

PIONEER PATHS

Newsletter of the Herb Society of America
Pioneer Unit

October 2022

Volume 30, Number 2

October 9

Hunters Full Moon



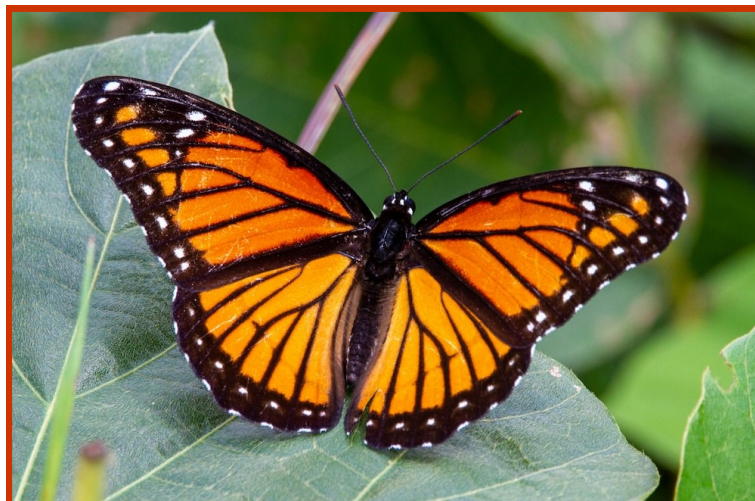
October 10

Board Meeting

4:00-6:00 on Zoom

MONTHLY UNIT MEETING

- Date: October 13, 2022
- Time: 9:30 a.m. Meet and Greet
10:00 a.m. Presentation and Meeting
- Location: Brenham Presbyterian Church
900 South Jackson Street, Brenham
- 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: Decline of the Monarch Butterfly
- Speaker: Lauren Jansen Simpson
- Angel: Becky Nichols
- Hosts: Jana Rinehart, Noreen Barker, Bev Elam, Tory Farley, Julia Johnson, and Leah Pearce
- Lunch: Harvest Hits



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

What a nice feeling to be able to stay outside all day! Thankfully this might be the beginning of Fall? Keeping my fingers crossed and would still like more rain. I have been clearing an area that the chickens decimated for a xeriscape garden.

October will begin with a Board meeting on the 10th and then our regular meeting on the 13th and a Forum meeting this month as well. Remember that any member is welcome to sit in on the Board meetings, and volunteers are encouraged to help plan the Herbal Forum – many hands make light work for us all.

That brings up our mothership Herb Society of America and my attendance in September at a Chair meeting and a Membership meeting via Zoom. This is what was discussed:

- *The Herbarist* should be out in mid-October to early November.
- A team is working on a webinar program to share for potential new member invitation, e.g., presentation at garden clubs or similar groups.
- Another team is working on a new member orientation webinar event.
- A Sub-Committee is reviewing the structure of HSA dues, possible new dues categories, installments, etc.

I will discuss these a bit more at the October meeting.

Thank you to all those members who responded to the "Alert" email for filling Host and Angel spots in our upcoming meetings. There are still a few slots not taken, and there will be sheets with all of the months and names at the October meeting.

I will leave you with a picture of my Lemon Shrimp plant.

Kathe Forrest
Unit Chair



FROM THE PROGRAMS CHAIR

What glorious weather we have! I am ready to plant pansies and calendulas and harvest my gourds. The hummingbirds are still here, and they provide plenty of quality evening entertainment. They swoop, they fight, they dazzle, and they are excellent pollinators.

Speaking of pollinators, our speaker for October will be Lauren Simpson, founder of St. Julian's Crossing Wildlife Habitat. Lauren will address the decline of the monarch butterfly and the importance of planting herbs and flowers that are desirable not only to the monarch, but to other butterflies as well. Monarchs are heavy pollinators, but are considered by some conservationists as nearing endangered status in the United States.

Lauren is planning on sharing some native seeds with us and will share other resources as well.

Enjoy these cool mornings, and I look forward to seeing you Thursday at Brenham Presbyterian Church!

Tess Hartman
Programs Chair



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Haven't the cooler temperatures and decreased humidity been nice? I find that I am more relaxed and much happier. My plants are happier also. They wish for rain, but at least they aren't being roasted.

I was vacationing in early September and missed our meeting. I understand there was another great presentation. I want to give a big shout out to Cammie Beierle for stepping in for me as the Membership Chair while I was gone. Thanks, Cammie!! Thirty-six members attended the meeting. Two guests also attended – Andrea Riebeling (as Cammie's guest) and Jana Lefebvre (as Phoebe Lake's guest).

