

'THE SAGE'--MARCH 2010

Klein's Floral & Greenhouses On-Line Newsletter

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THE MAD GARDENER

"Madison's Firsthand Source for Expert Gardening Advice"

Ask any of your gardening questions by e-mailing them to us at madgardener@kleinsfloral.com. Klein's in-house **Mad Gardener** will e-mail you with an answer as promptly as we can. We've also posted a link to this e-mail address on our home page for your convenience. Your question might then appear in the "**You Asked**" feature of our monthly newsletter. If your question is the one selected for our monthly newsletter, you'll receive a small gift from us at Klein's. The **Mad Gardener** hopes to hear from you soon!

Sorry, we can only answer those questions pertaining to gardening in Southern Wisconsin and we reserve the right to leave correspondence unanswered at our discretion. Please allow 2-3 days for a response.

Please note that our **Mad Gardener** is not only an expert gardener, but can answer all of your indoor plant questions as well.

FOR NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS OR GARDEN TOURS that you would like posted on our web site or in our monthly newsletters, please contact Rick at (608) 244-5661 or Sue at sue@kleinsfloral.com. 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.

A QUICK NOTE:

We would like to thank all of you for making the Wisconsin Public Television Garden Expo at the Alliant Energy a great success for us at Klein's this past February. Your feedback and support were above and beyond. Attendees commented often that they appreciated the burst of spring we brought to the expo with our spring blooming plants and fresh herbs. Plant sales again surpassed our expectations. **We also welcome all of you who newly subscribed to our monthly newsletter** at the show. The Garden Expo is Klein's biggest gardening event of the year. We enjoy talking with all of you and sharing our love of gardening with you.

Thanks again! The Staff at Klein's

MARCH STORE HOURS:

Monday thru Friday

8:00-6:00

Saturday:

8:00-5:00

Sunday: 10:00-4:00

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

March 14--Daylight-Saving Time Begins.

March 17--St. Patrick's Day. From shamrocks to green carnations--we have it!

March 20--First Day of Spring!!!! It's still too early to plant, but you'll notice spring bulbs peeking through the cold soil, trees buds bulging and maybe even that first robin. Keep in mind that Madison's average last frost date is May 10 so there's usually still lots of cold and snow to come.

March 28--Palm Sunday

March 29--Full Moon

March 30--Passover Begins

April 2--Good Friday

April 4--Easter Sunday, Klein's will be open 10:00-4:00.

'THE FLOWER SHOPPE':

Guy's Guide to Giving Flowers

From the Society of American Florists website @ www.aboutflowers.com

What's the best way for a man to make a lasting impression on a woman? Recent consumer research shows that the answer to making a memorable impact is right under his nose— through flowers. In fact, the study shows that 92% of women can remember the last time they received flowers, and 89% say receiving flowers makes them feel special.

Giving great floral gifts, however, still remains a mystery to most men. To help them out, author and TV host Rebecca Cole provides guidance on giving females flowers.

"If the way to a man's heart is through his stomach, then the pathway to a woman's heart is through her other senses," said Cole, author of Flower Power and co-host of Discovery Channel's Surprise By Design.

“Flowers are a sensual gift that can express any emotion so simply – with just a little knowledge and a phone call to the florist.”

Cole begins by offering advice to guys on how to send just the right message to the woman in his life – a new girlfriend, that special someone, Mom or a good friend.

•**The New Thing.** This emotion may be the most difficult for a man to express, so Cole provides style advice for the guy who wants to show his new romantic interest exactly how he feels. “A passionate arrangement is filled with hot pinks, oranges, reds and golds. Add a thoughtful card to help communicate just the right sentiment,” says Cole.

•**The Real Deal.** Flowers are intimately – and internationally – linked with the art of romance, and for good reason says Cole. “As relationships grow, flowers become symbols of different events and milestones in our lives together. Take note of her favorite flowers – the varieties at your wedding, flowers you sent her when you first started dating or the ones she buys for herself. Those will have great meaning and impact.”

•**Leading Ladies.** “No woman – especially moms, grandmas and sisters – should live without a little TLC,” says Cole. A fabulous flowering plant or a garden-style arrangement with greens and soft pastel hues – no matter what the flower – will send the message that you care.

•**The Gal Pal.** “Flowers that show you’re thinking of someone, but not in a sensual way, have a natural, just-picked feeling,” says Cole. She advises to ask for a selection of garden-style flowers or a bright bold color palette that is fun and whimsical. A basket with a mix of flowering and green plants delivered to her door or office is also a sure fire winner.

Research shows that 96% of women like to receive flowers when they’re not expecting them. “Guys should know that they don’t have to wait for a special occasion to give flowers,” Cole says. “Make an occasion by sending flowers to the woman in your life, just because. They’ll never forget it.”

Cole offers advice for men willing to try something trendy. She suggests these three top design styles that men can ask for with confidence:

•**Monobotanic.** Arrangements featuring only one type of flower (such as all roses, tulips, lilies or iris) are in style and may even include different colors of the same flower in the vase or container.

•**Monochromatic.** Pick a color, any color and stick with it! If her favorite color is pink, for example, ask your florist for a fresh bouquet of different flowers in the same color range.

•**Bunches of Texture.** Ask your florist to select complementary flowers of various textures to place in bunches in an elegant glass container. This unique look has a bold, contemporary feel and will surely provide the “wow” factor.

•**Be Spontaneous.** You don't have to wait for a special occasion to give flowers. In fact, most women say “no reason” is the best reason to get flowers.

•**Size Doesn't Matter.** Trust your florist to help you send an arrangement that is appropriate for the occasion. Bouquets both big and small can make a bold statement. It's the sentiment that makes the impact.

•**Score Big Points.** Surprise her by sending a bouquet to her office, and see how much attention you'll get because of the attention she got.

•**Relax.** Flowers don't have to mean commitment. Women know when an arrangement simply means that you care.

“The most important thing to remember is that you simply cannot go wrong with flowers,” said Cole. “Your florist is there to help, but you'll get all the credit.”

The consumer research cited was conducted in 2005 by The Michael Cohen Group.

And new and improved from Klein's for you or for the flower lover in your life:

Klein's “Blooming Plant or Fresh Flower Club”

Send or receive 3 month's, 6 month's or a whole year's worth of seasonal blooming plants or fresh flower arrangements and SAVE!!

There's no easier way to give gorgeous blooming plants or fresh flower arrangements, month after month. Each month a seasonal blooming plant or fresh arrangement will arrive on yours or a loved one's doorstep. You choose the start date and we'll make your special delivery the very same day each month.

For just \$75, \$150 or \$300, respectively, we'll send 3 month's, 6 month's or a year's worth of seasonal blooming plants--perhaps a bulb garden or azalea in the spring, one of our famous large geraniums or a tropical hibiscus in the summer, a chrysanthemum or Thanksgiving cactus in the fall or one of our homegrown poinsettias or cyclamen for the holidays and winter months. Selection of the blooming plant will be based on availability.

