

# PIONEER PATHS

Newsletter of the Herb Society of America  
Pioneer Unit

April 2024

Volume 31, Number 8

## MONTHLY UNIT MEETING

- Date:** April 11, 2024
- Time:** 9:30 a.m. Meet and Greet  
10:00 a.m. Program followed by Meeting
- Location:** St. John's United Church of Christ  
516 North Colorado Street, Burton
- Directions:** [from the east] Exit Highway 290 onto Texas Spur 125 north into Burton. At North Brazos Street, turn right and continue to East Texas Street. Turn right and go one block to North Colorado Street. The church will be on your left. [from the west] Exit Highway 290 onto Texas 390 going northeast into Burton. At the intersection of 390 (Washington Street) and Main Street, continue straight into Burton on East Washington Street. At North Colorado Street, the church will be on your right.
- Program:** Homeopathic Medicines
- Speaker:** Kathe Forrest
- Host Team:** Cammie Beierle, Noreen Barker, Carroll Edwards, and Bonnie Lout
- Lunch:** Colors of the Rainbow

**Wanted:** Speaker Angel. Please contact [Patty Mills](#) (text or email) if you are interested

April 17  
Board Meeting

—  
April 24  
Sprouting Grass  
Full Moon

—  
April 26  
Arbor Day



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

My garden is rich with color - yellow roses, red roses, the pink small flowers of the comfrey plant, the magenta of the dianthus the violet of the ajuga (ground cover), the orange-red of the Japanese maple leaves, and beneath the tree snow-white yarrow flowers bloom.

Yes spring is the time of beginnings and energy to plant our gardens and renew our spirits. We made it through another Plant Sale and Thyme Well Spent Shop sale because of the volunteers' stamina. I don't know how we do it, but we did make money as you will learn at the meeting.

The Forum was a huge success with high compliments from Billi Parus and from Henry Flowers and many of the attendees. We all worked very hard to make this (the Forum, Thyme Well Spent, and the Plant Sale) the success that it was.

Now comes April where we take an in-breath before our May event (the Bee festival in New Ulm). Please be sure to sign up if you can sit at our table and hand out information on Saturday, May 4th.

The Board meeting which was scheduled for April 8 has been postponed, and I hope that each one of you gets to bathe in the energy of the eclipse and, let's hope, a clear and sunny day. The new date for the Board meeting is April 17. At this Board meeting there will be a discussion of the Plant Sale and its continuation - what form shall it be, 1 or 2 days, should we move the date as the Antique Festival encroaches yearly and any other questions and ideas that you might have. Be thinking about it. I know that Phoebe Lake has asked for people's suggestions on how the sale can be mproved, so please do not hesitate to speak to her.

Thank you,

Kathe Forrest  
Chair





## FROM THE PROGRAMS CHAIR

So much to love about the month of April, but roses are at the top of my list. Mine have loved the rains and springtime temperatures and look so much better than they did last year. As Linda Ronstadt would say, "Love is a rose but you better not pick it." I follow her advice and leave all of mine for the hungry bumblebees who have emerged to enjoy spring's bounty. I hope you are enjoying these longer evenings to plant all your herbs and pull all those weeds.

Our speaker for April is none other than our Chair, Kathe Forrest. Kathe will discuss Homeopathy and Plants, showing us which natural remedies work best for growing plants naturally. Kathe's love for homeopathy was born from her desire to improve the health of her children without using manufactured chemicals.

Join us April 11th at St. John's Church in Burton to enjoy Kathe's presentation and celebrate springtime!

Tess Hartman  
Programs Chair



## MINUTES OF UNIT MEETING HERB SOCIETY OF AMERICA - PIONEER UNIT MARCH 10, 2024

The Unit meeting was held at Festival Hill at the Service Building in Round Top, Texas. Kathe Forrest, Chair, welcomed everyone. Tess Hartman, Programs Chair, announced today is a workday to work on Thyme Well Spent projects or grounds maintenance in preparation for the Plant Sale and Forum.

Kathe and Julie Johnson went over things to do for the Plant Sale.

