

'THE SAGE'--OCTOBER 2008

Klein's Floral & Greenhouses On-Line Newsletter

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OCTOBER STORE HOURS:

Monday thru Friday : 8:00-6:00

Saturday: 9:00-5:00

Sunday: 10:00-4:00

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Spring bulbs are here! Shop early while selection is good.

October 4--UW football against Ohio State at Camp Randall. Game time is 7:00 pm.

October 9--Yom Kippur

October 11--UW football against Penn State at Camp Randall. Game time is 7:00 pm.

October 13--Columbus Day (observed)

October 14--Full Moon

October 16--National Bosses' Day. Check out 'The Flower Shoppe' section of this newsletter for details.

October 18--Sweetest Day. Check out 'The Flower Shoppe' section of this newsletter for details.

October 18--UW football at Iowa. Game time to be announced.

October 25--UW football against Illinois at Camp Randall. Game time is 11:00.

October 26--Mother-in-Law's Day

October 31--Halloween. Choose from one of our many FTD and Teleflora bouquets and centerpieces for your Halloween parties or get-togethers. For more ideas and easy on-line ordering, check out our Teleflora or FTD web sites by clicking on www.flowerskleinsflr.com or www.florists.ftd.com/kleinsfloral or talk to one of our designers, Kathy, Karel, Jennifer or Sue at 608/244-5661 or 888/244-5661.

November 1--UW football at Michigan State. Game time to be announced.

'THE FLOWER SHOPPE':

October is one of the busiest months of the year for our design crew. Not only are they maintaining our gorgeous autumn displays and prepping for the upcoming holiday season, but October also has three of our busiest floral holidays of the year--Bosses Day, Sweetest Day and Halloween. And each of these holidays continues to gain in popularity and status as the years pass. After all, Halloween is now second only to Christmas for home decorating

and friend and family get-togethers. Like Christmas, entire stores revolve around Halloween merchandise, and it's now commonplace to see entire neighborhoods glowing with orange, amber, white and purple holiday lights.

Bosses Day, October 16, is the perfect opportunity to show your boss how much you appreciate them, to thank them or, frankly, maybe just to "kiss some butt." Although Bosses Day is officially Thursday, October 16, the entire week is celebrated as National Bosses' Week and it's appropriate to send something any time during the week. Choose from a traditional bouquet or a themed gift basket. Our dependable delivery team will ensure that your order arrives during business hours. See the "Permanent Features" section of this newsletter for detailed delivery information.

Sweetest Day, Saturday, October 18, is another one of our busiest delivery days. Like Valentine's Day, Sweetest Day is a chance to show your loved one how much you care. Select from beautiful vased roses, fall themed bouquets or perhaps a long lasting blooming plant.

For more ideas and easy on-line ordering, check out our Teleflora or FTD web sites by clicking on www.flowerskleinsflrl.com or www.florists.ftd.com/kleinsfloral.

DID YOU KNOW. . .

. . . that it's easier than you may think to winter over many of your spring and summer plant purchases. Doing so not only saves money, but allows you to keep some of your very favorite plants from year to year. Gardeners are usually very familiar with wintering over some of our grandparents' favorite annuals. The easiest include geraniums, coleus, begonias, flowering maple, lantana and many others. Now though, tropicals are all the rage and most can be kept through the winter quite easily in the average home. Tropicals are great fun to experiment with and add a lot of drama to the landscape. They can be expensive, and therefore, can be looked at as a long term investment. Some will even bloom sporadically during the dead of winter given a sunny, warm location. Though we've only selected a few of the more common ones to spotlight, nearly all tropicals can be wintered over and our staff would be happy to help you out with any questions at 244-5661. Ask for Rick, Jamie or Craig.

HIBISCUS--Prune hard to shape in the fall and place in a bright location either warm or cool. Water thoroughly when dry to the touch. Watch for whitefly, aphids and spider mites. Though a lot of literature recommends pruning in the spring, you'll lose at least a month of flowering next summer. With our short summers, you'll see few blooms with some of the later blooming cultivars.

BANANAS--If you have room or dwarf varieties, bananas can be kept actively growing as a houseplant through the winter. They require a bright location, warm temps and even watering. Watch for spider mites under the large leaves. An alternative is to let it go dormant. Simply cut last summer's stalk(s) to 2 feet, allow the pot to thoroughly dry out and move to a basement or cool room. Water thoroughly but infrequently throughout the winter. You should see new leaves unfurling late in winter and as you increase watering. It's not uncommon for the original largest stalk to die, but check the base. You may see 2-6 baby plants--your next summer's growth.

