



# Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club Newsletter

Fungi, Fun & Friends!

VOLUME 22, ISSUE 3

JULY / AUGUST 2022



## President's Message

STEPHEN BUCKLIN

AT LAST, summer is here! Dry weather through much of June made finding mushrooms a little more challenging than usual, but the occasional rains were more than enough to bring out an incredible diversity of slime molds. These tiny fungus-like protists are quite a sight to behold through a hand lens, and easily made up for the lack of large mushroom fruitbodies.

Over the past few months, we've had great turnout at club events. Over 130 people came to our May cultivation meeting, the first meeting to be held at the Frick Environmental Center. The event was a huge success, thanks in large part to the many volunteers it takes to organize and run our cultivation activities. Many folks came

out to Powdermill Nature Reserve and the Phipps BioBlitz the first weekend of June for all-day events that celebrated fungi and the wealth of biodiversity we have here in Western Pennsylvania, and several other club walks had great attendance despite the heat and dry conditions.

At our June meeting, **Sigrid Jacob** of the New York Mycological Society highlighted the efforts our club has made to thoroughly document the species of our region. Her slides detailed how many of our members contribute high quality data that will be invaluable as fungi continue to be seen as a vital part of our ecosystem in need of proper study and conservation.

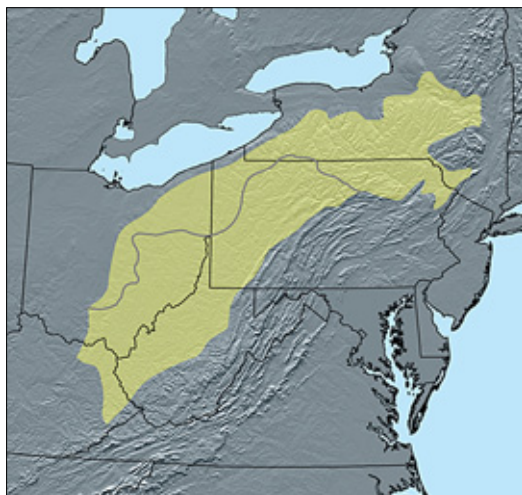
As summer progresses, the potential for thunderstorms and soaking rain increases. July is usually when we get the most thunderstorms. Will the skies deliver enough rain for abundant fruitings of chanterelles and black trumpets? Join us for a walk sometime to find out! We'll be hosting walks in several counties throughout the western half of the state and can't wait to see you there!

## 2022 Meeting Schedule

WPMC MEETINGS ARE HELD on the third Tuesday evening of each month from March through November at the Frick Environmental Center. Each meeting features updates on club activities, a speaker/presentation, mushroom identification table, and mushroom-related merchandise for sale. Meetings are free and open to the public.

### July 19 Deoxyribonucleic Acid & Me WPMC Mycologist Garrett Taylor

Join WPMC Mycologist **Garrett Taylor** for an update on his progress towards his goal of knowing all Fungi in eastern North America. He's trying his best anyway—vouchering them, taking their photos, and sequencing their DNA barcodes.



Map of the Allegheny Plateau. The gray line differentiates the glaciated (northern) and unglaciated (southern) sections of the plateau. Source: Wikipedia

For the past four years, Garrett has been uncovering rare and unusual mushrooms (so he thinks), steadily accumulating and publishing novel sequences on GenBank, and miserably failing to recognize some very common species, although none of them are pictured in any of his field guides.

Most of his work takes place in beautiful, remote, and underserved places, like most of Appalachia. It has thus far almost entirely been in the unglaciated Allegheny Plateau, which includes Pittsburgh.

### August 16 Zombies! Entomopathogenic fungi WPMC Mycologist Cara Coulter

Join WPMC Mycologist **Cara Coulter** as she explains the intricate complexities of these strange fungi. Do they spell our doom, or can they offer a path to saving our future?



Meeting schedule continued on page 8





## WPMC President Explains Lichens on WTAE-TV

IN MAY, WPMC President **Stephen Bucklin** appeared on WTAE Channel 4 Action News for the “Ask Kelly” segment. A viewer had submitted a photo of lichens on a tree and asked, “What is this light green fungus or mold... Is it harmful to trees?” WTAE Anchor Kelly Sasso interviewed Stephen to get the answers. To watch the entire segment, go to this link:

<https://fb.watch/cZ6zgfxv38/>

## WPMC Logo Merchandise Available from Spreadshirt

SHOW YOUR WPMC pride with official club merchandise from spreadshirt. The WPMC logo appears on more than 50 products, including clothing, aprons, mugs, hats, totebags, and more! Order your favorite colors and sizes. Lots of different styles to choose from, so start your shopping now at this link:

