

# Cobb County Daylily Society Newsletter

March 2010  
Volume 1, Issue 1

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## Our First Newsletter - Call for Articles

Our society is publishing Volume 1, Issue 1 of a new quarterly newsletter. It will be dedicated to informing, educating, sharing, celebrating and, most of all, enjoying our shared passions in growing and displaying daylilies. If the past holds true, there will be as much bantering between the lines as there is in meetings and in the gardens.

Of course, the quality of the newsletter will depend on the

membership submitting articles and ideas for upcoming issues. Doris Bishop has agreed to supply us with a garden-to-do list arranged by month so there'll be no excuse for forgetting annual chores. A calendar of events and deadlines will also eliminate other excuses! ☺

Anyone who's visited a garden or other site related to gardening is very much encouraged to share their experiences by submitting an article describing the highlights and

recommendations of their visit. We'll have space, of course, for pictures, especially, images of exceptional beauty, interest, humor or AHA! moments. Please feel free to submit them and we'll include them as space permits. And be sure to pass along comments for improving the newsletter to the editor at [ritabuehner@bellsouth.com](mailto:ritabuehner@bellsouth.com) or to society officers.

Rita Buehner, CNA (Chief Newsletter Arranger ;-)



## Garden Tour Manners – Some “Don't's”

No one would think of doing any of these “don'ts” but here are some reminders, just in case. Some are tongue in cheek-ish but I'll bet our garden hosts can add plenty more.

- Don't touch plants and especially avoid pulling blossoms or seed pods. Why? Those could be the culmination of years of hybridizing.
- Don't leave a trail of litter behind you. You can find your way back to your car without dropping pistachio hulls every six inches.
- Don't stray off paths without permission - avoid trample-sensitive areas.
- Don't leave a gate open that was closed when you entered it.
- Don't make comments about plant names that you think are wrong and don't comment negatively on a host's garden. Save your opinions for later.
- Don't take a dog unless you can carry it. Even then, ask permission before assuming it's OK.
- Don't take pictures without the permission of the host.

In future newsletters, we hope to include some real-life examples of garden visit faux-pas' based on our garden owners' experiences.

# Gardening To-Do List by Doris Bishop

## MARCH

1. Garden cleanup (remove dead scapes, small limbs, dead foliage, etc.)
2. Check garden soil for pH and nutrients. Take samples from each bed. Contact your county extension agent. Can buy pH meter at local garden center but it may not always be accurate.
3. Amend garden soil. Add organic amendments to the soil every three years and work into the soil when possible. Soil amendments--soil conditioner or finely ground pinebark, compost, sand, bagged topsoil, mushroom compost (check salt content), lime (if needed).
4. Add fertilizers, e.g., general all-purpose fertilizer such as 10-10-10, aged manures (horse, cow, chicken), Milorganite, Epsom salts, alfalfa meal or pellets (do not apply in direct contact with the roots), or a time release fertilizer (Nutricote/Dynamite or Osmocote).
5. Create new beds. Add a combination of soil amendments for best results (see 3 above). Raised beds provide good drainage. Tilling-in amendments is recommended.
6. Mulch beds with pinebark, pinestraw, or aged wood chips. Mulch holds in moisture, controls weeds, cools soil in summer, protects plants in cold weather, and is aesthetically pleasing.
7. Daylily clumps can be divided once they begin growing and can be replanted.
8. **WEED!** Never let weeds go to seed !
9. Pre-emergents may be applied. Wait until all digging is finished in a bed before applying the pre-emergent Snapshot.
10. Check plant labels. Are they still legible?
11. Straighten plant stands or markers.
12. Make labels for new daylilies arriving in the spring, if not already done.
13. Use deer repellent, if needed.
14. Shop online or from daylily catalogs for new daylilies to add in April.

**NOTE:** Any fertilizing program is better than none at all. A combination of more than one is better than one alone. The cost of fertilizers will help determine how much you want to do in your garden. Never apply a fertilizer close to the daylily crown. This may result in crown rot which may kill the daylily.

## APRIL

1. Any tasks not completed in March should be finished in early April.
  2. Daylilies can be divided and replanted. **Share daylilies with friends.** Work out daylily trades with other daylily growers.
  3. Plant new daylilies after the threat of frost or be prepared to cover new daylilies directly planted in the ground. New daylilies can be planted in pots and kept in an unheated garage on cold nights until time to be planted in the ground. Water as needed. Do not let pots dry out. Plant in a good soil mix that provides good drainage.
  4. Water daylilies if spring rain is not adequate. Do not over water.
  5. Begin treatment program for aphids, spider mites, thrips, and snails. Consider choices available: granular vs. sprays and organic methods vs. chemical treatments. You should select the treatment program best for your garden.
  6. Begin fungicide treatment for leaf streak, leaf spot, and rust. Rust may not be a problem if you do not add daylilies from a rust-prone garden or a garden that has not received new daylilies from a rust-prone area.
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## Gardening To-Do List (continued)



7. **WEED!** Never let weeds go to seed !
8. Use deer repellent, if needed.
9. Plan hybridizing crosses if not done during the winter months.
10. Be ready to take pictures of May's blooms. Have new camera batteries handy or recharged.
11. By late April, walk through the garden every day looking for that first scape. Once found, then start counting the scapes each day.

