



WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA MUSHROOM CLUB NEWSLETTER

Volume 15, Issue 1

MARCH / APRIL 2015

President's Message



IT'S THE BEGINNING of February as I write this, and it's been snowing every two or three days, which makes Spring seem so far away. As we wait for the snow to melt and the ground to warm, fellow mushroom hunters on the West Coast of America are busy collecting a bountiful harvest of local edibles. I'm not too jealous because the changing seasons give a nice variety to life and also provide wide rang-

ing environmental conditions for lots of different species of mushrooms in this part of the world. The seasonal break also gives us a bit of time to pursue some different projects and organize events for the coming year.

This year will be the 15th anniversary of the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club and because of that, we wanted to try make it a little bit special. At Gary Lincoff's suggestion, we are expanding the Lincoff Foray into a three-day event this year. Barbara DeRiso and the Lincoff Foray committee have been hard at work booking guest mycologists and organizing the Friday and Sunday events. Though the lineup is not 100% confirmed, I think it is looking great so far and will indeed be a special event.

Richard Jacob, WPMC President

For my part I have also put together what I hope is an interesting meeting program for the year. The first meeting will start just like the mushroom season does, with Morels. In April we have invited Sarah Messi from California University of Pennsylvania to give us an overview of her work on plant microbe interactions, particularly the fungal side. I think everyone enjoys the May cultivation meeting, and Jim Tunney will be organizing that again. If you attend this meeting, the free cultivation kit alone is worth the price of WPMC membership.

Another important aspect of the club is the weekend walks. This year we have expanded our committee and John Plischke III and La Monte Yarroll have already put together quite an extensive schedule. We also hope to increase our contact with other regional groups like the Allegheny Land Trust, the Parks Department of Allegheny County, and other organizations so that we can continue to hunt for mushrooms on local land and educate the public on what is growing at those locations.

The board and committee members are also continuing to develop the club and looking to strengthen the activities that our members enjoy and try to bring in a few new topics. We have a few ideas that we are currently developing but are always interested in hearing new ones. If you have a particular topic you would like to learn more about or have an idea for the club, please let the board know.

2015 MEETING SCHEDULE

DATE/TIME: Third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Beechwood Farms
(Audubon Society of Western PA)
614 Dorseyville Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238

MARCH 17 **Morels and How to Find Them**
Speakers: Jim Wasik and Dick Dougall

First meeting of the year, welcome back! Morel season does not start for about another month but Jim and Dick are here to give you an introduction on what you are looking for and the signs and indicators on when and where to look.

APRIL 21 **Lecture**
Guest speaker: Dr. Sarah Meiss
California University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Meiss grew up in Harrisburg and studied at Bloomsburg University before moving to Ohio University, where she studied plant microbe interactions for her doctorate. Her research involves plant microbe interactions, specifically in an agricultural setting. She enjoys studying fungi and other organisms that live in the soil and interact with plants.

MAY 19 **Cultivation Project**
Speakers: Jim Tunney, Mark Spear, Rebecca Miller

WPMC Mycologist Jim Tunney and friends will show WPMC members how to grow their own Oyster Mushrooms. Bring your WPMC membership card and a clean plastic shopping bag. You must be a current WPMC member to receive a mushroom kit.

JUNE 16 **Mushrooms and Art**

Guest speaker is our own Joyce Gross from WPMC speaking about mushrooms in art.

JULY 21 **Microscopy for Mushroom Identification**
Speaker: La Monte Yarroll

La Monte will present an introduction to microscopy used to identify mushroom species.

AUGUST 18 (TBD)

SEPTEMBER 15 (TBD)

OCTOBER 20 **Photography Contest Winners and Election of Officers**

NOVEMBER 17 **Third Annual "Pot Luck Dinner and Member Photos" evening**

Save The Date(s)

THE WPMC LINCOFF FORAY Planning Committee is pleased to announce that, in honor of its 15th anniversary, our annual Lincoff Foray will be a weekend-long event, to be held September 18-20, 2015. Here are some of the activities being planned:



Friday, September 18th, will be a guided walk in Cook Forest, an old-growth forest and National Natural Landmark, near Clarion, PA, about 80 miles north of Pittsburgh. Our guide will be none other than Gary Lincoff himself. Gary is an internationally known mycologist and author of *The Audubon Field Guide to Mushrooms of North America*, *The Complete Mushroom Hunter*, *The Joy of Foraging*, co-author of *The Mushroom Book* and many other publications. He is a past-president of the North American Mycological Association and a co-founder of the Telluride Mushroom Conference. For those who wish, bus transportation to Cook Forest will be available. Lunch options include a sit-down lunch at a local Inn or, for those who prefer to maximize their time in the forest, a boxed lunch.



