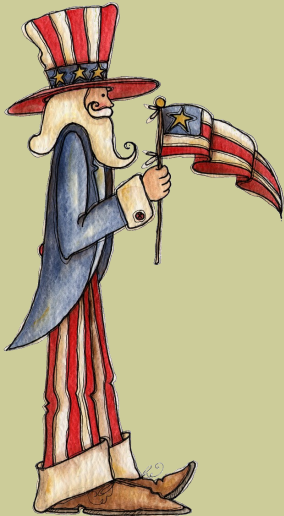


PIONEER PATHS

Newsletter of the Herb Society of America
Pioneer Unit

July 4
Independence Day



July 13
Thunder Full Moon

July 2022

Volume 29, Number 11

MONTHLY UNIT MEETING

- Date: July 14, 2022
- Time: 9:30 a.m. Meet and Greet
10:00 a.m. Presentation and 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: Herbs in Pots: A Moveable Feast
- Speaker: Ann Wheeler
- Host Team: Caroll Edwards, Carla Lessard, and Patty Royal
- Lunch: Moveable Summer Feast



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Hello Everyone,

Are you ready for summer to end or are you like me -- taking off for a vacation? At long last, I will be flying to visit my youngest in Australia soon. It has been almost exactly 3 years since last being together. And better news: it will be Spring there! I will get to see all kinds of interesting and beautiful flowers and herbs, not to mention all the different birds. To let you in on a bit of the differences here and there of veggie names and herbs, here goes – red peppers are referred to as capsicum, eggplants as aubergine, arugula as rocket, and zucchini as courgette.

This month we will have our first Board meeting with some new faces. Those are and have been approved by the Officers of the Board: Pat Cox as Education Chair and she will also be helping with Special Field Trips; Jana Rinehart in charge of the Pharmacy Garden and she will be looking over the Mary Garden as well; and Susan Bame steps into the Rosemary/Archives position. If you feel moved to congratulate these people for volunteering, please feel free to do so on our Listserv, your private email, or when seeing them at the Unit meeting this month.

The Board Meeting will be July 13 at 10 a.m. by Zoom, and as I have mentioned previously, anyone is welcome to attend; just send me an email that you would like to do so, and I will make sure you get the Zoom link.

The gardens that the Pioneer Unit maintains are looking good! Thank you to all who are helping out with pulling weeds and watering. I believe there have been a couple of water glitches in the Pharmacy Garden which Henry has taken care of, and a new system has been added at the Sensory Garden. Henry is also spraying the weeds at Pharmacy, which was approved a few months ago.

Here in my yard, Esperanza is blooming wonderfully, a few roses are budding, and the salvia out front reigns. See you at the July meeting in Brenham — and sharing yummy food I hope!

Kathe Forrest
Chair



Kathe's salvia

FROM THE PROGRAMS CHAIR

Every gardener I know is talking about the heat!

I'm using the heat and drought to observe my garden and take note of which plants are continuing to flourish. Zinnias, cleome, and gomphrena are stealing the show for color. Most salvias are simply waiting for fall. They're in for a long wait! My shrubs seem to be managing okay with long infrequent watering. And grass? Well. Let's just say grass isn't meant to be crispy!

How about plants in pots? Glad you asked! Our next speaker, Ann Wheeler, will be talking about "A Moveable Feast: Herbs in Pots." She and her husband had Log House Herb Farm in Magnolia for many years, growing herbs for fine nurseries from Houston to Austin.

We will be meeting at Brenham Presbyterian Church on Thursday, July 14. We will meet and greet from 9:30-10:00. The speaker begins at 10, followed by our business meeting. Don't forget we're back to our delicious pot luck lunches, so bring something to share!

Despite the heat, I look forward to our next meeting!

