

The Power of Flowers

Laurence Ballard

I hope you had an opportunity to explore the campus landscape this past year. As part of our ongoing efforts to enhance the campus experience, Landscape Services reintroduced annual flowers to several parts of campus. In the spring, we planted masses of pansies at the East Campus Dairy store, the Van Brunt Visitors Center, Love Library and the City Campus Student Union. These plantings were followed by summer annuals that added color well into the fall semester. We all enjoyed these planting projects, but it isn't all about having fun.

We have long been aware of the impact that the campus grounds have on decisions made by potential students and their families. Recently a study by fellow Big Ten University Rutgers, detailed the emotional impact of flowers. In part this study demonstrated that flowers trigger happy emotions, heighten feelings of life satisfaction and affect social behavior in a positive manner¹. So these annual flowers, we added to campus, have the power to not only make you feel happy, but to improve the overall experience of every visitor to campus and provide lasting memories. That is fun with a purpose!

The bedding plants that we planted were in high profile areas but we also brightened a few other areas with flowers last year. One of my favorite annuals was a dwarf sunflower called *Helianthus annuus* Micro Sun F1 that



Sunflower Micro Sun

we planted along the walkway between Sheldon and the Lied Center. This plant particularly interested me because of its cluster of large (5-6") flowers atop a stocky plant less than 3 feet tall. You absolutely have to see this to believe it. This dwarf was bred in Australia and has only recently been available in this country. It is an F1 hybrid so unfortunately the seeds it produces will not result in the same plant, but instead one of the parent plants. Look for this one on campus again this year in late summer and early fall.

You may have also noticed a few new plants in Love Garden last year. We planted *Rudbeckia* 'Cherry Brandy' and *Salvia* 'Reddy White Surprise' in two of the perennial beds. Cherry Brandy has been around for a while so you may be familiar with the deep maroon flowers that bloom at the same time

as the sunflowers. Reddy White Surprise is much less common and very unique. It produces a bright red-orange flower within a whitish bract for a stunning effect over a long period.

A truer red is *Dahlia* 'Duet'. We planted this annual flower in the beds just north of Sheldon pond mainly for the Jazz in June event. Its large red and white flowers were stunning. If you grow this type of dahlia you may want to consider staking it or at least providing support with surrounding plants.



Dahlia 'Duet'

We are increasing the numbers of annuals this year and adding some interesting new ones for you to find on your explorations of campus. Enjoy.

1. Haviland-Jones, J., Rosario, H. Wilson, P. & McGuire, T. (2005) An Environmental Approach to Positive Emotion: Flowers, *Evolutionary Psychology*, 3:104-132.

J IN US!!

The UNL Garden Friends was dedicated in 1992 to support the UNL Botanical Garden and Arboretum. It was my pleasure to serve with the initial recruitment of Friends. The campaign was led by Catherine Angle, J.O. Young and JoAnn Weaver. Two hundred supporters rose to the invitation to become Friends and subsequently exhibited considerable love and support to the organization.

Today, the need for support continues as strong as in the beginning. We ask you to again join or rejoin with us in this effort. Invite your friends to also become members. Your response will be appreciated!

Send your check \$35 payable to the UNL Garden Friends and the completed membership form to UNL Garden Friends, P.O. Box 81501, Lincoln, NE 68501-1501.

Thank you.
Bud Dasenbrock

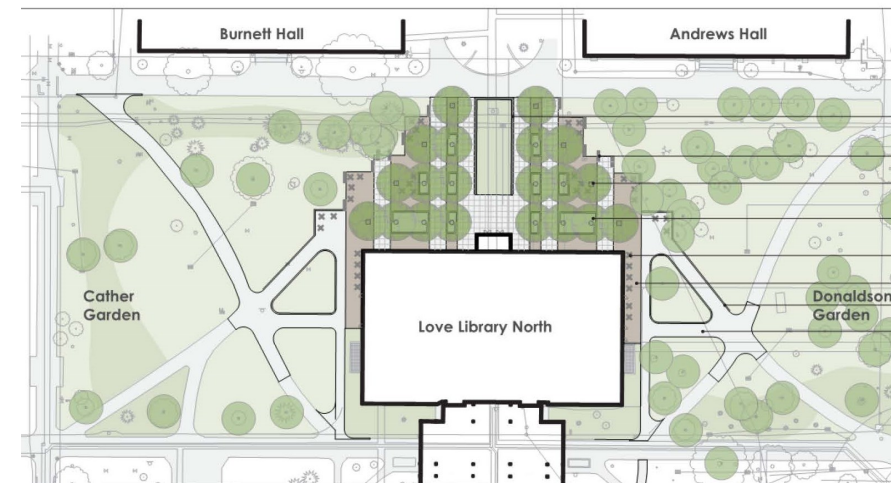
Campus Projects

Eileen Bergt

Love North Learning Commons Project

The first floor of Love Library North will be transformed from a library stack area into a learning environment and an academic hub for City Campus. It will have spaces, both inside and out, which will invite students to gather and build relationships. The spaces are specifically designed to accommodate and promote intensive study. Faculty will also be able to use the technology and instruction resources available.

The outdoor component of the commons project creates a large plaza area on the north end of Love Library North. The plaza will be a vibrant space with trees, shrubs and perennial planting beds and different types of seating. The north entrance to the learning commons connects to Enright Garden to the north and the formal space around Mueller Tower. The plaza also wraps around the building into Cather Garden on the west and Donaldson Garden on the east. We lost a few minor trees and moved one memorial tree but are working around the significant trees near the construction site in Cather and Donaldson Gardens.



