



NEW ENGLAND CARNIVOROUS PLANT SOCIETY

December 2006 Newsletter

NECPS's December 2006 meeting will be held on

SATURDAY DECEMBER 9TH at 12:30 PM at

LOUTTIT LIBRARY

274 Victory Highway, West Greenwich, RI 02817

NECPS Mission Statement

"The mission of the New England Carnivorous Plant Society shall be to share, to gain knowledge of, and to achieve expertise in all phases of growing, education, appreciation, and conservation of carnivorous plants in both culture and in native habitats."

Message from the President

Hello All,

The meeting for December (and maybe January) will be at the Louttit Library in West Greenwich, RI.

In addition to the Yankee swap, we will have some sandwiches and food for the holiday party. Please feel free to bring something for the food table!

We may also have some people wandering down, so please bring some plants for display.

Note that there will be NO Silent Auction at this meeting!

Thank You,

~ John Phillip, Jr.

NECPS Program: December 9, 2006

“Annual Yankee Swap”

The December meeting is always one of the most anticipated meetings of the year, due in large part to the annual Yankee swap! The Yankee swap is lots of fun and sometimes more cutthroat than the silent auctions.

For those who have never attended a Yankee swap, all you need to do to participate is bring a gift wrapped **carnivorous plant-related gift** (suggested retail \$10-15).

Rules for the Yankee swap:

- Gifts will be arranged on a gift table.
- All society members who bring a gift will draw numbers out of a hat.
- The first person (#1) will pick the gift of their choice and open it. All members will OOOOHH and AAAAAHHHHH!
- The second person will choose and open a gift from the table. That person has the choice of keeping the gift or swapping with any gift that has been already taken. The same procedure will apply to subsequent numbers.
- When the last person has finalized their choice of a gift, the first person has the option of swapping their gift with anyone!

You never know what will happen, or what you may end up with till the very end! So, everyone, please bring a plant related wrapped gift and join in the Yankee swap!

Cultivation Tips for December

December is a great time to place orders for CP seeds, especially those that must be stratified over winter. Seeds are available from various sources around the world. NECPS members may have some for sale or swap, various retailers sell seed, and of course the ICPS maintains a seed bank for its members.

Any temperate plants left or brought outdoors for cold dormancy should be protected. Some people over-winter outdoor bogs by covering them with evergreen tree boughs and leaves whereas some people use hay. Be aware that heavy mulches like leaves can smother plants if applied incorrectly.

Moveable bogs may be placed in an unheated garage or basement. Lastly, if all else fails, plants can be placed in the refrigerator to induce dormancy, though this is the least preferred method.

If you have any questions about how to stratify seed, over-winter plants, or anything else related to the cultivation of CPs, don't hesitate to ask your fellow members. That's one of the benefits of belonging to the NECPS!

Good growing,

~ The Officers

Secretary's Minutes

November 11, 2006 — Attendance: 23

Meeting Notes:

- John Phillip led the meeting.
- 5th Annual NECPS Show:
- A majority vote was made that, barring unanticipated issues, the 5th Annual NECPS Show will take place on the last week of September 2007 at the greenhouses of Roger Williams Park, Providence, RI. This earlier date was chosen to reduce the chance of exposing plants to freezing temperatures.
- A majority vote was made to increase the number of signs to direct visitors to the show and to begin advertising the show in March 2007. Shaun Montminy volunteered to organize the former effort. Shaun also mentioned using car bumper stickers to advertise the show and will follow-up on this.
- We discussed the possibility of having Barry Rice, Ph.D., as a guest speaker at the next show. Barry may be doing a book promotion tour which may make this feasible.
- We discussed the need to attract more vendors, including those selling non-carnivorous exotic plants.
- Bob Rafka suggested that it may be better to have visitors see the display plants first (closer to the entrance) with vendors in the back. He also suggested an NECPS-run food and drink concession stand at the show. A majority voted that a NECPS-run concession stand will be a part of the next show.
- Mike Stiffler suggested a new name for the next show: "The 5th Annual Carnivorous Plant and Exotic Plant Show." A vote was made with a majority rejecting the new name.
- The possibility of having an every-hour raffle was discussed. The idea will be discussed further at a future meeting.
- Other business:

