

Geraniomania

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!

Presidents Message

One glance at my garden and you know my Geraniums have the same reaction to this hot, humid weather we're having as I. We're just surviving.

My plan is to keep them shaded - not too hydrated and maybe give them a little diluted fertilizer. There's plenty of time for trimming and taking cuttings when the weather cools a little.

While I complain about the weather our neighbors in Texas and Louisiana are fighting tornados and floods. I'm sending my prayers and good thoughts and Red Cross Donations their way. I hope you are too. See you at the meeting.

Marilyn Ketteringham



SDGS Officers

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Secretary - Cathy Miller

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September Meeting

September 12th @ 7:00pm

Don't forget to -

Bring Cuttings from your Garden -

Bring a plant for "Show and Tell"

Bring something for the goodie table!

PROGRAM

Our Speaker will be Ed Piffard -he'll be talking about
California Native Plants.

It should be a very interesting presentation!



COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho - "Tango red" geraniums have become an iconic staple of the Coeur d'Alene resort. Thousands of them are planted year after year. The geraniums have been painting Coeur d'Alene red since the '80's.

Every spring, Steve Malone and his crew plant 22,000 "tango red" geraniums, specifically picked in honor of Duane Hagadone's mom. (Hagadone is known as the founder of the Coeur d'Alene Resort and Golf Course in northern Idaho.) They were Mr. Hagadone's mother's favorite flower.

But planting thousands of flowers is no easy feat.

"Once we see flowers in the ground, it's go time for my crew especially," said Malone. "We're ready for the summer, ready for the heat, and ready to make everything beautiful."

First, they dig holes, and then, a team following behind drops the geraniums in. A third crew makes sure everything is properly buried. Two days of hard work but a feast for the eyes that lasts all summer long.

"When in doubt – plant a geranium!" declared plants-woman and gardener Margery Fish, and her advice remains as true today as ever. Hardy geraniums are as reliable as they come, blooming for weeks in summer (and often come back for a second flush if you cut them back after flowering). They cope with all kinds of soil, sun or part shade, and smother the ground with masses of flowers in pink, white, blue or mauve. If you're stuck for the right plant to fill a gap, a geranium is probably what you need: pop down to the garden center and you're sure to find the perfect one for the job!