



# WESTERN PA



# MUSHROOM CLUB

Volume 4, Issue 2

Editor: Becky Plischke

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President: Dick Dougall

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Treas: George Gross

## THE THIRD ANNUAL GARY LINCOFF MID-ATLANTIC MUSHROOM FORAY BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER

**Gary Lincoff, the most famous mushroom expert in the world, will return on Sept. 20, 2003.**

Gary Lincoff, author of the National Audubon Society's Field Guide to North American Mushrooms, has hunted mushrooms all over the world. Last year the event sold out with 150 in attendance, making it one of the biggest U.S. mushroom club forays.



This year we expect it to sell out even earlier. Reservations are already going at a brisk pace. Don't

delay; fill out the enclosed reservation form and send it in today. This is a major event beginning at 7:30 in the morning and ending at 7:00 p.m. We will keep a similar format to last year's and add a few surprises. We expect to have a number of other mushroom experts to help us with the event.

**Our mushroom experts will identify scores of mushrooms for you to learn. You can bring mushrooms from home to be identified, and you can talk with and get tips from experts.**

Most of the mushrooms I have learned were learned from going to forays like this but I had to travel to Maine and other places in New England to learn them. Now we have a major foray right in our backyard.

**This year's event will be a one day or a three day foray, take your pick.** The event will be held at the Econolodge Motel, immediately south of the Route 8--Butler Valley exchange of the PA Turnpike. If you stay at the motel, lodging will be \$53.40 plus tax per night, 1-4 people. Rooms are large with 2 double beds. Make sure to mention the foray when you make your reservation.

**NEWS FLASH!!** Famous mycologist and author, **Bill Roody** is returning for this year's event.

Some of us will be chatting mushrooms at the bar at the motel on Friday evening. Sunday morning mushrooms will be on display until 10:45. We will have more room for mushroom sorting and display.

**Many say that the mushroom tasting is worth more than the price of the entire event.** You will find enclosed a registration form. If you wait, not only will the price be higher, but it will probably be sold out. **The cost is \$22 each if you register before July 10, \$50 for non-members.**

## CLUB TEE SHIRT

We are pleased to announce a club tee shirt is now available. You can now wear your WPMC tee shirt and let everyone know about our wonderful club. At the December meeting, members voted on 8 designs that were submitted. Most people felt it was too hard to decide; there were many excellent designs.

Get yours at a walk or meeting for only \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members.

## WILD MUSHROOM COOKBOOK Volume 2

We are still working on compiling Vol 2, but we need more recipes. Thank all of you who sent some in. Like everyone else, we are waiting for your addition to Vol. 2. Send in a recipe for something you have tried. We cannot use copywrited material. Send your recipes to Becky Plischke at [morelpb@aol.com](mailto:morelpb@aol.com) or mail to 129 Grant St, Greensburg, PA 15601.

## TAKE US FOR A WALK

If you want to lead a mushroom walk in your area, we would be glad to come. Find a place to have a walk and scout it out. If it is a park or nature area, make sure we are permitted to collect mushrooms there. Call our Walk & Foray Chairman, John Plischke III at 724-832-0271 or email [fungi01@aol.com](mailto:fungi01@aol.com) He will put the walk on our schedule. Club Identifiers will help with the identification.

# Artistic Spore Prints

By Dr. Samuel S.  
Ristich

*With help from a stray breeze or live-in insects, spore prints can amount to more than basic research*

Each year fungi produce astronomical quantities of spores for the perpetuation of the species. Only a small number of these spores survive. Spores are dispersed by various mechanisms, such as "jet propulsion" (*Pilobolus*, *Sphaerobolus*), by animals (*Russula*, *Tuber*), by wind (most species) and by gravity (most species).

Many amateur and professional mushroom hunters have devised methods for collecting spores from gilled and poroid fungi, utilizing the principle that spores respond to gravity. In the least complicated method, the mature fungus cap is placed on a piece of paper and the specimen is covered with an appropriate container. In one to four hours, the seeker is rewarded with a spore deposit of varied density, pattern and color.

