14th Annual Gary Lincoff Mid-Atlantic Foray

Have you marked your calendar??

The 14th Annual Gary Lincoff Mid-Atlantic Foray will be held Saturday, September 13, 2014 at the Parish Hill hall in North Park. The event will include guest speakers Gary Lincoff, Bill Yule and Gary Emberger; activities: guided walks for mushroom gathering; mushroom identification tables; sale of mushroom books and related items; an auction of original artworks; a cooking demonstration by Tom Chulick (Executive Chef and owner, Back Door Café, Johnstown PA); new this year: a very light lunch (soup and dips) plus a mushroom dinner feast.

The morning will be devoted to guided walks and mushroom hunting. Choice edible mushrooms—including chanterelles, boletes, hen-of-the-woods, and chicken mushrooms—are usually found in abundance on these walks. Typically, over 100 different types of mushrooms—often some new ones—are found and brought back to foray headquarters for further identification and cataloguing.

Those who attended last year’s Foray know to bring rain gear, just in case. Walking shoes, walking stick, knife, basket, water bottle, bug spray, compass and whistle (for those who might wander far afield) are generally good things to bring along. You might wish to pack a sandwich if you plan to stay out past noon or have a bigger appetite. (Use our handy check-list on page 6 of this newsletter.)

The center of attention shifts back to our Parish Hill headquarters in the afternoon. Our principal mycologist, Gary Lincoff, the author of the Audubon Field Guide to Mushrooms, will be our first speaker. Joining Gary as guest speakers this year will be Bolete specialist Bill Yule, of the Connecticut Valley Mycological Society and Connecticut Field Museum, and wood-decay mushroom specialist Gary Emberger of the Eastern Penn Mushroomers, Messiah College.

Throughout the day there will be an auction of mushroom-related items, and sales of mushroom books, hats, t-shirts and mushroom-hunting paraphernalia. Mycophagy—the tasting of mushroom dishes will be another of the highlights of the afternoon program. Club cooks usually prepare dozens of wonderful mushroom dishes. You won’t leave hungry and chances are that you will have tasted some entirely new things. Since we have to wrap up our North Park activities at 7 PM, an after party is planned—usually coffee and desserts at a nearby restaurant, and a chance to socialize with our guest speakers.

Lincoff Foray Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers are needed for the Lincoff Foray. Remember: this is your club; this is your Foray. We are counting on you to help make it an educational, interesting and fun day. Please contact Barbara DeRiso to volunteer: 412.252.2594 email: barbaraderiso@gmail.com

• Sales table (part-time)
• Silent Auction (organize donations and display auction items)
• Cooks
• Set-up and clean-up team
Michael Kuo’s Website, My Favorite

Michael Kuo’s website, www.MushroomExpert.com is my favorite. It is full of great information about many topics. His descriptions (with photos) of a multitude of mushroom species can function as a good field guide. However, my top reason for liking this website is Kuo’s playfulness and wit that are often included in the discussions. An example is the first paragraph of his webpage for the Turkey Tail (ref. 1). It reads:

“Trametes versicolor, often called the “turkey tail,” has the dubious distinction of being the only member of the forest fungal fowl community not named for the full bird, but a feathery fraction. However, the chicken of the woods and the hen of the woods look nothing at all like chickens or hens, while the turkey tail does look (vaguely) like a turkey’s tail. Who started this clucking menagerie of mushroom monikers, anyway? Was Old MacDonald a mycologist?”

Later in this webpage, he presents a Bionomial Key to a variety of Turkey Tails called the “Totally True Turkey Tail Test.” This may seem to be a topic for beginning identifiers, but if you listen to discussions around our Identification table the last few months, you will know it is not trivial.

Being an English teacher and amateur mycologist, he is a very good writer. I am sure you will find many examples in his web pages that are both very educational and also entertaining. Another of my favorites is his rant on standard Russula identification. It is worth adding this website to your list of favorites.

