



Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club Newsletter

Fungi, Fun & Friends!

VOLUME 22, ISSUE 2

MAY / JUNE 2022



President's Message

STEPHEN BUCKLIN

HAPPY SPRING—or at least, hopefully by the time you receive this newsletter, it feels more like Spring! As I write this message, snow is still falling from the sky.

This Spring has certainly been anything but ordinary. Early unseasonably warm weather got hopes high for an early morel season, only for those dreams to be dashed in snow, sleet, graupel, and other sorts of low-temperature precipitation. Despite Spring's unusual sense of humor this year, we know warmer temperatures will eventually come, and following that the arrival of an abundance of fascinating mushrooms.

The months of May and June will bring a lot of exciting in-person events for mushroom enthusiasts. Many walks have been announced, including our club's annual morel walk at Pine Ridge Park and Dorothy Fornof Memorial Walk at Deer Lakes Park.

We'll be kicking off our in-person meetings at the Frick Environmental Center with the Cultivation Meeting in May, featuring a brief presentation by **Espo Wilcox** of the PA Mushroom Company. In June we're thrilled to be bringing **Sigrid Jakob**, current President of the New York Mycological Society, to our neck of the woods. Although our meetings will resume being in person, we'll continue to livestream to our Facebook Group.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the WPMC newsletter. Thanks as always for supporting our club and helping us spread the joys of Fungi, Fun, & Friends!

May 17: Cultivation Meeting

THE CULTIVATION MEETING will begin at 6:00 PM at the **Frick Environmental Center**. Current members who attend will receive an oyster mushroom grow kit. For those new to cultivation, oyster mushrooms provide a great starting point, as they are more resilient than some other mushroom varieties, and they're delicious to eat, as well! The kit will consist of oyster spawn and cottonseed hulls, with instructions provided.

Shiitake mushrooms are another delicious mushroom for cultivators and are traditionally grown on hardwood logs and kept outside. We encourage you to bring a log for shiitake inoculation. WPMC will provide the tools, wax, and shiitake spawn to inoculate it. Volunteers will be at the event to help you through each of the stations as you inoculate your log. No prior experience is needed.

Ideal logs will be 36 to 40 inches long and 4 to 8 inches in diameter. The best logs are oak or maple, but other hardwood varieties will work as well. The logs should be newly harvested from a live tree within the last few months, as older logs will not be viable for the spawn to colonize. Once inoculated, logs should be protected from drying out by storing them out of the sun and where they can receive natural rainfall. We ask that you bring no more than two logs per person, to allow time and materials for all members.

The inoculating stations will be outside, so please dress appropriately. If the weather is severe enough to pose a risk, we will postpone the event; otherwise, we will accommodate light rain.

WPMC MEETINGS ARE HELD on the third Tuesday evening of each month from March through November. WPMC meetings are livestreamed and recorded.

Meeting schedule continued on page 2



WPMC MEETING SCHEDULE CONTINUED:

June 21 Conservation of Fungi & the Role of Community Science

Sigrid Jakob, New York Mycological Society

While it's easy to take the beauty and abundance of fungi for granted, they are threatened by habitat loss, pollution, and climate change. Chances are that many fungi are going extinct faster than we describe them. Even though they're the cornerstone of many ecosystems, fungi are rarely considered in conservation efforts, and almost no fungi have protected status. The reason is simple: we don't have enough data. This is where clubs and individuals can make a difference. This talk discusses the many ways in which we can all contribute to the conservation of fungi, from simple observations on platforms like iNaturalist, all the way to DNA sequencing.

July 19 Deoxyribonucleic Acid & Me

WPMC Mycologist Garrett Taylor

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

August 16 Zombie Fungus!

WPMC Mycologist Cara Coulter

Join us as we explore the fascinating world of Entomopathogenic fungi.

September 20 To Be Announced

October 18 Photo Contest Winners & Election of Officers

November 15 Annual WPMC Awards & Cooking Demo



Sigrid Jakob, New York Mycological Society



Frick Environmental Center

The Frick Environmental Center is located at 2005 Beechwood Blvd. in Squirrel Hill on the edge of Frick Park – the largest city park in Pittsburgh. The facility was opened to the public in the fall of 2016 and features cutting-edge sustainable construction.

To find out more, including directions to the park:

▶ [CLICK HERE](#)

Increase Your Knowledge and Earn a Button!