ELEPHANT'S EARS (Colocasia)--Allow to freeze off in the the garden or if in a pot, allow to dry completely in a garage. For plants grown in the ground, dig the large, tuberous roots and allow to "cure" a few weeks in the garage, removing any rotted or soft portions. The curing process is the same as with potatoes or onions. After a few weeks, place the tubers in dry peat moss in a large container of choice. A pail or muck bucket works perfectly. Store dry in the warm part of your basement. They can be stored cool, but there is no need. For plants grown in containers, simply move your container to the basement once the pot has completely dried out. Remove all foliage. Again, store dry. THEN--the key to success with elephant's ears is jump-starting them early enough for next season, something often overlooked. In late January, begin watering your stored tubers as normal. New growth will appear in about 2 months--sometimes longer! By starting your plants early, you'll be rewarded with larger plants much earlier next summer. By the time you place your stored tubers in the garden in late May, your first leaves will already be 2-3' tall.

AGAPANTHUS (Lily-of-the-Nile)--Growing these exotics is super-easy!

In Wisconsin, agapanthus must be grown as a potted plant. Being extremely root bound stimulates the best blooming so keep your plants in the same pot until you must step them up. At season's end, move your pots to a garage to dry completely. Small plants (or if you have room for large plants) can be kept actively growing through the winter as a houseplant. If you choose the dormant route, you'll notice the foliage yellowing as it dries. Remove all foliage, once it has yellowed completely then store in a cool, dry location till spring. Water lightly about once a month during the winter for best results.

BRUGMANSIA (Angel's Trumpets)--Nothing could be easier than to winter over these dramatic tropicals and the older they get, the more dramatic they become! Before a freeze in the fall, simply prune the plants to a manageable size (usually to 3-5'). It's O.K. if no foliage remains. If they were in the landscape, they'll need to be dug and potted

for the winter. Immediately move the plant to a cool and dark location. They can be stored as low as 40 degrees all winter. Water thoroughly a few times during the winter. If you don't have a cool and dark location, just do your best--they're not fussy. Heat and light will simply stimulate new growth during the winter. That's also O.K. If possible, move your stored plant to some light (even a basement window) around March 1. This promotes earlier growth and earlier and more blooms next summer. Move outdoors once nighttime temps are in the 50's.

Other easy-to-over winter tropicals include: alocasia, bougainvillea, mandevilla, bird-of-paradise, passionflower, oleander, eucomis (pineapple lily), jasmine, thunbergia and many, many others.

A fun site to check out: <http://www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/tropicalpunch/intro.html>

NOTES FROM MY GARDEN JOURNAL--Tips and Observations from My Own Garden by Rick Halbach.

ENTRY: SEPTEMBER 8, 2008

While watering this morning I was greeted by a pleasant surprise. The pink buds of my autumn crocus (colchicums) are finally beginning to emerge throughout my garden beds. I was beginning to think something had happened to them. Typically they begin to show their faces on or around Dave's (my partner's) birthday on August 17. I bet the dry weather during late July and all of August had something to do with their late appearance. I can't imagine the fall garden without these late season treasures. I planted them during early October many years ago and I remember them blooming just a few weeks later. At work, they've sometimes even bloomed on the shelves without being planted in the soil! The large leafed foliage appears in the spring along with the spring blooming bulbs. After a few weeks, and just like tulips and daffodils, the leaves yellow and wither away. It's not until the fall that they put on their spectacular show with their pink, lavender or white, ground-hugging, large blossoms.

ENTRY: SEPTEMBER 23, 2008

This warm and GORGEOUS September has given my summer annuals new life! After the welcome rains a few weeks back and the above average temperatures this past week, my beds and containers are seeing a burst of renewed vigor. Fresh new growth and loads of blooms decorate the gardens. Morning glories, zinnias and petunias that had bloomed themselves nearly to death are putting on a welcome encore. My tropicals are especially relishing this late season spell of summer-like weather. Cannas, hibiscus, brugmansias and mandevillas are in full bloom. Even my coleus, bananas and elephant's ears are going through a burst of growth. It's such a treat to experience this great autumn weather with just a few short weeks before our first killing frost. So far the long range forecast looks great. If true, I should get a few more weeks of enjoyment.

ENTRY: SEPTEMBER 27, 2008

The process of prepping my potted summer bulbs for winter storage has begun. It's time to move my pots of tuberous begonias, callas, caladiums and pineapple lilies to the garage where they'll spend the upcoming weeks until their inevitable move to the root cellar in the basement. It's important that I let these containers dry out completely before I move them into storage. Doing so ensures that they won't rot during their 4 months of complete dormancy. I'm lucky to live in an older home with a root cellar. I've been able to get the temperature into the 40's for most of the winter--perfect temps to not only store my dormant summer bulbs, but also brugmansias (angel's trumpets) and cannas. Around March 1, I'll move my pots to the warmer part of the basement where I'll begin watering them. By mid-May I'll have already growing containers to place back into the garden. With our short summers, any added growing time is a real plus for summer performance.

KLEIN'S RECIPES OF THE MONTH--These are a selection of relatively simple recipes chosen by our staff. New recipes appear monthly. Enjoy!!