The Totally True Turkey Tail Test by Michael Kuo

1) Is the pore surface a real pore surface? Like, can you see actual pores?
   Yes: Continue.
   No: See Stereum ostrea and other crust fungi.

2) Squint real hard. Would you say there are about 1-3 pores per millimeter (which would make them fairly easy to see), or about 3-8 pores per millimeter (which would make them very tiny)?
   3-8 per mm: Continue.
   1-3 per mm: See several other species of Trametes.

3) Is the cap conspicuously fuzzy, velvety, or finely hairy (use a magnifying glass or rub it with your thumb)?
   Yes: Continue.
   No: See several other species of Trametes.

4) Is the fresh cap whitish to grayish?
   Yes: See Trametes hirsuta.
   No: Continue.

5) Does the cap lack starkly contrasting color zones (are the zones merely textural, or do they represent subtle shades of the same color)?
   Yes: See Trametes pubescens.
   No: Continue.

6) Is the fresh mushroom rigid and hard, or thin and flexible?
   Rigid and hard: See Trametes ochracea.
   Thin and flexible: Totally True Turkey Tail.


Club Meeting Schedule

July 15 7:00 pm Beechwood Farms
Author Joel Greenberg presents: The Passenger Pigeon’s Flight to Extinction, 100 Years Later
2014 marks the 100th anniversary of the extinction of the Passenger Pigeon, a bird once so ubiquitous it was deemed “inexhaustible.” Yet, it went from billions to none in less than 50 years. Author Joel Greenberg will speak about his new book, A Feathered River Across the Sky: The Passenger Pigeon’s Flight to Extinction, the causes of the species demise, and what modern lessons can be drawn from their extinction. This event is free and Greenberg’s book will be available for signing. Cost: Free.

(Joint meeting with the Audubon Society of Western PA)

August 19 7:00 pm Beechwood Farms
Chef Jeffrey Berkowitz: Cooking Demo
Jeff will prepare delicious mushroom dishes right before our very eyes. Since this is the height of Western Pennsylvania mushroom season, especially Chanterelles, Chef Jeff is soliciting mushrooms for his demonstration. If you would like to contribute to this culinary feast, please e-mail Jeff at: Jeff@couplesnutrition.com.

Jeffrey Berkowitz is Health Coach at New Life Kitchen in the Greater Pittsburgh Area.
How to Get the Most Out of Your WPMC Membership

by Cecily Franklin

As with all endeavors in life, you get out of your membership what you put into it. Here are some suggestions to help you get the most out of your WPMC membership:

• **Read the newsletter.** Mark on your calendar the dates of all the meetings and walks you might be interested in, so that you won’t miss them.

• **Go to as many meetings as possible.** Bring pencil, paper and field guide. Also bring your photos, specimens and questions.

• **Get to know who the experts are.** If you see nametags at the meetings, wear one and encourage others to do the same. Bring your latest newsletter (or ask for one at the meeting.) Try to match the names of the club mycologists and identifiers with faces.

• **Get to the meetings early, if possible, especially if you have specimens.** If you don’t have specimens, bring your photos of unidentified mushrooms, but be prepared for a lot of questions, such as: What did it look like underneath? Did it have gills or pores? What kind of tree was it on? If you are not prepared to answer these questions, then read on to the next point.


• **Hang around after the meetings, if possible.** This is how you really get to meet people and learn more about mushrooms.

• **Go on as many walks as possible,** considering your location and schedule. I learn something new on every walk, even though I’ve never brought home significant edibles.

• **Participate in the button program.** It will help you to set goals and document your progress.

• **Be persistent.** If you don’t get a specimen identified or a question answered on the first try, ask again. Bring additional samples and photos back to subsequent meetings.

• **Take advantage of the other services available.** Use the website, Facebook and Yahoo message board to stay informed, attend classes and forays if you’re interested, and generally get involved.

