

Herbs Make Scents

THE HERB SOCIETY OF AMERICA
VOLUME XLVIII NUMBER 4



SOUTH TEXAS UNIT
APRIL 2025

Co-Editors Linda Alderman (ewalderman@comcast.net) & Janice Freeman (janicehfreeman@comcast.net)

April 2025 Calendar

April 5, Sat. 10:00 – 12 noon
Open to the public

Lagniappe: “Join **Kimberly Meyer** for a Tour of Shamba Ya Amani (Farm of Peace)”, 8401 Dairy View Lane, Houston, TX 77072 <https://www.famhouston.tx.org/>. Plan to pick some flowers - a bouquet or a bucket! Proceeds go toward basic farm expenses. RSVP here: karen.herbsociety@gmail.com

April 6, Sun. 4:00 pm

Herb Day Planning Meeting via Zoom (link will be emailed)

April 8, Tue. 10:00 am
Open to the public

Day Meeting is a field trip to Houston Dairymaids and the Houston Farmers Market. See details on page 4.

April 11, Fri. 9:00 am
Note date/time

Westbury Garden Workday 12581 Dunlap Street, Houston, TX 77035

April 12, Sat. 9:00 am – 12 noon

Kolter Elementary Garden Workday at 9710 Runnymede Dr., Houston, TX 77096

April 16, Wed. 6:15 pm
Open to the public

Evening Meeting “The Art of Pysanky - Traditional Ukrainian Easter Egg Writing” presented by **Iryna Petrovska Marchiano**, PhD, co-founder of <http://www.htx4ukraine.org/>, Cherie Flores Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Houston, TX 77004. Doors open at 6:15 pm, with potluck meal and a program to follow.

April 21, Mon. midnight

Last Day to Register for Herb Day

April 25, Fri. 3:30 – 7:00 pm

Set up Herb Day

April 26, Sat. 8:00 am – 2:00 pm

39th Annual South Texas Unit Herb Day

May 2025 Calendar

May 9, Fri. 9:00 am
Note date/time

Westbury Garden Workday 12581 Dunlap Street, Houston, TX 77035

May 10, Sat. 9:00 – 12 noon

Kolter Elementary Garden Workday at 9710 Runnymede Dr., Houston, TX 77096

May 13, Tue. 10:00
Open to the public

Day Meeting “Secrets of Saffron” presented by member **Beth Murphy** and the spring read “A Botanist’s Guide to Parties” led by **Jimmie Keddie** at Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion. Bring your bag lunch to socialize following the program.

May 21, Wed. 6:15 pm
Members Only

HSA – STU Annual Business Meeting (Members Only)
Location: Cherie Flores Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Houston, TX 77004.
Doors open at 6:15 pm, with potluck meal and Annual Meeting at 7:00 pm.

Newsletter deadline: 25th of the month is strictly enforced (May editor is Janice Freeman)



2/13 Maria Treviño
Happy Birthday!

01 – Janice Dana
21 – Kathy McDaniel

Chairman's Corner

Summer is right around the corner! April brings with it a renewed sense of energy, enthusiasm, and the excitement of our educational and enriching 39th Annual South Texas Unit Herb Day!

By now your calendars should already be marked for our Herb Day, Saturday, April 26 at St. Paul's United Methodist Church. This annual event promises to be a day filled with inspiration, community, good snacks and lunch as we come together to celebrate **"The Herb Gardener's Gamut: From Plot to Plate to Pantry."** Our lineup of HSA award winning speakers (and friends) will offer valuable insights and expertise from the garden, kitchen and educational perspective.



In addition to our engaging speakers, this year's Herb Day will continue to feature our STU members' homemade treats, as well as a catered lunch and a marketplace with classic and newly debuted herbal products for sale. From culinary blends to homegrown teas, craft projects, and an assortment of herbs and plants, there will be something for everyone to enjoy and explore.

Tickets for Herb Day are available for purchase online: <http://www.herbsociety-stu.org/herb-day.html>

I encourage each of you to secure your spot early and join us for this annual tradition. Whether you're a seasoned herb enthusiast or just beginning your herbal journey, Herb Day offers a unique opportunity to learn, connect, and grow together as a community.

Wishing you all a spring garden filled with abundance, and looking forward to seeing you in a few weeks at Herb Day.

Unit Chair,
Dena Yanowski Gaydos



*Announcing our April Evening Meeting
"The Art of Pysanky - Traditional
Ukrainian Easter Egg Writing"*



Presented by:
Iryna Petrovska Marchiano, PhD
Co-founder of HTX₄Ukraine



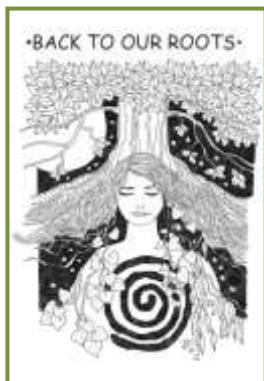
DAY MEETING

April 8 10 am Day Group field trip to Houston Dairymaids and the Houston Farmers Market. Meet at Houston Dairymaids (2201 Airline Dr., 77009) for a cheese tasting and opportunities to purchase delicious artisanal cheeses. Bring a cooler and ice to keep purchases cool. From there we'll go to the Farmers Market.

