

Bay Area Carnivorous Plant Society Newsletter

Bay Area Carnivorous Plant Society
825 Bennington Street, Manteca, CA 95336
<http://www.jps.net/cgardner/bacps/bacps.html>

Membership

Any person can become a member of the Bay Area Carnivorous Plant Society by paying a membership fee of \$5.00 US for each calendar year. Membership includes 4 issues of the BACPS newsletter along with other benefits. An extra \$5.00 US will be charged for non-US addresses to cover additional mailing expenses of the newsletter. Dues may be given to the society treasurer, Joe Mazrimas, at the meetings or mailed to the society address on the front cover. Make checks payable to BACPS.

Officers and Organizers

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Auctioneer	Peter D'Amato	(707) 838-1630	califcarn@aol.com
Raffle Manager	Mark Bellinger	(707) 763-7554	
Newsletter editor	Gary Dughi	(530) 751-2996	Gary_Dughi@dot.ca.gov
Web Page manager	Craig Gardner	cgardner@jps.net	www.jps.net/cgardner/bacps/bacps.html

President's Message

Mike Ross

Happy holidays!!! I think this is the latest meeting the BACPS has ever held...our normal schedule is early November as our final meeting for the year. The major area of concern at this next meeting will be elections, nominations, and continuations. We need interested members to vie for all positions. If nominations are forthcoming, those positions will have a run off election with the incumbent. Board members stepping down are Vice president and Secretary. Possibly a few other positions as well may become vacant...so now is the time for all good men and women to come to the aid of their club.....!!!!!!!!!!!!

Due to the closeness of the Holiday season, I would like to ask members to bring a fairly special plant (not *Drosera capensis*!!) for a game of "Swap the Carni" Have your plant in a closed paper bag so that others will not see what is there until the game begins. Only those who bring a plant to swap with others will get to play the game. Rules will be announced prior to the game...

Don't forget to also bring contributions to our raffle as this is a great money maker for the club...see you on the 11th...Mike

Meeting Notes

August 28, 1999

Around 45 people attended the Aug. 28 meeting at the UC Berkeley Botanical Garden. Attendees spent the first hour visiting and looking over the plants for sale. President Mike Ross called the meeting to order around 1:00 PM. A show-and-tell session of members' plants launched a wide-ranging discussion of CP topics with a lot of audience participation. The plants displayed included a magnificent *Heliamphora*, several species of *Drosera*, a robust *Sarracenia rubra* ssp. *wherryi*, and the rare *S. 'Schnell's Ghost'*. Mike Ross' four-year old *Heliamphora* prompted several members to describe the various ways they've managed to kill the plant. Mike grows his in straight black peat on the bottom bench of the greenhouse. Bill Baumgartl described the plant's native habitat and theorized that black peat provides a well-draining mix that allows a high moisture level without root rot. According to other members, black peat is well worth the expense. *Nepenthes* also love it.

The *S. rubra* ssp. *wherryi* was particularly remarkable for having been grown with Peninsula tap water. This launched a discussion of water quality, obviously a topic of intense interest to CP growers. Apparently water quality varies widely in the Bay Area, even within the same city and at different times of the year. Many of us rely on collected rainwater and/or Reverse Osmosis water. De-ionized water is another possibility but requires special hardware. Brita filters are useless for our purposes because they do not remove dissolved solids. CP will tolerate some alkalinity but not dissolved solids. The consensus: growers should test their water periodically. And they should grow Venus Fly Traps (VFTs) as an early warning system. Apparently, VFTs are the most sensitive to poor water conditions.

Peter D'Amato reported that U-Haul has painted 600 trucks with VFTs and yellow trumpets to draw attention to endangered CP in the United States. Peter, together with Madeleine Groves of the Atlantic Botanic Garden, is currently lobbying the Stamp Advisory Board to issue stamps depicting various CP. Hopefully these stamps will be sold at more than face value to raise money for habitat conservation. Peter was well received as the "fun" keynote speaker at a recent meeting of the American Association

for the Advancement of Science. His planned 45-minute presentation lasted 2-1/2 hours! Peter pointed out that business partner Marilee Maertz helped fill up some of that time.

Mike shared his latest sightings of CP-related articles in various magazines and books. He also called for contributions to the newsletter. Please send your trip reports, cultivation tips, member profiles etc. to Gary Dughi.