Ingold in his 1953 and 1965 books showed that non-poroid and non-gilled fungi also exhibit interesting spore deposits. (C.T. Ingold, *Dispersal in Fungi*, 1953, and *Spore Liberation*, 1965, both from Oxford University Press.) Ingold and some of my students gave me ideas about transforming spore deposits into an art form. I'd like to share some of my experimental findings with you.

I tried the following types of surface: Index cards, art paper, blotter paper and several kinds of Mylar film. Several kinds of covers were used, including inexpensive plastic cottage cheese containers, aluminum pie pans and large cake pans. Pieces of wood were used to prop up containers to reduce condensation or promote special designs. Several types of pressurized fixatives were used, such as varnish, shellac and lacquer. Spray distances and spray times also were varied. Gilled, poroid, clavarioid, ascomycetous and resupinate species were tested.

From trial and error experiments, I learned that the best surfaces are opalescent Mylar film (such as Keuffe-Esser Herculene .003 inch drafting Mylar, matte both sides, product No. 19--1253) and index cards. The opalescent Mylar film is highly electrostatic - it attracts the spores - and waterproof. The index cards are a good compromise for the small spore art forms since the surface of the card is more electrostatic than the art or blotter paper and the card not stain like the art paper. A high quality bond paper is less expensive until you become more proficient.

With most fungi, good spore patterns are obtained after from half an hour to four hours and usually the best prints are made with the mushroom cap covered. Many mature boletes, *Pleurotus ostreatus* and other large fleshy fungi should be tried without a cover or with the cover propped up in order to minimize condensation.

Smudging can be minimized with large mushrooms if the stipe is cut long enough to raise the pileus off the paper an eighth of an inch. It can be minimized with small mushrooms by using a dissecting needle or fine tweezers to lift the mushrooms off the paper.

Prime specimens can be used as many as six times to produce good prints. Specimens kept overnight before they are spore printed should be placed in a paper bag with hymenial surface upward to keep them from releasing spores. They should not be refrigerated, as that prevents many of the spores from ever falling.

I sampled many gilled, poroid, ascomycetous and miscellaneous species to find which mature samples produced good prints. Some of the dependable large gilled species include *Stropharia rugosoannulate*, *Agaricus arvensis*, *Pluteus cervinus*, *Gymnopilus spectabilis*, *Pholiota squarrosa*, *Pleurotus sapidus*, *Omphalotus olearius*, and young *Coprinus*.

Among the poroid species the drier boletes such as *Strobilomyces floccopus*, *Boletus edulis*, *B. subvelutipes*, *B. bicolor*, *Tylopilus felleus*, *Gyrodon merulioides* and *Polyporus squamosus* and copious spore "givers." Among the other groups, *Ramaria stricta*, *Thelephora terrestris*, *Gomphus clavatus* and *daldinia concentrica* produce interesting designs.

The best-pressurized fixative is still clear lacquer because varnish and white shellac either do not produce a clear deposit or do not dry fast enough to prevent streaking. One of the biggest problems with pressurized sprays is to find a brand that emits very small droplets.

The best spraying pattern is achieved if the applicator is not too close to the sheets being sprayed. About one foot is good. The spray should be applied in bursts lasting three to five seconds while the can is moved rapidly back and forth. There should be about a 30-second pause between bursts.

Most spore deposits can be permanently fixed with three bursts. Thicker deposits can be fixed with additional spot treatment. The cards of Mylar film

should be in a vertical position when sprayed. With cards the most economical and efficient method is to spray a cluster of six to ten simultaneously.

The spraying should be done outdoors on a windless day or in the garage or some other place with good ventilation. If indoors, the surrounding area probably needs to be protected from the lacquer.

Because the Mylar film is waterproof, highly electrostatic and is available in large sheets, it is excellent for mass printing. On an 18 by 18 inch sheet, you can print simultaneously with 15 large or 100 small mushrooms.

