



WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA MUSHROOM CLUB NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 4

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2017



President's Message

RICHARD JACOB

THE HEAVY RAINSTORMS have continued through July, leading to quite a fabulous Chanterelle season. My neighbors complain about the weather, but I smile and say "I don't mind," while thinking about the wild mushroom feast that awaits me. Fingers crossed the frequent rains will continue into the autumn, so that we find a large variety of species at the Lincoff Foray.

WPMC members have been quite active this summer in the wider mushroom community. John Plischke III has been guest mycologist at a number of northeast forays. I attended the NAMA Mycoflora 2.0 committee meeting in July, just before the annual meeting of the Mycological Society of America. MSA has agreed to provide matching funds for a total of \$20,000 towards DNA Barcoding and Mycoflora, for use by NAMA clubs across the country. We will apply for matching funds for samples analyzed next year. I also presented a short talk on the Mycoflora protocol development, which was based in part on work done by WPMC.

A few WPMC members made the long drive to attend the NEMF Foray in Vermont this year. John Plischke III gave a workshop on

chemical tests for fungi identification, and I gave a DNA barcoding workshop. La Monte Yarroll and John worked on identifying specimens at the foray tables. Garrett Taylor and I were also singled out for finding unusual species during the walks. All in all, I think WPMC represented itself very well and made a meaningful contribution to the event.

Upcoming walks include the Lincoff Foray, a free mushroom class and walk at Harrison Hills, the final BioBlitz at Wingfield Pines, and a walk with Allegheny Land Trust at a new site, Dead Man's Hollow. We will also have a late season walk at Chatham University's Eden Hall campus. Additional walks have been posted on our website, and if the weather holds we will plan a few more going into November. We currently hold over 40 events a year, which makes us one of the most active clubs in the country.

Construction work at Beechwood Farms should be finished in time for our September meeting, and the rest of this year's meetings will be held at the normal location. Mark Spear will be our guest speaker for the September meeting, talking about capturing wild mushroom cultures, and October's meeting will be the results of the photo contest and the all-important election of next year's officers.

WPMC MONTHLY MEETINGS



Beechwood Construction Complete!

The Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania plans to hold a grand opening in mid-September to announce the completion of its construction project at Beechwood Farms. Improvements will include two new ADA-compliant nature trails, an addition to the Barn, stormwater management structures to address runoff, and a completely rebuilt parking lot.

2017 Meeting Schedule

Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month from March through November at Beechwood Farms (Audubon Society of Western PA), 614 Dorseyville Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238. All monthly meetings are free and include a Mushroom Display Table, staffed by expert Identifiers.

Sept 19 Capturing Wild Mushroom Cultures

Speaker: Mark Spear

WPMC member Mark Spear will cover basic methods, plate preparation and how to determine if you were successful in your capture. Prior to Mark's presentation, WPMC grant recipient Dacia Neely will present her research into White Nose Syndrome in Pennsylvania and European bats.

Oct 17 Photo Contest Winners & Election of Officers

Nov 21 Pot Luck Dinner & Member Photos



Last Chance to Register for Lincoff Foray

**Well, have you registered yet?
Time is running out!**

Registration forms can be found on page 11 of this newsletter or online at the club website:

<http://wpamushroomclub.org/lincoff-foray/>. You may also register and pay at the registration / check-in desk at Rose Barn, starting at 7:45 a.m. on September 16th.

The 17th Annual Gary Lincoff Foray will be held on Saturday, September 16th at the Rose Barn in Allegheny County North Park. This year's program will be a full-day event with guest speakers. Pittsburgh native and WPMC Lifetime Member Gary Lincoff, author of the *Audubon Guide to Mushrooms of North America*, will present "Off-Season Collecting: Hunting the Other Half of the Year". Our Guest Mycologist will be Robert Chang, Managing Director and Chief Truffle Officer of the American Truffle Company. In addition, WPMC President Richard Jacob will update us on the DNA Barcoding project, and Chef George Harris will be returning as our guest chef for the cooking demo.

The day will include guided walks, mushroom identification tables, cooking demo, sales table, vendors, author's book signing/Meet & Greet, auction and, of course, the legendary Mushroom Feast. All is included in the price of admission: Club members \$35, non-club members \$55 (includes membership through December 2018). Students and kids (age 11-18) \$10, kids age 10 (and under) free.

Hope to see you there!

