

# New England Carnivorous Plant Society

Founded 2003

## May 2005 Newsletter

Spring *may* finally be here, the plants outside have really started to put on some new growth for the year, and things are rolling along with the NECPS. The past month and the next few months are some of the busiest the Society has this year!

The April meeting of the NECPS was held at the EcoTarium in Worcester, Ma and was well attended, featuring a presentation on the Atlanta Botanical Gardens given by member Kirk Martin. Afterwards, members were free to wander the Eco Tarium and check out all the exhibits. If you missed the meeting and have never been to the EcoTarium, it should be added to your list of places to visit, the attending members had only great things to say about the exhibits and museum. The NECPS will be working with the EcoTarium in adding CP's to the exhibits in a more permanent way, but right now the existing exhibit is in dire need of some new plants. If you have anything you would want to or could donate for this it would be greatly appreciated! We especially need some simple sundews {*D. capensis*, *aliciae* or something similar} and Fly traps. If you have any plants that you might be able to donate, please contact member Kirk Martin or myself, and we will work out a way to get them to the Ecotarium.

We are still working with the people at the Roger William's Park greenhouse on the needs and the plans for the future. Ideas were submitted to the people at the park for what we could use, both for meetings and for display. Plans are moving ahead for the reduced version of the Botanical Garden project, with work on the greenhouses expected to begin shortly after our October show. The greenhouses will be gutted and redone with new glazing, weatherproofing, venting and heating systems. The Savage Garden bog will be removed and we have plans to redo it somewhere else in the greenhouse. That will most likely be a NECPS project for 2006.

Our sister society, the RI Orchid society held a VERY successful show in April, a week after our meeting. The show was a 2 day affair, running 10 to 4 on Saturday, and 11 to 3 on Sunday. It was very well attended, and people came back the second day to see the plants and seminars. I have had several people ask about changing our show to a 2 day event, and I have to admit that the success of this show has opened my eyes more to the idea. This will have to be discussed at the next several meetings, so that if we decide to go with that we can give ample notice to everyone.

There are numerous Pros and Cons to a two day show. It will be necessary to shorten the time of our show to no later than 4 pm, whether we have a one day or 2 day show, due to the restrictions of the Parks Dept.

There are still plans for a **Bog Walk in the Great Swamp** in Kingston, RI in the upcoming weeks. I have checked the bog several times this spring and will continue to check now that the weather is warming more. Expect a week or so notice for this added event that we will have on an upcoming weekend. All are welcome to attend with friends and family when this happens. We are simply waiting for the Pitcher Plants to be in bloom in the Great Swamp.

**Plans are being made for the June meeting of the NECPS, to be held at Black Jungle Terrarium Supply in Greenfield, Ma (<http://www.blackjungle.com>).** Last year the June meeting was held there, and we were treated to a visit to their Production greenhouse, where members got the chance to pick out some plants at a discounted price before they were offered for sale, along with a great bog walk to a local bog. We are planning this meeting already, and more information will be available shortly. Keep the date for the June meeting (11 June) open for this great annual event. The people at Black Jungle have been great supporters of the NECPS!

The May meeting of the NECPS will be a split event. We will have a display booth at the **University of RI College of the Environment and Life Science's Third Annual East Farm Open House and Crab Apple Fest on Saturday, 14 May from 10 AM till 2 pm.** This is a labor of love for me personally, since I graduated from URI and worked at the East Farm Ag Experiment Station one summer as an undergrad. The Providence Journal story on the event is:

[http://www.projo.com/garden/content/projo\\_20050508\\_crabby.1d0779b.html](http://www.projo.com/garden/content/projo_20050508_crabby.1d0779b.html)

The farm is one mile south of Route 138 on Route 108 in Kingston, RI. Anyone who wishes to help at this event may contact me by email or phone. Bob Rafka and his daughter Lauren will be at this event, and the Society and I thank them for getting us involved in this day. The rain date for this event is Sunday.

The other May Meeting event will be at the **University of Conn. Greenhouses in Storrs, Ct.** The meeting will be early, 12:00 noon on Saturday, 14 May at Torrey Life Sciences room 115 (75 N. Eagleville Rd., Storrs, Ct 062680. The Conservatory ([florawww.eeb.uconn.edu](http://florawww.eeb.uconn.edu)) is in the same building.

Directions to UConn are here: <http://www.uconn.edu/campuses/storrs.php>

(Those coming from Rhode Island might consider taking Connecticut Rt. 101 to Rt. 44 to Rt. 195, rather than the recommended I-84 to Rt. 195)

From Rt. 195 south, make a right onto N. Eagleville Rd. There is a New-Englandy church with a tall white steeple at this intersection. Torrey will be on the left, across the street from a cemetery. Street parking is OK on weekends, and campus should be pretty quiet by 5/14. The doors in the center of the building will be open. The meeting will be run by Treasurer Dave Sackett and member Matt Opel. After a short regular meeting, there will be a tour of the very impressive UConn Conservatory

followed by a bog walk ( for those interested) led by Dr. Matt. He informed me of the following:

*The bog walk afterwards will be in Willington, about a 15 min. drive from Uconn. While the bog is close to a road, there are no trails, no boardwalks, no nothing. Anyone who wants to attend this phase of the meeting should come prepared for bushwacking, ticks, mud and wading -- bring mission-expendable footwear. It's floating sphagnum, so there is the possibility of breaking through and getting dunked. The bog is home to a large population of beautifully-marked Sarracenia purpurea.*

If you need more information or have additional questions, you may contact Matt at: (860) 429 9091 or Email: [matthew.opel@juno.com](mailto:matthew.opel@juno.com)

As usual there will be a silent auction/swap table at the May meeting, However, we are unsure of refreshments at this time. However, people are welcome to bring something to share with the other guests and members.

Of course, guests and new members are always welcome to the meeting.

I hope everyone decides to attend one of the events this weekend, and don't forget to mark the date for the June meeting of the NECPS, as we stay on the road one more month!

Thanks, and good growing!

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