- We discussed having a NECPS “mini show” in conjunction with the Rhode Island Wild Plant Society in March 2007. The membership thought this was a good idea but no vote was taken.
- A majority voted that the NECPS will have an informational booth at the 14th Annual Rhode Island Spring Flower & Garden Show, February 22-25, Rhode Island Convention Center.
- The greenhouses at the Roger Williams Park will not be available for meetings until March at the earliest. We discussed having the January and February 2007 meetings at a) Farmer’s Daughter in West Kingston RI, b) Brigg’s Nursery in North Attleboro MA, or c) Logee’s Greenhouses in Danielson CT. Definite sites will be determined at a future date and chosen based on availability.
- A vote was made and the majority stated that the NECPS will volunteer to construct a tropical CP bog at the greenhouses of Roger Williams Park, with construction taking place during a regularly-held future meeting. The species to be placed in the bog will be determined at a future time.
- John Phillip suggested the society have a meeting at New England Tropical Conservatory (NETC), located in North Bennington, VT. A vote was taken and the majority agreed to have the June or August 2007 meeting at this location.
- John Phillip informed the society that Richard Revis and Mike Wallitis of Blackjungle.com agreed to host either the June or August 2007 meeting at their greenhouse.
- Ken Sicard suggested that the NECPS create a library of carnivorous plant books and materials. The majority voted to create such a library, to make books available during meetings only (no checkouts), and Shaun Montminy was elected to be the Librarian.
- Ken Sicard suggested that the Society revitalize its effort to make a group purchase from Andreas Wistuba of Wistuba.com. The majority agreed and accepted Ken’s request to be in charge of organizing the purchase.
- Ken also suggested that the NECPS attempt to make a group purchase of square plastic pots and 1mm quartz sand from local vendors as many members would like access to such materials. The majority agreed and accepted Kirk Martin’s volunteering to head this effort.
- The membership restated the importance of updating the NECPS website and voted to make Emily Troiano co-webmaster (along with Nathan Lovell).

Other Meeting Events:

- 4th Annual NECPS Show Awards: John Phillip gave awards to members who were present. The remainder of the awards will be handed out at the December 2006 meeting.
- Silent Auction: A collection of plants was up for auction.

- Meeting Conclusion: John Phillip concluded the meeting.

Events of Note

- As you've probably noticed, the NECPS newsletter is being revised to make it more organized and aesthetically pleasing. I have to thank Bill Matthews for creating that spectacular newsletter banner, the Officers for providing me with accurate information for the new sections, and Dan Downey (Newsletter Editor for the Cactus & Succulent Society of Massachusetts) for providing me with a newsletter template to work off of. This will be an ongoing effort so expect to see new and exciting changes in the months ahead. Please forward any comments or suggestions to Ken Sicard.

Nursery Orders

- Andreas Wistuba informed me that he will restart shipping plants in April 2007 and that the NECPS should place its order as soon as possible to ensure that we are first-in-line for plants. He has offered us a 15% discount plus some extra plants on an order of 1000-1500 USD. As many of you are aware, Wistuba sells many rare and highly sought species (largely Nepenthes and Heliamphora) so it is important that we place the order soon. I sent a prior email to this effect but as a reminder, please look at Wistuba's website (www.wistuba.com) and write down your selections. I will be collecting people's orders at the December meeting and we will discuss the details of the order then. I plan to finalize orders and collect money at the January meeting, then place an order by the end of that month.

~ Ken Sicard, Nursery Mail Order Coordinator

Library News

- The NECPS Library was founded at last month's meeting. Please contact me to suggest books that should be purchased.

~ Shaun Montminy, Librarian

Treasurer's Report November 2006

<u>Income:</u>	
Dues	20.00
Clothing	78.00
Auction	24.00
TOTAL	122.00
<u>Expenses:</u>	
NECPS Show	2,691.00
TOTAL	2,691.00
 <u>Bank Cash Balance</u>	 3,222.17

- Membership dues will be due in January for the 2007 year. Dues are \$10 for students, \$20 for adults, and \$25 for families. Dues may be paid in cash or check made out to “NECPS.” Remember to complete a membership renewal form and submit it along with dues to the Membership Secretary, Mike Stiffler. Dues may also be paid by mailing a check to:

NECPS
PO Box 606
Saunderstown, RI 02874

~ Dave Sackett, Treasurer

Program Outline for 2007

Meeting/Event	Location
January 13	To be determined
February 10	To be determined
March 10	Roger Williams Park (?)
April 14	Roger Williams Park (?)
May 12	Roger Williams Park (?)
June 9	NETC, Vermont
July	Great Swamp Bog Walk (no official meeting)
August 11	Blackjungle
September 8	Roger Williams Park (?)
September 29-30	5 th Annual NECPS Show (Roger Williams Park)
October 13	Roger Williams Park (?)
November	Roger Williams Park (?)
December 8	Roger Williams Park (?)

- Meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month, except for July when there is no official meeting. We are in the process of finalizing a program outline for 2007. Please contact one of the Officers with questions or if you have a suggestion for a meeting place.

Officers & Contact Information

President	John Phillip, Jr.	johnatthebeach@cox.net
Vice President	Priscilla Purinton	ppurinton@aol.com
Secretary	Ken Sicard	kenneth.sicard@umassmed.edu
Membership Secretary	Mike Stiffler	stiffler@fas.harvard.edu
Treasurer	Dave Sackett	bid2win1@yahoo.com
Librarian	Shaun Montminy	shaun_montminy@yahoo.com
Nursery Mail Orders	Ken Sicard	kenneth.sicard@umassmed.edu
Webmasters	Nathan Lovell	lovell@mit.edu
	Emily Troiano	emily.troiano@gmail.com

- NECPS website: www.necps.org
- NECPS Yahoo Group: <http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/NECPS/>

Directions to Louttit Library

- Using Route 95 (north or south) take Exit 5B. This exit leads you on to Route 102 North. Stay on Route 102 North for approximately 3 miles. The library is on the right just after the West Greenwich Town Hall.
- Louttit Library phone number: 401-397-3434; website: <http://web.provlib.org/louttit/>