May 13 10 am Day Group meeting at Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion. Member **Beth Murphy** will present a program on "Secrets of Saffron". Bring your bag lunch to socialize following the program. We'll also be gathering to discuss our spring read "A Botanist's Guide to Parties" led by **Jimmie Keddle**.

The Day Group had a wonderful potluck picnic and plant swap at Smither Park on March 18.





Back to our Roots at Westbury Garden

Westbury Workdays

9:00 am – Friday April 11

9:00 am – Friday May 9

Note change in date & time

Craft Workshop

10:00 am – Tuesday April 22,

at the home of **Julie Fordes**

Making lotion bars, finishing tea bagging. Other crafts?

It Takes a Villiage

At our last Annual Meeting, STU donated money toward installing two convertible benches that turn into tables at the Westbury Community Garden. The benches are near the herb beds at the garden ready for everyone's use and delight!! They received a real workout at the Founders' Breakfast and Festival on March 22.

Many thanks to **Doug and Donna Wheeler, Janice and Bill Dana, Catherine and Jeff O'Brien** and **George Fordes** for putting these together. See, it really does take a village!



Here are three STU Westbury Herb Garden "frequent flyers", **Donna Yanowski, Janice Stuff, and Janice Freeman** demonstrating both the bench and table functions of our donation.

Spring in the Garden

Most of our herbs are thriving in the increased light, and we have begun to harvest the plants that need a little trim. From now through what I think may be a long, hot summer, and then out again to the other side and a bit of cooler weather, it is HARVEST TIME. Throughout the season, there will probably always be something in your garden that should be cut and harvested for our Herbal Marketplace items.



Herbs Make Scents

April 2025

If you need tips on harvesting herbs, please go to the STU website and read **Susan Wood's** article on harvesting and drying herbs. I will write more about this topic as the summer goes on.

Volunteer to Water the Garden

I have updated our Signup Genius watering schedule to include the next several months. The schedule starts on a Monday and ends on a Sunday. The slots are for the entire week. In the hottest times, we would need to water deeply every other day. It could be more days between watering if the temperature is cooler, or if it actually rains!!!

I would love everyone to water at least once, just so you can see the garden. Watch the weather and pray for rain - you might not even have to go water on your assigned day. But when you do get to the garden, enjoy it.

If you are new, call me and I can answer any questions you may have. The watering system needs a key, which we have hidden. I can gladly meet you there if you need a bit more help, just call me or even bring a friend...

Here is the sign up sheet website.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0D49ADAE2DA02-stuwestbury#/>

Looking forward to seeing you at the garden, Julie



Around the South Central District

Catherine O'Brien, Delegate

The time to gather will be here before we know it. The **South Central District Gathering** has been scheduled for **May 1-3** in conjunction with **Ozark Unit's Heritage Herb Spring Extravaganza** at **Ozark Folk Center** in beautiful **Mountain View, Arkansas**. The business meeting will be during lunch on **Friday, May 2**. I called to make lodging reservations.

**For lodging,
contact:**
870-269-3851

<https://www.arkansasstateparks.com/events/heritage-herb-spring-extravaganza/79431638>

Email:
[ozarkfolkcenter@
arkansas.com](mailto:ozarkfolkcenter@arkansas.com)



Heritage Herb Spring Extravaganza
May 1 through May 3, 2025 Mark
Your Calendar! May 1st---A Lavish
May Day Reception hosted by the
Herb Society of America---Ozark Unit
heralds in the Heritage Herb...



STU 39th Annual Herb Day

\$75 registration fee includes lunch, herbal refreshments, gift bag and a chance to win door prizes from some of Houston's favorite places. Registration is open now through April 21st at midnight (sorry, no walk-ins). St. Paul's United Methodist Church has FREE parking, and there is accessible parking near the entrance to Fondren Hall. Visit <http://www.herbsociety-stu.org/herb-day.html> for details and map.

The Gardener and the Cook: From Pruning to Preserving

Susan Belsinger, Herbalist, Food Writer and Cook; Recipient of the HSA Joanna McQuail Reed Award for the Artistic Use of Herbs

Tina Marie Wilcox, Herbalist, Head Gardener and Herbalist at the Ozark Folk Center's Heritage Herb Garden in Mountain View, Arkansas; Recipient of the HSA Nancy Putnam Howard Award for Excellence in Horticulture

Bunches, Bouquets and Kitchen Wreaths Demonstration

Jacqui Highton, South Texas Unit Member; HSA Certificate of Appreciation

Benée Curtis, South Texas Unit Member; HSA Certificate of Appreciation

The Alliums: Chives, Garlic, Onions, Leeks and Shallots

Susan Belsinger and Tina Marie Wilcox



Ms. Belsinger will have a limited number of copies of her new cookbook "The Perfect Bite: Focus on Flavor" available for purchase and signing.