A number of techniques are available to produce such special effects as –

**Wispiess:** After the mushrooms are covered, a block of wood is placed under one side of the cover to allow air movement. If more diffuse designs are required, a fan can be turned on in the next room. Place on newspapers on the floor. Cover with one layer of newspaper. There are many eddy currents on the floor, which make an interesting pattern.

**Exotic:** Special patterns are formed if the gilled species are tilted or overlapped. *Daldinia concentrica* has black spores, which are ejected to form circles. Some of the *Ramaria* species will produce fascinating coral designs either when placed on the paper in the conventional position or when placed on their sides.

**Overprint:** When a two-tone design is wanted, a dark print of a large specimen is made first and fixed. After sufficient drying time, i.e., 30 minutes, an overlay is made with a species producing a white, cream or pink pattern.

**Insect trails:** Since Mylar is waterproof, strange designs can be made with fungi containing larvae. The larvae emerge from the specimen and crawl over the moist print, leaving designs.

*Dr. Sam Ristich is one of the country's preeminent mycologists and a special friend of our club. The Northeast Mycological Federation Foray was re-named in his honor in 1982.*

## ARTICLES WANTED

Mail or email them to Becky Pliischke today [morelbp@aol.com](mailto:morelbp@aol.com) or mail to 129 Grant St, Greensburg, PA 15601.

We anxiously anticipate your article, recipe, joke, puzzle, story or cartoon for the newsletter. Tell us about a mushroom hunting outing.

Write a poem, draw a picture or send in a photo. All will be welcome.

## NEMF WEBSITE

NEMF, the NorthEast Mycological Federation, now has its own website at: [www.nemf.org](http://www.nemf.org)

The site includes lists of affiliated clubs and e-mail addresses of trustees and newsletter editors, checklists for past NEMF forays, information on the upcoming foray, a calendar for major club forays in coming year, pictures taken by Gerry Sheine and Richard Progovitz at the 2002 foray, and links to mushroom-related websites. It features a superb Beginners' Page with keys, by Gary Lincoff.

The site was started in November 2002 and is still under construction. I would like you to visit it, and e-mail me critique, corrections, additions, ideas - and mushroom-related contributions, especially favorite mushroom recipes for the Mycophagy page. This is OUR website, and it should be as informative and educational and desirable as we can possibly make it, and it will remain free of commercials.

Ursula Hoffmann, e-mail:  
[hoffmann@lehman.cuny.edu](mailto:hoffmann@lehman.cuny.edu)

## SAM'S CORNER BY DR. SAM RISTICH

The Maine Mycological Association has just published Sam's Corner, the Public Journal of a Mushroom Guru. This is a marvelous compilation of Sam's delightful, entertaining, and informative articles that have been published in the newsletter of the Maine Mycological Association. It contains 15 years of articles written by Sam.

We have all enjoyed Sam's visits to the WPMC and I am sure you would enjoy his articles. The book cover features Sam's spore print art.

If you would like a copy, send a check payable to MMA to Dorothy Spaulding, PO Box 74A, Cumberland, ME 04021. They are \$15 each plus \$3 shipping and handling.

## THE PUZZLE CORNER

By Valerie Baker

Western PA Mushroom Club Cryptogram 41

WPMC Cryptograms are created from quotations by Club members. Each letter in the cryptogram stands for another. If you think that X = 0, it will equal 0 throughout the puzzle. Solution is by trial and error and will appear in the next Newsletter. Today's clue: R = T.

"MYJX JX MYL CJKKLXM COXYTSSC DNOC JB  
MYL MTJ-XMENIL ETLE."

- FSYB GNJXDYPL

# WPMC Meetings/Programs by Dick Dougall

Meetings/Programs begin at 7:00 pm at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve.

**June 17: Dr. Fred Schrock**, club member, will give a presentation on the significance of **Fungi Causing Human Infections**. While a group of fungi are responsible for a number of transient to persistent, irritating, but not life threatening maladies, there are others that can cause morbidity and death. Early in disease diagnosis they may be missed, ignored, or their significance not recognized. Although some of his slides of fungal infections may not be aesthetically pleasing, they are enlightening. Fred taught a course in Medical Mycology and courses in Mycology and Biology, for nearly two decades before retiring as Professor Emeritus from the IUP Biology Department. Fred makes learning fun.

