

## THE SAGE'--JANUARY 2012

Klein's Floral & Greenhouses On-Line Newsletter

### THIS MONTH'S HIGHLIGHTS:

Wisconsin Public Television Garden Expo Feb. 10-12

Our "[Mad Gardener](#)" Is Ready for Your Questions

'Life of Flowers' a Video by Vladimir Vorobyoff

[Not All 'Perennials' Are Truly Perennial](#)

The Website: City Farmer News

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The City of Madison Recycles Used Plastic Pots

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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](mailto: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.

### JANUARY STORE HOURS:

Monday thru Friday 8:00-6:00

Saturday: 9:00-5:00

Sunday: Closed

**\*Please note that we will be closed Sundays during January. Our first Sunday open will be February 5, 2012\***

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

January 1--New Year's Day. **HAPPY 2012!**

January 9--Full Moon

January 14 & 15--**The Wedding Planner and Guide Bridal Show** at the Alliant Energy Center. From start to finish, everything needed for that special day is at the show with over 200 vendors offering products and services catering to your needs. Make sure to get a seat for the daily fashion show at noon and 3 pm. Open on Saturday from 10 am to 5

pm and Sunday from 11 am to 4:30 pm, tickets are \$7 in advance and \$10 at the door. Visit [www.wedplan.com](http://www.wedplan.com) for tickets and more information.

If a wedding is on your horizon, set up your free wedding consultation as early as possible. Our schedule fills up fairly quickly. Klein's talented team of designers can make your wedding day a perfect one. Call Kim or Sue at [608/244-5661](tel:6082445661).

**January 16**--Martin Luther King Jr. Day

**Mid January**--Seeds begin arriving for retail sale from Northrup King, Livingston, Olds. Believe it or not, it's time to start thinking about spring planting. If starting your own seeds at home, some like lisianthus, geraniums, pentas and bananas should be started now so they are ready for spring planting. Please check out our **Newsletter Archive** for everything you'll need to know about indoor seed starting.

**Late-January** or early February--The summer bulbs like begonias and elephant ears begin arriving for retail sale at garden centers. Shop early for the best selection.

**January 23**--Chinese New Year

**Late-January**--Ever thought about working at a greenhouse? Now is the time to stop in and ask if we'll be hiring for spring and pick up an application. We always need temporary, part-time counter help in the spring and greenhouse production swings into gear by mid-February. If you're interested, ask for Jen or Sue for the retail area or Jamie or Rick for the greenhouses. Benefits include a generous discount on all those plants you buy at Klein's anyway. Join our team and experience first hand how we make the magic happen.

**February 10-12--Wisconsin Public Television's Garden Expo** at the Alliant Energy Center. Please join us. Tickets are available at Klein's for a lesser price than at the door. Details available at [www.wigardenexpo.com](http://www.wigardenexpo.com).

**February 14**--Valentine's Day. Order early for guaranteed delivery. We deliver throughout Madison and most of Dane County.

### **'THE FLOWER SHOPPE':**

A few months back, one of our readers passed on the following video link via Facebook. Sit back and enjoy!

<http://vimeo.com/27920977>

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### **YOU ASKED THE MAD GARDENER . . .**

**I was just reading the latest Klein Newsletter and have a question about winter protection for plants. We live in the country and have a lot of wind. I put rose cones over some of my smaller plants to prevent wind damage. I also have a number of butterfly bushes and I always put cones over them to give them more winter protection. Is this necessary or am I wasting my time when I could be spreading my leaf mulch?**  
**Carolyn**

Hi Carolyn,

Your question is interesting. On the one hand we don't advise using rose cones at all (though we sell them) and on the other hand, butterfly bushes could use the added protection--seeing as we're on the northern end of their range. Butterfly bushes are most often treated as herbaceous perennials here in Wisconsin. But, because they are actually shrubs, they should not be cut back in the fall. In mild winters (and in protected locations) they'll resprout all the way up their stems like any hardy shrub. In more normal winters, they'll die back to the ground and resprout from there in the spring. But, in REALLY bad winters, they may not survive at all. I personally have 4 butterfly bushes--none of which receive added protection during the winter. All four are now years old and all four usually die back to the ground each winter . . . BUT, we've also had adequate snow cover (and, therefore, protection) the past few winters. The weather has been in their favor!

