

'THE SAGE'--AUGUST 2013

Klein's Floral & Greenhouses Online Newsletter

THIS MONTH'S HIGHLIGHTS:

Our 'Mad Gardener' Is Ready for Your Questions

Klein's 5th Annual Most Beautiful Garden Contest

Working with Your Local Florist

Introducing Our Native Pollinators

Join the [Xerces Society For Invertebrate Conservation](#)

Our Favorite [Homemade Hummus Recipes](#)

Due to Arrive Soon: [Houseplants from Brenda's Tropical Plants](#)

[Notes from Rick's Garden Journal](#)--

--A Robber Fly Encounter

--Peculiar Hummingbird Behavior

--Klein's Very Own Garden Tour

Plant of the Month: [Milkweed](#)

You Asked the Mad Gardener [About Rabbit Control](#)

August in the Garden: [A Planner](#)

Klein's Favorite [Seed, Bulb & Plant Sources](#)

Gardening Events [Around Town](#)

Join Us on [Twitter](#)

Follow Us on [Facebook](#)

Join Klein's Blooming Plant or Fresh Flower Club

[Delivery Information](#)

Related [Resources and Websites](#)

[Plants Harmful to Kids and Pets](#)

KLEIN'S 5TH ANNUAL MOST BEAUTIFUL GARDEN CONTEST

Think you have the **Most Beautiful Garden**? Perhaps all of that hard work and creativity can literally pay off by entering our **Most Beautiful Garden Contest**. We invite you to submit photographs along with our entry form to Klein's via e-mail or snail mail by September 1. Winners are selected by our staff and will be announced on our website in early September. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places include gift cards for a Klein's shopping spree. We have a separate category for container gardens.

They say pictures say a thousand words and sometimes the most simple of designs says more than the most elaborate. Please visit our home page in the following weeks at www.kleinsfloral.com for details and entry information.

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 rick@kleinsfloral.com 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.

AUGUST STORE HOURS:

Monday thru Friday : 8:00-6:00

Saturday: 9:00-5:00

Sunday: 10:00-4:00

Open Labor Day, Monday, September 2: 10:00-4:00

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Throughout August, visit Klein's and check out our specials on perennials, shrubs and remaining annuals. Specials and selection change weekly so give us a call for the most up-to-date information at (608) 244-5661 or toll free at 888-244-5661 or on our home page @www.kleinsfloral.com. We pride ourselves in having the best cared for plants in even the hottest weather.

And later in August, watch for the appearance our fall mums, ornamental kales and cabbages, mixed fall containers and cool weather vegetables, including; chard, kale, lettuces and cole crops. We still have a nice selection of seeds for the fall vegetable garden, including; radishes, spinach, lettuce and SO much more!

Week of August 18--Watch for the arrival of our semi-load of indoor houseplants. Select from all shapes and sizes; from tropicals to succulents. The showrooms become a veritable jungle overnight.

August 21--Full Moon

September 2--Labor Day. **Special Store Hours: 10:00-4:00**

[To Top](#)

'THE FLOWER SHOPPE':

With all the talk about sustainability and buying local, it's equally important to search for a truly "local" florist when ordering fresh flowers for delivery. From the Society of American Florists at www.aboutflowers.com comes the following advice and guidelines:

Making Sure Your "Local" Florist is Local

Not all "local" florists are local. Some out-of-state telemarketing and online firms pose as local florists. These companies mislead consumers into feeling they are ordering flowers from a local florist, but without their knowledge, are being call-remote forwarded to another state. These firms charge higher fees and take business away from legitimate local florists. Consumers are deceived into thinking they are doing business with a local company when they're not. That's unethical and unfair.

To make sure you are doing business with a local professional florist, just follow these tips from the Federal Trade Commission:

- Ask neighbors, family, friends, and coworkers for florist recommendations.
- Deal only with shops that list a street address with their phone number. If you're asking directory assistance for a number, also ask for the street number and address. If there isn't one, consider doing business with another florist.
- Ask the florist for directions to the shop. If they hesitate or refuse, consider this a red flag, and avoid doing business with the florist.

Once you've chosen your local florist, your choices of what to send are nearly endless. It's best to be somewhat prepared when placing an order.

