

President's Message

The last couple of months has been one of crisis, chaos, and uncertainty.

I must start with In Memorium messages.

Brenda Archer's Mother, Kate Mooring, has been a long time member for at least 25 years and passed away on March 6. My condolences and sympathy go to Brenda and her family.

George Plaisted, a long time member, Past President, and one of the pillars of the Geranium society, passed away on the weekend of March 30. Due to the Corona Virus shutdown there was no public service, but I hope we have a Memorial Service in the fall. Monica especially remembers George with his suggestions for propagating and repotting Geraniums.

We had to postpone the Spring Geranium conference until July 25. This is contingent on the Corona Virus lock-down being lifted and San Diego Botanic Gardens allowing us to use Eske Hall.

The May 16-17 Show and Sale may need to be cancelled as Balboa Park has not announced when or if it will open Casa Del Prado for meetings and shows. We'll keep you informed.

Monica and I have tried to find something else to do, since all of our social and business related activities have been put on hiatus. So we have been gardening. Gardening is a contact sport - sprained muscles, bruises, and cuts from aggressive roses and cactus. Pulling weeds, repotting plants, and trying to start seedlings. As usual, my seeds died, and Monica's are thriving. And snails. This is the year of the Snail. I finally gave in and started to put down Snail Bait. All this has done has made the snails move from the ground to the tops of the plants, where they feast on buds and new leaves.

Be well - be careful! Keep in touch with friends and others who are feeling just as isolated and anxious - they want to know how you are doing and are glad to know you are OK.

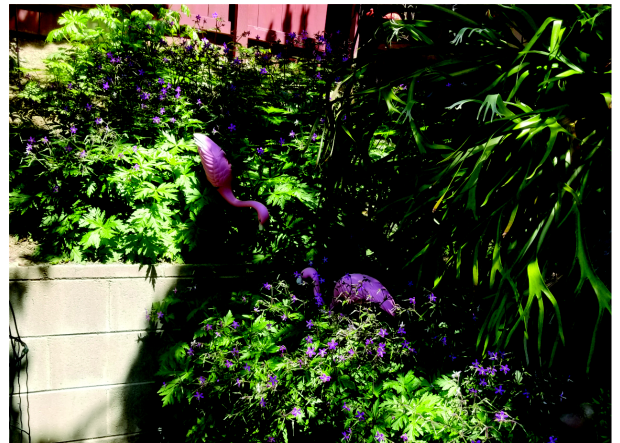
Patrick Powell/President

April Meeting

is cancelled due to Covid-19
and the closure of Balboa Park

We hope to resume meetings in May!

While the Show and Sale is on hold until we see what happens with the isolation order and Balboa Park, we hope you'll all continue to grow and groom your plants as if we are going ahead with it as scheduled. We may not have a lot of time to prepare - so keeping our plants healthy and happy and ready to star in the Show will help us if we have to pull it together quickly. Fortunately, we've done the Show and Sale so many times that it shouldn't be too difficult to muster the troops and get it organized if we're all in a state of readiness! SO - when the sun is shining - be out in your garden! Pot up and clean up! Remember that the theme is "Enduring, Endearing Geraniums" - so be thinking about ways you could display your plants, and start pulling together any props you might want to use. We'll let you know as soon as we hear that the Park is open - hopefully in time for our Show and Sale!



G. palmatum growing in Sharon's backyard

Open Garden Invitation

Since most of us are home and looking for ways to while away the time, Sharon has offered to let members come enjoy her garden! Her gardens are available Monday - Saturday between 11 - 4. If you'd like to see her collection of erodiums, geraniums, pelargoniums and hybrid species, call or email her to arrange an appointment. We need to keep it to 1-2 people at a time, and maintain "social distancing" while in the garden.

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In Memorium



Kate Martin Mooring

Kate Martin was born on a farm near Princeton, NC, on 11/30/1926. She was the last of her siblings and said she wanted a big family because she wished she had siblings to play with as a child. Her wish came true as the years passed and her family grew to ten children.

She was always a vigorous and enthusiastic worker, turning all her attention and energy to the tasks at hand. In addition to working as a nurse and raising her children, she enjoyed gardening and surrounded her home with lovely flowers. Her roses and geraniums compete with succulents and other exotic plants she collected over the years.

Kate passed away on March 6, 2020, from complications of heart disease and COPD. All 10 children are still living; there are 21 grand-children, 10 great-grand-children, and 2 great-great-grand-children.

George Plaisted



George served our Club - and many other Clubs at the Park - for as long as anyone can remember! He was a wealth of information about all things plant, soil and fertilizer! We'll have more about George in our next newsletter! If you have something you'd like to share about your experience with him, email Sharon.

Boy, Did We Have FUN in March!

At the time of our last meeting we thought we would be holding the Geranium Conference, so we went to work creating one last item to be included in the "swag bag" for the event! We made geranium themed coasters using canning jar lids, cork, and fabric - they turned out really well!