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

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





Phenomenal Fungi at Powdermill Nature Reserve: June 4, 2022

JOIN WPMC IDENTIFIER **Sara Klingensmith** for “Phenomenal Fungi” at Powdermill Nature Reserve on Saturday, June 4. Powdermill is Carnegie Museum of Natural History’s environmental research center, located 55 miles southeast of Pittsburgh in Rector, Pennsylvania. Learn from experts about the many ecological roles of fungi, venture outside on guided mushroom walks, and enjoy hands-on activities to uncover fun fungal mysteries!

This family-friendly experience is open to participants of all ages, and children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Participants are invited to drop in any time from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

To register: <https://carnegiemnh.org/event/phenomenal-fungi/>

WPMC Mycologist Receives PAEE Award

AT THE VIRTUAL CONFERENCE of the Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Educators (PAEE) in March, WPMC Mycologist **John Plischke** received an award for Outstanding Contribution to Environmental Education. According to PAEE, John is excellent at breaking information down into digestible bits for beginners. Not only is John a great speaker and educator, but he is also a fantastic scientist and researcher as well!



Penn State Researcher Conducting Survey on Mushroom Hunting in PA

MY NAME IS **Amy Wrobleski**. I’m a graduate student at Penn State, in the fourth year of my PhD in Ecology. I’m interested in how people use foraged foods, both plants and mushrooms, and how foraging shapes the environment that people live in.

While I grew up with family stories of hunting for mushrooms in Poland and Michigan, I didn’t start hunting for edible mushrooms and plants until more recently. I started to hunt for edible plants while working in northern Michigan about six years ago, and I started to hunt for mushrooms at the beginning of the pandemic. I’m always excited to learn about the plants and fungi in PA!

Right now, I’m working on a project with mushroom hunters from around the state to better understand how people learn to hunt for mushrooms and how COVID might have changed the way that people learn about mushroom hunting. If you hunt for mushrooms in Pennsylvania, then please give my survey a look! Everyone who completes the survey will get a hand-made mushroom art print, and you can be entered into a drawing where 200 people will win \$5 off a mushroom club membership or a small packet of mushroom spawn.



The survey will close on May 31st, so fill it out here:
https://pennstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bJGRZytiQRsT8ai



GARY • LINCOFF • FORAY

Registration Open for 22nd Annual Gary Lincoff Foray

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

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

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

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

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

Guest Mycologists Offer a Wide Range of Topics

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

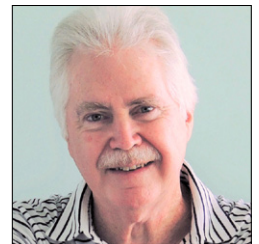


DNA research has given mushroom enthusiasts the means to uncover and document local biodiversity in unprecedented ways. The Hoosier Mushroom Society recently surpassed 10,000 DNA sequenced collections of macrofungi, as a part of their local biodiversity efforts. To date, most of these specimens were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

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

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

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



Alan Bessette

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



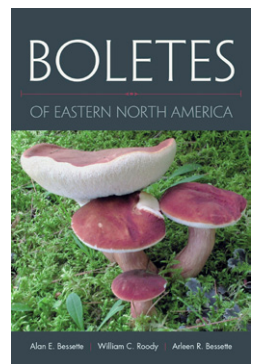
Arleen Bessette

Polypore Identification – Where To Begin

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

Best Book About Boletes

Of all the groups of wild mushrooms, none have engendered more enthusiasm and affection than the boletes. Their inherent beauty, abundance and, for many, culinary appeal have firmly established boletes in the hearts of mushroom hunters around the world. The habitats, geographic distribution, and ecology of boletes—including the intriguing relationships they have with trees and shrubs—only add to their interest.



Boletes of Eastern North America offers readers a comprehensive field guide, including extensive descriptions and more than 350 rich color photographs. Each species listing includes the most recent scientific name with existing synonyms; common names when applicable; and an overview that includes field impressions, similar species, and detailed information about habitat, fruiting frequency, and geographic distribution.

Because boletes are one of the most sought-after wild mushrooms, the authors have also included a section with information on collecting, cooking, and preserving them. Advanced students and professional mycologists, as well as amateur mushroom hunters, will find this field guide an indispensable resource.

Editor's Note: Bring your books by the Bessettes to the Lincoff Foray on September 24 to be autographed by the authors. If you buy books on Amazon, be sure to use AmazonSmile, which will benefit WPMC. See page 5 for details.