Saturday, September 19th, will be our more typical format with Parish Hill, in Allegheny County North Park, being our headquarters. Activities will include local mushroom-hunting walks, table identification, a cooking demonstration, auction, book sales and, of course, our mushroom feast. Our guest mycologists will include Michael Kuo, author of *Morels and 100 Edible Mushrooms*, and co-author of *100 Cool Mushrooms* and *Mushrooms of the Midwest*. Michael is also the principal developer of the website MushroomExpert.com.



Science Sunday, September 20th, will be devoted to more in-depth mushroom identification. Gary Lincoff and Michael Kuo will help us understand keys, microscopy and chemical analysis. We'll have microscopes and reagents set up for those who would like hands-on experience with these techniques. Club President Richard Jacob will lead a session on DNA barcoding and specimen collection techniques.

Each day will be a separate activity and priced accordingly. Attendees will have the choice of attending any or all of the activities. Housing for the event will be the responsibility of the attendee.



NOTE: If you see mushroom-related items throughout the year that you would be willing to donate to the Lincoff Foray auction, please contact Cecily Franklin at cs4wpmc@gmail.com.

Botanical illustrations by Worthington George Smith (1835-1917)

for more information:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Worthington_George_Smith

http://plantillustrations.org/artist.php?id_artist=1450

2015 WPMC Photo Contest

IT'S NOT TOO SOON to start taking and collecting photos for the annual photo contest. Please submit clear, well-lit, high-res images for the best representation and reproduction.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS:

- September 30, 2015
- Maximum of 5 entries per WPMC member
- Submit HIGH RESOLUTION JPEG files up to 4 megabytes
- Email entries to Rebecca Miller at rmtreesplease@gmail.com

WPMC PHOTO CONTEST RULES:

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

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, and 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.

JUDGE'S OPTION: For photos which do not fit into the pictorial or documentary divisions. For example: fungi in an interesting situation, fungi with animals, people enjoying fungi.

SUBJECT MATERIAL FOR PICTORIAL AND DOCUMENTARY: Organisms from the Myxomycota (slime molds) and the classes Basidiomycetes and Ascomycetes of the Eumycota ("true fungi") are eligible.

FOR JUDGE'S OPTION: Nearly anything goes, so long as the theme relates to fungi, and fungi are a key element of the photograph.

WPMC Scholarships & Grants

WPMC HAS A 2015 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 may be submitted by any club member. Contact John Stuart at jons2art@comcast.net or 724-443-6878.

Stay in Touch!

by Cecily Franklin and Richard Jacob



EVEN IF YOU'RE NOT ON Facebook, don't worry. You can still find up-to-date information about all of WPMC's meetings, walks and other activities via our website: wpamushroomclub.org. If you do have a Facebook account, then you can also "Like" WPMC's Facebook Page and "Join" WPMC's Facebook Group. What's the difference?

FACEBOOK PAGE

How to Find It: Just go to WPMC's website and click on the tiny "F" in the bottom right corner. Anyone can view our Page, but you must have a Facebook account in order to comment or post something. In February, this Page had 175 "Likes".

Who Controls the Content? On a Facebook Page, the content is controlled by the organization, in this case WPMC. Whenever a new article is posted to our public website, it is automatically cross-posted to the Facebook Page.

FACEBOOK GROUP

How to Find It: Go to www.facebook.com/groups/250320011779 and Log In or Sign Up. In January, this Group had 154 Members.

Who Controls the Content? In a Facebook Group, the members control the content, providing a peer-to-peer forum for sharing photos, comments and other information in real time. You must have a Facebook account in order to view the content of a Facebook Group.