<https://western-pa-mushroom-club.myspreadshop.com/>

One design, many products

Browse 23 products with this design

Browse 31 products with this design

## The New Bolete Filter App

By Scott Pavele

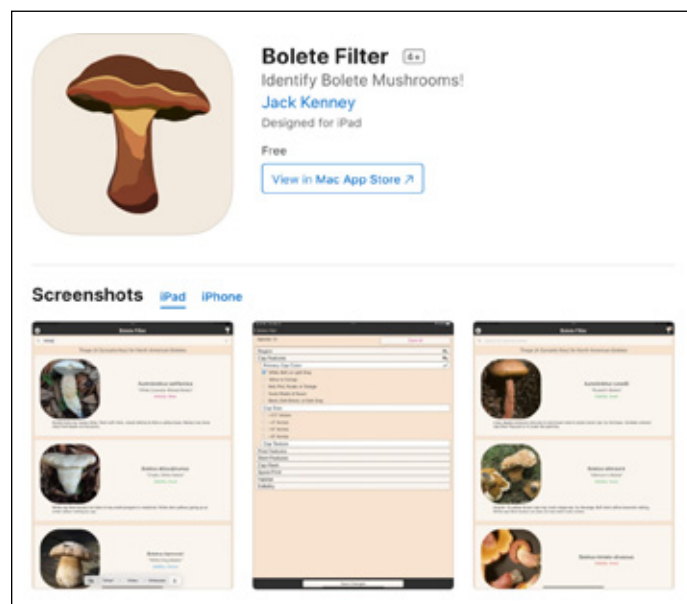
THE BOLETE FILTER APP has arrived! Look it up in your app store and go to town.

This initial version is free (with ads), and it will work perfectly if you are connected to the Internet. If you're in the woods with no signal, the filter part will still work but you won't have access to the photos.

Please let us know of any suggestions you may have through the “Contact Us” tab. The ad-free version that people could buy should follow soon. That will include photos to be used offline and will hopefully have a memory saving one-photo-per-species option as well.

You can also find the Bolete Filter App through this link:

<https://boletefilter.github.io/>



## Increase Your Knowledge and Earn a Button!

WPMC'S ID BUTTON PROGRAM offers members a fun way to increase their knowledge of mushroom species. To learn more about the ID Button program and how to submit your list of known mushrooms, go to:

<http://wpamushroomclub.org/about/button-id-program/>





# Out & About with WPMC – *In Person!*

## Mushroom Education Day

THIRTY PEOPLE REGISTERED for Mushroom Education Day on April 23 at the Ohio Township Nature Center in Sewickley. Morning topics included iNaturalist with WPMC Identifier **Julie Travaglini** and Morels with WPMC Mycologist **Cara Coulter**. In addition, **Esperanzo Wilcox** taught the basics of cultivation. Each attendee inoculated a grow bag with Wine Cap spawn and took home a pre-inoculated *Hericium* grow bag. During the afternoon mushroom walk, WPMC experts identified more than 20 known species and nearly a dozen new ones.



*Bird's eye view of Ohio Township Community Park.  
Photo by Dan Stockman II*



*Espo Wilcox taught a morning cultivation class. Photo by Cara Coulter*



*WPMC Identifiers Fluff Berger, Richard Jacob, and Julie Travaglini helped to identify mushrooms found in the afternoon. Photo by Cara Coulter*

## Annual Cultivation Meeting

MORE THAN 120 WPMC members received a mushroom kit at this year's Annual Cultivation Meeting on May 17 at the Frick Environmental Center in Squirrel Hill. Members also brought logs to be inoculated with shiitake spawn.



*(above) Dawn Wehman and Mike Henry with their logs.  
Photo by Heather Henry*



*(right) WPMC Hospitality Chair Carissa Mendez lugs a log.  
Photo by Alana Rykala Delaney*



*WPMC Mycologist John Plischke and Bolete Specialist Scott Pavelle prepare logs for inoculation. Photo by Carissa Mendez*





# GARY • LINCOFF • FORAY

## Registration Open for 22nd Annual Gary Lincoff Foray

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for the **22nd Annual Gary Lincoff Foray**. Here are the events we're planning for that weekend:

**Friday, September 23** – Pre-Foray Walk at Cook Forest State Park, with Park Ranger **Dale Luthringer**. There is no charge for this walk, but you will be responsible for your own transportation and lunch.

**Saturday, September 24** – 22nd Annual Gary Lincoff Foray at The Lodge in Allegheny County's North Park. Guest speakers will be Arleen and Alan Bessette and Stephen Russell. Activities will include:

- Guided Morning Walks
- Mushroom Display Tables
- Book-signing / Meet & Greet
- Auction, Sales Tables & Vendors
- Cooking Demonstration
- Mushroom Feast
- Table Walk
- **NEW:** Live Music!
- **NEW:** Mushroom Cultivation Activity Table

Use the form on page 11 or register online:  
<https://wpamushroomclub.org/lincoff-foray/>

## Guest Mycologists Offer a Wide Range of Topics

**STEPHEN RUSSELL** IS THE AUTHOR of *The Essential Guide to Cultivating Mushrooms* and founder of the Hoosier Mushroom Society. Stephen's topic will be "The Next Generation of DNA Research."

