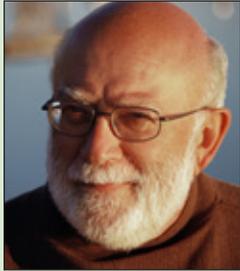




# WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA MUSHROOM CLUB NEWSLETTER

Volume 13, Issue 5

November / December 2013



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**Jim Wasik**

WPMC President

Wow! Has this year gone fast! I can't believe that this is the last newsletter of the year. Onward to next year.

We have had a great year as a Club. Although Morel season was hit and miss, the summer Chanterelle season was a boon across the Eastern US. It seemed that you did not have to look hard to find them from the end of June even through the Foray in September. Black Trumpets were plentiful for those who know how to look for a 'hole in the ground'. Sheepshead / Hen-of-the-Woods were again hit-and-miss since they started earlier than normal. Congratulations to the many pickers who found their over-abundance of mushrooms this year.

Special thanks goes out to the many members who made the year a success: Fluff Berger and the Education Committee for their fungi class at the end of June; Todd Kaufmann for stepping in for me during my summer vacation; Richard Jacob for the new website; Richard Jacob and John Stuart for spearheading the DNA Barcoding Project; Barbara DeRiso for being the Lincoff Foray Chair; Dick Dougall for guidance and support all year; Valerie Baker for stepping in as Secretary and heading the cooking crew at the Foray; all of the Walk Leaders throughout the spring, summer and fall; and Martha Wasik for all of her help in the Graphic Arts for the Club. If I missed someone, please accept my apologies.

Without their individual and combined support, 2013 would not have been the success it was. Thank you again.

I wish Best of Luck to the 2014 Officers and Board of Directors. I know that they will do a great job as the Club pursues the DNA Barcoding Project and Scholarship Program.

Jim Wasik  
President 2013

## November WPMC Meeting

**FOR THE NOVEMBER 19TH MEETING** we will be trying something different: Pot Luck Dinner and Member Photos.

For the Pot Luck, bring something for 6 – 8 people. Your choice, does not need to be mushroom related (cultivated mushrooms only if mushroom based). The categories are:

Appetizers	Salads	Hot Dishes
Cold Plates	Casseroles	Desserts

Anything you want—be creative. The Club will provide soft drinks, plates, dinnerware, napkins, take home boxes. Also, if you would like to bring a set of pictures for the Open Forum, please bring no more than 15 pictures for a short presentation on a flash (thumb) drive or CD. JPG format preferred and the slide show does not need to be in a presentation program. Just the pictures will work. Topics: mushrooms, vacations, hobbies. Let's see what you are doing in your life. (no politicking, please).

## Board of Directors and Officers

**AT THE OCTOBER MEETING**, the following were elected as WPMC Officers and Board of Directors:

President – **Todd Kaufmann**  
 Vice-President – **Richard Jacob**  
 Recording Secretary – **Scott Pavelle**  
 Corresponding Secretary – **Ann (Fluff) Berger**  
 Treasurer – **Barbara DeRiso**

Congratulations and Best of Luck to a great 2014.



L to R: Todd Kaufmann, Fluff Berger, Richard Jacob, Barbara DeRiso (Scott Pavelle, not present)

**NOTE:** The WPMC Photo Contest Winners are on pages 7, 8 & 9, other contest entries are included on pages 10, 11 & 12.

# 2013 Lincoff Foray Recap

## Foray Thanks from Barbara DeRiso Foray Co-Chair

**WELL, IT WAS ANOTHER** successful Lincoff Foray this year. We counted 126 attendees and 132 mushroom species. We can offer no thanks to the weather gods, since the pouring rain would have been much appreciated had it arrived 3 days earlier. Nevertheless...

The success of our Club and our Forays results from the many, many Club members and friends who volunteered their time and skills to make it all happen. Special thanks go to:

- **Gary Lincoff, John Plischke III, John Wheeler, Frank Lotrich** and **Rod Tulloss** for their excellent presentations and table talks. Extra kudos to Frank Lotrich for filling in on very short notice.
- **Dick & MaryEllen Dougall** for all their organizing efforts and for lining up our excellent speakers and to **Barbara DeRiso** for Chairing the Foray.
- **John Stuart, Richard Jacob, La Monte Yarroll** and **Harriet Yarroll** for organizing the DNA table.
- **Valerie Baker** and **Shirley Caseman** for co-chairing the mycophagy section. A big "Thank you" to all our cooks.
- **Jeff Berkowitz** for his fine cooking demonstration.
- **Jim & Sharon Wilson** for keeping the sales table going all day.
- **Todd Kaufmann** for publicizing us via social media and for bringing special libations.