17TH ANNUAL GARY LINCOFF MUSHROOM FORAY
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2017

ROSE BARN, NORTH PARK
 PEARCE MILL ROAD
 ALLISON PARK, 15101

Featuring:
Gary Lincoff
 with:
Robert Chang
 American Truffle Co.

Cooking Demo by
Chef George Harris

- ▶ Mushroom Walks & Identification
- ▶ Mushroom Feast
- ▶ Merchandise Sales & Silent Auction

FOR REGISTRATION VISIT: www.wpamushroomclub.org
 For info: 412-252-2594 or email: Lincoff-Foray@wpamushroomclub.org
 Presented by the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club © 2017

It's your club & we need volunteers for:

- **Set-up & clean-up:** Help set-up & take down the canopy, rental chairs and tables, and clean up after the feast.
- **Identification tent:** Bring identified specimens to the Display Tables in Rose Barn.
- **Cooking:** Prepare dishes with wild or store-bought mushrooms, or no mushrooms at all! Consider making a non-meat, non-dairy dish for our vegan members. (**NOTE: All foraged mushrooms must be identified by a club mycologist prior to cooking.**) Contact Kimberly Plischke at Ladiebugzpk@aol.com or 724-832-0271.
- **Hospitality:** Greet arriving guests and direct them to events.

Those wishing to volunteer contact:

Barbara DeRiso: Lincoff-foray@wpamushroomclub.org

or sign up online at:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094aa4af2ba3f49-lincoff/15971443>

Important Updates!



Pearce Mill Road Construction: Currently Pearce Mill Road in North Park is closed to through traffic near Rose Barn, *BUT the road is completely open on weekends!*

Cook Forest Walk: Currently, we are not sure if there will be a walk in Cook Forest on Friday, September 15th. *Please check the club website for updates.*



You Say You Want a Revolution

ROBERT CHANG, MANAGING DIRECTOR and Chief Truffle Officer of the American Truffle Company, will be this year's Guest Mycologist for the 17th Annual Gary Lincoff Foray on September 16. Robert's topic will be "The American Truffle Revolution." As Robert will explain, ATC is revolutionizing truffles in four major areas:

CULTIVATION. ATC has its own high-tech nursery and client-partners who use ATC's proprietary information. ATC also uses scientific instruments to continually monitor its worldwide truffle installations to collect the largest truffle science database in the world.

DISTRIBUTION. ATC will have the ability to harvest and ship their truffles daily, so that they will be consistently "hyperfresh."

QUALITY & AVAILABILITY. Each truffle can be traced to its time and place of harvesting, and ATC will provide customers with a traceability statement of authenticity.

CUISINE. Robert will describe the many chemicals which give truffles their unique fragrance and will explain why you don't want to overcook them.

Above & Beyond: Adam Haritan

ALTHOUGH ADAM HARITAN has only been a member of WPMC for five years, he has made significant contributions to the club's success. He currently serves as WPMC's Vice President and previously held the office of Corresponding Secretary. Just this year, Adam became an official WPMC Identifier.

Adam is a frequent walk leader and photographer. He was the speaker for our July 2016 monthly meeting and a teacher at this year's mushroom classes. If you haven't seen his informative videos, then check out his YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/c/learnyourland>

This year Adam went "Above and Beyond" by finding us an alternative site for our July meeting. We desperately needed a new location, since Beechwood Farms was undergoing construction. Adam used his connections to get us The Cabin at North Park for the monthly meeting.

Thanks, Adam!



WPMC Scholarships & Grants

WPMC recently awarded a \$1,000 grant to **Emma Honcharski**, a senior at Chatham University majoring in Sustainability. Emma has been a summer intern at FIT Farms in Garfield and plans to use her grant to support educational opportunities at a number of local non-profits, including FIT, Learn and Earn, and Goodwill. Emma's plan is to cultivate Wine Cap and Almond Agaricus mushrooms at FIT and to purchase mushroom kits to teach intellectually disabled individuals and other disadvantaged groups how to grow their own mushrooms.

WPMC's Scholarship/Grant application forms are available on our website and must be sponsored by a WPMC member. For more information, contact John Stuart at jons2art@comcast.net or 724-443-6878.

WPMC grant recipient Emma Honcharski

Is Identifying Mushrooms Easy or Hard?

by Dick Dougall

Identifying mushrooms is a complex subject. It can be both easy and hard. Let me give a few examples.

Identifying Morels can be easy, but...