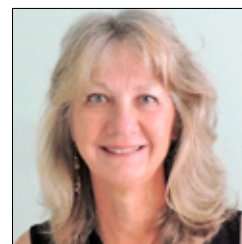
DNA research has given mushroom enthusiasts the means to uncover and document local biodiversity in unprecedented ways. The Hoosier Mushroom Society recently surpassed 10,000 DNA sequenced collections of macrofungi, as a part of their local biodiversity efforts. To date, most of these specimens were sequenced with a methodology that was developed in the late 1970's—Sanger Sequencing—which can be thought of as a "first-generation" technology. In 2014, a "third-generation" sequencing technology—nanopore sequencing—was commercialized and made available to the public. Only in recent years has the technology developed enough to be potentially useful for DNA barcoding of fungal specimens.

Stephen will discuss some of the advantages and disadvantages of using this technology, as well as its potential for local fungal biodiversity efforts.

**Editor's Note:** WPMC will have copies of Stephen Russell's book, *The Essential Guide to Cultivating Mushrooms*, available for sale at the Lincoff Foray on September 24.



Alan Bessette



Arleen Bessette

Guest mycologists for this year's 22nd Annual Gary Lincoff Foray on September 24 will also include **Alan and Arleen Bessette**.

**Alan Bessette** is a distinguished emeritus professor of biology at Utica College of Syracuse University. A professional mycologist, he has authored or coauthored more than twenty-five books. At the Lincoff Foray, Alan will help us with mushroom identification and will do a table talk at the end of the day. Arleen has authored or coauthored eighteen books. She will be giving a presentation on Polypores. Both Alan and Arleen will be available to sign their books at a "Meet & Greet" session in the afternoon.

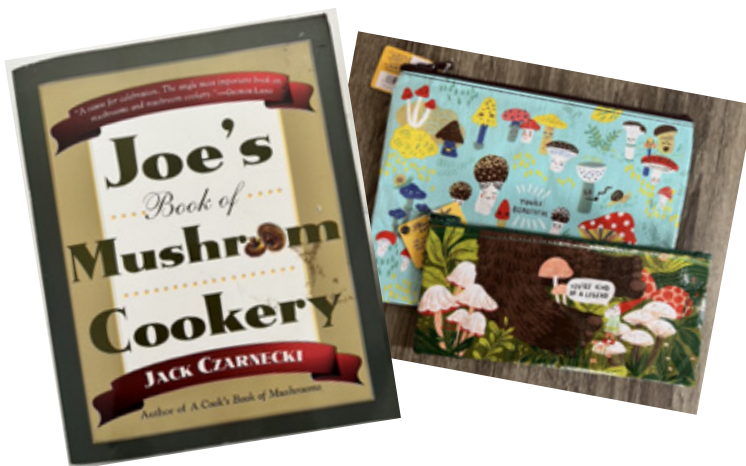
### Polypore Identification – Where To Begin

Guest Mycologist **Arleen Bessette** will present a basic step-by-step approach to polypore identification for those starting out. The presentation will include field observations, morphological variations, and at-home examination, as well as issues and factors that complicate the identification process. Arleen will conclude with a brief showcase of some common and lesser known polypores of Eastern and Central North America.

## Auction Donations

DONATIONS CONTINUE TO come in for the Auction/Raffle at this year's 22nd Annual Gary Lincoff Foray on Saturday, September 24. We even have a mushroom cookbook and fashion accessories! Has someone given you a mushroom T-shirt that you'll never wear, or a field guide that you already have? Then donate it to the auction!

If you would like to donate a mushroom-related item to this year's auction, or if you would like to help out with the auction at the Foray, email Past President **Cecily Franklin** at [cs4wpmc@gmail.com](mailto:cs4wpmc@gmail.com).



## More Books by the Bessettes

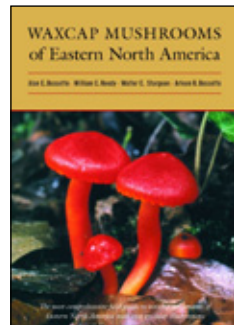
### Ascomycete Fungi of North America

*Ascomycetes* exhibit a remarkable range of biodiversity, are beautiful and visually complex, and some—including morels and truffles—are highly prized for their edibility. *Ascomycete Fungi of North America* is a scientifically accurate work dedicated to this significant group of fungi. The authors focus on species found in the continental U.S. and Canada that are large enough to be readily noticeable to mycologists, naturalists, photographers, and mushroom hunters. The book includes 843 color photographs and more than 600 described species. While emphasizing macroscopic field identification characteristics for a general audience, the authors also include microscopic and other advanced information useful to students and professional mycologists. In addition, a color key to the species described in this book offers a visual guide to assist in the identification process.



