



PIONEER PATHS

Newsletter of the Herb Society of America
Pioneer Unit

March 2019

Volume 26, Number 7

March 10
Daylight Savings
Time Begins



March 20
Sap Full Moon

March 20
Vernal Equinox

MONTHLY UNIT MEETING

Date: March 7, 2019

Time: 9:30 a.m. Meet and Greet
10:00 a.m. Meeting and Workshop

Location: Festival Hill Service Building, Round Top
Directions: Exit Highway 290 at Texas 237 (Round Top exit).
Travel south on 237. Turn right on Jaster Road and
left into the parking lot for the Service Building.

Program: Thyme Well Spent Workshop
Festival Hill Garden Work
[You will have a choice of labeling, pricing, and finishing
items for sale in the Thyme Well Spent Shop; or you
can bring your gloves and garden tools to work in the
gardens getting them ready for visitors. We will break
for lunch at 12 noon.]

Hosts: Linda Rowlett, Susan Bame, Cathy Comiskey, Cindy
Nash, Georgia and Bob Sowers, and Georgetta Welch

Lunch: Lunch is being provided by Festival Hill if you signed up
in advance!

Please bring cook books, books, and magazines that are garden and garden design related or herb-related to the March meeting for the scholarship table. All the money supports our national intern. Special herbal items are needed for the silent auction as well!

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The Herbal Forum is once again soon to be upon us, and it is a great time for our wonderful group to shine. Many of us have spent much time in preparing items for sale in the Thyme Well Spent Shop and at the Gazebo or growing a few additional plants for the plant sale, but as always we will need as many of you to help as possible.

I hope by now that all of our members are signed up to help with the Herbal Forum in some regard. If you aren't, then please contact either Karen Cornwell, Susan Yancey, Pat Cox, Jane Press, Lynn Ehler, Tony Scanapico, Ann Allen or Kathe Forrest. Any one of them can point you in the right direction, according to your interests.

Remember that we need cardboard flats for the plant sale! Either store them at home and bring them (preferably in trash bags) at the beginning of the event or during set up or bring them to the March meeting at Festival Hill and we'll store them in the pump house until the event.

On the Tuesday before the Herbal Forum, we will be putting the Herbal Forum packets together starting at 1:00 p.m. in the backstage green room of the Concert Hall (March 12th). Help is always needed with this project and is greatly appreciated.

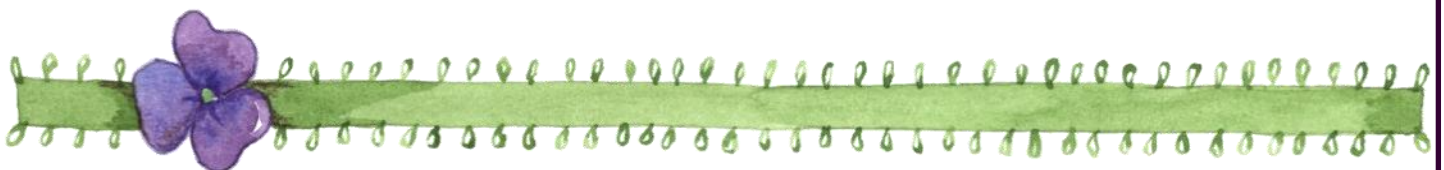
At the March meeting we can use help to get the gardens ready for the following week. If you would like to help in the gardens, get with Tony Scanapico. Many thanks in advance for any help you can give with the gardens and also for helping to get finishing touches done on items for the Thyme Well Spent Shop!

Best wishes for another great Herbal Forum!

Karen Cornwell
Unit Chair

"In the spring, at the end of the day, you
should smell like dirt..."

— Margaret Atwood,
Bluebeard's Egg



From the Programs Chair

With no presenter to introduce, our Programs Chair waxed poetic:

Wow! As I look out my window on this wet day
I wonder will this be Forum weekend weather — gray?

The lawn it is green, the lavender purple,
My lemon tree has buds.
Cocoa's eggs are chocolate, the Easter egger's blue,
But the skies they are gray.

Nevertheless, we go forward and clean up the Hill .
Using rakes and clippers, we do what must be done.
The Pioneer crews blend up lotions, spices and jams.
The hypertufas are made and succulents ready.

The orders are in – who cares if it's cloudy or gray.

See you on the 7th if you made it through these lines.
I had to come up with something
As Linda so assigned!

