

PIONEER PATHS

Newsletter of the Herb Society of America
Pioneer Unit

May 2018

Volume 25, Number 9

May 1

May Day

—

May 5

Cinco de Mayo

—

May 13

Mothers' Day

—

May 28

Memorial Day

—

May 29

Corn Planting

Full Moon

MONTHLY UNIT MEETING

Date: May 10, 2018

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

Location: Brenham Presbyterian Church
900 South Jackson, Brenham

Directions: Take Business 36 north (Day Street) into Brenham. When you reach College Street, turn left and drive two blocks to Jackson Street. The Church will be on your left.

Program: Spring Thyme Cooking

Speaker: Chef Lisa Fritz of HEB

Angel: Lucy Nehrkorn

Hosts: Linda Rowlett, Pat Cox, Mike Cox, Frances Pittman,
Johnnie Pitts, and Belinda Weatherly

Lunch: Choice Savory or Sweet Dishes



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Greetings all!

I am writing this note from inside my granddaughter's apartment overlooking a sunny but chilly Michigan day. I will miss this month's meeting, but I am going to catch up with friends and family here and am planning to relax and enjoy every minute.

In April the Botany Study Group organized a spectacular trip to the Peaceable Kingdom. Located on back roads north of Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historical Park in Washington County, this private farm includes gardens that were once part of a training program for organic farming. Such an interesting place! The focus was on identifying wildflowers on the grounds and getting input for continuing the Group's support of Festival Hill and researching specific botanical interests. Meetings of the Botany Study Group are held the third Thursday of each month. Contact Carolyn Thomas or Sara Holland if you are interested in participating.

I trust that everyone has rested up from the Forum and that many of you are already working on items for next year's Forum. Not to mention weeding in your gardens, getting those vegetables in, and doing the other tasks we all handle every day. The pomegranate tree I bought at the Plant Sale 2-3 years ago has blossoms this year! Always good to have a happy outcome now and then.

The Forum was very successful again this year. The event was so successful that the Board is looking for new opportunities for using some of our funds for projects that support the HSA mission "to promote the knowledge, use, and delight of herbs through educational programs, research, and sharing the experience of its members with the community." Contact any Board member with your ideas. Don't be hesitant to "think outside the box." We'd love to hear your ideas!

It is membership renewal time. I hope that all of you decide to renew your membership in the Pioneer Unit. We have the renewal form posted on our website and published in this newsletter. There were copies at last month's meeting, and we will have more copies at the May meeting to catch anyone who has not yet renewed. And have a wonderful May!

Karen Cornwell
Unit Chair

"To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow." (Audrey Hepburn)



FROM YOUR PROGRAMS CHAIR

I hope everyone enjoyed our Second Annual Horticultural Trivia Quiz. For those who missed it, there was lots of merriment and mayhem and great prizes! Thanks to all who helped make it an extra fun meeting.

Looking ahead now to next month. Time for something completely different! Our speaker will be Lisa Fritz. Lisa is a cooking "coach" for HEB in College Station and also a food columnist for the Eagle newspaper. She comes highly recommended as a speaker and I, for one, am really looking forward to hearing her.

So, see you Thursday May 10 at Brenham Presbyterian Church.

Phoebe Lake
Programs Chair

Did you know?

Arachibutyrophobia is the fear of peanut butter sticking to the roof of your mouth.

[Editor's Note: Check out the YouTube video on how to pronounce arachibutyrophobia if you want to say it correctly for next year's trivia quiz!]



Culinary Interest Group

Date: Wednesday, May 2
Place: Menke House parlor
Time: 11:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.
Hope to see you Wednesday

Sara Holland

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- May 7 — Pam Traylor
- May 9 — Louise Rice
- May 11 — Terry Ross
- May 12 — Jean Zavoda
- May 16 — Kay Robbins
- May 22 — Joyce Lane

VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH



This month, we wish to recognize all of the non-members who gave so much of their valuable time and experience to another successful Herbal Forum and Plant Sale 2018! Ann Wilson who helps in the Plant Sale and her husband Eric Wilson; Wendy Matthews; Jack Elvig; non-member husbands Bob Heath, Robert Nash, and Gary Pior; and the youth from Zion Lutheran Church in Burton. And speaking of husbands, we appreciate our joint member husbands Mike Cox, Alton Ehler, Oscar Hillegeist, Robert Lake, Tony Scanapico, and yours truly's Bob Sowers. You help our ladies with setup and cleanup throughout the year in the background at our Unit meetings! The Pioneer Unit is grateful for the brute strength, loyalty, and everyone's diligent efforts for the entire week

MINUTES OF UNIT MEETING HERB SOCIETY OF AMERICA PIONEER UNIT

April 12, 2018

Karen Cornwell, Chair, thanked the members for all their contributions to another successful Forum.

