



WESTERN PA



MUSHROOM CLUB

Volume 2, Issue 2

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DR. SAMUEL RISTICH PREEMINENT MUSHROOM EXPERT TO LEAD WALK

BY JOHN PLISCHKE

Preeminent mycologist, Dr. Sam Ristich is leading a mushroom identification walk at Miller's Tract, Slippery Rock, PA, on June 24 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Dr. Ristich received his Bachelor's of Science degree from Slippery Rock University in 1941 and his Doctorate from Cornell University in 1950. He is a world-renowned mycologist, entomologist, and naturalist giving him a unique perspective on our environment.

Ristich received the prestigious North American Mycological Association Award for Contributions to Amateur Mycology in 1978. The Northeast Mycological Federation named their annual foray in his honor.

Although he is an expert in all types of fungi, Dr. Ristich's specialties include parasitic mushrooms, slime molds, and log fungi. Sam is known as the mushroom expert's expert.

It looks like this program will be a joint effort of Slippery Rock University's Alumni Association and the W PA Mushroom Club.

For further information email wpamushroomclub@aol.com or call *82-724-834-2358. Directions can be found at: www.wpmc4.homestead.com/index.html

Directions to Miller's Tract: From Slippery Rock exit of I-79, proceed north on Rt. 108 to Slippery Rock. At the one light in town, turn left on Rt. 258. Go one block, and turn left on Water Street. Follow Water for app. 2 m. It crosses an iron bridge over the creek. After the bridge look for a small parking area on left at the head of a dirt lane. Please do not block the lane.

Parking is quite limited. No rest room.

MUSHROOM MANIA 3

The world's most famous mushroom expert, Gary Lincoff, author of the Audubon Mushroom field guide is coming on September 22 to visit us.

Gary will be the principle mycologist at our fall daylong mushroom foray. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity. Registration is limited.

Last year Mushroom Mania 2 was the largest mushroom foray in the tri-state area, with 80 in attendance. This year the club is much bigger and the event will be widely advertised. **We expect to sell out early.** Don't wait; send your money in today. I have already sent mine!

Club members who pre-register and pay by July 31 the price is \$15. Children 11 & under free. After July 31 the price is \$30. Make check payable to WPMC, send to Jack Baker, 1413 Parkmont Road, Allison Park, PA 15101.

NEMF & NAMA FORAYS

The Northeast Mycological Federation (NEMF) and the North American Mycological Association (NAMA) are both holding large mushroom forays. You're invited!

Most years these forays attract between 250 and 400 mushroomers from a large area. They also both attract numerous mushroom experts and authors.

John Plischke III, our club's trustee to both organizations, recommends attending. John says, "Our family usually works the forays around our summer vacation." Many times we go a couple of days early and tour the area.

We have included one of the two-page applications for each of the forays. If you are interested please write or call the appropriate people for the complete application. These are probably the two largest forays in the country.

History of Poroid Fungi in Western Pennsylvania and Eastern North America

by Dr. Sam Ristich

Since I have been involved with poroid fungi in the east and northeast since 1933 and have been connected with and helped by most of the mycological gurus like Overholts, Lowe, Gilbertson, Worrall and W.B. Cooke I'd like to provide a brief historical narrative.

I began collecting fungi in 1933 in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania, a large steel-manufacturing city on the Ohio River 25 miles north of Pittsburgh. I also collected insects, which I pinned in hundreds of cigar boxes. Twice a month I took the train to the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh where Dr. Kahl helped me identify the insects. He soon learned that many of the insects were collected in fungi. He told me that Dr. Leroy Henry, the assistant botanist, was also earning his MS in mycology with Dr. Overholts, so he might be interested in the species of fungi where I collected the insects. Dr. Henry was happy to drive to Aliquippa frequently to collect in the many valleys, I learned much from DR. Henry before I left for the Air Corps in 1943. He was earning his degree on the distribution of fungi in the genus Polyporus and Polystictus in Pennsylvania.

In 1937 I entered Slippery Rock College to earn a degree in biology and science education. My modest scholarship required I assist in the biology laboratory, collect fresh material for the classes, and be responsible for the skull and the fungal collection, which was predominantly poroid. The assistant before me, Ernie Lachner, was not only working on a survey of minnows in Pennsylvania but also collecting fungi for the herbarium, especially polypores. I can still see those rare Globifomes (Polyporus) graveolens on his desk. I have another story to tell later about this remarkable fungus.

I discovered that Dr. Waldron, head of the Biology Department at Slippery Rock, had earned his Ph.D. with Overholts at Penn State. Overholts and Pope wrote one of the popular texts on the biology of plants. During my tenure at the college, Waldron invited Overholts several times to conduct forays. After several trips Overholts sent several B/W photographs of specimens we collected. I still have these photographs. At the end of my sophomore year I took a summer job as a nature counselor at Camp Crooked Creek, which was near Bear Meadows and Penn State. He came to the camp to collect. On one of these trips we had a large timber rattlesnake invade the camp. I showed off my collecting skills by capturing the reptile with my L rod and putting it in a large sack.