What to Tell Your Florist

Florists are experts in many areas but they can't read minds. So if you have specific flower or color preferences, be sure to communicate that to your florist. And don't worry if you are not familiar with the names of the thousands of

flowers available. By following these simple tips from the Society of American Florists, you can order flowers from a florist with confidence:

- When ordering floral gifts, describe the recipient's personality type, as well as his/her favorite hobbies or colors if you know them. Your florist can match the floral arrangement with the recipient's personality.
- Tell your florist if the gift is for a special occasion (birthday, anniversary or other personal milestone). He or she can offer suggestions on how to best celebrate with flowers.
- If the flowers are for decorating or entertaining, describe the environment where the arrangement will be placed so your florist can create an arrangement that complements the style and colors of your home.
- Consider bringing in your own vase or container for an added personal touch. Ask your florist for specific colors or color themes.
- Let your florist know if you prefer a mixed flower arrangement or an arrangement made up of just one type of flower.
- Provide your florist with the necessary basic information - the name, full address and phone number of the recipient, the delivery date, your card message and payment information.

Whether sending flowers across the country or around the corner, your florist provides the expertise, convenience and service today's on-the-go consumers are looking for.

YOU ASKED THE MAD GARDENER . . .

Hi, do you know something that will stop the rabbits from eating my flowers. They seem to be really bad this year. I've tried sprays and fences but they seem to keep chewing...Thanks.

Hi there,

Sad to say, but ugly old chicken wire is really the only thing that truly works. If the spaces are too big in your fencing, the babies squeeze through and they are the real problem--not the adults as much. The babies try everything; learning whether they like it or not. If you're wanting something that looks a little nicer, in my garden I've used more decorative fencing/edging on the side I see and attached the chicken wire to the back side. The rabbit repellents on the market work to a certain degree and need to be reapplied. Personally, I've had little luck with those because it seems the young rabbits still want to try out new plants.

In addition, people often confuse earwig damage with rabbit damage. Because of all the rain earlier in the summer, the earwigs are a real problem this year. You can tell their damage if the stems are still relatively in tact. They decimate primarily just the flowers and new leaves. Petunias, zinnias, marigolds, dahlias (among others) are stripped to the stem. Their numbers will dwindle if the weather stays hot and dry.

Thanks for your question,
Klein's Mad Gardener

madgardener@kleinsfloral.com

DID YOU KNOW. . .

. . . that honeybees aren't the only pollinators vital for our fruit and vegetable supplies?

With honeybee colony collapse all over the news these days, it's important to step back and take a look at some of our native pollinators. The following article comes to us from the UW Extension at <http://hort.uwex.edu>.

Pollinators

by Christy Stewart, UW Horticulture and USDA-ARS

Why are pollinators important?

Approximately three quarters of the world's major food crops require or benefit from animal pollination. This includes many fruits and vegetables such as strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, currants, plums, apples, sweet cherries,

pears, watermelons, cantaloupes, cucumbers, squashes, and tomatoes. Pollinators also are beneficial for seed production in crops such as carrot, onion, broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, and many herbs.

What pollinators are common in Wisconsin?

Pollinators in Wisconsin are primarily insects such as bees, flies, wasps, butterflies, moths, beetles, and ants, as well as hummingbirds. Bees are the most important pollinators for many plant species, and they feed almost exclusively on pollen and nectar. The non-native honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) is the most commonly used managed bee for pollination of crop plants. This bee is easily reared and transported, and a single colony can attain a size of 50,000 or more individuals. The blue orchard bee (*Osmia lignaria*), also referred to as the mason orchard bee, is a native managed pollinator for orchards. Just 250 of these bees (as opposed to 20,000 honeybees) can pollinate an acre of apple trees. Wild native bees also contribute substantially to fruit and vegetable pollination. Home gardeners can have all of their pollination needs supplied by wild native bees, although if honeybee hives are located nearby, honeybees may also contribute to pollination.

How many types of bees occur in Wisconsin?

While most people associate the word “bee” with the honeybee or bumblebee, in actuality there are approximately 400 verified species of bees in Wisconsin, and likely more that have not yet been identified. These include various species of miner bees, mason bees, leafcutter bees, and sweat bees among many others. While the honeybee and most bumblebees live in large social groups with one queen, a worker caste of non-reproductive females, and (at various times in their life cycles) males, the vast majority of bees are solitary. Each solitary bee makes her own nest, and provides for her offspring by herself. While social bees will readily sting to protect their nest, solitary bees will rarely sting unless provoked.

How do I attract and support native pollinators?

