly from spring until frost, but unfortunately it does not have a great aroma. Both of these can be used as bedding plants or are great as container specimens. Fern leaf lavender is also good for attracting butterflies.

Another thing to consider if you've had problems with lavenders is that most of them will do well in containers. Terra cotta containers are the best as they drain well. You can also add pea gravel to the pots which will help lower the humidity right below the plant and also help to keep soil from splashing around or out of the pot when you water. Another benefit of container growing is that you can move your plant if very wet (tropical) conditions are a possibility in the summer (if only!). Containers can also be sunk in the ground and disguised with a mulch if you would prefer to have them in the ground but also be able to pull them out and protect them in winter (for cold sensitive varieties).

Grow lavender for its scent and beauty and make sure that you use it too. The flowers are great in arrangements and other crafts such as weavings, lavender wands, sachets, potpourri, and such, and the foliage can also be use in standard floral designs as well as wreaths and garlands. You can also buy and use its essential oil, which has been found to help calm and relax.

Grow it and enjoy!

Henry Flowers, Pioneer Unit Garden Chairman.

The Herb Society of America Annual Meeting and Educational Convention June 21st and 22nd, 2013 St. Louis, Missouri

This past weekend I traveled to St. Louis to attend the HSA Annual Meeting and Educational Convention. The meeting was attended by approximately 200 members of the herb society from across the country. Members attending from the Pioneer Unit were Carla Lessard, Sue Edmundson (HSA Secretary), Lois Sutton, and myself. In attendance as well were affiliate members Susan Albert, Billi Parus, and Susan Wood.

Billi and I gave a tasting demonstration on herbal ice creams and sorbets, which were a big hit. All of the lectures were great and Susan Albert's lecture on herbal astrology, Deni Bown's lecture on useful plants of Nigeria (her current home), and Chissy Moore's (National Herb Garden Curator) lecture on beverages of the world were highlights for me.

The first event on Friday morning was the Annual Meeting of Members. Some of the highlights of that meeting were:

- voting on new Membership Chair and new Treasurer, with those positions being filled by Gloria McClure (former Publications Chair) and Linda Lange (for a second term) respectively.
- with Gloria McClure moving to Membership Chair, the position of Publication Chair is currently open and anyone interested in that position should apply (info on the job can be found on the HSA web site).
- Treasure Linda Lange gave an overview of the financial status of HSA, which was voted upon and approved by the membership in attendance. (I have a copy of the report and can make you a copy if you are interested.)
- After many years of research into the matter, the board announced that it had decided that it would be best to move the annual convention to every other year after the planned meeting for Williamsburg, Virginia, in 2015. After much discussion of this decision at the district and unit chairs meetings it was decided that the board would revisit that decision and send out a questionnaire to the entire membership regarding the annual meeting. When that does come about I urge you all to fill it out and send it in as our board of directors wants and does listen to feedback from the general membership. There were many factors that went into this decision, with declining attendance, financial problems, and conflicts for time being cited as the main ones. It was noted that if this plan does go into effect that it would be good for the districts to have the district meetings every other year in the alternate years between national meetings.
- The next annual meeting will be held in Concord, northern California, on June 19-21, 2014.
- The giving of longevity pins to recognize membership in 5 year increments has been reinstated and those members in attendance were given their appropriate pins. I am under the impression that pins will be sent to members not in attendance, but I do not know when or how that will occur. It might possibly be done when the Unit membership cards are sent.
- HSA has produced a beautiful new rectangular black scarf that features *Monarda fistulosa*, Notable Native of 2013, as well as a new basket that features the same herb (in a different style from that of last year). The square reproduction scarf produced last year is also still available.
- The cost of life membership has been reduced to \$1,600 for the first 20 members that sign up within a specified period of time (contact HSA headquarter for more information).
- The reporting of volunteer hours to HSA was stressed as this information is used to support the organization's non-profit, tax-exempt status.
- The membership was reminded that when purchasing items on-line through Amazon, Botanical Interest seeds, or Richters Herbs, part of the purchase price will be given to HSA if you go through the HSA web site—just click on the "shop" tab and you will get a list of possibilities.

