



PIONEER PATHS

Newsletter of the Herb Society of America
Pioneer Unit

April 2022

Volume 29, Number 8

April 16
Sprouting Grass
Full Moon
—
April 29
Arbor Day



MONTHLY UNIT MEETING

- Date:** April 14, 2022
- Time:** 9:30 a.m. Meet and Greet
10:00 a.m. Program followed by Meeting
- Location:** Brenham Presbyterian Church
900 South Jackson Street
- Directions:** Exit Highway 290 to Business 36 North (Day Street) into Brenham. Continue north to College Street. Turn left to Jackson Street, and the church will be on your left.
- Program:** Potpourri: Making Scents of Garden Gallimaufry
- Speaker:** Susan Wood
South Texas Unit and Affiliate Member of Pioneer Unit
- Host Team:** Joanna Hagler, Mary Doebbeling, Carroll Edwards,
Wanda Hubbard, and Leah Pearce
- Lunch:** Back to our Potluck Gallimaufry!
[Efforts will be made to keep things as safe as possible.]



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Can we say "well done" too many times?

Everyone worked side by side joyfully and with such good attitudes. Thank you to everyone who worked selling herbs, in the Thyme Well Spent Shop, at the Potting Shed, and in the Festival Hill Hall with the presentations.

I will have a slide show to view with many good pictures at the April meeting.

In the news, Lamar at Festival Hill has requested a Memorandum of Understanding for next year's event. I have asked him to send me his concerns and wishes. The event will be on St. Patrick's Day next year so perhaps we can choose something green as our herb of the year. LOL

Bring your thoughts to the meeting. Ginger is the International Herb for 2023 but the Pioneer Unit used ginger in 2018. Here are some of the herbs from the past:

2019 – Tea *Camellia sinensis*
2018 – Ginger
2017 – Coriander
2016 – Capsicum
2015 – Savory

I am looking forward to seeing you all and back to enjoying our shared lunches, so find those herbal recipes and let's get cooking.

Best,

Kathe Forrest
Chair



FROM THE PROGRAMS CHAIR

Hope everyone is enjoying time in the garden during this beautiful weather! We all know these balmy days won't last, and perhaps that's why we treasure them all the more.

I wish I could clearly identify all the delicate scents in my garden, but they are wonderful right now. Combined with the bird calls (which I also can't identify even though I was named after a bird), it makes working in the garden a joy.

Speaking of scents, our April presenter is Susan Wood, a longtime and very knowledgeable member of HSA. The title of her talk is Potpourri: Making Scents of Garden Gallimaufry. If you need to look that word up, I've saved you the trouble! It means "a medley of things." Sounds fascinating!

See you Thursday April 14 at 9:30 a.m. at Brenham Presbyterian Church.

Phoebe Lake
Programs Chair



comfrey



heirloom amaryllis



compact orange
esperanza

MINUTES OF UNIT MEETING HERB SOCIETY OF AMERICA - PIONEER UNIT MARCH 10, 2022

Kathe Forrest, Chair, welcomed members at Festival Hill for the meeting before attending to the grounds and prepping Thyme Well Spent for the Education Day. There are 60 people signed up for the event at this time.

Diana Sellers, Vice Chair Membership, handed Kathe her 5-year pin, Linda Rowlett her 20-year pin, Kay Scanapico her 25-year pin, and let everyone know that Tony and Kay Scanapico each received the Rosemary Award for 25 years of membership in the Herb Society of America.

Kathy Nitsch, Thyme Well Spent, spoke for Patty Mills asking who would like to sign up for snacks during the Education Day/Plant Sale. She also asked for more sign ups for Thyme Well Spent during the Plant Sale and reminded members to bring any garden-related books or magazines to donate.

Betty Pior thanked the Hostesses Connie Gwyn and Royceanna Kendall for the snacks this morning and for bottled water.

Joanna Hagler, Pharmacy Garden, reminded all to check out the new plant signs at the Garden.