Phoebe Lake
Programs Chair (Retiring)



Phoebe's cat keeping cool

MINUTES OF UNIT MEETING
HERB SOCIETY OF AMERICA
PIONEER UNIT
June 9, 2022

Kathe Forrest, Chair, welcomed Pioneer Unit members and visitors to the special June meeting. Members of the public were invited to this meeting to hear the program and learn more about the Herb Society of America and particularly the Pioneer Unit which was founded thirty years ago. Founding member Gwen Barclay was present with her daughter. Kathe talked about the Unit's activities, including caring for the gardens at Festival Hill and the Sensory Garden at Brenham ISD, the annual scholarships given by the Unit, the special donation to the Botanical Garden at Prairie View A&M, and especially the annual Herbal Forum which will next take place on March 17-18 in 2023. A table with a photo board and information about HSA and the Pioneer Unit was on display, and members were available to answer any questions. There were numerous visitors.

Phoebe Lake, Vice Chair Programs, introduced speaker Greg Grant who she first heard speak thirty years ago and who presented a program on Heirloom Gardening in the South. He was a very entertaining speaker with a great sense of humor and lots of stories.

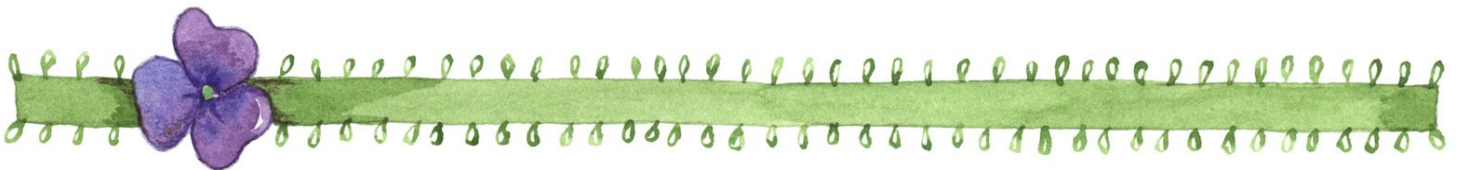
After the talk, Phoebe presented Kathe Forrest with a gift in appreciation of her outstanding work as Chair during the years of Covid. Kathe worked hard to find different ways to bring us all together when we couldn't meet in person, and we are fortunate to have her as our Chair again for the next two years.

Kathe encouraged visitors to go to the information table, look at the pictures and brochures, and consider joining the Pioneer Unit.

Greg Grant was available to sign and sell his books.

There was no lunch at today's meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Cox for Lori Yeats, Secretary



JULY BIRTHDAYS

July 3 — Mary Reeves

July 26 — Wanda Hubbard

July 29 — Royceanna Kendall



Wanda Hubbard (July 26) sent this photograph of Texas Blue Bells that she picked on Father's Day. She mentioned that the Blue Bells are especially thick and particularly beautiful this year.



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

As I am writing this article, July 4th has come and gone. It was a hot one, but lots of fun. My house is on the Round Top Parade route. There were 80-something really cool floats. It's a neat experience living out in the countryside and enjoying small town USA.

Welcome to our newest member -- Irene Spurrier. Irene completed the joining requirements and became an official member in May, but I wasn't able to introduce her during the June meeting due to the Greg Grant program. Irene's contact information is 1716 Wilde Road, New Ulm, Texas 78950; cell number is 979-732-4407; email address – farmgirl1716@gmail.com. In her bio, Irene stated, "I've studied herbs ever since I began gardening when I was in my 20s. I use them in gardening for the beauty of the plant, in cooking for their taste, and in bouquets for their fragrance." Irene is very active in the horticulture world. She is a member of the Native Plant Society of Texas, Southern Garden History Society, the Native Prairie Association of Texas, and the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. I look forward to Irene being a member of our organization and learning from her.

Tory Farley will become our first new member for the 2022-2023 year She will complete the joining requirements by attending her 3rd meeting at our July meeting. She has already completed her required gardening hours at both Festival Hill and the Sensory Garden. Way to go, Tory!!

Membership Renewal Time is Here and Almost Gone

The annual membership renewal process is now complete. Thanks so much to everyone. I will give a complete accounting of the renewals in the August newsletter. Soon I will be sending all our information to HSA. Later in August, HSA will send out new membership cards.