Call for Foray Volunteers

By Jared Delaney

THE ANNUAL GARY LINCOFF Memorial Foray is the club's signature event, and it wouldn't be possible without the help of volunteers. Our volunteers are club members—just like you—who help with the registration or sales tables, set up chairs and tables, or make food for the event. **As a sign of appreciation, this year we will be offering incentives to those who volunteer their time at the event in some way.**

The Foray will be held on Saturday, September 24th. Although it is an all-day event, you don't have to volunteer for the entire day. In fact, we have small volunteer opportunities that will not compromise more than a couple of hours of your time. We need help with setting up tables and chairs on Friday and taking them down on Sunday. If you are cook, you can make a dish for the event—it doesn't have to have mushrooms in it. We need runners for the day of the event to help in the kitchen or to help with the auction. If you can donate a specified two hours at any point during the event, we can find something for you to do.

We appreciate your support! If you are interested in volunteering, or more details, please e-mail:
lincoff-Foray@wpamushroomclub.org

Auction Donations

DONATIONS CONTINUE TO come in for the Auction/Raffle at this year's 22nd Annual Gary Lincoff Foray on Saturday, September 24. We even have mushroom jewelry and clothing! If you would like to donate a mushroom-related item to this year's auction, email Past President **Cecily Franklin** at cs4wpmc@gmail.com.



More Photos from the 2021 Photo Contest



Cheree Charmello Andrews, Gutation



Dawn Wehman, *Leucopholiota decorosa*

WPMC Scholarships & Grants

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

Choose WPMC on AmazonSmile

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



2022 Photo Contest

ONCE AGAIN, WPMC IDENTIFIER **Sara Klingensmith** will judge members' photos for our annual Photo Contest. In addition to the traditional categories (Documentary, Pictorial and Judge's Option), Sara has added a new category called "Mushrooms in Art" to showcase the artistic talents of WPMC members. The new division is for single photos featuring original artwork that depicts fungi. Art entries must be family-friendly.

Here are the Photo Contest rules:

- Deadline for submissions: September 30, 2022
- Maximum of 5 entries per WPMC member
- Submit high resolution JPEG files
- Rename images before submitting, using LAST name and subject, e.g.: "Smith-joe morel.jpg"
- Email entries to Sara Klingensmith at pamushroomclubphotos@gmail.com
- Indicate in your email the desired category for each photo
- Member in good standing of the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club. Club dues *must* be up to date.

SUBJECT MATERIAL: Organisms from the *Myxomycota* (slime molds), the classes *Basidiomycetes* and *Ascomycetes* of the *Eumycota* ("true fungi"), and *Lichens* 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.

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.

JUDGE'S OPTION: For photos which do not fit into the Pictorial or Documentary divisions. Examples include fungi in an interesting situation, fungi with animals, people enjoying fungi.

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

- 2-D DRAWINGS AND PAINTINGS: charcoal/pencil, watercolor, acrylic, oil, pastel, ink, etc.
- 2-D MOSAICS OR MUSHROOM-THEMED ARRANGEMENTS. The view should be captured in one photo.
- NON-ANIMATED DIGITAL ART: photo manipulation, digital illustrations, and collages.

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

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



WPMC's annual Photo Contest has historically included slime molds along with mushrooms, but not LICHENS—until now!

Photo (above) by Cara Coulter, (right) by Martha Wasik



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

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



WPMC Walks

Sunday, May 1 at 10:00 a.m. Pine Ridge Lodge, Blairsville (Indiana County)

Meet WPMC Identifier **Richard Jacob** in the parking lot at Pine Ridge Lodge for a mushroom walk.

Friday, May 6, 1:00-3:00 p.m. Barking Slopes Conservation Area with Allegheny Land Trust

SOLD OUT

Saturday, May 7 at 1:00 p.m. Frick Park

Meet WPMC Identifier **Beth Dinger** at the Frick Environmental Center fountain.

Saturday, June 4, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Phenomenal Fungi at Powdermill Nature Reserve

See page 3 for details.

Sunday, June 5, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. BioBlitz Family Fun Festival

Phipps Conservatory, Schenley Park.
Join WPMC for a free mushroom walk at 11:00 a.m. For more information about all of the day's events:
<https://www.phipps.conservatory.org/calendar/detail/bioblitz>

Saturday, June 11 at 11:00 a.m. Beaver Meadows Recreation Area

Marienville, PA (Forest County)
Meet WPMC Mycologist **Cara Coulter** in the parking lot for her annual birthday walk.