Recent declines in honeybee populations have gained much attention, but there also have been notable declines in some native bees, including many species of bumblebees. Local populations of all types of bees can be supported by cultivating flowering plants, providing nesting sites, and eliminating the use of pesticides.

Cultivating flowering plants:

Provide food and nesting habitat for bees by landscaping with flowering plants. Unused areas of a lawn can be converted into pollinator habitats. Provide a diversity of plants that will bloom from early spring (when some bees start to emerge) to late fall (when some bees such as bumblebee queens are preparing to overwinter). Plants that are especially good for bees include pussy willow, plum, cherry, blueberry, New Jersey tea, American basswood, wild lupine, anise hyssop, purple prairie clover, pale purple coneflower, wild bergamot, Culver’s root, butterfly milkweed, woodland and prairie sunflower, prairie blazing star, great blue lobelia, showy and stiff goldenrods, and smooth blue aster. In addition, common garden herbs such as spearmint, oregano, sweet marjoram, basil, borage, lavender and catnip/catmint are very attractive to bees.

Providing nesting sites:

Because bees transport food for their offspring to a central nesting site, having food and nesting sites near one another is critical. Most bees nest underground, digging their own tunnels. These bees prefer areas of bare ground with sandy or loamy soil. Bumblebees that nest underground use abandoned rodent nests rather than digging their own. Bumblebee species that nest above ground will make their homes in grass tussocks, piles of debris, or other cavities. Most of the remaining bee species nest in tunnels in twigs, plant stems, and in tree stumps and snags.

Provide natural nesting habitat for bees by leaving dead trees in place when possible. When trimming plants and shrubs, leave stems somewhere on your property as many will have bee larvae in them. Do not mulch all areas of your yard; keep bare areas of ground for use by ground-nesting bees. Practice no-till methods in your vegetable garden (i.e., try not to dig or turn the soil) to allow bee larvae that are underground to develop into adult bees. You also can make or purchase artificial nests that will attract various species of bees such as mason bees, leafcutter bees and yellow-faced bees.

Eliminating pesticides:

Both direct contact with pesticides, and contact with pesticide residues on plants can be harmful or lethal to bees. Most plants can easily tolerate some insect damage, and keep in mind that the insects that feed on your plants are a source of food for birds and other wildlife. Use non-chemical alternatives for insect control such as row covers, or physically removing insect pests from plants and placing them into a bucket of soapy water. If you feel that pesticides are necessary, apply them when plants are not flowering and/or in the evening when temperatures are cooler and fewer bees are foraging. Also consider using pesticides that are less toxic to bees such as those containing bacteria as active ingredients, insecticidal soap, horticultural oil, and narrow spectrum chemical insecticides.

[**To Top**](#)

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

ENTRY: JULY 1, 2013 (A Robber Fly Encounter)

I saw my very first Japanese beetle of the season today, but the conditions I saw it under were quite odd. As I came out of the house to do my watering this morning, I saw this bumblebee sitting on one of the leaves on my fig tree just outside the kitchen door. It seemed like it was warming itself in the morning sunlight. Then I noted the weirdest thing. The bumblebee had a partially eaten Japanese beetle in its mouth. I didn't know that bumblebees even had a mouth; much less that they ate other insects. It had to be a fluke that the partially eaten beetle had simply latched on to the bee's mouth parts and the bee couldn't shake it off.

Then ironically later this morning I received the newest issue of Horticulture magazine and to my surprise, I found the answer to the bumblebee/japanese beetle dilemma in one of the magazine's articles. It wasn't a bumblebee at all; rather a species of robber fly that mimics a bumblebee in appearance. The photo accompanying the article looks exactly like the bumblebee I saw!

Robber Flies

These fearless flies are expert at mimicry and predation.

Insects follow a constant "eat or be eaten" or "hunt or be hunted" set of rules. When it comes to hunting, you may think first of the dragonfly--in my view the B-52 of the insect world. Well, I'd like to introduce you to the robber fly, the stealth fighter of the insect world! These insects are really quite amazing in both what they can do and in the many different body shapes and colors in which they appear.

Taxonomically, robber flies belong to the family Asilidae, in the order Diptera. Close to 1,000 different species have been identified. Some are quite small, with quarter- to half-inch body lengths, but most range anywhere from one to more than two inches long. Considered a predatory fly, they hunt almost any type of insect, be it beneficial or pesky to the gardener.