- **Bonnie Davis** and **Judy Wheeler** for making the auction a success.
- **John Stuart** and his team of walk leaders and identifiers for orchestrating the morning walks.
- **Jim Wasik, Diane Stuart** and **Sandy McLane** for keeping the registration and check-in running so smoothly.
- **Richard Jacob, Jim Wasik** and **Dick Dougall** for serving as our audio-visual trouble-shooters.
- **Mike Ott, Nick Poraczky, Katie Callihan, Nate Thornton** and the rest of the set-up and clean-up team.
- **John Stuart** for organizing the after-party.
- **MaryJo Smiley** and **Sandy Sterner** and the other meeters & greeters for helping folks find their way.
- A very, very special thanks to First-Lady **Martha Wasik**, who did so very much behind the scenes: editing the newsletters, creating our poster and postcards, sending out the mailings, revising our mushroom i.d. tickets, and so much more. Martha is hereby nominated for a 2013 MVP award!
- **Rich & Becky Zahren** for hosting Gary Lincoff
- **Dick & Mary Ellen Dougall** for hosting John Wheeler.
- And to **everyone** who helped make this Foray a success.

**Mark your calendars:** the 2014 Lincoff Foray is scheduled for Saturday, September 13 at Parish Hill (on Walter Road) in North Park.

## Thanks from Valerie Baker and Shirley Caseman

**VALERIE BAKER AND SHIRLEY CASEMAN**, co-chairs of the 13th Gary Lincoff Foray feast, wish to thank the following 17 cooks for volunteering their time and effort with the preparation and cooking of 37 different offerings at the feast kitchen: **Kim Plischke, Becky Plischke, Barbara DeRiso & Don Newman, Denise & Russ Poole, Scott, Katie & Eleanor Pavelle, Sharon Wilson, Sandy Sterner, Mary Ellen Dougall, Bea Drodge-Garmer, Gregory Levish, Fluff Berger, Nate Thornton, and Xiaoyan Cai.**

Special thanks go to **Kim Plischke** and **Denise Poole**, who "slaved" in the kitchen all day long; **Jim Wasik**, who donated mushroom-stuffed pierogis; **Jim Wilson**, who is responsible for the refreshing watermelon; **Katie Callihan**, who donated cupcakes and muffins so cutely decorated with mushrooms and helped clean up at day's end; **Jeff Berkowitz**, who presented a cooking demonstration

and provided samplings of his good mushroom-cheese-scallion-artichoke-tomato sandwiches; **Todd Kaufmann**, who brought Fish Eye Pinot Grigio and Malbec to drink; **John Kosmal**, who donated bread from Bread Works; and **Rich Costanzo**, who gifted the Club with metal forks, knives and spoons.

Some of the new and interesting food items offered were turtle soup, Puffball lasagna, leek and mushroom bread pudding, turkey with several different stuffings, gravies and sauces, Black trumpet and rice-stuffed grape leaves, mushroom-butternut squash-noodle casserole, mushroom and ham cheesecake, mushroom rolls with a honey mustard sauce, beet-orange-Shitaki salad, zucchini-Candy cap cookies, and the crowning glory: **Eleanor Pavelle's** "Oyster log" cake with cookies stuck in the log's sides to look like mushrooms growing on the log—a most clever imaginative creation!

We believe the feast was a great success and a BIG THANK YOU is extended to everyone who helped.

## PAGE 3 PHOTO CAPTIONS

**1.** Joyce, George and Jillian Gross **2.** John Wheeler – Guest Mycologist **3.** Suzanne Kendig, Dick Dougall, Gary Lincoff – Guest Mycologist **4.** Gary Lincoff, John Plischke III, John and Becky Plischke **5.** Christina Rodriguez – Amanita Project **6.** Harriet and La Monte Yarroll **7.** Diane Stuart, Jim Wasik, Sandy McLane **8.** Richard Jacob, Lincoff Chair Barbara DeRiso **9.** Valerie and Jack Baker, Mike Ott **10.** Gary Lincoff – Guest Mycologist and Food Taster

# 2013 Lincoff Foray Photo Highlights



**AT THE WPMC 2013** Gary Lincoff Mid-Atlantic Mushroom Foray, the mycologists and identifiers were able to give names to 131 species of the mushrooms brought in from the various walks. This total is slightly above the median of 127 for all thirteen Lincoff Forays. This indicates that 2013 was a fairly average year. Having rain throughout the day was a first for this Foray.