And for just \$90, \$175 or \$350, respectively, receive one of Klein's lovely fresh floral arrangements. All arrangements will be seasonal and will contain only the freshest flowers. All arrangements are **Designer's Choice**, but are sure to satisfy the most discerning lover of fresh flowers.

Prices include delivery within our delivery area. Enclosure cards will accompany each delivery if desired. For delivery details visit the "**Permanent Features**" section of our newsletter below. If your chosen delivery date happens to fall on a Sunday or holiday, we will deliver it on the next available delivery day. All regular delivery conditions apply.

Join our **Blooming Plant or Fresh Flower Club** by calling Klein's at **608/244-5661** or **888/244-5661** or by stopping in. We request that payment be made in full before the first delivery and prices do not include sales tax.

DID YOU KNOW. . .

**. . .that March is the month for indoor seed starting to begin enforce.
Here's how to begin:**

Starting your own plants from seed can be both rewarding and frustrating for the beginning gardener. From experience, it's best to start out slow. This eliminates some of the frustration. Experience will gain you knowledge and confidence. Before starting your seeds, read the packet and get a little basic information. Some seeds are best sown directly in the garden come spring and not started indoors. It's best to do a little research by going on-line or purchasing a good gardening book. The packets themselves will usually tell you whether to direct sow in the garden or how many weeks before our last frost date to sow indoors. Our last frost date is about May 10. Using a calendar, count back from May 10 and this will be your sow date.

One can start seeds on any sunny windowsill and in almost any container. Warmth and moisture are critical in getting most seeds to germinate. But a few

pieces of basic and inexpensive equipment purchased at your garden center and/or hardware store will help you get started and make your seed starting experience a great success. Here is a shopping list:

- *A heating mat--makes seeds germinate quickly and uniformly
- *A few 10x20" trays without holes
- *A few clear humidity domes
- *A sterile seed starting mix
- *A 4' shop lamp w/ 2 fluorescent bulbs (you don't need "gro-lights") or a seed growing rack if you'd like to make an investment
- *A few 10x20" trays with holes
- *A few sheets of empty cell packs, e.g. 4-packs or 6-packs
- *A water mister
- *A timer
- *A soilless potting mix

All of the above items, except the timer, are available at Klein's.

Again, following package instructions, sow the seeds, as many as you want, in a very shallow, open container, filled with moistened seed starting mix. This container can be anything from very low or cut off dairy containers to disposable food storage containers. Per package instructions, cover or don't cover the seed. Some seeds require light for germination. Next place your seeded containers in a tray **without holes**, mist them till well watered and cover with a humidity dome. Place your covered tray on the plugged in heating mat under the shop light. Set your timer so the shop light is on for 13 hours (off for 11 hours).

In a few days, as your seeds begin to sprout, remove them from under the humidity dome and place in a well-lit, warm location. Keep your seeds and seedlings moist. Different seeds sprout at different rates so this can take from a few days to a few weeks. Once all your seeds have germinated, unplug your heating mat. You can now move all of your seedlings to under the shop light still set at 13 hours.

Once your seedlings have 2 sets of "real" leaves it's time to "**prick them out**" (transplant them). Do this by placing a sheet of empty cell packs in a tray **with holes**. The holes now become necessary for proper drainage. Fill the cells with soilless potting mix and moisten well with the mister. Using a pen or pencil "dibble" a hole into each of the cells. This is where you'll now place your seedling. Remove the seed starting mix and seedlings as a clump from their starting containers. Gently break apart this root ball, separating your seedlings. The pen or pencil will come in handy as an added tool to help separate the

seedlings. Carefully place one seedling in each of the holes you put in the prepped cells. Gently firm in with your finger tips. Mist well to water thoroughly and place in a warm, well lit area. Using your shop light again makes this easy. The seedlings may seem weak and somewhat abused, but they're very resilient and will pop back quickly. When watering, fertilize your new plants with a very dilute solution, rather than at full rate. By May 10 your flowers and vegetables should be ready to put in your garden and you can say that you did it yourself--beginning to end.

In addition to the Livingston, Olds, Northrup King & Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds available at Klein's, check out the following sources:

All offer free print catalogs and easy on-line ordering. Seeds usually arrive within just a few days after an order is placed.

Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds @ www.rareseeds.com or 417/924-8887

Burpee @ www.burpee.com or 800/888-1447

Harris Seeds @ www.harriseseeds.com or 800/514-4441

Johnny's Select Seeds @ www.johnnyseeds.com or 207/861-3901

Jung's Seeds @ www.jungseed.com or 800/247-5864

Park's Seeds @ www.parkseed.com or 800/845-3369

Seeds of Change @ www.seedsofchange.com or 888/762-7333

Seed Savers @ www.seedsavers.org or 563/382-5990

Select Seeds @ www.selectseeds.com or 800/684-0395

Territorial Seeds @ www.territorialseed.com or 888/657-3131

Thompson & Morgan @ www.thompson-morgan.com or 800/274-7333

For bulbs:

Colorblends @ www.colorblends.com or 888/847-8637

John Scheeper's @ www.johnscheepers.com or 860/567-0838

McClure & Zimmerman @ www.mzbulb.com or 800/883-6998

For plants:

Heronwood Nursery @ www.heronwood.com or 360/297-4172

High Country Gardens @ www.highcountrygardens.com or 800/925-9387

Logee's Greenhouses @ www.logees.com or 888/330-8038

Plant Delights Nursery @ www.plantdelights.com or 912/772-4794

Roots and Rhizomes @ www.rootsrhizomes.com or 800/374-5035

Wayside Gardens @ www.waysidegardens.com or 800/213-0379

White Flower Farm @ www.whiteflowerfarm.com or 800/503-9624

Note: To receive every possible seed, plant or garden supply catalog imaginable, check out **Cyndi's Catalog of Garden Catalogs @ www.gardenlist.com**. Most catalogs are free and make for great winter reading!

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

ENTRY: FEBRUARY 1, 2010 (Perennials 2010 at Klein's)

Spent the entire day at home today ordering the majority of Klein's spring perennials. While we plant up many of our most popular and easiest to grow perennials from tiny plugs, the vast majority of Klein's perennials comes in as finished product from a local perennial grower, W. & E. Radtke, Inc. of Germantown, WI. When I started at Klein's nearly 20 years ago, our entire perennial area consisted of a small area just outside the front door in the parking lot off East Wash, fenced in by cinder blocks and two-by-fours. We carried perhaps a few colors of iris, a few daylilies, a few tried-and-trues, tons of creeping phlox and really not much more. When I began ordering the perennials in the mid-90's, I tried to expand the selection, but with limited space, my options were also pretty limited. In the late 90's, we moved our perennial area to just outside the greenhouses facing the hotel that was then next door to us (where the Walgreen's is now located). Though bigger, the area was still small, contained by a chain link fence and surrounded by a small gravel parking lot.