Just like dragonflies, they can often be seen poised at the end of a stick or some other perch from where they can view their eventual prey. They are very strong fliers and can be seen darting around their prey. The rapid movement of their wings can be quite loud. Their territories range from shaded woodlands to open fields and prairies.

There are several distinctive features that can help you identify robber flies. They have two very large eyes, and between the eyes grows a beard of hairs known as a mystax, which covers their mouthparts. The mystax is probably the most recognizable feature of the family Asilidae. Many species' heads, thoraxes and abdomens are also covered with hair. They have long, stout legs covered with sharp bristles. Many have what looks like a slight hump behind their head, to which the wings attach. That hump is basically a collection of muscles used to control their wings. Some of the species' abdomens are round and robust, while others look long and stiletto-like, tapering to a point.

To me, one of the most striking and beautiful features of robber flies, especially in the genus Laphria, is their colorful mimicry. **Some look almost identical to a bumblebee**, while some can look like wasps. These apt predators steal not only the lives of countless insect victims, but they can be guilty of identity theft, too.

By Bill Johnson @ billjohnsonbeyondbutterflies.com.

Source: July/August issue of Horticulture Magazine @ <http://hortmag.com>.

ENTRY: JULY 2, 2013 (Peculiar Hummingbird Behavior)

A fascinating bird observation this afternoon and something I've never seen before. Hummingbirds are frequent visitors to my garden, but this afternoon I saw one completely sprawled out in the sunshine on the wood chips that make up the paths in the front yard. I had never before seen a hummingbird on the ground and at first I assumed it was either injured or dead. I thought they only perched themselves on branches. However, after a few minutes of relaxing in the sun, it simply took off straight up, much like a hovercraft, and flew to a nearby tree branch in the neighbor's yard.

ENTRY: JULY 29, 2013 (Klein's Very Own Garden Tour)

This evening Klein's is having it's third employee garden tour and luckily we're in store for a beautiful evening (after a weekend of record setting cool weather). My garden is one of those being toured and, as always, I'm a little nervous to have coworkers (and fellow gardening enthusiasts) enter my private little world. The shop will be closing early today so we can spend the evening traveling between and touring three very distinct coworkers' gardens before nightfall.

After boarding a rented bus at Klein's, we'll first head to Amy and Dennis' home in Stoughton. Most of us have yet to see Amy's yard and from what she says, we're in for a treat. She and Dennis have spent a lot of time and energy on their yard and gardens in the past few years. Amy says she's especially excited to show off a major landscape project completed just this past spring. Amy's yard is primarily wooded and she says she enjoys the understory plants native to Wisconsin forests.

The next stop is my house here on Madison's east side. Having been away on vacation last week, I spent all of yesterday weeding, deadheading, staking and cleaning the gardens. While my yard isn't perfectly landscaped, I have far and away the largest collection of plants on the tour and crammed into every possible space. On previous tours I spent much of my time identifying plants for coworkers because I have so many that they've never seen--many started from seed in the basement and many, many more ordered from online sources over the years.

Our last stop is at Kathie's on the near east side just off of East Washington Ave. and just a short distance from Klein's. In the past we've made up to four or more stops on the tour, but found ourselves looking at the last gardens in complete darkness. Kathie's garden is by definition an 'Eclectic Garden'; a fascinating and beautiful hodgepodge of plants, garden art, pottery and gardening styles. Her small front yard gives no hint of the extensive garden that sprawls behind her house. Coworkers who haven't experienced her yard are in for a real treat and Kathie is beside herself with excitement to finally show off her work of art.

[To Top](#)

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

Hummus is among the most nutritional and delicious of dips and super easy to make and with very few ingredients. Traditional hummus is usually a combination of garbanzo beans, tahini, oil, lemon juice and garlic. Enjoy the following twists on the classic recipe!

BLACK BEAN HUMMUS--This very light, healthy and fluffy recipe comes to us from the Channel3000.com website from October 2009.

1 x 15 oz. can black beans, partially drained
1 x 15 oz. can garbanzo beans, drained
1/4 cup fat free sour cream
3 TBS. lemon juice
1 TBS. minced garlic
1/2 tsp. ground cumin
a dash of Tobasco sauce
salt and pepper to taste
the zest of one lemon

In a food processor, process the beans, sour cream, lemon juice, garlic and cumin until smooth. Add the Tobasco, salt and pepper to taste, adding extra cumin and garlic if desired. Stir in the zest. Makes 3 cups.

