

Herbs Make Scents

THE HERB SOCIETY OF AMERICA
VOLUME XLVIII, NUMBER 10



SOUTH TEXAS UNIT
OCTOBER 2025

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October 2025 Calendar

Oct 4, Sat. 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

Special Lagniappe “Weave Your Own Mini-Basket with **Molly Koehn** - A HANDS-ON HOUSTON Activity.” Location: Houston Center for Contemporary Craft Garden, 4848 Main St., Houston, TX 77002. Questions: Karen.herbsociety@gmail.com

Oct 9, Friday at 10:00 am

Herb Fair Work Day Catnip at the home of **Julie Fordes**, bring scissors

Oct 10, Fri. 9:00 am

Westbury Garden Workday 12581 Dunlap St., Houston, TX 77035

Oct 11, Sat. 10:00 am – noon

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

Oct 14, Tues. 10:00 am

Day Meeting Field Trip to Arbor Gate Nurseries, Tomball, TX 77377. Following a tour and exploring at the nursery, we will picnic together. Bring your own picnic lunch and drink. <http://www.arborgate.com>

Oct 15, Wed. 6:15 pm
Open to the public

Evening Meeting “In a Ferment – Preserving the Garden Harvest for Year-round Enjoyment” presented by **Scotty Sheridan**. Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion in Hermann Park (1500 Hermann Drive, Houston, TX 77004).

Oct 18, Sat. 10:00 am

Herb Fair Work Day Tea/Fragrance at the home of **Julie Fordes**

Oct 25, Sat. 9:00 am

Westbury Garden Workday 12581 Dunlap St., Houston, TX 77035

Oct. 26, Sun. 1:00 pm

Herb Fair Work Day Tea/Fragrance at the home of **Julie Fordes**

Oct. 25-26 11:00 am – 4:00 pm

Pumpkin Patch Nature Discovery Center 7112 Newcastle, Bellaire, TX 77041

Oct. 31. Fri. beginning 9:00 am

Herb Fair Set-up Southside Place Clubhouse 3743 Garnet St., Houston, TX 77005

November 2025 Calendar

Nov 1, Sat. (see notes at right)

Herb Fair: 7:00 am (member volunteers), 8:30 am Pre-sale order pick-up. 9:00 am – 2:00 pm **Open to General Public**. 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm Clean-up.

Nov 8, Sat. 10:00 am – noon

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

Nov. 8, Sat. Time TBD

HSA/STU HERBAL EDUCATION at Westbury Garden for the gardening public. Herbs for the Holidays: Crafts, Beverages and Herbal Delights for the Whole Family

Nov. 9, Sun. 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Special Lagniappe “Ferment Your Fall Garden with Scotty Sheridan.” At Angela Roth’s Kitchen (space is limited). Priority given to STU members. Questions and RSVP: Karen.herbsociety@gmail.com Further details coming.

Nov 11, Tues. at 10:00 am
Open to the public

Day Meeting “Pumpkins and Spice: Global Cuisine with a Fall Favorite” presented by member **Benée Curtis**. Location: Cherie Flores Pavilion in Hermann Park (1500 Hermann Drive, Houston, TX 77004).

Nov. 15, Sat. 12 noon – 4:00 pm

Special Lagniappe “HTX Ukraine 2025 Borscht Cook-Off.” Location: Northside Columbus Hall (Formerly KC Hall). 607 E Whitney Dr, Houston, TX 77022. This is a self-pay event. RSVP: Karen.herbsociety@gmail.com



Herbs Make Sense

October 2025

Nov 19, Wed 6:15 pm

Evening Meeting TBD Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion in Hermann Park (1500 Hermann Drive, Houston, TX 77004).

Nov. 22, Sat. 10:00 am

Westbury Garden Workday 12581 Dunlap St., Houston, TX 77035

Newsletter deadline: the 25th of every month is strictly enforced (November co-editor Janice Freeman)



10/2 Faith Strunk

10/22 Yvette Darnell

10/13 Benée Curtis

10/24 Virginia Camerlo

10/13 Catherine O'Brien

10/27 Deborah Maly

10/21 Janice Stuff

10/30 Corlas Pearsall

Chairman's Corner

Happy fall, all!!