**July 15: Kim Plischke**, Workshop Chairman & **Becky Plischke**, Newsletter Editor. Mushrooms can be used for a variety of craft projects. A surprisingly easy one is making distinctive paper from some commonly available mushrooms. They will lead a hands-on workshop on **Paper Making with Wild Mushrooms**. You don't have to be crafty to learn to do this. Put on a pair of jeans and roll up your sleeves, we're going to have fun! All equipment will be provided. Members free, non-members \$5. Non-members must pre-register by email to [wpamushroomclub@aol.com](mailto:wpamushroomclub@aol.com) two weeks prior to the meeting or call 724-834-2358.

**August 19: George Harris**, Owner & Chef of The Plates Restaurant, Bellevue, PA. **Cooking with Wild Mushrooms** The speaker is a mushroom enthusiast who brings his knowledge of mushrooms into the preparation of dishes at his restaurant. He will share his ideas about ways of using wild mushrooms species in his favorite recipes. He also hopes to be able to generate some sample mushroom dishes, which be available for tasting at the meeting.

**September 16: Some Common Fall Mushrooms**. Several club members will discuss some common, interesting and/or edible mushrooms of western PA. Some species in this list are meadow & horse mushrooms, honey mushrooms, the amanita family, common boletes, and hen of the woods (sheepshead) mushroom. These presentations will be aimed at helping new mushroomers gain confidence in finding and correctly identifying these mushrooms.

## DIRECTIONS

**DIRECTIONS to Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve:** (<http://www.aswp.org/beechwood.html>)

12 minutes from PA Turnpike Exit 5, Allegheny Valley (New Kensington/Pittsburgh) after tollbooth go south 1.2 miles on Freeport Road towards Pittsburgh. At the fourth stoplight (Eat'n'Park Restaurant on the right) turn right onto Guys Run Road. Go 4.1 miles to the second stop sign. Notice, part way on your journey Guys Run Road becomes Fox Chapel Road without any notification. Fox Chapel Road dead ends into Dorseyville Road. Turn left on Dorseyville and go .7 of a mile to Beechwood, on the right.

**DIRECTIONS to North Park** <http://www.county.allegheny.pa.us/parks/parkphon.asp> From Pittsburgh go north on Rt. 8. Turn left onto Wildwood Road onto the Yellow Belt (Ford Dealer and Boston Market on the right). Go 1.3 mi. to a red light; go straight (W Hardies). Continue another 1.6 mi. to a red light at North Park Entrance, road name changes to Ingomar Road at this intersection, Turn left on Babcock Blvd. Follow the signs to the Swimming Pool parking lot and find the car with a yellow ribbon on the antenna.

## SPORE PRINT – POISON CONTROL CENTER

If Dr. Sam Ristich and Gary Lincoff still spore print their mushrooms, you should too. It may save you from a fatal mistake. If you don't, here is the number for the Poison Control Center. We suggest keeping it handy on the fridge. 1-800-222-1222

## NEED HELP REMEMBERING MUSHROOMS FROM A WALK OR FORAY?

Get on the club website at [www.wpmc4.homestead.com](http://www.wpmc4.homestead.com) that Elizabeth Barrow has created and click on the club's Species List. It will tell you all the species of mushrooms that were found on a particular walk or foray. Mycological Recorder Bob Lucas has done an excellent job with this. He has also created a club Life List that lists all the mushrooms that the club has found since its beginning. Click on the camera icon and it will show you pictures of that particular species of mushroom. Thanks to Elizabeth and Bob for the outstanding educational tools you have created!