OTHER WAYS TO STAY CURRENT

If you would like to be notified about new stories posted on our website, here are some suggestions:

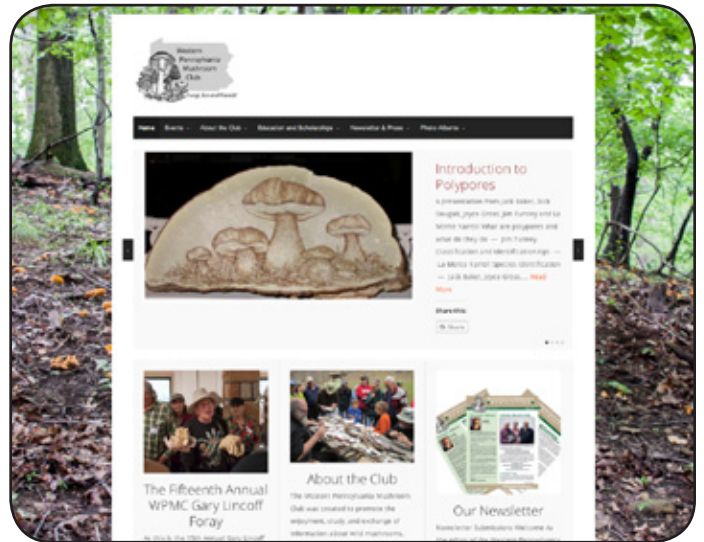
Subscribe to receive notifications of new posts by email. At the bottom of the home page, just enter your email address and click on "Subscribe". WPMC currently has 129 subscribers.

Use our RSS feed to receive updates. The link is in the bottom left corner of our home page. Some people use a service such as FeedReader to aggregate feeds from a number of different sites. This allows them to receive information from sites that interest them, without having to check for updates.

Finally, you can add the WPMC calendar to your iCal compatible calendar. This will automatically display all of WPMC's events in your calendar and update it as new events are added. Use this link: <http://wpamushroomclub.org/wp/events.ics>.

WPMC still has a Yahoo Group with over 500 members, who can share photos, requests and other information. Find us at: <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/wpamushroomclub/info>.

With so many ways to stay connected, you'll always know what your Club is up to!



facebook. YAHOO!
Google



New Study Available

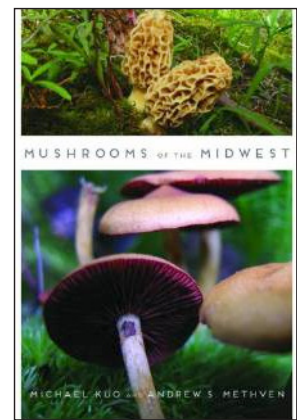
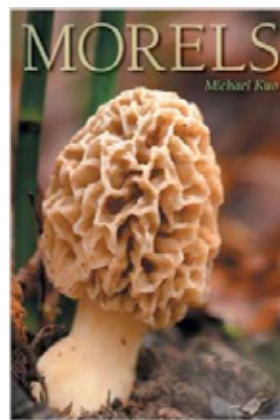
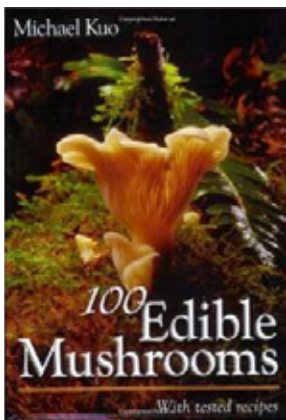
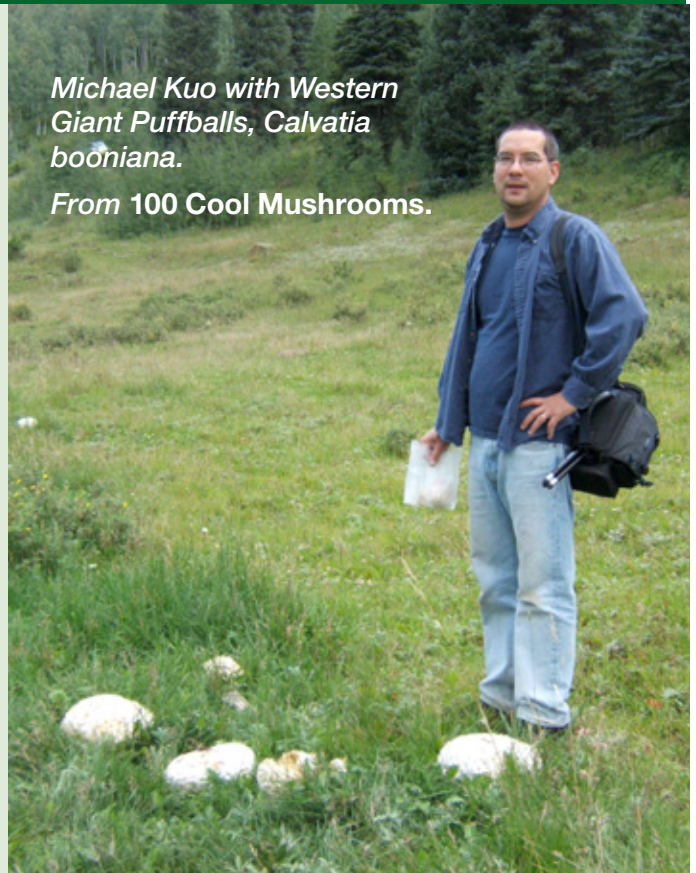
WITH MOREL SEASON soon approaching, it's time to start studying up on morels. A new paper is now available: *True morels (Morchella, Pezizales) of Europe and North America: Evolutionary relationships inferred from multilocus data and a unified taxonomy*. The 53-page document and an abstract are available at Mycologia.org.