### MAY

1. Continue insect control (aphids, thrips, spider mites, snails).
2. Continue fungicide treatments. As the temperatures rise, fungus and disease increase in the garden. Rust may not show itself until July.
3. Water daylilies if rain does not provide at least one inch of water each week. Try to not water the foliage and water early in the mornings. This will help prevent leaf scorch from the hot sun and disease from wet foliage left overnight.
4. New daylilies can still be planted but may need extra water as they get adjusted to their new home.
5. **WEED!** Never let weeds go to seed !
6. Use deer repellent, if needed.
7. Start watching for that first bloom.
8. Start hybridizing when daylilies begin blooming. Be sure to label your crosses (pod parent x pollen parent).
9. Take time to enjoy your daylilies each day because bloom season will be over much too soon.

Each person has time, energy, and financial limitations. These guidelines are only suggestions. Take what you want from these suggestions. Aim to add something new each year to your program of growing daylilies to make it better. Try NOT to make it WORK. Instead, have FUN and ENJOY growing the BEST flower there is--- the DAYLILY!

## Save the Dates\*, Please



"Youth is the future of all our Societies."

- April 18** . . . . . General Meeting – 2PM, First United Methodist Church
- May 15** . . . . . Grooming Class – 9:30 AM, Waldrop's Garden
- May 27-29** . . . . National AHS Convention, Valdosta, GA
- June 11** . . . . . Daylily Show Setup/Committee Meetings at the Cobb Galleria
- June 12** . . . . . Daylily Show – 7:30-4, Cobb Galleria
- June 19** . . . . . Garden Tours beginning with breakfast at the Grigsby's
- Sept. 19** . . . . . General Meeting – 2PM, First United Methodist Church
- Oct. 2** . . . . . Fall Picnic – 4PM, Kennesaw Mountain Daylily Gardens
- Oct. 15-17** . . . . Fall Fling – Crowne Plaza, Atlanta, GA
- Nov. 14** . . . . . General Meeting – 2PM, First United Methodist Church
- Dec. 12** . . . . . Christmas Party – 4PM, McKenney's home

**\*Schedule as of March 2010 and is subject to change.**

**Cobb County Daylily Society  
Information**

**Newsletter E-mail**  
[rbuehner@blackberryuncle.com](mailto:rbuehner@blackberryuncle.com)

**Web Address**  
[www.cobbdaylily.org](http://www.cobbdaylily.org)

**Officers**  
President – Bill Waldrop  
Vice-Pres. – Camilla Arthur  
Secretary – Diana Waldrop  
Treasurer – Jack Rigsby  
2010 Show Chair – Patty Franklin



## CCDS & AHS 2010 Dues are Due !

2010 dues for the **Cobb County Daylily Society** are **\$20 per family** and can be paid to either Jack Rigsby or Diana Waldrop at any meeting or

downloading the membership form from the [www.cobbdaylily.org](http://www.cobbdaylily.org) website and mailing it with a \$20 check to our Treasurer:

Jack Rigsby  
3180 W. Somerset Ct.  
SE  
Marietta GA 30067

2010 **American Hemerocallis Society** dues were due January 1<sup>st</sup> and a list of membership types and cost are listed on their website [www.daylilies.org](http://www.daylilies.org) . Click on "Membership Information".

## June 19<sup>th</sup> Breakfast & Garden Tours

Be sure to mark the June 19<sup>th</sup> on your calendars for a Saturday morning breakfast at the Rigsby's in East Cobb. This will be the starting point for

the Club Garden Tours that day. To date, the Grigsby and the Franklin gardens are on the tour with others to be announced shortly. As many of you know,

these tours are full of laughter, lemonade, learning and beautiful displays. Special thanks go to those who share their hospitality and gardens !

## April 18<sup>th</sup> – Speaker Eddie Rhoades

We are pleased to be able to have **Eddie Rhoades**, Master Gardner, Yard Artist, Guitar Player, Writer, and Funny Guy, to be the speaker at our next Society general meeting on **April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2PM, First United Methodist Church on Whitlock Avenue**. (Whew! That was a classic run-on sentence! Sister Bonaventure, English Teacher Extraordinaire would not have been pleased!)

To get a flavor for Eddie's personality, I visited his website, [www.bittersweetgardens.com](http://www.bittersweetgardens.com) . Wow! There isn't a run-on sentence long enough to describe his style. He's a homegrown Georgian originating in Augusta and now living in our own Marietta. And I'm guessing (and hoping) that his trademark song, "I Like My Garden Just a Little on the Trashy Side", is tongue-in-cheek, at least "just a little" bit. It speaks of flamingos, wooden pigs and thing-a-ma-jigs in the garden.

He'll most likely share his Master Gardner experience with daylilies and their companions in a humorous way so please join us and come with questions for him !