With the arrival of Walgreen's, everything changed for us--especially access off Stoughton Rd. and the amount of parking surrounding our facility. We made the entrance nearest Walgreen's one of our main entrances and drastically increased our outdoor shopping space. Part of that plan was to accommodate our ever-growing perennial area.

That perennial area continues to grow. **In just the past two years**, sales in our perennial area have nearly doubled as selection increases and merchandising improves. Though not the largest selection in the area, we try to offer not only the perennials that make up the backbone of Madison area gardens, but also the newest varieties on the market. Our perennial area, managed, manned and stocked solely by Mark Anderson, is nearly unrecognizable from that of just a few years ago. The perennials have been neatly categorized for easy shopping, featuring a shade area, a Wisconsin natives area, a "Now in Bloom" area, and areas for hardy grasses and vines. Plants have been arranged alphabetically by

their Latin name, but signing using their common name makes selections easy to find. We now also offer a huge selection of gallon sized perennials for faster fill in the garden and an ever-growing selection of blooming shrubs to fit in any perennial landscape, including hydrangeas, lilacs, forsythia, tree peonies, rhododendrons and many, many more.

So after a few years away from it, I'm now again the guy who orders the perennials at Klein's--and enjoying it. Ordering plants comes rather easily and naturally for me. After all these years, I know the plants, I know our customers, I know our limitations, but above all I know our potential. I'm looking forward to another year of increased perennial sales!

ENTRY: FEBRUARY 3, 2010 (Spring Annual Planting Frenzy Begins)

In just a few days, the greenhouses at Klein's are being transformed from cold, drafty and lifeless rooms into those filled with sunshine, warmth and much needed green. Our shipment of spring geraniums has arrived!

The first of the geraniums to arrive were the unrooted cuttings for our 4 1/2" pots. A team of 3 coworkers spent an entire day sticking thousands upon thousands of 3-4" long cuttings from Mexico into cells filled with a moistened peat pellet-like disc. After days of constant misting, the slightly wilted cuttings perked up and began to root out into their new surroundings.

The next geraniums to arrive were the thousands upon thousands of rooted cuttings for larger pots, hanging baskets and flower pouches. Over the next week, a team of us planted every configuration of geranium for the 2010 growing season. The **hot, new geranium** is a n interspecific dark red variety called '**Calliope**'. This amazing variety could single-handedly change how geranium hanging baskets look forever. The flowers are a traditional, deep and vivid true red. The plants, however, are super vigorous and cascading--**the 'Wave' petunia of the geranium world**. The texture of the foliage lies somewhere between ivies and zonals--leaves are soft and large like a zonal, with the tumbling effect ivy geraniums provide. The large flowers are certainly more like a zonal. Watch for more colors to hit the marketplace as this hot new geranium takes root! This is a new geranium that cannot be overlooked.

What else has arrived in recent days? Many of our tropicals, vinca vine, spikes and a few of the filler plants for the geranium baskets to be added later. The frenzy begins in full force once Garden Expo and Valentine's Day have passed in a few short weeks.

ENTRY: FEBRUARY 19, 2010 (Vacation Preparation)

Garden Expo and Valentine's Day have passed. I can breathe again! It's time for a much needed vacation to the tropics--the first time I'm going anywhere tropical since 1985. Late February provides me a small window of opportunity to take a little time off before the spring madness begins, but I'm having to take a few measures to prepare my houseplants for my upcoming absence.

First off, I've moved many of my plants off and away from any south and west windowsills. Though these windowsills provide the best light for many of my plants, they also provide a lot of unnecessary heat. The sunshine beating against the pots causes the plants to dry out far faster than they need to while I'm away. I've moved many of them to some of the unused plant lights in the cool basement. There they'll temporarily receive adequate light and, due to the cool temperatures, will dry out rather slowly.

Before I leave, I'll thoroughly water most of my plants, making sure to drain standing water from any of the saucers. I've arranged for a friend to stop by and check on things, but because I've lowered the house temperature to 55°, most plants won't need to be watered until I get home.

On the downside, I'm having to hold off on some of my seed starting until I get back from vacation. I certainly don't want a heating mat to be plugged in while I'm gone. Things will be a little crazy in the few days when I get back as some of the biggest seed starting days of early March approach. In preparation, I've already sterilized all of my equipment and made sure all of my light banks are working properly. I've also arranged for any plant deliveries to be made to the greenhouse instead of here at home where they can be cared for properly until I get back.

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

For a quick and satisfying side with soups, stews and especially chili, nothing beats cornbread. Few breads can be put together so quickly and baked in so short a time--almost always under 30 minutes. And most ingredients are usually on hand in any well-stocked pantry. Many cornbread recipes call for buttermilk. None on hand? For a reasonable substitute, combine 2 TBS. vinegar or lemon

juice with 1 cup milk and allow to stand for 5 minutes. Cornbread is a treat for young and old alike.

CHEDDAR BUTTERMILK CORNBREAD--An old favorite with perfect texture and flavor from Bon Apetit magazine from December, 2002

1 cup flour
1 cup yellow cornmeal
1/4 cup sugar
2 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. salt
1 cup, packed, extra sharp shredded cheddar (4 oz.)
1 cup buttermilk
2 large eggs
1/4 cup melted butter, cooled slightly

Preheat the oven to 400°. Butter an 8" x 8" pan. Whisk together the flour, cornmeal, sugar, baking powder, baking soda and the salt to blend. Mix in the cheese. Whisk together the buttermilk, eggs and the melted butter in another bowl. Add the wet to the dry ingredients and stir just until all is incorporated. Don't overmix. Transfer the batter to the prepped pan. Bake until golden brown and a knife comes out clean in the center--about 22 minutes. Serve warm or cooled.

PERFECT CORNBREAD--A classic from the Better Homes & Gardens Cookbook.

1 cup flour
1 cup yellow cornmeal
3 TBS. sugar
1 TBS. baking powder
1/2 tsp. salt
2 eggs
1 cup milk
1/4 cup vegetable oil
1 can kernel corn, drained
1 TBS. butter

Preheat the oven to 400°. In a bowl, whisk together the flour, cornmeal, sugar, baking powder and the salt. In another bowl, beat together the eggs, milk and oil. Add the liquid mix to the flour mix and stir until just smooth. Stir the corn into

the batter. Put 1 TBS. butter in a 10" cast iron skillet. Place in the oven 3 minutes until the butter is melted. Swirl to coat the bottom and the sides of the pan. Pour the batter into the hot skillet. Bake 15-20 minutes until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean. Serve warm.

MEXICAN CORNBREAD--A very moist and flavorful cornbread that can either be mild or spicy to taste. A family favorite from the Good Food Book by Jane Brody.

