

New England Carnivorous Plant Society

August 2006 Newsletter

Summer is (unfortunately) mostly over, Indian Summer is approaching fast, and it is time for the NECPS to start swinging into high gear for the fall events. Most of our plants should be looking their best of the season about now, and the 4th NECPS Fall Carnivorous Plant Show is only 2 months away! Things are happening with the NECPS!

The annual July Bog walk, held in lieu of the July meeting was a bit disappointing this year. The crowd of over 40 people was impressive, but the weather before and during the event didn't cooperate as it might have. We had several good soaking rains the weeks before the event and it was hot and humid, with showers the day of the walk. Unfortunately, some of the plants we got to see were less impressive than they have been in previous years. The sundew's we usually see were small this season, the smallest in the 3 years we've done the bog walk. In addition, the boardwalk over the bog was below water in a few places, and completely down in others. That was the big disappointment, since most people were unable to get anywhere out onto the boardwalk. It may not have mattered, since someone who did venture out further said most if not all of the pitcher plants were submerged because of all the recent rains! It was suggested that someone contact the Dept. of Environmental management in RI and try to get the walk repaired, and it was also suggested that this might be a good idea for an "Eagle Scout Project" for the boy scouts. Both of these will be acted upon once the summer slows down.

The Bog walk did have 2 highlights. The first were some wonderful White Fringed Orchids in bloom along the power lines! This was the first time we've seen these on the bog walk, and were a real treat for many. The second was a trip for those interested (about 25 people) to my house to check out my bog and greenhouse. Those who came got a chance to see the pitcher plants close up at least, plus the tropicals out in the greenhouse, mostly Nepenthes. Afterwards, several NECPS members stayed and just relaxed and enjoyed the

afternoon on the deck! A good time was there for all who made the extra trip!

Upcoming for the NECPS is the 4th Annual Fall Carnivorous Plant show! The dates are the usual second weekend in October, Oct. 14~15. The last 3 shows have been gaining in popularity both with the public and the members, and the 4th looks like we will continue to grow. Some things have already been going on behind the scenes, and we now have to kick start into high gear. LOTS of show ideas and thoughts will be discussed at the August meeting. PLEASE come to the meeting with ideas and suggestions to help make the 4th annual show something special!

Mike and Andreia have already been working on Plant Care sheets to give out to new members and the public at the show. They could always use more help and input, if anyone is interested in helping write a care sheet, please contact them and they will let you know what sheets have been done already, and what others are desperately needed! Mike can be reached at

Stiffler@fas.harvard.edu

Please contact him or andreia if you'd like to contribute!

There have been many recent requests from members to bring back the "Outstanding Plant Award" (OPA) for meetings, and it was discussed and decided that we would bring this back for particular meetings. The August meeting is one of those meetings! Most of our plants have had the summer to live well, grow and prosper and should be looking near their best for the year. And since we've been meeting elsewhere or not at all for a few months, this is a great time to bring plants in to show. So everyone, EVERYONE, bring a plant or two (or Three!) to the August meeting and show them off, maybe pass on some secrets to how you grow them so well, and possibly win the coveted "Outstanding Plant Award for the month! We should have a GREAT selection to vote on, the more the better, so bring some plants and maybe win!

The program for the August meeting will be the OPA, since we will be discussing the 4th annual NECPS Fall show at length at the meeting. Of course, we will once again have refreshments (you are welcome to bring something to add to that table also).

The August meeting of the NECPS will be this Saturday, 12 August at 12:30 PM in the greenhouses of Roger William's Park, Providence RI. Check the society website for directions (<http://www.necps.org>) or if you are really stuck, call my cell phone and we will get you to the meeting. I can be reached at 401~741~7825

I hope to see everyone at the meeting this Saturday, 12 August in the greenhouse of Roger William's Park, Providence RI at 12:30PM!

Good growing

John Phillip, Jr
NECPS