



WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA MUSHROOM CLUB NEWSLETTER

Volume 16, Issue 3

JULY/AUGUST 2016



President's Message

RICHARD JACOB

I HOPE YOU HAD more luck than I did with the Morel season! Although I did not find many morels, I explored a number of the region's fine parks and woods for the first time—and with good company—which more than made up for it.

It looks like the warm weather with intermittent rain and thunderstorms is set to continue into July. Although many people complain about the weather in Pittsburgh, it is far more pleasant than many northern European countries, particularly the UK where I am from. The frequent rain makes this area a hot spot for fungi and species diversity, which makes mushroom hunting all the more fun. In July I will be looking forward to finding Boletes and Chanterelles in abundance. Well, I can live in hope...

We have walks scheduled for almost every weekend through August. July will include walks at Dark Hollow Woods, North Park, and Brady's Run Park. In August, there will be a walk in Salamander Park after our Mushroom Classes in Fox Chapel, then events in North Park and a walk at Hartwood Acres.

Upcoming meetings include our very own Adam Haritan, WPMC's Corresponding Secretary, talking about "Foraging for Wild Plants & Mushrooms" in July. The August meeting will cover "Mushrooms and the Law: Legal Aspects of Mushroom Picking in PA" with Ryan Hamilton from Fair Shake Environmental Legal Services.

For all of you interested in learning more about fungi, we have scheduled mushroom classes for the 6th of August at the Cooper-Siegel Community Library. (See page 2)

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS: 16th Annual Lincoff Foray

Saturday, September 24 • 8:00am to 7:00pm
The Rose Barn • Allegheny County's North Park

THIS YEAR'S PROGRAM will be an all-day event with guest mycologists **Gary Lincoff**, author of the *Audubon Guide to Mushrooms of North America*, *The Complete Mushroom Hunter*, and *The Joy of Foraging*, and **Dr. Nicholas (Nik) Money**, author of *Mushroom*, *The Triumph of the Fungi*, and *Mr. Bloomfield's Orchard: The Mysterious World of Mushrooms, Molds and Mycologists*. WPMC President **Richard Jacob** is our third guest mycologist and will present an update of our DNA barcoding program.

Chef and forager **George Harris**, who has been using wild mushrooms on his restaurant menus since 1992, will perform this year's cooking demonstration. The day will also include guided walks, mushroom identification tables, sales table, authors' book signings, auction and, of course, the legendary Mushroom Feast. Everything is included in the price of admission. (See page 13 for registration form or register online at: <http://wpamushroomclub.org/lincoff-foray>)

It's not too early to gather up mushroom-related items for the auction. Please contact Cecily Franklin about any items you'd like to donate.

We need cooks to volunteer to make a dish for the Mushroom Feast. Contact Charlotte Tunney (jctunney@verizon.net, 412-441-3958). We also need volunteers for set-up and clean-up. Please contact Mike Ott (meo001@comcast.net, 412-390-7729). **PLEASE NOTE:** All foraged mushrooms used in cooking for the Mushroom Feast must be certified by a club mycologist ahead of time.

See page 5 for information about a mushroom walk with Gary Lincoff at Cook Forest State Park on Friday, September 23.



It's Time to Register for WPMC's Fungi Education Day!



Amber Jelly Roll, *Exidia recisa*.

photo by Cecily Franklin

WHETHER YOU'RE A MUSHROOM dummy or a mycological know-it-all, you should register now for WPMC's mushroom classes on Saturday, August 6, at the Cooper-Siegel Library, 403 Fox Chapel Road.

Each session is \$10; the full day is \$20. A free mushroom walk at nearby Salamander Park will follow.

From **10:30am to 12:30pm**, WPMC Identifier Fluff Berger and others will cover Mushroom Basics, including various types of mushrooms, general identification features, and their role in the ecosystem. Both edible and poisonous mushrooms will be discussed, along with advice on how to avoid trouble. Additional references will be recommended.

The Advanced Class will take place from **1:30-3:30pm**, under the leadership of WPMC Identifier and Past-President John Stuart. Topics include Jelly, Club & Coral Fungi, each covered by a different WPMC Identifier or Mycologist.

This class will cover a variety of interesting mushrooms, including Jelly Fungi, such as the amber jelly roll (*Exidia recisa*); Club Fungi, such as *Cordyceps* and Dead Man's Fingers; and Coral Fungi, including *Clavaria* and *Ramaria* species.

At **3:30pm**, immediately following the Advanced Class, a free Mushroom Walk (for all levels of mushrooming) will take place at Salamander Park, down the street on Fox Chapel Road.

Space is limited, so register today!

PARKING:

Mushroom classes will be held in the Program Room on the lower level behind the library. If there's no space available in back, park anywhere in the Library parking lot or you can park at the Fox Chapel Borough building next door.

