



# Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club Newsletter

## Fungi, Fun & Friends!

VOLUME 25, ISSUE 4

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2025



### President's Message

Barbora Batokova

AS I WRITE THIS, summer is in full swing, and we're counting down to our 25th annual Gary Lincoff Foray on September 18–20, a weekend of

mushroom walks with WPMC identifiers and talks by our keynote speakers **Britt Bunyard** and **Matt Kasson**.

This is also the perfect moment to support an exciting statewide initiative: House Bill 1090, which would make the hemlock varnish shelf (*Ganoderma tsugae*) Pennsylvania's official state mushroom. Led by the Pennsylvania Biological Survey's Mycological Technical Committee and endorsed by all eight of the state's mycology clubs, this bill would put Pennsylvania among only nine states with an official mushroom.

Until late September, legislators are in their home districts, making it an ideal time to contact them. Please write to your state representative and ask them to support HB 1090. If they're already a cosponsor, thank them for backing this important recognition of fungi's role in our state. If you live in an area represented on the House Tourism, Recreation & Economic Development Committee, consider inviting your representative on a mushroom walk or foray. Seeing fungi in the wild can be a powerful motivator!

Learn more about why *Ganoderma tsugae* is a fitting choice—and how you can help—at:

<https://sites.google.com/view/pastatemushroom/home>.

As we head into fall, I'm hopeful for a season filled with great weather, abundant fungi, and exciting discoveries. I look forward to seeing many of you on the trails and at our events! Happy mushrooming!

## 2025 Meeting Schedule

MARK YOUR CALENDARS now for this year's monthly WPMC meetings. Note that the September meeting has been moved to September 9 so that it will not be the same week as the Lincoff Foray. All meetings will be held on Tuesday evenings from March through November at the Frick Environmental Center and will feature updates on club activities, a speaker/presentation, mushroom identification table, and mushroom-related merchandise for sale. Meetings are free and open to the public. Instead of livestreaming meetings to Facebook, WPMC will email members in advance with a Zoom link, so that they have the option of joining remotely.

### SEPTEMBER 9 – When the Tables are Turned: Plants that Eat Fungi (VIRTUAL)

by **Melissa McCormick**

Fungi are regularly thought of as decomposers—plant pathogens. But they also interact with plants in ways that are beneficial. Mycorrhizal fungi are essential for plant access to nutrients and water and for protection against pathogens. Sometimes the plant is even able to parasitize the fungus.

Over 10% of plant species can get all of their nutrients from fungi for at least part of their life. This includes all orchids, which rely completely on fungi for all nutrients from the time of seed germination until their first green leaves form. Melissa will introduce the plants that have evolved to take advantage of fungi and what it means for the ecology of both the plants and the fungi.



### OCTOBER 21 – Photo Contest Results and Election of Officers

WPMC Identifier **Sara Klingensmith** will present the winners of this year's Photo Contest. In addition, WPMC members will vote on a slate of Officers for 2026.

### NOVEMBER 18 – Potluck & Annual WPMC Awards

For the Potluck, bring something for 6 – 8 people, along with serving utensils. The categories are Appetizers, Salads, Hot Dishes, Cold Plates, Soup, Casseroles, Desserts, anything you want—be creative. It does not need to be mushroom related but, if so, wild mushrooms must be identified and approved by a club Identifier or Mycologist before cooking, and any non-members will have to sign a waiver before trying them. Since electrical connections are limited, bring hot food hot, and bring cold food cold. WPMC will provide soft drinks, plates, eating utensils, napkins, and take-home boxes.

## WPMC in the News

THE AUGUST ISSUE of *North Hills Monthly Magazine* includes an article titled "Foraging Fun Abounds in Western PA". The reporter conducted interviews with WPMC Past President **Cecily Franklin** and Learn Your Land Founder **Adam Haritan**. All four photos in the article were taken by WPMC members, with credits given to club Identifiers **Dawn Wehman** and **Jared White**. To read the entire article, go to:

<https://www.nhmmag.com/post/foraging-fun-abounds-in-western-pa>





# LINCOFF FORAY RETURNS TO NORTH PARK ON SEPTEMBER 20

REGISTRATION IS FILLING up fast for the 25th annual Gary Lincoff Foray on Saturday, September 20, at The Lodge, North Ridge Drive, Allison Park, PA 15101. Activities will include:

- Guided morning walks
- Afternoon speakers
- Mushroom display tables
- Auction, Sales, and Vendors
- Fermented Soda Workshop
- Mushroom Feast
- Table Walk

