

## Northeast Nebraska Extension Master Gardener

<http://madison.unl.edu/mastergardenerhome>  
<https://www.facebook.com/NortheastNEMasterGardeners>

M A Y 2 0 2 5

Greetings to the Master Gardeners

May is almost here and spring flowers are blooming beautifully. The wonderful rain we had sure makes a difference for our plants and trees.

Our Plant Fair was a great success due to the work of our group. Everyone pitched in and that was very good. Thank you to all who worked so hard to make it a success.

Our next meeting will be May 17th. That is the 3rd Saturday, different from our usual second Saturday meetings. We will have a Plant Fair wrap up and a plant exchange. If there is leftover food from the Plant Fair, we will serve that for lunch. If there isn't enough, we will order in pizza.

We will have a plant exchange. If you have extra plants that you would like to give away, be sure to bring them. I have gotten some lovely plants in past plant exchanges. It's always interesting to see what our members are growing in their gardens.

Thank you all again for working so hard for our group. I hope to see you all on May 17th.

Kathy Duval,  
president

### Member Recognition: These members have birthdays/anniversaries in May

#### Birthday

Diane Lukens—May 11

#### Anniversary

No anniversaries this month



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

Northeast Nebraska Master Gardener Coordinators:  
*Kelly Feehan*, Extension Educator  
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Send Information for newsletter to:  
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County  
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## Dates and Trainings to Know and Grow - Mark on Your Calendars

### Regular monthly meetings:

(doors open at 8:15 am with meeting to start at 9:00 am and speaker to start at approximately 10:00 am) *\*\*Please remember to wear your name tag to the meetings\*\**



May 17, 2025 (3rd Saturday) — Plant Fair Discussions and Plant Exchange

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**



⇒ Bank balance will be available at the May meeting along with the Plant Fair financial report



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](mailto:agracey@norfolkdailynews.com)

Also, email your article to Pam and she  
will put it on the Extension Master Gar-

dener Facebook page.



A pair of sunglasses were  
found in the Extension  
Master Garden storeroom  
at the Ag Complex during  
the Plant Fair. You can pick  
them up at the May meeting  
or you can stop at the office  
M-F 8-12 or 1-5.

#### **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://mastergardenervolunteer.unl.edu/vrs/sec\\_Login/  
sec\\_Login.php](https://mastergardenervolunteer.unl.edu/vrs/sec_Login/sec_Login.php)



## Minutes from Plant Fair and Monthly Meeting

### Northeast Nebraska Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Plant Fair committee meeting 4-12-25

Brian Mandl called the meeting to order!

Advertising committee—Mary Lux reported progress on advertising. Advertising for our plant fair will be via Norfolk Daily News, Facebook, Marketplace, Backyard Farmer, Midwest Messenger and News Channel Nebraska, WJAG radio and affiliates.

Vendors—Pam Foltz reported there are 25 confirmed vendors and 2 pending. Brian Mandl, Kurt Schrant, Suzanne Hanlin and Diane Lukens will arrive at 10:00 am on Friday morning at the plant fair to help vendors check in.

Cashier—Diane Lukens reported that all is set up for the card reader.

Plant sales—Connie Dvorak reported there is no change in cost of perennial plants but will be an increase in price of annuals due to Shamrock price increase.

Children's Corner—Viola McShannon reported that several activities for children have been planned.

Café—Reminder that those bringing bars to make a dozen bars in a 9x13 pan individually wrapped.

Registration table—Vicki Rundell—Post cards have been mailed. Please bring centerpieces for the tables by the Café early Friday afternoon. No artificial flowers please. Master Gardener's will vote for 2. 1<sup>st</sup> place prize is \$15 and 2<sup>nd</sup> prize \$10.

Signs—Trent Brunssen and Brian Mandl will set out banners around Norfolk at designated areas. Diane Lukens stated she contacted Midwest Bank, and it is okay to place banner at the 13<sup>th</sup> street location. Also, for future reference, Midwest Bank will include our Plant Fair on their digital sign for \$200 if we choose to do this for next year's advertising.

Potluck—Please have you dish at the Ag building by 4:00 pm Friday. The Registration table workers will eat first. Deb Daehnke will announce at the Plant Fair including letting the public know of educational sessions, Blue Light featured vendors, etc.

Reminder to include food preparation, time to prepare your plants, etc. in your volunteer hours.



### Northeast Nebraska Extension Master Gardener's Volunteer meeting 4-12-25

President Kathy Duvall called the meeting to order.