Register online using PayPal or credit card:

<http://wpamushroomclub.org/events/fungi-education-day/>

Or send checks payable to WPMC to:

WPMC
c/o Barbara DeRiso
204 Woodcock Drive
Pittsburgh PA 15215

President's Message continued from page 1

Finally, I would like to give you a quick update on the mushroom catalog. The aim is to make the catalog a valuable local resource for both beginners and experts alike. Over the last year, we have added more than 500 images for over 200 species to the catalog. The vast majority of the images come from WPMC members, and a smaller selection come from the Ellis Becker collection. As the catalog fills out, we hope to complete some of the other related projects which use the catalog, including printed index cards for the identification table and a guidebook. In the next few months we will start adding some descriptions to the entries and also add the DNA barcoding results to fill out the information part of the database. View the catalog at <http://wpamushroomclub.org/shop/>

If you happen to take a good quality picture of a local mushroom, please consider sending it to site-admin@wpamushroomclub.org. If you would like to write a description for a species, please use this form: <http://wpamushroomclub.org/about/species-lists/catalog-descriptions/>

“Pot Hunters” and the Button Program

by Dick Dougall

IF YOU ARE A beginning mushroomer, your main interest is probably edible wild mushrooms. Why should becoming a better identifier be important to you? All you want to do is go out in the woods and collect the edibles.

But you ARE a beginner and you find a wide variety of mushrooms. You know that eating the wrong mushrooms is dangerous. So you do what we all do; you rely on the knowledge of more experienced mushroomers to show you their favorite edibles and how to find them.

This was how it was with my family. We lived in upstate New York, and all of my grandparents came to the U.S. from Lithuania. The older generation were the experienced mushroomers. They only picked one kind of edibles: Boletes. Being a kid, I didn't care to eat them, but I enjoyed hunting for them. Most of the time everything went fine. However, one time I remember we had hunted over a wider area than usual because the mushrooms were somewhat scarce. The adults eating these mushrooms had to throw out the whole prepared batch because it tasted incredibly bitter. A “bitter bolete” had made its way into their dish.

Bitter boletes are quite common here in Western PA. A few years ago, I brought home a full basket of boletes which I thought were *Tylopilus alboater*, the Black Velvet Bolete, but they were actually *Tylopilus plumbeoviolaceus*, one of our bitter boletes. They were great looking mushrooms, very firm and meaty. However, when I nibbled one in our kitchen, I knew they were a bitter variety. My whole basket of mushrooms went into my compost bin. Other experienced club mushroomers have had the same experience.

Boletes aren't the only mushrooms needing care in identification. James Swanger wrote an article for our Nov/Dec 2015 Newsletter about serving a dish of what he thought were



“chicken mushrooms.” They turned out to really be Jack-o'-lantern Mushrooms, *Omphalotus illudens*. How embarrassing for Jim and his dinner guests! But worse than being embarrassed is the fact that our digestive systems really can't tolerate them. Your body quickly and violently expels these at both ends. The person eating these mushrooms quickly feels sick but usually recovers in a day or so, as it was with Jim and his friends. (An interesting side note: They thought the mushrooms were very tasty!) I have heard from other WPMC members making the same mistake, but they usually think the Jack-o'-lanterns are actually Chanterelles.

Eating or tasting bitter boletes or Jack-o'-lanterns will not cause serious medical problems. They are just terribly embarrassing for the would-be identifier. The Amanita mushrooms are a completely different case. Although some Amanitas are edible, there are a number of others that will result in trips to the Emergency Room, where prompt treatment will save the person from dying or needing a liver transplant. Therefore, on WPMC walks, we try to point out the basic characteristics of Amanitas. Most mushroom field guides also stress the importance of learning to recognize Amanitas. How good is your Amanita identifying ability?

I hope to write a follow-up article giving some valuable resources available to foragers looking for edible mushrooms. In the meantime, consider learning to reliably identify more of our common mushrooms, even if they are only Turkey Tails. Maybe you will find it fun to reach the point where you can earn a 25 or 50 pin in the Club's Button Program.



WPMC Identifier Blaine Sanner led our first-ever walk at Braddocks Trail Park in April.

Photo by Richard Jacob



Above and Beyond... Jack & Val Baker, Jim Tunney



Valerie and Jack Baker.

Photo by Dick Dougall



WPMC Mycologist Jim Tunney.

Photo by Adam Haritan

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The next time you see a WPMC member go "above and beyond", please let us know. Email: cs4wpmc@gmail.com.

Our first award goes to charter members **Valerie Baker** and identifier **Jack Baker**, who unexpectedly led a mushroom walk at Frick Park on Earth Day. Due to construction at the park, the Earth Day festivities were moved to a new location. As the Bakers and about a dozen other people gathered at the traditional meeting place, it became apparent that they were missing the main event. Not only did the Bakers volunteer to lead a mushroom walk, but they also taught the group tree identification along the way!

Meanwhile, on the other side of Frick Park, **Jim Tunney** was leading the two *official* mushroom walks. As soon as he was finished there, it was time to prepare for WPMC's annual cultivation meeting, only three weeks later. Jim arranged to get enough oyster spawn so that all members in attendance could receive an oyster mushroom kit. As an added bonus this year, members also received *Stropharia* Wine Cap spawn, along with wood pellets and straw.



Bob is BACK!