Beginning on September 1, prices increase to \$60 for current WPMC members, \$85 for non-members (includes membership through 2026), and \$40 for students. Space is limited, so register today at this link:

<https://wpamushroomclub.org/lincoff-foray/>

## Free Pre-Foray Walks at Cook Forest

BEFORE THE LINCOFF FORAY at North Park, WPMC will also host a Fluorescent Foray at Cook Forest on Thursday, September 18, from 7:30 to 9:30 pm, and a Pre-Foray Walk at Cook Forest State Park on Friday, September 19, from 10 am to 3 pm. There is no charge for these walks, but you will be responsible for your own transportation and lodging. See page 7 for more details.

## Foray Will Present Two Afternoon Speakers

THIS YEAR'S GUEST MYCOLOGISTS will be **Britt Bunyard**, founder, Publisher, and Editor-in-Chief of the mycology journal *FUNGI*, and author of many books and **Matt Kasson**, Associate Professor of Mycology and Forest Pathology at West Virginia University. Britt will discuss stories from his book "The Lives of Fungi". Matt will present his lab's work on fungivorous millipedes in his talk, "Fungus-eating millipedes: More fungi than legs!" Books by Britt Bunyard will be available for purchase at the Foray.



## Foray Will Feature Fermented Sodas Workshop

THIS YEAR'S LINCOFF FORAY will include a Fermented Sodas Workshop in place of a Cooking Demonstration. Enter the world of microbes in this engaging workshop with **Trevor Ring**, fermentation educator and owner of Community Cultures. Learn about the world of foraging wild yeast and using starter cultures like water kefir to craft bubbly beverages. Participants will learn how to infuse everything from mushrooms, paw paws and other seasonal fruit into delicious, unique beverages.

## Foray Auction Will Showcase Artwork by WPMC Members

THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY of WPMC members, we have received dozens of donations for this year's Lincoff Foray auction/raffle. Several WPMC members have kindly donated their own works to this year's Foray auction. **Glenn Brynes** has donated a mushroom lamp, **Dana Driscoll** is donating original art, and **Becka Jean Marsh** will contribute her *Maitake* and *Laetiporus* pillows.

Please do not bring any donations to the Foray, when it will be too late to prepare them for display. As in prior years, each person attending the Lincoff Foray will receive one free raffle ticket at the sign-in table. Be sure to print your name on the back of the ticket before placing it in the bag of your desired item and keep the coupon portion. Additional tickets may be purchased for the LOW price of one dollar, so bring along some extra cash and bid on your favorite goodies.

The lucky winners will be announced in the afternoon. All proceeds will benefit WPMC. If you would like to assist in running the auction, please email **Cecily Franklin** at [cs4wpmc@gmail.com](mailto:cs4wpmc@gmail.com).



(above left)  
Artwork by Dana Driscoll



(below left)  
Pillow by Becka Jean Marsh

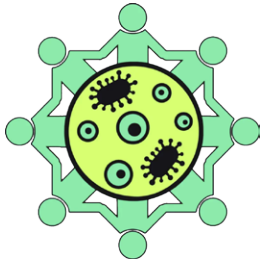
(above)  
Lamp by Glenn Brynes





## Vendors Return to the Lincoff Foray

WPMC IS PLEASED to announce that the following vendors will be selling their wares at this year's Lincoff Foray. Here's who's coming:



### COMMUNITY CULTURES

Fermentation



### LUCIA WONG YIP

Watercolors



### FLANNEL ROOTS FARM

Culinary Products & Educational Items



### JEN SCHNAKENBERG

Nature-inspired Jewelry



### HAND SPUN AND REMADE

Clothing & accessories of natural & recycled fibers



### BONESETTER NURSERY

Native Plants

## Volunteers Needed for Friday Setup at The Lodge

WPMC HAS RENTED The Lodge at North Park for the entire day on Friday, September 19, so that we'll be ready for action first thing on Saturday. We need volunteers who won't be going to Cook Forest but would be willing to help us out locally on Friday. We still need one member with a roomy vehicle to help get supplies from our storage locker in Etna and take them to The Lodge. We'll also need a strong crew at North Park to set up tables and chairs. Members who volunteer their time will receive a rebate on their Foray registration fee, as follows: Free T-shirt for 2 hours, 50% reimbursement for half a day, and 100% reimbursement for a full day. If you're interested and available, please email the Foray Co-Chairs at [Lincoff-foray@wpamushroomclub.org](mailto:Lincoff-foray@wpamushroomclub.org).