There are only three groups of true morels: Black Morels, Yellow Morels, and Half-free Morels. There are differences among the morels, e.g. size, color variations, and habitat. When experts looked at these variations, they saw no patterns that consistently separated one Yellow Morel from all the other Yellow Morels. The same was true even when looking at their microscopic details.

So what is hard about identifying morels?

When the DNA of morels was analyzed, it was discovered that there are over a dozen different species among the three basic types. The only true way to determine the species is by DNA analysis! There are also real problems giving morels meaningful scientific names. All the traditional names are for European species or slight variations of the same species.

What about Amanita species?

Most WPMC members who have had some experience collecting mushrooms can identify a significant number of Amanita species. We know *Amanita muscaria* v. *guessowii* (Yellow Fly Agaric), the Destroying Angel, and a few others. Some of the Amanitas are considered edible. But because of the deadliness of the toxins in some Amanitas, a sound rule for all of us is: **DON'T EAT ANY AMANITAS!!** They can kill you.

What about the experts for this genus?

Rod Tulloss is probably the premier expert in this field. His Amanita website describes over 100 different Amanitas in great detail. I was unable to confidently compare the Amanitas described by Gary Lincoff in his Audubon Guide with the Amanitas on Tulloss's website. There is too much detail on the website and many newer or unique names.

So, are there any mushroom groups that are easy for beginners?

The answer is the Boletes. There are some reasonably sound rules for determining the edibility of Boletes. The main rules for eating are to avoid Boletes that stain blue when cut or those having reddish pores. These rules let you avoid the most

toxic Boletes, but they also eliminate some good quality edible Boletes.

Although the general Bolete rules can guide you with edibility, they do not tell you the name of the Bolete you have found. Scott Pavelle, a WPMC member, has created a software application, available on our website, called The Bolete Filter. It allows you to describe the cap, pore, and stem characteristics, habitat information (like tree types) and other details. The application compares your input information with the Boletes in its database. It will then suggest a handful of Boletes which best match your description. Now you can look at details of four or five Boletes instead of over 100 different ones and find the best match. It is a very useful tool.

A lot of our club members are primarily interested in edible mushrooms. In Pennsylvania, there are over 8,000 identified mushroom species. Half of these are obviously not edible because they are too hard or too small. Of the remaining 4,000, a great many have poor taste, mild to severe toxicity, or present identification difficulties. Still a big job remains to sort out the better edibles. We know the names of around fifty mushrooms that are considered choice edibles. This is where you should focus your efforts in identifying mushrooms.

I have found a great resource for learning about the good edibles and how to find them. It is David Spahr's book, *Edible and Medicinal Mushrooms of New England and Eastern Canada*. The primary focus of this book is on the mushrooms that most people would consider the top edibles. It also gives some good information about hunting and cooking them. David Spahr has put essentially 100% of the book on his website for you to read. The website address is: <http://mushroom-collecting.com/>.

I hope this article will encourage you to further increase your own mushroom identification skills. Don't be discouraged; there is a lot to learn. Also, recognize that you should be cautious about the mushrooms you collect for your table. Stick to the common edibles, and don't experiment with new ones.

EDITOR'S NOTE: If you'd like to receive recognition for your mushroom identification skills, send your list of known mushrooms to Dick Dougall at mush2prof@verizon.net.



Morels...

(photos by Ellis Becker)



Boletes...

(photos by Ellis Becker)

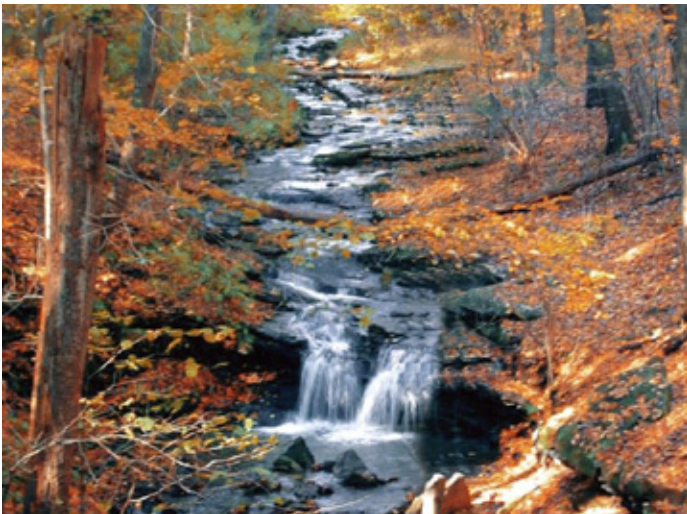


“Falling for Fungi” Mushroom Classes at Harrison Hills

JOIN WPMC IDENTIFIER FLUFF BERGER and other club experts for free morning mushroom classes and an afternoon walk at the Harrison Hills Park in Allegheny County on Saturday, September 23.