ON APRIL 30, BOB SLEIGHT gave a presentation on morel hunting at Pine Ridge Park, after which he was awarded a WPMC Identifier pin. Bob actually qualified to be an Identifier a few years ago, before he moved to Jersey Shore (Pennsylvania). Now he's back, and he can identify more than 250 mushroom species. **Welcome back, Bob!**

LEFT: WPMC Identifiers Bob Sleight and Richard Jacob.
photo by Jim Wasik



Subscribe to FUNGI

FUNGI Magazine is published five times a year and is only available by subscription. (Makes a great gift for any mushroomer!). A one-year subscription is only \$40 (for U.S. residents.) To subscribe or renew, visit: www.fungimag.com.

We Have Michael Kuo's Books!

WPMC has a supply of four books by Michael Kuo: *100 Cool Mushrooms*, *Morels*, *100 Edible Mushrooms*, and *Mushrooms of the Midwest*. Purchase at any WPMC meeting or at WPMC's Amazon shop at wpmamushroomclub.org.



Pre-Foray Walk at Cook Forest State Park with Gary Lincoff

FOR THOSE WHO WOULD like to begin their Foray weekend early, Gary Lincoff will lead a walk on Friday, September 23rd beginning at 9am in Cook Forest State Park (outside Clarion PA, about 80 miles northeast of Pittsburgh). Those who are interested should plan on arriving at Cook Forest on Thursday and camping there overnight. Central meeting place will be Shelter 1 (which we used last year).

Those who would like to arrange overnight accommodations, either cabin or campground, should call 888-727-2757 (888 PA PARKS) or book online: <http://pennsylvaniastateparks.reserveamerica.com/>

Ranger Dale Luthinger advises those interested to book cabins soon, as they are already being reserved by other groups. Rustic cabins (price range \$32-\$54, sleeping 4-8 people) have a two-night minimum stay.

WPMC Scholarships & Grants

WPMC HAS A 2016 Scholarship/Grant program to promote wild mushrooming by providing monetary support for educational events, projects, research, or mycological studies by individuals or institutions. In 2015, WPMC awarded a total of \$1,500 in scholarships to three local college students to assist in their studies. Applicants must be sponsored by a WPMC member. Forms are available on the Club website.

Contact John Stuart at jons2art@comcast.net or 724-443-6878. Or submit online at:

<http://wpamushroomclub.org/education/wpmc-scholarship-grant-application/>

A FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITY!
NOTE: Recipients are not required to be Club members.



Many volunteers helped to bag cottonseed hulls for the May Cultivation Meeting. For instructions on both the Oyster and Wine Cap *Stropharia* kits, go to: <http://wpamushroomclub.org/species-list-from-may-monthly-meeting-on-05172016/>



WPMC Mycologist La Monte Yarroll led an outdoor walk at Phipps Conservatory's first-ever BioBlitz in Schenley Park and later manned a display table for WPMC.

Photo by Adam Haritan

WPMC Walks 2016

All walks are on Saturdays, beginning at 10am, unless noted otherwise. Please read carefully for any registration requirements or fees.

NOTE: We're always adding new walks to our website at wpamushroomclub.org/events so check back often for updates, directions, and much more!

July 9 Dark Hollow Woods, Oakmont

Meet WPMC Officer **Cecily Franklin** at the Pennsylvania Ave. entrance. Choose between the level Memorial Trail loop or the more adventurous Spring Trail down into the hollow. *NOTE: There are no restrooms at Dark Hollow Woods.*

July 16 Annual Chanterelle Mania, North Park

Meet WPMC members & Identifier **Jack & Valerie Baker** at the North Park Swimming Pool parking lot.

July 23 Brady's Run Park, Beaver County

Meet WPMC President **Richard Jacob** at the parking lot for the indoor ice rink.

July 30 North Park

Meet WPMC member **Mike Ott** at the North Park swimming pool parking lot.

August 6 3:30 pm Salamander Park

Join us for a walk after the mushroom classes. Students and instructors meeting at the Cooper-Siegel Library will join us at nearby Salamander Park on Fox Chapel Road.

August 13 North Park

Meet WPMC Identifier **John Stuart** at the North Park Swimming Pool parking lot.

August 27 Hartwood Acres

Meet WPMC Officer **Barbara DeRiso** at Mansion parking lot.

Sept 17 Sycamore Island Autumn Survey, Verona

Join the Allegheny Land Trust and WPMC Mycologist **La Monte Yarroll** for the Fall survey of Sycamore Island. We'll be collecting specimens for the monthly meeting and DNA.

Oct 1 Townsend Park, Murrysville

Meet **Pia van de Venne**, President of Friends of Murrysville Parks, and WPMC President **Richard Jacob** in the upper parking lot.