Susan Yancey, Plant Sale, informed the members of the new location for the Sale. She explained that Festival Hill informed her a few days ago that they had put grass seed down and would like us to move the sale away from our normal area. The Gazebo will now be known as the Potting Shed and have its own area, and the Plant Sale will move to the parking area.

After the meeting, members gathered for a group photograph and then worked on groundskeeping and prepping items for Thyme Well Spent.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Yeats
Secretary



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The Pioneer Unit Education Day/Plant Sale/Thyme Well Spent Shoppe event was an amazing success. It so awesome seeing all the members working together preparing for the event, then working the event. I don't have the total number of volunteer hours yet, but my guess is over 300. What a terrific group!

I heard a lot of talk in the Round Top community that the Pioneer Unit was having their plant sale and shoppe sale and they had to get over to the sale before we ran out of plants. The Thyme Well Spent Shoppe did run out of items. I was astounded watching people pour into the shoppe the first day and buy so much. Wow -- I think we've been missed.

Don't forget to document all those volunteer hours in our Track It Forward (TIF) system. If it's been a while since you've logged in, don't worry: you are still in the system. To find Track It Forward, go to the Internet and type in Track It Forward; click on the Track It Forward link. When the webpage comes up, sign in with your email address and your password, then click on Log In. Your email address is the one you have listed with the Pioneer Unit. If you don't remember your password, click on "Find It Here" which is next to the question "Can't Remember Your Password?" Create a new password. Start entering your volunteer time. You can also download the TIF app on your phone and enter your hours through your phone. The preference is for everyone to enter their own hours, but if you need some help, you can also send me the dates and times that you volunteered, and I will enter the hours for you. Most important is I want to be sure that we capture all the hours that everyone volunteered.

HEADS-UP - Membership Renewal Time is Almost Here Again

It's hard to believe that another year has almost gone by since we last went through the membership renewal process. The Pioneer Unit's year is July 1 through June 30. We will begin the renewal process again starting in May. We would appreciate having all Renewal Forms submitted during the May meeting or you can mail the renewal application and a check to me. More on this at the April meeting. If you have any questions regarding this process, please contact Diana Sellers at 512-461-7175 (text or call) or you can email me at sellers2000@yahoo.com.

Membership Categories:

Active – Single \$67 / Joint \$98

Affiliate (Unit or Member-at-Large) – Single \$12 / Joint \$18 (*plus you pay \$55.00 directly to HSA*)

Life – Single \$12 / Joint \$18

Herbally Yours,
Diana Sellers
Membership Chair



Plant Sale 2022 - A Success!

Annually, our Pioneer Unit is put to the test. Can we pull together and host a Forum for the mutual enjoyment of non-members and members? Can we both teach and learn? Can we sort thousands of pots of plants into an appealing sale landscape? Can we make any money? Can we survive the elements?

Annually, we do! What an achievement!

This year in the third week of March, 50+ Unit volunteers unloaded nursery delivery trucks, sorted 12,500 plants onto newly arranged tables, applied plant labels, dragged red wagons into place, put on red vests and green aprons, and greeted the eager public with smiles. Volunteers assembled and stocked the Thyme Well Spent Shoppe in its traditional location at the direction of Cathy Nitsch. Thank you, Cathy! Whew! We were ready by Thursday afternoon.

This year was special in many ways. It was the first "real" plant sale since the Covid pandemic began. Kathe Forrest almost single handedly orchestrated an Education Day for 70+ attendees. Thank you, Kathe! With just a few days' notice, the traditional plant sale location was moved to the gravel parking lot adjacent. Henry Flowers sketched out a new schematic for the layout. Thank you, Henry! The delivery trucks backed up and volunteers followed directions from Phoebe Lake. Thank you, Phoebe! A team headed by Leah Pearce created a new "Potting Shed" to replace the traditional Gazebo (there being no Gazebo in the new location). Thank you, Leah and Bev Elam and Jo Ann Reichle! We sold worm castings. Thank you, Betty Pior! We put up an Information Tent and watched in horror as a wind gust sailed it over the heads of seated volunteers. Thank you, Sally Reynolds and Sara Holland! Glad there were no injuries! The Hospitality area had to be rethought in its new location. Thank you, Patty Mills and Connie Gwyn! The Finance team had to work in almost total darkness in Room #8. Thank you, Debi Thomas and Janie Plummer! The cashiers were AWESOME. Thank you, Linda Rowlett, Susan Bame, and Diana Reed! The Holding Area ran super smoothly. Thank you Bonnie Lout, Noreen Barker, Mike Cox, and Patty Royal!