October officially marks the beginning of "soup season" in Wisconsin! Nothing warms the body better on a crisp fall evening than a hearty bowl of soup, warm bread and a glass of your favorite wine. Most soups are easy and quick to make at the end of a long work day and a great way to use up any on-hand vegetables and leftovers. Here are a few of Klein's vegetable focused favorites:

VEGETABLE MAFE (STEW)--This simple stew can be served on its own in a bowl with fresh bread or over a bed of brown or white rice. This recipe appeared recently in the Willie Street Co-op newsletter and is already a family favorite.

2 large onions, chopped

4 TBS. oil

2 cups seeded and peeled butternut squash or sweet potatoes, cut into chunks
4 turnips, cut into chunks
4 medium potatoes, cut into chunks
2 large carrots, thickly sliced
2 large tomatoes, quartered
1 bunch of greens (kale, collards, whatever), chopped
2 tsp. cayenne (or to taste)
salt to taste
2 cups tomato sauce
1 cup(+) water
3/4 cup peanut butter

Heat the oil in a large pot on medium heat. Add the onions and sauté until lightly browned. Add the remaining vegetables, one at a time, in the order listed, sautéing each a bit before adding the next. Stir in the tomato sauce and the water. Add the cayenne to taste. Bring to a boil, then reduce the heat to a simmer, salting to taste. Before the veggies are tender, mix 1/2 cup of the cooking liquid with the peanut butter to thin. Add back to the pot and simmer about 1 hour, until all is tender, adding water as needed to desired consistency. Serve in bowls with bread, or over rice.

AUTUMN VEGETABLE SOUP--"Hearty and flavorful" rave the reviews of this easy standard from Mollie Katzen's Still Life With Menu Cookbook. Uses TONS of fresh veggies. Substitute as needed!

4 TBS. light olive oil
3 cups chopped leeks
3 cups quartered brussels sprouts or kohlrabi chunks
2 large carrots, chopped
2 stalks celery, chopped
2 large potatoes, cut into chunks
2 cups peeled and chopped sweet potatoes
2 tsp. salt
1 tsp. pepper
cayenne to taste
6 cloves garlic, minced
8 cups vegetable broth
2 cups packed chard, kale or collard, coarsely chopped
2 large tomatoes, chopped
2 sweet bell peppers, chopped
1 TBS. dried dill
1 tsp. marjoram
1 tsp. dried basil
1 1/2 TBS. soy sauce
2 TBS. lemon juice
1 cup sour cream or plain yogurt at room temperature
sunflower seed kernels (optional)
fresh parsley (optional)

Heat the oil in a large pot over medium heat. Add the leeks, sprouts, carrots, celery, potatoes, sweet potatoes, salt, pepper, cayenne and garlic. Cook, covered, for about 20 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add the broth and bring to a boil. Lower the heat and simmer, covered, for about 30 minutes, until all is tender. Add the greens, tomatoes and bell pepper. Simmer 10 minutes more. Add the herbs, soy sauce and lemon juice and simmer 10 more minutes. Just before serving, stir in the sour cream and the parsley. Serve in bowls, sprinkled with the sunflower kernels. Serves 12. The leftovers improve with time!

DOUBLE CELERY & POTATO SOUP--Yet another favorite from the Vermont Valley CSA newsletter from years ago. This recipe is from Jill Maidenberg and is SO easy and SO tasty! Not familiar with celeriac? This recipe makes for an excellent introduction.

2 TBS. butter
2 cups sliced leeks
1 large onion, chopped
2 medium potatoes, cut into 1" chunks
2 medium celeriac roots (root celery), peeled and cut into 1/4" cubes
2 large sprigs of fresh thyme (1 tsp. crushed, dried)
1 bay leaf

8 cups chicken or veggie broth
5 stalks celery, thinly sliced, leaves reserved if there are any
1/3 cup milk or cream
Salt and pepper to taste

Melt the butter in a large, heavy pot over medium heat. Add the leeks and onion and sauté until almost tender, about 10 minutes. Stir in the potatoes, celeriac, thyme and bay leaf. Add the broth and bring to a boil. Reduce heat, cover and simmer until the veggies are tender, about 40 minutes. Add the celery stalks and simmer, covered, 12 minutes longer. Cool slightly. Using a hand held blender, puree the soup (or puree in batches in a blender or food processor). Stir in the milk or cream and season to taste. Ladle into bowls and garnish with the reserved celery leaves.

A note: If using dried thyme, add to the pot while sautéing the onion and leeks.

NEW PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT--Each month we will spotlight some new product that we already carry or one that we've taken note of and plan to carry in the near future. Likewise, if you would like to see Klein's to carry a product that we don't currently, please let us know. Our goal is to be responsive to the marketplace and to our loyal clientele. If a product fits into our profile, we will make every effort to get it into our store. In addition, we may be able to special order an item for you, whether plant or hard good, given enough time.
This month's new product is:

PLANT HANGERS FROM PRIMITIVE PLANTERS

Talk about a fun and exciting new product!! This alternative to grandma's outdated macramé plant hanger is it. These stunning cloth plant hangers come in a wide assortment of colors and fabric patterns. There is a color and style for every home decor. Now you're able to match your hanging plants with your walls, wallpaper, curtains, table linens, bedding and more. Primitive Planters has merged a functional garden product and home decorating into one product. Can be used both inside and out! See examples on their visually stimulating website at <http://www.primitiveplanters.com/> and then at Klein's. See what the hype is all about.