Remember, this is a non-profit organization run by volunteers, so keep your expectations down and your participation up.

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2014 WPMC Photo Contest

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS:**

• September 30, 2014

• Maximum of 5 entries per WPMC member

• Submit high resolution JPEG files no larger than 4 megabytes

• Email entries to Rebecca Miller at rmtreesplease@gmail.com

**WPMC PHOTO CONTEST RULES:**

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

**ENTRY DIVISIONS:**

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

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

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

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

**FOR JUDGE’S OPTION:** Nearly anything goes, so long as the theme relates to fungi, and fungi are a key element of the photograph.
CLUB PHOTOS FROM RECENT WALKS AND MEETING

ABOVE: Dorothy Fornoff Memorial Walk
BELOW: June meeting (left) Dark Hollow walk (right)
Book Review
by John Plischke

Ascomycete Fungi of North America: A Mushroom Reference Guide
by Michael Beug, Arleen Bessette, and Alan E. Bessette
University of Texas Press
Hardcover, 7 x 10", 472 pp. 800 color photos, also available on Kindle

Finally, a North American Ascomycete (Asco / Ascos) book we can all use as a definitive reference guide. Ascomycete Fungi of North America by Michael Beug, Alan Bessette and Arleen Bessette is a massive work by three of the most productive authors the country has ever known.

The book encompasses 488 pages of color photographs and detailed descriptions. Except for the keys, the photos range from ¼ to ½ of a page in size. Wonderful! The photo credits are 6 pages in length and include too many photographers to mention them all. Among some of those you may recognize are Harley Barnhart, Kit Scates, Alan & Arleen Bessette, Michael Beug, Adolf & Oluna Ceska, Todd Elliott, Renee Lebeuf, Walt Sturgeon, Hank Mashburn, Bill Roody, and John Plischke III.

The photographs are outstanding and to my mind essential in making the book as good as it is. They were also all taken in North America. My son, John III, has thousands of books, papers, articles, etc., that he has collected over the years, but to me a good picture is worth a thousand words. Most of these pictures are very good and very descriptive. In most cases, I can tell what the mushroom is from the picture.

In Peter Thompson’s book, Ascomycetes in Colour: Found and Photographed in Mainland Britain, the photos were taken by Peter in England and sells for $74 in paperback. The Swiss book, Fungi of Switzerland Vol 1, was published in 1984, is out of date and currently sells for $174. It includes drawings of the spores. Two Asco books published in the US in 1942 and 1961 have black and white photos, The North American cup-fungi (operculates) and The North American cup-fungi (inoperculates). This is the first comprehensive book on Ascos published in over 60+ years in the United States. In my opinion, it ought to be in your library.

• Chapter 1 includes 28 photos, largely of spores. I have done some work with microscopes and find the pictures worthy of the book.

• Chapter 2 is a key to the included Ascomycetes. It is a different kind of key than you are used to seeing in mycological books. It consists of 57 pages and includes 9 to 12 pictures on a page on the various Ascos totaling 542 pictures, some including descriptive comments. It is a very refreshing way to present a key.

• Chapter 3 has Hypogeous Ascos, the truffles. It is 46 pages long and 26 photos are included.

• Chapter 4 Pezizomycetes is 155 pages and has 127 pictures. It includes: Morchellaceae, Pezizaceae, Gyomitra, Helvella, Peziza, Verpa, and others.

• Chapter 5 Sordariomycetes is 79 pages long with 62 pictures. It includes: Akanthomyces, Cordyceps, Hypocrea, Xylaria, and others.

• Chapter 6 Leotiomycetes has 61 pages and 51 pictures. It includes: Leotia, Bisporella, and others.

• Chapters 7 through 12 have 22 pages and 13 pictures. They include: Eurotiomycetes, Geoglossaceae, Neolectomycetes, Orbiliomycetes, Dothideomycetes, and Taphrinomycotina.