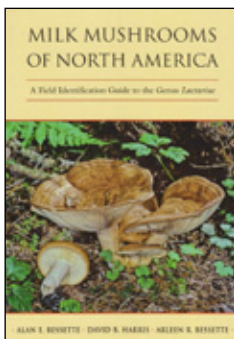
### Waxcap Mushrooms of Eastern North America

Members of the *Hygrophoraceae* family, commonly known as waxcaps, have long attracted the attention of mycologists and nature lovers. As a group, they are beautiful mushrooms. Those in the genus *Hygrocybe* are particularly colorful and eye-catching. Many waxcaps can be identified from field observations and macroscopic features of the fruiting bodies, further adding to their appeal for those lacking formal training in mycology. The geographical range in *Waxcap Mushrooms of Eastern North America* includes eastern Canada; the U.S. east of the Great Plains; and south to East Texas, the Gulf Coast, and Florida. With over 150 color illustrations and detailed descriptions, this book is an indispensable reference guide for waxcap identification.



### Milk Mushrooms of North America

This is a comprehensive field guide to the milk mushrooms of North America. Featuring over 150 species and varieties, this volume includes detailed descriptions and more than 250 rich color photographs. With accurate, detailed, and easy-to-follow descriptions, this book is ideally suited for both amateur mushroom enthusiasts and professional mycologists. In addition to the descriptions and illustrations, it includes sections devoted to the features and process of identification, the ecology of milk mushrooms, and the edibility of members of the genus *Lactarius*.



**Editor's Note:** We encourage WPMC members to purchase books by the Bessettes and bring them to the Lincoff Foray on September 24 to be autographed by the authors. If you buy books on Amazon, be sure to use AmazonSmile, which will benefit WPMC. See page 10 for details.

## WPMC Lincoff Foray Cooks Needed

By Mike Henry

ATTENTION, FELLOW MUSHROOM LOVERS: If you are planning to attend this year's Lincoff Foray, and you love to cook your favorite food (mushrooms!), now is a good time to think about bringing your signature mushroom dish to the Foray. You don't need to cook for 100 people – just 10 to 15.

Summertime is the perfect time to think about what to bring, while so many delicious mushrooms are still widely available. If you plan on bringing a dish containing wild-foraged mushrooms, you will need to first get them approved by a club Identifier or Mycologist. It is also OK to use mushrooms that you have bought at the store. In fact, your dish does not need to contain mushrooms at all! Some club members are allergic or sensitive to mushrooms and will need an alternative meal choice.

Please contact **Mike Henry** if you are interested in bringing a dish or volunteering for other kitchen duties at ForayFood@wpamushroomclub.org



## Other Volunteers Needed, Too!

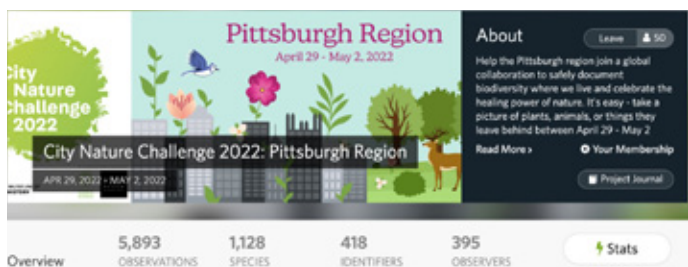
By Jared Delaney

WE HAVE MANY other volunteer opportunities that will not compromise more than a couple of hours of your time. We need help with setting up tables and chairs on Friday and taking them down on Sunday. We need runners for the day of the event to help with the mushroom ID tables, in the kitchen, or to help with the auction. If you can donate a specified two hours at any point during the event, we can find something for you to do.

As a sign of appreciation, this year we will be offering rebates to those who volunteer their time at the event in some way. If you are interested in volunteering, please e-mail Lincoff-Foray@wpamushroomclub.org for more details. We appreciate your support!







## City Nature Challenge Results

By Julie Travaglini

SINCE 2016, THE City Nature Challenge (CNC) has helped everyday community scientists (like us!) learn about the biodiversity that surrounds us. Occurring the last weekend in April, the CNC promotes exploration of local parks and greenspaces, in order to document the most biodiversity we can. It started as a fun challenge between science communication teams at museums in LA and San Francisco and has turned into a four-day Bioblitz, with more than 250 cities competing worldwide, making more than 1 million observations on iNaturalist.

The CNC Pittsburgh Region includes six counties: Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Washington, and Westmoreland. The Pittsburgh Region competes nobly against much larger cities, such as Sydney, Capetown, San Francisco, Mexico City, and even Philadelphia. While we may not be on top of the leaderboards for number of species or participants, we certainly play a key role in overall biodiversity represented.