## Lincoff Foray Cooks & Kitchen Volunteers Needed

**MIKE HENRY** HAS BEEN WPMC's Lincoff Foray Feast Chair since 2021. Mike is always looking for members who are willing to bring a dish to the Foray. You don't need to cook for 100 people – just 10 to 15.

If you plan to bring a dish containing wild-foraged mushrooms, you will need to first get them approved by a club Identifier or Mycologist. It's OK to use store-bought

mushrooms if you're uncomfortable with cooking wild mushrooms. In fact, your dish doesn't need to contain mushrooms at all. Some club members are allergic or sensitive to mushrooms and will need an alternative meal choice.

Please contact **Mike Henry** if you are interested in bringing a dish or volunteering for other kitchen duties at [forayfood@wpamushroomclub.org](mailto:forayfood@wpamushroomclub.org).



Photo by Barbora Batokova

## WPMC Selects Winning Foray Design

WPMC RECEIVED A variety of excellent designs for this year's Lincoff Foray Logo Contest. The winning design, submitted by **Johnathan Kohlhepp**, will appear on the 25th anniversary T-shirts. Be sure to order yours when you register for the Foray.



## WPMC Announces New Hospitality Chairs

WPMC MEMBERS **Joy LeViere** and **Nathan Cobbett** have graciously agreed to co-chair WPMC's Hospitality Committee. Joy and Nathan brought refreshments to the August meeting.



# Interview With La Monte Yarroll

By Dawn Wehman

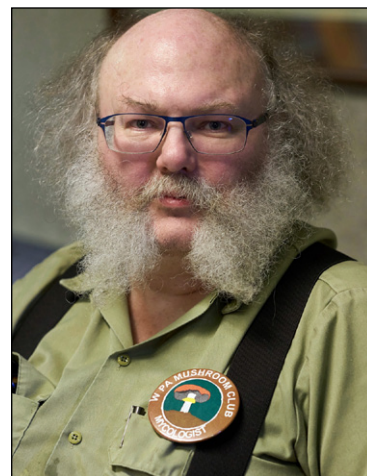
**W**PMC MYCOLOGIST **La Monte Yarroll** spent his first five years in Papua New Guinea. "I got my first training as a naturalist at my mother's knee, as the youngest and most spoiled child of three. My mother was a primary school teacher and always had a garden and we loved to spend time outdoors. As well, I have been a hiker most of my life."

Fast forward to adulthood, when La Monte and his wife, Eve, were expecting their firstborn. He got a job at the University of Tasmania, Australia, for a Systems Programmer with a background in Category Theory. La Monte's Bachelor's thesis at The University of Chicago in Category Theory fit the bill. During his time in "Tassie", his interest in mushrooms really got started. "I saw dozens of species on every walk. My first field guide was from CSIRO Publishing, the Australian equivalent of the National Science Foundation. Lots of (the mushrooms in Tassie) were undescribed, and I saw something I wanted to do."

Upon returning to Chicago, he had a chance meeting with Leon Shernoff of the Illinois Mycological Association (IMA). Leon wanted to set up a subdomain for the IMA and invited La Monte to their next event. That's where La Monte met Patrick Leacock, PhD, Mycologist and Botanist. Pat ran the voucher program for NAMA for many years. Leon went on to become the publisher of *Mushroom: The Journal of Wild Mushrooming*.

"I was collecting mushrooms for about six years before I was interested in eating any of them. Then around 1998 we took a trip out West, and I looked behind a rest area and found a few *Boletus edulis* (King Boletes). This stranger approached me and asked, 'Where did you find those?' He picked a cooler full of them and taught me to dehydrate them on the back window of the car. I made them into a delicious soup and was hooked."

"We bought our house in Bethel Park when I took a position at Timesys in 2001. I immediately sought out a club but had to take public transportation to Beechwood Farms and bum a ride home. I loved doing the ID table right away and kept getting asked how many mushrooms I knew. After the second meeting, I got all my books out and counted the mushrooms I could ID by sight. By the third meeting, I announced that I knew 600+. [The late Past President] **Dick Dougall** made me a Club Mycologist on the spot."



WPMC Mycologist La Monte Yarroll proudly displays his ID Button.

La Monte's favorite organisms are slime molds (not actually fungi), particularly *Stemonitis* (Chocolate tube). Regarding edibles, *Craterellus fallax* (Black Trumpet) and *Leucoagaricus americanus* (Reddening lepiota) are his favorites, and he likes making Chanterelle-Infused agave tequila.