About the company--Primitive Planters

Primitive Planters focuses on helping to revive indoor and outdoor plant hangers by giving consumers choices in matching the colors, styles, and décor in their homes.

Co-founder & inventor of Primitive Planters, Sharon Clair, was unable to find a plant hanger that matched her décor, colors & styles room by room in her home. There were too many macramé, chain & plastic hangers that are out of date. Instead of using them, she didn't hang any at all. So it came to her, "How can I add color to a plant hanger to match the COLORS & DÉCOR IN MY HOUSE"? ... And so here they are.

Sharon Clair & Jennifer Lavoie have been friends for over 20 years, and both have an entrepreneurial spirit and make a great creative team. Sharon has over 8 years of marketing and management skills and a zest for coming up with new ideas and patenting them. Jennifer previously owned a successful tapestry bag business and is a professional model and actress. Jennifer has the experience in dealing with the quality assurance of textiles, product and the manufacturing process, while Sharon makes sure they market the product properly through different channels.

We are the original founders of the fabric plant hangers and have a utility "patent pending."

"We hope that our fabric plant hangers will bring back indoor & outdoor plant hangings to a whole new level now that people have decorative choices that suit their own style".

Sharon & Jennifer

NATURAL NEWS--

10 Reasons to Join a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Farm

Adapted from Monica Goldberg's, "16 Reasons to Join a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Farm" 2002. For more information, visit the Madison Area Community Supported Agriculture Coalition (MACSAC) website @ <http://www.macsac.org/aboutcsa.html>

CSA Vegetables--Picked Today! Delivered Near Your Door. If you aren't a member of a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farm yet, here are a few reasons to join one.

1--Better flavor: Organic vegetables have a rich and full flavor. That's why many chefs select organic food for their recipes. Since organic farming nourishes the soil, the food nourishes our palates. Better tasting means you'll eat more veggies and eat some that you may not have liked before.

2--More Nutritious: Freshly picked organic produce grown without pesticides and sprays are more nutritious than conventionally grown vegetables.

3--Safer Food: Your produce comes directly from your farmer. No risk of your food getting damaged or spoiled due to long-distance shipping. Most CSA's grow using organic methods. Organic produce is grown without pesticides or sprays. Pesticides are poisons and can be harmful to humans.

4--Save Money: CSA's offer high quality produce at below retail cost. The money goes directly to the farmer instead of paying distributors and trucking companies, and it stays your local economy.

5--Save Time: You pick up a box or bag of fresh vegetables already packed for you. No shopping hassles. Easy pick up at another member's home or on the farm. Select a convenient drop off site near work or home.

6--Selection: Farmers grow more vegetable varieties than found at the grocery store. You'll enjoy and discover more vegetable varieties than you might otherwise buy.

7--Farmer to Family Connection: A CSA is a relationship between a rural farmer and an urban family. The farm helps bring families to the land. It serves as a rural gathering place for urban families to share together events on the farm.

8--Fun: Experience fun on the farm with harvest festivals, dinners, celebrations, field days, family events and more.

9--Education: You'll learn new things about how and where your food is grown.

10--Protect Your Children: Children are exposed to four times as many cancer-causing pesticides in their food as adults. Organic food contains no carcinogenic pesticides.

OCTOBER'S PLANT OF THE MONTH:
THE SPRING BULBS

(TULIPS, DAFFODILS, HYACINTHS, ALLIUM, CROCUS, ETC.)

It may seem a little odd to some people to talk about spring blooming bulbs (tulips, daffodils, hyacinths and crocus, among others) in October. But too often we have customers asking us for tulip and daffodil bulbs in April and May. It must seem logical to the beginning gardener that they are planted in the springtime rather than fall because that's when they make their appearance in Madison area gardens. Even experienced gardeners sometimes forget to make a fall trip to their local garden center. After all, gardens are still looking great with blooming mums, asters, grasses and even geraniums and salvia. But autumn is really the best and only time to talk about placing spring bulbs in the garden.

The spring bulbs generally make their retail appearance from mid-August through mid-September. For best selection and quality it's important to shop as early as possible. By early October, many bulbs are already sold out and the quality deteriorates as the best ones get picked over and the remaining choices start withering on store shelves. Always select the largest and firmest bulbs for best results.

Once you've purchased your bulbs, it's now important that you wait and not plant them too early into the garden. We recommend waiting until late October or even early November before planting your tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, crocus and alliums. Bulbs can be planted into the garden any time before the ground freezes. This usually occurs around December 1 in the city of Madison and a bit earlier in the surrounding areas. Keep an eye on the long range forecast as not to be caught off guard. Store your bulbs in a cool dry place until you're ready to plant. A refrigerator works best. If planted too early, bulbs may begin sprouting, causing them to expend their energy at the wrong time of the year.