2003



# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

## WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA MUSHROOM CLUB

The purpose of the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club is to promote the enjoyment, study, and exchange of information about wild mushrooms. Everyone who has an interest in wild mushrooms is welcome to become a WPMC member. Members are entitled to:

- The WPMC newsletter
- Nine monthly WPMC meetings
- Free participation in WPMC Walks
- Fee discount for WPMC Forays
- Fee discount on WPMC sponsored merchandise

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Interests:    \_\_\_\_\_ Learning Mushrooms    \_\_\_\_\_ Microscopy    \_\_\_\_\_ Club Committees  
                   \_\_\_\_\_ Eating Wild Mushroom    \_\_\_\_\_ Toxicology    \_\_\_\_\_ Cultivating Mushrooms  
                   \_\_\_\_\_ Mushroom Walks    \_\_\_\_\_ Books    \_\_\_\_\_ Dyeing With Mushrooms  
                   \_\_\_\_\_ Mushroom Photography    \_\_\_\_\_ Taxonomy    \_\_\_\_\_ Mushroom Art

How many wild mushrooms do you think you know? \_\_\_\_\_

How many wild mushrooms do you think you know well? \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Dues enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$20 Family, \$15 Individual, \$10 Full time student)

### RELEASE

I (We) realize that when engaged in wild mushroom activities, that serious physical injury and personal property damage may accidentally occur. I (We) further realize that there is always the possibility of having an allergic reaction to or being poisoned by the eating of wild mushrooms and that these adverse reactions to eating wild mushrooms range from mild indigestion to fatal illness.

**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 officer or member thereof, 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, walk, foray, field trip, excursion, meeting or dining, sponsored by the club.**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Return completed signed and dated form with check payable to W PA Mushroom Club to:

George Gross, 58 Seventh St. Ext, New Kensington, PA 15068

1/03

(over)

# Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## WE NEED YOUR HELP

### WHAT AREA WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP WITH?

#### PLEASE CHECK THREE POSSIBLE ITEMS OF INTEREST

- Scout for walk locations
- Help organize forays
- Lead walks
- Work on newsletter committee
- Contribute articles, photos, etc. to newsletter
- Assemble and mail newsletters
- Help with web page
- Line up speakers for meetings
- Host guest speakers and mycologists
- Record meetings, discussions, events
- Sell club items, tee shirts, cookbook, etc., at meetings
- Publicize meetings, forays, events
- Club Historian
- Recruit members, maintain list of members
- Outreach-- speak to other clubs, nature centers
- Call or e-mail members
- Give a program at Club monthly meeting
- Produce or acquire teaching materials, resources, handouts for meetings
- Welcome and orient new members
- Coordinate coffee/refreshment
- Participate in special projects
- Record mushrooms that are found
- Conduct research on questionable mushrooms
- Present or assist with a club workshop
- Help with sign in at walks and meetings
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**Find something you would like to do. Check the appropriate boxes. We can have a lot of Fungi, Fun, and Friends but it takes your participation to make it happen.**

Return completed form to: George Gross, 58 Seventh St. Ext, New Kensington, PA 15068

1/03

(over)

# BLACK TRUMPETS, GRAYLING & SCALY VASE CHANTERELLE

By  
John  
Plischke III



## \*BLACK TRUMPET

(*Craterellus fallax*)

**OTHER COMMON NAMES:** Horn of Plenty

**FAMILY:** Cantharellaceae

**DESCRIPTION:** It can be hard to spot since it blends in well with the soil and leaves. This is one of the best edible mushrooms.

**Flesh:** Its flesh is thin and colored like the top. It can be a little brittle and if you pile them up too high while collecting them or collect them in a paper bag that gets bumped around a lot while you hike through the woods, they can become damaged.

**Mushroom:** From 3/8 to 3 3/16 inch wide to 1 1/16 to 5 1/2 inches tall. It is shaped like a funnel. Its sunken funnel like top is gray brown to brownish black or blackish and can have little raised flecks on it. Its margin is usually more blackish in color and it is inrolled and fairly even then becoming wavy to somewhat lobed and uplifted with age.

**Fertile Surface:** Its outer surface is orangish to orangish brown or orangish gray and can have a little pinkish and it is smooth to vein like with ridges and depressions and it bruises black.