As for the rose cones (I'm assuming you're talking about the styrofoam kind), they often times do more harm than good. Most people keep them on too long in the spring, causing their plants to cook; or to sprout early and then freeze in later cold spells. Secondly, they not only protect the plants from winter weather, but also the pests that live on them--especially fungal problems. If using a styrofoam rose cones, we recommend those with the removable cover for ventilation and more temperature control on your part come March. Instead, we recommend old fashioned

burlap (or other fabrics designed for winter protection) stuffed with hay or straw for added protection. The fabric breathes but protects from harsh winds.

I hope I was of some help and thanks for your great question.  
Happy Holidays and all the Best in 2012!

The Mad Gardener

### **DID YOU KNOW. . .**

**. . . that not all 'perennials' are truly perennial?**

A few month's back, Klein's Mad Gardener answered a question about a problem 'perennial' shasta daisy. Though many perennials are extremely long-lived and will oftentimes outlive their owners (i.e. peonies), our reader wasn't aware that that some 'perennials' last just a few seasons in the garden before they start deteriorating. These 'short-lived' perennials must be allowed to self-sow or be replaced for greatest success. We recommend planting a few new plants each season for a constant display.

Short-lived perennials should not be confused with biennials. Biennials put out foliage the first season, flower in their second season and then die after setting seed. They must be allowed to self-sow (meaning no deadheading) for plants to thrive in the garden. The best examples of biennials include hollyhocks, Canterbury bells, forget-me-nots, sweet Williams and most foxgloves.

#### **A list of our most common short-lived perennials includes:**

Columbine (*Aquilegia* spp.)\*  
Tickseed (*Coreopsis grandiflora*)\*  
Delphinium (*Delphinium* spp.)  
Pinks (*Dianthus* spp.)  
Blanket Flower (*Gaillardia x grandiflora*)\*  
Baby's Breath (*Gypsophila paniculata*)  
Coral Bells (*Heuchera* spp.)  
Hyacinth (*Hyacinthus orientalis*)  
Shasta Daisy (*Leucanthemum* spp.)  
Perennial Flax (*Linum perenne*)\*  
Lupine (*Lupinus* hybrids)  
Maltese Cross (*Lychnis chalconica*)  
Iceland Poppy (*Papaver nudicaule*)  
Pincushion Flower (*Scabiosa* spp.)  
Painted Daisy (*Tanacetum coccineum*)  
Hybrid Tulips (*Tulipa* spp.)  
(\*Freely reseeds)

#### **Some long-lived perennials are:**

Monkshood (*Aconitum* spp.)  
Lady's Mantle (*Alchemilla mollis*)  
Goatsbeard (*Aruncus dioicus*)  
Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)  
False Blue Indigo (*Baptisia australis*)  
Snakeroot (*Cimicifuga racemosa*)  
Gas Plant (*Dictamnus albus*)  
Ferns (various species)  
Hardy Geraniums (*Geranium* spp.)  
Ornamental Grasses (various species)  
Daylily (*Hemerocallis* spp.)  
Hosta (*Hosta* spp.)  
Siberian Iris (*Iris sibirica*)  
Blazing Star (*Liatris* spp.)  
Daffodil (*Narcissus* spp.)  
Peony (*Paeonia* spp.)  
Balloon Flower (*Platycodon grandiflorus*)  
Lungwort (*Pulmonaria* spp.)  
Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia fulgida* 'Gold')

Stonecrop (Sedum spp.)  
Carolina Lupine (Thermopsis caroliniana)

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

### **ENTRY: DECEMBER 1, 2011 (Tap Water and Houseplants)**

Just like animals, plants thrive best without added chemicals in their water supply. And though the concentration of chlorine in most city tap water may be low enough to not cause significant damage in most plants, we can give them chemical free alternatives.

Store bought distilled water (or water from a dehumidifier) is one choice. Another alternative is collected rainwater and/or melted snow. Well-water is also, as a rule, chemical-free if one lives in a rural setting. And chlorine is easily removed from city tap water by allowing it to sit in an open container or watering can for at least 24 hours. Over time, the chlorine dissipates into the air. People who have aquarium fish are already familiar with this simple trick. Allowing the water to sit a while also brings the water up to room temperature (tap water from the faucet is about 50°), thereby eliminating shock to the roots.