Other Walks & Forays

July 16-17 Ohio Mushroom Society Summer Foray

Southeast Ohio

July 22-23 West Virginia Mushroom Club Foray

Dry Fork, WV, <http://wvmushroomclub.org/index.html>

July 22-24 Eastern Penn Mushroomers

2016 Helen Miknis Memorial Foray, Mont Alto, PA
<http://epenmushroomers.org/>

July 28-31 Northeast Mycological Federation (NEMF) Samuel Ristich Foray

Fitchburg State University, MA. Faculty includes WPMC Mycologist John Plischke III. For more information and registration form: <http://www.nemf.org/index.html>

July 31-Aug 6 Mushroom ID for New Mycophiles by Greg Marley and Michaeline Mulvey

Eagle Hill Institute, Maine

<http://www.eaglehill.us/programs/nhs/nhs-calendar.shtml>

August 7-14 Slime Molds by Steven Stephenson

Eagle Hill Institute, Maine

<http://www.eaglehill.us/programs/nhs/nhs-calendar.shtml>

August 12-14 Central PAMC Bill Russell Foray

<http://www.centralpamushroomclub.com>

August 18-21 NAMA Wildacres Regional Foray

Wildacres Retreat, NC <http://www.namyco.org/events.php>

August 21-27 Polypores and Other Wood-Inhabiting Fungi by Tom Volk

Eagle Hill Institute, Maine

<http://www.eaglehill.us/programs/nhs/nhs-calendar.shtml>

Sept 8-11 NAMA Shenandoah Foray

Front Royal, VA <http://www.namyco.org/events.php>

Sept 22-25 Connecticut-Westchester Mycological Assoc. (COMA) Clark Rogerson Foray

Berkshire Hills Eisenberg Camp, Copake, NY. <http://www.comafungi.org/special-events/clark-rogerson-foray/>

Sept 23 Cook Forest / Pre-Foray Walk

See page 5 of this newsletter for details

Sept 24 16th Annual WPMC Gary Lincoff Foray

North Park (see pages 1, 5, 9 & 13 of this newsletter)

Oct 15-16 Ohio Mushroom Society Fall Foray

Hiram College, Hiram OH (J.W Barrow Field Station)

NEW! Introducing Pop-Up Walks

IN ADDITION TO ALL of our scheduled walks, WPMC Mycologist John Plischke III has offered to lead a few "Pop-Up" Walks when mushrooms are in peak fruiting season. Walks will most likely be on weekday evenings, starting at 6 pm or later and lasting until dark. They will be posted a few days in advance to WPMC's Facebook Group and Yahoo Group. (*NOTE: there may not be enough time to post these on the website*). The first

of these mostly-edible mushroom walks will probably be during the height of Bolete or Chanterelle season, if rain brings them up in great numbers. The walks will involve more driving and less walking: we'll drive to a spot and get mushrooms, then move on to a new location. Bring your baskets and cameras; the chance of finding lots of mushrooms will be high! Dinner will not be served, so bring a snack or eat before or after the walk.

Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/250320011779/?fref=nf>

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

Important Walk & Foray Information:

- Try to dig up three of the same species at different stages of development.
- Don't pick old mushrooms; leave them to drop spores.
- You are responsible for not getting lost. If you have a tendency to wander off, stick like glue to the others. We won't wait for you, and we won't come to look for you.
- Don't take the identification of the person standing next to you; they might not know as much as you do. Only Club Mycologists and Identifiers should be used for advice.
- The Walk Leader will tell you when to be back at the walk starting place, where the mushrooms will be put on paper plates and the Walk Identifier or Club Mycologist will put names on only the mushrooms they know well.
- Take notes and pictures to help you remember the mushrooms. You should go home and check books yourself.
- Whether you decide to eat a mushroom is ultimately your responsibility alone.
- **Help Keep Our Parks Clean!** When mushrooming, it's easy to bring a plastic grocery bag to collect cans, bottles or other trash you find. Trash cans are generally found nearby. If not, take it home for disposal.

Walks & Forays Check List:

- Bring a buddy or two. *Do not forage alone!*
- Dress for the weather, carry a rain poncho
- Bring drinking water and lunch
- Keep mushrooms separated
- Insect repellent
- Basket for collecting
- Knife for cutting mushrooms
- Wax or paper bags (no plastic)
- Whistle
- Compass
- Hand lens
- Cell phone & camera
- Notebook & pencil
- Field guide for identification
- Band-aids
- Garden hand-clippers



Interested in leading a mushroom walk?

Know of a good mushrooming location?

Contact La Monte Yarroll or John Plischke III.



Club Mycologists

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jons2art@comcast.net



MORE PHOTOS FROM THE 2015 PHOTO CONTEST:

ABOVE: Fluff Berger: 2 Amanitas

BELOW: Cecily Franklin: Bird's Nest Fungus & Stinkhorn Egg Hatching



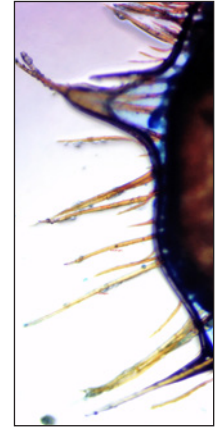
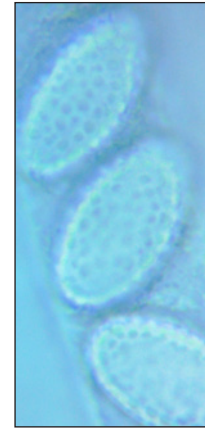
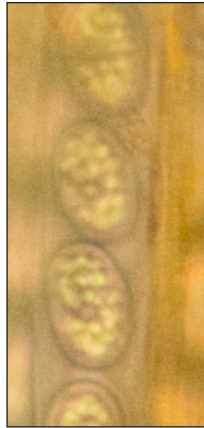
Opening a (VERY SMALL) Can of Worms

by Richard Jacob

THERE ARE TWO COMMON forms of eyelash cups that we find in western PA: *Scutellinia scutellata* (the main species that we find from late spring onwards) and a smaller autumn species that is a lighter orange color with more abundant cups than *S. scutellata*. Common Club knowledge assumed that this autumn species was *S. setosa*. Although the species look different, identification is only really possible by looking at the spores with a microscope to check their size and ornamentation.