Books & Book Reviews

“Successful mushroom identification is a laborious, painstaking process, and cutting corners is not a good idea when your life hangs in the balance!”

— From *100 Edible Mushrooms*
by Michael Kuo

*Michael Kuo with Western Giant Puffballs, Calvatia booniana.
From 100 Cool Mushrooms.*

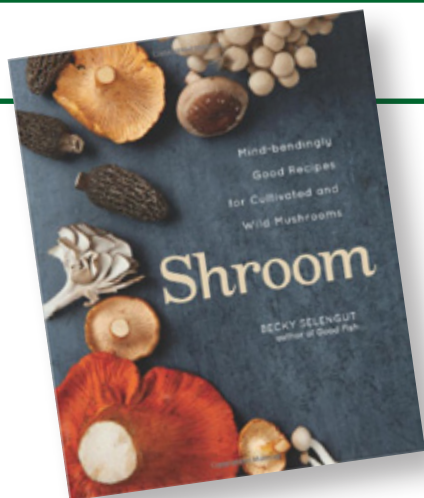


We Have Michael Kuo's Books

WPMC has a supply of all four books by Michael Kuo: *100 Cool Mushrooms*, *Morels*, *100 Edible Mushrooms*, and *Mushrooms of the Midwest*. These books may be purchased at any WPMC meeting or at WPMC's Amazon shop at wpamushroomclub.org.

Books & Book Reviews

submitted by Richard Jacob



Shroom: Mind-bendingly Good Recipes for Cultivated and Wild Mushrooms

by Becky Selengut

List Price \$35

WITH THE INCREASE in the variety of mushrooms available on supermarket shelves, it was only a matter of time before we saw a more modern mushroom cookbook. This book covers 15 different fungi species, with five recipes per species, for a total of 75 recipes.

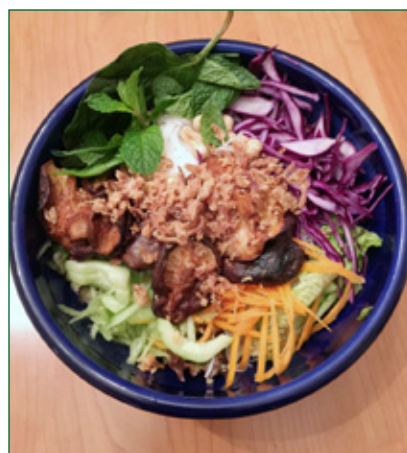
Each of the species has a two-page fact sheet as an introduction to that mushroom. Many of the mushroom species can be purchased in a store, and the first chapter starts with the ubiquitous button or portobello mushroom. Following chapters cover the Beech, Oyster, King Trumpet, Shiitake, Maitake, Lion's Mane, Morel, Chanterelle, Hedgehog, Porcini, Lobster, Black Trumpet, Truffle and Matsutake mushrooms. There are lots of high-quality pictures throughout.