Kathe Forrest
Programs Chair



THYME WELL SPENT SHOPPE

At our meeting on March 7th we will be getting ready for Forum. Please bring any items you have made for the shop to this meeting, and we will be putting on labels, bagging seasonings, doing last-minute stitching, and anything else needed to have everything ready for Forum.

Jane Press and I appreciate everything you do for the shop and are looking forward to Forum 2019!

Thanks,
Pat Cox

Plant Sale Reminder

We will have an updated version of the sign-up sheet at the March meeting. Please check to see if your information is correct. Also, a reminder that there here are no early Thursday plants sold to volunteers until the plant sale is ready for business (usually early or late afternoon). New members benefit from working on Thursday; you can see the setup before the enthusiastic customers arrive on Friday. All early Thursday member purchases must be taken home that same day.

Outstanding requests: We still need one more 16-foot trailer for teardown on Saturday after the sale; we can always use goodies for the volunteer break area; and we need people to be available to water plants during the sale. If you have any questions or suggestions, please let us know. Karen Cornwell or Susan Yancey, Plant Sale. Barbara Hemmer, Gazebo.

Remember this is OUR plant sale and our customers rely on us to be there for them. As volunteers, you will be best able to let us know what's working and what isn't. Please share your thoughts and pass along customer comments. Have a fun time! We couldn't do this without you!



SILENT AUCTION

Co-chair Ann Lugg and I are still collecting items for the Silent Auction. I hope that we can raise as much as we did last year for the National Intern.

If you have something unique and special that might appeal to herb lovers — and that you are ready to part with — this is the perfect opportunity to clear the item out of your house and assist with the Pioneer Unit donation to the National Intern.

Please give me a call or shoot me an email, and I will make arrangements to pick up your donation. Or bring your item to the March meeting.

Linda L. Rowlett
lrowlett@gmail.com or 281-757-1988

And remember: the Silent Auction is open to members of the Pioneer Unit. Once the table is set up in the Concert Hall, come check out the items we have for auction!

LUNCH AT FORUM

There will be a signup sheet at the March meeting for those who wish to eat lunch at Festival Hill on the Saturday of Forum. For anyone working at Forum on Saturday, lunch will be at no cost.

If you want to attend the Friday lunch and/or dinner at Festival Hill, you must make those arrangements yourself directly with Festival Hill. When you contact Festival Hill, you will need to explain that you are not registering for Forum and you will need to provide payment for any Friday meals you register for. [The arrangements for Friday are subject to change, but this is our best information as of the sending of the newsletter.]



New ginkgo tree planted in the Sensory Garden in memory of affiliate member Susan Abouhalkah.

Culinary Interest Group

Culinary Group will not be meeting in March in order to focus on Forum items.

The February meeting was at Bev Elam's house where she demonstrated how to make kombucha. Many thanks to Bev and all the members who contributed great food to our potluck.

Our next meeting will be April 3 at 11:00 in Menke House at Festival Hill. We will be learning to preserve lemons. Remember to bring a small sharp knife, a cutting board/surface and a glass pint jar with a lid. Potluck meal maybe using lemons?

Belinda Weatherly

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March 1 — Alton Ehler
Susan Wood

March 3 — Billi Parus

March 11 — Joan Jordan

March 14 — Bob Sowers

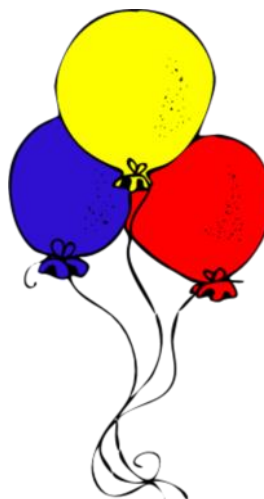
March 16 — Sandra Brown
Beth Murphy

March 18 — Cindy Rollins

March 20 — Frances Pittman

March 30 — Mike Cox
Robert Lake

March 31 — Madeline Johnson
Patty Mills



MINUTES OF UNIT MEETING HERB SOCIETY OF AMERICA PIONEER UNIT February 14, 2019

Kathe Forrest, Vice Chair Programs, introduced speakers Carrie and Roger Grissom of Ives Creek Organics with a program on "Growing with Aquaponics." Their produce is available at the Bellville Farmers Market and others. Phoebe Lake should have more information about these farm-to-market schedules.