Today La Monte is working on getting his Master's degree (anticipated completion date is May 2026). The overarching goal is to develop The Synoptic Key of Life. This project will make searchable the taxonomic descriptions in the biological literature with machine learning and make them accessible to the amateur taxonomist.

**Editor's Note:** La Monte Yarroll served on the WPMC Board of Directors as NAMA Trustee from 2017-2020. He won WPMC's Outstanding Service Award in both 2006 and 2017.

<http://www.synoptickeyof.life/>

## Membership Dues Increase in 2026

By Dawn Wehman

**A**S OF AUGUST 24, we have 598 members from 354 households. Your membership dues are vital to keep the club running. These dues contribute over 40% of WPMC's income every year. Members are entitled to the following benefits:

- Nine monthly meetings with speakers & mushroom identification
- Free mushroom kit at our annual cultivation meeting
- Five electronic WPMC newsletters
- Advance notice of mushroom walks and other local, regional & national events
- Annual photo contest for WPMC members only
- Access to WPMC Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/250320011779>
- Discount at WPMC's annual Gary Lincoff Foray

We haven't increased our dues for more than 15 years, but we too are being hit by the economy. Starting in 2026 WPMC dues will be:

**Individual: \$20 • Family: \$25 • Student: \$15**

This was a tough decision for the Board, but we deliberated and made sure our upcoming ask is in line with what neighboring clubs are doing. You can renew your membership now by going to: <https://wpamushroomclub.org/about/join/>

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to **Dawn Wehman** at [membership@wpamushroomclub.org](mailto:membership@wpamushroomclub.org)

## Look Great While You Support WPMC!

**S**HOW YOUR WPMC pride by purchasing customized club gear from [spreadshop.com](http://spreadshop.com). The WPMC Merch Store offers many products with the WPMC logo, including shirts of various styles, hats, mugs, aprons, tote bags, and more. Whether it's for men, women, or toddlers, you get to choose the size and color! Buy for yourself or as one-of-a-kind gifts. All purchases benefit WPMC, so get started at this link:

<https://western-pa-mushroom-club.myspreadshop.com/>





## Out & About with WPMC

WPMC MEMBERS WERE busy representing the club during July and August.



### The Ohio Mushroom Society

Enjoying the Mycological World of Ohio and Beyond

**JULY 19 – 20:** WPMC Mycologist **John Plischke** was a featured speaker at the Ohio Mushroom Society Summer Foray.

**JULY 22:** **Becka Jean Marsh** organized a mushroom walk at Frick Park for the Pittsburgh Lesbianz.

**AUGUST 26:** Becka organized a mushroom walk at Beechwood Farms for the same group.



**JULY 26:** WPMC Identifier **Jared White** hosted a table at North Park Garden in the Park, along with WPMC Bolete Specialist **Scott Pavelle** & **Kate Pavelle** and WPMC Identifier **Jack Baker** & **Valerie Baker**.

**AUGUST 16:** Jared also hosted a table at South Park Garden in the Park, along with WPMC Mycologists **La Monte Yarroll** and **Jim Tunney**.

**AUGUST 1 – 3:** Several WPMC members represented the club at the WV Mushroom Club Foray. WPMC Mycologist **John Plischke** showed how to do chemical tests for mushroom identification. Flannel Roots Farm held an Amadou workshop, featuring *Fomes fomentarius*. **Shannon Nix** demonstrated how to observe proper field documentation using iNaturalist.



**AUGUST 6:** WPMC Identifier **Julie Travaglini** gave a presentation on "Mushrooms of the Yard and Garden" at Sewickley Public Library.

**AUGUST 23:** WPMC Identifiers **Josh Doty** and **Jared White** led their annual mushroom walk for the Upper St. Clair Township Library at Boyce Mayview Park.



The day before, WPMC Identifier **Ron Hilton** promoted the walk at the Titusville Open Air Market.

**AUGUST 24:** WPMC Identifier **Dirk Cappel** led a walk at Oil Creek State Park with the PA Department of Conservation

## Photos from July Camping Retreat in Indiana County



**DIANA BACA**, owner of Oak Haven Mushroom Farm, hosted the camping retreat.



WPMC Identifier **DAWN WEHMAN** grills some mushrooms.



WPMC Mycologist **RICHARD JACOB** checks out the display table.



WPMC Mycologist **JOHN PLISCHKE** prepares mushrooms for DNA barcoding.