### **A few 'winter watering' tips:**

Be careful not to overwater plants during these short winter days. Water most houseplants only once dry to the touch a little below the soil surface. DO NOT water your houseplants on a set schedule. This is probably the most common mistake. Many plants can go for weeks without watering this time of the year. Each type of plant has different needs and a plant's environment oftentimes dictates when the plant needs to be watered (amount of sunlight, humidity, pot size, soil type, etc.). When watering, water thoroughly, but do not allow plants to sit in a saucer of water. Humidity during the winter months can be quite low in most people's homes (hence browning leaf tips on many houseplants during the winter). Misting will help those plants that prefer more humid conditions. Keep succulents and cactus VERY dry during the winter. They are extremely susceptible to rot during the winter months. Cool and dry conditions also promotes flowering in many succulents.

### **ENTRY: DECEMBER 7, 2011 (Growing Up)**

I had a bit of rare downtime today to post a few pictures from last summer's garden onto Facebook. The pictures reminded me of what a great gardening summer we experienced in 2011. The weather was warm (but a little dry) and with very few damaging storms. We all commented on the virtual nonexistence of mosquitoes. The pictures reminded me of lazy days out amongst the plants and time spent with friends and family in our backyard sanctuary. The pictures also reminded me of one of the most common comments I get when friends visit our yard: How do you fit SO many plants into this very small space? The answer? By growing up!

I grow plants vertically on nearly every structure that allows it to! In the front yard, 'Heavenly Blue' morning glories clamber up the downspouts and envelop the gutters above; all sorts of clematis ramble through the roses and flowering quince; and passion vines, cardinal climber and climbing snapdragons (asarina) scramble up the three obelisks spaced throughout the perennial beds.

In the backyard, Mexican flame vine covers the four black metal trellises along the neighbor's fence; while the stunning 'Mt. Fuji' morning glory creates a virtual wall separating the driveway from the backyard. To enter the backyard, one passes under an arch of 'Alice du Pont' mandevilla. The deck's privacy screen is graced with lothospermum, while across the deck the tall mock orange is encased with more asarina. Two more arches in the backyard are laden with the glossy leaves of malabar spinach. Hundreds of self-sown 'Grandpa Otts' morning glory seedlings seem to fill in the few remaining vertical gaps perfectly. Sweet autumn clematis reigns above the cut flower bed along the south wall of the garage and I can't wait for the first flowers on the climbing hydrangea that has now reached the arbor over the front porch.

Vines aren't my only choice of plants for filling vertical space. Dotted throughout the beds are some very tall (5+ feet) annuals like sunflowers, tithonia, kiss-me-over-the-garden-gate and policeman's helmet. Containers are filled with angel's trumpets (brugmansia), castor bean, cannas, oleander and oodles of assorted tropicals--many of which grow to 10 or more feet in a single summer!

### **ENTRY: DECEMBER 25, 2011 (Happy Easter?)**

A lot of fascinating garden observations to record on this most unusual Christmas Day. Our streak of strange and balmy December weather continues. This is our first brown Christmas in 5 years; the last occurring in 2006. Before that we have to go all the way back to 1982 for a brown Christmas.

The grass is still green; I'm continuing to harvest parsley from the garden and the flowering kales along the driveway look nearly as good today as they did in October. My oddest observations, however, are the 20 or so flies basking today in the warm sunshine on the south wall of the house and the daffodils sprouting near the house's foundation. Some of the daffodils are now nearly 2" tall!!

The forecast for the upcoming week shows that this trend should continue; with temperatures well above normal and with little or no precipitation. This is a very nice break after the past four extremely snowy Decembers.

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

Relegated to the relish try, few people consider celery when preparing their meals except as a relatively flavorless ingredient that adds little more than texture to casseroles and salads. Quite the contrary, celery is loaded with minerals and is an important source of fiber. And depending on the source, stalk celery (vs. root celery) can be extremely flavorful. For a change, try locally grown fresh celery over the store-bought types. The difference in texture and taste will amaze you! For freezing tips and longterm celery storage please visit our newsletter from October 2011 @ [www.kleinsfloral.com/cms/9\\_11%20newsletter.pdf](http://www.kleinsfloral.com/cms/9_11%20newsletter.pdf)

**GRANDMA LOIS' TO-DIE-FOR STUFFING**--This simple stuffing is perfect every time and an easy way to transition the kids from boxed Stove Top Stuffing to the 'real' thing. A perfect combination of flavors and texture! The edges are lightly browned, while the center is nicely moist.