**Spore Print:** Ochre to pinkish buff or orangish.

**Odor:** Fruity and pleasing. **Taste:** Mild.

**RANGE:** North America. PA, OH, WV, and Maine.

**WHERE TO LOOK:** on the soil under mixed woods or deciduous trees such as oak, beech and hickory. But 95% of the time I find them under oak and hickory trees. The woods can be either semi-open or fully wooded. In a 10 by 10-foot area I picked 1/3 paper shopping bag full of them. About 90% of the time I find them in moss but they can also be found in leaf litter around oaks with no social plants. When I find them on the soil in leaf litter they are often twice the size as the ones that I find in moss.

**HOW OFTEN THEY'RE FOUND:** It is occasional to common and often can be found in large numbers.

**HOW THEY'RE GROUPED:** It is found in clusters or small groups to scattered.

**SOCIAL PLANTS:** Moss is usually found with it.

**WHEN TO LOOK:** The end of June-October. I find that at the end of June is when the large flushes occur and you can really get a killing if you hit it right. There has to be a lot of

rain at that time or they may not fruit that year or they may only produce 5% of the crop that can happen at that location on a good year.

**LOOK ALIKES:** It looks almost like and closest to the edible and choice Horn of Plenty (*Craterellus cornucopioides*) that differs by having a white spore print. (*Craterellus cinereus*). (*Craterellus foetidus*). (*Polyozellus multiplex*). (*Thelephora sp.*).

**EDIBILITY:** Edible and choice.

**COOKING INSTRUCTIONS:** It is good in omelets or with scrambled eggs. It can be dried. It is excellent made into dips.

**MACROCHEMICAL REACTIONS:** It did not have any notable reaction to my standard reagents.

**SOIL TEMPERATURE:** 77 degrees.

## BLACK TRUMPET OMELET



This dish is fairly simple to make. First clean then chop up your trumpets. Then crack open a few eggs and add the trumpets to make your omelet.

## A COLLECTION OF TRUMPETS



At the Giant Eagle grocery store near my house one can purchase a package of 6 black trumpets for about \$7.00. How much do you think these are worth? They are covering two paper shopping bags.

## BLACK TRUMPET DIP



This is one of my favorite dishes that was served at Mushroom Mania 3. Hats off to the chefs.

We won't give you the recipe here but it's in The Mushroom Cookbook of the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club.



### \*GRAYLING

(*Cantharellula umbonata*)

(*Cantharellus umbonata*) (*Cantharellus umbonatus*)

**OTHER COMMON NAMES:** Knobbed Chanterelle

**FAMILY:** Tricholomataceae

**DESCRIPTION:** When collecting it from bog edges often a good pair of boots is required.

**Flesh:** Its is whitish and bruises.

**Cap:** 1/2 to 2 inches wide. It is grayish to tannish brown. It is convex becoming almost flat then sunken in the middle with age. Its margin is usually lighter and can have a whitish color. It usually has a nipple in the center.

**Gills:** They are forked. They are whitish to creamy colored and can on occasion become reddish at places with age. They descend partway down the stalk. They are closely spaced.

**Spore Print:** White.

**Stalk:** 1 to 3 7/8 inches tall and 1/8 to 3/8 inch wide. It is whitish to grayish to tannish brown colored like the cap. It is stuffed.

**Odor:** mild and not distinctive. **Taste:** mild and not distinctive.

**RANGE:** northeastern United States. PA, OH, WV

**WHERE TO LOOK:** On the soil in moss. Look in semi-open woods. Under pine. In bogs especially at the edges or slightly in from the edge and just inside the woods that surrounds the bog.