Thursday, June 16, 7:30 p.m. Dead Man's Hollow Conservation Area with ALT

SOLD OUT

Saturday, June 25 at 10:00 a.m. Deer Lakes Park

Meet WPMC Identifier **Richard Jacob** for our annual Dorothy Fornof Walk at Deer Lakes Park. Turn on Mahaffey Road, which goes into the park. Take the first right into the parking lot between the first two small lakes. This is the meeting location.

Sunday, July 3, 10:00 a.m. Wintergreen Gorge, Erie County

3399 Cooper Road, Erie, PA 16510

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

Wednesday, July 6, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Linbrook Woodlands with Allegheny Land Trust

Linbrook Park Drive, Sewickley, PA 15143. Join WPMC Identifiers **Julie Travaglini** and **Fluff Berger** for a mushroom hike and ID table at Linbrook Park. We'll start at the parking lots and work our way into Linbrook Park and adjacent Linbrook Woodlands. Hike runs rain or shine. We will not be foraging for food on this hike. Registration is required; no walk-ins will be permitted. Fee: \$5 for ages 3 through adult; free for children under 2. To reserve your place, register here: <https://alleghenylandtrust.org/event/mushroom-walk/>

Saturday, July 30, 9:00 a.m. to noon Sycamore Island with Allegheny Land Trust

SOLD OUT

Friday, August 12, 1:00-3:00 p.m. Beginners Mushroom Hike at Bethel Green with Allegheny Land Trust

Valley Drive parking lot across the street from OPEX, Bethel Park, PA 15102.
Join ALT Senior Director and WPMC Identifier **Julie Travaglini** for a beginner friendly mushroom hike and ID session at Bethel Green. We'll focus on general mushroom ecology as well as common names and identifying features. Hike runs rain or shine. We will not be foraging for food on this hike. Registration is required; no walk-ins will be permitted. Fee: \$5 for ages 3 through adult; free for children under 2. To reserve your place, register here: <https://alleghenylandtrust.org/event/beginners-mushroom-hike/>

Friday, September 23 at 10:00 a.m. Pre-Foray Walk at Cook Forest, Clarion County

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

Saturday, October 15 at 10:00 a.m. Townsend Park, Murrysville (Westmoreland County)

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

Friday, November 25 at 10:00 a.m. Black Friday Walk at Hartwood Acres

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

continued on page 8

NEVER EAT AN UNIDENTIFIED MUSHROOM!



Other Walks, Forays & Events

June 3-5

64th Allegheny Nature Pilgrimage

Allegheny State Park, Cattaraugus County, NY
WPMC Mycologist **Garrett Taylor** will be leading a Downhill Mushroom Hike as part of this three-day event.
For more information and to register:
<http://www.alleghenynaturepilgrimage.com/>

Wednesday, June 8, 5:00-5:45 p.m.

Free Webinar with Allegheny Land Trust

Common Mushrooms of the Garden & Yard.
Join WPMC Identifier **Julie Travaglini** for a look at some of our most common fungal friends that call our yards and flower beds home. To access the webinar at the specified date and time:

▶ **CLICK HERE**

July 16-17

Ohio Mushroom Society Summer Foray

Zaleski ODNR Complex in Vinton County.
<https://ohiomushroomsociety.wordpress.com/events/>

July 29-31

WV Mushroom Club Annual Foray, Davis, WV

<https://www.wvmushroomclub.net/>

September 2, 3:00 p.m.

Mycological Association of Washington, DC

Weekend Foray at Sequanota, Boswell, PA.
<https://mawdc.org/>

September 15-18

WMS/NAMA 2022 Northwoods Regional Foray

Cable, Wisconsin.
https://mms.namyco.org/members/evr/reg_event.php?orgcode=NAMA&evid=30115869

September 24

22nd Annual WPMC Gary Lincoff Foray

The Lodge at North Park.
See page 4 for more information.

September 29-October 2

North American Mycological Association (NAMA) Annual Foray

Trout Lodge. Potosi, Missouri.
https://mms.namyco.org/members/evr/reg_event.php?orgcode=NAMA&evid=30115869

October 15-16

Ohio Mushroom Society Fall Foray

Stark County. <https://ohiomushroomsociety.wordpress.com/events/>

More Photos from the 2021 Photo Contest

Dirk Cappel, *Stereum complicatum* - Crowded Parchment & Greenshield Lichen



Mike Henry, *Gyromitra brunnea*



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Important Walk & Foray Information

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

Walks & Forays Check List:

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

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



Extra Donations Help Fund WPMC Projects

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

WPMC Membership Report

by **Kris Murawski**

AS WE BEGIN THE second quarter of 2022, we now have 602 members from 317 households. Thank you for renewing your membership or becoming a new member in 2022. If you joined WPMC since September of 2021, or if you paid for membership when you registered for last year's Lincoff Foray, then you're a member through 2022. Otherwise, you have until May 15 to renew your membership. The best and fastest way to renew or join the club is to log on to the WPMC website at www.wpamushroomclub.org/join, fill out the form, and pay with PayPal.

