



HERBAL THOUGHTS ...

Volunteering; a great way to expand your life!

The Austin Herb Society Members are what make this gardening club so terrific. Your energy, dedication, caring and action are the very backbone of AHS and it filters out into the community far and wide. I want to express my sincere thanks to all who have volunteered this year to be on the executive board, the chairpeople of the various committees, the individuals who have made all our field trips possible and those of you who have made each and every one of our meetings a delight and, as HerbFest comes up in October, everyone who makes it possible. I know that sometimes it seems that volunteering carries an additional workload but what it really does is expand your world. You make new friends and those friends become closer and life becomes more worthwhile. Volunteering with AHS leads to our being recognized by the Austin Area Gardening Council as a valuable member of their group. We are allowed to have our meetings at Zilker Botanical Gardens because of our hours of volunteering. A book will be available at each meeting so that you may write down your hours of volunteering. Please make it a habit to take a moment and jot down those valuable hours. A big 'Thank you' to all you wonderful people.
Happy Gardening,
Michelle Chaput,
President AHS

WANTED: T-SHIRT SPONSOR

A private or business sponsor for this year's T-shirts for the HerbFest volunteers is needed. Please contact Joyce Billings, HerbFest 2002 Chairperson, at jbillings@austin.rr.com or phone 832-6426.

DATES TO REMEMBER

There is no General Meeting in August.

Wednesday, August 7

The Oak Hill Library, 5125 Convict Hill Rd, will host a talk by Carlos Hernandez on 'Curanderismo' at 7 p.m. Call 892-8708 for information.

Thursday, August 8

Study Group, 7:00 pm at Zilker Botanical Garden. Vee Fowler will present "The Scents of Herbs, to Make Your Home Sweet Home"

Saturday, August 17

Lecture series sponsored by Zilker Botanical Garden, 9:00 am – noon. This month Barry Lovelace presents a workshop on fall gardening. Call 477-8672 for information.

Tuesday, August 20

Board of Directors meeting, 9:30 am at Zilker Botanical Garden.

Monday, August 19

Zilker Herb Garden Work Day, 9:30 am. Bring garden tools and join us for fun and friendship. Call Mary Ann Somers, 494-9372, for information.

Tuesday, September 3

Membership Luncheon with a Mediterranean touch. The world of fragrance and essential oils is almost as old as humankind. Lucia Ferrara Bettler, founder of Lucia's Garden in Houston, will guide you into this world, touching on its history, several specific oils and their uses. She will show slides of the Basmaci village near Isparta, Turkey, where hillsides spill over with fragrant roses that end up in products imported to America. Her stories, as well as her enthusiasm and love for the earth and its gifts will make this a presentation you will long remember. Reservations are due by **August 26**. Invitations will be mailed.

Friday & Saturday, September 13 & 14

Texas Herb Growers & Marketers Assoc. Conference. Lectures on medicinal herbs, lavender, organic growing and more! Included is a tour of hill country herb farms. Contact Cathy Slaughter at 512-930-0923 or visit thgma.com.

Fantastic Field Trip!

Saturday, September 28

Join us as we visit six of Austin's premiere gardens on The Garden Conservancy's Open Days. Included will be gardens of designer James David and AHS member Anna Prothro. Cost is \$25.00, no refunds. Checks, payable to The Garden Conservancy, must be mailed by **Sept. 3rd** to Ellen Zimmermann at 8803 Bear Creek Dr., Austin, 78737. Call Ellen at 301-5838 for more information.

HERBFEST 2002

VOLUNTEERS MAKE HERBFEST HAPPEN - BE PART OF THE HAPPENING

There are many opportunities for you to lend your talents to help make this HerbFest the best ever!

Date: Saturday, October 5th

Gates Open: 9am to 5pm

HerbFest 2002 Committee Chairs are:

Volunteers - Vee Fowler (345-0719)

Food Booth - Cindy Phillips

Tea Booth - Cindy Burrows

Merchandising - Kay Culp

Membership - Cindy Boyle

Speakers/Entertainment - Judith Craft

Front Gate - Ladonna Castanuela and David Stalker

Gate Information/ Holding Area - Michelle Chaput

Children's Corner - Lydia Noble, Alisin Genfan & Gwen Sederholm

HerbFest Accounting - Lydia Cates, Sharon Beam

Vendor Liaison/HF 2002 co-chair - Cathy Slaughter

Publicity - Rebecca Doll-Childers, Paula Middleton

Early Set-Up - **Help needed**

Take Down/Clean Up - **Help needed**

Call Vee Fowler to be added to our growing list of talented AHS members who have already signed up. If you cannot attend on Saturday, volunteering in any form is welcomed.

If you have any questions about HerbFest contact Joyce Billings, HerbFest 2002 Chairperson, 832-6426 or email: jbillings@austin.rr.com.

OPPORTUNITIES...

At our Membership Luncheon

We need helpers to serve food and clean up after our luncheon, Sept. 3. Contact Michelle Chaput at 343-7677 or austinherbsociety@yahoo.com.

A Note from Cindy about our Herbfest Booth:

We need baked goods to sell in our booth. Something from our cookbook or Sue's Rosemary cookbook would be great. Recipes showcasing herbs are favored. Donations should be wrapped in clear plastic wrap. A label should be attached with the name of the donation and the price. Single parcel servings are good for cakes and cookies with prices ranging from .50 to 1.50. Small loaves of bread and mini cakes usually range from 1.00 to 4.00. I would appreciate it if you would contact me by e-mail or by phone to let me know what you plan to bring or put it on the sign up sheet. Donations should be brought to the Herb Society booth on the morning of the event. Contact me at cindyphillips@imagicmail.com or 264-2779. Thanks, Cindy Phillips

Study Group Needs You!

