



WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA MUSHROOM CLUB NEWSLETTER

Volume 12, Issue 3

July/August 2012

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| WPMC meetings | 2 |
| WPMC Walks | 4 & 7 |
| Photo contest winners | 5 |
| Lincoff Registration | 8 |

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

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

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

Club officers

President — John Tadler
Vice President — Todd Kaufmann

On the web:

www.wpamushroomclub.org

President's Corner

BY JOHN TADLER

Welcome to another edition of the newsletter! If you're anything like me, you might be feeling a little frustrated at the lack of rainfall, which has affected my ability to find mushrooms in the places I usually look.

So what is one to do when the weather isn't cooperating? I started looking in places I normally don't examine. For example, I've been looking in my garden, where moisture is more abundant thanks to watering. I've noticed a large colony of inky caps (which variety they are I'm still not sure of) growing amongst my zucchini.

There's also a conk forming on the wood my raised beds are made of. It is a bit small right now, so I'm going to let it grow out a little bit before I take a stab at trying to identify it. I've also found *Panaeolus foenesecii* (assuming

they haven't changed the name), the lawn mower's mushroom, and was able to add that one to my life list. I've also found hard agrocybe and bird's nest fungus outside my office door at work. There are a couple of events coming up that you might want to take a look at. First up is the NEMF foray August 2 through 5 in East Stroudsburg PA. You can find more information on NEMF's home page. In September, our Lincoff Foray is set for Saturday, the 22nd at the Rose Barn in North Park.

There will also be a meeting of the Executive Committee on Sunday, July 22nd at Beechwood, 1pm.

I hope you are having better luck in the woods than I am; hopefully we'll start to get some more rainfall as the chanterelles start to come up!

Get Ready for a Great Foray

This year's Lincoff Mid-Atlantic Mushroom Foray on September 22, 2012 should continue the great times our attendees have had at this event over the years.

The morning walks in North Park and other nearby locations have resulted in copious amounts of interesting mushrooms found by our attendees. It is always a challenge to identify everything that has been found. We now have 531 different species identified over the eleven years of the foray. In only two years were there less than 100 species identified by the mycologists. This year, our own John Plischke III will lead the invited mycologists, club my-

cologists, and identifiers in sorting out the bounty. Maybe we will beat the highest previous yearly total of 202 documented species.

We have an interesting set of talks for the afternoon program. Gary Lincoff's talk is entitled "Mushrooms and Wildflowers: The Unseen and Mostly Unknown Connection." Bill Russell will widen our ideas about edibles when he gives his talk "Hidden Treasures, Obscure Edible Wild Mushrooms of PA and the Mid-Atlantic." Finally, Lincoff Program Chair and former club president, Dick Dougall, will give a talk called "Suburban Mushrooming:

(Continued on page 6)

WPMC Meetings

July 17 — Sheree Daugherty, Self-taught naturalist Sheree Daugherty will share her experiences with turning a love of nature into a career as a wildlife artist and supporter of conservation efforts. Sheree will bring some of her work and talk about the steps involved in doing a painting. Check out her website at www.shereedaugherty.com.

August 21 — Digital Photography (Josh Savage, Ritz Camera) Representatives from Ritz Camera at Waterworks Plaza will explain the latest in digital photography and

how to get the most out of your camera, especially when photographing mushrooms. Bring your camera and questions.

September 18 — DNA Analysis — Dr. Claire Burns, Assistant Professor of Biology, Washington & Jefferson College and WPMC member. Fungal barcoding is the use of specific DNA sequences to identify fungal species. Dr. Burns will explain how DNA barcoding works and its application to the study of fungi.

ICC meetings

August 8th — Medicinal and Nutritional —

All programs by Bob Sleigh

ICC meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month, April through October, at 6 p.m. at Blue Spruce Lodge, Blue Spruce Park, near Ernest. For more information call Bob Sleigh at 724-349-9173 or e-mail him at ICCWPMC@comcast.net.

WGC Chapter meetings

September 25 — Focus on Hens.

The Washington/Greene chapter meetings are held from 6 to 7:45 p.m. at the Peters Township Library, 616 E. McMurray Road in McMurray, phone 724-941-9430.

For more information, call Brian and Bonnie Davis at 412-334-4069.