Things are really ramping up for the Herb Fair! **Stephanie Calloway** is doing a great job staying available for her chairs of all the specialties. I know I am enjoying learning about vinegars from **Catherine O'Brien** and Infusions from **Julie Fordes**! Hopefully everyone will learn something new while supporting our Herb Fair!

Speaking about help, we are going to ensure that everyone has a backup person who knows what their job is in case of illness, injury or travel. Please look at what you do for the South Texas Unit and write down some pointers to success and any deadlines. Maybe having more co-chairs is the best way to proceed. We will get input at our October meeting.

Virginia Camerlo and I are working on a GreenBridges presentation for organizations who want to know how to incorporate more native plants into their landscape. We are both Master Naturalists and enjoy combining our passion for Herbs and our Eco-system. We also really admire kitchen hand towels made by **Janice Dana** for previous Herb Fairs. **Karen Cottingham** was collecting rose petals for her Make-and-Take at Herb Fair. It was great catching up with one another and showing off Janice Dana's talented embroidery.

Remember to keep in touch with friends, and invite new people to our October meetings, both for Day and Evening.

See you on October 15th!! We would love for someone to bring a pitcher of a beverage instead of a dish, it will be very appreciated! Please let **Karen Cottingham** or **Ro Jones** know if you can do so!

Looking forward to seeing everyone and enjoying your delicious dishes!

Angela Roth





October Meetings

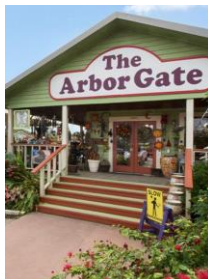
October 14th

Day Meeting Field Trip to:



The Arbor Gate

"Take an ordinary journey to an extraordinary place"



Kolter Elementary Garden

Angela Roth



Announcing Our October 15 Program
***"In a Ferment - Preserving the Garden
Harvest for Year-round Enjoyment"***



Learn to Ferment Your Fall Garden

Presented by:
Scotty Sheridan
Owner, Scotty's Fermented Foods
Free and Open to the Public

The 2nd
Saturday of the
month at Kolter
Elementary
Garden is a great
place to enjoy
the outdoors and
have fun!

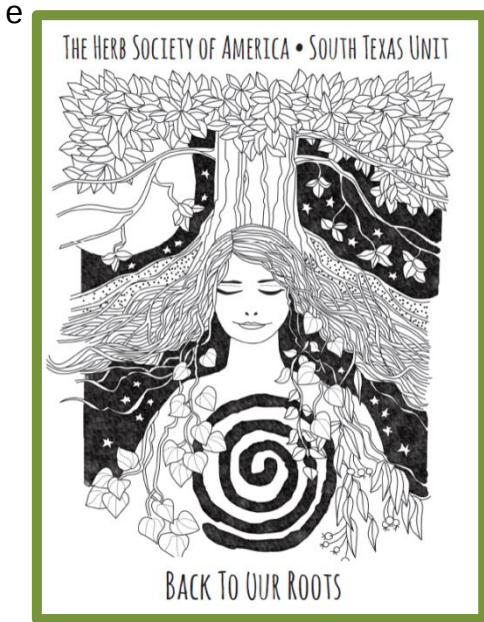
Work days are
9 am - Noon

October 11
November 8



Herbs Make Sense

October 2025



Back to Our Roots at the Westbury Garden

Garden Workdays: **Friday, October 10 at 9 am**
Saturday, October 25 at 9 am
Saturday, November 22 at 10 am

Saturday, NOVEMBER 8: Time TBD

HSA/STU HERBAL EDUCATION for the gardening public
Herbs for the Holidays: Crafts, Beverages and Herbal Delights for the Whole Family

It's not too late to gather herbs for drying!!! We particularly need lemon balm, red stem apple mint and thyme. Bring them to the next round of meetings or drop them by my house.

I would like to make an Herb Spiral in the new garden bed. The spirals are beautiful and would really call attention to the herbs. We should be able to start sometime after Herb Fair, and before the Holidays.