Table 1 is a summary of the types of mushrooms found compared to previous Forays. As usual, gilled mushrooms, with a total of 70 different species, led all types. This was above the median of 62 species of gilled mushrooms found. Also following the normal patterns, Polypores with 23 species and Boletes with 11 species were next in line. The breakdowns for all the mushroom types in Table 1 were very close to average.

During the thirteen years of the WPMC Foray, the Club has found 565 different mushrooms species. This year, 21 new species were added to that total. Table 2 lists all the new species found. Gilled mushrooms were the dominant category for new species with 17 of the 21. It is interesting that even after 13 Forays; new species are still being found.

Not surprisingly, Amanitas were the genus with the most new species. The Club's DNA Barcoding effort was strongly focused on the genus Amanita for this year's Foray. Having Rod Tulloss in attendance provided expertise in identifying Amanitas. When the DNA analysis of the specimens is completed, it is possible that some the identification of the Amanita species will be revised with the more complete scientific information. One of the Amanitas, found on the Hartwood Acres Walk, was truly unique. Rod Tulloss identified it as Amanita cacaina, the Chocolate Drop Amanita or Dark Chocolate Ringless Amanita. This was only the third time this mushroom has been found in North America.

The Club has also been gathering information about the most common species of mushrooms found over all Forays. This year's information will be incorporated in the list and presented in the next WPMC newsletter.

**TABLE 1: SUMMARY OF SPECIES FOUND AT 2013 LINCOFF FORAY**

	Min	Mean	Max	2012	2013	New
<b>ASCOMYCETES (cup / flask fungi)</b>						
Total Taxa: 47	4	7	17	9	8	1
<b>JELLY FUNGI</b>						
Total Taxa: 15	0	2	7	2	1	0
<b>CHANTERELLES</b>						
Total Taxa: 5	0	2	4	1	3	0
<b>CORAL FUNGI</b>						
Total Taxa: 14	0	1	5	1	1	0
<b>TOOTH FUNGI</b>						
Total Taxa: 12	0	2	6	2	1	0
<b>VASE &amp; CRUST FUNGI</b>						
Total Taxa: 18	3	6	9	8	6	1
<b>POLYPORES</b>						
Total Taxa: 65	16	24	33	29	23	2
<b>BOLETES</b>						
Total Taxa: 51	2	12	23	3	11	0
<b>GILLED MUSHROOMS</b>						
Total Taxa: 299	20	62	97	52	70	17
<b>GASTEROMYCETES (puffballs &amp; allies)</b>						
Total Taxa: 23	3	7	11	5	5	0
<b>SMUT FUNGI</b>						
Total Taxa: 0	0	0	1	0	0	0
<b>ZYGOMYCETES</b>						
Syzygites megalocarpus	0	0	1	1	1	0
<b>MYXOMYCETES (slime molds)</b>						
Total Taxa: 9	1	2	4	1	1	0
<b>UNCERTAIN CLASSIFICATION</b>						
Total Taxa: 0	0	0	2	2	0	0
<b>TOTAL TAXA: 565</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>21</b>

**TABLE 2—NEW SPECIES FROM 2013 LINCOFF FORAY**

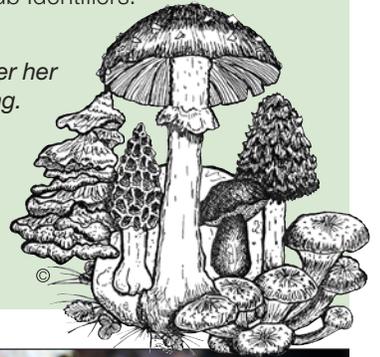
Ascomycetes, Cup Fungi	Hypomyces microspermus
Vase & Crust Fungi	Phlebia tremellosa
Polypores	Abortiporus biennis
	Ganoderma curtisii
Gilled Mushrooms	Agaricus megasporus
	Amanita americana, Amanita ameriubescens
	Amanita cacaina (Chocolate Drop Amanita)
	Amanita GN274
	Collybia butyracea, Cortinarius distans
Gilled Mushrooms	Entoloma conica, Entoloma sericeum
	Gerronema strombodes, Hygrocybe miniatus
	Lepiota clypeolaria, Porpoloma umbrosum
	Russula atropurpurea, Russula ornatipes, Russula pseudolepida, Tricholoma ordura



## Ann 'Fluff' Berger Identifier Award

**AS PART OF THE WPMC** John Plischke III Button Program, Fluff Berger is awarded Club 'Identifier' level. She has exhibited knowledge of a vast range of mushrooms and is added to the list of Club Identifiers. Congratulations!