1 cup yellow (preferably stone ground) cornmeal
3/4 cup flour
2 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. salt
1 egg white
2 eggs
1 x can cream style corn
1 cup buttermilk
2 TBS. butter, melted, but not hot
1 cup finely shredded cheddar
1 x 4 oz. can chopped green chilies, either mild or hot, drained

Preheat the oven to 400°. In a large bowl, combine the cornmeal, flour, baking powder, baking soda and the salt. In another bowl, lightly beat the egg white and the whole eggs and combine with the corn, buttermilk, butter, cheese and chilies. Stir the moist ingredient into the dry ingredients until just combined. Grease a 9" square or round pan or a 9" cast iron skillet. Heat several minutes in the oven. Pour the batter into the hot pan. Return to the oven and bake 25 minutes or until a knife inserted into the center comes out clean.

SANTA FE CHILI CORNBREAD--Super easy and super tasty.

1 cup yellow cornmeal
1 cup flour
1 TBS. baking powder
2 TBS. sugar
1 tsp. ground cumin
1/2 tsp. garlic powder
1/2 tsp. chili powder
1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 cup canned chopped green chilies

1 cup milk
1/4 cup melted butter
1 egg
additional chili powder

Preheat the oven to 425°. Spray an 8" x 8" pan with cooking spray. Combine the cornmeal, flour, baking powder, sugar, cumin, garlic powder, chili powder and the salt. Add the chilies. Stir in the milk, butter and the egg. Pour into the pan and sprinkle with chili powder. Bake 20 minutes. PERFECTION!

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 spotlight features: Tubtrugs®

"Everybody Loves Tubtrugs®"

Klein's is very excited to be carrying these colorful and flexible handled tubs in which you can lug around just about everything. There are few items we carry that are so versatile in the garden. From the beautiful Tubtrugs website @ www.tubtrugs.com:

"Welcome to the home of Tubtrugs®, the World's most flexible 2 handled tub!"

"Tubtrugs® are the original 2-handled tubs that are **the** most useful tool for thousands of jobs around the home and garden. A Tubtrug® is great for carrying, mixing, pouring, scooping, plastering, storing, washing, gardening, pets – the list of uses for your Tubtrug® is literally endless!

Used by professionals the World over, Tubtrugs® are fantastic for many heavy duty jobs and Tubtrugs® are used by landscape gardeners, builders, plasterers, mechanics and fishermen the World over.

Two extremely strong handles and flexible body make handling a Tubtrug® much easier than any normal bucket or tub.

- Frost & UV proof means your Tubtrug® won't degrade in sunlight or frost
- Super-strong handles
- Tubtrugs® come in a massive range of sizes and colors
- Flexible yet very, very strong
- Tubtrugs® are suitable for everyone

Available in 14 fantastic colors, across 6 superb sizes, Tubtrugs® Flexible are the containers you can trust to help you get the job done.”

Check out the following “YouTub” videos for inventive and fun uses for your Tubtrugs® @ www.tubtrugs.com/youtub.html

Basically you can use Tubtrugs® for whatever you want!
There are literally millions of uses, we've just suggested a few here...

Small:

- Beach bag
- As a bucket
- Carrying polish and dusters
- Watering plants
- Berry tub
- Spray mixer
- Washing gravel for fish tanks
- Storing shoe polishing items
- Tool carrier
- Pourer
- Feed scoop

Medium:

- Sweeping up into
- Mortar bucket
- Weeder
- Storing toys
- Scooper
- Car boot tidy
- Removing rubble from confined spaces
- Welly wash

Tool wash
Plumbers bucket
Growing mushrooms
Flower basket
Manure collector
Wallpaper paste bucket
Dyeing fabric and batik
Car wash bucket

Large:

Mucking out horses
Compost mixer
Log basket
Apple basket
Water container
Displaying items at car boot sale
Washing basket
Hanging basket dunker
Animal water bucket
Rockery stone carrier
Crop gatherer
Grass collector
Fish container
Animal feed bucket
Mixing compost
Storing food in kitchens
Soaking washing overnight

Large Shallow:

Pet bed
Children's sandpit
Footbath
Duck paddler
Feeding animals
Mixing cement/plaster
Builders spot

Extra Large:

Carrying rubble
Trimming collector
Mulch spreader

Recycling tub
Taking rubbish to the curb
Washing pets
Mixing large batches of plaster

NATURAL NEWS--

2010 CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) Open House--
Celebrating 17 Years of making farm fresh, local foods accessible residents throughout southern Wisconsin

SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Monona Terrace
1 John Nolen Dr., Madison, Wisconsin

Bring your friends and neighbors to this community event, featuring a diverse array of CSA farms, workshops, kids' activities, music, a raffle, and tasty samples of farm-fresh foods to showcase the many benefits of CSA.

The event's expansion to a **new location** at the Monona Terrace represents the growing interest in and need for CSA shares. Previously this event had been held at Olbrich Botanical Gardens. The Annual CSA Open House brings most of the CSA growers serving the Madison area right to one location. You can meet, mingle with, learn from, and sign up for your CSA shares right here at the Monona Terrace.

We are looking forward to the 2010 CSA growing season!

About Community Supported Agriculture

From the Madison Area Community Supported Coalition website @
www.macsac.org/index.html

"CSA is a unique social and economic arrangement between local households and farmers who work together to share the responsibility of producing and delivering fresh food. Households support the farm by paying an annual fee in the winter or spring that entitles them to a "share" of the season's harvest. Once harvesting begins, members pick-up a weekly box of fresh foods which may include produce, fruits, cheeses, eggs, meats, poultry, flowers, herbs or preserves. Pick-up sites are often located at a member's house or at the farm. Most farms create a newsletter that accompanies each delivery with notes about farm activities, descriptions of what's in the delivery, cooking tips and recipes. Many farms also create opportunities for their members and families to visit the farm and participate in farm events. The typical CSA season in Wisconsin runs

from the end of May through mid-October. Farms offer a diversity of share options including extended season shares, multiple share types and sizes, and special funds and payment plans to accommodate households on a tight budget. CSA farmers use sustainable and organic methods to produce high quality to reduce the impact of agriculture on the environment.

The goals of CSA support a sustainable agriculture system which provides farmers with direct outlets for farm products and ensures fair compensation.

- Encourages proper land stewardship by supporting farmers in transition toward low or no chemical inputs and utilization of energy saving technologies.
- Strengthens local economies by keeping food dollars in local communities.
- Directly links producers with consumers allowing people to have a personal connection with their food and the land on which it was produced.
- Makes nutritious, affordable, wholesome foods accessible and widely available to community members.
- Creates an atmosphere for learning about non-conventional agriculture, animal husbandry, and alternative energy systems not only to the farmers and their apprentices, but also to members of the community to educators from interdisciplinary study, and to students of all ages.”