Call me if you:

- Have experience building an Herb Spiral
- Have building materials to donate to the cause
- Want to be a worker bee and show up at the garden for workdays
- Want to be a really cool bee and coordinate the project!



Herbal Education for the Westbury Garden

The garden has set aside **Saturday, November 8** to host an herbal education class. I had the idea to talk about using herbs for the holidays: Thanksgiving, Christmas and other fall or winter family gatherings. I thought about including some cooking demonstrations and recipes that the whole family can participate in, as well as possibly making scents for the home, homemade gift ideas, and relaxing tea blends. If you have ideas for this and/or can help, PLEASE let me know. Julie



WRITE it Down or TYPE it in - RECORD YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS

Janice Freeman, Membership Chair

What a lovely time of the year as members come together in preparation for Herb Fair, our wonderful fall event when we share *herbal wonder* with the Houston community. Herb Fair is often anticipated by many, awed by newcomers and enjoyed by all.

For members, Herb Fair preparations have revved up prior to today and are presently gaining momentum. Whatever task or role you have volunteered for, it is time to write it down, type it in, or record your volunteer hours.

Volunteer hours can be earned July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026. Prior to June, I will ask members for a tally of their South Texas Unit volunteer hours.

Thank you to each one of you who recorded and submitted volunteer hours last June.



Join in with me and let's give a hearty welcome to our newest member!

Susan Miller



The Final Countdown...to Herb Fair!

With just under 1 month left before the Herb Fair on Saturday, November 1st, we are requesting 'all hands on deck' for product preparations and volunteer assignments on 10/31 and 11/1. If you're not sure where to help, check with Herb Fair Chair Stephanie: stephaniec621@gmail.com. We do need more volunteers the day of the event to help with cashiering, selling in the bookshop, and supporting the plant area.

Remember to bring your gently used books and garden items or décor for our resale shop. Other items still needed:

- Dried flowers or other botanical items and craft paper or old sheet music for the Herbal Experience table
- Flats or other shallow boxes for people purchasing plants
- Dried herbs for teas

Please continue to spread the word about the event – we have a shareable Facebook event as well as a flyer for printing/sharing:

Link to download flyer in png (image) format
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qfZm5JdVcj6eBn6gOYRqKZRexumZTq4w/view?usp=sharing>

Link to download flyer in PDF (printable) format
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IQGjVtzbEhjaEKGGSppqah9H4R-PjLWn/view?usp=sharing>

The presale voucher link will go live around October 9th and stay open until October 29th – keep your eye on the STU website to gain early access to the event at 8:30am on November 1st. [Herb Fair](#)

The Fair is our largest public event; it offers a great opportunity to share with attendees our love of herbs, and what we do in the South Texas Unit. Please greet, share information and invite non-members to visit the membership table and to attend the November meeting.

WORKSHOPS FOR HERB FAIR

At the home of Julie Fordes

Catnip Oct. 9 at 10:00 am (bring scissors)

Fragrance/tea Oct. 18 at 10:00 am
Oct. 26 at 1:00 pm

Herbs to Grow and Harvest

- Bay Leaf
- Blue Butterfly Pea
- Basil (Holy)
- Calendula
- Chamomile
- Comfrey
- Doublemint Madalene Hill
- Lemon Balm
- Lemongrass
- Lemon Verbena
- Mexican Mint Marigold
- Peppermint
- Passion Flower
- Rose Petal
- Sage
- Spearmint
- Thyme
- Yarrow

Herb Fair Expenses

Submit requests for reimbursement along with receipts, to **Maria Treviño** by **December 1, 2025**



Also in October

Visit the Craft Garden at The Houston Center for Contemporary Craft and Weave a Mini-Basket



STU friend and former HCCC Artist-in-Residence **Molly Koehn** is hosting the free October HANDS-ON HOUSTON activity in the HCCC Craft Garden. Come on out Saturday, October 4, between 11:00 am and 4:00 pm, and weave your own mini-basket. Materials and instruction are provided, and the activity is suitable for artists of all ages.