The pictures in the book are outstanding; however, each chapter starts with a very interesting narrative about the mushrooms described. Each picture has an accompanying description and some have an extra comment. The description of each species includes Macroscopic Features, Microscopic Features, Occurrence, and Comments. The Microscopic Features include detailed spore description. Occurrence includes habitat and location in North America. Some species include Edibility. We are fortunate to have Michael Beug, NAMA’s Toxicology Chair, as one of the authors. Obviously a great deal of time was taken to consult with other experts on the various Ascomycetes.

There is an index on Common Names and one on Scientific Names and a Reference Section. Also included is a comprehensive Glossary.

I think the University of Texas Press says it best when they say, “With 843 color photographs and more than 600 described species, as well as an easy-to-use color key to aid visual identification, this is the most complete guide ever published to North American Ascomycetes, which includes morels and truffles.” This is going to be the go-to book for Ascomycetes for many years to come. I highly recommend this book for your collection of books on fungi. It is very useful for anyone from the beginning to advanced mushroomer.

Ascomycete Fungi of North America sells on Amazon for $80.75, hardcover ISBN-10: 0292754523
IMPORTANT WALK AND FORAY INFORMATION:

Try to dig up 3 of the same species at different stages of development. Don’t pick old mushrooms; leave them to drop their spores.

You are responsible for not getting lost, if you have that tendency to wander off and get lost, stick like glue to others. We won’t wait for you, and we won’t come to look for you.

Don’t take the identification of the person standing next to you, they might not know as much as you do. Only club mycologists and identifiers should be used for advice. The Walk Leader will tell you when to be back at the walk starting place where the mushrooms will be put on paper plates and the Walk Identifier or Club Mycologist will put names on only the mushrooms that they know well. Take notes and pictures to help you remember the mushrooms. You should go home and check books yourself. Whether you decide to eat a mushroom, is ultimately only your decision.

WALKS AND FORAYS CHECK LIST:

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

Check the website often for more Mushroom Walks and Events.

Mushroom Walks 2014

July 12 / 10 am – noon
LEADER: Richard Jacob
LOCATION: Hartwood Acres
Chantelle season should be at its height. Meet at the Hartwood Acres Mansion parking lot. Last year we picked “full buckets.”

July 13 / 10 am – noon
LEADER: John Plischke III
LOCATION: Twin Lakes Park, Westmoreland County
Take Rt. 30 towards Greensburg. Turn onto Donohoe Rd. at the traffic light at Wendy’s in front of Westmoreland Mall. From the east, this is a right turn. From the west, it is a left turn. Follow the road to the right towards the Toys R Us store. Continue straight through a traffic light and two stop signs. Turn left after the second stop sign onto Twin Lakes Road and follow the signs to Twin Lakes Park. Park in the Tamarack Parking Lot.

July 19 / 10:00 am (SEE INFO RIGHT)
101 Arch St. Verona, PA. The Allegheny Land Trust has invited the Club to hold a walk on Sycamore Island near Verona, PA.
RSVP to Caitlin Seiler cseiler@alleghenylandtrust.org by Wednesday, July 16, 2014 so that we can be sure of having enough kayaks to get to the island. Jim Tunney led a walk here a couple years ago and identified close to 40 species.

October 4 / 10 am
LEADER: Park Naturalist for Mushroom Mania
LOCATION: South Park Nature Center
2075 Buffalo Drive / South Park, PA 15129 / 412-835-4810
Learn the lore, see the strange, and taste the terrific of local wild mushrooms. Visit: www.county.allegheny.pa.us (click on COUNTY PARKS, SOUTH PARK)

HELP KEEP OUR PARKS CLEAN!

When mushrooming, it’s easy to bring just one plastic grocery bag to collect cans, bottles or other trash you find. Trash cans are generally found nearby. If not, take them home for disposal.