Most Madison area health plans give **preventative wellness rebates** to their members who are also members of local CSA farms. These rebates can drastically lower the costs for CSA members making your support of a local CSA farm far more affordable. For complete details about wellness rebates, simply click on www.macsac.org/rebates.html.

MARCH'S PLANT OF THE MONTH:

EASTER LILY

Either you love them or you hate them! For some, Easter lilies evoke emotions of renewal and springtime. For others, the intense fragrance is far too strong, the bright yellow, stain inducing pollen annoying and the pure white flowers symbolize death. Regardless of your own personal take on the Easter lily, this

age old indoor bloomer is both easy to care for and lovely in the garden for years to come.

Lilium longiflorum (Easter lilies) are native to southern Japan and Taiwan, but have a long association with the Easter season. The pure white blossoms have come to symbolize purity, innocence, life and hope. The plant itself seems to appear from nowhere, starting out as a dormant bulb in the sterile earth--in time growing into a stately and majestic plant, this whole cycle symbolizing the resurrection of Christ. Lilies appear frequently in both Bible passages and in medieval religious art.

In choosing the perfect plant from Klein's, look for one with just one or two open buds and more flower buds forming at the top of the stem. The best plants usually average between 8 and 14 buds. The retail price is usually based on the number of stems per pot and the number of flower buds on each stem. Look for plants that are sturdy, deep green in color, glossy and with leaves nearly all the way down the stem to the soil. You'll notice that we try to remove the yellow anthers from the open blossoms where the infamous pollen forms. This not only keeps the petals a pure white, but also lengthens the life of the plant.

Upon taking your lily home, place it in a bright location, but out of direct sun and as with all forced bulbs, the cooler the better. Once in a warm home, you'll notice that the flower buds will open quite quickly. The cooler the temperatures, the longer the plants will bloom. Keep the soil moist, but never soggy. Fertilizing is not necessary. Keep removing the yellow anthers as the blossoms open, but before the pollen sheds. Lily pollen is notorious for leaving stains on fabrics. Though easy to wash out, the pollen does not brush off fabrics without leaving a stubborn yellow smudge.

As the blossoms wilt and fade, simply cut them from the plant with a scissors. From now until late spring, simply treat your flowerless lily as an indoor house plant, watering thoroughly when dry to the touch. If you have a sunny garden spot with rich, well-drained soil, you can plant your lily outdoors at the same depth, once the soil has warmed. Under normal circumstances your lily will not bloom again this season, having used up most of its energy at Easter time. The foliage will usually die back to the ground at this point, reemerging later in summer in order to reenergize the bulb for next year. Because Wisconsin is borderline hardy for Easter lilies, it's best to top with a mulch for winter, though we've had great success in unmulched Madison Zone 5 gardens. New growth will appear in late spring the following year so it's best to mark the spot so you don't accidentally break off the crisp and tender shoots.

Easter lilies will bloom naturally during July in Wisconsin. The original plant you purchased at the greenhouse was artificially forced to bloom during the Easter season by us prechilling the bulbs. Though not incredibly long-lived, you will get many seasons from your Easter lily purchase once placed in the garden. By planting each year's Easter lily into your garden beds, you can over time create a truly awesome and super-fragrant display.

For more information visit:

www.plantanswers.com/Library/DBIndex.asp?SearchCriteria=All+Words&Keywords=easter+lily&Submit=Search

YOU ASKED THE MAD GARDENER. . .

Hi Mad Gardener. When do I trim my hibiscus? Also, how do I trim it? It has about 5 main shoots that come up about 18 inches and then off each one of them there are 2-4 shoots that grow upward about 3 feet. I don't know how much I am supposed to cut it back and where do I make the cuts? Also, when do I start fertilizing it? Betty

Hi Betty,

You asked the right person this question! I personally have nearly a dozen hibiscus that I overwinter year after year, the oldest of which is now nearly fifteen years old.

As you already know, Hibiscus rosa-sinensis are stunning and underutilized tropical shrubs known for their large flamboyant blooms--some up to 8" across in shades of red, pink, yellow, orange, apricot and many bicolors. Once summer heats up, they bloom nearly nonstop when placed in a sunny spot in the garden or on the deck or patio. They are especially lovely as the centerpiece of large mixed containers. Hibiscus are not hardy in Wisconsin, so must be brought indoors each winter.

But, because hibiscus are woody shrubs, they grow very slowly. So once pruned, they require quite a bit of time before they'll branch out and bloom again on. Hibiscus bloom on the tips of new growth. Most often, the care information that accompanies the plant home from the store or garden center says to prune your hibiscus in the spring. While true in the south, doing so here in Wisconsin will cause your plant to bloom very, very late in the summer--if at all. And as you see with yours, due to the short days and low light levels, and left unchecked, your plant is reaching for any available light with long and spindly growth.

Therefore, I always recommend pruning hibiscus to shape in the fall, just before the plant is brought indoors for the winter. Preparation begins for me in early September when I give my hibiscus a dose of systemic pesticide. Hibiscus are notorious for indoor infestations of whiteflies and aphids. By applying the the first round of systemic in early September, I'm able to give the plants a second dose in October before I bring the plants inside. Next I prune the plants to desired shape. If, after years, the plants have become large, they respond well to a very hard prune. (Cuttings can be rooted from the soft growing tips you prune, but that's a whole different article.) After brought indoors, I put the plants near the sunniest window possible--a south or a west window. During the winter months, your hibiscus will resprout and branch, sometimes even flowering once the days lengthen in March and April. I reapply the houseplant systemic per package instructions every six weeks to keep pests at bay. For most of my houseplants, I fertilize only very lightly from November through February, but with my hibiscus I use the regular rate of indoor fertilizer every third watering. Hibiscus plants tend to yellow during winter months when not fertilized at higher levels. I use a balanced fertilizer for indoor plants. Hibiscus prefer to stay moist so never allow your plant to become bone dry. Water plants thoroughly when they become dry to the touch, draining the saucer of standing water.

As for your hibiscus, it sounds to me as though it should be pruned hard to shape as soon as possible. With the now lengthening days, your plant should recover and resprout quickly. Prune it rather low on the plant. Pruning too high will cause floppy growth due to the added weight of the new branching. Based on your description, I would prune it below the spot from where the long branches meet the main stems. It sounds drastic, but you'll ultimately have a better shaped plant down the road. Keep in mind that by pruning it now, it probably won't bloom until late summer, if at all this season. You can also begin fertilizing immediately, but be careful to follow recommended rates per package instructions for indoor plants.

For even earlier flowering each summer, I don't prune my hibiscus plants each and every fall. My pruning regimen is determined by the size and the shape of the plant.

Good luck and please let me know how your plant does this summer. Thanks for your question.

