

New England Carnivorous Plant Society

Founded 2003

August 2004 Newsletter

We're past the mid point of summer now, the growing season has been going full blast, and we're all starting to think of back to school and fall. It's been a busy summer for most of us, including events and work at the NECPS. LOTS of great things coming ahead in the months ahead!

Some good news on a different note first, two of the founding members of the NECPS have done it, tied the knot and gotten married! Bill Matthews and his long time partner Dena, who both attend almost every meeting of the NECPS, were married in a beautiful outdoor ceremony in a park in CT on 1 August 2004. Do you think Bill and Dena love carnivorous plants? The head table where they sat was decorated with a beautiful Venus Fly Trap plant, and there were several *Sarracenia* plants in decorated pots surrounding the table. It was a wonderful wedding in a N'awlins theme, and truly reflective of both Bill and Dena's creativity. I know we all join together in wishing them both a long happy life together filled with wonderful plants.errrr...times and memories.

The NECPS held a Bog walk in the Great Swamp in West Kingston, RI in July, led by NECPS member Dr. Ken Uhnak. Attending members were treated to some great *Drosera* and flowering *Sarracenia purpurea*. Part of the walk had members literally walking on *D. intermedia* and *D. rotundifolia* covering the roadway. But it got even better when the members got up onto the boardwalk over the sphagnum bog part of the walk. Both sides of the boardwalk had *Sarracenia purpurea* in the final stages of flowering, some fairly large plants close to the viewing area. But most amazing, at least to myself, were the size of some of the *Drosera intermedia*, some of which were 8 or 9 inches across! The ground was covered in some spots with these huge plants. It was interesting to observe the progression of plants, where they grew in relation to the water level and the other plants that grew with them. And of course, just about everyone enjoyed the Ospreys that were nesting on the power lines next to the boardwalk.

The NECPS will be holding the Second Annual Fall Carnivorous Plant show on Saturday, 9 October 2004.

Last years show was a great success, and we hope to have an even better show this time! Members can start getting ideas for the show to make it better, and anyone who wishes to donate some plants to the society to sell to members and the public should start propagating plants NOW! One plant that was missing for sale last year that we had requests for was *Utricularia sandersoni*,

so if anyone has some they'd like to start, please do and let us know! We have plans to offer guests a breakfast deal with tickets, lodging and breakfast at an area hotel, and we are working to have a guest speaker at the show this year. Also, we hope to have an additional vendor at the show displaying and selling plants. The topic for the August meeting will be discussion and planning for the October show, so get the ideas going and be ready to get moving with the show!

The Savage Garden Bog has been growing well at the Botanical gardens, but is in need of a good weeding and pruning. Some people have donated a few plants to be added, and these will be introduced into the bog shortly. We may have a workday there one weekend day in the near future to do some of the work, not on a scheduled meeting day. This will be announced before hand, if anyone would like to attend and help out for a couple of hours.

The next meeting of the New England Carnivorous Plant Society will be on Saturday, August 14 2004 at the Greenhouses of the New England Botanical Gardens, Roger Williams Park, Providence, RI at 12:30 PM. As usual, I will be there early by about noon to begin setting up the meeting, and anyone is welcome to arrive early. Instead of a presentation, we will begin planning the 2nd annual New England Fall Carnivorous Plant show. In addition, we will have the usual display table {everyone should have something looking great at this time in the season, PLEASE show off your plants!} and the ever- popular swap/trade/silent auction table. Donations to the auction table are always welcome. Refreshments will be available, and you are welcome to bring something to share.

I look forward to seeing everyone, old members and new members, at the next meeting on Saturday, 14 August 2004 at 12:30!

Good growing

John Phillip, Jr
NECPS President