The big rush was Friday. Our Square software showed us that between 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. on Friday, most of our plants were sold. Saturday there were hardly any plants left. The leftovers were handled expertly. Thank you, Noreen Barker and Pat Cox!

Thank you - all of you - who made it all happen. Have a great spring! Enjoy the herbs you purchased!

Susan Yancey and Jana Rinehart



HORTICULTURE STUDY GROUP

You probably think that thyme is for cooking and baking. Well, if you had been at the March 24th meeting of the Horticulture Study Group, you would know that thyme uses are much broader. For example, its high content of thymol made it a favorite embalming agent in Ancient Egypt. Burning thyme gives courage according to the Romans who also used it to ward off snakes. But most fun of all is that wild thyme is watched over by the little fairies who like to frolic and dance among it. Kathe Forrest and Susan Yancey provided these snippets of folklore to the group along with other interesting details, such as the vision-inducing qualities of thyme in love potions so that you could "see" your true love.

Then there are the benefits thyme offers as a companion plant. Julie Johnson presented HSG with a list of companion plantings for thyme. It helps to deter hornworms on tomatoes and aphids on roses. You can use it as a weed barrier and living mulch under your strawberry plants. So get more from your thyme plants by planting them among your tomatoes and roses and look out for those dancing fairies.

Madeline Johnson





APRIL BIRTHDAYS

April 3 — Sally Reynolds

April 11 — Susan Bame

April 22 — Ann Allen

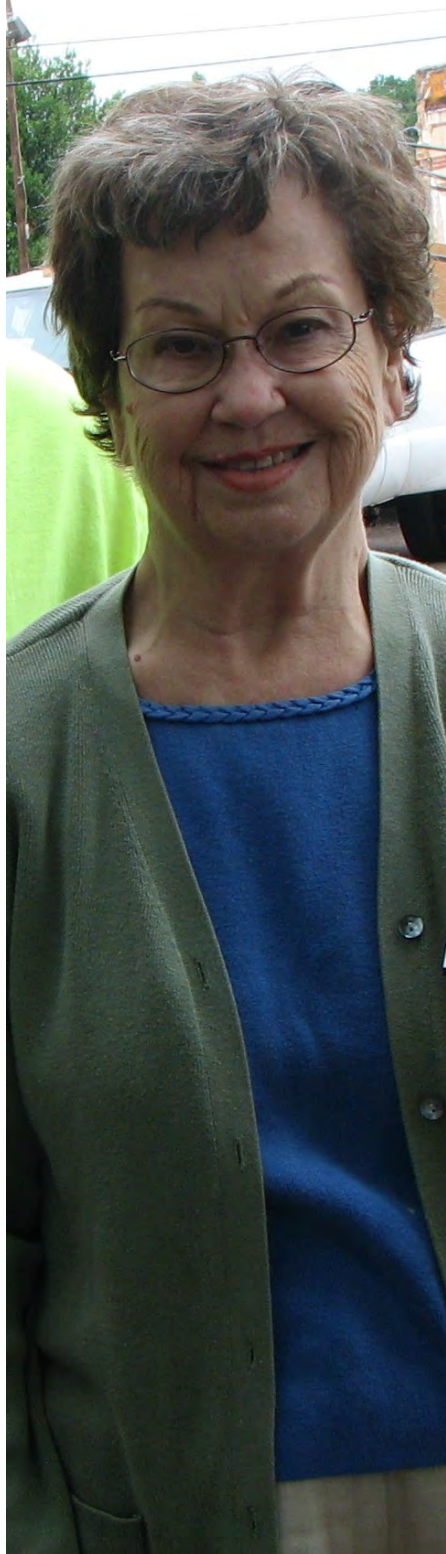
April 24 — Catherine Gardiner

Sally Reynolds (April 3) wrote the following: "I have always loved celebrating my birthday! And, I love being part of the Pioneer Unit. As a pioneer at heart, it's a perfect fit. Here's to getting your fingers in the dirt!"



Susan Bame (April 11) sent the adjacent picture and wrote: "It was hard to find a picture with me in it! I can't believe I've had this many birthdays! Most of them involve plants and birding and my animals and my great niece and nephew since that's what I seem to do with most of my time. Plus cooking and reading mysteries. Happy Birthday all!"

GWEN BARCLAY TO RECEIVE GOLDEN SAGE AWARD



Gwen Barclay is a long-time member of the Pioneer Unit, currently our Special Rosemary Friend.

Gwen's talents began with music: she was an accomplished violinist who taught the strings in high school orchestra and other symphonic venues. She joined Madalene Hill (her mother) in the 70's to work at Hill Top Herb Farm and Restaurant in Cleveland, Texas, and soon became the chef in the kitchen adding herbal flavors to every dish from appetizers to desserts. She was known for creating new and delicious dishes from leftovers. Soon the word spread and reservations were needed six months in advance for her herb creations.