Classes will take place in the Environmental Learning Center from 10:00 a.m. to noon. We'll learn about common edible fungi of the autumn season, what to feast upon and what to avoid putting in your pot. Mushrooms are often plentiful in the fall, and a few are easy to identify which add culinary interest to your meals, even throughout the winter!

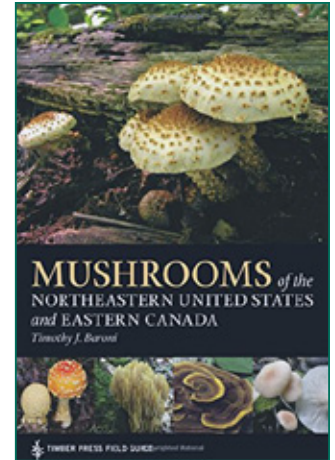
Bring your own lunch. Then we'll go for a hike on a Harrison Hills trail to practice what we learned in the morning, with the walk leaders pointing out other interesting and unusual fungi.



WPMC Has Opening for Sales Committee Chair

WPMC still has an opening for the Sales Committee Chair. The Sales Chair will set up a table at monthly meetings, the annual Foray, mushroom classes, and other events as requested. Inventory is stored at Beechwood Farms, along with a list of all items and their prices. The Sales Chair will collect cash and checks at each event and turn the money over to the Treasurer. A more detailed job description is available on request.

If you are interested in this position, or even if you'd like to help out at one meeting, please notify any WPMC Board member, or email cs4wpmc@gmail.com.



New Field Guide Published!

Mushrooms of the Northeastern United States and Eastern Canada

by Timothy Baroni

Flexibound, 600 pages

published by Timber Press, July 12, 2017

Mushrooms of the Northeastern United States and Eastern Canada is a compact, beautifully illustrated guide packed with descriptions and photographs of more than 400 of the region's most conspicuous, distinctive, and ecologically important mushrooms.

The area covered in this guide is roughly that of the eastern hardwood forests of North America. These territories include New Brunswick, Newfoundland, most of Quebec and Ontario, extending south through Minnesota to Illinois and eastward through the states surrounding the Great Lakes regions to West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and then up the coast to Maine. This area includes deciduous and coniferous forests, bogs, and alpine habitats that offer a wide range of species, many of which are only found in this region in North America.

In addition to profiles on individual species, *Mushrooms of the Northeastern United States and Eastern Canada* also includes a general discussion and definition of fungi; information on where to find mushrooms and guidelines on collecting them; an overview of fungus ecology; and a discussion on mushroom poisoning and how to avoid it.

Timothy J. Baroni is a Distinguished Professor of Biology at the State University of New York. He teaches at SUNY–College at Cortland and works on biodiversity research of macrofungi globally, with emphasis on mushrooms and other fungi found in the Americas. He is the author or co-author of three books and many peer-reviewed articles on taxonomy of macrofungi. Baroni has described 95 new species and varieties of macrofungi, served as president of the Mycological Society of America, and received numerous awards from the SUNY for teaching and research. In 2009, he was selected for the Distinguished Mycologist Award given by the Mycological Society of America.



Call for Wild Golden Oysters

WPMC MEMBERS are asked to keep an eye out for wild golden oysters, *Pleurotus citrinopileatus*, for Andrea Bruce, a graduate student at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. Andi is collecting North American specimens to do some population genetics, in an attempt to trace their naturalization from Asia.

Andi is requesting dried specimens, spore prints on aluminum foil, collection date and location, and any additional information that may be helpful if known (e.g. any known mushroom cultivators in the area, proximity to town or farmer's markets). Specimens can be sent to:

Receiving Stores, Biology Department, ATTN: Andi Bruce
855 East Ave. North, La Crosse, WI 54601
Andi can be reached at: bruce.andrea@uwlax.edu

Deadline is Rapidly Approaching to Enter WPMC's 2017 Photo Contest

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS:

- September 30, 2017
- Maximum of 5 entries per WPMC member
- Submit high resolution JPEG files up to 4 megabytes
- Email entries to RMiller.fungi@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, 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.