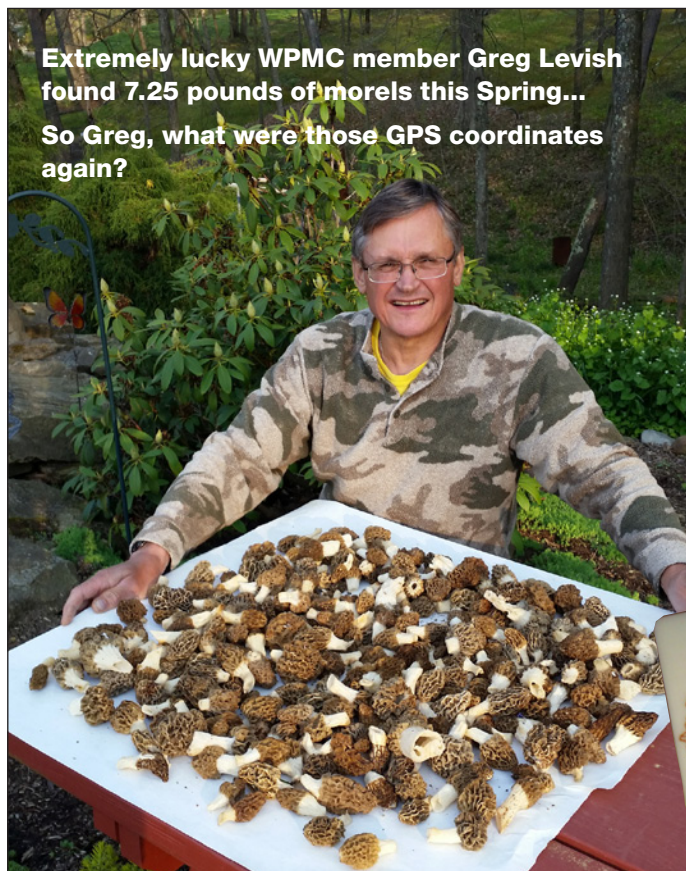
We found both species at the annual foray a couple of years ago, and I asked Gary Lincoff if he thought the smaller species was *S. setosa*. Gary said maybe, but I would need to check under the microscope to be sure. Since we now have a Club microscope (available to members) I had another chance late last year when I found them again.

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Scutellinia setosa, smooth spores filled with oil droplets. Margin hairs showing forking at base of hair. (Photo by Richard Jacob *Scutellinia setosa* photo by Rand Workman from Mushroom Observer. Spore detail photo by Josh Kielsmeier-Cook from Mushroom Observer)

Scutellinia subhirtella, warts on spores that go to the edge. (Photos by Richard Jacob)



Extremely lucky WPMC member Greg Levis found 7.25 pounds of morels this Spring... So Greg, what were those GPS coordinates again?

Foray Raffle Donations Continue

You'll dream of mushrooms all night long with these vintage mushroom pillowcases. One pair from each of two designs handmade by Cathy Coho of Mt. Airy, Pennsylvania, from fabric donated by Barbara DeRiso.



REMINDER:
Remember to bring extra \$\$\$ for the Foray Raffle & Auction! All sales benefit WPMC.

Also submitted: four 6-inch glass tiles featuring the WPMC logo. Created and donated by Jim Wasik.

Allegheny County Introduces Trails App for County Parks

ALLEGHENY COUNTY RECENTLY announced a new app for mobile devices that will help visitors identify and navigate trails in the nine county parks. The free app can be found by searching “Allegheny County Parks Trails” in the Apple App Store and will be available in the Android Play Store.

Maps in the app show all blazed, unmarked, and paved trails in each of the county’s parks, including length and difficulty for blazed trails. Using the GPS in the mobile device, hikers will find live elevation information for blazed trails and have access to weather conditions, alerts, and forecasts from the National Weather Service.

The county’s Division of Computer Services worked with Esri, a geographic information systems mapping software company, Trail Pittsburgh, and the county’s park rangers to develop the app. Future versions will include information on trailheads, parking options, shelters, and restroom facilities.

The nine county parks, which contain 12,000 acres and over 180 miles of trails, are:

- Boyce Park
- Deer Lakes
- Harrison Hills
- Hartwood Acres
- North Park
- Round Hill Park
- Settlers Cabin
- South Park
- White Oak Park

“Can of worms” continued from page 9

Under the microscope, using the Lactophenol blue to stain the spores, I found they were not as expected. *S. setosa* should have smooth spores, but these had small warts. As many of you know, there are more species of mushrooms than are listed in the guidebooks. The general guidebooks tend to cover the most frequently occurring species. There are also some specialist guidebooks that cover certain taxonomic families or regional books that have more depth for a certain area. Sometimes the books will name a couple of additional species that are not pictured and tell you how to differentiate them. Other times there is no indication as to how many similar or related species there might be.