Kelly Feehan presented a message from Wayne Ohnesorg regarding our Plant Fair. Wayne wanted to stress that the objectives for our Plant Fair are to raise money for the horticulture student scholarship and to provide education to the public. Wayne communicated that we should NOT save back plants at the Plant Fair. There was a discussion held regarding discount coupons for Master Gardener members. It was determined that Chairpersons and Co-chairs would receive a \$10 coupon for use on either Friday or Saturday of Plant Fair. Those who help set up on Friday will receive a \$5 coupon distributed by Brian Mandl on Friday. This coupon is for use on Friday only. Viola McShannon moved to approve the clarification of coupon use with 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kate Pruitt. The motion was passed.

Connie Dvorak asked Master Gardener members to please have patience when purchasing plants at the discount time at the end of the day on Saturday of the Plant Fair since there is a long line of customers at the cashier table.

Old Minutes—

Corrections to old minutes include: Dates that seed packaging was done were 3/24 and 3/27/2025. The correct date for March Master Gardener meeting was 3/10/2025. Motion to adjourn March meeting was by Joyce Eucker. Corrections to old minutes were approved with motion by Karen Zierke with 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mary Lux.

Treasurer's report—Connie Dvorak reported checking account balance is \$9,680.81

## Minutes from Plant Fair and Monthly Meeting

### Old Business-

Please sign up for treats for this fall monthly meetings. Our next meeting will be May 17<sup>th</sup> with discussion about plant fair as well as plant exchange. Members were encouraged to volunteer to assist Pam Foltz next year with Vendor recruitment.

Deb Daehnke asked if members enjoyed the “Member Spotlight” featuring Viola McShannon is the last newsletter. Several members commented they like it. The group determined that we would continue this feature in the newsletter. A discussion was also held regarding information that was included in the last newsletter regarding education and volunteer resources. The group decided to also include this feature in the monthly newsletter calling it “Did You Know?” Thanks, Deb, for your efforts.

Diane Lukens informed the group that “Save the Date” cards will be handed out at the Cashier’s table advertising next year’s plant fair. Thanks, Pam, for creating these cards.

Viola mentioned there has been a great response to the seed library at the Norfolk Public Library. Viola’s classes have also been well attended. Viola mentioned there is interest in a “Seed Saving” class which she may present in the fall. Anyone interested in assisting Viola with this class is welcome.

Laurie Larsen reminded members that the Summerland Messenger newspaper is welcoming any articles from Master Gardeners. The author’s picture would be included as well as the official UNL Master Gardener volunteer logo. Any questions, contact Laurie.

### New Business-

Kelly Feehan will be presenting a talk on Pollinators at the Pierce Public Library Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

Terri James has begun discussions about facilitating a statewide event bringing Master Gardener’s together. More to come. The International Master Gardener’s conference will be held via Zoom. See the newsletter for details. Other upcoming events: Celebrate Spring on 4/22/2025 at Columbus Community College, Garden Expo at the West Point Library on 4/29/2025. Contact Kelly Feehan or Deb Daehnke for more information.

Remember to pick up yard signs advertising the Plant Fair on your way out today.

Viola will be attending the Scholarship Luncheon at Northeast Community College.

We will have pizza at our next meeting on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

Emmalene Raasch suggested an idea for advertising for the Plant Fair. She suggested creating a barcode that could link to Master Gardener Facebook page. Joyce Eucker inquired about having a booth at the Norfolk Home Show next year. Our group will discuss these ideas at a later date.

Karen Zierke mentioned that Mary Birch may need help with her outdoor plants this spring. Mary is having health problems and her activity and time spent outside is limited. It was reported that Robin Jones is back in the hospital with her extended illness.

Suzanne Hanlin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Diane Lukens

Submitted by,

Suzanne Hanlin





## Get to know your Extension Master Gardener members



### MARY LUX

Born in Bad Kreuznach, Germany 9/8/1963 (I like that Vi and I were both born in Germany!)

My dad was serving in the Army in Germany but we moved back to the United States in 1965 when my dad was discharged. We moved to Kearney where my dad joined his dad's medical practice.

My mom always pointed out that my dad and I didn't get along because we were a lot alike. She was right, I became a doctor, too, but not a surgeon like my dad and my grandpa. I also have my dad's sweet tooth and my interest in gardening came from him. Our yard contained buttercups that we brought back from a family vacation in Michigan and yucca that we dug up around Johnson's Lake. Sundays after church, we would drive around Kearney to choose the winner of Dad's Sertoma Club's Yard of the Month contest. Dad also taught my brother and I how to collect seeds from our moss roses and California poppies. He had this great idea of throwing them out windows along the interstate around Kearney with the idea that they would happily grow between the infrequent mowing by the state. He also spread seeds around Meadowlark golf course when it first opened. He was kind of a "Johnny Flower Seed!"

