

PIONEER PATHS

Newsletter of the Herb Society of America
Pioneer Unit

March 2022

Volume 29, Number 7

March 13
Daylight Savings
Time Begins



March 18
Crow Full Moon



March 20
Vernal Equinox

MONTHLY UNIT MEETING

Date: March 10, 2022

Time: 9:30 a.m. Meeting in the Plant Sale Area
10:00 a.m. Work on Thyme Well Spent Projects or
Garden Maintenance

Locations: Business Meeting: Plant Sale Area at Festival Hill
Work Shop: Thyme Well Spent Room or Gardens at
Festival Hill
248 Jaster Road, Round Top

Directions: From Highway 290, take Texas 237 south 6.6 miles to
Jaster Road. Turn right on Jaster Road. Turn left into the
parking lot and find the Plant Sale area behind the Hall.

Note: In the event of rain, the business meeting will be held in
the Chapel.

Host Team: Betty Pior, Connie Gwyn, and Royceanna Kendall

Herb Society of America Pioneer Unit
“Thyme Well Spent”
Gift Shoppe
and
Plant Sale

Friday, March 18 &
Saturday, March 19
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

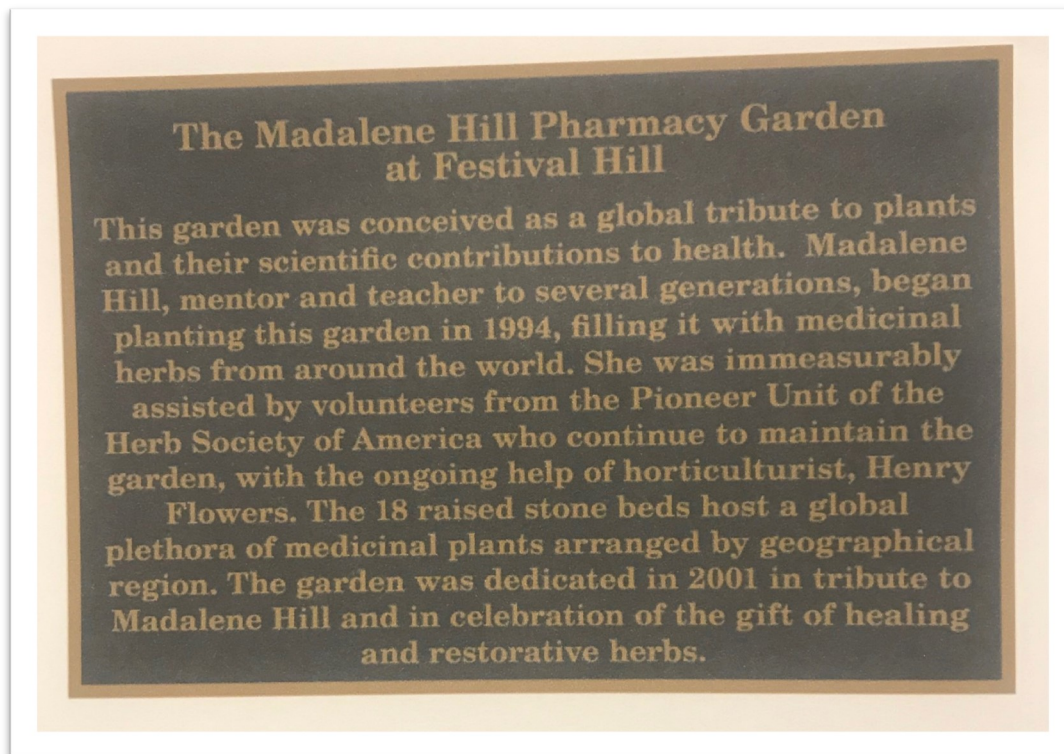
Are you ready to have a wonderful, exciting, and prosperous Plant Sale?

It's hard to believe that March is here. Preparations have been and are under way for the Thyme Well Spent Shoppe, the Gazebo area, the Plant Sale, and we may possibly have our new plaque up at the Pharmacy Garden just in time. See the picture below of what it will look like. Board members voted on this; Lamar at Festival Hill is delighted and okayed it as well. The order went through this week to have a company, actually here in Taylor where I live, do the work, but it was set up through Newman Printing Company in Brenham.

March 18 and 19 will be a time to show off all the gardens, and we will, as usual at the meeting on March 10, attempt to spruce them up as best we can. I am really looking forward to all of us working together as a Unit "to promote the knowledge, use and delight of herbs . . . and sharing the experience of its members with the community."