Phoebe Lake, Vice Chair Programs, announced the Second Annual Horticultural Quiz which was a lot of fun as well as competitive and informative with prizes for losers as well as winners!

Karen said that James Dick is planning on putting the Herbal Forum on Festival Hill's schedule next year in spite of the loss of Garden Director Henry Flowers. Henry will be greatly missed but is still a Unit member and hopes to attend some monthly meetings. Members are encouraged to stay involved with the care of the Festival Hill gardens, and Karen asked for a volunteer to coordinate work days and a watering schedule. Meanwhile members can help any day they are able. Brent is the interim Garden Director and can be contacted to offer help.

Carolyn Thomas emphasized the importance of watering as summer arrives. She announced the continuation of the Botany Study Group and encouraged new members to join. The Group meets once a month on Thursdays and takes care of the Pharmacy Garden. Hours can be earned for actual garden work time. A tour of Peaceable Kingdom is scheduled for April 19th.

Lucy Nehrkorn, Treasurer, announced a gross plant sale/gazebo income of \$58,373.88, but has no information on expenses to date. Thyme Well Spent Shop grossed about \$300.00 more than last year and final figures will be announced later.

Betty Pior suggested some form of tangible "thank you" could be extended to the husbands who work during Forum week to set up, take down, etc. One suggestion was a gift certificate for plants.

Pam Traylor thanked the lunch hostesses.

Susan Bame asked for volunteers to water the Sensory Garden at Brenham ISD. A work day is planned for Monday, April 16th, at 8:30 a.m. STEM Night is planned for Thursday, April 19th, and Susan needs five volunteers from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. to present the outdoor portion of the event. Currently the garden has a flooding problem, probably due to faulty irrigation. If this is not fixed before STEM Night, the outdoor event will be canceled, in which case Susan will inform the volunteers.

Mary Doebbeling announced that HSA is actively seeking new members and is offering a \$10.00 discount on membership renewal for each new member brought into the organization.

Georgia Sowers welcomed visitors Erica Menconi (guest of Pat Garrett), JoAnn Reichle (guest of Susan Yancey), Vicki Wiste (guest of Royceanna Kendall), and Keelia Ritch (guest of Pat Cox).

The meeting was then adjourned for lunch.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Cox, Secretary

April 18, 2018, PIONEER UNIT BOARD MEETING Held at Festival Hill

Present: Karen Cornwell, Phoebe Lake, Georgia Sowers, Terry Ross, Lucy Nehrkorn, Lynn Ehler, Barbara Hemmer, Susan Bame, Cindy Nash, Kay von Minden, Pat Cox, and Jane Press.

Programs: Phoebe read a note from Euphanel Goad thanking the Unit for holding November meetings at the Round Top Retreat in previous years. The search for a larger space for November meetings is ongoing.

Membership: Georgia Sowers, Vice Chair Membership, reported that Henry Flowers has renewed his membership and will continue to write articles for the newsletter and attend meetings when he can.

Motion: Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to keep Henry Flowers as an active Unit member even if he is unable to attend the required three meetings a year.

Georgia made a motion out of committee to ratify new member Penny Whiting.

Motion: A motion was made and approved out of committee to ratify new member Penny Whiting.

Treasurer: Lucy Nehrkorn, Treasurer, distributed copies of the PU Quarterly Income Statement and PU Budget Summary Report for Three Months Ending March 31, 2018. Forum gross income is \$73,048.71 and net income is \$36,161.06, but more expenses are coming in and final figures will be available at the July Board meeting.

Standing Committee Reports:

Archives and Rosemary – Lynn Ehler is in need of more birthday and get well cards.

Education/Special Events – Barbara Hemmer plans a May workshop to make draped pots. Kay von Minden is planning a field trip to the painted churches for late May. She will hire a bus if enough people sign up.

Scholarships – Because last year's college scholarships were not awarded, \$4,000.00 will be awarded this year.

Gardens – Pat Garrett has agreed to be the new Festival Hill Gardens Chair in place of Henry. She will coordinate with Brent at Festival Hill and organize a gardening and watering schedule. Susan Bame plans a workday at the Sensory Garden for April 23rd. She has volunteers for STEM Night on April 19th. Henry investigated recent flooding in the garden and found nothing wrong with the irrigation system.

Communications – Cindy Nash was pleased with the Forum ads, particularly local column coverage and radio coverage from KAMU in College Station.

Plant Sale/Gazebo – It was agreed that the Unit will give a \$25.00 gift certificate from Home Depot to non-members (mostly members' husbands) who helped during Forum week.

Motion: Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to give a \$25.00 gift certificate for Home Depot to each non-member who helped with Forum.