How many species of *Scutellinia* species do you think there are? The two mentioned above for a start, and probably a few other species in other parts of the world. In the new book: *Ascomycete Fungi of North America* (Beug, Bessette and Bessette) I was surprised to find out there were three main entries and about seven additional species mentioned for North America. That was about eight more than I was expecting! I think I have opened a small can of worms.

Using the book, I tried to figure out which species I had. Interestingly enough, there is a *S. pennsylvanica* that is found in the Mon river valley. I liked the name for a start. If it wasn’t *S. setosa* maybe it was *S. pennsylvanica*? The spores from *S. pennsylvanica* had warts, and it was the best match of all the *Scutellinia* species in the book. But it wasn’t a particularly good match. I was having trouble finding good images of the fruiting body or the spores from *S. pennsylvanica*. Some of the characteristics were different than expected.

I obviously needed some expert help, so I emailed John Plischke III and posted a picture of the fruiting bodies and images of the spores that I had taken with the microscope camera on the Mushroom Observer website. I listed it as *S. pennsylvanica* as

it was my best guess. John emailed a reply and an image of an eyelash cup fungi that he had identified as *S. pennsylvanica*. It looked a lot larger than the species I had found and had very short eyelash hairs.

Malcolm Greaves also answered my call on Mushroom Observer and suggested *S. subhirtella*. I asked Mal how he determined the species. He said he was not an expert in eyelash cups but was using a key developed by an expert. After a bit of Googling on the Internet, I found the original publications for *S. pennsylvanica* (Denison, 1959). Using the original description, I compared the spore shape and size, plus the size of the warts on the spore. The spores can have a reticulate pattern, too, which I did not see on my specimen. Another identifying feature is the length of the eyelashes, or “poils,” and also any branching at the base of the poils. I agreed that my specimen did not match *S. pennsylvanica*. Mal used a key from Trond Schumacher, published in 1990. Fortunately, John had a copy and I was able to walk through the key and I agreed that the best match was *S. subhirtella*.

I now know that there are at least 45 species of *Scutellinia*, and at least three species in the western PA region: *S. scutellata*, *S. pennsylvanica* and *S. subhirtella*. There may also be *S. setosa* and *S. erinaceus* in the region too, but we will need to check the spores and poils from all the smaller species to make sure.

I have to say that this sort of detective work is far easier today than it used to be. The access to many of the original publications on the Internet and to experts on Mushroom Observer and other websites means that these sorts of puzzles can be sorted out in hours or days, rather than weeks or months.

Thanks to Malcolm Greaves and John Plischke III for helping identify *Scutellinia subhirtella*. Identifying even the smallest species like a distinctive eyelash cup can be complicated, and it’s only when you look closer that you start to realize how many worms are in the can!

Check our website for a complete list of the year’s events.

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

NORTH AMERICAN MYCOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION (NAMA): www.nammyco.org

Wall Street Journal Recipe

Total Time: 30 minutes Serves: 4

Salisbury Steak with Mushroom Gravy

- 3 tablespoons butter
- $\frac{2}{3}$ cup minced onion
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ garlic cloves, minced
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 2 tablespoons whole milk, warm
- 1 slice white bread, torn into bite-size pieces
- 1 egg, beaten
- Pinch of ground nutmeg
- $\frac{3}{4}$ pound ground beef
- $\frac{3}{4}$ pound ground veal
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ tablespoons finely chopped parsley, plus extra to garnish
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- $2\frac{1}{2}$ cups roughly chopped button mushrooms, plus 3 button mushrooms, shaved
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups chicken stock
- $\frac{1}{2}$ tablespoon chopped thyme
- $\frac{2}{3}$ teaspoon cider vinegar
- 3 tablespoons heavy cream

1. Make Salisbury steaks: Melt 1 tablespoon butter in a large sauté pan over medium heat. Add half the minced onions and a third of the minced garlic. Cook until onions are soft, about 3 minutes. Remove from heat, season with salt and let cool.



2. In a mixing bowl, pour milk over torn bread. Stir in egg, nutmeg and a pinch each of salt and pepper. Let sit until bread breaks down. Add ground meats, sautéed onions, raw onions and parsley to bowl. Mix to make a uniform paste.
3. Form meat into 4 oval patties. Heat 2 tablespoons oil in a large sauté pan over medium heat. Cook patties until golden brown on both sides and cooked to medium, about 6 minutes total. Transfer to a plate and keep warm. Clean pan.
4. Make mushroom gravy: Heat 1 tablespoon oil in large sauté pan over medium heat. Add chopped mushrooms and sear until browned all over, about 5 minutes. Transfer mushrooms to a plate and wipe pan clean.
5. Set pan back over medium heat and melt butter. Add flour and cook, stirring constantly, until roux is golden brown. While stirring, add stock, remaining garlic, thyme, vinegar and heavy cream. Season with salt and pepper. Bring to a boil. Simmer, whisking, until gravy is thick, dark and lump-free, 2-3 minutes. Stir in sautéed mushrooms.
6. Ladle half of gravy onto 4 plates. Top with steaks and remaining gravy. Garnish with shaved mushrooms and parsley.