Bird's Nest and False Turkey Tail (photos by Cecily Franklin)

WPMC Well Represented at NEMF Foray



WPMC members attending this year's NEMF Foray (left to right): Garrett Taylor, Adam Haritan, Richard Jacob, John Plischke III, Kim Plischke, La Monte Yarroll

SIX MEMBERS OF WPMC made the long trip to Vermont for this year's Northeast Mycological Federation (NEMF) Foray on July 27-30. John Plischke III, who serves as WPMC's Trustee to NEMF, gave a workshop on chemical tests for mushroom identification and helped to identify species at the foray tables. Kim Plischke is currently the Secretary for NEMF.

WPMC President Richard Jacob gave a presentation on DNA Barcoding and Mycoflora 2.0 (<http://wpamushroomclub.org/dna-barcoding-workshop-presented-nemf-2017/>). Richard also received recognition for finding *Psilocybe caeruleipes*, a rare psilocybin mushroom known as blue-foot. This was particularly impressive, since he also found a bluing psychedelic species at last year's NAMA Foray.

WPMC Vice President Adam Haritan also attended, and WPMC Mycologist La Monte Yarroll worked on species identification for the event. WPMC member Garrett Taylor was recognized for his expert identification skills and received prizes for two of the four different cordyceps species he found at the Foray.

Thanks for representing WPMC so well!



Ophiocordyceps gracilis. Photo by Garrett Taylor



Ophiocordyceps stylophora. Photo by Garrett Taylor



Psilocybe caeruleipes. Photo by Richard Jacob

WPMC Walks & Presentations

ALL WALKS ARE ON SATURDAYS, beginning at 10:00 a.m., unless noted otherwise. Please read carefully for any registration requirements or fees. We're always adding new walks to the WPMC website at www.wpamushroomclub.org/events so check back often for updates, directions, and much more!

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.



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JONS2ART@COMCAST.NET

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

Walk & Foray Check List:

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



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.

Mushroom Walks

Sept. 2 Pleasant Valley Park. Joint walk with Friends of Murrysville Parks

Meet **Pia van de Venne** and WPMC President **Richard Jacob** at the Pleasant Valley parking lot. The park consists of 262 acres of woodlands, open fields, hilltops and remote valleys.

Sept. 23 ALL DAY – Harrison Hills Park

Join us for morning classes and an afternoon walk at Harrison Hills Park in Allegheny County. (See page 5.)

Sept. 30 Wingfield Pines (Upper St. Clair) BioBlitz #4

Join Allegheny Land Trust on a BioBlitz to catalog the different species found at Wingfield Pines. The fungi portion of the BioBlitz will be held like a normal mushroom walk. Meet WPMC walk leader in the parking lot. This is the last of four BioBlitzes at Wingfield Pines carried out over the year and will allow us to give a rough estimation of the number of species at the site. For more information, including trail map, directions and video, visit: <http://alleghenylandtrust.org/green-space/wingfield-pines/>

Oct. 7 South Park

Join WPMC Mycologist **La Monte Yarroll** and South Park Naturalist **Gordon Fenn** at the South Park Nature Center for the annual Parks Department walk.

Oct. 14 Camp Guyasuta, Sharpsburg

Join WPMC Treasurer **Barbara DeRiso**. Meet at the second parking lot.

Oct. 21 Fungus Among Us Walk with Allegheny Land Trust, Dead Man's Hollow (McKeesport)

Meet ALT & WPMC to explore Dead Man's Hollow. **Preregister at:** www.eventbrite.com/e/fungus-among-us-tickets-35981221803 WPMC members are free but you will need to bring your membership card; non-members are \$5.

For more information, including trail map and directions, visit: <http://alleghenylandtrust.org/green-space/dead-mans-hollow/>

Oct. 28 Chatham University Eden Hall Campus

This is a return visit to the Eden Hall. We found a wide range of species there last year and hope to find a number of different fall species on this walk.