Herbally Yours,
Diana Sellers
Membership Chair



HORTICULTURE STUDY GROUP

Sally Reynolds and Diana Sellers provided all of us with a good 'thyme' that included numerous delicious dishes using thyme as an ingredient. Phoebe and Rob Lake opened their home for our June 29 meeting on baking with thyme.

Some tips for cooking with thyme shared by Sally and Diana include the following:

Maintain the flavor of the thyme leaves by harvesting regularly so that the stems do not get woody.

The upright varieties are used most frequently in culinary dishes.

Leaves growing closer to the tip will have more flavor.

Use thyme flowers as they are both pretty and edible.

In cooking (rather than baking), add thyme in the last 30 minutes.

Finally, the unusually hot and dry June is challenging us. Although thyme is relatively hardy, we have had a few casualties. With the high temperatures, our thymes need more water than usual and can benefit from some shade in the afternoon. We have been adjusting to the growing conditions. Enjoy the 'thyme' you have.

Madeline Johnson



CULINARY GROUP



Culinary will have its last meeting of the year with the annual herbal ice cream/sorbet social. We will start again in September talking about American cuisine. Is there an American cuisine? We'll find out and let you know. (Hint: it doesn't involve a can of Campbell Soup.)

No meeting will be held in August.

Belinda Weatherly



FESTIVAL HILL

Help is needed at the Pharmacy Garden, Mary Garden, and Mediterranean Garden at Festival Hill. Jana Rinehart is there on Monday mornings from 7:00 to 10:00 a.m. Just show up then or contact Jana if you have questions or want more information.

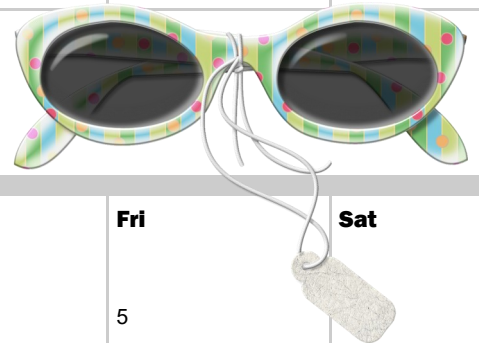
Jana Rinehart
rinehart.jana@gmail.com
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July 2022

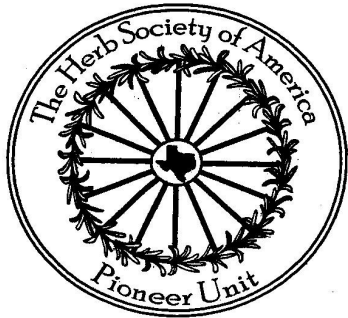


Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
CG = Culinary Group FH = Festival Hill SG = Sensory	HG = Horticulture Study Group HB = Herbal Blends				1	2
3	4	5	6 CG 10:00	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 Pioneer Unit Meeting	15	16
17	18	19 SG Workday 8:00	20	21 HB 9:30 Kay Scanapico	22	23
24 Newsletter deadline Email to the editor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

August 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 No CG Meeting	4	5	
7	8	9	10	11 No Pioneer Unit Meeting	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 HG 10:00-noon FH	26	27
28 Newsletter deadline Email to the editor	29	30	31		CG = Culinary Group FH = Festival Hill SG = Sensory Garden	HG = Horticulture Study Group HB = Herbal Blends



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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—Tess Hartman
Secretary—Cammie Beierle

Vice Chair Membership—Diana Sellers
Treasurer—Debi Thomas

HERB SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Did you know that your membership in the Herb Society of America entitles you to special offers and discounts from a number of herbal businesses, including the following:

Botanical Interests

The Essential Herbal Magazine

Growers Exchange

Herbal Academy

Mother Earth magazines, including Mother Earth Living, Mother Earth News, Copper's Farm, and Grit

Mountain Rose Herbs

Richter's Herbs

The Science and Art of Herbalism

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