

# Geraniamania

Planting Since 1972

## President's Message

This year's Show/Sale was a tremendous success. There will be more details at the June Meeting (which is also our Ice Cream Social). Brenda Archer was the driving force behind the Show and Sale, and made sure that everything was in place and ready when it opened. Just about all the members were there, either for the setup, sale or tear-down.

Just a couple of highlights (for me). The displays were very neat! I was overwhelmed by Jim and Erma's multiple tables full of plants, all in beautiful condition. And the stage display was enjoyed by many people, many of whom wanted to buy the plants right on the spot. However, it was one of the small displays that really caught my eye. Jerry Stewart created a simple display of blossoms and leaf shapes that I used multiple times to explain the differences between different types of geraniums. This was a great teaching and display aid.

The Sale went very well. At 8:30 there were 26 people lined up outside the door (I counted them) waiting to buy. When the doors were opened they rushed in and grabbed the plants they wanted. I think in the first 30 minutes we sold about a hundred plants.

I was continually asked "What is your favorite plant?" Of course I pointed at the brilliant reds, blazing oranges, and hot pinks of the Regals and Zonals. I showed them the really neat zonals which had multiple rings of color. I explained how the different colors were formed during leaf growth. I showed them how the alligator leaves were formed. I showed... Hey! They just bought the last of my favorite plant! The scented geraniums were also popular. The favorite seemed to be the Lemon Scented, followed by Chocolate Mint, Canella, and Nutmeg. People were surprised when I encouraged them to lightly touch the leaves. I explained that they should use different hands for each plant so that they could get the best scent on their hands. The kids especially liked the chocolate mint and tutti-frutti (bubblegum).

I'll see you at the meeting!

Patrick Powell  
President



A Publication of the San Diego Geranium Society  
The San Diego Geranium Society meets the Second  
Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., in Room 101 of the  
Casa Del Prado in Balboa Park.  
Meetings are Free! All Welcome!

June Meeting  
Tuesday, June 11, 2019  
7:00

## Ice Cream

Don't forget to -  
Bring Cuttings from your Garden -  
Bring a plant for "Show and Tell"

This is our Ice Cream Social Meeting to welcome  
our new members - please bring your favorite  
ice cream topping to share -  
we'll provide the ice cream!



**Our Dues are Due This Month!**  
**If you haven't already paid your dues,**  
**please do that so at this meeting -**  
**see Brenda or Cathy.**  
**You can also renew your**  
**membership online:**

<https://www.sdgeranium.org/become-a-member.html>



## For our New Members

What's the difference between a pelargonium and a geranium? The two varieties couldn't be more different, noticeably in their growth, appearance and seed dispersal technique. Although they are apart of the same family - Geraniaceae - that's about all they have in common.

Hardy Geraniums, also known as Cranesbills, which is given due to the shape of many varieties fruit capsule or seed pod that resembles the beak of a Crane. Seeds are dispersed when the pod springs open sending seeds off to a fair distance. The flower is quite symmetrical in that it has five similar shaped petals that result in an open flat flower. Their growth is low and wide with long, thin stems and is often used as ground cover.

Although Pelargoniums also have 5 petals, they differ in that the top two petals are a different shape and size to the rest giving a more asymmetrical appearance and grow in clusters. They are tall growers and stems can become woody after time. They come in a range of different colors in both flower and leaves and some have very pungent scents such as peppermint, apple and lemon.



G. Rozanne



G. Orkney Cherry



G. biuncinatum



P. My Chance



P. Gentle Georgia



P. Lara Vulcan



P. Phyllis



P. Bembridge (Gold Leaf)



P. Fir Trees Catkins