Leave the parks cleaner than you found them!
Mushroom Forays 2014

July 19 – 20
Summer Foray, Ohio Mushroom Society, North Chagrin Nature Center. Visit: ohiomushroomsociety.wordpress.com

July 25 – 26

July 25 – 27
Eastern Penn Mushroomers Helen Miknis Foray
Mont Alto, PA at Penn State Mont Alto

August 7 – 10
NEMF Samuel Ristich Foray, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine. The Northeast Mycological Federation (NEMF) will convene for a weekend of mushrooming, workshops, mycophagy and camaraderie with Dr. Seanna Annis, mycologist and plant pathologist, University of Maine at Orono. The Maine Mycological Association is hosting the event. Visit: nemf.org

August 8 – 10
3rd Joint Appalachian Foray, 4H Conference Center in Front Royal, VA. The Mycological Association of Washington Event: mawdc.org

August 10 – 16
Eagle Hill Institute: Boletes, the Genus Lactarius, and other Fungi of New England with Alan Bessette and Arlene Bessette. Visit: www.eaglehill.us click on “2014 courses”

August 22 – 24
Bill Russell Foray Central PA, Lock Haven University’s Sieg Center on Fishing Creek. Visit: www.centralpamushroomclub.org

August 24 – 30
Eagle Hill Institute

September 4 – 7
COMA’s Annual Clark Rogerson Foray. Berkshire Hills Emmanuel Camp, Copake, NY. Visit: www.comafungi.org/special-events

September 13 / 8:00 am – 7:00 pm
WPMC 14th Annual Gary Lincoff
Mid-Atlantic Mushroom Foray
Parish Hill Hall, North Park

September 26 – 28
Sequanota Annual Foray, Jennerstown, PA (details to come)
Mycological Association of Washington. Visit: mawdc.org

October 4 – 5

October 9 – 12
NAMA Foray at Camp Arnold, Eatonville, Washington
Steve Trudell, foray mycologist and Paul Stamets, keynote speaker. Visit: www.namyco.org (SOLD OUT)

Club Mycologists

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

Grilled Marinated Mushrooms
Barbara DeRiso

Ingredients:
- 1 lb mushrooms
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1/2 cup soy sauce
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/4 cup mustard
- 2 tbsp balsamic vinegar
- 1 tsp black pepper
- 1/2 tsp crushed red pepper

1. Clean the mushrooms. Remove the stem if you wish.
2. Place all ingredients in a container and marinate for several hours or overnight.
3. Grill larger mushrooms directly on the grate. Cook smaller mushrooms on skewers.
4. Grill for 5 minutes, then flip them over and grill for another 5 minutes.
5. Baste with any leftover marinade while grilling. Be careful of flare-ups.

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

Earn an ID Button
Do you know the names of the mushrooms you are finding? Would you like to learn to recognize more of them? Then, it's time to consider participating in the John Plischke III Award for Mushroom Knowledge (Button Program.) For details visit:
http://wpamushroomclub.org/about/button-id-program/

At the May monthly meeting mushroom kits were distributed to all the members.

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

July 15 JOINT MEETING: AUDUBON SOCIETY
Joel Greenberg, Natural History Museum of Chicago, author of A Feathered River Across The Sky: The Passenger Pigeon’s Flight to Extinction. (see page 2 of this newsletter).

August 19 COOKING DEMONSTRATION

Sept. 16 MUSHROOM TABLE TALK:
Club Mycologists and Identifiers
Gary Lincoff Foray Review

Oct. 21 ELECTIONS / PHOTO CONTEST RESULTS

Nov. 18 SURVIVORS POT LUCK / MEMBER AWARDS / OPEN PHOTO FORUM

WPMC Membership
Thank you all who have renewed your membership. As of June 2014, membership is over 380.
Please report any changes (address, email, etc) to Jim Wasik at membership@wpamushroomclub.org.

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

NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION:
Cecily Franklin, Martha Wasik Graphic Arts Inc
Send submissions to: membership@wpamushroomclub.org.

