July 2015 Calendar

July 14 - Tues. - 10 a.m. Day Meeting at the home of Emily Delaune. Program: "Herbs that Changed History”, presented by Pam Harris. Bring a dish to share.

July 15 - Wed. - 7 p.m. Evening Meeting at Judson Robinson Center (2020 Hermann Drive, Houston, TX 77004), hosted by Jeanie Dunnihoo and Lois Sutton. Program: "Foods from the Americas”, presented by Sally Luna. Bring your plate, napkin and a dish to share.

Newsletter deadline: 25th of the month

August 2015 Calendar

No Unit meetings are scheduled.

Newsletter deadline: 25th of the month

July Program

So what do potatoes, pineapple and chilies have to do with Christopher Columbus, the often time maligned figure we learned about in the 4th grade? This talk will explore the foods of the Americas and their globalization. Since the program will focus on foods from the America’s and Christopher Columbus, would you consider bringing recipes that include potatoes, sweet potatoes, chilies including paprika, corn including polenta, tomatoes and pineapple. These humble foods that we often take for granted were responsible for the increase of global population. –Sally Luna

Happy Birthday!

1 – Thelma Rowe
7 – Suzanne Wessels
15 – Sally Luna
28 – Jeanie Dunnihoo
Annual Meeting
The annual unit meeting was held on June 7, 2015 at 1 PM in the Judson Robinson Center on Alameda preceded by a bountiful lunch brought by the 17 members attending. The membership reapportioned the unit’s annual donations so that a contribution will be made to the Nature Discovery Center Garden at Ross Pittman Park in Bellaire.

Two questionnaires
... were distributed to members. Those members not in attendance have received them either by email or US mail. Please return as instructed no later than July.

Membership
Lucia Bettler gave an impassioned talk about repairing the spirit of our unit by a new commitment to our moto for “joy and delight.”

Prize for the most new members
The chair is offering a prize to the member who brings the most new members into the unit by March 2016. She will personally pay the registration fee for the member and one of the member’s guests.

Membership Requirements
The criteria for membership is an interest in learning about herbs! An application may be submitted after attending three meetings within a 12 month. Note there is no gardening requirement because we have no garden.

Important House Keeping changes
- HERB FAIR WILL BE ON SATURDAY NOVEMBER 14TH FROM 9-3 AT THE MULTI SERVICE CENTER ON WEST GREY WITH SET UP ON FRIDAY THE 13TH
- All 2015 UNIT evening meetings AND THE November day meeting will be held at Judson Robinson Center on Alameda in room A- the room without the columns and adjacent to the back parking lot.

Meeting Menu Change
Members are encouraged to bring their favorite recipes. We are no longer limited to finger food.

Find Joy and Delight with our incredible members!
Sally Luna

Requests from Ways and Means Committee
We always need dried herbs for our tea blends for Herb Fair, and now that we have had abundant rains, our herbs are growing well. We need to begin harvesting red stem applemint, lemon balm, lemon verbena, Mexican mint marigold, and any other herbs that could be used for crafts or cooking. We also would like for everyone to be looking for new craft ideas that we could begin making for the Herb Fair.

HSA – STU: 2015-16 Officers
Sally Luna – Chairman
Karen Cottingham – Vice Chairman
Lois Sutton – Treasurer
Beth Murphy – Secretary

2015 the International Year of Soils!
The United Nations has declared 2015 the International Year of Soils!
As part of this global celebration and awareness campaign, the Soil Science Society of America developed a set of 12 videos, centered around SSSA’s monthly communications themes. The goal of these videos is to raise public awareness of the value of soils and soil science.

[Link to the monthly videos]

Scroll down on this link (above) and click each month to see an educational video.

January: Soils Sustain Life
February: Soils Support Urban Life
March: Soils Support Agriculture
April: Soils Clean and Capture Water
May: Soils Support Buildings/Infrastructure
June: Soils Support Recreation
July: Soils Are Living
August: Soils Support Health
September: Soils Protect the Natural Environment
October: Soils and Products We Use
November: Soils and Climate
December: Soils, Culture and People

Other Informative Information:
International year of soils - main sites . . . most have links to blogs, videos, reports, etc

UN/FAO, [Link to UN/FAO]
USDA/NCRS, [Link to USDA/NCRS]
SSSA, [Link to SSSA]
ISRIC, [Link to ISRIC]
Aust, [Link to Aust]
CGIAR/CIAT, [Link to CGIAR/CIAT]

--- Contributed by Richard Stuff, Ph.D., Agronomist
The South Texas Unit is a non-profit educational organization incorporated under the State of Texas. The South Texas Unit has no paid employees. Our activities are accomplished through the efforts of our volunteers.

The Herb Society of America
South Texas Unit
P.O. Box 6515
Houston, TX 77265-6515

The Herb Society of America is dedicated to promoting the knowledge, use and delight of herbs through educational programs, research and sharing the knowledge of its members with the community.

Find our Unit on the web at:
www.herbsociety-stu.org

Herbs Make Scents – July 2015