Karen Cornwell, Chair, said that set-up for Forum will start on Monday, March 11, and husbands are encouraged to help with some heavy lifting. Plant deliveries will be throughout the week. Members can shop at the plant sale on Thursday, March 14, after everything is set up. A tab can be run but plants should be taken home that day. Forum hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 15, and 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 16. A local church youth group will help with teardown for a donation. Inventory will be done on Sunday, March 17, and the discount sale to members will be on Monday, March 18, at 9:00 a.m. at the Festival Hill greenhouse. A hand-out with plant sale information was available along with a sign-up sheet for members to volunteer at the plant sale, Thyme Well Spent Shop, or both.

There will be a volunteer break area with coffee and snacks for plant sale and TWSS workers; members can donate snacks. Workers were encouraged to leave the parking spaces closest to the sale free for the public.

Beverly Elam, Treasurer, asked if anyone had the Unit email and password to access Amazon Smile as there are pending donations for the Unit. Beverly is working with Susan Lake to update the account.

Cathy Nitsch asked for volunteers to hand out Forum flyers, and Georgia reminded members they can earn hours for doing so.

Susan Yancey announced a Festival Hill gardens workday on Saturday, March 16, meeting at 8:00 a.m. at the greenhouse or Mary garden.

Lori Yeats thanked speaker angel Jane Press and the lunch hostesses. She reminded members to sign up and pay \$5.00 for lunch at Festival Hill following the March working meeting. Door prizes were won by Bob Sowers, Belinda Weatherly and Royceanna Kendall.

Kathe Forrest had sign-up sheets for a beeswax wrap workshop and for members who might like a Unit tee shirt.

Jane Press asked members to bring all their items for the shop to the March working meeting, and if possible to let her know in advance what items they have so the inventory can be updated.

Pat Cox had sign-up sheets for lotions workshops to be held on February 19 and 26.

Georgia Sowers, Vice Chair Membership, welcomed visitors Sandra Smith, Myra Simmons, Helen Foster, Debi Thomas, and Lynda Perryman. Ann Lugg was approved for active membership by a poll of the Board at the meeting.

Kay von Minden announced details of the April 26 field trip to the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center and The Natural Gardener in Austin. The cost is \$25.00 for members and \$50.00 for non-members. Members will meet the bus at Festival Hill at 8:00 a.m. There will be a box lunch and docents to lead tours. Members can sign up and pay today, at the March meeting, or at the April meeting provided there are seats left on the 56-passenger bus.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Cox, Secretary

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Our Unit enjoyed a great presentation on Aquaponics last month, and our visitors were Sandra Smith for her first visit with Frances Pittman; Myra Simmons for her third visit; Helen Foster for her second visit; Debi Thomas and Lynda Perryman for their fourth visits. Affiliate member Marijane Lipscomb was present, and it was a nice surprise to see former affiliate member Sandy Plasek again. Sandy is considering renewing her affiliate membership after she wraps up personal business at home in Houston in a few months. We're happy that all of our prospective active members were with us and look forward to seeing all of you again.

We are quickly approaching our annual Forum and Plant Sale on March 15 and 16, 2019, at Festival Hill. Publicity Committee Chair reported there are quite a few handouts (short-tabbed and full-size page) available that can be posted and left on bulletin boards in restaurants, libraries, Chambers of Commerce, stores, (as allowed by the proprietors of same), as well as given to friends and family members announcing the Forum and Plant Sale. Further, these may be emailed to individuals and organizations, as well as shared on social Media, i.e., Facebook and Twitter to target a large audience. Those who have signed up to distribute (I've signed up for Brenham area) will earn volunteer hours for your efforts in this distribution. Please be sure to report your volunteer hours to Membership so they may be recorded (email is the best method, or you can enter in the Registration binder at March 7th Unit Forum Prep meeting. All who attend the March 7, 2019, Unit Meeting will automatically earn 3 hours volunteer time or however much time you spend at this endeavor. Lunch will be at Menke House (active members \$5 and non-members, guests, and affiliate members \$25.) Please give or mail check payable to HSA Pioneer Unit to Lori Yeats in charge of Hospitality Committee; her address is in the Yearbook. All of the workshops geared toward Thyme Well Spent Shoppe or Gazebo will earn a minimum of 2-1/2 to 3 hours or more volunteer credit. The gardens will certainly need efforts on workdays as organized, and again volunteer hours will accrue.

If any of our prospective active members are planning to become approved this month and need to get in your 2 hours each at Festival Hill and Sensory Garden, time is now of the essence in order to qualify for the many active member benefits. Pat Garrett can help guide you if you need to organize for Festival Hill, and Johnnie Pitts or Marcella Ausmus are our current contacts for Sensory Garden. All three of these ladies info is in the Yearbook. If you have any questions or comments about this, please don't hesitate to contact Membership at gzsowers@att.net or call 979-836-8228 so I can be of help.