WPMC plays an important role every year in the Pittsburgh Region's CNC. Worldwide, the most commonly observed species is a Mallard. Wildflowers, trees, and other birds are the most commonly uploaded and identified species around the world, due to their abundance and showiness. Fungi, lichen, and slime molds tend to be documented less frequently, mainly because they are less likely to be identified, are harder to ID in the field, and can be slightly more reclusive and weather dependent.

For the 2022 CNC, the Pittsburgh Region tallied 5,893 observations of 1,128 species! 123 of these species were fungal, representing 11% of the overall documented species. Globally, fungi represented only 3% of the CNC's observations. Our much higher than average fungal observations can be attributed to our awesome members and identifiers that were out every day of the Challenge, making sure our fungal friends were well represented!

Be on the lookout for the announcement of the 2023 City Nature Challenge, so that we can keep fungi in the forefront!

## Mushroom Risotto Made Easy

By Mike Henry

FOR EVERYONE WHO went to the WPMC cultivation meeting on May 17th and brought home a bag of Oyster mushroom spawn (or anyone who is growing or foraging for Oyster mushrooms and has been blessed with a large number of them) and is asking the question: "What can I do with all of these wonderful mushrooms?" Here is one good thing to do with them: Mushroom and Spinach Risotto.

Technically, you could use a wide variety of mushrooms in this dish (I have also used Hen of the Woods and Shiitake, and they were both excellent). You could also spend 45 minutes standing by the stove and stirring your risotto until the rice is just perfect, but this is not that kind of recipe. For everyone who likes to cook things quickly and with less effort, and has an Instant Pot®, you can make your own risotto with far less effort. The only stirring that you'll need to do with this recipe is stirring in the spinach and butter at the end. If this sounds like your kind of recipe, *then read on!*

**Let's start with the mushrooms:** The recipe calls for 8 ounces of Cremini mushrooms. For all of my recipes, I like to say: "This is your dish, so be creative and make it the way that you like it!" Only you know the tastes of your audience, so if you want to use Chanterelles instead of Creminis or Oysters, then go for it! I love to hear from people who have gone a totally different direction with one of my recipes and have made something amazing.

I also use homemade mushroom broth for the recipe instead of chicken or vegetable broth which is called for in the original recipe. This takes the dish to the next level, in my humble opinion. I will share my broth recipe with you in a later issue.

Here is the recipe. It can be doubled in the Instant Pot® without sacrificing texture or palatability.

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/3 cup chopped shallots
- 8 ounces of the mushroom of your choice
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon crushed red pepper (or to taste)
- 2 cloves garlic, minced (or to taste)
- 2 cups broth of your choice
- 1 cup arborio rice
- 1/4 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 2 cups baby spinach (can be doubled if you love spinach)
- 1/3 cup freshly grated parmesan cheese



Adapted from the official Instant Pot® *Instant Pot Miracle* cookbook.

- Select sauté on the Instant Pot® and adjust to normal. Add oil to pot. When oil is hot, add shallots and cook for two minutes to soften, stirring occasionally.
- Add mushrooms, salt, and crushed red pepper; cook for four minutes or until mushrooms are tender, stirring frequently.
- Add garlic; cook and stir for one minute more.
- Press cancel. Add broth, rice, and thyme. Secure the lid on the pot. Close the pressure-release valve.
- Select manual and cook at high pressure for six minutes. When cooking is complete, use a quick release to depressurize.
- Add butter and spinach to rice mixture; stir to wilt spinach. Stir in parmesan cheese (if desired).

**NEVER EAT AN UNIDENTIFIED MUSHROOM!**



Day and time for walks vary. Please read carefully for any registration requirements or fees. Check the website at [www.wpamushroomclub.org/events](http://www.wpamushroomclub.org/events) for updates, directions, and much more!

If you would like to lead a walk, or if you know a great walk location, please email WPMC Mycologist **CARA COULTER** at [vice-president@wpamushroomclub.org](mailto:vice-president@wpamushroomclub.org).



## WPMC Walks

### Sunday, July 3, 10:00 a.m.

Wintergreen Gorge, Erie County, 3399 Cooper Rd, Erie, PA 16510

Meet WPMC President **Stephen Bucklin** at the Cooper Road parking lot for a mushroom walk through Wintergreen Gorge.

### Wednesday, July 6, 5:30-7:30 p.m. - **SOLD OUT** -

Linbrook Woodlands with Allegheny Land Trust

### Saturday, July 9, 10:00 a.m.

Linn Run State Park, Westmoreland County

Meet WPMC Identifier **Richard Jacob** at the Grove Run picnic area.