In the Kitchen — Puffball Pizza

1 lb. puffballs, sliced 1/2" thick
1/4 C. olive oil
2 oz. pancetta, chopped
3 large cloves garlic, minced
1 large onion, minced
28 oz. can crushed tomatoes
2 T. tomato paste
1/4 C. water
1 T. chopped fresh rosemary or 1 1/2 t. dried
1/8 t. dried crushed red pepper
salt and pepper
8 oz. shredded mozzarella
 Heat 2 T. garlic oil in

heavy saucepan over medium heat. Add pancetta and saute 2 minutes. Add onion and garlic, saute until tender, about 8 minutes. Add rosemary and red pepper and saute 1 minute. Add tomatoes, tomato paste, and water. Reduce heat and simmer until sauce is thick, stirring occasionally, about 1 hour. Add salt and pepper to taste. Cool. Preheat a grill to hot. Brush oil on sides of the mushroom slices and sprinkle with salt and pepper to taste. Grill 2-3 minutes per side until marked and soft.

Place broiler rack 3" from heat and preheat to hot. Place grilled puffball slices on broiler pan, spread sauce, and top with cheese. Broil until the sauce is bubbling and the cheese is golden brown, about 2 minutes.

Any of the larger puffballs - Calbovista subsculpta, Calvatia gigantea, C. booniana or C. sculpta - will work for this recipe. Depending on the size of the puffballs, you can make family, individual, or appetizer pizzas.

Recipe courtesy of www.wildmushroomrecipes.org

Common names vs. Scientific names

By Bob Sleigh

The King and The Prince invited The Old Man of the Woods to hear The Destroying Angel play her Trumpet of Death for the Fuzzy Foots as they dined on Poison Pie.

No, I haven't finally lost it, not totally anyhow, and no, I haven't eaten the wrong mushroom. The sentence you just read contains the Common Name of seven different mushroom species.

Some are pretty straightforward; I don't suppose anyone would like to eat something with poison or destroying in the name.

On the other side of the fence though, Trumpet of Death, called Black Trumpets by most of us, mushrooms are a highly prized and much sought-after edible wild mushroom.

Therein lies a problem with common names and a reason it is best to talk about fungal specimens by their scientific names, which are in Latin.

Let's say you come up to me touting the honey hole of chicken mushrooms you recently found. My first thought is, which one?

Probably *Laetiporus sulphureus* or *L. cincinnatus*, both very popular and very easy to identify. But then they could be *Lyophyllum decastes*, the Fried Chicken Mushroom, or maybe *Suillus americanus*, the Chicken Fat Mushroom.

Fortunately, in this example, all three possibilities above are edible, one moreso than the other two, though. Have you caught up yet or are you still



stumbling over the Latin? It's easy; just pronounce the names like they are spelled, nothing mystical about it.

Common names are just what they say they are, very common and sometimes very locally oriented. Let's take a look at that delicious *Grifola frondosa* and venison dinner I had last night.

Grifola frondosa in Western Pennsylvania is commonly called Sheephead. It is a sometimes-large mushroom that grows at the base of large Oak trees. In Eastern Pennsylvania the same mushroom is known as the Hen of the Woods due to its resemblance to a ruffled chicken.

I found out just recently from a well-known and well-traveled mycologist that although Sheephead is a perfect description of this particular fungus, it is only Western Pennsylvania and Eastern Ohio where the name is commonly used. Therein lies another problem with common names.

I travel, sometimes extensively, in the pursuit of mushrooms and have heard some of the most outrageous and comical common names for mushrooms. They are mostly species that I know well, but wrapped up in names that make no sense to me whatsoever.

Never rely on a common name for any particular mushroom when you are not in familiar territory.

This situation often gets crazier when you add in the mix of different nationalities and their common names, sometimes crazy enough to cost someone their life.

If your interest in fungus lies solely in picking a few of the most common and easily identified species and having a good meal, then *maybe* you won't need to learn Latin names, but you'll learn them anyway.

If you spend enough time around fungophiles and particularly if you choose to join a local club, you will start to pick up some Latin just from your proximity to knowledgeable pickers and identifiers.