Diana Sellers, Membership Chair, announced that Leona Marshall has been a member of the Herb Society of America for five years and presented her with a 5-year pin. Diana is happy to have received a lot of books and magazines for the Scholarship Table.

Cathy Nitsch, TWSS, announced she will need members to put together seed packets and herbal blends today.

Susan Bame, Archives, informed the members that Euphanel Goad had knee surgery and is doing well. Cindy Nash had a shoulder replacement surgery Monday and is doing well. Kathe added that Janie Plummer is doing well.

Connie Gwyn said the Unit is purchasing some snacks for the volunteers during the Plant Sale. She still needs some members to bring fresh fruit.

Kathe needs a few more volunteers to make cookies with herbs to serve Saturday, at the end of the day of the Forum. Each person only needs to make two dozen. The cookies will be served to the registrants of the Forum first. Then the Unit volunteers are welcome to any cookies left.

Today, Julie needs members to work in the Mary Garden and members to spread the mulch in front of the Menke House in the flower beds. Shovels and wheelbarrows are by the mulch pile. Monday morning at 9 a.m., volunteers can start setting up for the plant sale. There will be some plant deliveries on Monday. Julie reminded everyone to bring cardboard or plastic flats.

Diana Reed reminded those who are cashiers for the Plant Sale to bring their phones and make sure they have the Square Ap installed. Kathe asked that members who have not worked the Plant Sale before to get with a member who has worked to learn what to do. Leah Pearce asked if some member workers will be wearing red vests to indicate they can be sent customers who have plant questions the member cannot answer. She was assured there will be.

Belinda Weatherly asked if members will be able to buy plants on Thursday after set-up is complete. It was agreed the members can.

Kathe recognized the hostess team: Courtney Kieke, Shawn Helm, Julia Johnson, Mike Perkins, and Sally Reynolds. The hospitality team has also provided some sandwiches for lunch. Members worked on Thyme Well Spent projects and grounds maintenance and then adjourned for lunch.

Respectfully submitted,  
Louise Rice, Secretary

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

**March Meeting Attendance:** The business portion of our March meeting was brief. Forty-six members attended the meeting. Afterwards, a beehive of activity ensued to prepare for the upcoming Forum, Plant Sale, and TWSS. It was inspiring to watch all the teamwork. Dawn Wilson (guest of Tess Hartman) also attended the meeting and contributed to the work preparations. This is Dawn's 2nd meeting. She is interested in becoming a member.

**Recognition of Member's Anniversary Dates:** During the business meeting, we recognized Leona Marshall for reaching her 5-year membership anniversary. Leona and a group of members made some lovely pottery items (pinch pots and plant labels) to sell in the TWSS. You should have heard all the ohhs and ahhs when Leona brought the items into the TWSS. Congratulations, Leona!

**Thyme Well Spent Shop:** I would like to take this opportunity to say "Thank You" to all the members who brought in books and magazines to sell at the TWSS. I asked everyone to contribute, and boy did I receive a tremendous number of items. The showcase of books was stunning and a little overwhelming when I first started unpacking them. Thankfully Jill Wilson came to my rescue. As I stood staring at all the books, Jill walked in and said, "Let's get these on the shelves" -- and we were off to the races. It was fun to watch all the shoppers purchase lots and lots of books. We give the money we make through the sales of these items to the scholarship fund at HSA.

**Membership Renewal Time is Almost Here Again:** Yes, it's true. It's that time of year once again. We begin the renewal process in May and would appreciate having all Renewal Forms submitted during the May meeting or mailed to the Pioneer Unit Post Office Box. As a reminder – all members (Active and Affiliate) of the Pioneer Unit must also be members of HSA, which means that you must pay HSA dues (\$55) each year in addition to the Pioneer Unit dues (\$12). Some of our members are Affiliates because they are members of another unit and pay their HSA dues through that unit. Those Affiliates also pay the Pioneer Unit dues. 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](mailto:sellers2000@yahoo.com).