### Saturday, July 30, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. - **SOLD OUT** -

Sycamore Island with Allegheny Land Trust

### Friday, August 12, 1:00-3:00 p.m. - **SOLD OUT** -

Mushroom Hike at Bethel Green with Allegheny Land Trust

### Saturday, August 13, 10:00 a.m. to noon

Boyce Mayview Park (Upper St. Clair) with Venture Outdoors

Meet WPMC Identifier **Julie Travaglini** at the Boyce Mayview Park Parking Lot for a beginner friendly mushroom walk and ID table at Boyce Mayview Park. With a wide variety of habitats within the park, we should be able to find a nice variety of summer mushrooms. (Hope for rain the week of the walk!) We will focus on general mushroom ecology as well as common names and identifying features, not edibility or foraging. \$5 fee; pre-register here:

<https://www.ventureoutdoors.org/activity/beginners-mushroom-hike/>

### Friday, September 16, 10:00 a.m. to noon

Audubon Greenway (Sewickley) with Allegheny Land Trust

Join ALT Senior Director and WPMC Identifier **Julie Travaglini** for a mushroom hike and ID table at Audubon Greenway. Hike runs rain or shine. We will not be foraging for food on this hike. Registration is required; no walk-ins will be permitted. Fee: \$5 for ages 3 through adult; free for children under 2. To reserve your place, register here:

<https://alleghenylandtrust.org/event/mushroom-id-hike-with-wpmc/>

### Friday, September 23 at 10:00 a.m.

Pre-Foray Walk at Cook Forest, Clarion County

Meet WPMC experts and Park Ranger **Dale Luthringer** at Shelter 2. There is no charge for this walk, but you will be responsible for your own transportation and lunch.

### Saturday, October 15 at 10:00 a.m.

Townsend Park, Murrys ville (Westmoreland County)

Meet WPMC Identifier **Richard Jacob** and Friends of Murrys ville Parks at the upper pavilion.

### Friday, October 28, 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Dead Man's Hollow (McKeesport) with Allegheny Land Trust

Meet at the Boston Ballfield. NOTE: It's about a .35 mile walk along the Great Allegheny Passage to enter the ruins of the Hollow to look for fungi. Join ALT Senior Director and WPMC Identifier **Julie Travaglini** for a mushroom hike and ID table. This slightly spooky hike will include the haunted history of Dead Man's Hollow. Hike runs rain or shine. We will not be foraging for food on this hike. Registration is required; no walk-ins will be permitted. Fee: \$5 for ages 3 through adult; free for children under 2. To reserve your place, register here:

<https://alleghenylandtrust.org/event/a-slightly-spooky-mushroom-id-hike/>

### Friday, November 25 at 10:00 a.m.

Black Friday Walk at Hartwood Acres

Meet WPMC Identifier **Richard Jacob** at the Mansion parking lot for our annual Black Friday mushroom walk.

## Other Walks, Forays & Events

### July 16-17

Ohio Mushroom Society Summer Foray  
Zaleski ODNR Complex in Vinton County  
<https://ohiomushroomsociety.wordpress.com/events/>

### July 29-31

WV Mushroom Club Annual Foray, Davis, WV  
<https://www.wvmushroomclub.net/>

### September 2-4

COMA Clark Rogerson Foray, Hebron, CT  
<https://www.comafungi.org/special-events/clark-rogerson-foray/>

### September 2, 3:00 p.m.

Mycological Association of Washington, DC  
Weekend Foray at Sequanota, Boswell, PA  
<https://mawdc.org/>

### September 15-18

WMS/NAMA 2022 Northwoods Regional Foray  
Cable, Wisconsin  
[https://mms.namyo.org/members/evr/reg\\_event.php?orgcode=NAMA&evid=30115869](https://mms.namyo.org/members/evr/reg_event.php?orgcode=NAMA&evid=30115869)

### September 16 - 19

NEMF Foray, Joliette, Quebec  
<https://www.mycmontreal.qc.ca/fr/>

### September 24

22nd Annual WPMC Gary Lincoff Foray  
The Lodge at North Park  
See page 4 for more information.  
<https://wpamushroomclub.org/lincoff-foray/>

*continued on page 8*

**NEVER EAT AN UNIDENTIFIED MUSHROOM!**



PLEASE CHECK WEBSITE FOR UPDATES. [WWW.WPAMUSHROOMCLUB.ORG](http://WWW.WPAMUSHROOMCLUB.ORG) — 7

### September 29-October 2

North American Mycological Association (NAMA) Annual Foray  
Trout Lodge, Potosi, Missouri  
[https://mms.namyco.org/members/evr/reg\\_event.php?orgcode=NAMA&evid=30115869](https://mms.namyco.org/members/evr/reg_event.php?orgcode=NAMA&evid=30115869)

### October 15-16

Ohio Mushroom Society Fall Foray, Stark County  
<https://ohiomushroomsociety.wordpress.com/events/>

## WPMC Scholarships & Grants


WPMC ADMINISTERS AN annual Scholarship/Grant program to promote wild mushrooming by providing monetary support for educational events, projects, research, or mycological studies by individuals or institutions. Application forms are available on our website and must be sponsored by a WPMC member. For more information or to register: [CLICK HERE](#)

## Field Data Slips are Now Free

FIELD DATA SLIPS ARE available once again on the FunDiS website, but this time for free! A refreshed design helps community scientists everywhere document fungal biodiversity and collect specimens. Download and print them for all of your local projects or field work needs. If you have Adobe Acrobat, you can even print these PDFs with randomly generated temporary ID numbers to help you stay organized before you get a chance to add the iNaturalist or Mushroom Observer ID numbers.

