

# Geraniamania

Planting Since 1972



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!

## President's Message

We are hosting the Southern California 2020 Geranium Conference on Saturday, March 28, 2020, and people are working hard to make it a success. It is being held at the Ecke Building in the San Diego Botanic Gardens, better known as Quail Gardens. There is lots of parking for cars.

The setup starts at 8:00, the Registration Desk and Coffee will open at 9:00, and the Conference itself will start at 10:00. We expect to wrap up about 3:30, leaving the rest of the afternoon for you to see the Botanic Gardens. I strongly recommend walking to the Children's garden through the San Diego and Australia plantings, as they were just starting to bloom on Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

At the March meeting we will be asking for volunteers to sign up for help with Registration, table setup, and taking pictures. We have vendors coming with Rare and Exotic plants, including Robin Parer from Geraniaceae Nursery, who has strange and exotic pelargoniums.

Please feel free to invite other gardening enthusiasts - the more the merrier! The \$30 fee covers entrance to the Gardens, the Conference, lunch and parking - a real bargain!

I hope to see you all at the meeting on Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, and then on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, at our Conference!

Patrick Powell/President

## March Meeting

Tuesday, March 10, 2020

7:00pm

Don't forget to -

Bring Cuttings from your Garden -  
Bring a plant for "Show and Tell"



## Gift Baskets

We're still in need of Gift Baskets for the opportunity drawing to be held at the Conference! If you need help coming up with something creative, check out Pinterest for ideas! If you need help with packaging, bring your items to the March meeting and give them to a Board member - we'll wrap it for you! We'd like to keep the baskets focused on geraniums or gardening, and gift cards are always nice, so if you can pick up a gift card from your local nursery and bring it to the March meeting, we'll tuck it into a basket for you! OR - pick up a bale (or two) of the ProMix soil Jimmy Z recommended in our last newsletter - that would make a great item!

## SDGS Officers

**President - Patrick Powell**  
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**Vice President - Marilyn Ketteringham**  
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**Treasurer - Brenda Archer**  
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**Secretary - Cathy Miller**  
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## Photos From our February Meeting



Jack brought in the cedar planters he made - simple, but very nice!



Marilyn brought in this pretty pelargonium! It has varying shades of pink on the same bloom stem - quite unique!



Suzy Spafford angel?



## HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!

### *Erodium cicutarium*



*Erodium cicutarium* is native mainly to the temperate zone, ranging as far north as Norway. It can also be found in subtropical areas and has spread as a weed into the tropics, mainly at higher elevations. It is also a “weed” that we can see all over San Diego at this time of year!

*E. Cicutarium* prefers a sunny well-drained position and a limey soil, or at least one that is not acidic. The plant can invade disturbed areas and, once established, can form dense stands that eliminate native vegetation and can successfully compete with native grasses and herbs. All you have to do is look around at empty lots, dirt medians, along sidewalks or in yards all over San Diego, and you’ll find this tenacious plant!

#### **Edible Uses**

Young leaves - raw or cooked as a potherb. When harvested before the plant flowers, they are tasty and nutritious. The leaves can be added to salads, sandwiches, soups etc, and can be used in recipes that call for leaves of beet, plantain, sow thistle or amaranth. In some parts of the world the root is chewed by children as a gum!

#### **Medicinal**

The whole plant is astringent and hemostatic. It has been used in the treatment of uterine and other bleeding. The root and leaves have been eaten by nursing mothers to increase the flow of milk. Externally, the plant has been used as a wash on animal bites, skin infections, etc.. A tea made from the leaves is diaphoretic and diuretic. An infusion has been used in the treatment of typhoid fever. The leaves are soaked in water and used as a bath for the treatment of rheumatism. A poultice of the chewed root has been applied to sores and rashes. The seeds contain vitamin K, a poultice of them is applied to gouty typhus.