2016 Photo Contest UPDATE

NEW PROVISION FOR 2016 PHOTO CONTEST

Beginning this year, WPMC has added the following "Use and Copyright" provision to the rules for our annual photo contest. This will apply to all entries:

WPMC may use your photographs on our website, newsletter and Mushroom Catalog. When we do, they will always be accompanied by your name as photographer (mentioned on the same page or caption of the image). WPMC will not allow the use of your photographs on other websites, although realistically we cannot prevent this. We will not sell or provide the images to others without your permission, and the images remain the property and under the copyright of you the photographer and are used under license by the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

- Deadline: September 30, 2016
- Maximum of 5 entries per WPMC member
- Submit high resolution JPEG files up to 4 megabytes
- Email entries to RMiller.fungi@gmail.com

WPMC PHOTO CONTEST RULES:

You must be a member of the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club in good standing to enter.

ENTRY DIVISIONS:





PICTORIAL: This division is for single photos that illustrate the beauty and variety of fungi in form and color.

DOCUMENTARY: For single photographs especially suited as illustrations in a field guide or monograph, or for use in a lecture.

JUDGE'S OPTION: For photos which do not fit into the pictorial or documentary divisions.

Here is the solution to our Mycophile's Challenge from the May/June newsletter.

¹Peck
²Yellow
³Chick
⁴Chanterelle
⁵Dryads Saddle
⁶Chanterelle
⁷Destroying
⁸Jack O Lantern
⁹Gyromitra
¹⁰Parrot
¹¹Parrot
¹²Lion's mane
¹³Porcini
¹⁴Frostiic
¹⁵Pheretima
¹⁶Sarcophaga
¹⁷Amadou
¹⁸Tartar
¹⁹Amadou
²⁰Parasitic
²¹Amantia Muscaria
²²Parasitic
²³Season
²⁴Volp
²⁵Luff
²⁶Swed
²⁷Venise
²⁸Alibi
²⁹Swed
³⁰Rhizomorphs
³¹Witch's Butter
³²Dead Man's Fingers
³³Mushroom
³⁴Artist's Conk
³⁵Symbiotic
³⁶Forage
³⁷Reishi
³⁸Forage
³⁹Reishi
⁴⁰Sporok
⁴¹Sporok
⁴²Trichaptum Biforme
⁴³Dandelion
⁴⁴Meadow
⁴⁵Dandelion
⁴⁶Hen of the Woods
⁴⁷Lichen



16TH ANNUAL GARY LINCOFF MUSHROOM FORAY SEPT. 24, 2016 • ROSE BARN • NORTH PARK

FEATURING:

Mycologist Gary Lincoff, author of the *Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Mushrooms*. Gary, Past-president of the North American Mycological Association (NAMA), is the nation's best-known mushroom expert. He is a charismatic and entertaining speaker and makes learning about mushrooms fun and interesting. His end-of-the-day table-walk discussions are not to be missed. This year we are delighted that **Author Nik Money** will join us as our guest mycologist and speaker. **Chef George Harris**, who specializes in cooking wild mushrooms and wild game, will do a cooking demonstration and Mushroom Club cooks will prepare a mushroom feast with dozens of unique mushroom dishes to delight your taste buds.

Rose Barn in Allegheny County North Park, Pearce Mill Road, Allison Park, PA 15101
Saturday, September 24 – Foray includes light lunch & mushroom feast.

Indicate the number of persons for each item selected. All fees per person. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!

_____ \$35 WPMC member _____ \$55 Non-members (includes admission & 2016-17 WPMC Membership)
_____ \$15 Students (with ID) & children 11 to 18. Children 10 & under free.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

Name(s) _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone 1 _____ Phone 2 _____

E-mail (**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**) _____

REGISTER & PAY ONLINE: www.wpamushroomclub.org/lincoff-foray/

REGISTER & PAY BY CHECK (payable to Western PA Mushroom Club):

WPMC C/O Barbara DeRiso • 204 Woodcock Dr. • Pittsburgh PA 15215

FOR MORE INFO: Barbara DeRiso, Foray Chair: 412-252-2594 / Lincoff-Foray@wpamushroomclub.org

Registration & Release: signed & dated release form is an absolute requirement for attendance.

Knowing the risks, I (we) agree to assume the risks, and agree to release, hold harmless, and to indemnify the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club, and any of its officers or members, from any and all legal responsibility for injuries or accidents incurred by myself or my family during, or as a result of, any mushroom identification, field trip, excursion, meeting or dining sponsored by the club.

Signature (if participant is under age 18, signature of parent or guardian)

Please print name CLEARLY: (INCLUDE NAMES OF CHILDREN UNDER TEN)

1 _____ 1 _____

2 _____ 2 _____

3 _____ 3 _____

4 _____ 4 _____

FOR ADDITIONAL NAMES / SIGNATURES, PLEASE INCLUDE AN EXTRA PAGE



WPMC MEMBERSHIP FORM

2016

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 • Discount for WPMC forays

Name (s) _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone 1 _____ Phone 2 _____

E-mail (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY) _____

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.

