



NEW ENGLAND CARNIVOROUS PLANT SOCIETY

May 2007 Newsletter

NECPS's April 2007 meeting will be held on

SATURDAY MAY 12TH at 12:30 PM at

**Roger Williams Park Botanical Center (Greenhouses)
1000 Elmwood Avenue, Providence, RI 02907**

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,

Welcome to May in New England!

Springtime is progressing, with all the wild weather that makes us the hearty New Englander's we are. Nor'easters, late freezes, 80 degree days, snow, sleet, fog and floods are just part of the season we call spring. Yet, we all always welcome spring, with its promise of warm weather, blue skies, sun,

and our plants. Springtime is plant time here in New England, even when the plants we grow may be tropical and from far off places with warmer climates. We see the surges in growth from the longer days and warmer temps, and we see more bugs around, more food for the plants we love to grow. The NECPS is indeed a somewhat strange, different group, for no other plant society in the area looks forward to the insects of spring more than we do.

So, welcome to May, welcome to spring, and welcome back to REALLY feeding our plants as only members of the NECPS can!

~ John Phillip, Jr.

NECPS Program: April 14, 2007

“The Indoor Cultivation of *Aldrovanda vesiculosa*”

Presented by: Mike Stiffler

Aldrovanda vesiculosa belongs to a monotypic genus and, though it enjoys a wide distribution, it is threatened with extinction in many areas. This is thought to be due to many factors including habitat destruction and the plant's exacting habitat requirements. Their traps are grossly similar to those of the Venus' Fly Trap in several respects and close in response to the stimulation of trigger hairs. There exist both temperate and tropical populations, with some of the latter being colored a brilliant red under good sunlight. As one end of the plant grows, the other end dies—of course, the goal is to ensure that the rate of growth exceeds the rate of decay!

This plant is an obligate aquatic and, according to many, is difficult to cultivate and maintain long-term unless its cultivation requirements are fully satisfied. They are noted to be especially difficult to grow indoors but one of our members, Mike Stiffler, has found a method that works quite well. Come to the May meeting and find out how to cultivate this plant indoors. Mike may even have some extra plants to give away to the audience!

Other business:

- Members are encouraged to bring plants for display.
- There WILL be a silent auction, so members are encouraged to donate plants for a good cause.
- **We need Plants!** One of the most asked about and exciting displays in the new Botanical Gardens is our Carnivorous Plant Display Bog. **We need plants to fill this display!** Specifically, we need HUNDREDS of Sundews, preferably tropical or subtropical, to fill the landscape and to use as a backdrop for other plants. We also can use any Venus Fly Traps that you may want to donate. If you have any extra plants we can use them, and if you can and want to, please consider propagating MORE sundews and VFTs to help fill this bog. **We need 300 plants in 3 months!** Lets all chip-in in any way we can.

CP Tidbit for March

May is a good time to start bringing plants outside. Keep in mind two things when bringing plants outside. First, the sudden exposure to strong outdoor sunlight can quickly burn tender leaves of

plants that have been growing indoors. Try bringing plants out on cloudy days first, keep them under shade cloth, or keep them in a shady location like the North side of a house for one or two weeks to ensure the plants have hardened off. Gradually expose them to more light. Of course, most hardened plants should be protected from the harshest sun and it is important to keep in mind that plants have different preferences for the amount (full sun, part sun, shade) and duration of illumination.

Also, be wary of temperatures that can drop rapidly in the evening. The temps do not have to go below freezing to hurt plants. If you take plants outside in May, you should check the weather forecast regularly as nighttime frosts and freezes (and even snow) are not impossible weather for May in New England.

If you are unsure of your plant's requirements, research the subject or ask other growers in the NECPS. Good growing!

Secretary's Minutes

April 14, 2007 — Attendance: 23

Meeting Notes:

- John Phillip led the meeting.
- A discussion on the state of our bog display occurred. While it was agreed that the cultivation conditions at the Botanical Center are far from perfect, they are satisfactory to press forward with our plans for the bog. We will work with the Botanical Center staff to improve the care of the bog display.
- The date and location for the upcoming NECPS Carnivorous Plant Show were confirmed to be September 29-30 at the RWP Botanical Center. There will be a \$3 entrance fee to the greenhouses which will go to the Botanical Center. The membership discussed whether the NECPS should charge an additional fee to enter our show area and, if so, how much the fee should be. The consensus was that a small fee should be charged though the exact amount was left to be determined at a future meeting.
- A vote was made to discuss the bylaws at the May 2007 meeting.
- A silent auction took place.
- Meeting Conclusion: John Phillip concluded the meeting.