It happened to me that way. What started out as a cool hobby that could put some of the world's finest edible mushrooms on my table for free, gradually became an overwhelming desire to be able to put a name on what I was finding whether I planned on eating it or not.

I should tell you though that I have picked Morel (*Morchella* sp.) and Sheephead mushrooms since I was old enough to get in the woods, and had no clue that there were any other names for them until I started expanding my fungal horizon.

So, how do I get you from common names to scientific names? Well, in the words of your grade-school teachers, "Class, open your books." Aha, you knew those words would

(Continued on page 11)

WPMC 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. All walks & forays will be held rain or shine. Come early and socialize. All walks start on time, so if you are late we will already be in the woods. You can find last minute additions or changes at groups.yahoo.com/group/wpamushroomclub

July 7 — 10:00-12:00 Hartwood Acres, Allegheny County. Meet **John Tadler and Todd Kaufmann** at the parking lot in front of the Mansion (use the Saxonburg Blvd. entrance to Hartwood). From PA Turnpike: Take Allegheny Valley (Exit 48). 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, entrance will be on your right. This is about a mile and a half north of Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve.

July 14 — 10:00-12:00 Chantrelle Mania at **North Park**, Allegheny County. Meet **Shirley Caseman and Nick Poraczky** at Deer Browse #2 pavilion beside the Swimming Pool parking lot. Last year this spot produced beautiful chanterelles. There were also a good number of boletes and other species. You never know what the season will bring, but it could be very good again. 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. DIRECTIONS to North Park From Pittsburgh go north on Rt. 8. Turn left onto Wildwood Road onto the Yellow Belt (Aldi's and

McDonald's 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. Turn left on Babcock Blvd. Follow the signs to the walk location. www.county.allegheny.pa.us/parks/parkphon.asp

July 21 — Blue Knob State Park, Bedford County. Meet **Kim Plischke and John Plischke III** at the park amphitheater. Walk, hunt and identify mushrooms at 3:00 then stay for the slide show and talk at 8:00 pm Saturday. Take the Pennsylvania Turnpike to Bedford, Exit 146. Go north on I-99 to Route 869 west (at Osterburg). Follow Route 869 to Pavia, then follow signs through Pavia to park. Meet at the amphitheater.

July 28 — 9:00-12:00 The Outdoor Classroom, Boyce-Mayview Park, Upper Saint Clair. **Fee: \$15 or \$10 for mushroom club members with a current membership card.** **John Plischke III will present a slide show and lead a walk. Bring mushrooms from home for identification.** To register, contact Jessica at (412) 838-0064. From Rt. 19, Heading north (from Washington County): Follow Rt. 19 to intersection with Boyce Road. Turn left onto Boyce Road. Follow Boyce to the intersection with Mayview Road. Turn right on Mayview and go past Mayview State Hospital, across Chartiers Creek, until you see the barns and the sign for 1571 Mayview Road on your right. Turn right at the 1571 sign. Follow the road to the parking area, and then walk through the parking area to the Outdoor Classroom. See their website for more information, other directions and a park map.

<http://www.theoutdoorclassroompa.org/>

July 28 -- 10:00-12:00, Wolf Creek Narrows, Butler County. Meet **Ron Donlan and Becky Lupold.** Take I-79 north to the Slippery Rock exit. Turn left onto PA Route 108 East towards Slippery Rock. Travel 0.7 miles to West Park Road (Dairy Queen will be on right) and turn left. After 1.7 miles on West Park Road, turn right onto Miller Road and drive 1.7 miles to the parking lot before bridge across Wolf Creek. I will post signs at key turns. My friends at North Country Brewing Company will provide samplers of their many fine micro-brews after the walk. North Country Brewing Company is located about 2 miles from the walk site. I will lead any interested participants to NCB.

July 28 — Blackwater Falls State Park and July 29, 2012 in the Dolly Sods Wilderness Area. Join the **West Virginia Mushroom Club** at 9:00 AM for registration for their Mid-Summer Foray will feature Gary Lincoff. Blackwater Falls State Park is located just north of Canaan Valley Resort, between Davis and Thomas. For further details, please email Shelly Conrad at geezere@comcast.net or Nancy Ward at naward57@gmail.com More information on their website at: wvmushroomclub.org

July 28-29 — Join the Ohio Mushroom Society for their Summer Foray at Ohio Univ., Athens, OH. Michael Kuo, guest speaker. You may remember him from the 2010 Summer Foray at OU. He's the author of several books and has the excellent website: www.mushroomexpert.com More information at: www.ohiomushroomsociety.org

(Continued on page 7)

Photo contest guidelines

Eligibility: The contest is open to ALL club members. Deadline for entries is September 30.