Proposed Site Plan

Secretary of Agriculture Statues

Four life-sized statues, commissioned in 2012 as part of the 150th anniversary of the Morrill Land Grant Act of 1862, are of former U.S. Secretaries of Agriculture J. Sterling Morton, Clifford Hardin, Clayton Yeutter and Mike Johanns. The statues were installed last fall in the green space north of Filley Hall. Omaha artist Matthew Placzek designed the statues.

J. Sterling Morton, served as Secretary from 1893 to 1897. Known for his dedication to tree planting, Morton created a holiday to celebrate the planting of trees. The first Arbor Day was held in 1872 and quickly became a national holiday. Morton's statue is located under the trees northeast of Agricultural Communications building.

Clifford Hardin, served as agriculture secretary from 1969 to 1971. Hardin was also chancellor of the University of Nebraska from 1954 to 1968. Hardin's statue, sitting in a chair, is located north of Filley Hall in an outdoor room.

Clayton Yeutter was agriculture secretary from 1989 to 1991. He served in three sub-cabinet posts and in three cabinet or cabinet-level posts, the only Nebraskan to do so. Yeutter's statue is facing Yeutter Garden, east of Filley Hall. Yeutter Garden is a gift of Clayton Yeutter in memory of his wife Jeanne Vierk Yeutter.

Mike Johanns was U.S. Secretary of Agriculture from 2005 to 2007. Johanns was also Nebraska's 38th governor from 1999 to 2005. Johanns statue is near trees west of CY Thompson Library and south of Miller Hall.

Landscape Services planted shrubs, perennials and chrysanthemums before the dedication ceremony which occurred before the Nebraska Miami football game on September 20th. This year more annuals will be added to the four sites.



J. Sterling Morton Statue



University of Nebraska Lincoln
Botanical Gardens & Arboretum
P.O. Box 81501
Lincoln, NE 68501-1501

Container Gardening with Edibles

Corey Brabec
Manager
Earl May Nursery and
Garden Center
Lincoln, Nebraska




Sponsored by
UNL Garden Friends

Tuesday, April 14th
7:00 p.m-9:00 p.m.
UNL City Campus Union Auditorium
14th & R Streets
Free Admission
Reception follows lecture

Parking available along R Street and in
the Q Place Garage (11th and Q Street)

UNL GARDEN FRIENDS MEMBERSHIP FORM

 New Membership Renewal

P.O. Box 81501 Lincoln, NE 68501-1501 (402) 472-2679

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Annual Membership *Any additional gift is greatly appreciated*
Here is my tax-deductible gift:
\$35 _____ \$500 _____ \$250 _____ \$125 _____ \$75 _____ Other amount \$ _____

Check Total \$ _____ *Make check payable to UNL Garden Friends and mail to:*
UNL Garden Friends, P.O. Box 81501, Lincoln, NE 68501-1501



The Garden News

University of Nebraska Lincoln Botanical Garden and Arboretum

February 2015

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From the Board

*The lesson I have thoroughly learnt,
and wish to pass on to others, is to
know the enduring happiness that the
love of a garden gives.*
Gertrude Jekyll

Greetings to UNL Garden Friends. You may have noticed that you haven't heard from the Garden Friends recently. Our Board of Directors has been quietly working on redefining our goals and initiatives and have developed a new approach to growing our organization.

Last year we had a membership renewal moratorium while we considered the future of Garden Friends. In March we held our first Strategic Planning meeting, and in August we followed up with a second. Recently we revised our bylaws and will ratify them at our March Board of Directors meeting. One of the changes we have introduced into the new Bylaws addresses board meeting frequency. Busy board members agreed that monthly meetings were unmanageable and unnecessary. We propose to meet as a full board quarterly, with special projects and events handled by sub-committees rather than the entire board. We have also elected to hold the Annual Meeting at our regular March meeting, rather than at our lectures. This allows us to hold lectures at varying times during the year, and frees us from having a lecture every single year. It is important to note that the goals of the Garden Friends remain the same however: **To provide support, promotion and fundraising for The Garden.**

During the past year we have partnered with the Friends of Maxwell Arboretum on events, in particular the Spring and Fall Festivals held at the Arboretum. These events allow us to promote The Gardens and the UNL Garden Friends, and to contribute financially to the festivals, usually through the distribution of ice cream. In the future, we expect to continue partnering with Friends of Maxwell and other local gardening organizations as well.

UNL Garden Friends will continue to financially support projects carried out by Landscape Services. We continue to contribute plant acquisition and maintenance of the Sheldon Sculpture Garden Fountains, and to the acquisition of plant materials for all of campus. We also funded a major plant identification and signage project for the Andrews Hall gardens. We will continue to host lectures and other events.

On Tuesday, April 14 we will be hosting our customary spring lecture featuring Corey Brabec, manager of Earl May Nursery. Corey is very knowledgeable and will speak to us about **Container Gardening with Edibles**. It should be a fun and informative event. After all, who doesn't like Edibles?? And speaking of edibles, there will be a reception and refreshments following the lecture. Plan to stay and enjoy visiting with Garden Friends board members and your gardening friends.

UNL Garden Friends needs your financial support through your membership. Spring is membership renewal time so please renew your membership! There is a membership form included in this newsletter and you will be receiving a membership renewal letter in April. You may pay your dues at the Annual Meeting and Lecture, or mail in your dues to our PO Box. Finally, we need your support in other ways as well. If you have ideas or suggestions for speakers or tours please let us know. If you have a great yard and would like to host a tour, please don't be shy. If you are interested in serving on our Board of Directors feel free to contact any board member to discuss our organization and how you might contribute.

Thanks to all of you for your continued support. We look forward to working with you in 2015.