Events of Note

- **Mike Wallitis** and **Richard Revis** of **Blackjungle.com** have generously donated 75 Venus' Fly Traps to plant in our bog display at the Botanical Center! Thank you very much, Mike and Richard, for your consistent support of the NECPS! We plan on planting the VFTs during this meeting so come appropriately dressed!

- Bill and Dena Matthews wrote an article on their passion for carnivorous plants which was recently published by the Hartford Courant. Use the following link to read their article: <http://www.courant.com/features/lifestyle/hc-medanimate.artapr29,0,3730288.story?coll=hc-headlines-custom2>

Nursery / Mail Orders

- The Wistuba order has been finalized and no plants can be added to the order at this time. The plants will likely be shipped to the NECPS PO Box sometime in late May or early June. John Phillip will collect the plants and a special pickup meeting will be held where members will have the opportunity to pick up their plants on the weekend after they've arrived. These meetings will likely be held at the Roger Williams Park and possibly also in Worcester, MA. If you cannot attend the pickup meeting, you may contact John and arrange a place and time to pickup the plants, at his discretion. As a last resort, you may pickup your plants at the following NECPS meeting. Once they arrive, I suggest you pickup your plants as soon as possible due to their fragile nature. Neither the NECPS nor the nursery order organizers will be responsible for damaged or dead plants. You must pay for your plants within two weeks of being notified. I will contact those who have placed orders as soon as I received a final invoice from Andreas. Please contact me with any questions.

~ Ken Sicard, Nursery Mail Order Coordinator

Library News

- Please contact me to suggest books that should be purchased or if you have books to donate.

~ Shaun Montminy, Librarian

Treasurer's Report

April 2007

- The Treasurer's Report will be available at the May meeting.
- Membership dues were due in January for the 2007 year—if you haven't paid your dues yet, please do so. Dues are \$10 for students, \$20 for adults, and \$25 for families. Dues may be paid in cash or check made out to "NECPS." A copy of the membership renewal form is attached at the end of the newsletter for your convenience. 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 Date	Location/Program
January 13	Loutitt Library Nepenthes Cuttings
February 10	RWP Botanical Center Sarracenia Bog Planting
March 10	RWP Casino Lady-Slipper Orchids
April 14	RWP Botanical Center Sarracenia Propagation
May 12	RWP Botanical Center Aldrovanda Propagation
June 9	Pine-Tops Ski Area Bog Walk (no official meeting)
July	Great Swamp Bog Walk (no official meeting)
August 11	Blackjungle (cookout)
September 8	RWP Botanical Center
September 29-30	5 th Annual NECPS Show (Roger Williams Park)
October 13	RWP Botanical Center
November	RWP Botanical Center
December 8	RWP Botanical Center

- 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 & Newsletter Editor	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	d_muscipula@hotmail.com
	Emily Troiano	emily.troiano@gmail.com

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

Directions to RWP Botanical Center

- **South on I-95:** Take exit 17 (Elmwood Avenue), left at light, Park entrance is 1/2 block on left.

- **North on I-95:** Take Exit 16 (Elmwood Avenue), bear right, left at light, Park entrance is half a block on right.
- **West on I-195:** I-195 West to I-95 South, Take Exit 17 (Elmwood Avenue), left at light, Park entrance is half a block on left.
- Once you enter the park follow the signs to the “Greenhouses.”

New England Carnivorous Plant Society

An organization for the appreciation and enjoyment of carnivorous plants

Meeting dates and locations

Generally the society meets the second Saturday of each month at the greenhouse in the Roger Williams Park, Providence, RI, at 12:30 pm. Meetings are occasionally held at other locations.

Visit the website for information on the next meeting and for travel directions:

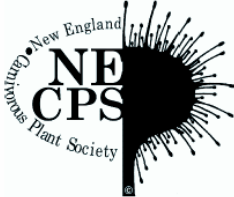
<http://www.NECPS.org>

Membership

Regular, \$20 / year

Family, \$25 / year

Student (any age), \$10 / year



For more information contact:

New England Carnivorous Plant Society

P.O. Box 606

Saunderstown, RI 02874

Email: necps_membership@hotmail.com

New England Carnivorous Plant Society

Membership Application and Renewal Form

Circle One: New Member Renewing Member

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Date _____

Email _____ Year Joined _____

How did you hear about the NECPS? _____

Would you be able to travel to RI for meetings? Y / N

Would you be interested in being on the NECPS board? Y / N

New Members Please Pick Up a Welcome Pack (with Membership Card)!

Renewing Members Please Pick Up Your New Membership Card!

Please return this form to NECPS membership secretary Mike Stiffler