### Membership Categories:

Active – Single \$67 / Joint \$98

Affiliates (not a member of another unit) – Single \$67 / Joint \$98; Affiliates (member of another unit) - \$12 single/\$18 joint

Life – Single \$12 / Joint \$18

**Volunteer Hours:** 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 them for you. Most important is I want to be sure that we capture all the hours that everyone volunteered.

Herbally Yours,  
Diana Sellers  
Membership Chair





## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

April 3 — Sally Reynolds

April 11 — Susan Bame

April 15 — Courtney Kieke

April 22 — Ann Allen

**Sally Reynolds** (April 3) sent the following lyrical message: " I am just plain thankful for the rich, full, beautiful life I have led so far! Good health, happy family, and a prince charming as my husband! I am also thankful for all my herbie friends who love to grow enchanted plants which simply decorate our lives and make healthy our bodies! There's nothing quite like dirt under the fingernails! Two years to eighty and counting . . . "



**Susan Bame** (April 11) sent the adjacent picture and wrote: "I can't believe I'm having another birthday again! It's nice that it falls during all the wildflowers. My property is loaded, and I especially love the foxgloves which you don't see too many places. I am so happy to be a part of the Herb Society and have made so many great friends! Gardening is one of my favorite things along with my pets and mysteries!"

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## HOSPITALITY

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■ Thanks to this month's volunteers as well as all of you who have participated this year! Please be thinking about which months you will sign up for the coming year. Sign up sheets will be coming up soon!

■ Patty Mills

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## THYME WELL SPENT SHOP

Bouquets of flowers to all who helped at the TWSS! It takes a village of committed volunteers to transform the room into an inviting boutique, and y'all do it with such style. Thank you to everyone who blends, jams/jellies, dries, sews, quilts, makes lotions, concocts potions, and spices up our products.

A special shout out to Diana Sellers, Pat Cox, Cathy Kietlinski, Louise Rice, Patty Mills, and Belinda Weatherly for their leadership throughout the sale. Exhausted, but satisfied that the job was done well!

**LOST & FOUND:** We are bringing the following items to the April meeting that were left either on our workday or during the sale: a suitcase, a nice black and beige jacket, a butterfly identification book, and one earring. Please come and claim your items.

**Half-Price TWSS Sale:** There are a few items remaining from the TWSS. They will be offered at half-price at the April meeting. Cash or check only.

Cathy Nitsch

## HORTICULTURE STUDY GROUP

**"Rosemary, It is the herb sacred to remembrance and therefore to friendship."  
Sir Thomas Moore**

Patty Mills and Sally Reynolds provided the program on the Folklore of Rosemary. The name rosemarinus is loosely translated as 'dew of the sea.' This Mediterranean herb has a long association with memory and remembrance. A wreath of rosemary was worn by Greek scholars during their examinations. A bouquet of rosemary delivered from a lover said, 'remember me.'

Rosemary also possessed the mythical properties of eliminating negative energy from a house or deterring harmful people from entering a house. Its aromatic properties infused vinegar to protect homes and protect grave diggers from the plague during the Middle Ages. All this and more are part of the folklore of rosemary.

Madeline Johnson



## SPRING HERB EVENT HILL COUNTRY UNIT - WIMBERLEY

HCU of HSA in Wimberley will be hosting John Thomas, founder and CEO of Wildseed Farms, in a program titled "The Beauty of Wildflowers" on Wednesday, April 17th.

No charge for program, herbal tea, and herb refreshments. Products made by HCU members will be for sale. This is our annual fundraiser this year. Proceeds support our educational programs and the 2 herb gardens located at Emily Ann Theater and Gardens. Open to the public. Hope you will come and bring friends and herbies!!

Sara Holland

### "The Beauty of Wildflowers" Presentation and Herbal Shoppe

The Hill Country Unit of The Herb Society of America ([hillcountryherbs.org](http://hillcountryherbs.org)) is excited to host a presentation on "The Beauty of Wildflowers" by John Thomas, the owner and founder of WildSeed Farms ([wildseedfarms.com](http://wildseedfarms.com)) in Fredericksburg, Texas. To raise funds for our unit, we will offer a delightful array of herbal products and plants at our Herbal Shop. Salves, teas, sleep sachets, Queen of Hungary Water, biscotti, mustard, vinegars, wreaths, art work, plants, and more will be available to purchase.

