



THE COASTAL NC DAYLILY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2020

No. 105

PRESIDENT'S CORNER - *by Pat Mansfield*

WOW, what a bloom season this has been. Aren't the colors brilliant this year? In our garden, the Lates and the Rebloomers are still going strong.

We had a great time at our June Picnic. Good food, and great fellowship and plenty of social distancing!

Being under the tent for our picnic helped us visualize what it will be like for the OBX 2020 Autumn Regional meeting in October. It helped us solidify our thoughts on using a larger tent and I am happy to report that Dotti has worked with Carl Curnutte to secure that tent for us! She also lined up our meeting at the Gardens on July 14 so each member can see firsthand where everything will be set up.

We are anxiously waiting to hear what the Governor's decree will be on July 17 concerning COVID-19 restrictions and their effect on large gatherings. In the meantime, we are moving full steam ahead with background preparations as if nothing is looming on the horizon.



Carol and Janet have been working on the cards for the goodie bags and they are absolutely the most wonderful cards I've ever seen! These ladies have put a lot of time and energy into filling our bags with a treasure trove of wonderful goodies! We are also adding hand sanitizer and a mask to the bags.

We have secured the website and Madonna Witte, our computer guru, has made sure all the security issues for on-line payments have been addressed. Our web address is coastalncdaylily.org. We are finishing up a few details and when it has gone "live", we will send you all an email so you can check it out!

There's a lot going on, and a lot left to get done. Thank you to all who have been working on the upcoming Regional; especially to Ken Ferguson, our cheerleading Chairman, for his tireless efforts to make this the absolute BEST Regional meeting ever! His creativity and energy are the combination we needed.

IMPORTANT NOTICE



The July meeting of Coastal NC Daylilies will be held at the Elizabethan Gardens on Tuesday, July 14. We will meet in the parking lot and will go into the Garden shoppe together as a group, to meet Carl Curnutte, Director of the Gardens, at **10:00 A** sharp. Members are encouraged to carpool.

Carl will welcome us and give a brief tour of facilities. Following that, each member can “scope” out the area of the gardens where their particular responsibilities will be associated so that you can get a good picture in your minds of how you want your area staged and work out any logistics for doing so. Facial coverings must be worn in buildings and anywhere outside where you are unable to maintain 6 feet of separation, so please bring and wear yours where required.

HOLD YOUR EMAILS... We have a winner !

DAYLILY TRIVIA duex was answered in a flash. **Beverly Ambrose** is the winner of several fans of Shari Dee.

question Why is the name DAYLILIES incorrect?

answer A Daylily is not a true Lily.
Lilies grow from bulbs.

Maybe that was too easy? So let's try this one more time. The first email to me (kferguson@mchsi.com) with the correct answer to the question below will win one of my newest daylilies, *Spud's Kindergarten*.

question What do the words: watermark, band, and halo have in common?



Spud's Kindergarten —Ferguson, K —2020

50-16= You do the math.

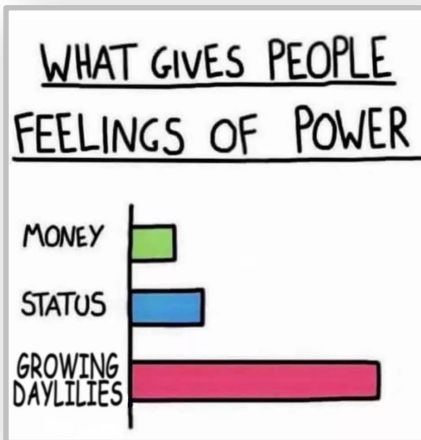
Our rooms at the hotel are filling. When we go online with the registration form in 10 days, they will fill fast. Reserve your room now online or call the hotel directly.

Comfort Inn On the Ocean Group Name: American Daylily Society Region 15
Group Code: WD87H3 252.441.6333



A 10 STEP PROGRAM for dividing and replanting daylilies

by Ken Ferguson



We all know that Daylilies are among the most versatile and **forgiving** perennial plants. They will grow and multiply under almost any conditions. Typically, the more sun they get the more they bloom, but when a clump of daylilies becomes too dense it tends to produce fewer flowers. This means they need to be divided, ideally after a bloom cycle, every three to four years.