Gwen and Madalene were "firsts" in the culinary uses of herbs: exploring the way herbs were used in different cuisines around the world; sharing their knowledge of growing and cooking with herbs through lectures and workshops and writing on their favorite subject; and inspiring others to learn about herbs and experiment with them in cooking at a time when herbs were treated as strange little plants revered by only a few. In later years, Gwen and Madalene started "The Flavor Connection" and sold herbs, herb blends, and condiments to high-end restaurants in Houston.

Their book [Southern Herb Growing](#) (published in 1987) is still regarded as a classic today. Gwen states, "For most dishes fresh herbs are best; they add to the appearance of a dish as well as improving its flavor." Gwen served as Director of Food Services at Festival Hill Institute in Round Top Texas until her retirement. She now resides in Houston, Texas. Gwen is a graduate of Lamar University and founding member of the Houston Culinary Guild. She has been recognized with several awards from The Herb Society of America over her 50-year membership.

We salute Gwen with gratitude and affection for her many contributions to the herb world. We all have benefited from her teaching, generous sharing of cooking skills, and the delicious recipes. Gwen, you have enriched our lives. Congratulations on receiving the Golden Sage Award in 2022!

Sara Holland
Founder/Unit Chair of the Hill Country Unit
Pioneer Unit member

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)

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

May 2022

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



PIONEER PATHS

Volume 29

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

HERB SOCIETY OF AMERICA 2022 Virtual Annual Business Meeting

Your opinions and your vote matter! Active members help HSA thrive.

Each year all members in good standing are invited to a **business meeting** chaired by the President of the HSA Board. This meeting is both a review of the past year and a look forward into the new year. One of the simplest ways to learn about HSA and its many opportunities for deeper involvement is to attend the annual business meeting.

Please register for the 2022 Annual Business Meeting at <https://www.herbsociety.org/news-events/>. (If you are already registered for either the in-person Annual Meeting in Charleston or the Virtual Annual Meeting, there is no need to register for the Business Meeting.)

When: Friday, April 29, 2022, at 9:15 a.m. Eastern Time

Where: Virtually. You will receive a link to the meeting about 48 hours in advance

Why: Involved members help direct HSA by voting for representation on the Board of Directors, volunteering to help with programs and committees, and learning about projects and programing.

Contact Information

Herb Society of America
9019 Kirtland Chardon Road
Kirtland, OH 44094
440.256.0514
<http://www.herbsociety.org>