Entry Divisions

Pictorial: This division is for single photos that illustrate the beauty and variety of fungi in form and color. The objective is a photo suitable for display or illustration in a fine book. Judging criteria include consideration of both technical (focus, depth of field, exposure, lighting, color, absence of distracting elements) and artistic (composition, color, background, lighting) aspects.

Documentary: For single photographs especially suited as illustrations in a field guide or monograph, or for use in a lecture. Emphasis is placed on portrayal of key morphological characteristics such that the usefulness of the image as an identification aid is maximized. Subjects may be shot in the field, laboratory or studio and the photographer has complete freedom to process, manipulate, or orient the specimen in any desired manner to achieve the goal. Close-ups of single features and photomicrographs are acceptable. Judging criteria will be the same as in the Pictorial category but they will be of secondary importance to the overall mycological utility of the photo. Accurate identification of the subject will be a consideration.

2011 Photo Contest Winners

Judge's Option

This category is for photos that do not fit into the Pictorial or Documentary divisions. Examples include fungi in an interesting situation, fungi with animals, people enjoying fungi.

Judge's Option: First Place

Ryan Tomazin – especially beautiful Amanita jacksonii



Judge's Option: Second Place

Dawn Tomei – Happy Sheepshead collector



Judge's Option: Third Place

Jim Wasik – Wood City



2011 Unannounced Category:

Photos which include Newts: First Place

Dave Hunt – Chanterelles with Newt

Cindy Russell



Guest Mycologists to Present Programs

The mycologists coming to our Foray are an outstanding group. This is just a brief listing of their backgrounds and accomplishments. Hopefully it is enough to convince you to attend this foray on September 22, 2012.

Gary Lincoff is again the principal mycologist at the Mid-Atlantic Mushroom Foray. Gary wrote the *National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Mushrooms*, one of the biggest selling mushroom books of all time. Gary has recently published a book, *The Complete Mushroom Hunter, An Illustrated Guide to Finding, Harvesting, and Enjoying Wild Mushrooms*. Gary's insights about edible and poisonous mushrooms, picking urban mushrooms, mushroom recipes, and his experiences with wild mushrooms in various cultures around the world make it a delightful read. Gary's has his own section on the Northeast Mycological Federation's website. It covers talks on Gary's world-wide travels, much help for beginners, info on toxicity, and a scientific article on DNA classification of mushrooms co-authored with Michael Wood. The address is: www.NEMF.org;



click on the Menu tab.

Gary is a past-president of the North American Mycological Association and chairs the awards program for that organization. He is in high demand as a speaker for mushroom organizations all over North America. He has traveled the world studying mushrooms and their relationships with the local culture. We are extremely fortunate to have him come to our foray for the twelfth time.

Bill Russell has been hunting mushrooms in Pennsylvania for nearly a half century. In his book *Field Guide to Wild Mushrooms of Pennsylvania and the Mid-Atlantic*, he presents 100 mushrooms in a clear informative style. This is one of the most popular books sold by the WPMC since it was published. He is an active member of the Central PA Wild Mushroom Club and has given talks and workshops throughout the Northeast. Bill's website www.brmushrooms.com is about his activities and a variety of useful mushrooming information. An outstanding feature is the links from his website to a wide range of other mushroom websites.



Bill's talk: "Hidden Treasures—Obscure Edible Wild Mushrooms of PA and the Mid-Atlantic" focuses on many good edible mushrooms that are outside the normal list of edibles. He stresses caution in trying these because bringing out the best flavor requires special cooking techniques.

John Plischke III is First Vice President of NAMA and a Life Member of WPMC. John has been a speaker and identifier for numerous mushroom clubs across the US and Canada. He is the author of *Morel Mushrooms and Their Poisonous Look A Likes* and *Good Mushroom, Bad Mushroom*. He is the recipient of 80 national and regional awards for his mushroom photography. He is Chairman of the Fungus Section of the PA Biological Survey.