The author lives in the Pacific Northwest, and the book includes some nice foraging pictures from that area. Not all of mushrooms in the book can be found in the wild in Pennsylvania, but some of those that can't can often be purchased at a good supermarket like a Giant Eagle Market District or Whole Foods. The other place to look for them are the Asian stores in the Strip District in Pittsburgh.

About two thirds of the recipes have a gorgeous picture of either the finished dish or of the ingredients in preparation. Many of the dishes have an Asian influence, normally Chinese or Vietnamese, but there are a few Japanese inspired recipes, particular for Matsutake. Most of the chapters include an Italian recipe and a couple of modern American or European inspired recipes.

For each mushroom species, the first two recipes are the simplest, the next two are intermediate level, and the fifth recipe is the most challenging. The recipes range in style from a fairly simple sandwich or pizza to quite complex modern cooking with lots of ingredients and sometimes requiring a recipe for a separate sauce or component. The time to prepare the recipes ranges from 45 minutes to an hour, or multiple hours for the most challenging recipes. Each recipe also includes a wine or other alcoholic beverage pairing suggestion. Many of the recipes require a mushroom stock, recipe included, so it's worthwhile making up a double batch before you start cooking from the book.

I tried three recipes from the book for this review: a simple sweet potato soup with lime leaves, beech mushrooms, basil and peanuts; an intermediate dish of grilled King trumpet mushrooms with orange and black pepper; and a simple shiitake noodle salad with Nuoc Cham dressing and herbs. Beech mushrooms are apparently destined to be the next big thing, so I was quite keen to try the soup on these cold winter days. The soup came together nicely but took longer than the 45 minutes suggested. The recipes are meant



Richard Jacob prepared this Shiitake Noodle Salad for a very appreciative family.

to serve four, but I found all of the recipes in the book serve more people than suggested.

The Grilled King Trumpet Mushrooms was rated as an intermediate recipe, but I found it to be the easiest of the three that I tried. The ingredient list was fairly short and everything could be found in your average supermarket. I grilled the king trumpets inside, due to the weather, but it was still a tasty starter.

The final recipe was the shiitake noodle salad, which is in the style of a Vietnamese "bun". This is one of my favorite Asian salads and is normally served with grilled, highly flavored meat on top, so it was quite a nice change to have the grilled shiitake mushrooms instead. There are quite a few ingredients for this recipe, and it also requires that you make the Nuoc Cham sauce, which is a separate recipe on the next page. However, everyone in the family enjoyed this recipe the most.

The author takes a reasonable approach to mushroom foraging and advises beginners to stick with the easy-to-identify choice mushrooms, rather than to keep asking "can I eat it" for every mushroom that they find. Overall, I enjoyed the book and recipes I tested. I would like to have seen honey mushrooms and chicken of the woods listed, which would have expanded the number of species mushroom hunters east of the Rockies can find. The recipes do require quite a few unusual ingredients, especially if you don't normally cook Asian food, but all of them are obtainable in Pittsburgh.

I recommend this book to adventurous cooks, and I'm looking forward to trying out more of the recipes as the season begins.

Walks & Forays 2015

IMPORTANT WALK AND FORAY INFORMATION:

Try to dig up 3 of the same species at different stages of development. Don't pick old mushrooms; leave them to drop their spores. You are responsible for not getting lost, if you have that tendency to wander off and get lost, stick like glue to 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 that 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 only your decision.

Mushroom Walks 2015

ALL WALKS ARE ON Saturdays, beginning at 10 a.m., unless noted otherwise. Please read carefully for any registration requirements or fees. For directions, updates and other details, visit our website at wpamushroomclub.org.

March 14 South Park

Meet La Monte Yarroll at the Nature Center to collect some mushrooms and fungi for our first meeting of the year.

April 19 / Sunday Hartwood Acres

Meet Jim Wasik at the Mansion parking lot.

April 25 / 12 - 3 p.m. Ryerson Station State Park

Meet Brian Davis and La Monte Yarroll at the ranger station at Ryerson Station (Greene County). There should be morels. Note the later starting time to avoid Jr. Spring Gobbler hunting.