1 1/2 lbs. hearty white bread (Pepperidge Farm whole grain white), cubed. Allow the bread to sit out, covered, for a day or dry in the oven on cookie sheets @ 300° for 20 minutes, tossing and rotating as needed  
1/2 lb. bulk, sage pork sausage or bulk mild Italian sausage, thawed if frozen  
1 qt. milk  
2 large eggs  
1/2 tsp. poultry seasoning  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1 medium onion, chopped  
2 stalks celery, chopped  
broth or water for moistening

About 1/2 hour before prep begins, place the thawed sausage back in the freezer for easier slicing. Preheat the oven to 330°. Prep a glass 9x13" baking dish with cooking spray and set aside. Cut the lightly frozen sausage into 1/2" slices. In a very large bowl and by hand, lightly toss together the bread, onion, celery, salt, seasoning and the sausage torn into 1/2" chunks. Add the egg, pour in the milk and continue to mix carefully by hand until well mixed. Place the mixture in the prepped pan and bake, uncovered, for 50 minutes. Add a little bit of broth to moisten, then cover with foil and bake, covered, about 1/2 hour.

This recipe is especially delicious if prepared earlier in the day and then reheated in the oven later (adding a little extra broth) while baking a turkey, roasting chicken or preparing any pork or poultry dish.

**DOUBLE CELERY AND POTATO SOUP**--From our friends at Vermont Valley Community Farm.

8 cups chicken broth  
1/2 tsp. dried thyme  
1 TBS. olive oil  
1 bay leaf  
2 TBS. butter  
1 large onion, chopped  
2 cups slice leeks  
2 medium potatoes in 3/4" cubes  
2 medium celeriac (root celery), peeled and cut into 1/2" cubes  
5 stalks celery, thin sliced, leaves reserved  
1/3 cup milk or cream

Melt the butter with oil in a large pot on medium heat. Add the leeks, onion and thyme and cook until almost tender, about 8-10 minutes. Stir in the potatoes, celeriac and bay leaf. Add the broth and bring to a boil. Reduce the heat, cover and simmer 40 minutes. Add the celery, cover and simmer 12 minutes longer. Using a handheld immersion blender, puree the soup right in the pot. Stir in the milk or cream. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Garnish with the reserved celery leaves.

**CELERY PEAR SOUP**--A truly scrumptious soup from the November 2010 issue of Bon Appetit magazine.

4 1/2 TBS. butter  
6 cups thin sliced celery, any leaves reserved and chopped  
3 generous cups unpeeled, diced Bartlett pears  
1 1/2 cups chopped leeks  
3 bay leaves  
1/2 tsp. dried thyme  
1 TBS. flour  
3+ cups chicken broth

Melt the butter in a pot over medium high heat. Add the celery, pears, leeks, bay leaves and thyme. Cover and cook, stirring occasionally, about 8 minutes. Add the flour and stir and then stir in the broth. Bring to a boil, cover, reduce the heat and simmer about 20 minutes until tender. Remove the bay leaves and puree with a handheld immersion blender until smooth. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Thin to desired consistency with extra broth and heat through. Garnish with the reserved leaves. Serves 6.

**CELERY SALAD WITH FETA AND MINT**--A refreshing salad that appeared in the March 2011 issue of Everyday Food magazine.

Per 4 servings:  
6 large stalks celery cut into 1/2" pieces  
1/4 of a small red onion, thinly sliced  
2 TBS. extra virgin olive oil  
2 TBS. fresh, minced lemon zest  
2 TBS. fresh lemon juice  
coarse salt and pepper  
1/3 cup crumbled feta cheese  
3 TBS. thinly sliced mint leaves

Toss & serve. Especially good with grilled chicken, fish or burgers.

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## **NATURAL NEWS--**

### **City Farmer News**

We recently stumbled upon a fantastic little website devoted specifically to urban farming and the fact that given the teeniest of growing spaces, some sunshine, some water and some innovation, absolutely anyone can garden and grow at least some of their own food. The collection of personal stories is amazing in scope and uplifting in tone.