John will lead a morning walk at the foray. However, his most valuable job will take place when he leads the guest mycologists, club mycologists, and identifiers in placing names on all the mushrooms found on the walks. This is a mammoth job; we are expecting to have about 200 different species brought in for identification.

Get Ready for a Great Foray

(Continued from page 1)

What's that Mushroom Growing in My Back Yard?"

Although this article has focused on finding, identifying, and learning about mushrooms, there is another important aspect of the afternoon activities, FOOD. Tom Chulick will again give a mushroom cooking demonstration. Tom is executive chef and owner of the Back Door Café in Johnstown, PA. Tom has a wealth of information about cooking wild mushrooms.

Finally, the wealth of practical cooking

knowledge in the WPMC is truly outstanding. Co-Chairs Kim Plischke and Valerie Baker will lead club cooks in preparing a true Mushroom Feast for foray attendees.

Nobody goes home hungry.

The great part of this foray are the people who attend. There will likely be over 100 attendees. For some, this will be their twelfth foray; for others, their first. Everyone has fun, learns something new about mushrooms, and makes new friends.

Gary Lincoff's New Book Released

Gary Lincoff's new book, "The Joy of Foraging: Gary Lincoff's Illustrated Guide to Finding, Harvesting, and Enjoying a World of Wild Food," is available on Amazon. It's not specifically about mushrooms, but includes all kinds of edible plants and other wild food.

WPMC Walks & Forays, *continued*

(Continued from page 4)

ohiomushroom.org

August 2-5 — The Western PA Mushroom Club will co-sponsor the **NEMF Annual Foray** at East Stroudsburg University, East Stroudsburg, PA. For more information, visit our website at www.wpamushroomclub.org

August 10-12 — 3rd Annual CPWMC Wild Mushroom Foray. The Central Pennsylvania Wild Mushroom Club

(CPWMC) invites you to attend the 3rd Annual Central PA Wild Mushroom Foray August 12-14 at the beautiful **Sieg Conference Center** near Lock Haven. Join us for a weekend of hunting, identifying, and learning about the prolific fungi of Central PA (see registration form for schedule). You must be at least 18 to attend. The Sieg Center is provided by courtesy of Lock Haven University and Dr. Barrie

Overton. It is located in rural Pennsylvania in an old growth forest of hardwoods and hemlocks. A trophy trout stream (Fishing Creek) flows through the heart of the conference center. For a registration form and details, visit <http://www.centralpamushroomclub.org/events>

Indiana County Chapter Walks

July 28 — 9 a.m. — Yellow Creek State Park. Meet Bob Sleight at the first picnic tables on the right when entering the day use area.

August 25 — 9 a.m. — Old Smicksburg Park. Meet Bob Sleight at the park, located in the center of Smicksburg.

For more information, email iccwpmc@comcast.net or call Bob at 724-349-9173.

Club Receives Grant, Welcomes 1000th member

At the June 19th WPMC meeting, Jim Wasik presented \$1,000 from the PPG Foundation to the John Tadler, WPMC President. **GIVE (Grant Incentives for Volunteerism by PPG Employees and Retirees)** is a grants incentive program to encourage PPG employee and retiree involvement in volunteerism.

The GIVE program recognizes personal involvement by active PPG employees and retirees who volunteer on their own time by providing grants to eligible institutions in the U.S.

It addresses the most frequently cited priorities for civic and social responsibility today. Jim, a PPG employee, has volunteered his time for the past 2 years as WPMC Membership Chair and Newsletter electronic distribution.

The WPMC thanks the PPG Foundation for this exceptional grant.

Also at the June 19th meeting, Joe Perrotta was recognized as becoming the 1000th person or family to join the WPMC.

Joe joined the WPMC at his first Mushroom Club meeting on June 19th and was presented the Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Mushrooms as a gift to recognize the special occasion.

Congratulations to Joe and to all of the past and present members who have joined the club.

The current membership for 2012 is 576 members from 348 individuals and families. The club continues to be one of the largest Mushroom Clubs in the United States.

Mushroom Folklore

Food for Royalty?

Mushrooms, the plant of immortality? That's what ancient Egyptians believed according to the Hieroglyphics of 4600 years ago.