Teaching What you Know – Learning Something New – Everybody Earns Volunteer Hours

On September 20th, Jane Press demonstrated how to make pear mincemeat. Along with 5 other attendees, we learned how to prepare the pears and the mincemeat concoction, prepare the jars, cook the mincemeat, pour just the right amount into the jars, and make sure it was all done correctly so the mincemeat stayed safe. We made approximately 48 jars that will be sold at the upcoming Herbal Forum next March. It was a delightful way to spend a Fall morning. I can't begin to describe the aroma that was in the kitchen that morning. All I can say is "Yummmmmm." This was my first foray into learning how to can. I've never done it before. In addition to learning a new skill, we each received 2 hours of volunteer time because we made the mincemeat to be sold at the Forum (Jane probably earned at least 5 or 6 hours for her prep work and teaching). What a wonderful way to earn volunteer hours!! I encourage each of you to consider teaching a skill that you are knowledgeable about (needlework, making jellies, making lotions or soap, etc.) to other members. If the items you teach and make are then contributed to sell at the Forum, you've earned yourself some volunteer hours and a lovely day. Talk to Pat Cox if you have an idea for a class you would like to teach.

Collecting Seeds

Speaking about the Forum – now that it is Fall and our herbs and plants are turning flowers into seeds, please collect those seeds. We need them to sell in the Thyme Well Spent Shoppe. This past March, we had 200 seed packets to sell. We sold out the first day. You can start bringing your seed collections to the Unit meetings. Give them to Diana Sellers or Cathy Nitsch. We ask that you remove any of the debris that surrounds the seeds and just give us the seeds. Package each group of seeds in a different container – paper sack, ziplock bag, plastic jar – and label them. Collecting seeds and preparing them to be used in the sale is another excellent way to earn volunteer hours.

Membership Directory

The new '22-'23 Membership Directory will be ready for distribution at the October meeting. Plan to be there to get yours!

Herbally Yours,
Diana Sellers
Membership Chair

MINUTES OF UNIT MEETING
HERB SOCIETY OF AMERICA
PIONEER UNIT
September 8, 2022

Tess Hartman, Programs, introduced Rita Anders from Cuts of Color, Weimar, Texas, who has provided flowers for Central Market since 2012. She presented a very colorful and interesting talk.

Kathe Forrest, Chair, called the business meeting to order.

Tess announced the next program: Lauren Simpson will speak on pollinating plants and creating pollinator gardens. She also told the group that the November meeting would be on the topic of chocolate.

Cammie Beierle, Secretary, serving as Membership Chair for Diana Sellers, introduced the visitors and announced new members Irene Spurrier and Tory Farley.

Patty Mills, Hospitality, held the drawing for 3 door prizes of lovely floral arrangements and thanked the hospitality team for setting up breakfast and lunch. She also asked for door prize ideas and door prizes.

Lists were available on the sign-in table to sign up for hosting future meetings.

There was a discussion about buying jars for jams and jellies for Thyme Well Spent. Cathy Kietlinski mentioned that she could order the jars.

Kathe said the Forum Committee would be meeting monthly and would welcome input.

Susan Yancey, Plant Sale, reported that the Plant Sale is the third weekend in March in the Festival Hill parking lot, the same as 2022. Susan announced that on September 22nd after the Horticulture meeting there would be an Herb Sale gathering to organize all of the plant signs.

Parsley is the focus plant for 2023 Forum.

Cathy Nitsch asked for donations of handmade items for the Thyme Well Spent Shoppe. Diana Reed said she would continue to help with the sewing, and Cathy asked for more volunteers. They emphasized that new items are greatly needed.

Madeline Johnson, Horticulture Study Group, offered Basil booklets to those who had not gotten them before.

The meeting was then adjourned for lunch.

Respectfully submitted.

Cammie Beierle

Secretary

PLANT SALE INFORMATION

Plant Sale co-chairs Susan Yancey and Jana Rinehart are ready to celebrate Parsley! Henry Flowers will continue as Plant Orderer. Debi Thomas will be Finance Chair. Leah Pearce and her Potting Shed pals will have new inventory. Diana Reed will lead the cashiers.

The plant sale hours will be 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday, March 17, and 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Saturday, March 18, 2023.

The location will remain at Festival Hill in Round Top - we hope in the parking area where the 2022 sale was held. Final details are being worked out with Festival Hill management.