Read on:

#### **About City Farmer**

Source: [www.cityfarmer.info](http://www.cityfarmer.info)

Shoemakers, fashion models, computer geeks, politicians, lawyers, teachers, chefs ... all city dwellers ... all can grow food at home after work in back yards, community gardens or on flat roofs. For the past 33 years, City Farmer has encouraged urban dwellers to pull up a patch of lawn and plant some vegetables, kitchen herbs and fruit. Our message is the same today as it was in 1978 and will be relevant far into the future.

This website is a collection of stories about our work at City Farmer here in Vancouver, Canada, and about urban farmers from around the world.

City Farmer's first web site [Urban Agriculture Notes \(www.cityfarmer.org\)](http://www.cityfarmer.org) has hundreds of pages of information about city farming. Begun in 1994, it was the first web site on the Internet to publish information about urban farming. Our Internet websites (.org and .info) grew out of our newspaper publication, "City Farmer", which began in 1978.

City Farmer teaches people how to grow food in the city, compost their waste and take care of their home landscape in an environmentally responsible way.

## **JANUARY'S PLANT OF THE MONTH:**

### **PHILODENDRON 'BRAZIL'**

Philodendron 'Brazil' is a yellow variegated cultivar of Philodendron hederaceum. The species' dark green leaves are rounded in shape with elongated apieces that make them look almost heart-shaped. Young leaves are reddish pink in color. As they mature, they become reddish orange and eventually light to dark green.

The same color development is also observed on the stems of Philodendron 'Brazil'. Each glossy leaf is splashed with cream and green colorations, which is distinct to this cultivar.

Most plant owners grow Philodendron 'Brazil' in hanging baskets or as a foliage accent plant. But this showy low-growing plant is naturally a climber. When grown on totem poles, they exhibit a cascading or trailing growth manner with dense foliage. Whether they are grown in containers or in totem poles, Philodendron Brazil is great indoors or as a house plant. **For a photograph visit our source:** [www.plant-care.com/philodendrons-garden-center-varieties.html](http://www.plant-care.com/philodendrons-garden-center-varieties.html)

**Klein's currently has a nice assortment of Philodendron 'Brazil' in-stock. Plants are in 8" hanging baskets and trail to 2 or more feet. Mention that you read about Philodendron 'Brazil' in our newsletter, and get 20% off the regular price during January or while supplies last.**

### **Philodendron Care**

Philodendrons are popular and durable houseplants, known for their ability to survive neglect. The name originates from the Greek word philo, which means love, and dendron, meaning tree. Philodendrons originated in the rain forests and have been popular houseplants since Victorian times. As houseplants, they prefer conditions similar to the rainforest: indirect sunlight and humidity. Several different species of philodendrons have different coloring, leaf size, and shape. Some are climbing plants, and others are shrub/tree-like.

Climbing philodendrons are best suited for indoors and should have a moss-covered stick to support their climb. Non-climbers grow to height of 10 feet and are best suited for gardens, arboretums, office buildings, or large rooms. The leaves of some of these plants can grow to two feet long.

Philodendron are fast-growing and quickly overcrowd their planters. Repotting can be done in any season, and propagation from cuttings or air layering can be done at any time. Diseases are rare - perhaps occasional insect or mite infestations occur. Due to the presence of calcium oxalate crystals, these plants are poisonous.

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## **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 [rick@kleinsfloral.com](mailto:rick@kleinsfloral.com) or Sue at [sue@kleinsfloral.com](mailto: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, November 12 thru December 17, 7:30-noon  
Monona Terrace

Saturdays, January 7 thru April 14, 8:00-noon  
Madison Senior Center  
330 W. Mifflin

For details visit [www.madfarmmkt.org](http://www.madfarmmkt.org)



## **Olbrich's Garden's Bolz Conservatory Exhibit - Treasures of the Rainforest**

November 12 through March 18, 2012

Daily from 10:00-4:00, Sundays 10:00-5:00

In the Bolz Conservatory

The rainforests of the world are a tremendous natural resource for people around the world, including Americans. Many of the things consumed every day like fruits, vegetables, ingredients for medicines, and construction materials come from the rainforest. Scientists believe that's just the tip of the iceberg; there are countless species of plants and animals in the rainforests that haven't even been discovered yet! Discover various everyday products that originate in the rainforests and see the plants they come from up close!