Door Prizes during Event.

Event Details:

What: "The Beauty of Wildflowers" Presentation and Herbal Shop

When: Wednesday, April 17th, from 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM

Where: Wimberley Presbyterian Church, 956 FM2325, Wimberley, Texas 78676

Fee: This event is FREE and open to the public.

Payment: Cash, credit cards, and checks will be accepted for herbal product and plant purchases.

Food: There will be an assortment of herbal finger foods and drinks provided by members.

For more information, contact: D'Anna Tindal at [dstindal@gmail.com](mailto:dstindal@gmail.com) or 703-447-9419



The Herb Society of America, South Texas Unit

# 38th Annual Herb Day

Saturday, April 27, 2024

8:00 am - 2:00 pm

Houston Museum District



## THE BOLD AND THE BEAUTIFUL

Tune in to the Glamorous World of Vibrant Flavors

*Presenting Bold and Bitter Turmeric,  
Hot and Spicy Ginger & Tart and Tangy Roselle*

### SPEAKERS

**Henry Flowers**, HSA Member-at-Large

**Anita Jaisinghani**, Executive Chef, Owner  
Pondicheri Café & James Beard Award Semi-Finalist

**Karen Cottingham**, HSA, South Texas Unit Member

**Pre-Registration Required (Lunch and Gift Bag Included)**

Education Tables, Plant Sales,  
Herbal Marketplace, Vendors & Door Prizes

<http://www.herbsociety-stu.org/herb-day>  
Sales Support the Madalene Hill Scholarship Fund



# 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:

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(Please utilize another sheet if necessary)


# April 2024



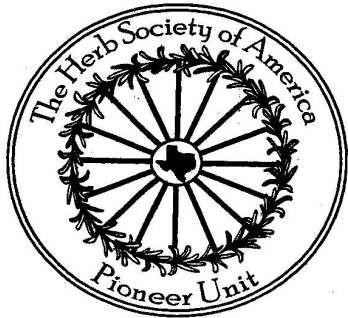
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 CG 10:00 Menke House	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 Pioneer Unit Meeting	12	13
14	15	16	17 Hill Country Unit Beauty of Wildflowers	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 HSG 10:00	26	27 South Texas Unit Herb Day Bold & Beautiful
28	29	30			CG = Culinary Group FH = Festival Hill SG = Sensory Garden	HSG = Horticulture Study Group HB = Herbal Blends



# May 2024

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





## PIONEER PATHS

Volume 31

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—Louise Rice

Vice Chair Membership—Diana Sellers  
Treasurer—Debi Thomas

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Pioneer Unit will be electing officers for the 2024-2026 term at the June meeting. That meeting will be here before you know it. Frankly, we hate calling and asking (whining, begging) members to take on a position. In addition to the natural dislike of having to ask, there is the fact that many of you have talents that are completely unknown to us. Therefore, you can help us out — and, more importantly, help the Unit out — by contacting one of us to let us know you are interested and willing to work for the Unit. Without persons taking on the leadership roles, there will be no Unit.

As a reminder, these are the positions that the membership elects:

Chair — the face of the Unit. The Chair guides us, keeps us in line.

Membership — the smiling face who signs you in at each meeting and who keeps all our records up to date.

Programs — the one who has to find speakers to make our meetings interesting. As a side note, we had three local speakers at Forum, and we would love to hear each of them speak at a meeting. In addition, March is covered by Forum Prep, one meeting is taken for the Horticulture Study Group report, and you can likely talk Culinary Group into giving a program. Plus Phoebe Lake said she could share some ideas.

Secretary — the notetaker and writer who records all of our meetings for posterity.

Treasurer — the organized mathematician who keeps our books. Debi Thomas will be there to get you started.

So help us out by giving one of us a call before we call you!

Nominations Committee: Linda Rowlett, Susan Bame, and Irene Spurrier