**HOW OFTEN THEY'RE FOUND:** Occasionally to common.

**HOW THEY'RE GROUPED:** signally, scattered or in small groups.

**SOCIAL PLANTS:** We always find it in the moss.

**WHEN TO LOOK:** August - November.

**LOOK ALIKES:** (*Lactarius* sp.) with a little nipple on top but they have latex. (*Clitocybe cyathiformis*).

**EDIBILITY:** Edible.

**COOKING INSTRUCTIONS:** They can be pickled.

**MICROSCOPIC FEATURES:** The spores are amyloid.



### \*SCALY VASE CHANTERELLE

(*Gomphus floccosus*)

(*Cantharellus floccosus*)

**OTHER COMMON NAMES:** Scaly Chanterelle, Woolly Chanterelle

**FAMILY:** Cantharellaceae

**DESCRIPTION:** It gets its common name because it resembles a scaly vase.

**Flesh:** Its flesh is thick and whitish.

**Mushroom:** It is 3 to 7 inches tall and 1 3/8 to 5 inch wide. It is vase shaped.

**Cap:** 1 3/8 to 5 inches wide. The cap is orangish red to orangish or orangish yellow and has scales. Its margin is wavy or lobed and whitish to creamy yellowish.

**Fertile Surface:** The sides are wrinkled to veined and descend down the stalk. It is whitish to yellowish.

**Spore Print:** Ochre.

**Stalk:** 1 1/2 to 4 inches tall and 1/2 to 2 inches thick at the top. It is wider at the top and gets thinner going down. It is whitish to yellowish. It becomes hollow with age.

**Odor:** mild and not distinctive.

**RANGE:** North America. PA, OH, WV

**WHERE TO LOOK:** On the soil under hemlock and in mixed woods under evergreen trees.

**HOW OFTEN THEY'RE FOUND:** It is found occasionally.

**HOW THEY'RE GROUPED:** It is found singly to scattered or in small groups.

**SOCIAL PLANTS:** Periwinkle and other social plants such as moss or none at all.

**WHEN TO LOOK:** June-September.

**LOOK ALIKES:** The Pig's Ear Gomphus (*Gomphus clavatus*). (*Gomphus kauffmanii*). (*Gomphus bonari*) if it is a distinct species.

**EDIBILITY:** poisonous to some people.

**MACROCHEMICAL REACTIONS:** Ferrous sulfate makes the veiny part greenish blue. KOH and Sodium hydroxide indents the top and makes it more orangish and indents the veiny part and makes it a light orangish. Melzer's makes the veiny part yellowish orange.

Ammonia and ammonium hydroxide, Muratic acid, Sulfuric acid, and formaldehyde did not have a reaction except with the exception of a little lightening or darkening of a shade.



## WALKS & FORAYS by John Plischke III

**We request that no one hunts a walk or foray location for at least two weeks prior to a walk or foray. It is only through your cooperation that we can have successful walks and forays. You can find last minute additions or changes by going to our website at <http://www.wpmc4.homestead.com> and click on the link to the Yahoo Groups.**

**June 14** – 10:00-1:00 (?) **Hartwood Acres**, Allegheny County. Meet **John & Kim Plischke**, at the parking lot in front of the Mansion (on the opposite side of the park from the Performance Center). We will hunt mushrooms and help you identify them. From PA Turnpike: Take Allegheny Valley (Exit 5). Stay right on the exit ramp. Turn right onto Route 910 West. Go 4 1/2 miles and turn left onto Saxonburg Blvd. at the red blinking light. Follow Saxonburg Blvd. about 2 1/2 miles and the entrance will be on your right. This is about a mile and a half from Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve.

**June 21** - 10:00-12:00 (?) **North Park**, Allegheny County. Meet **Jack & Valerie Baker** at Swimming Pool parking lot. North Park has a variety of habitats, although the area abounds in large oaks there is a large variety of trees and habitats that make this an exceptional place for hunting mushrooms. Will go to secret location. Directions on Meeting page.

**June 28** - 10:00-2:00 **Miller's Tract**, Butler County Meet **Dick Dougall** and **Glenn Carr**. This is a premier mushroom spot that mycologists Dr. Sam Ristich and Dr. Tom Gaither have led walks to before. From Slippery Rock exit of I-79, proceed north on Rt. 108 to Slippery Rock. At the light in town, turn left on Rt. 258. Go one block, and turn left on Water Street. Follow Water for app. 2 mi. It crosses an iron bridge over the creek. After the bridge look for a small parking area on left at the head of a dirt lane. Do not block the lane. Parking is limited. No rest room.