Olbrich Botanical Gardens  
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison  
[608/246-4550](tel:6082464550) or [www.olbrich.org](http://www.olbrich.org) for details

## **25th Annual Orchid Quest 2012**

Saturday, February 4, 10:00-5:00

Sunday, February 5, 10:00-4:00

Escape the winter blues and join orchid enthusiasts at Orchid Quest 2012. Exhibits of exotic and deliciously fragrant orchid flowers will awaken your senses and bring cheers on a winter day. In addition to many orchid exhibits, OQ will also feature florist displays, painted porcelain, art work, quilted banners and a raffle. OQ is one of the largest orchid shows and sales in the Midwest.

Aspiring home growers can expand their knowledge by attending orchid related educational seminars, conducted by renowned orchid experts.

20 orchid vendors from the Midwest and East Coast will be selling their exotic blooming orchids. You will be able to find everything you need to take care of your new orchid plants including literature, growing media, fertilizer, orchid pots, and more. Come see this multidimensional show. Visit [www.orchidguild.org](http://www.orchidguild.org). Sponsored by Orchids Garden Centre & Nursery of Waunakee.

Alliant Energy Center Exhibition Hall  
1919 Alliant Energy Center Way  
Madison, WI 53713  
[608/267-3976](tel:6082673976) or [www.alliantenergycenter.com](http://www.alliantenergycenter.com)

## **19th Annual Wisconsin Public Television Garden Expo**

Friday, February 10, 4:00-9:00

Saturday, February 11, 9:00-6:00

Sunday, February 12, 10:00-4:00

Walk through the custom garden display, attend demonstrations and seminars, register for workshops and view over 400 different exhibitors. Visit [www.wigardenexpo.com](http://www.wigardenexpo.com) for more information. Meet Shelley Ryan, master gardener and producer/host of The Wisconsin Gardener series, UW-Extension experts, and Master Gardeners. All show proceeds, including admission fee, support Wisconsin Public Television programming. Garden Expo also meets WPT's educational and community outreach mission.

Tickets cost \$7 in advance, \$8 at the door. Children 12 and under are admitted free. Two and three-day passes are available for added savings. **Advance tickets are available at Klein's.**

Alliant Energy Center Exhibition Hall  
1919 Alliant Energy Center Way  
Madison, WI 53713  
[608/267-3976](tel:6082673976) or [www.alliantenergycenter.com](http://www.alliantenergycenter.com)



## **JANUARY IN THE GARDEN**--A checklist of things to do this month.

- \_\_\_ Pick up a copy of the 2012 Wisconsin Garden Journal at bookstores or Klein's.
- \_\_\_ Place your used Christmas tree in the garden for added wildlife protection.
- \_\_\_ Inspect stored summer bulbs like dahlias, cannas and glads for rotting.
- \_\_\_ Check for and treat for pests on plants brought in from the garden.
- \_\_\_ Begin forcing stored elephant's ears at the end of January.
- \_\_\_ Keep birdfeeders full. Clean periodically with soap and water.
- \_\_\_ Inventory last year's leftover seeds before ordering new ones.
- \_\_\_ Order your seeds. By ordering early, there are usually freebies & discounts.
- \_\_\_ Start certain slow-growers like lisianthus, geraniums, pentas and bananas.
- \_\_\_ Shop for summer bulbs like begonias, caladium, calla and elephant's ears.
- \_\_\_ Use the winter days to plan next summer's garden.
- \_\_\_ Check your garden for any plant damage from weather or rodents.
- \_\_\_ Have trees trimmed--it's often times cheaper and easier to schedule.
- \_\_\_ Visit Klein's---it's green, it's warm, it's colorful---it's always spring.