*Dick Dougall presenting Ann "Fluff" Berger her Identifier Button at the September Meeting.*



*Above: At the registration tent, and samples of the various mushrooms collected at the foray.*

# DNA Barcoding - October 2013

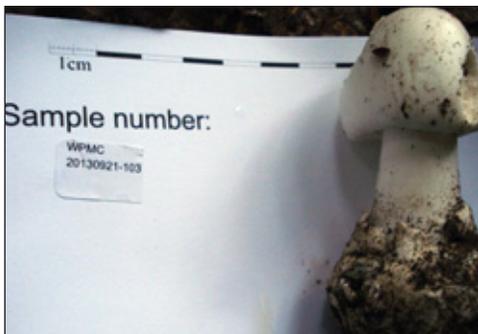
DNA progress report, from a DNA barcoding kit to the Lincoff Foray and beyond.

**WITH COLLABORATIONS IN PLACE** for DNA sequencing, and for Amanita identification and cataloging, the WPMC Club needed to prepare everything on the sample collection side. Although it is very easy to take a DNA sample from a specimen, it has little value without supporting information such as the location where the specimen was found, pictures, and an annotated description. The Club needed protocols and forms to collect all this documentation in place before the Lincoff Foray. It was decided to create a number of DNA barcoding kits containing everything for the project. The first kit was completed by the second week of September. John Stuart, Harriet Yarroll and Richard Jacob tested the kit by collecting 4 samples at Hartwood Acres. After a few tweaks here and there, everything was ready for the Foray.

As part of the Amanita identification project, Rod Tulloss and Cristina Rodriguez Caycedo attended the Foray. They gave a workshop to the Club's identifiers and mycologists on how to identify Amanita and annotate specimens on the Friday before the Foray.



Rod Tulloss – Guest Mycologist / Amanita Project



Above: selections from the bar coding project

On the day of the Foray, there were volunteers on every one of the morning walks to take pictures of specimens in the field and collect samples. Unfortunately, the heavy rain during the walks put a damper on the collecting, making it difficult to take pictures, but there were still some samples collected. The general approach of the Club for over the next few years is for dedicated volunteers to collect, annotate, and DNA sample specimens using the kit. As the coverage of the local species increases, the Club will then need to use the power of the crowd at the Foray to find the more unusual species.

The crowd effect phenomenon was put to use at this year's Foray with the collection of Amanita specimens. There were over 40 individual specimens collected representing at least 14 species. In total, specimens from 11 of the species were annotated and processed for DNA barcoding. The Club would like to thank to Fluff Berger, John Stuart, and Harriet and La Monte Yarroll for taking the time to annotate these specimens. There were some interesting species such as Amanita cacaina which has only been recorded only a handful of times.

At the time of writing, the Club has collected and annotated about 45 specimens and will continue to collect samples over the autumn and winter. The current samples have been sent for DNA sequencing and the Club is eagerly awaiting the results.

By the time this newsletter goes to press, there will be a total of 4 DNA barcoding kits available. A binder with all the documentation and forms will be available for reference at the monthly meetings. Members that have obtained a certain level of proficiency in mushroom identification will be able to sign out a kit. If you want to get involved in the DNA Barcoding project, please keep track of the mushrooms you know as part of the Button ID Program.

Over the winter months, a new section will be added to the Club's website. It will include all the documents in the DNA barcoding kit and supporting information so the Club can promote the ideas and techniques within the Club and across the wider mushroom community. A database will be developed to store and search the results of the WPMC DNA Barcoding Project.