May 2 / 12 - 4 p.m. Pine Ridge County Park

Morel Mushroom Walk (Joint with Indiana County Friends of the Parks) Meet Bob Sleigh at the Pine Lodge at noon.

Bob Sleigh will be giving a presentation on Morels and leading a walk. Morels are one of the most sought after and elusive mushrooms. Slides will illustrate Morels as well as poisonous look-alikes. Proper cleaning, storing and cooking techniques will be covered. Pre-registration is required at 724-463-8636. The event is free.

May 9 Harrison Hills Park

Joyce Gross

May 16 Sycamore Island Spring Survey

Join La Monte Yarroll and the Allegheny Land Trust for a species survey of Sycamore Island in Verona. The boat leaves the dock at 10:00 a.m. There will be a collection to pay for the boat. Last time it was \$8 per person. There will be a registration site posted closer to the scheduled walk day.

May 23 Mingo Creek, Washington County

TBD

May 23 Sewickley Heights Park

Meet Fluff Berger at Sewickley Heights Park. If you're looking for morels, this is the walk you want.

May 30 Hartwood Acres

Jim Wilson

June 13 Camp Guyasuta

Barbara DeRiso

June 20 Dorothy Fornof Foray at Deer Lakes Park

Dick Dougall

June 27 Townsend Park

Join the Friends of Murrysville Parks. Meet Pia van de Venne and Richard Jacob at the upper parking lot.

July 11 Salamander Park

Dick Dougall

July 18 North Park

Meet Valerie and Jack Baker at the North Park swimming pool parking lot for our annual Chanterelle Hunt.

July 18 Riverside Park, Greenville (Mercer County)

Meet John Plischke III

July 25 North Park

Meet John Stuart at the North Park swimming pool parking lot for a reprise of North Park. This will be a different section of North Park from the Chanterelle walk the preceding week.

August 15 Dark Hollow Woods Park, Oakmont

Meet Cecily Franklin at the Dark Hollow Woods Park Entrance.

August 29 Hartwood Acres

Richard Jacob

Sept. 26 Raccoon Creek State Park, Beaver County

Dick Dougall

Mushroom Forays 2015

July 30–August 2.

The 2015 NEMF Samuel Ristich Foray will be hosted by the Connecticut Valley Mycological Society at Connecticut College, New London, CT. Details and updates can be found at NEMF.org.

August 14-16.

Central Pa. Mushroom Club's 2015 Bill Russell Foray.

August 28-30.

4th Annual Joint Appalachian Foray at the Graves Mountain Lodge in Syria, VA.

Sept. 18-20 Cook Forest & North Park

15th Annual Gary Lincoff Foray

Sept. 18-20.

MAW Annual Sequanota Foray at Jennerstown, PA.

Sept. 24-27.

The NAMA foray will be hosted by the Asheville Mushroom Club and the Mushroom Club of Georgia at the YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly in Black Mountain, North Carolina. Located on 1,200 acres of wooded mountainsides. Asheville Regional Airport is 30 miles away. Alan Bessette will be the Chief Mycologist.

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. **Leave the parks cleaner than you found them!**

WALKS AND FORAYS CHECK LIST:

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

*Interested in leading a mushroom walk?
 Know of a good mushrooming location?
 Contact La Monte Yarroll or John Plischke III.*



(above) Color plate from 1902 / Dodd, Mead & Company

(left) A giant lycoperdon (illustration circa 1800)

Never Take Candy from a Stranger (or a Shroomer)!



photo © Cecily Franklin

Think these treats look yummy?

They're actually stinkhorn eggs, *Mutinus elegans!*



THIS is the chocolate covered cherry...



Introduction to the Button Program

WPMC HAS A PROGRAM to encourage club members to become more confident in their ability to identify the mushrooms they find. The name for this program is informally The Button Program (official name: The John Plischke III Award for Mushroom Knowledge). It has been in operation since 2009, and nearly 75 people have earned over 100 buttons.