Dave and I had 4 children. Our second child, Peter, passed away a little more than a year ago but we still have 3 children and 4 significant others! Many of you met Peter when he helped with set up and clean up after our Plant Fair a couple of years ago. This year, his wonderful wife is going to help me set up for the plant fair so, hopefully, you will get to meet her then! Mary Lux

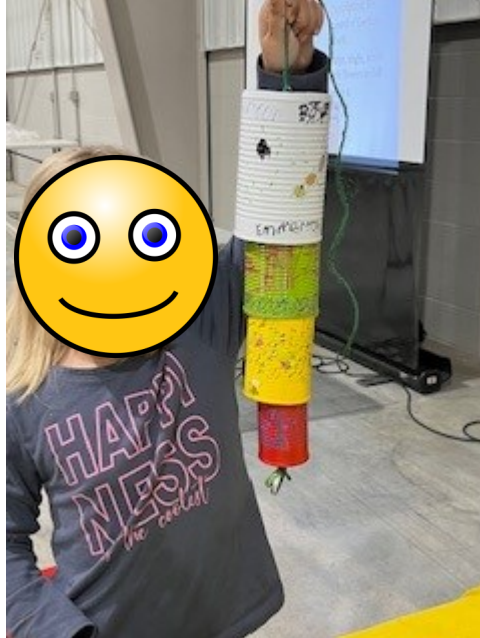


✓ Congratulations to Mary Lux on winning the big door prize at Celebrate Spring Gardening in Columbus on Tuesday, April 22.

### EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS

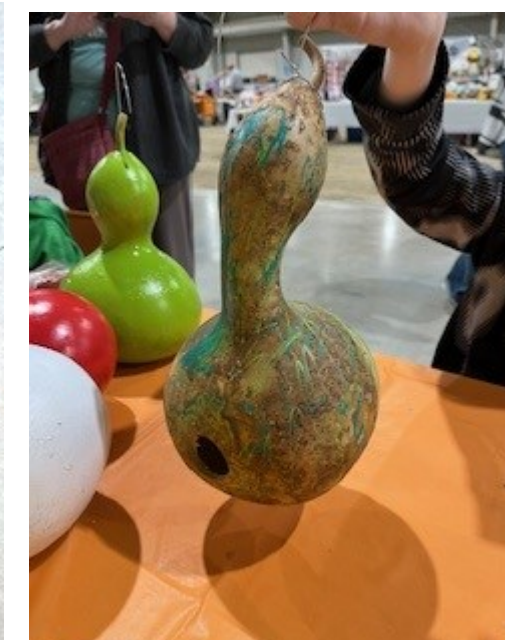
If you would like to submit an article or information to put in the newsletter, articles are due the 20th of the previous month. Email your articles to Pam at [pkesting2@unl.edu](mailto:pkesting2@unl.edu)





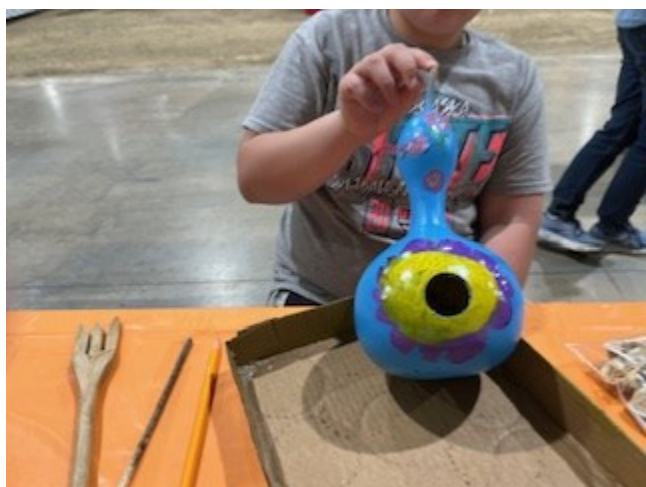


# Extension Master Gardener Plant Fair and Vendor Market, April 25/26, 2025





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*Thank you to all the  
Extension Master Gardeners  
for their help in making  
another Plant Fair and  
Vendor Market a great  
weekend.*