We had a great time at the meeting and saw a lot of old friends and made some new ones. I urge you to consider going to future meetings and possibly add on to the time to do some sightseeing. With the next meeting in northern California, the possibilities are great. This year we had time on Sunday to visit the Missouri Botanical Garden (which should be on every gardener's bucket list) and to do the touristy thing and visit the arch. A stop by the Ozark Folk Center and Bakersville, home of Baker's Creek Seeds, were also managed along the way. The possibilities for the meeting in Williamsburg, Virginia, in 2015, which will be the 30th anniversary of the National Herb Garden, are also vast and wonderful. Count me in!

Henry Flowers, Pioneer Unit Garden Chair and Unit Representative at the 2013 EdCon

The Future of the Educational Conference of The Herb Society of America

Dear Members,

Many of us attending the annual business meeting held in St. Louis June 20 – 22, 2013 were shocked to hear our President, Debbie Boutelier, announce that the Board had decided to hold our annual EdCon every other year starting after the 2015 meeting in Williamsburg, VA. This was announced as something they had debated for several years, but it was the first time most members had heard of it. There was no allowance for discussion from the membership attending the annual business meeting. The reasons given were that attendance is down at EdCon; many members can't afford to go every year; some EdCon's don't break even or lose money; and that it would allow members to support their District Gatherings which would be held on off years. Debbie said the annual business meeting on off years would be broadcast as a webinar.

I would like to point out the many advantages to keeping an annual EdCon. I consider this event to be one of the best member benefits we have in the Society. It is a chance for members from coast to coast to get together face to face to energize and encourage each other to promote the knowledge, use and delight of herbs. It is a chance to socialize with old friends and meet new friends to keep the momentum of our organization pointing in the right direction. If you look at the list of members attending on a yearly basis, these are often the same people that are most involved in the Society, giving generously of their time and money to support our projects. If you take away one of our best member benefits, will we feel as strongly about our donations and volunteer hours?

I understand that attendance is down and we don't always make money at the EdCon. However, if any losses were viewed as part of the fundraising costs, wouldn't it make sense to continue? I understand that the Board wants us to support District Meetings, but those often cost almost as much as an annual EdCon to attend. Linda Lange, Treasurer, suggested I could attend all 7 District meetings to see my friends who are spread out around the country. Now that would be quite a financial burden!

Mary Northcutt of the Gross Pointe Unit pointed out that if we don't meet on a yearly basis it could be 4 years between meetings for some people. Example: you don't go to Williamsburg in 2015. 2016 is an off year. In 2017 you have a conflict. 2018 is an off year. You don't have the opportunity to go again until 2019 – that is too long to wait!

Deni Bown, Member at Large living in Nigeria, said we could easily broadcast our Business Meeting live from the EdCon to allow members not in attendance to feel more a part of things rather than eliminate our yearly meeting in favor of those unable to attend.

Mary Wohlleb, past President and member of the Arkansas Unit, said her Unit had already started to make plans for things they could do to help with the 2016 EdCon which was tentatively slated in Little Rock.

Perhaps we can cut EdCon costs by having optional tours only before the meeting; fewer concurrent speakers; meetings where a Unit or District can assist and actively seek sponsors from Units, members and corporations. We can do without centerpieces and gifts, but not without seeing each other. I encourage you to attend the June 19 – 21, 2014, EdCon in Concord, California. Also attend the May 8 – 10, 2015, EdCon in Williamsburg, Virginia. Once you have joined us you will see why members love seeing each other every year and look forward to the next meeting time and place.

I encourage you to join me in protesting the decision to change one of the long standing traditions of our Society and the way in which it was handled. Please let our President, Board, District Delegates and other members hear from you. Please send your own email or letter to save our annual get together. Or you may use my letter as a petition if you just want to sign on and let your voice be heard. Even if you can't attend EdCon on a yearly basis, please don't make the rest of us stay home. Speak up for what you believe in or silently watch it disappear.