Barry Meyers-Rice reported that the *Darlingtonia* site near Emigrant Gap, home of *D. 'Othello'*, appears to be well managed. Barry also described a rainy, windy, steep hike in New Zealand to see the primitive *Drosera stenopetala*. He had seed available, but warned that it's difficult to grow.

Barry and Judith Finn promised great CP buys at the upcoming plant sales at UC Davis and UC Botanical Gardens in Berkeley, to be held on Oct. 2 and Sept. 26 respectively.

David Gray gave a progress report on ICPS 2000. About 70 people have already signed up. We need 130 to break even. According to the agreement with ICPS, any profits must first be used for publishing the proceedings of the conference. David is still lining up speakers. He asked for members to serve as hosts for out-of-town speakers. He also asked for a volunteer to serve as Photo Contest Coordinator. Auction proceeds are to be used to start an endowment fund for future conferences. The next international conference is tentatively scheduled for the year 2001 in Kuching, Malaysia.

Peter, who is planning the post-conference field trip, briefly recapped his latest scouting trip to Gasquet and promised full details in the 2000 Conference packet.

David called for volunteers for a work party to help rebuild the CP cases at the UC Botanical Garden.

The meeting ended with a raffle.

Propagating *Pinguicula primuliflora* by leaf cuttings

Matt Fujita

Pinguicula primuliflora is a common butterwort. Its long, curved leaves lying flat against the soil surface is a common sight to many collectors. Nevertheless, it is an easy and highly satisfying plant to grow. A collection would be incomplete without it.

However, *P. primuliflora* has a tendency to be short lived, lasting a few years and then deteriorating. Thus, propagation is essential to keep this plant in collections. Fortunately, *P. primuliflora* has a tendency to produce plantlets at the tip of its leaves, if they touch the soil surface. This method may not always be successful. Growing them from seed is always satisfying, but they may take a while to grow to maturity.

There is yet another way to propagate this popular plant and that is by *Drosera*-like leaf cuttings. With a razor, gently and carefully cut a healthy, mature leaf as

close to the base as possible. Have ready a pot of wet *Sphagnum* peat. Press the leaf in the peat so that the back of the leaf touches the soil - this is important! Make sure the cut end of the leaf is covered with a little bit of soil. Place the pot in a bag with some purified water to keep the soil wet. Close the bag and place, at room temperature, in bright light. The leaves are so strong and robust that they will continue making their mucilage even when tiny plantlets appear, a few weeks later. These will at first appear as small buds, then will gradually take on the more familiar butterwort look. Within another few weeks, when a good root system begins to grow, transplant the plant in a peat/sand mix, or long-fibered sphagnum (which I've found to be the best medium for this species). I've gotten up to three plantlets per leaf, and never had an unsuccessful attempt so far.

Have fun with your *Pinguicula primuliflora*!

Next Newsletter Deadline

Please send in your articles, biographies, introductions, growing tips, trip reports, or photos! Announcements, calendar items, want ads, and articles for the next Newsletter should be received in writing by four weeks prior to the next meeting. Send information to the society's address on the cover. Better yet, send a text file on a 3.5 inch floppy disk or e-mail contributions to Gary Dughi at "Gary_Dughi@dot.ca.gov". Scanned images may also be sent to this email address.

Treasurer's Report*

(estimated)

(estimate as of Nov. 1999*)	INCOME	DEBIT
Dues	\$15.00	
Raffle	\$155.00	
Donations	\$9.00	
Auction	--	
TOTAL	\$179.00	
Newsletters and Flyers		\$36.95
Postage		\$21.23
TOTAL		\$58.18
Current Balance	\$130.82	
Previous balance(Aug. 1999)	\$1,231.26	
sub-total	\$1,362.08	
Berkeley CP fund (Aug. 1999)	\$1,427.50	
Total Balance	\$2,789.58	

*This report is merely an estimate as our treasurer was not available to compile the information for an accurate accounting of our finances for this issue.