See you soon,

Kathe Forrest
Chair



FROM THE PROGRAMS CHAIR

This is the first sunny day that we've had in a while. Here in the sunny south we become complacent about our sunshine, even in the winter. But after a few days without it, sunshine is glorious!

Last month I wrote about not rushing into cutting plants back. Well, now's the time! Go ahead and trim back roses and woody shrubs. Even evergreen shrubs and perennials benefit from a light haircut. Speaking of which, I was delighted to find this sage thriving in a pot in a neglected part of my garden. It's Ne'we Jaar, a wonderful variety for our area and sure to be in our plant sale. Below you'll see two photos, before and after, of a light trim I gave it.

Speaking of "now's the time": now is the time for our annual plant sale and Thyme Well Spent shop sale! Our next meeting on March 10 will be held at Festival Hill in Round Top where we all do whatever is necessary to prepare for the sale on March 18 and 19. Please contact Susan Yancey for the Plant Sale or Cathy Nitsch for Thyme Well Spent to volunteer for this fun, educational event.

See you then!
Phoebe Lake
Programs Chair



**MINUTES OF UNIT MEETING
HERB SOCIETY OF AMERICA PIONEER UNIT
February 10, 2022**

Kathe Forrest, Chair, welcomed members to the Antique Rose Emporium.

Phoebe Lake, Vice Chair Programs, noted the large group present today and introduced Emporium owner Mike Shoup to talk about rose growing.

Kathe asked members to pick up flyers for our upcoming Plant Sale and Education Day on March 18 and 19 to distribute locally. Pat Johnson of Festival Hill is designing a picture of violets, the Herb of the Year, for a tee-shirt that will be available in the Thyme Well Spent Shop and also on the PU website. There will be three speakers at Education Day including Henry Flowers, Billi Parus, and Bee Holleran, and the cost to register is \$45.00. Spaces will be limited due to Covid. Volunteers are needed to work in the holding area at the plant sale and are asked to contact Susan Yancey.

Our March meeting will be a working meeting to get ready for the sale. A box lunch will be provided at a cost of \$5.00 and members can sign up and pay today.

Diana Sellers, Vice Chair Membership, introduced five guests and announced that Linda Rowlett has reached 20 years of membership and Kathe Forrest 5 years.

Cathy Nitsch, Chair of Thyme Well Spent Shop, asked members to sign up to help in the shop and noted it is a good way to earn hours.

Cathy Kietlinski, Sensory Garden Chair, will need volunteers to work in the Garden when the plant sale is over and they can plant leftovers from the plant sale.

Kathe announced the election of new Board members at the June meeting. Positions to be filled are Chair, 1st Vice Chair Programs, 2nd Vice Chair Membership, Secretary, and Treasurer. Past Chair Linda Rowlett is head of the Nominating Committee and asked that members interested in filling any of the above positions contact her. Job descriptions are on the website.

Patty Mills needs more hostesses for the June meeting and thanked today's.

Phoebe Lake asked for good wishes and thoughts to be sent to Jana Rinehart who is undergoing surgery today.

Joanna Hagler said plants ordered for the Pharmacy Garden would soon be arriving and leftovers from the plant sale could also be planted there. A list of the plant sale plants will be sent to members when ready.

Leah Pearce announced a hypertufa workshop on Sunday, February 27, at 1:30 p.m. at Festival Hill to make stepping stones.

Carroll Edwards will donate succulent planters to the sale.

Door prizes were then given out including organic cordials made by Kathe and a book authored by Mike Shoup entitled Empress of the Garden.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Cox for Lori Yeats, Secretary

PIONEER UNIT BOARD MEETING SUMMARY
January 12, 2022
Virtual Meeting on Zoom

Present: Kathe Forrest, Phoebe Lake, Diana Sellers, Debi Thomas, Lori Yeats, Joanna Hagler, Cathy Nitsch, Cathy Kietlinski, Barbara Solis, Jana Rinehart, and Susan Yancey

Old Business: Kathe Forrest, Chair, requested approval to purchase the plug-in needed for registration of Herb Sale Education Day for the Pioneer Unit website, requested by Ann Lugg, and also of pins for several members. The Board approved.

Programs: Phoebe Lake, Vice Chair Programs, notified the Board of next month's meeting/mini field trip location at the Antique Rose Emporium. Members will decide what to do for lunch on their own after the meeting is over. It was decided that the Unit will cater the March lunch for those coming to the meeting and working. We then took a vote on whether to return to our usual potluck lunches at our regular meetings. The vote was 7 yeas, 2 nays, and 1 abstained. The Unit will be informed for the April meeting, and all will be set up in the safest way possible.

