

# New England Carnivorous Plant Society

## March 2006 Newsletter

The RI Spring Flower and Garden Show is behind us, the sun is setting later and rising earlier. Can spring be that far away? And as always, LOTS of things going on with the NECPS!

First, Dues are due for NECPS members! If you last paid your dues BEFORE August 2005, they are due again. The membership voted last year that dues will be due in January of each year, and that anyone who joins at or after the August meeting will have their dues count for the next year also. Dues remain:

Single membership~ \$20

Family membership~ \$25

Student (any age) ~ \$10

Dues can be paid at the meeting, or can be mailed to our PO Box address:

NECPS

PO Box 606

Saunderstown RI 02874

The Society had a booth at the Providence RI Spring Flower and Garden show, and again we were a huge hit! Once again Roger Swain of “ the Victory Garden “ spent time in our booth (several times), and lots of people were awed by the assortment of plants on display. Special thanks to members who manned the booth, Rosalynde Vas Dias, Fran Ingersoll, Frank Meglio, Jeff Matteson, Bob and Lauren Rafka, Wild Bill and his wife Dena, and Priscilla Purinton. We’ve been asked by the show to do a display booth downstairs on the main floor for next year, and I will be meeting with the show garden planners shortly to talk to them about this. More to come in upcoming meetings!

The February Meeting of the NECPS was held at the University of Connecticut (Storrs) Greenhouse and was hosted by society member Dr. Mall Opel. After a short business meeting with a very good plant auction, members were treated to a guided tour of the greenhouses by Dr Matt. These greenhouses have some truly amazing plants, not just carnivores! The palms were beautiful, the cacti rooms full of wonders, and the orchids were splendid! Of course, the Carnivorous Plants stole the show. We even got to see the *Rordiula* that graced the back cover of the International Carnivorous Plant Society Newsletter last month! Matt also had some plants to give away to members after the tour. It was decided that the society would make a donation to U Conn Greenhouses as a thank you for the tour.

Society Secretary Ken Siccard is asking if any member would be willing to donate an adult *Nepenthes madagascariensis* to the Brooklyn Zoo for use in a public display of flora/fauna native to Madagascar. If you have a plant such as this you’d like to donate, please contact Ken Sicard @ 508~856~8231 and talk to him. I hope someone out there has such a plant to donate!

At the February meeting it was brought up that the May meeting coincides with the URI Crabapple Fest held at East Farm each year. The Society has had a booth showing and displaying plants at this event in the past, and it was decided that the May meeting of the NECPS will be held at the crabapple fest (the fest is being renamed this year). This can be a great place to have some fun, show off plants and have a great time with members. More information will follow in the newsletter, but mark your calendar now for the May meeting, Saturday 13 May 2006. The fest is held at the East Farm Ag Experiment station, Rt 108, Kingston, RI, not far from the Great swamp where we hold our annual July Bog walk. If there is enough interest, we may be able to do a short bog walk to check out some local plants after the Fest.

The program for the March meeting of the NECPS will be Wild Bill's annual talk on "How to grow those amazing BIG Venus Fly Traps" that he is famous for. Those of you who have seen Bill's VFTs know that he can take a small plant from a garden center in the spring and grow it to mammoth proportions by the show time in October. This is not a presentation to be missed!

Clothing will be available at the next meeting also, if you are interested in shirts, hats or embroidered shirts and sweatshirts. We are still looking for someone to take over running the clothing sales at the meetings, if you are interested please contact an e board member.

The March meeting of the NECPS will be held on Saturday, 11 March 2006 at the greenhouses of Roger William's Park, Providence RI, at 12:30 PM. As always there will be refreshments, and we invite members to bring a favorite plant for display, especially now that the weather is becoming nicer. Of course, donations are always welcome for the silent auction table. I will be at the park about noon if anyone would like to help set things up.

I hope to see everyone at the next meeting, Saturday 11 March 2006 at 12:30, at the greenhouses of Roger Williams Park in Providence RI.

Thanks

John Phillip, Jr  
NECPS Narragansett RI USA  
401~741~7825

One more note: We have a person interested in joining our society who lives in Marlborough Ma, and was interested in car pooling. If anyone would be interested in helping him with this and carpool or drive, please contact me and I will forward the information to him.