CUMIN CURRIED FRESH HUMMUS--A very flavorful and light recipe from the pages of Cooking Light magazine, November 2004.

1 TBS. extra virgin olive oil
3 cloves chopped garlic
1 TBS. curry powder
1/2 tsp. cumin seeds
1/2 cup water
3 TBS. lemon juice
3/4 tsp. salt
2 x 15 oz. cans garbanzo beans, rinsed and drained

Heat the oil in a small skillet on medium heat and add the garlic. Cook 30 seconds, stirring. Add the curry powder and cumin and cook 30 more seconds, until fragrant. Place the garlic mixture, water and the rest of the ingredients in a food processor and process until smooth. Makes 3 cups.

GUACAMOLE HUMMUS--An interesting twist from Martha Stewart's Everyday Food from April 2011.

1 x 15 oz. can garbanzo beans, rinsed and drained
3 cups chopped cilantro
1 clove chopped garlic
1 ripe avocado, coarsely chopped
3 TBS. extra virgin olive oil
1 tsp. lemon juice
a little water
coarse salt and pepper to taste
tortilla chips

Process together the garbanzos, cilantro, garlic and avocado until finely chopped in a food processor. With the machine running, add the oil in a slow stream, then the lemon juice and the water 1 TBS. at a time until the mixture is smooth and of desired consistency. Season as desired and serve with chips.

RED PEPPER HUMMUS--Delicious spread onto pita bread triangles or with crackers or pita chips. Double for a delicious meal served with fresh veggies. From Cooking Light magazine, October 2010.

1/3 cup tahini
1/4 cup water
1/4 cup jarred roasted red peppers
2 TBS. lemon juice
1/4 tsp. salt
1 clove garlic
1 x 15 oz. can garbanzo beans

Process all ingredients in a food processor until smooth. Makes 2 cups.

PESTO ARTICHOKE HUMMUS--Our reviews say simply WOW on this one from the Wisconsin State Journal of September 2011.

4 TBS. prepared basil pesto of choice
1 x 15 oz. can garbanzo beans, drained and rinsed
2 cloves minced garlic
1 x 7.5 oz. jar marinated artichoke hearts, drained
1/4 cup lemon juice
4 TBS. tahini
1 1/2 TBS. extra virgin olive oil
1 1/2 tsp. salt
1 tsp. fresh chopped parsley

Simply blend all ingredients in a food processor. Freezes well so double the recipe for extras.

ROASTED RED PEPPER HUMMUS--One of Klein's very own made this delicious recipe for our staff holiday party in January of 2011. Source: Channel3000.com website.

4 oz. jarred roasted red peppers
1 x 15 oz. can garbanzo beans, rinsed and drained
1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley
1 tsp. minced garlic
1 tsp. sesame (or olive) oil
1 tsp. lemon juice
2 tsp. balsamic vinegar
1/2 tsp. ground cumin
Tobasco sauce to taste
salt and pepper to taste

In a food processor, combine everything but the Tobasco sauce and the salt and pepper until smooth. Stir in the Tobasco and salt and pepper to taste. Serve with pita chips.

[To Top](#)

NATURAL NEWS--

About The Xerces Society: For Invertebrate Conservation

Our Mission

The Xerces Society is a nonprofit organization that protects wildlife through the conservation of invertebrates and their habitat. Established in 1971, the Society is at the forefront of invertebrate protection worldwide, harnessing the knowledge of scientists and the enthusiasm of citizens to implement conservation programs. Butterflies, dragonflies, beetles, worms, starfish, mussels, and crabs are but a few of the millions of invertebrates at the heart of a healthy environment. Invertebrates build the stunning coral reefs of our oceans; they are essential to the reproduction of most flowering plants, including many fruits, vegetables, and nuts; and they are food for birds, fish, and other animals. Yet invertebrate populations are often imperiled by human activities and rarely accounted for in mainstream conservation.

The Society uses advocacy, education, and applied research to defend invertebrates.

Over the past three decades, we have protected endangered species and their habitats, produced ground-breaking publications on insect conservation, trained thousands of farmers and land managers to protect and manage habitat, and raised awareness about the invertebrates of forests, prairies, deserts, and oceans.

Advocacy

The Xerces Society advocates on behalf of threatened, endangered, and at-risk invertebrates and their habitats. From the world's rarest butterflies, to caddisflies that live solely in one stream, to declining bumble bee populations, the Xerces Society is dedicated to protecting invertebrates and the ecosystems that depend on them.