Some of our very favorite seed and plant sources include:

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### **For seeds:**

Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds @ [www.RareSeeds.com](http://www.RareSeeds.com) or [417/924-8887](tel:4179248887)  
Burpee @ [www.burpee.com](http://www.burpee.com) or [800/888-1447](tel:8008881447)  
Harris Seeds @ [www.harriseseeds.com](http://www.harriseseeds.com) or [800/514-4441](tel:8005144441)  
Johnny's Select Seeds @ [www.johnnyseeds.com](http://www.johnnyseeds.com) or [207/861-3901](tel:2078613901)  
Jung's Seeds @ [www.jungseed.com](http://www.jungseed.com) or [800/247-5864](tel:8002475864)  
Park's Seeds @ [www.parkseed.com](http://www.parkseed.com) or [800/845-3369](tel:8008453369)  
Seeds of Change @ [www.seedsofchange.com](http://www.seedsofchange.com) or [888/762-7333](tel:8887627333)  
Seed Savers @ [www.seedssavers.org](http://www.seedssavers.org) or [563/382-5990](tel:5633825990)  
Select Seeds @ [www.selectseeds.com](http://www.selectseeds.com) or [800/684-0395](tel:8006840395)  
Territorial Seeds @ [www.territorialseed.com](http://www.territorialseed.com) or [888/657-3131](tel:8886573131)  
Thompson & Morgan @ [www.thompson-morgan.com](http://www.thompson-morgan.com) or [800/274-7333](tel:8002747333)

### **For bulbs:**

Brent & Becky's Bulbs @ [www.brentandbeckysbulbs.com](http://www.brentandbeckysbulbs.com) or [877/661-2852](tel:8776612852)  
Colorblends @ [www.colorblends.com](http://www.colorblends.com) or [888/847-8637](tel:8888478637)  
John Scheeper's @ [www.johnscheepers.com](http://www.johnscheepers.com) or [860/567-0838](tel:8605670838)  
McClure & Zimmerman @ [www.mzbulb.com](http://www.mzbulb.com) or [800/883-6998](tel:8008836998)

### **For plants:**

Heronswood Nursery @ [www.heronswood.com](http://www.heronswood.com) or [360/297-4172](tel:3602974172)  
High Country Gardens @ [www.highcountrygardens.com](http://www.highcountrygardens.com) or [800/925-9387](tel:8009259387)  
Logee's Greenhouses @ [www.logees.com](http://www.logees.com) or [888/330-8038](tel:8883308038)  
Plant Delights Nursery @ [www.plantdelights.com](http://www.plantdelights.com) or [912/772-4794](tel:9127724794)  
Roots and Rhizomes @ [www.rootsrhizomes.com](http://www.rootsrhizomes.com) or [800/374-5035](tel:8003745035)  
Wayside Gardens @ [www.waysidegardens.com](http://www.waysidegardens.com) or [800/213-0379](tel:8002130379)  
White Flower Farm @ [www.whiteflowerfarm.com](http://www.whiteflowerfarm.com) or [800/503-9624](tel:8005039624)

Note: To receive every possible seed, plant or garden supply catalog imaginable, check out **Cyndi's Catalog of Garden Catalogs** @ [www.gardenlist.com](http://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 JANUARY:**

---This is the quietest month at the greenhouse. All 10 greenhouses in our back range have been shut down to save on energy and prep them for all the spring plants that start arriving in February.

---We take advantage of the warm and sunny rooms in our front range (the retail area) to do any touch up painting or construction to ready ourselves for the spring season.

---Thousands of geranium cuttings arrive for our 4 1/2" pots and we begin planting up our geranium hanging baskets and flower pouches.

---We begin stepping our tropicals into larger pots for spring sale. This early jump gives you larger and more vigorous plants than many of our competitors.

---We spend much of our time ordering product for next summer, from plants to pottery to garden ornaments and sundries.

---We begin to assess our needs for spring staffing and try to have the new people in place and trained by March 1. March and April are the busiest months behind the scenes in the greenhouse and we rely on a dedicated, hardworking team to have everything ready for the customer come May 1 and the spring onslaught.

---Hundreds of herbs for windowsill culture are thriving in the sunny, warm greenhouses. We have chosen only the best assortment for indoor growing and winter harvest. Choose from rosemary, lavender, parsley, thyme and more.

---We continue to plan and prepare for Wisconsin Public Television's Garden Expo at the Alliant Energy Center in February by sprucing up display pieces and potting up thousands of violas, primrose, cineraria, etc. for sale at the show. This is Klein's biggest annual event and our most important advertising.

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**PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT**--Each month we spotlight some 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.