**July 12** - 9 am Meet **John & Kim Plischke** and the **Conemaugh Valley Conservancy** at the Saltsburg Borough Building & West Penn Trail Saltsburg Section. From Route 22 about halfway between Monroeville and Murrysville, take Route 286 east (Golden Mile Highway). Stay straight on 286 for about 5.2 miles, then take PA 380 east. 380 east becomes PA 286 which takes you to Saltsburg. Cross the bridge into Saltsburg, turn right onto Water Street then left onto Point Street. The Borough Building sits on the corner of Point and Plum Streets. Registration is strongly suggested. Call Julia at (814) 536-6615 or email [herbstsonne5@pennswoods.net](mailto:herbstsonne5@pennswoods.net) to register or receive more information.

**July 19** - 10:00 -12:00(?), **Trillium Trail**, Allegheny County. Meet **Dick Dougall** and **Glenn Carr** at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve and then proceed to Trillium Trail.

**July 26** - 10:00-12:00 (?) **North Park**, Allegheny County. Meet **Jack & Valerie Baker** at Swimming Pool parking lot. Will go to secret location. Directions on Meeting page.

**August 1-3** Meet the **Ohio Mushroom Society** at **Camp Myeerah**. They will have Landon Rhodes, from OSU on the program Saturday and Dennis Rose has offered to show and tell about his shiitake cultivation operation. More details to follow. Contact Joe Christian for details (419)757-4493.

**August 8, 9, &10** Meet the **Eastern Penn Mushroomers** for the Helen Miknis Memorial Foray at Penn State University **Mont Alto Campus** (near beautiful Michaux State Forest) Cost is \$150.00 per person for the weekend, including two (2) nights lodging, Friday picnic & Saturday dinner, and Saturday & Sunday breakfast. However, if you want to come for the Saturday program and join us for dinner, the cost would be \$20.00. You will receive final schedule and directions with your confirmation of registration. Camping is available at Caledonia State Park and in the Gettysburg area. Register with Bill Miknis, 3119 Parker Dr., Lancaster, PA 17601 or call 717-898-8897 or email [eye4morels@juno.com](mailto:eye4morels@juno.com) for a registration form. Any question or suggestions call: Ed McConnell, Foray leader, 717-442-8037, [ournuthouse@prodegy.net](mailto:ournuthouse@prodegy.net) or John Dawson, President, 717-846-1225, [jwd7@psu.edu](mailto:jwd7@psu.edu)

**September 11-14 NEMF Sam Ristich Foray.** will be held at Scott's Family Resort on Oquaga Lake, SW of Deposit, NY. This is right over the NY border and is in a great mushroom area. See the NEMF website for more information and a registration form. ([www.nemf.org](http://www.nemf.org)) They are predicting a wide variety of fungi because of the moisture contend from Winter through the Summer. There are all kinds of habitats in the area.

Consider attending this event to increase your knowledge of fungi, have a great time, learn from and meet some of the most prestigious Guest Mycologists this side of the Mississippi River. Among the guest mycologists will be Gary Lincoff, Bill Roody, Sam Ristich, Doug Bassett, Richard Korf and our own John Plischke III are definite so far. The list is not yet complete and there will be many other mushroom experts there.

**For all walks and forays, bring water and food. Dress for the weather. Bring basket, wax bags, whistle, compass, chair, hand lens, and books for identification. Come 15-30 min early and socialize. Check web site or Yahoo Groups for changes. Bring your membership card and a friend or two**

## "Largest Mushroom Club in the Ten-State Area"

Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club  
58 Seventh St. Ext.  
New Kensington, PA 15068

### ARTISTIC SPORE PRINTS BLACK TRUMPETS, GRAYLING, AND SCALY VASE CHANTERELLE CLUB TEE SHIRT

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