When planting your bulbs, it's crucial to follow the instructions regarding planting depth. Each bulb has somewhat different requirements. Planted too shallow, your bulbs may freeze out, be dug up by animals or sprout too early in the spring. Planted too deep and they may not come up at all or may not bloom if they do. Soil preparation is also very

important. For sheer ease, it's best to plant your bulbs when the soil is moist. There are few garden tasks worse than trying to plant bulbs in overly dry soil. In fact, most bulb diggers won't work unless the soil is moist. Loosening the moist soil with a shovel or tiller will make the task even easier, especially for larger areas. Add a bulb booster or bone meal to the soil for added success. Once planted, give your bulbs a good soaking. We highly recommend covering your tulip and crocus beds with chicken wire or hardware cloth to avoid them being devoured by hungry squirrels. Remove the chicken wire once the ground freezes solid or, better yet, waiting until the bulbs begin to emerge in the spring.

Planting your bulbs close together and in drifts of a single variety will give the greatest impact in the spring. A common mistake is to plant single bulbs randomly throughout the garden, rather than in sweeps of color. In addition, bulbs are often times far less expensive when bought in bulk or bonus bags instead of individually and will give you far more bang for the buck.

Check out the following websites for more information:

<http://www.flower-gardening-made-easy.com/bulb-planting.html>

<http://www.johnscheepers.com/>

<http://www.mzbulbfall.com/>

YOU ASKED. . .

I put many of my houseplants outdoors during the summer months. Should I do anything to them before I bring them indoors?

This is far and away one of our most frequently asked questions, but usually after it's already too late. The phone call for advice comes in March when one of our customers is faced with an aphid and whitefly infested, 10 foot ugly hibiscus that's now shedding all of its leaves. Yes, there are very simple things you can be doing now to avoid this situation come winter.

Our suggestions include:

1. Repot any plants that need it while they're still outside, the days are still long and the weather is still relatively pleasant. Repotting is less messy outdoors and many houseplants go through a small growth burst in the fall before they want to go somewhat dormant.
2. Prune your plants (if applicable) to a desirable shape and size for the same reasons. Because your plants have been outdoors loving the sun and rain, they've probably outgrown their indoor spot. In addition, they've probably got far more foliage than they need for the dark and short days of winter. This is one of the main reasons many plants drop foliage during the winter months (the other being the artificial heat and low humidity in our homes). The plant simply can't support all the greenery it put on during the summer months.
3. Cut back gradually on fertilizing. Because the days are shortening, your plants are wanting to go into a dormancy of sorts. Fertilizing in order to promote vigorous growth is counter to what the plant is wanting to do at this time of the year. In fact, from November until February, indoor plants in Wisconsin should not be fertilized at all, or with a very dilute solution (such as Miracle Gro drops).
4. Eliminate insect pests BEFORE you bring the pests into your home. We recommend applying a systemic insecticide about 6 weeks before you plan on bringing plants indoors. A systemic is drawn up into the plant via the root system and makes the plant essentially undesirable to eat. By applying the systemic while the plant is still outdoors, you also eliminate the mess and the smell with that first application. It's very important to follow the manufacturer's instructions. The amount mixed into the soil is based on pot size rather than plant size. We recommend Labor Day weekend as the perfect time to apply your first round of systemic and then every 6 weeks throughout the winter. In doing so, your plants should remain insect free until they go outside again next spring. As with all pesticides, keep your treated plants away from children and pets.

AROUND TOWN:

NOTE: If you know of any community or neighborhood events or garden tours you would like posted on our web site in our monthly newsletters, please contact Rick at (608) 244-5661. Please include all details, i.e.

dates, locations, prices, brief description, etc. Our readership is ever-growing so this is a great opportunity for free advertising. Events must be garden related and must take place in the immediate Madison vicinity.

Dane County Farmer's Market

Saturdays, April 19 thru November 3, 6:00-2:00
On the Capitol Square

Wednesdays, April 23 thru November 5, 8:30-2:00
In the 200 block of Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
For details visit www.madfarmmkt.org

Olbrich's Garden's

Bolz Conservatory Exhibit-Yesterday's Plants, Today's Energy

September 3 through March 22, 2009
Daily from 10:00-4:00, Sundays 10:00-5:00
In the Bolz Conservatory

Come learn about the prehistoric plants that formed the coal we use for today's energy. Coal-forming ferns and mosses have lived on Earth for the past 290 million years - since before the dinosaurs! Learn what it took to make these plants into coal, and discover why we need alternative energy sources since today's ferns and mosses won't provide coal energy for tomorrow. Admission is \$1 for the general public. Admission is always free for Olbrich Botanical Society members and children 5 and under, and is free for the general public on Wednesday and Saturday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon.