It is very simple to get started. Even children might find it enjoyable without being too challenging at the lower levels. The attached photo shows the buttons that can be earned. At the two lowest levels--10 and 25 buttons--all that you need to do is submit a list to a club identifier or club mycologist of 10 or 25 mushrooms that you feel confident identifying. At this level, either common names or scientific names can be used. The club identifier will certify the list by signing and dating it. It can then be presented to club officers or Dick Dougall, Button Program Chair, who will present you with your button.

For the next level of buttons--50, 75, or 100 mushrooms--a list is still required. However, now the list must include the scientific (Latin) names of the mushrooms. Also, it is very important that the button candidates have actually seen samples of mushrooms on their list. This can be done by observing mushrooms brought in during walks or forays, but even better is to actually find samples of the mushrooms on the list. With the variety of mushrooms typically placed on these longer lists, there will often be edible and poisonous/toxic mushrooms. One of the aims of the program is to make our members aware of the degree of detail needed to become responsible for the correct identification of mushrooms they would consider eating. Pictures in field guides and on the web are nice, but physical specimens often have subtle identification features which are very important.

To obtain further information about this program, go to:

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

Mushroom Classes

**Saturday, June 6 • Beechwood Farms
Trillium Classroom (Education Building)**

The WPMC will be offering informative classes this summer. More information for each class will be in the next newsletter and on the Club website.

Some of the topics include mushroom basics, DNA barcoding, and photographing tips.

Club Mycologists

Robert Boice 724-446-0524
blgym@aol.com

Kim Plischke 724-832-0271
ladiebugzpk@aol.com

John Plischke III 724-832-0271
fungi01@aol.com

Dr. Fred Schrock 724-463-7453
ambrosia1@verizon.net

Jim Tunney 412-441-3958
aminitam@hotmail.com

La Monte Yarroll 412-854-5684
piggy.yarroll+wpmc@gmail.com

Identifiers

Jack Baker 412-367-7696
jabaker2@hotmail.com

Fluff Berger 724-251-9662
wfberger@comcast.net

Dick Dougall 412-486-7504
mush2prof@verizon.net

Joyce Gross 724-339-8547
jagart58@comcast.net

Bob Lucas rnlucas@microspell.com

John Stuart 724-443-6878
jons2art@comcast.net



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

WPMC Meetings

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

WPMC Newsletter

The newsletter of the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club is published five times a year: March/April, May/June, July/August, September/October, and November/December. Articles, photos, news items and other submissions should be sent to the Editor at least 6-8 weeks prior to targeted distribution. The Editor cannot guarantee that submissions will be included in the next newsletter. The Editor reserves the right to make spelling or grammatical corrections and may suggest content changes to the author. Material published in our newsletters may only be used in other non-profit publications with expressed permission and with appropriate acknowledgements.

NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION:

Cecily Franklin, Editor
Martha Wasik Graphic Arts Inc.

SEND SUBMISSIONS TO:

cs4wpmc@gmail.com

Membership

Thank you to the 275 members who have already paid their dues for 2015. Membership cards have been mailed to each of you. If you did not receive them, please provide an updated mailing address to:

membership@wpamushroomclub.org

or mail to:

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

To see if you have paid your dues, check the email associated with this newsletter.

For hard copy newsletters: the first line of the mailing label on your newsletter will show PAST DUE if you have not paid your 2015 dues. You may use the Membership Form in this Newsletter or renew on-line at: <http://wpamushroomclub.org/about/join/>.

The on-line version has been improved and is fast, easy and accepts credit card payment.

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

WPMC YAHOO GROUPS:

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

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

WPMC Officers and Committee Chairs

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT 215 Highland Rd	Richard Jacob Blawnox PA 15238 president@wpamushroomclub.org	215-888-5503
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VICE-PRESIDENT 70 Woodland Farms Rd.	James Wasik Pittsburgh PA 15238 Vice_president@wpamushroomclub.org	412-967-9359
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RECORDING SECRETARY 110 Isolda Dr	Scott Pavelle Pittsburgh PA 15209 sppksp@verizon.net	412-606-4361
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CORRESPONDING SECRETARY 137 Hickory Drive	Fluff Berger Sewickley PA 15143 wfberger@comcast.net	724-251-9662
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TREASURER 204 Woodcock Dr.	Barbara DeRiso Pittsburgh PA 15215 barbaraderiso@gmail.com	412-252-2594
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COMMITTEES