Photos by Barbora Batokova

## 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 acknowledgments.

**Cecily Franklin, Editor**

**Martha Wasik Graphic Arts, Production**

Send submissions to: [cs4wpmc@gmail.com](mailto:cs4wpmc@gmail.com)



# Last Chance to Enter 2025 Photo Contest

By Sara Klingensmith

THE DEADLINE TO enter this year's Photo Contest is September 30. Photography Chair **Sara Klingensmith** will announce the winners at the October 21 meeting. Here are the Photo Contest rules for this year:

- Deadline for Submissions: September 30, 2025
- Maximum of 5 Entries per WPMC member
- Submit high resolution JPEG files
- Rename images before submitting, using name and subject, e.g., "Joe Smith morel.jpg"
- Email entries to **Sara Klingensmith** at [pamushroomclubphotos@gmail.com](mailto:pamushroomclubphotos@gmail.com).
- Indicate in your email the desired category for each photo.

You must be a member of the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club in good standing to enter. Club dues must be up to date. Photos submitted by non-members will not be considered.

## ENTRY DIVISIONS

**Advanced 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.

**Novice Pictorial:** This division is for single photos that illustrate the beauty and variety of fungi in form and color. The objective is a photo that shows the photographer learning to use focus, depth of field, and lighting.

**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 categories 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, and mushroom selfies.

**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.

**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.



Photo by Barbora Batokova

**For complete contest rules:**

<https://wpamushroomclub.org/photo-galleries/annual-wpmc-photo-contest/>

## WPMC Scholarship Committee

WPMC ADMINISTERS AN annual Scholarship/Grant program to promote wild mushrooming by providing monetary support for attending 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, go to:

<https://wpamushroomclub.org/education/wpmc-scholarship-grant-application/>

## 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**. You may donate using PayPal by using the email address [treasurer@wpamushroomclub.org](mailto:treasurer@wpamushroomclub.org).





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

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.

If you would like to lead a WPMC walk, or if you know a great walk location, please email WPMC Identifier JOSH MOWRIS at [joshmowris@yahoo.com](mailto:joshmowris@yahoo.com).



## WPMC Walks & Events

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 6 PM

**Washington Park (Washington County)**  
283 Dunn Avenue, Washington PA 15301

Meet WPMC Identifier **Jared White** at the Mustang baseball field parking lot for a mid-week mushroom walk. Free and open to the public.

<https://washingtonpa.us/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/2018-Park-Map-3.pdf>

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 10 AM – 1 PM

**Cook Forest (Clarion County)**  
Log Cabin Environmental Learning Center Parking Lot

Join WPMC Identifier **Dawn Wehman** for a free mushroom walk through the old-growth forest of Cook Forest State Park. It is highly recommended that attendees already have downloaded and joined iNaturalist.org as this will be a primary focus on the walk. This free event is primarily for WPMC members, but all are welcome.

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, NOON – 2 PM

**Beginner's Mushroom ID Hike with ALT**  
Girty's Woods – Irwin Lane Entrance (Millvale, PA)

Join an ALT educator for a mushroom walk at Girty's Woods! This is not a traditional guided hike. After a brief introduction, participants will hike on their own in search of fungi. We will then meet back up for an identification session to learn what we discovered. We will not be foraging for food on this hike or discussing edibility.

No walk ins will be permitted. Hike runs rain or shine. Drive to the end of Irwin Lane and you will see an open gate. Drive through the open gate and park in the grassy area just past. ALT staff will guide you. Please do not park along Irwin Lane. Tickets are \$5 for adults; no ticket required for ages 2 and under. Register here:

<https://alleghenylandtrust.org/event/beginners-mushroom-id-hike/>

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 10 AM – 1 PM

**Allegheny National Forest**  
Hearts Content National Scenic Area, Tidioute, PA (Warren County)

Join WPMC Identifier **Josh Mowris** for a mushroom walk at Hearts Content National Scenic Area. Free and open to the public.

<https://wpamushroomclub.org/events/hearts-content-national-scenic-area-warren-county/>

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 11 AM – 6 PM

**Pittsburgh County Fair with Ferment Pittsburgh**  
Allegheny Commons Park West

WPMC Identifier **Mike Henry** will host a table at this free event celebrating urban agriculture and all things local, handmade, and homegrown in the City of Pittsburgh!