Sincerely,

Susan Wood

Affiliate Member of the Pioneer Unit

APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR MEMBER SCHOLARSHIPS SEPTEMBER 12, 2013

Do you have an area of interest related to the use and delight of herbs which you would like to study that would require funds for research? If so, you might wish to apply for a Member Scholarship. Scholarships may be provided to any member who wishes to do individual study and research. The only requirement is that the member must agree to present the results of the study in some way to the Unit.

To apply, submit your name, phone number or email address, and a brief description of the proposed use of funds to Kay Scanapico, Scholarship Chair, or to Ann Allen or Karen Springer. The Pioneer Unit annually awards up to two \$125 scholarships in October. The deadline to submit an application is September 12th.

The form below may be used to apply for a scholarship.
Kay Scanapico, Scholarship Chair

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Application for Member Scholarship
Amount: \$125

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Proposed Use of Funds _____

One requirement: You must agree to present the results of your studies or project to the unit.

Deadline for submitting Application: September 12, 2013.
Applications should be submitted to Kay Scanapico, Scholarship Chair, or to Ann Allen or Karen Springer.

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✂

2013 Madeline Hill Scholarship Recipient

Eleni Patitsas, a student at Texas A & M University, is the recipient of the Madeline Hill Scholarship for 2012-13. She is currently working toward obtaining a degree in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences with an emphasis in fruit and vegetable production.

In addition to earning excellent grades, Eleni has participated in several service-oriented activities on and off campus. During the spring of 2012, Eleni participated in a "semester at sea" program with the University of Virginia where she visited 12 countries in South America, Africa, and Asia. She was exposed to many simple yet essential agricultural systems around the world as well as more technical systems including the world renowned wine region Stellenbosch outside Cape Town, South Africa. Eleni states that her travel gave faces to the needy world-wide and shaped her desire to work in some type of humanitarian capacity in developing countries.

Eleni is also interested in gaining a better understanding of wine making and will be living with a family on the island of Rhodes in Greece and interning in a vineyard this summer. She looks forward to continuing her undergraduate experience at Texas with her eyes opened a little wider.

One of Eleni's professors, Dr. Lineberger, states, "Few of our students seek out international engagement as eagerly as Eleni and her experience with the agriculture, climate and diverse cultures of other parts of the world make her studies here even stronger." Eleni states that she looks forward to meeting new challenges and that the Madeline Hill Scholarship will help to make her dreams a reality.

Kay Scanapico
Scholarship Chair

Susan Lake's Dehydration Workshop

The July 25th workshop on dehydration has six signed up and only one on the wait list. Always someone drops out, so please contact me at cthomas1138@aol.com if you are interested. Active members get first choice and Affiliate members are allowed to participate when all Active members who are interested have been accommodated.

Because this workshop accommodates only a small number of participants, we would like to get an idea of the interest level for perhaps repeating this workshop.

Carolyn Thomas
[979-251-8386](tel:979-251-8386)

HSA CALENDAR CONTEST

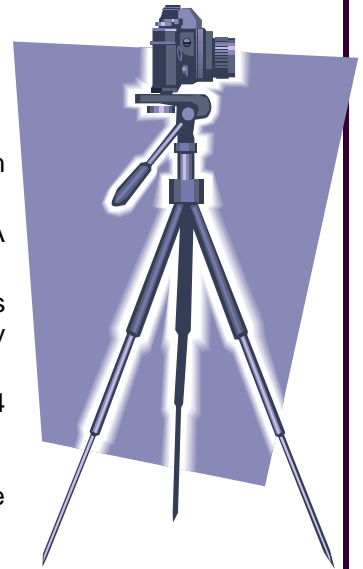
Details of the Contest:

- \$10 entry fee per photograph entered
- Each entry accepted will receive a full-color copy of the calendar, which will be mailed in September 2013
- Selection for the top 12 photos and feature pages will be judged online via the HSA website after July 21, 2013.
- The top 12 photos will be featured as the "Herb Garden of the Month." All photos accepted for entry will be included in the 2014 calendar. The size and location will vary based on the final calendar design.
- The entries must be postmarked by July 17, 2013, in order to be included in the 2014 calendar.