Announcements

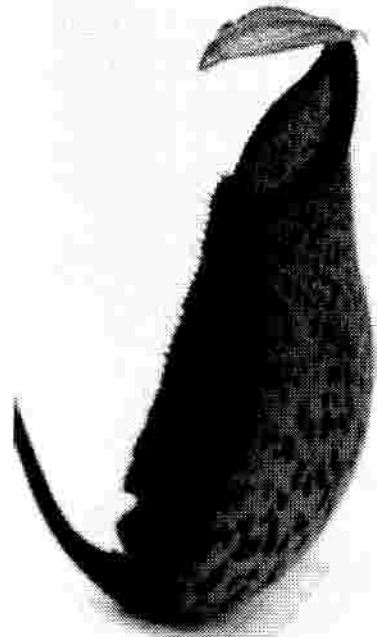
Photos for newsletter. We would love to publish your carnivorous plant photographs in the newsletter. Please send prints to the society address on the front cover with any description or article about the photograph. Let us know if you would like the photo returned. Scanned images may be sent to Gary Dughi, newsletter editor, at Gary_Dughi@dot.ca.gov.

Bring Plants to display at the next meeting. There is no judging; so don't worry about having the best or biggest plant. The meeting hall has plenty of room for display. If you have something extra; bring that along for the auction, raffle, or to trade. We can always use items for the raffle!

BACPS web page. BACPS now has a world-wide-web page administered by BACPS member Craig Gardner. Take a look at: "www.jps.net/egardner/bacps/bacps.html".

California Carnivores web page. California Carnivores now has a world-wide-web page on the internet at: "www.californiacarnivores.com".

Computer CP Mailing List. There is a computer mailing list specifically for carnivorous plant discussions. To participate, you need to be able to send electronic mail from a personal computer. To subscribe, either send the single-line message: "SUB CP Richard Nixon" to the internet address: "LISTSERV@CUTTER.HPL.HP.COM", or contact the list manager, Rick Walker, at "WALKER@OPUS.HPL.HP.COM". Remember to substitute your own given name for "Richard Nixon" in the example above! There is also a CP World-Wide-Web Database at "http://www.hpl.hp.com/bot/cp_home" or "http://192.6.19.66/bot/cp_home". For more information, you can also contact Rick Walker at (415) 856-2354 Home or (415) 857-3754 Work.



Nepenthes kampoiana x (*ventricosa* x *alata*)

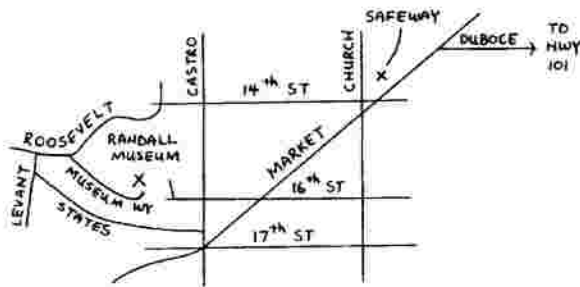
Photograph contributed by BACPS member David Gray

Bay Area CP Events Calendar

11 Dec. 1999 **BACPS Meeting,**
Randall Museum, San Francisco

Meetings starts at noon and end around 4:00PM.

Year 2000 meetings to be determined. Watch the BACPS web page or contact one of the officers after the new year for meeting dates.



Directions to the Randall Museum

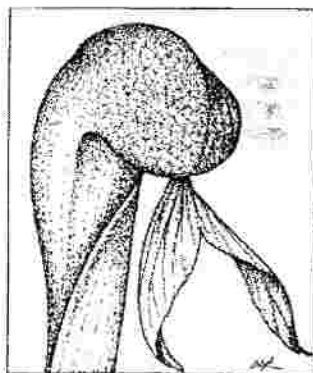
From the Bay Bridge or the Peninsula, take Highway 101. Follow the signs to Mission St. and get off at the Mission/Duboce exit. Stay on Duboce Ave., which runs into Market St. Turn left onto Market St. Immediately after the Safeway store, make a 45 degree right turn onto 14th St. One block after crossing Castro, the main road veers left and becomes Roosevelt. Continue 1/4 mile and turn left onto Museum Way.

Public Transportation to the Randall Museum

From Downtown San Francisco on Market Street take the K, L, or M subway or the F street car. Follow one of these two choices: (1) Get off at the Castro Street Station (Castro and Market). Walk up Castro to 16th Street. Walk uphill on 16th one block. Go right on Flint, and take the footpath up to the museum. Or (2) To avoid walking uphill, get off at the Church Street Station (Church and Market). Transfer to the 37 Corbett bus. Ask to be let off at the closest bus stop to Roosevelt and Museum Way. Walk to the end of Museum Way.

The Randall Museum is located at 199 Museum Way. Telephone (415) 554-9600. There is plenty of free parking.

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Address Correction Requested

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