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison
608/246-4550 or www.olbrich.org for details

Olbrich's Garden's

Fall Leaf Mulch Sale

October 9, 16, 23 and 30, 9:00-6:00

Olbrich Leaf Mulch is made from leaves collected by the City of Madison that are delivered to Olbrich where they're composted outside during the winter and then double-shredded. Leaf mulch is beneficial for annuals, perennials, shrubs, trees, and in vegetable gardens. It cuts down on watering and weeding, recycles local leaves, and is credited for Olbrich's healthy looking gardens. This leaf mulch is available only through Olbrich.

Olbrich will have a bulk-only Leaf Mulch Sale in October. No bagged mulch will be for sale.

Bulk scoops are \$40 (A bulk scoop is equal to about 8 - 10 bags of mulch and covers about 350 square feet at three inches.)

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison
608/246-4550 or www.olbrich.org for details

African Violet Show and Sale

Saturday, October 11, 12:00-5:00
Sunday, October 12, 10:00-3:00

African violets will be on display and for sale in the Evjue Commons. The sale will include African violets, Streptocarpus, and other gesneriads. Leaves, starter plants, soil, pots, and handouts with growing tips will also be available. Sponsored by the Wisconsin State Council of African Violets. A portion of the proceeds benefits Olbrich Botanical Gardens. For more information call 608-833-5552.

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison
608/246-4550 or www.olbrich.org for details

Badger Trolley Tours

Sundays, October 12, 19 & 26 • 1, 2 & 3 p.m.

Free, narrated tours aboard the Badger Trolley begin at the Visitor Center. Tours last about 45 minutes. View the prairies and woodlands in beautiful fall color and learn more about the Arboretum's history and purpose.

University of Wisconsin Arboretum
1207 Seminole Highway
Madison, WI 53711
608/263-7888 or www.uwarboretum.org for details

Herb Fair

Saturday, November 8, 8:30-4:00.

Browse through displays of herbal foods, crafts, and books for sale. Sponsored by the Madison Herb Society. For more information call 608-834-9494.

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison
608/246-4550 or www.olbrich.org for details

OCTOBER IN THE GARDEN--A checklist of things to do this month.

**The average first killing frost date for Madison is October 6. Be prepared to cover or move plants indoors at any time.

- ___ Pick up a copy of the 2009 Wisconsin Garden Journal at bookstores & Klein's
- ___ Visit Olbrich, Rotary or Allen Centennial Gardens and note plants of fall interest for spring planting and best selection.
- ___ Dig new beds now! It's easier now than in spring when super-busy.
- ___ Take geranium, salvia, impatiens, abutilon cuttings before the first freeze.
- ___ Plant spring bulbs now! Plant tulips, daffodils, hyacinths & crocus.
- ___ Plant bulbs for forcing and put in a cool location for 10-12 weeks.
- ___ Plant Christmas amaryllis now for holiday blooms; paperwhites now for Thanksgiving blooms.
- ___ Apply a systemic pesticide to plants to be wintered over indoors.
- ___ Move potted bulbs to be stored like begonias, callas, caladiums and cannas to a garage so they can dry out before storage.
- ___ Dig up and store dahlias, glads, cannas and elephant's ear after tops freeze.
- ___ Continue planting deciduous shrubs and trees until the ground freezes.
- ___ Divide and plant perennials as desired.
- ___ Clean up stalks and leaves of annuals and vegetables, preventing viruses and pests for next year's garden.
- ___ Continue harvesting brussels sprouts, kale, greens and root crops.
- ___ Plant garlic. October is the best time.
- ___ Stop deadheading perennials for winter interest, i.e. sedums, grasses, etc.
- ___ Cut perennials back to 4-6", leaving those for winter interest.
- ___ Collect seeds for next year's garden.
- ___ Plant winter rye as a cover crop for spring tilling.
- ___ Make notes in your garden journal for changes, improvements, etc.
- ___ Take pictures of your garden for record keeping.
- ___ Mow the lawn at shortest setting for last mowing of the season.
- ___ Visit Klein's---Great selection of mums, kales, cabbages, pansies & more!

BEHIND THE SCENES AT KLEIN'S--This is a sneak peek of what is going on each month behind the scenes in our greenhouses. Many people are unaware that our facility operates year round or that we have 10 more greenhouses on the property in addition to the 6 open for retail. At any given moment we already have a jump on the upcoming season--be it poinsettias in July, geraniums in December or fall mums in May.

IN OCTOBER:

---We've put any leftover perennials to bed for the winter in one of our unheated back greenhouses. It's been a good season...we have very little left to pack away.

---We begin shutting down the back greenhouses. They remain unheated for the winter allowing energy savings and pest control.

---Weatherizing continues. We seal up and insulate unused doors and caulk up air leaks. Water is shut off to the greenhouses not used during the winter.

---Pots, cell packs and trays arrive from our wholesalers in preparation for next spring. Most are stored in the unused greenhouses out back. It's only 3 months till the first of next year's geranium crop arrive (we already have many of next season's tropicals).

---Plants begin arriving for the big Garden Expo at the Alliant Energy Center in February. Herbs, primrose and cool-loving annuals are arriving enforce.