The delicious flavor of mushrooms intrigued the pharaohs of

Egypt so much that they decreed that mushrooms were food for royalty and that no commoner could ever touch them. This assured themselves the entire supply of mushrooms. In various other civilizations throughout the world including Russia, China, Greece, Mexico and Latin

America, mushroom rituals were practiced. Many believed that mushrooms had properties that could produce super-human strength, help in finding lost objects and lead the soul to the realm of the gods.

— *Courtesy of www.foodreference.com*

The 12th Annual Gary Lincoff Mid-Atlantic Mushroom Foray

Saturday, September 22, 2012

Featured speaker will be 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's 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. Join us for an exciting day of fungi, fun, friends and mushroom exploration — a day filled with foraging, learning, and feasting . . . but most of all, *fun!*

Program: Guided morning & afternoon mushroom walks; guest mycologists: Gary Lincoff, Bill Russell and John Plischke III; cooking demonstration; mushroom feast: our club cooks prepare a real treat, with *dozens* of unique mushroom dishes to delight your taste buds. This all-day foray will be based at *Rose Barn*, in North Park, 10 miles north of Pittsburgh, PA. Morning and afternoon walks will be conducted in North Park and in other woodlands nearby. The habitats for these foray walks have resulted in well over 100 species found each year. Identification of species found will be led by John Plischke III.

Admission:

- ▶ Until September 1st the fee is \$30 per person for WPMC members
- ▶ Members pay \$35 per person at the door
- ▶ Non-members pay \$35 per person plus the 2012 membership fee (\$15 for an individual for \$20 for a family). After September 1st, membership fee is for 2013.
- ▶ Students (with ID) and children 11 to 18 are \$10 each. Children 10 & under free
(Please note: signing and dating the release form is an absolute requirement for attendance.)

To register and pay by check:

- ▶ Make check payable to: *Western PA Mushroom Club*
- ▶ Mail check and registration form to: WPMC, 70 Woodland Farm Road, Pittsburgh 15238.
- ▶ New members: please include membership application and 2012 dues.

To register and pay online:

- ▶ Go to the club website: <http://www.wpamushroomclub.org>
- ▶ Click on the 2012 Foray information.
- ▶ Choose the Paypal option (you may pay either using a credit card or a Paypal account).
- ▶ You will receive a release form to sign at check-in.

Registration & Release

Name 1 _____ Name 2 _____

Name 3 _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

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 _____ Date: _____

Signature _____ Date: _____

Signature _____ Date: _____

For more information, contact Foray Chair: Dick Dougall (412) 486-7504,

Email: Lincoff-Foray@wpamushroomclub.org

2012 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. Anyone 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

Name: _____ **Date** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

(please print in plain block lettering or attach address label)

Annual dues: - \$15 Individual, - \$20 Family, - \$10 Student – Full Time

Dues enclosed: \$ _____

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

WPMC, c/o Jim Wasik, 70 Woodland Farms Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238

e-mail contact: WPMC.membership@gmail.com

or

visit www.wpamushroomclub.org to pay using credit card.

Release form signed in 2012 will be in effect until termination of membership. (Please return with payment)

Normal Meeting Location:

Beechwood Farms: _____

Indiana, PA: _____

Washington County: _____

Beginning in 2011, the WPMC Newsletter will be available in full color electronically by e-mail or in black and white by US Postage.

Newsletter Options:

Electronic (e-mail): _____

Hardcopy (US Postage) _____

Future WPMC Information:

Electronic (e-mail): _____

Hardcopy (US Postage) _____

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 _____ |

Members Show Off Mushrooms

Cultivation growing in popularity



Members of the WPMC recently received mushroom-growing kits at the annual cultivation meeting. At left is Bea Drodge holding just one big cap from her cultivation kit. Above is Cecily Franklin's successful grow.

Common Names vs. Scientific Names

(Continued from page 3)

come back to haunt you some day.

The best beginner's book that I have found is the National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Mushrooms, written by Gary Lincoff. It can easily be found online for about twenty dollars.

For those of you averse to doing much reading, there are lots of pretty pictures to look at to aid your identification.

