

New England Carnivorous Plant Society

November 2006 Newsletter

The November meeting of the NECPS will be held on Saturday, November 11 at 12:30pm at Kennedy's Country Gardens in Scituate, MA. Kennedy's web address is: www.kennedycountrygardens.com; phone: 781-545-1266; address: 85 Chief Justice Cushing Highway (Rt 3A), Scituate, MA 02066. Kennedy's offers a wide variety of plants for sale, including a selection of carnivorous plants.

Refreshments will be served. Please bring lots of plants for the display and silent auction tables! There will be many topics for discussion.

THE PAST.....

The 4th Annual NECPS Carnivorous Plant Show held last month was a great success. Adults and children alike were thrilled by the display plants, fun and educational lectures, sale tables full of plants and CP paraphernalia and, of course, the feeding station! The show was well attended despite its new location. Members who attended the show on Saturday were treated to great food and conversation at a local restaurant, with the Society picking up the tab!

One HUGE reason for the success of this year's show was the help people gave at the show and behind the scenes. The officers would like to express their gratitude to all the members who pitched in. Thanks also to Dr. Marion Gold for enabling the NECPS to hold the show at URI. We also wish to thank Tom Hayes of Dangerousplants.com for driving all the way from Virginia to vend at the show, as well as to Mike and Richard of Blackjungle.com for their plant donations.

Pictures of the show have been posted online by Mike and Andrea Stiffler, and Bill and Dena Matthews. The links to these pictures are:

<http://s129.photobucket.com/albums/p219/Jundiai>

<http://www.terraforums.com/ib312/ikonboard.cgi?s=244f070c1bcc609e95996f90b7cee73c;act=ST;f=14;t=26681>

THE PRESENT.....

Discussing the NECPS Show: We hope future shows continue to be successful. To make this happen we will spend time at the November meeting discussing the show in terms of what we did right and what we could have done better. Please bring your ideas to the November meeting. The sooner we start planning for the 2007 Show, the better it will be.

Upcoming Garden Show: In addition to the October show we do each year, the NECPS has a booth at the Providence Spring flower and Garden Show which is one of the most well attended in New England. The Society has always received wide exposure at this show and we'll be discussing our participation at the November meeting. Again, if you have any ideas, please bring them along. Also, if anybody feels that there are other shows we should be involved with (and is willing to give time to help out at these shows), inform the Society. We have a show booth ready whenever we need it.

Organization of the Society: Over the past year, we have discussed improving the organization of the NECPS to meet its future needs. One thing many people like about the Society is its informal nature and are worried that creating many rules and formalities may spoil some of our fun. However, if the Society is to continue growing, we must formalize its structure and certain procedures. To date, several milestones have been reached: 1) We have defined and filled all of the Officer positions, 2) We have formed an updated membership roster and, 3) We have created a "welcome/informational packet" for new members. We still have to: 1) Solidify our bylaws and 2) better organize existing Committees and possibly create new ones. WE NEED YOUR PARTICIPATION AND IDEAS to help the NECPS serve its growing membership. The Society has grown to the point where the Officers cannot do everything themselves—if we want to

expand our activities while attracting new members and retaining current members, Committees must be formed and filled.

Future Meeting in Vermont: We will discuss the feasibility of having a future meeting at the New England Tropical Conservatory (NETC), located in North Bennington, VT. The NETC is dedicated to the research and preservation of Indonesian flora and is located on a nature preserve with nearby bogs rich in native orchid and carnivorous plant species! The NETC would be delighted to bring the NECPS to their area and host one of our meetings.

THE FUTURE.....

We will have many items to discuss at the November meeting. What we are trying to do is efficiently setup the Society so that we don't have to bog ourselves down with things like this often, so that we can spend more time focusing on the things we love the most about the society: the plants and the friendships we've formed. PLEASE attend this meeting and let your thoughts be heard.

If we need something more fun to look forward to, just keep in mind that the December meeting is always a blast with our annual Yankee Swap. That event is always one of the most fun times of the whole year, full of surprises and excitement!

We hope to see everyone at the next meeting of the NECPS this Saturday, November 11 at 12:30pm.

Thanks, and good growing!

John Phillip Jr., President
Priscilla Purinton, Vice President
Dave Sackett, Treasurer
Ken Sicard, Secretary
Mike Stiffler, Membership Secretary