# WPMC Photo Contest

Rebecca Miller had hard work determining the best-of-the-best for the 2013 Photo Contest, choosing from 58 entries to whittle down to 3 places in 4 categories. This year's awards (*Winning photos shown on pages 8 & 9*):

## Pictorial – Just Great Mushroom Pictures

- First Dick Dougall
- Second Cecily Franklin
- Third Richard Jacob

## Documentary – The essence of mushroom identification

- First Fluff Berger
- Second Dick Dougall
- Third Richard Franklin

## Serendipity – Mushrooms in combination in happenstance events

- First Dick Dougall / Barbara DeRiso
- Second John Kirk
- Third Caroline Miller

## Judges Option – Just Because! Outstanding Photos that do not fit the other categories

- First George Banyas
- Second Martha Wasik
- Third Ryan Tomazin

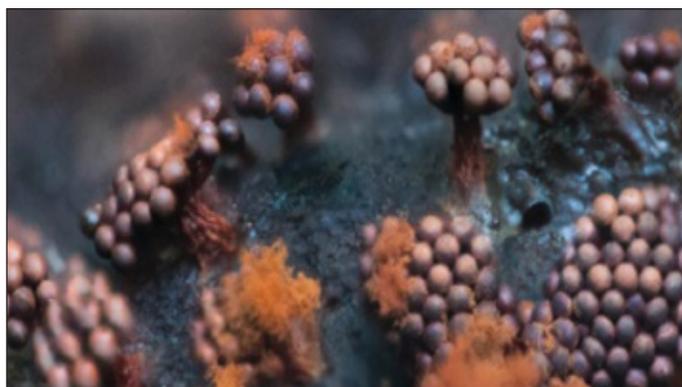
Thank you to all who submitted photos.

The 2014 WPMC Photo Contest is OPEN!

*Start taking pictures now.*

(BELOW) Photo contest “What the...?” category:

## *The return of the slime molds!*





**Pictorial – First: Dick Dougall**



**Documentary – First: Fluff Berger**



**Pictorial – Second: Cecily Franklin**



**Documentary – Second: Dick Dougall**



**Pictorial – Third: Richard Jacob**



**Documentary – Third: Richard Franklin**



**Serendipity – First: Dick Dougall / Barbara DeRiso**



**Judges Option – First: George Banyas**



**Serendipity – Second: John Kirk**



**Judges Option – Second: Martha Wasik**



**Serendipity – Third: Caroline Miller**



**Judges Option – Third: Ryan Tomazin**



*Detail selections from the photo contest... our apologies to members whose photo did not appear in this issue.*



If you don't see your photo on these pages (7 – 12) please send it to us to use in future issues.

# Yahoo Groups and WPMC Courtesy

Mary Jo Smiley

**I AM PLEASED TO HELP** to facilitate the Yahoo Groups email. It is a great way to share pictures, have your mushroom identification verified (within reason), ask a question or share information.

If you are not getting emails from the Yahoo Group yet, or got them in the past and are no longer getting them, it is easy to join. You can go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/wpamushroomclub/info> and sign up. When you send a post to the group, it goes to the entire group. You can show a lot of people your find or have a pretty good chance of getting a response to your question.

Ahhhh, but there is a little drawback. When you REPLY to an email it goes to the ENTIRE group! Most of the time, that is great, everyone knows that you now know that that really is the first “chicken of the woods” you ever found and that sadly it is a bit old to bother cooking it up. Or sometimes, there is a controversy about the ID and it can be hashed out on the group.

But, sometimes we just want the post to go to the person that asked the question. Sometimes we start a conversation and there is no need for the others to read it. Most of the time it is just a bother to the others, oh, but sometimes it can be rather embarrassing! Sharing something that you didn't realize was going to the group can have devastating results.

Sooooo, here is how to respond to posts:

If it is appropriate to reply to the ENTIRE group (most of the time it is) you can simply click on your “REPLY” button, clear off any unneeded text (cut) and then hit send and your reply will go to everyone on the list. Use this option as long as your post is on the same topic.

At the bottom of each email there is a set of commands, printed in BLUE:

Reply via web post // Reply to sender // Reply to group // Start a New Topic Messages in this topic (1). These are your other options and are seldom used by most.

If you are changing the subject, use the “start a new topic” and put your new topic in the subject line.

You can send a personal (off line, off group) reply to ONE person, by clicking “reply to sender”. You will now see that person's email in the “TO” line. You can also do this by “cut and pasting” their email address into the “TO” box. It will no longer say [wpamushroomclub] in the “TO”, as it normally would. Your private conversation is kept private.

Thanks for cutting extra wordage from the replies and for being careful to keep the group fun and on topic!



# Recipe Corner

From the August 2013 Cooking Demonstration by Jeff Berkowitz and the Lincoff Foray courtesy of New Life Kitchen.