---Cyclamen and azaleas continue to arrive for winter sales.

---We send out our mailings to local churches regarding poinsettia and blooming plant information for the upcoming holidays. We are proud to say that hundreds of area churches and businesses are decked out with Klein's HOMEGROWN poinsettias during the holiday season.

---By month's end the poinsettias begin to change color. Looking across the greenhouses, one begins to see hints of red, pink and white. We've moved many of our poinsettias into our retail area from the back greenhouses before cold weather sets in.

EMPLOYEE PROFILE--ROSE JENKINS

The fact that Rose Jenkins works at Klein's (and has since 2002) is an amazing story. Early on in Rose's interview for our employee profile, it became clear that the fates had discussed the path of this life in great detail--if one believes in such a thing. Coincidence that she works at Klein's? Not likely. Planning on Rose's part? Perhaps, to a degree. The mere fact that her name is Rose makes for a great starting point in telling her tale.

The first sentence from Rose's lips in beginning our interview was that her love of nature, plants and gardening is in her genes. That statement, in itself, gives us an inkling as to how this story will unfold. Rose grew up on a dairy and truck farm in rural Walworth County near Lake Geneva where her family raised and sold strawberries, raspberries and cucumbers. Accolades from the gardening world appear on both sides of Rose's family tree. Her paternal grandmother was, in fact, known throughout Denmark for her gardening knowledge and skills and held the equivalent of our Master Gardener title. Rose's own mother was an award winner at the Chicago Exhibition at Horticulture Hall in Lake Geneva, WI. Rose says her mother was known in the area for her prize winning dahlias, peonies and geraniums and wouldn't hesitate giving cut flowers to patrons stopping by the farm for their fresh produce. Rose says her two older brothers are also avid gardeners. She says that growing up on the farm put her in tune with nature through close observation of the world around her. She was taught that hard work brings rewards and that nurturing gives one satisfaction. Plants are forgiving. "What you put into something, you'll get back in return"--a philosophy, Rose says, she learned in the garden.

Upon graduating from high school, Rose moved to Madison and earned her degree in social work from the University of Wisconsin before moving to California. There, she met her future husband, Lowell, an artist and sculptor extraordinaire, and himself a lover of plants and nature. Rose says he was particularly fond of the art of bonsai and using plants in his artwork. Lowell passed away in early 2007.

Rose says that the females in her family have historically been named after flowers. In fact, it was her Aunt Viola who lured her to California and it was there, while visiting a nursery, that she came upon what would become her daughter's name, Japonica, or "plant of Japan" (syn. Camellia). The tradition thus continued. In addition to Japonica, Rose also has a stepson, Jocopop ("artist of the street").

Once they left California, Rose and family lived in a few other Wisconsin cities before moving to Madison in 1980, where they owned a home on East Washington Avenue. She says she asked an acquaintance where the best place was to buy plants. That acquaintance recommended Klein's. The events leading up to the present begin in quick succession. Rose says she was one of the very first on Madison's east side to plant her entire front yard and terrace in flowers. Though commonplace now, that practice was nearly unheard of in the early and mid-80's. In fact, Rose says she was harassed somewhat by the city inspectors for a while until attitudes about streetside plantings began to change. Who knows? Maybe our Rose was instrumental in that process!

After selling their home, Rose and Lowell moved to an apartment in Yahara Landing where Rose negotiated with management to do some grounds improvement and continue gardening. She became involved with the Friends of Yahara River Parkway and not only volunteered with them, but also established beautiful gardens in her apartment complex. Just outside her front door, Rose grew containers and extensive beds of mixed annuals and perennials. She says her very favorites were her beds of native woodland plantings amongst the trees lining the Yahara River

shore. Part of this process included the removal of the buckthorn, garlic mustard and other invasives that had taken over the site.

In 2002, Rose retired from her job as a program assistant in community outreach at the Waismann Center. She spent a few months in retirement before finding the need to "return to her roots" and find a part time job in something she truly enjoyed. Life had come full circle and fate was on her side. Rose walked into Klein's with a photograph of her garden. It was October 2002. (We rarely hire anyone in October!) Rose was pretty much hired on the spot. Her perfect hours, vast gardening knowledge and desire to learn made her the perfect Klein's employee.

Rose continues with her desire to learn to this day as she takes MATC classes in floral design. Rose's current responsibilities include customer service, general green plant maintenance and putting together our weekly order of blooming and indoor plants. She says the joys of work revolve around the plant and people contact. In fact, many a customer has stated how happy they are to see Rose's patient and helpful face gracing our retail area. Rose says her philosophy on plants and gardening reflects her philosophies in life. She loves the diversity of the plant world like the diversity in the human world and that, like people, no two plants are alike or have the same needs. Rose gets great comfort from the notion that plants, like people, are forgiving. "I'm happy as a bee," says Rose.