Check our website for a complete list of the year’s events.
contact@wpamushroomclub.org

WPMC YAHOO GROUPS:
http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/wpamushroomclub/

NORTH AMERICAN MYCOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION (NAMA):
www.namyco.org
14th Annual Gary Lincoff Mid-Atlantic Mushroom Foray
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2014 • 8 AM – 7 PM

PROGRAM: Guided morning walks and self-guided afternoon mushroom walks; mushroom walks will be conducted in North Park and in other woodlands nearby. There will be a cooking demonstration by Chef Tom Chulick; WPMC cooks will prepare a Mushroom Feast with dozens of unique mushroom dishes to delight your taste buds. We will also have mushroom-related merchandise and a silent auction of mushroom-inspired artworks.

LECTURES: Featured speaker is 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. Joining Gary as guest speakers this year will be Bolete specialist Bill Yule, of the Connecticut Valley Mycological Society and Connecticut Field Museum, and wood-decay mushroom specialist Gary Emberger of the Eastern Penn Mushrooms, Messiah College.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name(s) _________________________________________________________________________________________ Date ____________________
Address __________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
City _____________________________________________________________________State ___________________Zip ______________________
Phone 1 _____________________________________________________Phone 2 _____________________________________________________
E-mail (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY) ____________________________________________________________________________________________

WHERE: PARISH HILL HALL – ALLEGHENY COUNTY NORTH PARK, WALTER ROAD, ALLISON PARK, PA 15101

Admission:  ❑ WPMC members: $35 per person until September 1, 2014
❑ WPMC members: $40 per person after September 1, 2014 or at the door.
❑ Non-members: $55 per person includes 2015 Membership dues.
❑ Students (with ID) and children 11 to 18: $15 each. Children 10 & under free

To register and pay by check: Make check payable to: Western PA Mushroom Club
Mail to: WPMC • 204 Woodcock Dr. • Pittsburgh PA 15215

To register and pay online: Go to the club website: www.wpamushroomclub.org
Click on the Lincoff Foray tab for information. Choose the PayPal option

For more info, contact Barbara DeRiso, Foray Chair: 412-252-2594 / Lincoff-Foray@wpamushroomclub.org

REGISTRATION & RELEASE

NOTE: SIGNED AND 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: (INCLUDE NAMES OF CHILDREN UNDER TEN)

1 ___________________________________________________________ 1 ___________________________________________________________
2 ___________________________________________________________ 2 ___________________________________________________________
3 ___________________________________________________________ 3 ___________________________________________________________
4 ___________________________________________________________ 4 ___________________________________________________________

FOR ADDITIONAL NAMES / SIGNATURES, PLEASE INCLUDE AN EXTRA PAGE
Anyone who has an interest in wild mushrooms is welcome to become a WPMC member.

COMPLETE THIS FORM PRINT CLEARLY, SIGN AND MAIL

Members are entitled to:

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

Name(s) _________________________________________________________________________________________ Date ____________________

Address __________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

City __________________________________________ State ___________________ Zip ______________________

Phone 1 __________________________________________ Phone 2 __________________________________________

E-mail (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY) ____________________________________________________________________________________________

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

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

ANNUAL DUES: ❑ $15 Individual ❑ $20 Family ❑ $10 Full-time Student Amount enclosed: $_____________

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

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

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

Please indicate your newsletter/event announcement preference: ❑ Electronic via e-mail ❑ Hardcopy via US mail

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 members from any and all liability relating to any injury or illness incurred by the Member or the Member’s family members as a result of participation in a WPMC Event.

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

MEMBERS:

Signature (if Participant is under age 21, signature of Parent or guardian) Please print name:

1________________________________________ 1

2________________________________________ 2

3________________________________________ 3

4________________________________________ 4

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

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

NEVER EAT AN UNIDENTIFIED MUSHROOM