



DO YOU WANT TO LEARN ABOUT HERBS AND THE OZARKS? YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS OUR JUNE MEETING AND PROGRAM ! TINA MARIE WILCOX, LOCAL HERBALIST AND OZARK EDUCATOR, WILL PRESENT.

AMERICA 250  
JULY 4TH CELEBRATION  
ON THE HISTORIC MOUNTAIN VIEW SQUARE  
PROGRAM DIRECTLY AFTER THE PARADE SPONSORED BY THE STONE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



# STONE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

## 2026 EXECUTIVE BOARD AND BOARD MEMBERS ELECTED DURING MARCH MEETING

- JANICE SUTTON, PRESIDENT
- KAY THOMAS, VICE-PRESIDENT
- JUANITA TERRY, SECRETARY
- LINDA PUGH, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY
- RUTH BONDS, TREASURER
- LYNDA SWAFFORD, IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

- BETTE ANDERS, BOARD MEMBER
- RENEE CARR, BOARD MEMBER
- STEPHANIE DAVIS, BOARD MEMBER
- LINDA JACKSON, BOARD MEMBER
- ROBBIE PURDOM, BOARD MEMBER
- MARY TEDSEN, BOARD MEMBER
- CATHY WARD, BOARD MEMBER

\*official picture forthcoming

**HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD MEMBERS VISIT AND TOUR THE CALICO ROCK MUSEUM. SPECIAL THANKS TO CATHY WARD FOR SHOWING US AROUND AND ANSWERING OUR MANY QUESTIONS!**



**TINA MARIE WILCOX, HERBALIST AND LONGTIME OZARK EDUCATOR, TO BE OUR SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER AT OUR JUNE MEETING!**

The Stone County Historical Society will host herbalist and longtime Ozark educator Tina Marie Wilcox as the featured speaker for its June program on Sunday, June 14, at the Edwin Luther Auditorium, 206 School Avenue in Mountain View.

Wilcox, retired Head Gardener and Herbalist Emerita at the Ozark Folk Center State Park, began her career at the park in 1984 and retired at the close of 2025 after more than four decades of service. Widely respected for her extensive knowledge of herbs, horticulture, and Ozark traditions, Wilcox has become one of the region's most recognized voices in herbal education and preservation.

Originally from New Orleans, Wilcox first visited Newton County during the 1970s while pursuing her dream of living off the land. She worked in her father's hardware store, where she learned practical skills such as tool sharpening and saw maintenance. After purchasing land in Searcy County, she planned to use those skills to support herself in the Ozarks. However, fate led her in another direction when she answered an advertisement in the spring of 1984 that began her long and celebrated career at the Folk Center.

Wilcox is a member of the Herb Society of America and received the prestigious 2017 Nancy Putnam Howard Award for Excellence in Horticulture. Her professional affiliations also include the Arkansas Native Plant Society, Arkansas Master Naturalists, United Plant Savers, and the American Botanical Council. She currently serves on the boards of both the International Herb Association and the Herb Society of America's Ozark Unit.

In 2007, Wilcox co-authored the book *The Creative Herbal Home* with Susan Belsinger. She has also written hundreds of articles for publications including *The Herb Companion*, *Herbs for Health*, *Grit*, and the International Herb Association's *Herb of the Year* publication.

In addition to her gardening and writing accomplishments, Wilcox also shared her musical talents as part of the group "The Herbin' League," alongside Marion Spear and Susan Ketchum. The trio regularly performed at Folk Center music shows, herb dinners, and special events throughout Arkansas.

During her years at the Folk Center, Wilcox also trained in living history interpretation through a program funded by The Committee of One Hundred. From that training emerged her beloved character, "The Wider Wilcox," inspired by the traditional Granny Women of the Ozark hills who relied on herbal remedies and folk wisdom to care for their families and communities.



**Extra! Extra!  
Check it Out!**



**SPECIAL THANKS!**

**Two new furniture pieces, the white cabinet above and a new showcase, were donated by Kevin and Susan Jones**



**NEW FLOOR FINISH!**

**Thanks to David Wright (above) and our very own Lynda Swafford for refinishing our auditorium floors! They look AWESOME!**

**SPECIAL THANKS, SANDRA LUTHER LANCASTER AND HER HUSBAND, DANNY!**

A special thank you to Sandra Luther Lancaster and her husband, Danny, for donating Edwin Luther's files to the Historical Society. Edwin was a charter member of the Society and gave many items for our displays in the beginning years. Once his photos and files are inventoried and logged into our Museum files, they will be made available for the public to enjoy.

**FIRST GATHER & GAB: STORM STORIES**  
**FEATURING FIRST HAND ACCOUNTS OF THE MOUNTAIN VIEW TORNADO BY**  
**DAN & TRISH STEWART**  
**RENEE CAR**  
**WANDA STEWART (PLUS OTHERS)**  
**WE ENJOYED IT SO MUCH THAT WE SCHEDULED A SECOND GATHER & GAB!**



**ALSO, WE HOSTED OUR FIRST MOUNTAIN VIEW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NETWORKING MEET & GREET AT THE MUSEUM!**



**THERE ARE SIMPLY NOT ENOUGH WORDS TO DESCRIBE THE ABSOLUTELY STUNNING TRANSFORMATION OF THE MUSEUM BACK STORAGE ROOM, SO SOME BEFORE AND AFTER PICTURES WILL SUFFICE. THANKS TO ALL WHO TIRELESSLY WORKED TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN! LOOKING AT YOU, WENDY.**





P O Box 210

Mountain View, AR 72058

# Stone County Historical Society

*“Keeping History Alive”*

**Show your support by volunteering!**