

FROM THE BOARD: SPLINTER HILL BOG UPDATE

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Hello Friends,

Happy Spring to everyone! As 2009 is already off to a running start, and once-dormant pots are beginning to awaken and grow, let me first start off by offering a heartfelt thank you to all ICPS members who have donated to the preservation of the Splinter Hill Bog Preserve. We successfully met our goal of \$6,000.00 in 2008, which has been given to Splinter Hill in support of their wonderful efforts. Most importantly, we couldn't have done it without you, our cherished members.

The Splinter Hill Bog Preserve in Alabama is home to more than 12 species of carnivorous plants, including five species of *Sarracenia*, two species of *Pinguicula*, and several species of *Drosera*. Also, nearby on the Forever Wild Preserve is one of the largest populations of the incredibly rare and endangered panhandle lily (*Lilium iridollae*).

As many of you are aware, prime CP habitats such as this are sadly being lost to bulldozers and poaching at an alarming rate. It's been the longstanding mission of the ICPS to "return the favor," so to speak, for the years of magic, mystery, and awe these remarkable plants have given to many of us. Together, we can make this happen.

The ICPS and The Nature Conservancy are working together on a continual basis to manage this property using periodic prescribed burns and working to control non-native invasive species such as *Imperata cylindrica*, also known as cogongrass. Throughout 2009 and the years to come, the ICPS will continue to support the preservation efforts at Splinter Hill Bog Preserve and other worthwhile projects that protect our beloved CP. We truly are the stewards of these remarkable plants, and their future well-being depends on our continual involvement and efforts. And together, we can make it happen!

Conservational donations can be made from the ICPS Members Only website by clicking the "Donate Now" link on the left of the main page.

Thanks again and... happy growing!

CPN 25 YEARS AGO

Ricky Maulder told of a personal encounter with *Drosera arcturi* and *Drosera spathulata* [sic] growing in wild sphagnum bogs in New Zealand. When Mr. Maulder came across the owner of one such patch of sphagnum containing these two *Drosera* species, he was told that he may harvest the sphagnum at will since the area was about to be bulldozed to provide grazing land for the owner's horses. It is unfortunate for CP enthusiasts that the native habitats of carnivorous plants are continually being destroyed to provide for the stability of the growing human population.