The Mad Gardener

AROUND TOWN:

For neighborhood events or garden tours that you would like posted in our monthly newsletter, please contact Rick at (608) 244-5661 or Sue at sue@kleinsfloral.com. Please include all details, i.e. dates, locations, prices, brief description, etc. Events must be garden related and must take place in the Madison vicinity and we must receive your information by the first of the month in which the event takes place for it to appear in that month's newsletter. This is a great opportunity for free advertising.

Dane County Winter Farmer's Market

Saturdays, January 2 thru April 10, 8:00-noon
Madison Senior Center
330 W. Mifflin

For details visit www.madfarmmkt.org

Olbrich's Garden's Bolz Conservatory Exhibit - Chocolate: The Bitter and the Sweet

January 4 through March 21, 2010
Daily from 10:00-4:00, Sundays 10:00-5:00
In the Bolz Conservatory

Smell the sweet allure, and learn about one of the all-time favorite flavors, chocolate, and a unique exhibit in Olbrich's Bolz Conservatory. This exhibit highlights the cacao tree, first cultivated in South America. The seeds from this tree are commonly called cocoa beans and are surrounded by a pod. Chocolate is derived from cocoa beans. The high proportion of fat in the bean kernels (cocoa butter) is used in medications, cosmetics, and soaps. The pulverized residue, called cocoa, is used in beverages and as a flavoring.

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

Olbrich Garden's Spring Show Secret Spring Gardens

March 6 thru March 21
Daily from 10:00-4:00
In the Olbrich Atrium

Enjoy the beauty of blooming flowers and the bounty of an edible garden while savoring the colors, fragrances, and textures of spring in Olbrich's Spring Flower Show.

A \$2 donation is suggested. Proceeds benefit Olbrich Gardens.

Select flowers from the show will be available for purchase on Monday, March 22 at 12 pm until supplies last.

New in 2010 - During the members-only preview party on Saturday, March 6, members receive 20% off in Olbrich's Growing Gifts shop from 8 am until 5 pm!

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

The Wisconsin Gardener “More Places to Visit”

Sunday, March 7, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 25, 10:30 a.m.

on Wisconsin Public Television

Check local listings for the station nearest you.

Host Shelley Ryan explores places throughout the state that feature a vast array of plant displays, including gardens enhanced with art and recycled artifacts. In Madison she visits Longenecker Gardens at the UW-Madison Arboretum where one of the nations largest collections of lilacs is on display and in bloom. Robyn Mulhaney is co-owner of The Flying Pig in Algoma, a business that is part gallery, cafe and gardens. Mulhaney shows Ryan some of her favorite sculptures, plants and the childrens moat! Near Green Bay, Debbie Freeman has created a garden showcase of art with found objects, creatures, birdbaths, and whimsical containers made from rubbish. Frances Nemtin, a member of Frank Lloyd Wrights Fellowship, gives a special tour of the gardens at Taliesin near Spring Green.

For more information, visit www.wpt.org/garden

Midwest Gardening Symposium: Green Gardening from the Ground Up

Saturday, March 13, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
at Olbrich Botanical Gardens

Registration deadline: March 5

Price:

\$99 **Olbrich Members**

\$119 Public

\$99 Horticulture Students / Master Gardeners (please show current student or Master Gardener ID)

**Note - fee includes lunch **

Call 608-246-4550 to register

The second annual Midwest Gardening Symposium, Green Gardening from the Ground Up, celebrates "green," low-maintenance gardening with practical advice from Midwest-focused, hands-on gardening experts. Learn how to create the healthiest soil, eco-friendly ways to deal with pests and diseases, how to determine where to use native and non-native plants, and how to create pleasing landscapes with shrubs - the latest excitement in low-maintenance plants. The Midwest Gardening Symposium is co-sponsored by Olbrich Botanical Gardens and Allen Centennial Gardens.

Presentations include:

- Teaming with Microbes: Your Soil is Alive!** by Jeff Lowenfel
- The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: Green Management of Pests and Diseases** by Melinda Myers
- Natural Beauty: Combining Native and Ornamental Plants** by Christine Nye
- Shrubs: The New Perennials** by Ezra Haggard

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

Designing Native Gardens

Saturday, March 13, 12:00-3:30 pm

Saturday, March 20, 12:00-3:30 pm

Held on two consecutive Saturdays, this class helps homeowners which native wildflowers to use in their home landscape. The first session discusses how to analyze your property to determine an appropriate native landscape including design considerations. The second session focuses on site preparation, planting and maintenance and a discussion of individual projects. Registration required. (\$40)

University of WI Arboretum

1207 Seminole Hwy.

Madison, WI 53711

608/263-7888 or <http://uwarboretum.org/events/>

2010 Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Open House

Sunday, March 14, 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Monona Terrace

1 John Nolen Dr., Madison, Wisconsin

--Celebrating 17 Years of making farm fresh, local foods accessible residents throughout southern Wisconsin

Bring your friends and neighbors to this community event, featuring a diverse array of CSA farms, workshops, kids' activities, music, a raffle, and tasty samples of farm-fresh foods to showcase the many benefits of CSA.

The event's expansion to a **new location** at the Monona Terrace represents the growing interest in and need for CSA shares. Previously this event had been held at Olbrich Botanical Gardens. The Annual CSA Open House brings most of the CSA growers serving the Madison area right to one location. You can meet, mingle with, learn from, and sign up for your CSA shares right here at the Monona Terrace.

Madison Area Community Supported Agriculture Calition

303 s. Paterson St., Ste. 1B

Madison, WI 53703

608/226-0300

For more about them visit: www.macsac.org

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

- ___ Pinch back over wintered geraniums one last time. Root cuttings if needed.
- ___ Check perennials for heaving during warm spells. Remulch as needed.
- ___ Check for early spring bloomers like crocus, winter aconite & hellebores.
- ___ Begin uncovering roses by month's end.
- ___ Continue bringing out your cooled forced bulbs for indoor enjoyment.
- ___ Inspect stored summer bulbs like dahlias, cannas and glads for rotting.
- ___ Check for and treat for pests on plants brought in from the garden.
- ___ Keep birdfeeders full. Clean periodically with soap and water.
- ___ Keep birdbaths full and clean for the return of the first robins & other arrivals.
- ___ Repair and clean out birdhouses. Early arrivals will be here soon!
- ___ Inventory last year's leftover seeds before ordering or buying new ones.
- ___ Seed starting is in full swing: petunias, tomatoes, peppers and cole crops.
- ___ Sterilize seed starting equipment and pots with a 1:16 bleach solution.
- ___ Shop for summer bulbs like gladiolas, lilies and dahlias.
- ___ Remove mulch & rodent protection (chicken wire) from tulip and crocus beds
- ___ Use the winter days to plan next summer's garden.
- ___ March is the month to prune most fruit trees and apply dormant oil.
- ___ Prune late summer and fall blooming shrubs.
- ___ Do not prune spring blooming shrubs like lilacs, forsythia or viburnum.
- ___ Begin bringing in branches for forcing: pussy willow, forsythia, quince, etc.
- ___ As the days lengthen and new growth occurs, increase fertilizing houseplants
- ___ Check your garden for any plant damage from weather or rodents.
- ___ Ready the lawn mower---just a few weeks to go.
- ___ Visit Klein's---the showrooms are filling up with spring annuals. Pansies, violas, calendula, cole crops & onion sets become available by month's end.