Arrive early to shop at the Herbal Marketplace and with vendors to pick up gift items for Mother's Day, a graduate, a friend or yourself! We will have a variety of herb plants in addition to a selection of pollinator and ornamental plants grown by members.

You'll also find handcrafted favorites and new items in addition to culinary herb blends and teas. Net proceeds from the Herbal Marketplace fund the Madalene Hill Scholarship for Texas students.



Herbs Make Scents

April 2025

This year's demonstration tables will focus on creating a potted posey, finding the right pruning tool for the job, and propagation techniques with cuttings. Look forward to returning vendors Bee2Bee Honey Collective, Farm Dirt Compost and Elderbeez.



Discover herb plants,
teas, blends and
handcrafted items
at the
Herbal Marketplace



Learn from expert
speakers



39th ANNUAL
HERB DAY
Saturday, April 26
8am to 2pm

**The Herb Gardener's Gamut
From Plot to Plate to Pantry**

Featuring Susan Belsinger & Tina Marie Wilcox

*Speakers, Cooking and Educational Demonstrations,
Plant Sales, Herbal Marketplace, Vendors & Door Prizes*

Pre-Registration Required; Last Day to Register is April 21
<http://www.herbsociety-stu.org/herb-day>

St. Paul's United Methodist Church
in the Houston Museum District

The Herb Society of America, South Texas Unit

STU Volunteers

We are still in need of volunteers!

Baking Volunteers - Contact Benée Curtis

Refreshment & Lunch Servers - Contact Benée Curtis
or Virginia Camerlo

Dried flowers - Contact Virginia Camerlo or Shirley Mills

Herb Day Logistics

****ALL HANDS ON DECK**** Volunteers are needed to help with Herb Day set up on the afternoon of Friday, April 26th between 3:30-7:00 pm. See both Virginia Camerlo and Benée Curtis for logistics. We will have a cart, but BYO wagon if you have one. Please park on the east side of the church along Fannin, or across the street in the main parking lot if arriving between 3:30-5:00pm.

Items Needed

Please bring extra paper and plastic bags, small cardboard trays and boxes to set up on Friday or to the Evening Meeting.



Herbs Make Scents

April 2025

Fun Things to Do in Spring!



Join Kimberly Meyer for a
Tour of Shamba Ya Amani

Saturday, April 5
10:00 am – 12:00 noon

Plan to pick some flowers –
a bouquet or a bucket!
Proceeds go towards
basic farm expenses.

RSVP here:
karen.herbsociety@gmail.com

April 10th

Botanical Beauty Flower Show

Presented by
**Bouquettes
Garden Club**

**Prefontaine Hall of
Corpus Christi Church**
9900 Stella Link Road

Questions? Contact Angela Roth



2025 FLORESCENCE

A Garden Club of America Major Flower Show

Tuesday, April 15, and
Wednesday, April 16, 2025

Presented by
River Oaks Garden Club
The Garden Club of Houston
Members of The Garden Club of America
and
The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

Open to the Public

Susan and Faye S. Sarofim Campus



Florescence is one of the largest competitive national flower shows sanctioned by The Garden Club of America in the United States. Florescence is presented by River Oaks Garden Club, The Garden Club of Houston, and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH). Proceeds directly support Florescence's nonprofit sponsors: River Oaks Garden Club, The Garden Club of Houston, and the MFAH. Both garden clubs rely on Florescence proceeds to support their projects in gardens, parks, and green spaces throughout our community.

<https://www.riveroaksgc.org/florescence/>



SOUTHSIDE PLACE
community garden

11TH ANNUAL

GARDEN PARTY

TO BENEFIT THE SOUTHSIDE
PLACE COMMUNITY GARDEN

Party with your neighbors to celebrate our growth!

Join us for another fabulous garden party in our beautiful urban garden. See what's growing in our 8 raised beds while hanging out and eating with your friends and neighbors. Live blues band, Mexican food from Fajita Pete's and fun for the whole family. Nature Discovery Center activities and games for kids. Beer, wine, & signature cocktail with Carabuena Tequila! Silent auction with preview and early bidding online at <https://givebutter.com/c/SqRyFA/auction> or scan this QR code. Tickets are the \$20 per adult, payable through the link or at the garden gate. Kids are free.



April 27, 2025 4:30-7:00 pm

Edloe at Jardin St.

Southside Place, TX 77005

Live Music

Street Tacos

BYOB + wine or beer

Cake

Ice Cream (self pay) truck

Tequila Tasting

Auction

Fun Activities for the Kids!

Adults \$20 and kids free

<https://www.southsideplacetx.gov>



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

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

Information obtained through your association with The South Texas Unit of The Herb Society of America is for educational purposes only. It is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease. Everyone, especially women who are pregnant or nursing and persons with known medical conditions, should consult their licensed healthcare provider before taking any herbal product.

While authors or speakers may cite how they personally use herbs and may quote scientific, ethnographic, folkloric, or historic literature, the material presented does not represent a recommendation or an endorsement of any particular medical or health treatment.



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.