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 7:30 – 9:30PM

**Fluorescent Foray at Cook Forest (Clarion County)**  
Meet at the Log Cabin Inn Environmental Learning Center

Join WPMC Mycologists & Identifiers for an evening stroll through the Forest Cathedral. We will use 365nm UV flashlights to light up the trail and search for fungi that glow in response to ultraviolet light. Parts of the path are flatter, but some sections have steep grades of 10-17%. Expect to walk 1-2 miles, but participants can shorten the distance as needed.

Bring a headlamp, ideally with a red light, and wear sturdy footwear and weather-appropriate clothing. Participants are encouraged to bring their own UV flashlight. Leaders will provide protective eye-wear. There are restrooms available near the parking lot.

There is no charge for this walk, but you will be responsible for your own transportation and lodging. We recommend staying in the area if you're attending the Fluorescent Foray and coordinating with friends to find a campsite. The Ridge Campground at Cook Forest is an affordable option.

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 10 AM – 3 PM

**Pre-Foray Walk at Cook Forest (Clarion County)**

Meet WPMC Identifiers and Mycologists at Shelter 2 for a pre-Foray walk at Cook Forest. There is no charge for this walk, but you will be responsible for your own transportation and lunch.

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

**25th Annual WPMC Gary Lincoff Foray**  
North Park (Allegheny County)

See pages 2 – 3 for more information.

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 10 AM – 2 PM

**Mushroom Forage, Foray and Fun!**  
Flagstaff Pavilion, North Park

Join a collaborative mushroom walk with Phipps, WPMC, and Flannel Roots Farm. Participate in a foraged ID session, collect specimens, and learn about natural fungi in our area. Flannel Roots will also help us identify and potentially roast our edible finds for on-site tasting. With special permits allowing us to eat our foraged food, this

*continued on page 8*



is a unique opportunity that you won't want to miss! Flannel Roots will provide small bites and drinks made with seasonal mushrooms. Bring sketching materials as we discuss various fungi species, their habitats, and cooking tips. \$45 for Phipps members and \$60 for nonmembers. For more information and to register, go to:

<https://my.conservatory.org/9462/mushroomforage>

### **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 10 AM – 1 PM**

#### **McConnells Mill State Park Portersville, PA (Butler County)**

Join WPMC Identifier **Josh Mowris** for a mushroom walk at Hell's Hollow Trail. Free and open to the public.

<https://wpamushroomclub.org/events/mcconnells-mill-state-park-hells-hollow-trail-butler-county/>

### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 5:30 – 7:30 P.M.**

#### **Girty's Woods with ALT and City Girls Who Walk**

Meet ALT and CGWW at the end of Irwin Lane for a mushroom walk at Girty's Woods. Tickets are \$10 and all participants must sign a waiver. Register here:

<https://www.heylo.com/event/-OYC2tLzxWWJbuXJ-PQP?invitelD=b812bc0c-5fe6-4173-a416-a39a0509727d>

### **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 11:00 AM**

#### **Glade Run Lake Conservancy Lake Road, Valencia, PA (Butler County)**

WPMC President **Barbora Batokova** will lead a mushroom walk at Glade Run Lake as part of Glade Run Lake Conservancy's free community events. Bring a chair or blanket and meet at the pavilion.

<https://www.gladerunlakeconservancy.org/events-2025-nature-series-schedule>

### **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 10 AM – NOON**

#### **Mushroom ID, Journaling & Foraging New Dimension Pavilion, Boyce Park**

Join Phipps and Flannel Roots Farm for a Saturday morning of mushroom searching and sketching. Participants will learn to forage for mushrooms while learning the basics of starting a nature journal to log your finds. This class emphasizes observation skills, sketching, basic ID, and structure of mushrooms for personal records. We will also go over foraging safely. During this mushroom walk, we will be identifying any possible mushrooms that can be utilized in the papermaking and ink making process (if available and weather permitting,) with handouts for at home DIY. Each participant will receive a pocket-sized journal to begin their mushroom records. \$33 for Phipps members and \$35 for non-members. For more information and to register, go to:

<https://my.conservatory.org/9466/mushroomidjournaling>

### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 5:30 – 7:00 P.M.**

#### **"Trees & Fungi" with Tree Pittsburgh 32 62nd Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15201**

Join WPMC Mycologist **Stephen Bucklin** at Tree Pittsburgh for a walk and talk exploring the fascinating subject of fungi and how they shape our forests. Stephen will guide us through the ecological roles of fungi and help us gain perspective on tree and fungi connections in an urban setting. Tickets are \$20. For more information and to register, go to:

<https://action.treepittsburgh.org/a/trees-fungi-oct-2025>

### **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 4 – 6:30 PM**

#### **Slightly Spooky Mushroom Stroll with Allegheny Land Trust Dead Man's Hollow – Near Boston Ballfield (McKeesport)**

Join ALT staff and WPMC Identifier **Julie Travaglini** for a mushroom hike at Dead Man's Hollow. This slightly spooky hike will include the haunted history of Dead Man's Hollow as we walk 0.9 mile (each way) along the Great Allegheny Passage to enter the ruins of the Hollow to look for fungi. COSTUMES WELCOME, just make sure they are safe and comfortable for hiking. Hike runs rain or shine. NO WALK-INS will be permitted. We will not be foraging for food on this hike or discussing edibility. Tickets are \$5 for adults; tickets not required for children ages 2 and under. Register here:

<https://alleghenylandtrust.org/event/slightly-spooky-mushroom-stroll/>

### **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 10 AM – NOON**

#### **Mushroom Walk in Cook Forest's Old Growth Forest Log Cabin Environmental Learning Center (Leeper, PA 16233)**

Join WPMC President **Barbora Batokova** for a guided 3-mile mushroom walk through the old-growth forest of Cook Forest State Park as part of Keystone Trail Association's Hiking & Outdoor Week-end. For more information and to register:

<https://www.kta-hike.org/khow2025.html>

### **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 10:00 – NOON**

#### **Trail Tour in Hays Woods with Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy Agnew Road Trailhead, Baldwin, PA 15236**

Meet WPMC Mycologist **Stephen Bucklin** at the Agnew Trailhead entrance for a mushroom walk through the hidden trails of Hays Woods. This trail tour is about two miles long and may entail slopes at times, both ascending and descending. Terrain can be rugged and slippery at times, especially after rain. We recommend hiking shoes or boots with good traction, and hiking poles, if extra support is needed. There is no charge for this walk, but space is limited. Register here:

<https://pittsburghparks.org/event/trail-tour-in-hays-woods-park-featuring-stephen-bucklin-2/>

### **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 10 AM – 1 PM**

#### **Townsend Park with Friends of Murrysville Parks 130 Townsend Park Court, Murrysville (Westmoreland County)**

Meet WPMC Mycologist **Richard Jacob** and Friends of Murrysville Parks for a late fall mushroom walk at Townsend Park. Free and open to the public.

### **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 12:00 – 2:00 P.M.**

#### **Trail Tour in Hays Woods with Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy Agnew Road Trailhead, Baldwin, PA 15236**

Meet WPMC Mycologist **Stephen Bucklin** at the Agnew Trailhead entrance for a lichen walk through the hidden trails of Hays Woods. This trail tour is about two miles long and may entail slopes at times, both ascending and descending. Terrain can be rugged and slippery at times, especially after rain. We recommend hiking shoes or boots with good traction, and hiking poles, if extra support is needed. There is no charge for this walk, but space is limited. Register here:

<https://pittsburghparks.org/event/trail-tour-in-hays-woods-park-featuring-stephen-bucklin-3/>

*continued on page 10*





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## LICHEN SPECIALIST

Stephen Bucklin .....	814-823-1049
sbucklin@pittsburghparks.org	

## WPMC Names Two New Identifiers and Awards ID Buttons



TOP ROW, L TO R:

**Dana Driscoll** (100); **Sarah Kramer Frioni** (100); **Jessica Kolesar** (100); **Sara McGinity** (100); **Dan Stockman** (150)

BOTTOM ROW, L TO R:

**Dawn Wehman** (250); **Jared White** (400); **Barbora Batokova** (650); **Ron Hilton** (Identifier); **Mike Henry** (Identifier)

ID BUTTON CHAIR **Julie Travaglini** has awarded ID Buttons to the following WPMC members: **Dana Driscoll**, **Sarah Kramer Frioni**, **Jessica Kolesar**, and **Sara McGinity** (100); **Dan Stockman** (150); WPMC Identifiers **Dawn Wehman** (250), **Jared White** (400), and **Barbora Batokova** (650). In addition, the WPMC Board of Directors has approved two new Identifiers: **Ron Hilton** and **Mike Henry**. Congratulations to all!