Benefits of WPMC membership include:

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

To join or renew, download the membership application or pay:
<https://wpamushroomclub.org/about/join/>

WPMC Newsletter

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

Cecily Franklin, Editor
Martha Wasik Graphic Arts Inc., Production
Send submissions to: cs4wpmc@gmail.com

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HISTORIAN 724-339-8547	Joyce Gross jagart58@comcast.net
HOSPITALITY 724-413-2054	Carissa Mendez cnmendez@icloud.com
ID BUTTON PROGRAM 724-255-1131	Julie Travaglini jtravaglini@allegHENYlandtrust.org
LINCOFF FORAY: Jared Delaney, Sara Klingensmith. Julie Travaglini Lincoff-Foray@wpamushroomclub.org	
MEMBERSHIP	Kris Murawski membership@wpamushroomclub.org
MUSHROOM DISPLAY 412-854-5684	La Monte Yarroll piggy@wpamushroomclub.org
MYCOLOGICAL RECORDING 215-888-5503	Richard Jacob site-admin@wpamushroomclub.org
NEMF FORAY 724-331-1974	John Plischke III fungi01@aol.com
PHOTOGRAPHY 724-664-9287	Sara Klingensmith smklingensmith1990@gmail.com
PUBLICITY 412-781-6581	Cecily Franklin cs4wpmc@gmail.com
SALES	
SCHOLARSHIP 412-491-9233	Bryan Cass bpcass@gmail.com
TOXICOLOGY 724-331-1974	John Plischke III fungi01@aol.com
WALKS & FORAYS 412-445-1078	Cara Coulter vice-president@wpamushroomclub.org
WALKS & FORAYS 724-331-1974	John Plischke III fungi01@aol.com
WEBMASTER 215-888-5503	Richard Jacob site-admin@wpamushroomclub.org
WORKSHOP 724-352-4025	Judy Mackenroth angora_farm@yahoo.com

**NEVER EAT AN UNIDENTIFIED
MUSHROOM!**





Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club

22nd ANNUAL GARY LINCOFF MUSHROOM FORAY

SEPTEMBER 24, 2022 – THE LODGE, NORTH PARK

PLUS: Free Mushroom Walk Friday September 23 • Cook Forest

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

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

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

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

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

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

_____ **\$50 WPMC member**

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

_____ **\$30 Students (with ID) & kids 11 to 18**
(members or non-members) kids 10 & under free.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

Name(s) _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone 1 _____ Phone 2 _____

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

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

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

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

FOR MORE INFO: Lincoff-Foray@wpamushroomclub.org

REGISTRATION & RELEASE: SIGNED & DATED RELEASE FORM IS AN ABSOLUTE REQUIREMENT FOR ATTENDANCE.

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

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

PLEASE PRINT NAME CLEARLY: (INCLUDE NAMES OF CHILDREN UNDER TEN)

1 _____ 1 _____

2 _____ 2 _____

3 _____ 3 _____

4 _____ 4 _____

FOR ADDITIONAL NAMES / SIGNATURES, PLEASE INCLUDE AN EXTRA PAGE





Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club

WPMC MEMBERSHIP FORM

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

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

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

NEW MEMBERSHIP: RENEWAL:

Name (s) _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone 1 _____ Phone 2 _____

E-mail (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY) _____

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

**PLEASE PRINT IN PLAIN BLOCK LETTERING. TAKE SPECIAL CARE WITH EMAIL ADDRESSES:
numeral "1," uppercase "i" and lowercase "L" look the same.**

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

WPMC, c/o Kris Murawski, 5625 Villa Haven Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15236 • membership@wpamushroomclub.org

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

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

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

Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club Release and Indemnification Agreement

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

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

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

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

NOW THEREFORE, the Member hereby agrees to the following:

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

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

MEMBERS:

SIGNATURE (IF PARTICIPANT IS UNDER AGE 21, SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN). PLEASE PRINT NAME:

1 _____ 1 _____

2 _____ 2 _____

3 _____ 3 _____

4 _____ 4 _____