Advocacy efforts include:

- Preparing Status reviews on rare or declining species
- Filing petitions under the U.S. Endangered Species Act for the most imperiled species
- Working with Federal, State and County agencies to conserve habitats for rare and endangered invertebrates
- Working with lawmakers to help them understand the importance of invertebrates and how to best protect them

Donate

Your support directly funds invertebrate conservation advocacy, applied research, education, and outreach.

Join the Xerces Society and support its efforts to protect invertebrates and their habitat!

Member benefits include an annual subscription to Wings: Essays on Invertebrate Conservation, discounts on books and publications from our store, updates on the latest news on invertebrate conservation, and our deepest gratitude for believing in our mission.

Visit the informative Xerces Society website @ <http://www.xerces.org> and join today!!

AUGUST'S PLANT OF THE MONTH:

MILKWEED

Any gardener wanting monarch butterflies to not only visit but also breed and live much of their life cycle their garden should grow at least one, if not many of the gorgeous milkweeds available from seed sources, garden centers or even road side. Milkweeds are the sole food source for monarch caterpillars. In early summer, adult females that have migrated all the way from Mexico search out milkweed on which to lay her eggs before she dies. A single cream-colored egg is laid on the underside of milkweed leaves. The more plants available to her, the more likely she is to lay her eggs in your yard. After hatching, the striped and hairless caterpillars grow quickly, feeding exclusively on the plant (or nearby plants) on which they hatched. To find a caterpillar, look for chewed leaves as a telltale sign and then look to the leaf undersides to find the caterpillar. Monarch caterpillars have few predators. Apparently the milkweed sap they ingest gives them a bitter and unpleasant taste. In no time, the caterpillars spin their chrysalis in

which they morph into the familiar orange and black tiger-striped adults. Adult monarchs feed not only on milkweed nectar, but many garden plants including zinnias, tithonia, Mexican flame vine, coneflowers, verbena bonariensis and many others. The late season adults need to build their strength for the long trip back to Mexico where they winter in only a few mountainous areas. Few people are aware that there are multiple generations of monarchs in a single summer. The early migrants and next generations simply reproduce and die. Only the last generation of the season makes the trip to Mexico and then back before it dies.

Favorite milkweeds include:

Common Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*)--This is a very common roadside native perennial with huge umbels of fragrant, purplish pink flowers in mid-summer. This is the monarch's local favorite.

Butterfly Milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)--Another fairly common roadside native with typically bright orange flowers. Plants are compact and clump-forming with a long taproot. It will grow in the harshest of conditions in full sun.

Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*)--A tall perennial for wet locations, though it will grow in most average garden soils that don't stay overly dry. Flowers are usually a lovely bright pink or white and in clusters.

Annual Milkweed (*Asclepias curassavica*)--This perennial native of the subtropics has only in recent years become commonplace in Madison gardens. Plants are tall like swamp milkweed with flowers similar in color and appearance to our native butterfly weed in shades of orange, red or yellow. This monarch favorite is available in cell packs as starter plants at Klein's in the spring or can easily be started by seed in late winter indoors. It can even be grown as a blooming houseplant!

[To Top](#)

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 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.

Olbrich's Blooming Butterflies

July 17-August 11
Daily from 10:00-4:00
In the Bolz Conservatory

Experience the wonder of strolling through a tropical forest on a search for fleeting butterflies. Live butterflies emerge from chrysalises daily in the Bolz Conservatory. Olbrich's Blooming Butterflies is a great adventure for people of all ages. Children can visit stamping stations in the outdoor gardens with their Butterfly Passport while learning fun facts. Tour the outdoor gardens and visit the Growing Gifts shop. The cost is \$7 for adults, \$3 for children ages 12 and under, and free for children under 2. Olbrich Botanical Society members are admitted free. Parking is free. Bus tours are welcome; groups of 15 or more must register by calling [608/246-4550](tel:6082464550). The Bolz Conservatory will be closed Monday, July 15 and Tuesday, July 16 in preparation for Olbrich's Blooming Butterflies.