The optimum time to transplant daylilies is in the early spring or early fall, although they will tolerate transplanting at any time of year.

Which is where we are now. Moderate soil temperature helps them become established more quickly. Daylilies transplanted in summer usually will not bloom again until the next year. If transplanted in the fall, they will need about six weeks before frost (NOV 1 in our area) to become established.

Several years ago the Society produced 2, 1 minute videos on the processes of splitting and planting daylilies. Both are available here. Just hold down the **Ctrl** key on a WIN computer or the ⌘ key on a MAC, and click a link below. The video will open in a new window.

DIVIDING DAYLILIES

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WRvwZtd105k>

PLANTING DAYLILIES

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EItiJA_WoM

But, if you prefer written instructions, here they are.

- 1** Prepare a new home for your daylilies in a sunny or partially sunny location BEFORE you divide them, to minimize some stress during transplanting. With a garden spade, dig a hole about 12" wide and 12" deep. Add a 2- to 3-inch layer of compost or manure to the soil you took out and work it in. Put about 6" of that soil mix back in the hole and gently compact to get rid of air space. Now with some of the remaining soil build a pyramid in the middle of the hole.
- 2** With your spade, dig around the base of the clump, about 6 inches out, and 6 inches down from the crown. Then PRY UP. Repeat this all of the way around the clump. Think of this like pulling a "baby tooth." It's hanging on by something... but if I wiggle it enough, it WILL come out.
- 3** Slide the blade of the spade under the root ball, and lift it free from the soil. You may have to loosen up a spot that is "stuck." Then lift the clump out of the hole, by the CROWN, not the LEAVES, and drop it on the ground. Take a break and hydrate.

4 This is the part that really “freaks” non-daylily folks out when they witness it for the first time. **BEAT** the clump on the ground. BEAT it GOOD. Get mean. Try to remove as much of the old soil as possible.

5 Now it’s bath time, when you wash the remaining soil from the roots with a garden hose. This allows you to check the roots for disease and makes dividing them easier. Healthy roots are firm and white or tan. Soft or discolored roots indicate disease and should be cut away with a knife and discarded.

6 Take your clump to a good solid work surface. You want to divide the clump into sections of 2 or 3 fans (each crown is the base of a fan) with your hands. 3 or 4 fans are even better because the cultivar will become re-established more quickly. Although some daylily clumps can be pulled apart with a little effort (not around here very often) they sometimes resist attempts at division. Use a spading fork or weeding tool to pull the large clump apart into smaller sections. If the splitting is still tough going, cut the roots apart with a sharp knife.

7 Cut the daylily foliage back to 4 to 6 inches tall. This prevents moisture loss while transplanting your daylilies. And rather than grow leaves and flowers, the plant uses its energy for new root growth.

8 Bare-rooted daylilies all look alike. Now is the time to TAG EACH FAN. Plastic survey tape with a Sharpie, anything. Just TAG EACH FAN. When complete, toss the tagged fans into a bucket of water to hydrate while you finish the other fans in the clump. Before planting, you may want to do a fungicide, or other booster dip. [see JUNE Newsletter] When splitting is complete, time for YOU to take a break and rehydrate again.

9 Inspecting the new home sites, we see we have a PYRAMID in the bottom of each hole. At this point, some growers will put a permanent plant tag in the bottom of the hole. The reason? Should a mis-aimed weed wacker relocate your above ground marker, you will have one under the plant to positively identify it.

Back to planting. Position the fans in the hole spreading the roots out over the sides of each cone. At this point, you might need to make some adjustment to the pyramid height, adding or removing soil. DO NOT plant the fans deeper than the crown (some white flesh should be showing above grade.) Planting too deep may lead to lots of nasty problems later on. Fill in around just the roots with fresh soil, and firm. Top with a 2 inch layer of mulch

10 Tag your new plants with a PERMANENT MARKER. Water the transplanted daylilies thoroughly to moisten the soil. Keep the soil moist until new growth appears. Then let Mother Nature take over.