Membership: Diana Sellers introduced the two new members Noreen Barker and Caroll Edwards, who both have completed their hours and all requirements. Kathe read the Pioneer Unit's Orientation information for them and asked each officer and committee chair to share what their positions entailed. They were welcomed to the Unit.

Treasurer: Debi Thomas, Treasurer, presented the budget. It was noted the Plant Sale needs to be profitable, so the Unit will not need to take funds from the CD savings account. It was noted that Festival Hill will not be getting any money from the Plant Sale this year.

Standing Committee Reports:

Sensory Garden: Cathy Kietlinski reported that Henry Flowers mentioned some of the steppingstones at the garden were needing replacement. It was decided by the Board that the Unit could have a workshop to make the stones sometime after the Plant Sale. Approval was also given for \$200-300 to replace damaged plants from the freeze. We will have Henry put aside \$400 worth of plants for the Pharmacy Garden.

Plant Sale: Susan Yancey submitted Henry's budget for the plants. All were in favor. It was noted that Zion Lutheran Youth will be helping with tear down after the Plant Sale, plus unloading the storage unit and setup prior to the sale. Susan then went over logistics of the new Information tent and the Gazebo.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Yeats
Secretary

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Antique Rose Emporium – what a wonderful February meeting. We were so lucky, too, with extremely cold weather before and after that meeting, but pleasant weather on the meeting date. Forty-three members and six guests attended. A good time was had by all.

Our guests included: Irene Spurrier, Dabney Kowis (friend of Cathy Kietlinski), Cheryl Gilmore and Sherry Frank (friends of Phoebe Lake), and Cathy Moore (aunt of Julie Johnson). Also, attending her first meeting and expressing interest in becoming a member, was JoLynn Hendricks (friend of Sally Reynolds).

Julie Johnson submitted her application for membership. This was her 3rd meeting, and she has completed the required 2 hours garden work in both the Festival Hill Garden and the Sensory Garden. Julie was introduced to the Pioneer Unit by Susan Yancey. Julie graduated from A&M with a degree in Horticulture. Her address is 1530 N. Nassau Road, Round Top, Texas, 78954; cell number is 979-530-6645 and email is aggieized@gmail.com. Her birthday is May 1st. In her introduction to the Pioneer Unit, Julie wrote, "I can't wait to learn from all of you, growing alongside my plants in wisdom and delight. Studying horticulture in college introduced me to so many wonderful facts of gardening; my love for healthy meals led me to loving herbs." Welcome, Julie!! We look forward to you being a member of the Pioneer Unit.

Recognition Pins

The Herb Society of America recognizes members (on their anniversary date) for every five years of membership with a Recognition Pin. The Pioneer Unit is so blessed to have such committed members in our group. We appreciate all they have done and continue to do. Congratulations to the following members for achieving another 5 years as members of the Herb Society of American and the Pioneer Unit:

Kathe Forrest – 5 years
Linda Rowlett – 20 years

Herbally Yours,
Diana Sellers
Membership Chair



CULINARY GROUP

The Culinary Group is currently getting ready for the Plant Sale and the Thyme Well Spent shop. We will be enjoying Greek food at our April meeting and the food of Provence in May or June. We are also planning our field trip to Phoenicia with a meal at the Mediterranean restaurant Fadi's after our shopping spree. Text me at 713-398-0994 for information.

Belinda Weatherly



Springtime flutters into soft Summer whispers of warmth

HORTICULTURE STUDY GROUP

Eight Delightful Thymes!

We left our February 24 meeting with eight delightful thymes to grow. The misty and cold morning didn't dampen our excitement about starting another study. Our study list includes 3 lemon thymes – silver lemon, lemon, and lemonade cascade. Complementing the lemon thymes, we will also grow German, French, Porlock, Rose-scented, and White Flowered Creeping. The small leaves give the appearance of delicacy, but thymes are hardy and resilient. Once established, thymes require little care. They like a sandy loam with good drainage. A raised bed or a slope in a sunny location with a little afternoon shade is perfect. Look for thyme at the Plant Sale and join us vicariously in a year-long exploration of thyme.