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

Dane County Farmer's Market

Saturdays, April 20 thru November 9, 6:00-2:00
On the Capitol Square

Wednesdays, April 24 thru November 6, 8:30-2:00

In the 200 block of Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

For details visit www.dcfm.org

Olbrich Garden's Bolz Conservatory Exhibit-Integrated Pest Management

August 13 thru October 27, 2013

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

In the Bolz Conservatory

Beneficial insects have been used in the Conservatory since it opened in 1991. These bugs provide control of plant-damaging insects, minimizing the need of more dangerous traditional insecticides. These controls, along with several others, are part of the Conservatory's Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program. This widely accepted program strives to use the least toxic method of insect and disease control to be more environmentally sensitive. Learn about Olbrich's environmentally friendly pest control methods and get ideas you can use to reduce or eliminate pesticide use at home.

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

Native Plant Garden Tour: Native Grasses

Wednesday, August 14, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

In late summer, we will take a closer look at color, size and features of native grasses, from tiny mustache grass to big bluestem.

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

Family Fun Days

Wednesday, August 14, 10:00-2:00

Sunday, August 18, 1:00-4:00

Cost: (Includes all materials) \$5/Adults, \$3/Children ages 3-15, Free-Children under 3.

Activities:

- Pollinator's Paradise in the Children's Garden
- NEW Rainbow Garden and Story Walk, "Planting a Rainbow" by Lois Ehlert
- NEW Giant Garden
- Backpack Adventures
- I Spy Challenges
- Make & Takes
- Face Painting, Bubbles & More!!

Rotary Botanical Gardens
1455 Palmer Drive
Janesville, WI,
[608/752-3885](tel:6087523885) or www.rotarygardens.org

Daylily Sale

Saturday, August 17, 10:00-4:00

Sunday, August 18, 11:00-3:00

Sponsored by the Wisconsin Daylily Society

For info call [608/221-1933](tel:6082211933) or visit www.wisdaylilysoc.org

Olbrich Botanical Gardens

3330 Atwood Ave., Madison

[608/246-4550](tel:6082464550) or www.olbrich.org for details.

Dahlia Show

Saturday, August 17, 10:00-5:00

Sunday, August 18, 11:00-3:00

Dahlias are late summer bloomers known for their diverse forms and bright colors. Sponsored by the Badger State Dahlia Society. For more information call [608/577-1924](tel:6085771924).

Olbrich Botanical Gardens

3330 Atwood Ave., Madison

[608/246-4550](tel:6082464550) or www.olbrich.org for details.

Northside Farmers Market

Sundays, May 5 through October 27, 8:30-12:30

In the Northside TownCenter at the intersection of N. Sherman Ave. and Northport Dr. across from Warner Park.

The Northside Farmers Market is a nonprofit community enterprise. It is one of the newest and fastest growing farmers' markets in Dane County. In keeping with the innovative spirit of Madison's Northside, we are surpassing what defines the traditional farmers' market. Our fundamental principles include:

--Providing an abundant selection of high quality, locally grown foods.
The market accepts Quest, WIC and Senior FMNP vouchers.

--Supporting our local agricultural entrepreneurs who are increasingly important today in ensuring that we have the best and safest food possible.

--Educating the community about traditional foods and the history of local agriculture in an attempt to preserve (and expand upon) our rich heritage.

--Promoting nutrition and the market by hosting dinners for neighborhood groups and seniors.

Parking is always FREE!

For details visit www.northsidefarmersmarket.org

[To Top](#)

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

- Give the garden at least 1" of moisture per week.
- Mow as little as possible and with mower raised to at least 2".
- Mulch beds to conserve moisture and keep down weeds.
- Deadheading spent blooms as needed.
- Collect seeds for next year's garden.
- Make notes in your garden journal for changes, improvements, etc.
- Take pictures of your garden for record keeping.
- Stake and support tall plants as needed.
- Divide daylilies as they finish blooming.

- ___ Transplant and divide iris and peonies.
- ___ Plant late crops of lettuce, spinach, radishes, etc.
- ___ Order spring bulbs for fall planting: daffodils, tulips, hyacinth, etc.
- ___ Plant fall blooming crocus bulbs.
- ___ Fertilize potted plants at least every 2 weeks. Follow directions.
- ___ Stop fertilizing all trees and shrubs.
- ___ Keep an eye on the weather. Water as needed.
- ___ Watch for pests and control as needed or desired.
- ___ Shop for early mum selection and fall pansies.
- ___ Begin checking out the garden centers for spring bulb selection.
- ___ Stop watering held over amaryllis for 8 weeks for holiday blooms.
- ___ Begin taking cuttings of geraniums, coleus and other plants to winter over.
- ___ Visit Klein's--Watch for end of season savings on perennials, shrubs and select annuals.