Jana and Susan will be hosting informal meetings monthly beginning in September. Look to the Pioneer Unit listserv for dates/times/locations.

Susan Yancey



HOSPITALITY

Thanks to all who have contributed treasures for our door prizes! I also need to shout out to all who have added their names to the Hostess list. We do need a few more people for the future months, and toward that end I will have sign up sheets available at our October meeting. You can also call or email me with your preferences.

Our October Hostesses are led by Jana Rinehart, and the team consists of Leah Pearce, Tory Farley, Bev Elam, and Julie Johnson, with Becky Nichols serving as Speaker Angel.

Remember that the November meeting is our Thanksgiving meeting. I will have sign up sheets for what you plan to contribute at the October meeting. If you are not attending, please email me what dish you want to bring as soon as possible. We really don't want to have 18 corn casseroles!!

Thanks again for your support, and enjoy this "fall" weather!

Patty Mills

PHARMACY GARDEN

Jana Rinehart sends thanks to all who have worked so hard in the Pharmacy Garden. Take a look next time you are in Round Top!

If you are a current volunteer, please let Jana know whether you want to continue. If you want to adopt one of the beds, or work with someone already handling a bed, please tell Jana about that as well. More hands are always welcome!

October Birthdays

- October 5 — Ginger Heath
- October 13 — Carla Lessard
- October 14 — Mary Ann Hillegeist
- October 16 — Ann Lugg
- October 17 — Pat Garrett
- October 18 — Lynda Perryman
- October 23 — Jan Hughes
- October 27 — Betty Pior
- October 28 — Joyce Caddell
- October 30 — Patty Royal



Ginger Heath (October 5) wrote: "It's October! Is it the gorgeous weather that is causing this euphoria, or is it because I've successfully passed through another decade in age? Through the hot summer it was hard to keep up with the gardens. The tomatoes quit producing in the too-hot temps. but the plants continued to spread. They are blooming now; will I get one more BLT? Mother Nature keeps us guessing, and we play her latest waiting game...Rain? Happy Halloween, everyone."



Ann Lugg (October 6) sent this interesting photo from the Pharmacy Garden and wrote the following: "After the brutal summer heat, the shorter days and cooler nights are so welcome, which is why this could be my favorite time of year. The vegetable garden is just about bare, with only peppers and eggplants still producing, and the zinnias and other heat-hardy flowers are just about spent. The brief showers we had last month made the pastures green, but without more water, they're back to brown again. I have been amazed at how well the Pharmacy Garden at Festival Hill looks after such a summer. So many interesting and beautiful plants looking so lush! It's something to be proud of. Nice job, bed adopters!"



Betty Pior (October 27) wrote comically about herself in the third person: "Betty Pior will be 69 on October 27th. This is also her anniversary month. She will have been married 37 years. Sounds like an expensive month? Ha! No expensive presents for this tight German!"


October 2022

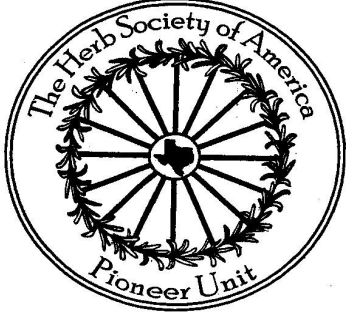


Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
CG = Culinary Group FH = Festival Hill SG = Sensory Garden	HG = Horticulture Study Group HB = Herbal Blends					1
2	3	4	5 CG at FH	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 Pioneer Unit Meeting	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 HSA Webinar Herb Cocktails 1:00	21	22
23 Newsletter deadline Email to the editor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

November 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 at FH	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 Pioneer Unit Meeting	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 HG 10:00-noon FH	18	19
20 Newsletter deadline Email to the editor lrowlett@gmail.com	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving 	25	26
27	28	29	30			



PIONEER PATHS

Volume 30

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

Vice Chair Membership—Diana Sellers

Secretary—Cammie Beierle

Treasurer—Debi Thomas

The name - of it - is "Autumn" -
The hue - of it - is Blood -
An Artery - upon the Hill -
A vein - along the Road -

Great Globules - in the Alleys -
And Oh, the Shower of Stain -
When Winds - upset the Basin -
And spill the Scarlet Rain -

It sprinkles Bonnets - far below -
It gathers ruddy Pools -
Then - eddies like a Rose - away -
Upon Vermillion Wheels -

Emily Dickinson
1862