PERMANENT FEATURES-- **KLEIN'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

Have our monthly newsletter e-mailed to you automatically by signing up on the right side of our home page. We'll offer monthly tips, greenhouse news and tidbits, specials and recipes. ...everything you need to know from your favorite Madison greenhouse. And tell your friends. It's easy to do.

SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT

We offer a 10% Off Senior Citizen Discount every Tuesday to those 62 and above. This discount is not in addition to other discounts or sales. Please mention that you are a senior before we ring up your purchases. Does not apply to wire out orders or services, i.e. delivery, potting, etc.

BUCKY BOOK COUPON

Klein's is again showing our proud support of UW Athletics with advertising and coupons in the 2009 edition of the Bucky Book.

DELIVERY INFO

Klein's Floral and Greenhouses delivers daily, except Sundays, throughout all of Madison and much of Dane County including: Cottage Grove, DeForest, Maple Bluff, McFarland, Middleton, Monona, Oregon, Shorewood Hills, Sun Prairie, Verona, Waunakee and Windsor. Current delivery rate on 1-4 items is \$6.95 for Madison, Maple Bluff, Monona and Shorewood Hills, slightly more to the surrounding communities and for more than 4 items. We not only deliver our fabulous fresh flowers, but also houseplants, bedding plants and sundries. We offer free delivery to all Madison hospitals and funeral homes.

Morning delivery is guaranteed to the following Madison zip codes, but only if requested: 53703, 53704, 53713, 53714, 53716, 53718 and Cottage Grove, DeForest, Maple Bluff, McFarland, Monona, Sun Prairie, Waunakee and Windsor. We begin our delivery day at 8:00 a.m. and end at approximately 4:00 p.m. Except during holidays, the following west-side zip codes and communities can be delivered only during the afternoon: 53705, 53706, 53711, 53717, 53719, 53726, Middleton, Oregon, Shorewood Hills and Verona. During holidays (Christmas, Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, etc.) we are able to make morning deliveries to all of the above areas. We are not able to take closely timed deliveries on any holiday due to the sheer volume of such requests. It's best to give us a range of time and we'll try our absolute hardest. Orders for same day delivery must be placed by 12:30 p.m. or by 2:30 p.m. for Madison zip codes 53704 and 53714.

DEPARTMENT HEADS: Please refer all questions, concerns or feedback in the following departments to their appropriate supervisor.

Phone: 608/244-5661 or 888/244-5661

Floral Department Manager Kathy Lehman

kathy@kleinsfloral.com

Head Grower & Horticulturist Jamie VandenWymelenberg

jamie@kleinsfloral.com

Assistant Grower

Craig Johnson

craig@kleinsfloral.com

Retail Manager
Jennifer Wadyka
jennifer@kleinsfloral.com
House Accounts & Billing Barbara Foulk
Delivery Supervisor
Rick Halbach
Owner Sue (Klein) Johnson
sue@kleinsfloral.com

RELATED RESOURCES AND WEB SITES

University of Wisconsin Extension
1 Fen Oak Ct. #138
Madison, WI 53718
608/224-3700
www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/
www.uwex.edu/ces/wihort

Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic
Dept. of Plant Pathology
1630 Linden Dr.
Madison, WI 53706
www.plantpath.wisc.edu/

Insect Diagnostic Lab
240 Russell Labs
1630 Linden Dr.
Madison, WI 53706
www.entomology.wisc.edu/

State Soil Testing Lab
5711 Mineral Point Rd.
Madison, WI 53705
608/262-4364
www.soils.wisc.edu

American Horticultural Society
www.ahs.org

Garden Catalogs (an extensive list with links)
www.gardenlist.com
also www.mailordergardening.com

Invasive Species
www.invasive.org

Friends of Troy Gardens
Rm. 171, Bldg. 14
3601 Memorial Dr.
Madison, WI 53704
608/240-0409
www.troygardens.org

Community Gardens Division (Madison area)
Community Action Coalition
1717 N. Stoughton Rd.
Madison, WI 53704
608/246-4730
www.cacscw.org/gardens/

Madison Area Master Gardeners (MAMGA)
www.madison.com/communities/mamga/

Wisconsin Master Gardeners Program
Department of Horticulture
1575 Linden Drive
University of Wisconsin - Madison
Madison, WI 53706
608/265-4504
www.hort.wisc.edu/mastergardener/

The Wisconsin Gardener
www.wpt.org/garden/
Has a list of garden clubs and societies

Allen Centennial Gardens
620 Babcock Dr.
Madison, WI 53706
608/262-8406
www.horticulture.wisc.edu/allencentennialgardens/Index.html

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave.
Madison, WI 53704
608/246-4550
www.olbrich.org

Rotary Gardens
1455 Palmer Dr.
Janesville, WI 53545
608/752-3885
www.rotarygardens.org

University of WI Arboretum
1207 Seminole Hwy.
Madison, WI 53711
608/263-7888
www.uwarboretum.org

University of Wisconsin-West Madison
Agricultural Research Center
8502 Mineral Point Rd.
Verona, WI 53593
608/262-2257
www.cals.wisc.edu/westmad/