WPMC's Button 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/>



# Other Walks, Forays & Events

## AUGUST 28 – SEPTEMBER 1

**Sequanota Foray with the Mycological Association of Washington, DC, Boswell, PA**

<https://mawdc.org/event-5924453>

## SEPTEMBER 4 – 7

**Northwoods Foray, Cable, WI**

<https://www.wisconsinmycologicalsociety.org/>

## SEPTEMBER 5 – 7

**Ohio Mushroom Festival, Hammondsville, OH**

<https://ohiomushroomfestival.com/#>

## SEPTEMBER 11 – 14

**North American Mycological Association (NAMA) Annual Foray, Marlboro, Vermont**

<https://namyco.org/annual-foray/>

## SEPTEMBER 13

**Nature Forum at Watershed Stewardship Center, Parma, OH**

<https://www.clevelandmetroparks.com/parks/visit/parks/west-creek-reservation/watershed-stewardship-center>

## SEPTEMBER 13

**Spore Explorers: A Fungi Foray (Butler County), Audubon Society of Western PA**

**9-11 am – Todd Nature Reserve**

**1-3 pm – Succop Nature Park**

<https://aswp.app.neoncrm.com/nx/portal/neonevents/events?path=%2Fportal%2Fevents>

## SEPTEMBER 18 – 21

**Northeast Mycological Federation (NEMF) Foray, Ithaca, NY**

<https://www.nemf.org/>

## OCTOBER 17 – 26

**Fall Continental MycoBlitz 2025**

<https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/fall-continental-mycoblitz-2025>

## OCTOBER 18 – 19

**Olympic Peninsula Fungi Festival, Port Angeles, WA**

<https://www.olympenfungifest.com/>

## OCT. 25 – 26

**Puget Sound Mycological Society, Annual Wild Mushroom Show**

<https://www.psms.org/>

## OCTOBER 30 – NOVEMBER 2

**NAMA Oregon Dunes, Florence, Oregon**

<https://namyco.org/regional-foray/>

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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VICE-PRESIDENT 724-255-1131	Julie Travaglini vice-president@wpamushroomclub.org
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TREASURER 412-204-6281	Jared Delaney treasurer@wpamushroomclub.org
NAMA TRUSTEE 412-445-1078	Cara Coulter education@wpamushroomclub.org

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# 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 Jared Delaney, 1912 Chislett Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15206 • [treasurer@wpamushroomclub.org](mailto:treasurer@wpamushroomclub.org)

or visit <http://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 (\$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 \_\_\_\_\_



Western  
Pennsylvania  
Mushroom  
Club

# 25<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GARY LINCOFF MUSHROOM FORAY

## SEPTEMBER 20, 2025 • THE LODGE AT NORTH PARK

Guests Mycologists: BRITT BUNYARD, founder, Publisher, and Editor-in-Chief of  
Fungi Magazine • MATT KASSON, Assoc Prof. of Forest Pathology and Mycology WVU

**Foray includes Mushroom Feast. Bring your own lunch. Light refreshments will be served.**  
**The Lodge at North Park — N. Ridge Dr., Allison Park, PA 15101**

**— REGISTRATION REQUIRED —**

**Children are welcome, but this event is structured for adults. There are no activities for kids.**

**NOTE: ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2025 ALL REGISTRATION FEES WILL INCREASE BY \$10.**

**INDICATE THE NUMBER/QUANTITY FOR EACH ITEM SELECTED. ALL FEES PER PERSON. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$50 WPMC member** / \$60 on or after 9/1/25 (with current paid 2025 membership) sub total: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ **\$75 Non-members** / \$85 on or after 9/1/25 (includes 2025-26 Membership) sub total: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ **\$30 Students (with ID) & kids 11 to 18** / (members or non-members) kids 10 & under free. / \$40 on or after 9/1/25 sub total: \_\_\_\_\_  
**FORAY T-SHIRT: \$20 each** \_\_\_\_\_ **Small** \_\_\_\_\_ **Medium** \_\_\_\_\_ **Large** \_\_\_\_\_ **XL** \_\_\_\_\_ **XXL** sub total: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED:** \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **CONTACT ME REGARDING VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone 2 \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail (**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**) \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTER & PAY ONLINE: [www.wpamushroomclub.org/lincoff-foray/](http://www.wpamushroomclub.org/lincoff-foray/)**

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

WPMC, c/o Jared Delaney, 1912 Chislett Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15206

**FOR MORE INFO: [Lincoff-Foray@wpamushroomclub.org](mailto:Lincoff-Foray@wpamushroomclub.org)**

**The foray feast can only happen if individuals volunteer to cook and serve.**

**Please reach out to MIKE HENRY if you can help at [FORAYFOOD@WPAMUSHROOMCLUB.ORG](mailto:FORAYFOOD@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