Some of our very favorite seed and plant sources include:

For seeds:

Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds @ www.RareSeeds.com or 417/924-8887

Burpee @ www.burpee.com or 800/888-1447

Harris Seeds @ www.harrisseeds.com or 800/514-4441

Johnny's Select Seeds @ www.johnnyseeds.com or 207/861-3901

Jung's Seeds @ www.jungseed.com or 800/247-5864

Park's Seeds @ www.parkseed.com or 800/845-3369

Seeds of Change @ www.seedsofchange.com or 888/762-7333

Seed Savers @ www.seedsavers.org or 563/382-5990

Select Seeds @ www.selectseeds.com or 800/684-0395

Territorial Seeds @ www.territorialseed.com or 888/657-3131

Thompson & Morgan @ www.thompson-morgan.com or 800/274-7333

For bulbs:

Colorblends @ www.colorblends.com or 888/847-8637

John Scheeper's @ www.johnscheepers.com or 860/567-0838

McClure & Zimmerman @ www.mzbulb.com or 800/883-6998

For plants:

Heronwood Nursery @ www.heronwood.com or 360/297-4172

High Country Gardens @ www.highcountrygardens.com or 800/925-9387

Logee's Greenhouses @ www.logees.com or 888/330-8038

Plant Delights Nursery @ www.plantdelights.com or 912/772-4794

Roots and Rhizomes @ www.rootsrhizomes.com or 800/374-5035

Wayside Gardens @ www.waysidegardens.com or 800/213-0379

White Flower Farm @ www.whiteflowerfarm.com or 800/503-9624

Note: To receive every possible seed, plant or garden supply catalog imaginable, check out **Cyndi's Catalog of Garden Catalogs** @ www.gardenlist.com. Most catalogs are free and make for great winter reading!

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 MARCH:

---Transplanting is in full swing on the transplanting line in our back greenhouses.

Employees work 8-10 hour shifts planting thousands of plugs and tiny seedlings into the cell packs you purchase in the spring. Once planted, the flats move by conveyor and then monorail into the various greenhouses, all kept at different temperatures depending on the plant.

---The greenhouses and showrooms are filling fast with thousands of hanging and potted plants. We're constantly moving product around, trying to make the best use of our limited space.

---By the end of the month we're moving product outside into cold frames and

hoop houses. We move product that is very cold tolerant, such as pansies, dianthus, dusty miller, alyssum and even petunias. The cold keeps them compact and pest free and hardens them off for the transition outside. We also need the room in our ever-filling greenhouses.

---Perennial plugs arrive and are stepped up into 3 1/2" and quart sizes. Our perennials are also grown quite cold so they invest their energy into rooting out, rather than growing. Plants remain compact. Any remaining perennials from last season are placed into cold frames.

---Geraniums are pinched and shaped for the last time by the first week of the month. Any later pinching will delay blooming too much for spring sales.

---Retail items are arriving nonstop for unpacking and pricing, everything from garden ornaments and pottery to pesticides and fertilizers.

EMPLOYEE PROFILE--CARLY THIEL

An absolutely glowing ear to ear smile greets both customers and coworkers alike when Carly Thiel graces Klein's retail area. She's one of those rare people who can brighten the worst of days with her sheer presence. And like all of us at Klein's, Carly was bitten by that infectious gardening bug early in her young life. She says, "I just can't help myself" when talking about her extensive and ever-growing houseplant collection (that ever-present smile lighting up her face as she speaks).

Some of Carly's earliest and fondest memories are helping her mom and dad in their family garden in North Freedom, Wisconsin, a small town located between Reedsburg and Baraboo. Like many families, Carly says that it was her mother who did much of the flower and vegetable gardening, while her father was more interested in the landscaping and the lawn. Though a "country kid", Carly did not grow up on a farm. Yet the experience of growing up in a rural setting has shaped who Carly is today. A hard work ethic and a sense of honesty emanates from this invaluable employee.

Carly says that she has many wonderful memories working in the garden; helping plant, weed, water and harvest. One not-so-fond memory from kindergarten that stands out from all the rest involved a single watermelon that she had nurtured from seed. Carly says that she was completely devastated to find that an animal had taken a bite from her perfect softball-sized fruit that she had pampered for ever so long. Today, Carly says that her mother grows

primarily flowers, rather than vegetables, and that one of her personal goals is to learn more about vegetable gardening.

Carly graduated from Reedsburg High School in 2005 and moved to Madison where she attended MATC (Madison Area Technical College) and received an Associate Degree in Liberal Arts in the spring of 2009. She says that it was while adding to that extensive and ever-growing houseplant collection and, therefore, shopping at Klein's in the spring of 2008 that she casually asked if we were hiring. Good fortune was on her side and within days, Carly became Klein's then newest sales associate. After a short break from school, Carly is hoping to get her B.S. in Education with a focus in art from Edgewood College here in Madison. In the meantime, she continues to work at Klein's, a job she says she loves for a lot of different reasons. First and foremost, Carly says she loves the "feeling of family" she has with her coworkers--"a big and wonderful dysfunctional family", she was quick to point out. Secondly, Carly says she loves our customers. She loves listening to them and absorbing from them their vast amount of gardening knowledge. Carly says she tries to be resourceful when helping our customers with gardening questions, utilizing every bit of technology available at our fingertips. "Success for our customer is important," she says.

Lastly, Carly says she wants to learn more about all aspects of our business here at Klein's. Though Carly's primary responsibility to date has been working in the retail area, she had a few opportunities last spring to dabble behind the scenes in our back greenhouses; for the most part transplanting seedlings. She says emphatically that she absolutely loved the experience! She says she hopes that some day she can use gardening and everything she's learned at Klein's as a teaching tool in her classroom. In addition to work and school, Carly has volunteered at Sandburg Elementary School here in Madison and is currently volunteering at the Humane Society. She says that animals are another of her many passions.

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.

THE MAD GARDENER--“Madison’s Firsthand Source for Expert Gardening Advice”

Ask us your gardening questions by e-mailing us at madgardener@kleinsfloral.com. Klein’s in-house **Mad Gardener** will e-mail you with an answer as promptly as we can. The link is posted on our home page and in all newsletters.

We can only answer those questions pertaining to gardening in Southern Wisconsin and we reserve the right to leave correspondence unanswered at our discretion. Please allow 2-3 days for a response.