The members whose photographs are chosen for "Herb Garden of the Month" will be notified by phone or e-mail.

The Rules:

1. Photos must be of gardens only - no people or animals (domestic or wild) please!
2. Only members of HSA are eligible to submit a photo. HSA units are welcome to submit a photo as a group. Current HSA board members and staff are not eligible to enter.
3. Photo(s) may be of private, member and/or unit maintained gardens. Photo(s) of public gardens are accepted if permission from the organization is needed and has been obtained from the public garden. Proof of authorization from the public garden is needed before the photo can be accepted.
4. Photo(s) must be submitted electronically by e-mailing herbs@herbsociety.org. The photos must be accompanied by credit card information for the entry fee. Photos may be uploaded and entry fee may be submitted on the HSA Web site.
5. Cell phone, Polaroid or copyrighted professional photographs, are not acceptable. Photographs will not be returned and become the property of HSA.
6. When sending digital images, provide sharp images (highest resolution) that are 300 dpi at a 5x7 format or larger and in JPEG (JPG) or TIFF format. Name the digital files by your name (first and last name) or group name and the location of the garden.
7. By submitting photographs you are granting HSA permission to use your image in this calendar publication and for perpetuity.
8. HSA reserves the right to determine if a photograph is not suitable for inclusion. If a photo is not accepted for the calendar, the entry fee will be refunded.

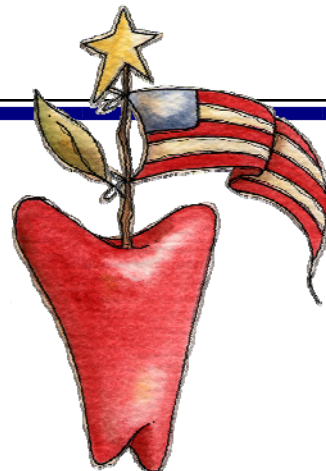


JULY BIRTHDAYS

July 3 — Mary Reeves

July 12 — Peggy Cook

July 26 — Wanda Hubbard



Thyme Well Spent Shoppe Needs

Herbal Blend Needs: The following dried herbs are needed for herbal blends: oregano, basil, thyme, chives, rosemary, parsley, and dill.

Instructions for drying: Collect herbs; take out any bad leaves; bundle together in small bundles; and hang on a clothes hanger to dry. Place in a dry, dark area until the leaves are brittle and fully dried. **Do not** put them in plastic bags. The dried herbs can then be given to Carla Lessard or Kay Von Minden

We NEED:

8-ounce canning jars (thrift stores are great sources, if there is one in your neighborhood)

Tomatoes

Figs

Red Jalapenos

Berries

Red Bell Peppers

Strawberries

Dried flowers of all kinds

Carla Lessard

Co-Chair for Thyme Well Spent Shop

PICTURES AND MEMORABILIA NEEDED

Do you have photographs of any events of the past year? Would you like to make a scrapbook page for the Pioneer Unit?

Please bring any photos or memorabilia of the past year to the July meeting, or let me know that you will be preparing a scrapbook page for a meeting or event from the past year.

Linda L. Rowlett
Editor

THE STONE FLOWER GARDEN by Deborah Smith

A rich Gothic novel in the Southern tradition, the book unearths the long-ago sordid deed of the town's premier aristocratic family.

"On a dark spring night 25 years after I helped bury my Great Aunt Clara Hardigree, I found myself digging her up," explains Darl Union, heiress to the Hardigree family holdings in Burnt Sand, North Carolina.

