

Northeast Nebraska Extension Master Gardener

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JUNE 2025

Hello Master Gardeners

Summer is almost here and the plants are really growing. We had a wonderful rain and that sure boosted our spirits as well as everything that is growing.

We had a great meeting last month and there were plenty of plants for giveaway. We had some good comments on the plant fair and some good suggestions. I think everyone thought that it was a good Plant Fair.

Connie Dovorak and Lynn Bloomquist have been working hard on summer tours. Our first tour will be June 17th. Our next tour will be July 10th. Pam sent out the agenda for the June 17th tour. If anyone has any suggestions for an August tour, contact one of the tour ladies.

I look forward too seeing everyone at the June 17th tour. Have a great summer everyone

Kathy Hayes Duval

Member Recognition: These members have birthdays/anniversaries in June

Birthday

Robin Jones—June 2
Joyce Eucker—June 10
Denise Trine—June 13

Anniversary

Pat & Scott Dodson—June 14
Karen & LeRay Zierke—June 28, 1961
Mary & Larry Birch—June 30, 1973



Meeting held at:
Nebraska Extension in Madison County
1305 South 13th Street
Norfolk, NE 68701

Northeast Nebraska Master Gardener Coordinators:
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Dates and Trainings to Know and Grow - Mark on Your Calendars



TREASURER'S REPORT:

Bank balance as of 6-5-25 \$12,058.84



Members,
Please save articles, thank you cards,
etc. about Master Gardeners that could
go in the scrapbook. - Deb Daehnke



NORFOLK DAILY NEWS ARTICLES

Articles for the Norfolk Daily News
can be emailed to Ashley at
agracey@norfolkdailynews.com

Also, email your article to Pam and
she will put it on the Extension Master Gardener Face-
book page.

2025— EDUCATION HOURS:

January 11 —.75 hour “Recycled objects for the garden”
Deb Daehnke
February 4— 1.5 hours “Houseplants for the Home” Scott
Evans
February 8—1.5 hours “Ivy Folkers with Honey, “Raising
Bees”
February 11—1.5 hours “Overs and Unders—Gambling on
Good and Not-so-Good Shrubs—Kim Todd
February 18—1.5 hours “How Flowers attract pollinators”
- Emily Stine
February 25—1.5 hours “Integrated Pest Management “ -
Elizabeth Exstrom
March 4—1.5 hours “Vegetables” - David Lott
March 8— 0 hours monthly meeting
March 11—1.5 hours “Creating a Native Landscape - Ian
Peterson
April 25/26—Plant Fair

**Please remember to keep recording your hours on the
Master Gardener website.**

[https://mastergardenvolunteer.unl.edu/vrs/sec_Login/
sec_Login.php](https://mastergardenvolunteer.unl.edu/vrs/sec_Login/sec_Login.php)



Dear All,

Deb and I would like to tell everyone that was not at the May meeting about our first garden tour to be held at Pfanny's Farm on June 17th. We will be meeting there at 6:00 p.m. for a tour of their farm and some other fun activities. Also, please plan on bringing a sack dinner meal for a picnic there. If you are planning on attending please text Lynn Bloomquist at 340-1735 or email me at lynnbloomquist9@gmail.com by June 8th so I can give them a count of how many will be attending. The cost will be around 12 to 13 dollars per person. If you already signed up at the meeting you do not have to let me know again that you will be attending. ☺ Also, we will send out a few more details to you soon.

Here is the address to Pfanny's Farm:

86765 Hwy 81

Randolph, NE 68771

This is 2.5 miles N of the 81-20 Junction, near Randolph

Just a heads up so you can add this to your calendars, we will have another tour in Wayne, NE on July 10th in the late afternoon/evening. More details to come soon on that event. We are also hoping to do something in the fall in Yankton. This date has not yet been decided.

Let us know if you have any questions. Have a wonderful week everyone!

Lynn Bloomquist and Deb Daehnke

Minutes from Plant Fair and Monthly Meeting

MINUTES FROM MONTHLY MEETING

MAY 17, 2025

Kathy Duval called the meeting to order. Minutes from the April 12th meeting were accepted, Wendy Winstead made the motion and Laurie Larson, the second.

OLD BUSINESS

Connie Dvorak reported the the checking account balance ie \$12,270 less \$185 which is outstanding as of today. All bills have been paid and deposits made from the Plant Fair, April 25 & 26. Net plant fair income is \$3,081.21.

Robin Jones asked about the cost of postcards so she can make correct entries in the marketing budget. Vickie Rundell fielded her questions. There is the cost of the postcards themselves, the cost of the printing and the cost of postage, not a simple matter.