FACEBOOK

Klein’s has joined the Facebook frenzy. Become a fan of Klein’s by visiting us at www.facebook.com. We continuously post company updates and new pictures

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 community UW athletics and academics with advertising and coupons in the 2010 edition of the Bucky Book. We are also selling the 2010 edition in-store--the perfect gift Visit www.buckybook.com for more information and to order your copy.

RECYCLING POTS & TRAYS

The City of Madison will recycle rinsed out hard plastic pots and trays when brought to their drop-off locations at 4602 Sycamore Ave. and 1501 West Badger Rd. They do not accept light plastic or multi-celled packs. White plastic #5’s are also not accepted in city recycling bins or at the drop-off sites. For more information call 267-2626 or visit www.cityofmadison.com/streets/RigidPlasticRecyclingDropOff.cfm

DELIVERY INFO

Klein’s Floral and Greenhouses delivers daily, except Sundays, throughout all of Madison and much of Dane County including: Cottage Grove, DeForest, Fitchburg, Maple Bluff, Marshall, 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. A minimum order of \$25.00 is required for delivery. Delivery to the Madison hospitals is \$4.95. Deliveries to the four Madison hospitals are made during the early afternoon. There is no delivery charge to funeral homes in the city of Madison, although regular rates apply for morning funeral deliveries to Madison's west side. Regular rates also apply for funeral deliveries in the surrounding communities.

Morning delivery is guaranteed to the following Madison zip codes, but only if requested: 53703, 53704, 53714, 53716, 53718 and Cottage Grove, DeForest, Maple Bluff, Marshall, 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, 53713, 53717, 53719, 53726, Fitchburg, 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. We do not deliver to Cambridge, Columbus, Deerfield or Stoughton.

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
Grower, General Manager Jamie VandenWymelenberg
jamie@kleinsfloral.com
Assistant Manager
Jennifer Simon
jsimon@kleinsfloral.com
House Accounts & Billing Barbara Foulk
barb@kleinsfloral.com
Delivery Supervisor
Rick Halbach
Owner & Manager

Sue Klein

sue@kleinsfloral.com

RELATED RESOURCES AND WEB SITES

University of Wisconsin Extension

1 Fen Oak Ct. #138

Madison, WI 53718

608/224-3700

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/>

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/wihort/>

Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic

Dept. of Plant Pathology

1630 Linden Dr.

Madison, WI 53706

<http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/index.php>

Insect Diagnostic Lab

240 Russell Labs

1630 Linden Dr.

Madison, WI 53706

<http://www.entomology.wisc.edu/>

U.W. Soil and Plant Analysis Lab

8452 Mineral Point Rd.

Verona, WI 53593

608/262-4364

<http://uwlabs.soils.wisc.edu/>

American Horticultural Society

<http://www.ahs.org/>

Garden Catalogs (an extensive list with links)

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

also <http://www.mailordergardening.com/>

Invasive Species

<http://www.invasive.org/>

Friends of Troy Gardens

Rm. 171, Bldg. 14

3601 Memorial Dr.

Madison, WI 53704

608/240-0409

<http://www.troygardens.org/>

Community Gardens Division (Madison area)

Community Action Coalition

1717 N. Stoughton Rd.

Madison, WI 53704

608/246-4730

<http://www.cacscw.org/gardens/>

Madison Area Master Gardeners (MAMGA)

<http://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

<http://www.hort.wisc.edu/mastergardener/>

The Wisconsin Gardener

<http://www.wpt.org/garden/>

Allen Centennial Gardens

620 Babcock Dr.

Madison, WI 53706

608/262-8406

<http://www.horticulture.wisc.edu/allencentennialgardens/>

Olbrich Botanical Gardens

3330 Atwood Ave.

Madison, WI 53704

608/246-4550

<http://www.olbrich.org/>

Rotary Gardens

1455 Palmer Dr.

Janesville, WI 53545

608/752-3885

<http://www.rotarygardens.org/>

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

<http://uwarboretum.org/>

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

<http://www.cals.wisc.edu/westmad/>

PLANTS POISONOUS TO CHILDREN:

Children may find the bright colors and different textures of plants irresistible, but some plants can be poisonous if touched or eaten. If you're in doubt about whether or not a plant is poisonous, don't keep it in your home. The risk is not worth it. The following list is not comprehensive, so be sure to seek out safety information on the plants in your home to be safe.

- Bird of paradise
- Bull nettle
- Castor bean
- Chinaberry tree
- Crocus
- Daffodil
- Deadly nightshade
- Dieffenbachia (dumb cane)
- Foxglove
- Glory lily
- Hemlock
- Holly berry
- Indian tobacco
- Iris
- Jimsonweed
- Lantana
- Larkspur
- Lily of the valley
- Marijuana

- Mescal bean
- Mexicantes
- Mistletoe
- Morning glory
- Mountain laurel
- Night-blooming jasmine
- Nutmeg
- Oleander
- Philodendron
- Poison ivy
- Poison sumac
- Pokeweed
- Poppy
- Potato
- Privet
- Rhododendron
- Rhubarb
- Water hemlock
- Wisteria

PLANTS POISONOUS TO PETS:

Below is a list of some of the common plants which may produce a toxic reaction in animals. This list is intended only as a guide to plants which are generally identified as having the capability for producing a toxic reaction. Source: The National Humane Society website @ <http://www.humanesociety.org/>

- Aconite
- Apple
- Arrowgrasses
- Autumn Crocus
- Azaleas
- Baneberry
- Bird-of-Paradise
- Black locust
- Bloodroot
- Box
- Buckeye
- Buttercup
- Caladium
- Carolina jessamine
- Castor bean
- Chinaberry tree

- Chockcherries
- Christmas berry
- Christmas Rose
- Common privet
- Corn cockle
- Cowbane
- Cow cockle
- Cowsliprb
- Daffodil
- Daphne
- Day lily
- Delphinium (Larkspur)
- Dumbcane
- Dutchman's breeches
- Easter lily
- Elderberry
- Elephant's ear
- English Ivy
- European Bittersweet
- Field peppergrass
- Foxglove
- Holly
- Horsechestnut
- Horse nettle
- Hyacinth
- Iris
- Jack-in-the-pulpit
- Jerusalem Cherry
- Jimsonweed
- Lantana
- Larkspur
- Laurels
- Lily of the valley
- Lupines
- Mayapple
- Milk vetch
- Mistletoe
- Monkshood
- Morning glory
- Mustards
- Narcissus

- Nicotiana
- Nightshade
- Oaks
- Oleander
- Philodendrons
- Pokeweed
- Poinsettia
- Poison hemlock
- Potato
- Rhododendron
- Rhubarb
- Rosary pea
- Sago palm
- Skunk cabbage
- Smartweeds
- Snow-on-the-mountain
- Sorghum
- Star of Bethlehem
- Wild black cherry
- Wild radish
- Wisteria
- Yellow jessamine
- Yew