Download and print Field Data Slips from this link:

<https://fundis.org/sequence/collect-dry/field-data-slips>

FIELD DATA SLIP	
	<b>iNat# or MO#</b> <small>Permanent # (for sequencing &amp; vouchering)</small>
<b>#</b> <small>Temporary # for associating photo &amp; specimen at home</small>	<b>Species</b>
Date	<b>Photo Checklist</b>
State	<input type="checkbox"/> top
County	<input type="checkbox"/> underside
Foray ID	<input type="checkbox"/> habitat
Collected By	<input type="checkbox"/> photo of specimen with field slip for # and scale
ID By	<input type="checkbox"/> nearby trees/plants (photograph leaf(s) on ground)
<b>#</b> <small>Temporary # for dryer (use permanent # if available)</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> stem (stipe)
	<input type="checkbox"/> base
	<input type="checkbox"/> stain/bruising
	<input type="checkbox"/> ooze/milk (record any color change)
	<b>Additional Descriptions</b>
	Landowner permission <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
	spore color
	habit (circle) single, few, many
	substrate (circle) On wood: conifer, hardwood; living, dead; On soil: Leaf litter, Moss; Needle cuff; Grass; Dung; Other
	odor
	other

## WPMC Meeting Schedule: (continued)

September 20	To Be Announced
October 18	Photo Contest Winners & Election of Officers
November 15	Annual WPMC Awards & Cooking Demo

## 2022 Photo Contest

WPMC'S ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST has historically included slime molds along with mushrooms, but not Lichens—until now! Lichens have been added to the list of permitted organisms.

Once again, WPMC Identifier **Sara Klingensmith** will judge members' photos for our annual Photo Contest. In addition to the traditional categories (Documentary, Pictorial and Judge's Option), Sara has added a new category called "Mushrooms in Art" to showcase the artistic talents of WPMC members.

The new division is for single photos featuring original artwork that depicts fungi. Art entries must be family-friendly and fit one of three criteria:

- 2-D drawings and paintings: charcoal/pencil, watercolor, acrylic, oil, pastel, ink, etc.
- 2-D mosaics or mushroom-themed arrangements. The view should be captured in one photo.
- Non-Animated Digital Art: photo manipulation, digital illustrations, and collages.

Judging will be based on the clarity of the image, as well as the creativity reflected in the artwork.

Here are the Photo Contest rules for this year:

- Deadline for Submissions: September 30, 2022
- Maximum of 5 Entries per WPMC member
- Submit high resolution JPEG files
- Rename images before submitting, using name and subject, e.g., "Joe Smith morel.jpg"
- Email entries to Sara Klingensmith at: [pamushroomclubphotos@gmail.com](mailto:pamushroomclubphotos@gmail.com).
- Indicate in your email the desired category for each photo.



WPMC Identifier **Barbora Batokova** sets up a shot at Beaver Meadows. Photo by **Cara Coulter**





## CLUB MYCOLOGISTS

Cara Coulter vice-president@wpamushroomclub.org	412-445-1078
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John Plischke III fungi01@aol.com	724-331-1974
Garrett Taylor taygamu@gmail.com	716-307-0758
Jim Tunney aminitam@hotmail.com	412-441-3958
La Monte Yarroll piggy@wpamushroomclub.org	412-854-5684

## IDENTIFIERS

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## 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
- ☐ Insect repellent
- ☐ Basket for collecting
- ☐ Knife for cutting mushrooms
- ☐ Wax or paper bags (no plastic) to keep mushrooms separated
- ☐ Whistle
- ☐ Compass
- ☐ Hand lens
- ☐ Cell phone & camera
- ☐ Notebook & pencil
- ☐ Field guide for identification
- ☐ Band-aids
- ☐ Garden hand-clippers

**NOTE: The Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club does not endorse or support the commercial harvesting of wild mushrooms from any state, county or city park. WPMC does promote the gathering of mushrooms—where permitted—for recreational, educational and scientific purposes.**



## Choose WPMC on AmazonSmile

WPMC HAS REGISTERED with AmazonSmile, so that Amazon purchases can benefit WPMC. Whenever you shop at Amazon, just designate the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club as your charity, and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to WPMC. "Same products, same prices, same service." It's easy to get started with this link: [▶ CLICK HERE](#)



## Extra Donations Help Fund WPMC Projects

LOOKING FOR A WAY to support WPMC beyond paying your annual dues? Make a donation anytime; it's tax-deductible (if you itemize deductions) because WPMC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations may be made in honor or in memory of a loved one. Your employer may even match your contribution. Make checks payable to Western Pa. Mushroom Club and submit them to our Treasurer, **Jared Delaney**.