## Wild Mushroom, Artichoke, Asiago Sandwich with Roasted Onion

Serves 4

3 Tbsp clarified butter or extra virgin olive oil

1 garlic clove, peeled, finely chopped

1 shallot, peeled, finely chopped

8-10 pieces sundried tomato, softened in warm water and julienned, reserve the water

1 lb. wild mushrooms, cleaned and roughly chopped

4 artichoke hearts, drained and sliced (you may need to rinse them)

Sea Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste

1 Tbsp fresh basil leaves, chiffonade (cut into fine ribbons)

Your favorite bread (I like ciabata)

1 large onion, sliced into rings, lightly seasoned with salt, pepper, and sugar, roast on a cookie sheet in 400° F oven for 15-20 minutes.

Heat a sauté pan over medium high heat, when hot add oil, garlic, shallots. Cook until garlic and shallots begin to brown, but don't let it burn. Add the mushrooms and cook for a few minutes until they begin to release their moisture. Add the sundried tomatoes and the drained artichoke hearts cooking them until they are hot with a little of the tomato water. Remove from the heat and season with salt, pepper, and basil. Serve immediately with the roasted onion or chill for service later. I like this served as a sandwich but it works well as an entrée or side dish.



*Mushroom Log by Kate and Eleanor Pavelle  
created for the Lincoff Foray dessert table*

## Quartet of Mushroom With Thyme and Crème Fraiche

4 Tbsp clarified butter (or use extra virgin olive oil if you prefer)

4 Tbsp shallots, peeled and finely diced

1 lb of your favorite mushrooms

¼ cup dry white wine

½ cup crème fraiche (substitute coconut milk and a tsp of lemon juice to make this vegan friendly)

Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

1 tsp fresh thyme

Chopped fresh parsley or chives for garnish

Heat a sauté pan, when the pan is hot add the clarified butter. As soon as the butter is in the pan add the shallots. Sauté the shallots for about a minute until they just begin to brown. Add the mushrooms, let them get a good sear before tossing or stirring them in the pan. Season with some salt and pepper. Once the mushrooms begin to release their moisture add the wine. Reduce the wine by about half and then add the crème fraiche. Let that reduce a bit until the sauce coats the mushrooms nicely. Season with fresh thyme and then taste for salt and pepper. Use the mushrooms as an entrée or as an appetizer, they are wonderful as a topping for crustini.

## Crème Fraiche

2 cups heavy cream

½ cup plain yogurt with live cultures

¼ cup buttermilk

Combine all of the ingredients in a heavy bottom sauce pan and warm over low heat stirring constantly until the temperature is between 80° and 85°F. Remove from the heat and put into a sterile jar. Allow this to sit at room temperature for 24 hours. At this point the cream should be thickened and will thicken more when it is refrigerated. Keep this in the refrigerator for up to a week. The crème fraiche can be eaten as is and the nice thing is that it can be boiled just like heavy cream but has much more flavor.

**Do you have an interesting Mushroom Recipe you'd like to share? Send it to our newsletter editor and it might be included in our Recipe Corner.**

## Membership Report – October 2013

With new members joining at the Lincoff Foray, the WPMC membership is:



<b>Total Members</b>	<b>512</b>
Individual Members:	144
Family Members:	347
Honorary Members:	9
Student:	12

### Corrections:

Please forward all name, address, phone, or e-mail changes to:  
WPMC.membership@gmail.com  
or  
Jim Wasik  
WPMC Membership  
70 Woodland Farms Road  
Pittsburgh PA 15238



## WPMC Meetings:

WPMC meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday each month from March through November at:

**Beechwood Farms (Audubon Society of Western PA)**  
614 Dorseyville Road • Pittsburgh, PA 15238

**Nov. 19 Member Photos / Open Forum  
Pot Luck Dinner  
Awards Presentation**

## Washington & Greene County Chapter:

**MEETINGS: 6:00 – 7:45 PM**  
**Peters Township Public Library**  
616 East McMurray Road • McMurray, PA 15317  
**www.ptlibrary.org • 724-941-9430**

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#### NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION

Martha Wasik Graphic Arts Inc  
Cecily Franklin

Check our website for a complete list of the year's events. Details and updates will be included in the newsletter.



# WPMC MEMBERSHIP FORM

Anyone who has an interest in wild mushrooms is welcome to become a WPMC member.