The evening Study Group needs volunteer presenters and new, fresh members that want to study herbs and help organize the group. Call Vee Fowler at 345-0719.

Mayfield Magic

Mayfield Park is one of the hidden gems of Austin. Come and work in the herb garden at this historic site. Call Anna Prothro at 476-8025.

Flower Power!

We need volunteers to brighten our meetings with flowers. Bouquets for the refreshment table and podium add a special touch to our meetings. We also would love arrangements to co-ordinate with the table settings at the Membership Luncheon. Please contact Michelle Chaput at 343-7677 or austinherbsociety@yahoo.com.

Austin Area Garden Council

Volunteer for a position with the Austin Area Garden Council. They are looking for an AHS member to be on the board as VP of Operations. Duties include overseeing the gift shop and reviewing applications by garden clubs who wish to become members of the AAGC. You would not work at the shop or be involved with purchasing; the VP of Operations provides guidance and assures that there are volunteers to staff it. If you want to stretch your horizons and serve our community, please call Irene Shlapak at 347-0456. Don't miss out on this opportunity.

AHS NEWS

Michele Lofstrom (with Taffy Gauger as backup) has volunteered to take over the Plant and Seed table for this year. Thank you for doing this valued job.

Kris Hands is working on the invitations for the **Membership Luncheon**, September 3rd at Zilker Botanical Gardens. This is a great time to invite that friend or neighbor to a special club event. A membership makes a wonderful gift! Remember to renew your membership, too. Invitations are going out in the mail to members, for additional invitations contact Sharon Beam at (512) 695-4206.

Our 1st VP for Sponsors, Cindy Burrows, reports that several sponsors have renewed with more expected to come on board. Thanks for your effort.

Many thanks to Travis County Master Gardener Association for supplying four large prostrate rosemary plants and a germander plant to the Zilker Herb Garden.

MEMBER NEWS

Cindy Burrows is presenting a talk on Alzheimer's and Herbals. It's at Arden's Court on 11630 Four Iron Drive at 7 PM, **August 10th**. Call Cindy at 250-2147 for information. Free.

Change of Information: It's time to update our membership directory. Send changes in your address, phone number or email to Cindy Boyle at 303-1009 or fill out a change of information card at the next meeting. To receive e-mail

notices of AHS activities, contact:
austinherbsociety@yahoo.com.

Education & Outreach

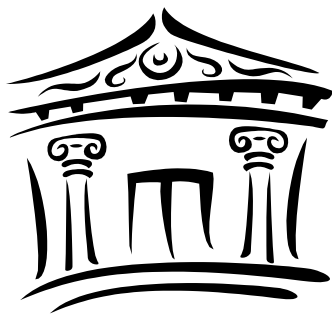
The Education/Outreach Committee has been very active this year. We wrapped up the school year with a visit to Windermere Elementary School to see Mrs. Russell's Kindergartners. They had a blast learning about the different herbs and their uses. The kids were full of questions and eager to learn. As always, the herbal popcorn and mint lemonade were big hits. Gwen Sederholm and I find these visits very fun and rewarding.

We have 4 or 5 schools lined up for visits in the fall, including New Braunfels Middle School and a school in Pflugerville.

We have been asked to do a booth for the Crazy Science Extravaganza on November 18th. We also will participate in the 'Get Growing and Keep Going' symposium that happens in the beginning of 2003, and will sponsor a school for another year at the UT Science Fun Day in the spring (our fourth time!).

We have yet to find a child that did not get a smile on their face when they learned about herbs. They are always inspired and excited about going home and planting some herbs in their own gardens. It's a great way to teach kids the joy of gardening and nurturing our earth at the same time. If you would like to join us on a presentation, or help with a bigger project, please email me at lyd@austin.rr.com.

Great gardening to you all,
Lydia Noble



RSVP by Aug. 26th with your non-refundable payment of \$15.00 to:
Sharon Beam
400 Oak Meadow Drive
Georgetown, TX 78628
Or Call (512) 695-4206 for details
Please include your name and the names of each guest you will bring.

The Austin Herb Society
Presents:
The Annual Membership
Luncheon
With Keynote Speaker
Lucia Bettler
September 3, 2002
9:30-12:30
Join us for Mediterranean
Cuisine, and a Discussion of
Turkish herbs, Aromatherapy
and Rose Oils at
Zilker Botanical Gardens



The Austin Herb Society, Inc
Zilker Botanical Garden
2220 Barton Springs Road
Austin, Texas 78746
www.austinherbsociety.org

Austin Herb Society 2001/2002 Sponsors

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The Natural Gardner
Cindy Phillips Painting and Clay Studio
Jennifer Phillips, Dog Obedience Trainer
Red Barn Nursery
ScentGarden**
Wheatsville Co-op

**10% discount

Be sure to thank our sponsors when you visit their establishments this year. Refer to your 2001/2002 AHS Program or website, www.austinherbsociety.org for contact information.



The Austin Herb Society, Inc. has been organized exclusively for the purposes of providing education regarding the benefits of cultivating and using herbs to promote better health and well-being, encouraging the growth and use of herbs for many beneficial purposes, and providing charitable and volunteer support to community gardens, libraries and/or other community projects.

Disclaimer: The information in this newsletter is for educational purposes only. It is not meant to diagnose, treat, or replace the advice of a health professional.