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.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.seed savers.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:

- Brent & Becky's Bulbs @ www.brentandbeckysbulbs.com or 877/661-2852
- 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 AUGUST:

---The poinsettias continue grow and thrive in our back greenhouses. They're so big already, we've had to give them adequate spacing.

--The first of the mums, pansies and fall cole crops go out onto the sales floor.

---Summer maintenance projects are under way. This year's plans include replacing old benches, replacing and repairing some roofs and some general touchups.

---We continue to space and pamper the fall mums that are now just beginning to bloom.

---We're prepping our main showrooms for the semi-load of houseplants arriving from Florida about mid-month. We time this shipment with the arrival of the college students. Select from all shapes and sizes; from tropicals to succulents. The showrooms become a veritable jungle.

---We begin ordering plants for the 2014 season.

[To Top](#)

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.

Houseplants from Brenda's Tropical Plants of Boca Raton, Florida

You may already know that Klein's is your one-stop, full service florist for any occasion and serving most of Dane County. But being a greenhouse, we also offer an amazing year round selection of blooming plants and houseplants. Whether a housewarming gift, a "thank-you" blooming plant, a condolence peace lily or a potted plant for dorm, home or office, we can fill your needs.

Each August we receive a semi-load of plants in all shapes and sizes fresh from Florida growers. Selection ranges from the smallest plants for terrariums and dishgardens, to tropical trees, to succulents and cactus. Overnight, our greenhouses become a lush, tropical jungle. Our knowledgeable staff will help select the perfect plant for any location and occasion, offering care tips and sound advice. We also have an excellent selection of pottery and baskets to complement any decor. Purchase a pot from us and we'll pot up your plant for free (time permitting).

Our 2013 shipment arrives during the week of August 18 so shop early for best quality and selection. Some of our more interesting items include a selection of carnivorous plants, air plants and unique succulents.

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

Follow Klein's on [Facebook](#) where we post updates and photos on a regular basis.

TWITTER

Join Klein's on [Twitter](#) 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

Plastic flower pots and garden edging can now be recycled as part of the City of Madison's [rigid plastic program](#). Flowerpots and edging must be free of dirt and can be placed in your green recycling bin. For more information call 267-2626 or visit www.cityofmadison.com/streets/recycling/plastic.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 all gift deliveries 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.

[To Top](#)

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. We do not deliver to Cambridge, Columbus, Deerfield or Stoughton.

Current delivery rate on 1-4 items is \$7.95 for Madison, Maple Bluff, Monona and Shorewood Hills; \$8.95 for Cottage Grove, DeForest, Fitchburg, McFarland, Sun Prairie, Waunakee and Windsor; and \$9.95 for Marshall, Middleton, Oregon and Verona. An additional \$3.00 will be added for deliveries of 4-10 items and \$5.00 added for deliveries of more than 10 items. For deliveries requiring more than one trip, a separate delivery charge will be added for each trip.

A minimum order of \$25.00 is required for delivery.

We not only deliver our fabulous fresh flowers, but also houseplants, bedding plants and hardgoods. There may be an extra charge for very large or bulky items.

Delivery to the Madison hospitals is \$5.95. Deliveries to the four Madison hospitals are made during the early afternoon. Items are delivered to the hospital's volunteer rooms and not directly to the patients' rooms per hospital rules.

There is no delivery charge for funerals in the city of Madison or Monona, although normal rates apply for morning funeral deliveries to Madison's west side (west of Park St.). Our normal rates also apply for funeral deliveries in the surrounding communities at all times. Although we don't deliver on Sundays, we will deliver funeral items on Sundays at the regular delivery rate.

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 3:00 p.m. We do not usually deliver after 4:00 unless specific exceptions are made with our drivers.

Except for holidays, the following west-side zip codes and communities are 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.

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

Grower, General Manager --Jamie VandenWymelenberg jamie@kleinsfloral.com

Assistant Manager--Jennifer Simon jsimon@kleinsfloral.com

Lead Floral Designer--Kathy Lehman kathy@kleinsfloral.com

House Accounts & Billing--Naomi Boldon naomi@kleinsfloral.com

Delivery Supervisor--Rick Halbach rick@kleinsfloral.com

Owner & Manager--Sue Klein sue@kleinsfloral.com

[To Top](#)

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://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
<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://mamgawi.org/>

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.allencentennialgardens.org/>

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.

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

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

[To Top](#)