At first, it can be intimidating trying to identify an unusual species, particularly one that has no

common name, but the satisfaction of being correct is a great payoff. With every species you identify, your knowledge will grow; it is the proverbial snowball rolling down hill situation.

Be advised that the world of fungi is in an almost constant state of flux due to expanding techniques for classifying mushrooms. The advent of DNA testing has changed the scientific names of many fungus specimens as they are moved around in the classifications.

Don't be surprised to find more than one scientific name for a

certain species. Rest assured that, even though a certain name is no longer officially used, it will forever denote the particular mushroom that it was originally used for. Scientific names are never reused for something else.

Learn a little bit about what you are getting ready to put into your mouth and I guarantee you will want to learn more.

Speaking of learning more, tune in next time and I'll give you a brief overview of the amazing nutritional and medicinal benefits of many common and easily available mushrooms.

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA MUSHROOM CLUB

202 Wadsworth Dr.
Glenshaw, PA 15116

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|---|--|
| President John Tadler 28 Hiland Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15202 frothsloth@comcast.net 412-761-6298 | | Vice President Todd Kaufmann 443 Biddle Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15221 toddkaufmann@gmail.com 412-304-1471 | | Treasurer Barbara DeRiso 204 Woodcock Drive Pittsburgh, PA 15215 barbaraderiso@gmail.com 412-252-2594 | | Recording Secretary Cecily Franklin 216 Farmington Rd. Pittsburgh, PA 15215 cs4wpmc@gmail.com 412-781-6581 | | Corresp. Secretary John Stuart 374 Old Babcock Tr. Gibsonia, PA 15044 Jons2art@comcast.net 724-443-6878 | | | | | | | |
| Committees | | | | | | | | Club Mycologists | | | | | | | |
| Club E-Mail Contact Valerie Baker contact@wpamushroom club.org. Cultivation Chair Jim Tunney aminitam@hotmail.com 412-441-3958 Education Chair Fluff Berger Wfberger@comcast.net 724-251-9662 Historian Joyce Gross jagart@verizon.net 724-339-8547 Hospitality Chair Shirley Caseman pbft1@verizon.net 412-871-0185 | | Indiana County Chapter Bob Sleigh iccwpmc@comcast.net 724-349-9173 Membership Chair Jim Wasik wpmc.membership@gmail. com 412-967-9359 Mid-Atlantic Foray Chair Dick Dougall mush2prof@verizon.net 412-486-7504 Mushroom Display La Monte Yarroll piggy-wpmc@baqaqi.chi.il. us 412-854-5684 Mycological Recorder Bob Lucas mlucas@microspell.com | | NEMF Foray Chair John Plischke Newsletter Editor Ginny Sleigh iccwpmc@comcast.net 724-349-9173 Photography Chair Rebecca Miller rmtreesplease@gmail.com 724-297-3377 Program/Publicity Chair Cecily Franklin (See Recording Secretary) Sales Chair Jim Wilson mushroomjim4@email.com 724-265-2398 Toxicology Chair Frank Lotrich lotrichfe@upmc.edu 412-216-8508 | | Walk & Foray Chair John Plischke III fungi01@aol.com 724-832-0271 Washington/Greene County Chapter Brian Davis magnumdavisb@verizon. net 412-427-3343 Web Master Joe Luzanski Pastpresjml@wpamush- roomclub.org Yahoo Groups Moderator Mary Jo Smiley cmtpt@zbzoom.net 724-494-1468 | | Robert Boice blgym@msn.com 724-446-0524 Kim Plischke ladiebugzkp@aol.com 724-832-0271 John Plischke III (see walk & foray chair) La Monte Yarroll (See Mushroom Display) Dr. Fred Schrock Indiana, PA Jim Tunney (See Cultivation Co- chair) | | | | | | | |
| Recent Past Presidents | | | | Identifiers | | | | | | | | | | | |
| John Stuart (See Corresp. Secretary) | | Dick Dougall (See Mid- Atlantic Foray Chair) | | Joe Luzanski (See Webmas- ter) | | Jack Baker vbbaker8@ hot- mail.com 412-367-7696 | | Dick Dougall (See Mid-Atlantic Foray Chair) | | Joyce Gross (See Historian) | | Bob Lucas (See Mycological Recorder) | | John Stuart (See Correspond- ing Secretary) | |