

New England Carnivorous Plant Society

Founded 2003

February 2005 Newsletter

The Blizzard of the century is behind us, the 2005 RI Spring Flower and Garden show are ahead, and we are ready for the February meeting of the NECPS. Can spring be far away now?

For those who missed the January meeting, the NECPS now has T-shirts available! All sizes, including kids sizes, in 3 colors, Light Blue, Grey and white, with the LARGE multicolor NECPS logo on the back, and the black logo on the front left chest. Shirts will be available at the meetings from now on, and we hope to have sweatshirts and other items in the future.

The NECPS will again have an informational booth at the RI Spring Flower and Garden show in Providence, RI from Thursday, 17 Feb thru Sunday, 20 Feb. As with last year, we will be sharing the booth space with the RI Orchid Society. A few people have volunteered to work the booth, and we still need more, especially for Saturday, and the evenings of Thursday and Friday. There is a sign up page on the NECPS website, and there will be a sign up sheet at the February meeting. Wild Bill Matthews has been working on a planted display, and we are in the process of having 2 standing folding triangular kiosks assembled to highlight the society. If anyone has any photographs of the meetings, or of plants that we can use on the Kiosk's that they would like to donate to the society, they are more than welcome to bring the photos to the February meeting.

In addition to the informational display, we will be taking part in the largest display garden on the main floor. We will have about a 10ft X 10ft bog garden in this display, which is being run by the group NAWGS {New England Water Garden society}. This should be a great place to introduce people to the NECPS. If possible, we may be able to station someone in this garden also during parts of the show, to explain the plants. Kennedy's Country Gardens, Scituate Ma. will be supplying the plants for this part of the show, larger Pitcher Plants and maybe a few others. We may also have some larger nepenthes on display in the container section of this garden.

I will be speaking at the Flower show this year on Thursday and Sunday afternoons. The speaker's section is not far from the NECPS booth, so hopefully some people will hear a talk, and then come and see what the society is all about. The website for the flower show is:

http://flowershow.com/ri_index.html

In addition to the flower show, we will have a speaker on Saturday, 12 February at the Kennedy's Country Gardens Winter Fest in Scituate Ma.

The website for that event is: <http://kennedycountrygardens.com/>

This event is held every year and always brings in a crowd. Lots of good deals on everything garden and plant related, and NECPS member Matt Sheehan has gotten in a good supply of CP's and orchids for the show. If you are anywhere near Scituate Ma this weekend you might consider stopping in to see what is going on!

We had hoped to have Alix, the new Director of the Providence Parks Dept at this meeting to speak to us about the changes and the start of the building of the NE Botanical Gardens at Roger Williams Park, but she has a previous engagement to attend. We hope to have Alix at either the March or April meeting to show us what will be happening. I have seen the changes to the plans, and while they are scaled down a bit, they still result in a wonderful place for us to display plants and hold meetings. We will also be handing out the awards for the October show at the meeting Alix attends. I had hoped to have them for this meeting, but a computer glitch has slowed the process.

At the January meeting, Bill Matthews gave a wonderful report of Dena and his trip to Kew Gardens in England. While Bill was there he presented the workers in the CP section with Mugs from our society, and he recently sent the workers NECPS shirts. Kirk Martin visited the Atlanta Botanical Gardens recently and had a few extra shirts for the CP workers there also. If you have never had the chance to visit the ABG, they have a spectacular display of CPs from around the world, well worth the trip!

Mark your calendars now, for once again the June meeting of the society will be held at Black Jungle Supply, in Greenfield, Ma. Start saving your money now for this trip, as last year members got some super buys on plants at the greenhouses for the store. Richard has once again invited us there, and we are planning to have something going on. Last year we had the bog walk, this year, who knows? Richard also informed me that the second greenhouse is finished, and will be full of plants for sale when we visit, so mark the second Saturday of June now for this meeting.

The program for the February meeting will be two parts. We will be taking cuttings of Nepenthes and potting them up, and we will have some volunteers clean the Savage Garden Bog in the greenhouse. The bog needs to be weeded and some plants trimmed back, before we replant some additional plants for the spring. The nepenthes we will take cuttings of will be used in the bog and the greenhouse, and some will be going home with members at the meeting. So it's a good chance to get some plants to take home, or help clean the bog in the greenhouse.

The next meeting of the NECPS will be Saturday, 12 February 2005 at the greenhouses in Roger Williams Park, Providence RI at 12:30 PM. As always we will have the sale/swap table, and members are encouraged to bring plants for display also. I will be there early, about noon, if anyone wants to help set things up.

I hope to see everyone at the next meeting!

Thanks

John Phillip, Jr
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