We did pay a restock fee to Bluebird Nursery. We sold most of the plants we received, returning 34%. It was noted that we received less plants to sell this year and sold out of some of the popular perennials early.

Pam Foltz reminded us to return green aprons and yard signs.

We had fun talking about the plant fair. Appreciation and gratitude was expressed to Linda Douglas for an outstanding job managing the food. She suggested next year less people should bake bars and instead donate \$10. She brought leftover desserts to eat with our pizza. Viola McShannon and staff with their creative ideas had great success in the Children's Corner. They ran out of supplies on Saturday serving both kids and interested adults. Carol Poellot talked about her positive conversations with vendors as she walked around in her bumblebee costume. Kurt Schrant brought up the shortcomings revealed by the surveys. We had a good discussion and considered adjustments that could help.

Connie Dvorak noted hanging baskets didn't sell well. Discussion focused on their price. She also noted that this year we made an additional \$800 on vendor fees which is attributed entirely to the extra work by Pam Foltz.

Vicki Rundell anchored the Welcome Table. She reported 59 towns were represented by people filling out cards and 4 from out of state. This was another successful aspect of our plant fair. Other Kudos went out to Pam Foltz for the posters she designed and printed. There was appreciation expressed for Mary Lux and Wendy Winstead advertising our event across the state. Brian Mandl noted the potluck ran low on food this year. He had good locations for banners and the question was asked if we needed more. Although the Blue Light is missing the remote, Trent Brussen made it work and felt there was no need to replace it when asked.

On a different subject, Viola McShannon attended a scholarship luncheon at Northeast Community College. Although she did not meet the recipient of our horticulture scholarship, she knows his name. There is a future opportunity to meet and encourage him in his studies or ask him to visit us.

NEW BUSINESS

Lynn Bloomquist and Deb Daehnke have set up two summer garden events. The first is June 17th at Pfanny's Farm, 86765 US-81, Randolph beginning at 6:00 The price is \$11.25-13.25 per person depending on how many come. Deb suggested packing a sack lunch (actually supper) and coming early. There is an option to walk or ride the flatbed as we tour Pfanny's gardens. The second event is a Flower Tour 5:00 Thursday, July 10th in Wayne. We will visit Fresh Flowers by Lauren, a private garden, and Deb Daehnke's gardens. Deb emphasized that the Wayne flower tour is still in planning stages.

There were several suggestions or favorite places suggested for next year: Ausborn Tree Nut Grove in Yankton, Prairie Pedlar Gardens in Odebolt, IA, Bloomers in South Sioux City, Harmony Nursery and Daylily Farm in Bradshaw, Green Paws Nursery in Silver Creek.

Robin Jones moved to adjourn the May meeting, Joyce Eucker seconded the motion. Our next meeting is September 13th.

Submitted by Kate Pruitt

Get to know your Extension Master Gardener members



KAREN ZIERKE

Know your Master Gardener-----

Karen Zierke – I've lived most of my 80+ years on my family farm by Pierce NE. and attended a small country school #56 for eight elementary years and then graduated from Pierce High. Married to LeRay and we have three children, Mike (Tami) ag teacher at NECC, Marj (Dennis) cook at NECC & Kelly (Dale) math teacher at NECC. Eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Besides being a farm wife, I drove school bus for Pierce for 42 years, helped to start the Pierce Farmer's Market where I was a vendor for 48 years and am planning to retire this summer from my 25 years as our church secretary. We recently retired into Pierce, buying a house that Diann Lukens had lived. (she tells me she wants the house back when we next move)

Kathy (Hayes) Duval and I are from the original Northeast NE Master Gardener class (1992).

I served as the MG treasurer until this past year. My favorite times have been touring fellow Master Gardeners gardens, sharing information, sharing plants and working together during the plant fair.

→ DID YOU KNOW

Did You Know that Extension Missouri Valley Master Gardeners in Yankton, South Dakota offer a garden tour every summer as a fund raiser for their organization. They plan to hold the 2025 garden tour on June 28. More details will follow from them but in past years about five gardens were scheduled to view in Yankton. These gardens ranged from small backyard gardens to large gardens with swimming pools and outside TV's overlooking the Missouri River. I've gone to many of their tours and have never been disappointed. Often, new plants caught my attention that I then tried in my own garden.

The time frame is usually from 9-noon, with a salad luncheon following the tour. Prior to the start of the tour they have plants for sale, some of which come from Diane's Greenhouse. Price is usually \$10-\$15 for the tour, which I think is a great deal for both a tour and lunch. Do keep in mind that their itinerary might change.

If you'd like a relaxing time to view beautiful gardens, keep their tour in mind. It's nice education while we help another Master Gardener group fulfill their goals.