If you would like to mingle with other STU Members while weaving your basket, RSVP at karen.herb.society@gmail.com. We'll be meeting at about 1:00 at the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft Garden, 4848 Main Street, Houston, Texas 77002.

Who Do I Contact?

2025-26 STU Officers

Chair- Angela Roth
Co-Vice Chairs- *Karen Cottingham*
Ro Jones
Secretary-*Stephanie Calloway*
Treasurer- *Maria Treviño*

Standing Committees

Day Meeting Chair-*Benée Curtis*
Membership -*Janice Freeman*

- Member Concerns-
Donna Wheeler

Publications

- Newsletter-*Linda Alderman*
Janice Freeman
- Website - *Benée Curtis*
- Social Media -*Virginia Camerlo*

Herb Fair-*Stephanie Calloway*
Grants & Scholarships-*Lucida Contos*
Speakers Bureau-*Virginia Camerlo*



7112 Newcastle,
Bellaire, TX 77041

Saturday and Sunday ■ October 25 & 26 ■ 11:00 am – 4:00 pm

2 days of Fun for the Whole Family

Pumpkins • Wagon Ride •
Games • Activities • Crafts •
Vendors • Exhibitors • Live
Animals • Photo Ops • Food
Trucks

[NEW Pumpkin Patch Fall Festival – Nature Discovery Center](#)



The Craft Garden at the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft is 20 Years Old!



It started as a dream of **Marion Sullivan**, a Houston artist and long-time Member-at-Large of the Herb Society of America. Starting with a foundational grant from the MALs and the excellent reputation of the HSA, funding for the garden was raised in two years.

According to Marion, “Madalene Hill vetted every plant we initially put in the garden to be certain that we got the correct genus and species of traditional ones that were used for each of the four divisions; textiles, paper, baskets and dyes. Without her help and knowledge it would not have been the wonderful resource that it has become. In the years that followed, more plants were added that are native to our area of the country, or had documented historical uses from Indigenous populations in the Americas and other parts of the world whose climates are similar to ours. As you can see from the photos, it has become what our vision hoped it would be.”

“I think Madalene would be pleased to see its growth.”

Click here to learn more about the HCCC Craft Garden: <https://www.houstoniamag.com/arts-and-culture/2025/08/craft-garden-houston-center-contemporary-craft?fbclid=PAZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAezVm0iyGkugDn2cyJ3flnbFgreD16u7vxFkc rUPdMmSCqBBVjhsR NXwnZ4g aem nH46kDkggZnsj2kKCE3TXQ>



Coming in November

**COMING SOON -
Ferment Your Fall Garden
With Scotty Sheridan
Our November 9 Lagniappe**



Can you imagine these in your pantry?

We'll meet in Angela's kitchen to chop and brine
a selection of fall vegetables

Space is Limited ~ Priority to STU Members
Details to be announced

Questions or to RSVP: karen.herbssociety@gmail.com

**Special Lagniappe November 15
HTX4Ukraine 2025 Borscht Cook-Off**



HTX4Houston is a charitable organization that provides medical
supplies to Ukrainian troops. It was co-founded
by [Iryna Petrovska Marchiano](#), who recently introduced
STU Members to Ukrainian *pysanky*, Slavic
Easter eggs decorated with intricate symbolic designs.

You can support HTX4Ukraine while enjoying delicious traditional
borscht, Ukrainian side dishes, and a variety of desserts.

The Borscht Cook-Off will be held at the Northside Columbus Hall
(formerly KC Hall), 607 E. Whitney Drive Houston, TX 77022

To join other HSA-STU Members, RSVP here:

karen.herbssociety@gmail.com

We will gather at 1:00 pm, but you can join us at any time.

For more information see <https://www.borschtcookoff.com/home>





52nd ANNUAL
**HERB
FAIR**

Saturday Nov. 1, 2025
9am - 2pm

*Huge variety of **HERBS**,
plants, herbal gifts, jellies,
teas, and culinary blends*

Presented by
The Herb Society of America, South Texas Unit

Southside Place Clubhouse
3743 Garnet Street, Houston, TX 77005

*We support local, regional & national gardens
and educational activities.*



MORE INFO



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

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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.