CLUB E-MAIL CONTACT	Valerie Baker vbbaker8@hotmail.com	412-367-7696
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CULTIVATION	Jim Tunney aminitam@hotmail.com	412-441-3958
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DNA BARCODING	Richard Jacob richard@lostculture.net	
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EDUCATION	Fluff Berger wfberger@comcast.net	724-251-9662
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HISTORIAN	Joyce Gross jagart58@comcast.net	724-339-8547
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HOSPITALITY	Shirley Caseman pbft1@verizon.net	412-871-0185
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ID BUTTON PROGRAM	Dick Dougall mush2prof@verizon.net	412-486-7504
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LINCOFF FORAY	Barbara DeRiso barbaraderiso@gmail.com	412-252-2594
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MEMBERSHIP CHAIR	James Wasik membership@wpamushroomclub.org	412-967-9359
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MUSHROOM DISPLAY	La Monte Yarroll piggy.yarroll+wpmc@gmail.com	412-854-5684
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MYCOLOGICAL RECORDING	Bob Lucas rnlucas@microspell.com	
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NEMF FORAY	John Plischke morelbp@aol.com	724-834-2358
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PHOTOGRAPHY	Rebecca Miller rmtreesplease@gmail.com	724-297-3377
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SALES	Jim Wilson mushroomjim4@email.com	724-265-2398
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SCHOLARSHIP	John Stuart jons2art@comcast.net	724-443-6878
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TOXICOLOGY	Frank Lotrich lotrichfe@upmc.edu	412-216-8508
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WALKS & FORAYS	La Monte Yarroll piggy.yarroll+wpmc@gmail.com	412-854-5684
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	John Plischke III fungi01@aol.com	724-832-0271
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YAHOO GROUPS MODERATOR	Mary Jo Smiley cmtpt@zbzoom.net	724-494-1468
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Mushroom sculptures by noted botanical artists in upcoming auction

CONCEPT ART GALLERY in Regent Square is featuring mushroom sculptures in their March 14 auction by noted Nova Scotia ceramic artists Ernst & Alma Lorenzen. (Sold in lots of 7 to 10.)

Their early works consisted of pottery and figurines, but they are best known for their mushrooms. Ernst had an interest in them since his earlier forestry days in Denmark. Alma's interest began in 1949. Fascinated by the shapes and colours, Alma created a ceramic model of Horn of Plenty (*Craterellus cornucopoides*) which

she displayed in her shop in Lantz, Nova Scotia. Generally, a single mushroom took about 15 days to complete from clay sculpture to final firing. They continued producing the sculpture for the next 50 years resulting in thousands of models. Alma preferred gilled species; Ernst preferred non-gilled fungi and included some lichens. Ernst died in 1990, Alma in 1998.

excerpted from:

<http://studioceramicscanada.com/ernst-alma-lorenzen/>





WPMC MEMBERSHIP FORM

2015

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

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

Members are entitled to:

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

Name (s) _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone 1 _____ Phone 2 _____

E-mail (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY) _____

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

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

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

WPMC, c/o Jim Wasik, 70 Woodland Farms Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238 e-mail contact: membership@wpamushroomclub.org

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

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

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

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

Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club Release and Indemnification Agreement

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

WHEREAS, WPMC is a non-profit educational organization that has as its principal purpose the sharing of mushroom-related information among its members; and

WHEREAS, all officers, directors, identifiers and members serve WPMC in a voluntary capacity and receive no remuneration for their services; and

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

NOW THEREFORE, the Member hereby agrees to the following:

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

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

MEMBERS:

Signature (if Participant is under age 21, signature of Parent or guardian)

Please print name:

1 _____ 1 _____

2 _____ 2 _____

3 _____ 3 _____

4 _____ 4 _____

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



Western
Pennsylvania
Mushroom
Club

202 Wadsworth Drive
Glenshaw, PA 15116

Fungi, fun and friends!

NEXT MEETINGS 7:00 PM: MARCH 17 & APRIL 21

Beechwood Farms: Audubon Society of Western PA

WPMC Goals

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



NEVER EAT AN UNIDENTIFIED MUSHROOM

Can't go out in the woods yet?
Take an indoor mushroom walk... *if you can afford it!*