Barbara Hemmer had a successful Forum in the Gazebo with many repeat customers and helpful volunteers. Seventy percent of the merchandise sold on the first day.

Thyme Well Spent Shop - Jane Press reported over \$300.00 more income for TWSS this year. She has received a donation of magazines and books for next year's scholarship table.

New Business:

- a) Karen reminded Board members that Annual Reports are due by the June meeting.
- b) For the new Madalene Hill award, the Unit will donate money to the South Central District which will be given to National who will present the award. All Units can donate and nominate possible recipients. The award will be in the form of money and a library lamp.

Motion: Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to donate \$200.00 to the South Central District for the first Madalene Hill Award.



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

We enjoyed a second annual and rousing Horticultural Trivia Quiz last month. It was crafted interestingly by active members Susan Bame and Phoebe Lake, even with an adjudicator Karen Cornwell! This is a great program in keeping with our Mission Statement for the education of people interested in herbs, also lending lots of fun to the group. Our first-time visitor was Vicki Wiste, who attended our Plant Sale and was invited by active member Royceanna Kendall. JoAnn Reichle attended for her second time and was a guest of Susan Yancey. It was great to see former member Erica Menconi with Pat Garrett again. She has been actively volunteering with Pat and Wanda Hubbard on much-needed watering duties at Festival Hill, which is appreciated. Keelia Ritch, Pat Cox's daughter-in-law, was with us again too. She is a great help to Pat, Jane Press, and Louise Rice with the Thyme Well Spent Shoppe. As a busy mom to her daughters, it might be awhile for Keelia to become a member, but it's always good seeing her. Our first new member of this year, effective March 2018, Penny Whiting, was present also. She was introduced and welcomed to the Unit in the April 2018 Pioneer Paths. Thanks to all of you, and we look forward to seeing you again.

Our Chair, Karen Cornwell, discussed and emphasized the paramount need for volunteers to water at Festival Hill. She also assured us we will still be present at Festival Hill next year for our ongoing successful Plant Sale. Carolyn Thomas also concurred with the need of volunteers to water; she goes every Wednesday for about an hour to hour and a half. This is an excellent opportunity for earning one's volunteer hours, not to mention yet another avenue of learning about the different herbs and plants and interaction with others of our Unit and beyond.

Renewal forms were at our April meeting and will be available at sign-in this month and online. HSA South Central District Delegate and active member Mary Doebbeling presented a Membership Coupon for members who recruit a new member that they may redeem for \$10 off their 2018-2019 Renewal. This is a great incentive for bringing in new members to our Unit! And of course the Board of Directors and Committee Chairs will begin new two-year terms on July 1, 2018. Also our Renewal Forms have a space for you to indicate particular areas of interest - Program Presentation Ideas, Field Trip Recommendations, and Comments and Suggestions. Membership fields all these areas and presents them to the Program Chair, Events Chair, and Board of Directors for considering the different comments. Thank you all for presenting these on your renewal forms.

In last month's newsletter, the upcoming new term of Board of Directors and Committee Chairs for 2018-2020 was referenced. It's my understanding the Treasurer position will be open if an active member is interested in fulfilling it. If so, please mention your interest to a Board member so she may channel the information to the proper person on the Nominating Committee.

Membership is very happy with all our members reporting their hours and non-reimbursable donations and appreciative of your loyal and dedicated efforts for the Unit. Thank you! If anyone has questions or concerns, please let me know at gzsowers@att.net or call 979-836-8228. I hope you all enjoy a great and appreciative Memorial Day.

Herbal Flowers of May,
Georgia Sowers



Volunteers working at the Sensory Garden

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:


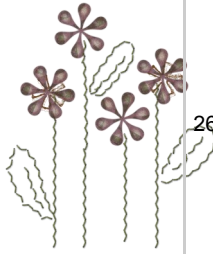
Please check accordingly: I HAVE or HAVE NOT COMPLETED THE REQUIRED 20 VOLUNTEER HOURS
Active Members: HOW DO YOU PREFER TO FULFILL YOUR REQUIRED 20 VOLUNTEER HOURS?

- 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:

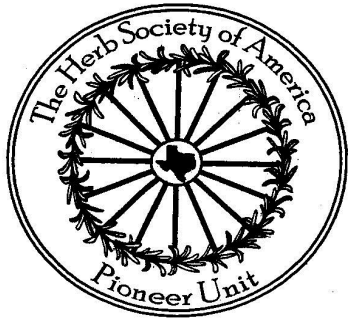
(Please utilize another sheet if necessary)

May 2018

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

June 2018

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



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Volume 25

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—Phoebe Lake
Secretary—Pat Cox

Vice Chair Membership—Georgia Sowers
Treasurer—Lucy Nehrkorn

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The Herb Society of America
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