We approved our newest active member Ann Lugg at our meeting last month. Active member Linda Rowlett introduced her to our Unit a few months back. Ann's membership is effective February 2019, address PO Box 144, Industry, Texas 78944-0144, Cell phone 713-503-9981, and her email is alugg@rice.edu. Her husband is Simon and her birthday is October 16th. We will introduce and welcome Ann at the Unit Forum Prep Meeting this month. She will be a great asset to the Unit so let's make her feel at home. Welcome to you, Ann!!

I look forward to seeing everyone at our meeting this month.

Herbally,
Georgia Sowers
Membership Chair

MEMBERSHIP

Our newest member, Ann Lugg, in her own words:

I have recently retired and moved with my husband and dog to our farm in Industry, which has, for twenty years, been where we spent every weekend and many vacation days. I grew up in a household where gardening, canning and preserving were a way of life and have had a large vegetable and small herb garden for the past eighteen years. I enjoy reading, cooking, hiking and spending time with my family. I have eight sisters and three brothers, many of whom are enthusiastic gardeners. We consider our love of growing things a great gift from our parents.



HSA PIONEER UNIT MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL APPLICATION

Due May 1

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____ E-Mail: _____

Birthday (Month/Day): _____ Today's Date: _____

Membership Category

- Active - single \$67/ joint \$98 Life – single \$12/ joint \$18
- Affiliate (Unit or Member-at-Large) - single \$12/ joint \$18

(Make check payable to HSA-Pioneer Unit and give to Membership Chair at meeting or Mail to HSA-Pioneer Unit, ATTN: Membership, P O Box 23, Round Top TX 78954)

Program Recommendations:

Field Trip Recommendations:

Please check accordingly: I HAVE or HAVE NOT COMPLETED THE REQUIRED 20 VOLUNTEER HOURS

Active Members: HOW DO YOU PREFER TO FULFILL YOUR REQUIRED 20 VOLUNTEER HOURS?



- Working in any Unit-sponsored garden, such as Festival Hill or Brenham ISD, and any other Unit-approved garden, or seed cleaning
- Herbal Forum at Round Top and Forum preparation throughout year supporting efforts pertaining to preparation of items, such as Thyme Well Spent Shoppe, as well as mail outs, packets, and plant sale preps
- Hosting at a meeting, including a.m. refreshments, setup/cleanup, decorating, serving lunch, including Angel duties
- Educational activities for promoting the knowledge, use, and delight of herbs, such as presentations (including a/v), research articles for newsletter (up to 4 hours prep), participation in education events
- Unit administration, such as hours spent performing duties as Officer or Unit Board of Directors member, maintaining or updating Unit scrapbook, sending greeting cards to Unit members
- Other approved activities as the Board of Directors may approve after review. We can work with you to find volunteer opportunities.

WE WELCOME YOUR COMMENTS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND SUGGESTIONS:


(Please utilize another sheet if necessary)

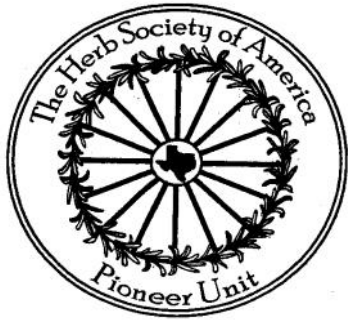
March 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
BSG = Botany Study Group CG = Culinary Group	FH = Festival Hill SG = Sensory Garden				1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Pioneer Unit Meeting	8	9
10	11	12	13	14x	15 Plant Sale and TWSS	16 Herbal Forum Plant Sale and TWSS
17 	18	19	20	21	22 2nd & 3rd grade at SG 8:00-12:20	23
24 Newsletter Deadline lrowlett@gmail.com	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 CG at 11:00 Menke House	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 Pioneer Unit Meeting	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Newsletter Deadline lrowlett@gmail.com	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30			BSG = Botany Study Group CG = Culinary Group	FH = Festival Hill SG = Sensory Garden



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Volume 26

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."

Chair—Karen Cornwall

Vice Chair Programs—Kathe Forrest

Vice Chair Membership—Georgia Sowers

Secretary—Pat Cox

Treasurer—Beverly Elam

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Post Office Box 23
Round Top, Texas 78954