## WPMC Membership Report

by Kris Murawski

WE ARE ABOUT halfway through 2022. The club now has 828 members from 445 households. Thank you to everyone for renewing your membership or becoming a new member in 2022, as these dues are vital to keep the club running. They contribute to over 40% of WPMC's income every year.

If you need to renew your membership or would like to become a member, please go to <https://wpamushroomclub.org/about/join/> and fill out the form.

Benefits of WPMC membership include Bi-Monthly WPMC Newsletter • Monthly Meeting Notices • Updates on Mushroom Walks & WPMC Events • Free 'Grow-Your-Own' Mushroom Kit • Mushroom Identification at Meetings • Mushroom Walks • Mushroom Education Day • Annual Photo Contest • WPMC Gary Lincoff Foray Discount • Access to WPMC Facebook Group

## 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.

**Cecily Franklin, Editor**

**Martha Wasik Graphic Arts Inc., Production**  
Send submissions to: [cs4wpmc@gmail.com](mailto:cs4wpmc@gmail.com)

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**NEVER EAT AN UNIDENTIFIED  
MUSHROOM!**







# 22<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL GARY LINCOFF MUSHROOM FORAY

## SEPTEMBER 24, 2022 – THE LODGE, NORTH PARK

### PLUS: Free Mushroom Walk Friday September 23 • Cook Forest

**THE 22ND ANNUAL GARY LINCOFF FORAY:** Featuring guest mycologists **ARLEEN** and **ALAN BESSETTE**, authors of more than 20 mushroom books; and **STEPHEN RUSSELL**, founder of the Hoosier Mushroom Society and author of *The Essential Guide to Cultivating Mushrooms*. With guided morning mushroom walks, cooking demonstration, book signing/ meet & greet with our guest mycologists, auction, sales, mushroom displays, live music, and a cultivation activity table!

The Foray will kick off on **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23**, with a FREE mushroom walk in the old-growth forest of Cook Forest State Park, Clarion County. This walk will be led by WPMC experts and **DALE LUTHRINGER**, Environmental Education Specialist with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 24 (ALL DAY):** Foray includes light lunch & mushroom feast. Registration required.  
The Lodge at North Park • North Ridge Drive • Allison Park, PA 15101

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 (10:00 A.M.):** Meet at Shelter 2, Cook Forest State Park, Clarion County. FREE (transportation and lunch not included).

**NOTE: WPMC will follow the CDC's COVID guidelines in effect on September 23-24.**

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

\_\_\_\_\_ \$50 WPMC member

\_\_\_\_\_ \$70 Non-members  
(includes 2022-23 Membership)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$30 Students (with ID) & kids 11 to 18  
(members or non-members) kids 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/](http://www.wpamushroomclub.org/lincoff-foray/)

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

WPMC c/o Kris Murawski • 5625 Villa Haven Drive • Pittsburgh, PA 15236

**FOR MORE INFO:** [Lincoff-Foray@wpamushroomclub.org](mailto: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



**PLEASE CHECK WEBSITE FOR UPDATES. [WWW.WPAMUSHROOMCLUB.ORG](http://WWW.WPAMUSHROOMCLUB.ORG) — 11**



# 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

**Benefits:** WPMC newsletter • Nine monthly WPMC meetings • Free participation in WPMC walks • Discount for WPMC forays

NEW MEMBERSHIP: ☐ RENEWAL: ☐

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 Kris Murawski, 5625 Villa Haven Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15236 • [membership@wpamushroomclub.org](mailto:membership@wpamushroomclub.org)

To pay using a credit card, visit: <http://wpamushroomclub.org/about/join/>

Please indicate your newsletter/event announcement preference: ☐ Electronic via e-mail ☐ Hardcopy via US mail (\$10 additional)

☐ \$15 Individual ☐ \$20 Family ☐ \$10 Full-time Student ☐ \$10 Newsletter Hardcopy Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_



# WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA MUSHROOM CLUB

• **SEPTEMBER 24, 2022** • **22<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL GARY LINGOFF MUSHROOM FORAY** •  
• **Featuring guest mycologists ARLEEN & ALAN BESSETTE** •  
• **THE LODGE IN NORTH PARK** • founder of the Hoosier Mushroom Society •



**PLUS: Free Mushroom Walk • Friday, September 23 • Cook Forest**

**WWW.WPAMUSHROOMCLUB.ORG**

Photos by: Josh Doty, Split Gill; Barbora Batokova, *Trametes versicolor* and *Amanita flavoconia*; Brianna Albert, *Amanita muscaria* and *Mycena leiaiana*