### **The 2012 Wisconsin Garden Journal** **'Celebrating Our Past, Cultivating Our Future'**

Within the past few months, the **2012 Wisconsin Garden Journal (17th Edition)** put out by the Madison Area Master Gardeners Association hit area garden centers and bookstores. Always a favorite of ours here at Klein's, the current edition focuses on gardens past and future; commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Madison Area Master Gardeners Association. Because the journal is written for and about Wisconsin gardening, it's a must have for all area gardeners' bookshelves.

The **Wisconsin Garden Journal** is more than just a lovely day planner. The book is a single source for valuable and pertinent gardening information. Each monthly calendar opens with a list of garden tasks to do during that particular month. Interspersed throughout are brief articles regarding garden plants, techniques, tips and fun facts. The last section of the book is filled with charts and assorted resource and reference information. Colorful and beautiful photographs fill many of the pages in between. At just \$14.95, the **2012 Wisconsin Garden Journal** makes the perfect gift for the gardener in your life.

Visit the Madison Area Master Gardeners Association website @ [www.mamgawi.org](http://www.mamgawi.org)

### **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](mailto: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**

Follow Klein's on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/pages/Kleins-Floral-Greenhouses](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Kleins-Floral-Greenhouses) where we post updates and photos on a regular basis.

#### **TWITTER**

Join Klein's on Twitter at [twitter.com/KleinGreenhouse](https://twitter.com/KleinGreenhouse) where we post company updates and photos on a regular basis.

#### **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.

#### **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](http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/RigidPlasticRecyclingDropOff.cfm)

#### **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](tel:6082445661) or [888/244-5661](tel:8882445661) or by stopping in. We request that payment be made in full before the first delivery and prices do not include sales tax.

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#### **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](tel:6082445661) or [888/244-5661](tel:8882445661)

Grower, General Manager --Jamie VandenWymelenberg [jamie@kleinsfloral.com](mailto:jamie@kleinsfloral.com)

Assistant Manager--Jennifer Simon [jsimon@kleinsfloral.com](mailto:jsimon@kleinsfloral.com)

House Accounts & Billing--Barbara Foulk [barb@kleinsfloral.com](mailto:barb@kleinsfloral.com)

Delivery Supervisor--Rick Halbach [rick@kleinsfloral.com](mailto:rick@kleinsfloral.com)

Owner & Manager--Sue Klein [sue@kleinsfloral.com](mailto:sue@kleinsfloral.com)

#### **RELATED RESOURCES AND WEB SITES**

University of Wisconsin Extension  
1 Fen Oak Ct. #138  
Madison, WI 53718  
[608/224-3700](tel:6082243700)  
<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](tel:6082624364)  
<http://uwlab.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.invasiveplants.net/>  
<http://www.ipaw.org/>

Friends of Troy Gardens  
Rm. 171, Bldg. 14  
3601 Memorial Dr.  
Madison, WI 53704

[608/240-0409](tel:6082400409)  
<http://www.troygardens.org/>

Community Gardens Division (Madison area)  
Community Action Coalition  
1717 N. Stoughton Rd.  
Madison, WI 53704  
[608/246-4730](tel:6082464730)  
<http://www.cacscw.org/gardens/>

Madison Area Master Gardeners (MAMGA)  
<http://mamgawi.org/>

Wisconsin Master Gardeners Program  
Department of Horticulture  
1575 Linden Drive  
University of Wisconsin - Madison  
Madison, WI 53706  
[608/265-4504](tel:6082654504)  
<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](tel:6082628406)  
<http://www.allencentennialgardens.org/>

Olbrich Botanical Gardens  
3330 Atwood Ave.  
Madison, WI 53704  
[608/246-4550](tel:6082464550)  
<http://www.olbrich.org/>

Rotary Gardens  
1455 Palmer Dr.  
Janesville, WI 53545  
[608/752-3885](tel:6087523885)  
<http://www.rotarygardens.org/>

University of WI Arboretum  
1207 Seminole Hwy.  
Madison, WI 53711  
[608/263-7888](tel:6082637888)  
<http://uwarboretum.org/>

University of Wisconsin-West Madison  
Agricultural Research Center  
8502 Mineral Point Rd.  
Verona, WI 53593  
[608/262-2257](tel:6082622257)  
<http://www.cals.wisc.edu/westmad/>

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

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#### **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



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