"The Stone Flower Garden was as much a part of the forest, as much a Hardigree symbol, as Clara's hidden grave. The Hardigree name stood for unbreakable women and unbreakable marble. But I, Darl Union, granddaughter of Swan Hardigree Samples, great-granddaughter of Esta Hardigree, had cracked.

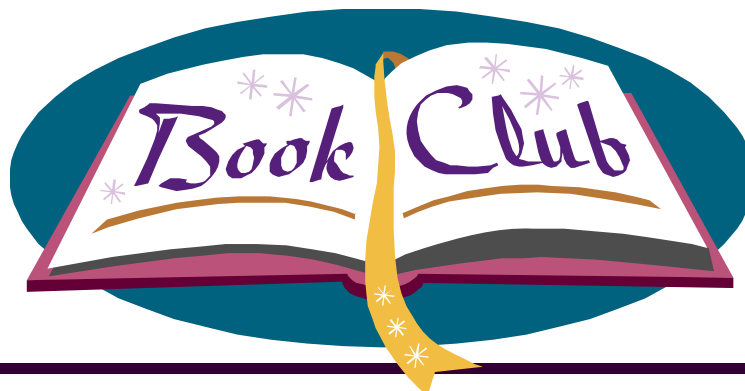
"And it was all because of a man. I looked up at Eli Wade, the man whose trust I had betrayed, just as my silence had betrayed his wrongfully accused father 25 years earlier."

For Darl, life in Burnt Sand had always been a mixture of wealth, privilege, loneliness, and sinister family secrets. Her grandmother was both beautiful and as hard as the granite from the quarry which fueled the Hardigree wealth and formed the economic bedrock of the town.

A lonely child, Darl developed a close friendship with Eli, whose father was a stonemason in the quarry. The two young people would meet secretly to exchange confidences in the Stone Flower Garden, the Hardigree family cemetery. All that ceased when his family left town after his father was falsely accused of the murder of Great Aunt Clara.

Now, 25 years later, long-buried family secrets come to light and the iron grip of the Hardigree dynasty dissipates as Burnt Sand and its residents face a more democratic future.

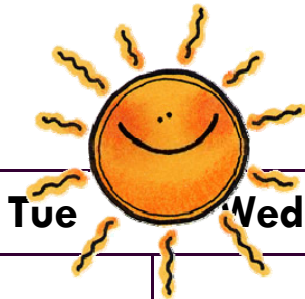
Review by June Smith



July 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 PU Board meeting 9:00 a.m.	3	4 	5	6
7	8	9 FH Workday 8:30 to noon	10	11 Pioneer Unit Meeting	12	13
14	15	16 FH Workday 8:30 to noon	17 HSA Photography Contest Deadline	18 BSG	19	20 SG Workday 8:00 to 10:00 (tentative)
21	22	23 FH Workday 8:30 to noon	24	25 FH Workday 8:30 to noon Dehydration Work- shop	26	27
28	29	30 FH Workday 8:30 to noon	31		BSG = Botany Study Group	FH = Festival Hill SG = Sensory Garden

August 2013



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
BSG = Botany Study Group	FH = Festival Hill SG = Sensory Garden			1 FH Workday 8:30 to noon	2	3
4	5	6 FH Workday 8:30 to noon	7	8 Pioneer Unit Meeting	9	10
11	12	13 FH Workday 8:30 to noon	14	15 BSG	16	17
18	19	20 FH Workday 8:30 to noon	21	22 FH Workday 8:30 to noon	23	24
25	26	27 FH Workday 8:30 to noon	28	29 FH Workday 8:30 to noon	30	31



PIONEER PATHS

Volume 20

Editor: Linda L. Rowlett, Ph.D.

Pioneer Paths is a publication of The Herb Society of America, Pioneer Unit. Nonmember subscriptions are available for \$10.00 per year.

The Mission Statement of The Herb Society of America: "To promote the knowledge, use, and delight of herbs through educational programs, research, and sharing the experience of its members with the community."

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Secretary—Karen Cornwell Treasurer—Janie Plummer