Madeline Johnson and Phoebe Lake



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 30 — Mike Cox
Robert Lake

March 31 — Madeline Johnson
Patty Mills




Barbara Solis (February 17) sent this photo of herself and granddaughter Ada in time for the last issue of Pioneer Paths, but I missed it when assembling that newsletter. (Editor's Note)

Susan Wood (March 1) wrote: "I'm looking forward to seeing all of you when presenting "Potpourri" for your April meeting. I enjoy being an affiliate member and would certainly attend more Pioneer events if not for the 3-hour roundtrip drive. I encourage all of you to take advantage of everything your membership with The Herb Society of America offers. Especially the annual meetings or educational conferences! To me that is the best way to see fabulous gardens all over the country with enthusiastic like-minded gardeners. Madalene Hill advised me to mix and mingle rather than sit with my own unit members when I started attending national events in the 70's. This approach has led to many fantastic, treasured friendships from coast to coast along the way.


Attached is my photo promoting the potpourri workshop for Houston Botanical Garden on Saturday, March 26th from 10 – 11:30 a.m. Suddenly everyone wants to make potpourri! Participants will create their own unique blend from a myriad of ingredients after learning about secrets and mysteries of olfaction. For info: www.hbg.org"

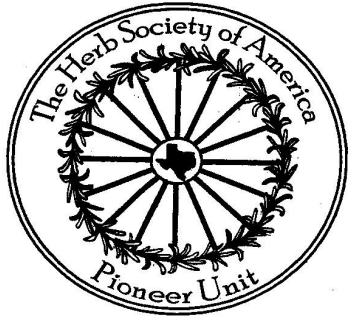


March 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
CG = Culinary Group FH = Festival Hill SG = Sensory Garden	HG = Horticulture Study Group HB = Herbal Blends	1	2 CG 10:00 Menke House	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 Pioneer Unit Meeting	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 HB 9:30 Kay Scanapico	 18 Voila Violets Plant Sale and Thyme Well Spent	19 Voila Violets Plant Sale and Thyme Well Spent
20	21	22	23	24 HG 10:00 Festival Hill	25	26 Potpourri Workshop Houston Botanical Garden
27 Newsletter deadline Email to the editor Irowlett@gmail.com	28	29	30	31		

April 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
CG = Culinary Group FH = Festival Hill SG = Sensory Garden	HG = Horticulture Study Group HB = Herbal Blends				1	2
3	4	5	6 CG 10:00 Menke House	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 Pioneer Unit Meeting	15	16
17 	18	19	20	21 HB 9:30 Kay Scanapico	22	23
24 Newsletter deadline Email to the editor Irowlett@gmail.com	25	26	27	28 HG 10:00 Festival Hill	29 HSA Annual Meeting	30



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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—Kathe Forrest

Vice Chair Programs—Phoebe Lake
Secretary—Lori Yeats

Vice Chair Membership—Diana Sellers
Treasurer—Debi Thomas



Voila! It's Plant Sale Time!

Please plan to attend the March 10th unit meeting as we will be sprucing up the Plant Sale site at Festival Hill. Bring your cardboard flats, a rake, some garden gloves, and hopefully a hat to protect you from glorious sunshine! We'll have box lunches rain or shine!

Plant Orderer Henry Flowers has placed the plant orders. Leah Pearce, Jo Ann Reichle, and Bev Elam have been holding workshops and fashioning items to sell at the Gazebo. Betty Pior is decorating wreaths and has arranged for worm castings to be part of our sale this year. Wanda Hubbard and her husband will be assisted at the Holding Area this year by Mike Cox, Noreen Barker, and Bonnie Lout. Patty Mills will be assisted by Connie Gwyn and others at our Volunteer Hospitality oasis. Madeline Johnson is working on a fresh tri-fold about the Pioneer Unit for the Information Tent where Sally Reynolds and others will be answering questions and directing shoppers. Flyers have been posted in our communities, Ann Lugg keeps our website fresh and working, and articles have been published in local newspapers. Debi Thomas is keeping our finances in order. Thank you all in advance!

We will be testing our "Square" credit card system at the March 10th meeting and will hold a mini workshop to show everyone how the cashier tasks are done. Thank you, Linda Rowlett, Susan Bame, and Diana Reed for signing up for cashier duties. These three are experienced and can help new members learn the process of adding up a shopper's purchases on to a sales slip, which the customer can then hand to a cashier for payment processing. We will be accepting cash, checks, and credit cards at the sale.

If you know when you plan to volunteer during the week of the Plant Sale (Monday, March 14 - Saturday, March 19) let Jana Rinehart know: (281) 743-0904 rinehart.jana@gmail.com

Send questions, comments, suggestions our way!
Susan Yancey and Jana Rinehart