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: membership@wpamushroomclub.org
or visit www.wpamushroomclub.org/about/join/ to pay using a credit card.

Please indicate your newsletter/event announcement preference: Electronic via e-mail Hardcopy via US mail (\$5 additional)

Annual dues: \$15 Individual \$20 Family \$10 Full-time Student Amount enclosed: \$ _____

NOTE: Please add \$5.00 surcharge for hard-copy newsletters to dues amount.

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 _____ |

WPMC Meetings

Meetings are held at 7 pm on the 3rd Tuesday each month from March through November at Beechwood Farms • Audubon Society of Western PA 614 Dorseyville Road • Pittsburgh, PA 15238

WPMC Newsletter

The newsletter of the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club is published five times a year: March/April, May/June, July/August, September/October, and November/December. Articles, photos, news items and other submissions should be sent to the Editor at least 6-8 weeks prior to targeted distribution. 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 only be used in other non-profit publications with expressed permission and with appropriate acknowledgements.

NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION:

Cecily Franklin, Editor • Martha Wasik Graphic Arts Inc.

Send submissions to: cs4wpmc@gmail.com

Membership

Jim Wasik, Membership Chair

I want to thank all of the 490 members from 262 households who have joined or renewed their memberships with WPMC. The average of almost two members per household shows that WPMC is a very family-oriented organization promoting mycology.

Just a reminder, if you move, change your e-mail address or phone number, please let me know. It is the only way for WPMC to continue to send newsletters or contact you.

Thanks again for your continued interest in mushrooming in Western Pennsylvania.

membership@wpamushroomclub.org or mail to:

**WPMC Membership c/o Jim Wasik
70 Woodland Farms Rd • Pittsburgh PA 15238-2020**

Check our website for a complete list of the year's events.

WPMC Yahoo Groups:

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

**NORTH AMERICAN MYCOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION (NAMA):
www.namyco.org**

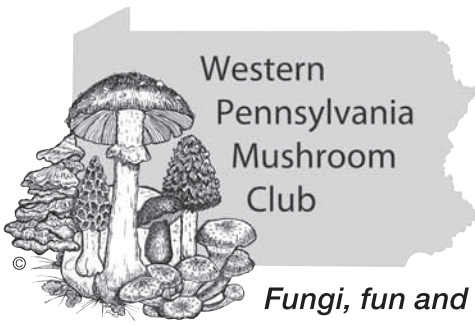
Do you have mushrooming photos to share? Send photos along with a caption to: cs4wpmc@gmail.com

WPMC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

| | |
|---|---|
| PRESIDENT 215 Highland Rd 215-888-5503 | Richard Jacob Blawnox, PA 15238-2136 president@wpamushroomclub.org |
| VICE-PRESIDENT 216 Farmington Road 412-781-6581 | Cecily Franklin Pittsburgh PA 15215 cs4wpmc@gmail.com |
| RECORDING SECRETARY 137 Hickory Drive 724-251-9662 | Fluff Berger Sewickley PA 15143-8212 wfbberger@comcast.net |
| CORRESPONDING SECRETARY 3104 Mary St - Apt B 412-480-1423 | Adam Haritan Pittsburgh, PA 15203 adamharitan@gmail.com |
| TREASURER 204 Woodcock Dr. 412-252-2594 | Barbara DeRiso Pittsburgh PA 15215-1546 barbaraderiso@gmail.com |

WPMC COMMITTEE CHAIRS

| | |
|--|--|
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| CULTIVATION 412-441-3958 | Jim Tunney aminitam@hotmail.com |
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| WEBMASTER 215-888-5503 | Richard Jacob president@wpamushroomclub.org |
| YAHOO GROUPS MODERATOR 724-494-1468 | Mary Jo Smiley cmtpt@zbzoom.net |



Western
Pennsylvania
Mushroom
Club

202 Wadsworth Drive
Glenshaw, PA 15116

Fungi, fun and friends!

NEVER EAT AN UNIDENTIFIED MUSHROOM

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

<https://www.facebook.com/WPAMC>



2016 Meeting Schedule



Photo by Richard Jacob

July 19 Foraging for Wild Plants & Mushrooms with Adam Haritan

Delicious, nutritious, and free food — yes, it's as local as your very own backyard! Join WPMC Officer Adam Haritan from LearnYourLand.com and ForagingPittsburgh.com for a presentation that will cover key wild edible plant and mushroom species of Western Pennsylvania. Topics will include nutritional benefits, harvesting methods, drying and storing methods, medicine making, benefits and rewards of the forager's lifestyle, and much more.

August 16 Mushrooms & The Law with Ryan Hamilton

Ryan Hamilton, Resident Attorney for Fair Shake Environmental Legal Services, will discuss the legal aspects of mushroom picking in Pennsylvania.

Sept 20 Cooking Demonstration

Oct 18 Photo Contest Winners & Election of Officers

Nov 15 Pot Luck Dinner & Member Photos

Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month from March through November at Beechwood Farms (Audubon Society of Western PA), 614 Dorseyville Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238.