Other Walks & Forays

Sept. 1-4 Connecticut-Westchester Mycological Association (COMA)

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

Sept. 7-10 North American Mycological Association (NAMA)

2017 Northwoods Foray, Lakewood Resort & Lodge, Cable WI
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/285807945121717/>

Sept. 16 16th Annual WPMC Gary Lincoff Foray

North Park. (see page 2 of this Newsletter)

Sept. 22-24 Ohio Mushroom Society

Camp Asbury in Hiram
<https://ohiomushroomsociety.wordpress.com/events/>

BOOK REVIEW

by John Plischke

Field Guide to Wild Mushrooms of Pennsylvania and the Mid-Atlantic: Revised and Expanded Edition

by Bill Russell

Paperback: 284 pages,
Published by Pennsylvania
State University Press

August 1, 2017



BILL RUSSELL IS AT IT AGAIN.

He has just revised and expanded his *Field Guide to Wild Mushrooms of Pennsylvania and the Mid-Atlantic*. The new publication covers 125 mushrooms that you need to know, including 25 varieties not found in the previous edition.

I first met Bill Russell about 40 years ago at the behest of Emily Johnson (whom some of you may have known). He was a professor at Penn State University; he was good then, and is even better now. When I was first presented with his book, it reminded me of the *Mushroom Hunter's Field Guide* by Alexander Smith.

Russell's guide describes many edible mushrooms; among my favorites is the horse mushroom, *Agaricus arvensis*. Each entry features a detailed description, including the cap, gill, spore print, stem, habitat, edibility, copy-cats, and tips. It is full of color photographs, although they could be bigger.

Besides the usual Preface and Acknowledgements, the book is broken down into Mushroom Basics; Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter Mushrooms; Edible and Non-Edible Mushrooms; and Mushrooms in the Kitchen. It also has an Appendix: Gill/Pore and Spore Print Guide; References; and Index. I consider the segment on spore printing to be an essential part of any mushroom book. This section provides the basic characteristics of various poisonous members of the Amanita family. The guide also contains a rather small section on how to prepare mushrooms and some recipes.

This edition also includes a feature I have never seen before: a loose laminated black & white spore print card. It could keep you from making a drastic mistake! I consider this book a must-have for the beginner and intermediate mushroomer.

Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month from March thru November at Beechwood Farms: Audubon Society of Western PA, 614 Dorseyville Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238.

ALL MONTHLY MEETINGS ARE FREE AND INCLUDE A MUSHROOM DISPLAY TABLE STAFFED BY EXPERT IDENTIFIERS.

Membership Report

Thanks to all WPMC Members who joined or renewed in 2017. We recently surpassed 650 members, breaking last year's record. Please encourage your friends and families to join WPMC and enjoy the great outdoors, foraging for nature's bounty. Our online application is available at: <http://wpamushroomclub.org/about/join/>.

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. WPMC's Scholarship/Grant application forms are available on our website and must be sponsored by a WPMC member. For more information, contact John Stuart at jons2art@comcast.net or 724-443-6878.

WPMC's Non-Profit Status Makes Donations Tax-Deductible

Looking for a way to support WPMC beyond paying your annual dues? Make a donation anytime; it's tax-deductible 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, Barbara DeRiso.

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:

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Send submissions to: cs4wpmc@gmail.com

WPMC YAHOO GROUPS:

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

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

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NEVER EAT AN UNIDENTIFIED MUSHROOM



17TH ANNUAL GARY LINCOFF MUSHROOM FORAY SEPT. 16, 2017 • ROSE BARN • NORTH PARK

Featuring:

Mycologist 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 is 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. Also joining us will be **Robert Chang**, Managing Director and Chief Truffle Officer of the American Truffle Company. **Chef George Harris**, who specializes in cooking wild mushrooms and wild game, will do a cooking demonstration and Mushroom Club cooks will prepare a mushroom feast with dozens of unique mushroom dishes to delight your taste buds.

**Rose Barn in Allegheny County North Park, Pearce Mill Road, Allison Park, PA 15101
Saturday, September 16 – Foray includes light lunch & mushroom feast.**

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

_____ \$35 WPMC member _____ \$55 Non-members (includes admission & 2017-18 WPMC Membership)
_____ \$15 Students (with ID) & children 11 to 18. Children 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: <http://wpamushroomclub.org/lincoff-foray/>

Register & pay by check (payable to Western PA Mushroom Club):
WPMC C/O Barbara DeRiso • 204 Woodcock Dr. • Pittsburgh PA 15215

For more info: Barbara DeRiso, Foray Chair: 412-252-2594 / 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



WPMC MEMBERSHIP FORM

2017

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 • 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/about/join/ to pay using a 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 _____