

New England Carnivorous Plant Society

Founded 2003

April 2005 Newsletter

Spring may *finally* be here, the Yankees and Red Sox have renewed their rivalry, and the plants outside have barely begun to start their new growth for the year. It's time for the NECPS to take it's meetings on the road for a few months! Some things have been going on, and more events and happenings are coming down the road for the society.

A meeting was held recently concerning the new Botanical Garden Project at Roger Williams Park, and most of the news from the meeting was very good concerning the NECPS. They are in the process of the final architectural plans for the gardens and conservatory and have asked the affiliate societies for input on what they may need for meeting space, display space, and garden space inside and out for the new project. What they want is to know our needs so they can incorporate them into the final design. At the April NECPS meeting we will be asking members what they feel our needs are, so they can be conveyed to the designers. I have already let them know that we would like to be involved with at least 2 gardens, one inside and one outside the greenhouses. We have had discussions about having the outside Carnivorous Plant Garden be the basis or beginning of a children's garden, and they were excited at that prospect. This will be a wonderful way for the society to promote these plants and have them available for displays and talks.

The only "bad" thing about the new plans concerns the Savage Garden Bog display we have maintained for the past 2 years. The new plans call for a change in the traffic flow between the greenhouses, and 2 new pathways being built between them, with the removal of the existing single pathway between the greenhouses. One of the new doors will open right into the middle of the Bog, so the Bog will have to be moved at the very least. They are actually going to completely revamp the greenhouses with new heating and glazing, so ALL the plants in the greenhouses will be removed, and the plantings redesigned. I have offered the NECPS help when it comes to removing the plants and potting them up for later use. Most likely this will not be till late fall or early winter at the earliest. One good thing about that is the design and park people are sensitive to the

NECPS October show, and have said that they will try to make sure we have the greenhouse available for the show as usual.

At the April meeting we will also have the sign up sheets for those who wish to help with "Plant Care Sheets" for the various Carnivorous Plant genera. This is a project that we started last fall, and we had hoped to have the care sheets available to those members who need them, new members and to non members who purchase plants at our show. We have several done already, and would like some volunteers to write up a few more. Please check the sheet at the March meeting and if you are interested, sign up for a plant genus. If you have any questions, please ask at the meeting. It would be good to have these done by the October 2005 show.

For the April 2005 meeting, the NECPS goes on the road! The Society will be meeting at the Eco Tarium in Worcester Ma (<http://www.ecotarium.org>). NECPS members will have the chance to tour the Eco Tarium, view the exhibits and see the sights at this wonderful Center for Environmental Exploration. When you arrive at the EcoTarium, all you have to do is tell the guard at the gate you are there for the NECPS meeting (*Note: it may be easier for you to say NECPS than to say New England Carnivorous Plant Society!! They may understand NECPS easier.*) **The Eco Tarium is located at 222 Harrington Way, Worcester, Massachusetts. The meeting will start at 11:30 AM, and hour earlier than usual.** The Ecotarium open at 10 AM if anyone wants to arrive early and see the museum. Check the EcoTarium website for directions. If you need a ride to the meeting, please let myself or someone know and we will try to accommodate you!

The EcoTarium has had a display of Carnivorous Plants from our society for almost a year now, and some of the plants are in need of replacement. If you would like to donate anything, please bring it to the meeting and we may be able to use it in the display. We welcome almost anything! Remember, something as simple as a Cape Sundew is completely fascinating to someone who has never seen it before! This is a great way to spread the knowledge of these plants we love, and spread the word about the society!

The program at the April meeting will feature a talk and slide presentation by member Kirk Martin. Kirk recently took a trip to the Atlanta Botanical Garden and got a chance to see much of what they do with Carnivorous Plants, both for the public and behind the scenes. He took over 100 photos, and has been going thru them finding the best for the slide show. I have visited the ABG before myself, and found their displays and collections of CPs to be amazing! This should be a great informative presentation.

As usual the April meeting will feature the Swap/Auction table and a Display table. We should have people from the Worcester area visiting the meeting, so if you have been saving a special plant, this is the meeting to bring it for display! We will of course have refreshments available also. Kirk Martin and myself plan on arriving an hour early if anyone wants to get there and help set up.

I hope to see everyone at the April meeting of the NECPS at the EcoTarium in Worcester, MA on Saturday, April 9th at the early time of 11:30 AM!

Good growing

John Phillip, jr
NECPS