COMPLETE THIS FORM **PRINT CLEARLY**, SIGN AND MAIL

### Members are entitled to:

The WPMC newsletter • Nine monthly WPMC meetings • Free participation in WPMC walks • Fee discount for WPMC forays

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone 2 \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Interests (e.g.: foraging, identification, cooking, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

*Please print in plain block lettering. Take special care with email addresses: numeral "1", uppercase "i" and lowercase "l" look the same.*

ANNUAL DUES:     \$15 Individual     \$20 Family     \$10 Full-time Student    Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Please return completed, signed and dated form (with check payable to Western PA Mushroom Club) to:

WPMC, c/o Jim Wasik, 70 Woodland Farms Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238 e-mail contact: WPMC.membership@gmail.com  
or visit [www.wpamushroomclub.org](http://www.wpamushroomclub.org) to pay using credit card.

Please indicate your meeting location preference:     Pittsburgh (Beechwood Farms)     Washington/Greene County

Please indicate your newsletter/event announcement preference:  Electronic via e-mail     Hardcopy via US mail

## Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club Release and Indemnification Agreement

This Release and Indemnification Agreement (the "Agreement") is entered into by and between the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club, as it is presently organized and may be later structured ("WPMC") and the undersigned Member (the "Member") on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

WHEREAS, WPMC is a non-profit educational organization that has as its principal purpose the sharing of mushroom-related information among its members; and  
WHEREAS, all officers, directors, identifiers and members serve WPMC in a voluntary capacity and receive no remuneration for their services; and

WHEREAS, in cases where WPMC charges a fee for its forays, walks, lectures and other events (collectively "WPMC Events"), it is doing so only to cover its direct costs and does not operate in a for-profit capacity; and WHEREAS, the Member understands that there is inherent and unavoidable risk in outdoor activities relating to hunting and consuming wild mushrooms. These risks include but are not limited to the dangers of hiking in difficult terrain, the possibility of misidentifying a wild mushroom, and the possible allergic or toxic reaction that some individuals may have to otherwise edible mushrooms.

NOW THEREFORE, the Member hereby agrees to the following:

1. The Member assumes all risks associated with WPMC Events. The Member expressly acknowledges that it is the Member's sole responsibility to hike safely and to determine whether a wild mushroom may be consumed.
2. The Member releases, holds harmless, and indemnifies the WPMC, its officers, directors, identifiers, and representatives from any and all liability relating to any injury or illness incurred by the Member or the Member's family members as a result of participation in a WPMC Event.

This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. If any portion of the Agreement is declared for any reason to be invalid or unenforceable, such invalidity shall not affect any other provision of the Agreement. This Agreement shall apply to all current and future WPMC events.

### MEMBERS:

Signature (if Participant is under age 21, signature of Parent or guardian)	Please print name:
1 _____	1 _____
2 _____	2 _____
3 _____	3 _____
4 _____	4 _____

*Signed release form will be in effect from date of membership until termination of membership.*



**Western Pennsylvania  
Mushroom Club**

202 Wadsworth Drive  
Glenshaw, PA 15116

## WPMC Goals

- Provide organized walks and forays
- Teach scientific methods of wild mushroom identification
- Explore various art forms including photography, dyeing, and paper-making with mushrooms
- Share mushroom recipes
- Educate members and the public about the many aspects of wild mushrooms

Western  
Pennsylvania  
Mushroom  
Club



## *Fungi, fun and friends!*

**The Newsletter of the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club** is published five times a year: March/April, May/June, July/Aug., Sept./Oct., and Nov./Dec. Articles, photos, news items and other submissions should be sent to the editor at least 6-8 weeks prior to targeted distribution for the best chance of inclusion.

The editor cannot guarantee that submissions will be included in the next newsletter. The editor reserves the right to make spelling or grammatical corrections and may suggest content changes to the author.

Material published in our newsletters may be used in other non-profit publications only with expressed permission and with appropriate acknowledgements.

**WPMC YAHOO GROUPS:**

<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/wpamushroomclub/>

**WPMC CONTACT:** [contact@wpamushroomclub.org](mailto:contact@wpamushroomclub.org)

**WPMC MEMBERSHIP:** [WPMC.Membership@gmail.com](mailto:WPMC.Membership@gmail.com)

**NORTH AMERICAN MYCOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION (NAMA):** [www.namyco.org](http://www.namyco.org)

**POISON CONTROL CENTER: 1-800-222-1222**