He helped me identify many specimens before I went off to the Air Corps, which I deposited in the

collection at Slippery Rock. When Overholts died prematurely I got a lot of help from Dr. Charlie Fergus who replaced Overholts and Dr. Lowe, Overholt's student. Dr. Lowe became head of the Mycology Department at the School of Forestry on the Syracuse University campus. Dr. Lowe identified many specimens for me and permitted me to browse the herbarium when I visited with him. He became the authority on the genus Poria.

I remember some of the special help he gave on Tyromyces fragilis and T. mollis. These poroids stain brown when they age or are handled. I have a good photograph in Lincoff's field guide. He also helped me with several "bleeding" Porias i.e. spissa, mutans and taxicola. I have an interesting photograph of spissa in Lincoff's field guide, which I named P. spissa var. poodlei. Check it out and see why the odd name!

When Dr. Lowe retired at Syracuse University I got a lot of help from his replacement Jim Worrall and Robert Gilbertson (Gilbertson helped us at the Orono foray and Worrall came twice to help us). Gilbertson went to the University of Tuscon and became internationally famous. ~~With Ryvarde~~ he published the two volume set "The Polypores of North America". He and Mildred Nobles published many papers pointing out the taxonomic importance of hyphal systems and enzymatic reactions viz. Brown and white rotters.

Gilbertson helped me identify the first record of Oligoporus rennyi and its imperfect stage Ptycogaster rubescens in North America. I got some unique photographs showing the "magical" transformation from the puffball-like Ptycogaster to the poroid stage. The discovery was made in the spruce forest in North Yarmouth Maine. I rewarded Robert Gilbertson with a rare specimen of Globifomes (Polyporus) graveolens he never collected (this was the remarkable fungus I saw on Ernie Lachner's desk at Slippery Rock College in 1938!). See my photograph in Lincoff's field guide.

Closer to home-we should be grateful to William Bridge Cooke who helped us with poroids and many odd aphyllorphorales for many years at NEMF. Frank Helwig from the Boston club produced one of the first schematic keys to poroid fungi. Check with Bill Neill for a copy.

Sam Ristich, Maine, February 2001

Editor's Note: Sam Ristich is known throughout the United States as a mushroom expert's expert. He is also a specialist in entomology. The North East Federation's Foray is named after him. Sam is an excellent teacher who makes learning mushrooms fun. He always has time for everyone.

MUSHROOM CULTIVATION

By Mark
Spear

Why grow mushrooms?

As a hobby, mushroom cultivation is like combining forays with gardening. It can be as simple as buying a kit from a catalog or as challenging as you want to make it. It's a way to get mushrooms to study, for the table, for medicine, for ornaments (no kidding), for dyestuffs, and for gifts. I truly believe that the only reason my neighbor still speaks to me is that he regularly gets a nice fresh basket of some choice myco-delight.

Mushroom growing also has interesting ecological aspects. Mushrooms convert low energy, low nutrient, low value waste materials from the bottom rung of the entropic ladder into high protein, high value food and medicines.

And how can mushrooms do it all this?

Volume! No, I meant to say because of their unique life cycle. The commonly cultivated mushrooms are saprobic, meaning they make their livings by decomposing complex materials like wood, humus, chitin and dung. The value of this activity to the environment cannot be overstated.

Knowing the life history of a particular mushroom species makes it easier to grow. From the standpoint of the fungus, mushrooms exist to make spores. Spores exist to be dispersed and find suitable uncolonized substrate. Once the spores germinate they form a web of mold called a mycelium. And, as this group knows, the mycelium is the actual body of the fungus. The mushroom is the reproductive structure like the flower or the fruit of a plant. What we do to grow mushrooms is to take some part of this cycle into our own hands.

So how do you grow mushrooms?

Enthusiastically, I answer. The simplest method of mushroom growing is transplantation. If you bring home a log with mushrooms on it, and then more mushrooms grow, you are a mushroom grower. You have taken on the job of getting mushrooms to form from a naturally occurring mycelium (or at least taken credit for). But, transplantation won't work if what you want to grow doesn't happen to be available on a nearby stump or hummock. Transplantation is also undependable because undesirable organisms hitchhike home with your target mycelium and they often out compete your dinner.

To get around these limitations mushroom growers also take over the job of establishing a dominant mycelium. This is done by introducing a pure culture of your

desired mushroom into uncolonized substrate. Then you can establish a mycelium relatively free from competitors.

Only those with culture need apply.

As a practical matter the first step in mushroom cultivation is to get a pure culture of the fungus. There are three common ways to do this. The easiest way to get a pure culture of a fungus is to buy it. The vast majority of professional mushroom growers buy mushroom spawn. Mushroom spawn is a pure culture of the target fungus living and growing on some sort of nutrient carrier. The carrier varies depending on the nutritional needs of the fungus. It can be grains, or sawdust or similar material. Commercial mushroom spawn is made in professional labs and carefully checked for purity and productivity. On the down side, commercial spawn can be expensive to get in small quantities and finding just the mushroom you want to cultivate is part of the fun for the mushroom hunter. In addition, many companies that cater to hobbyists put out low quality mushroom spawn, knowing the user will accept the blame for failures. Still, the beginner who wants to make life simple should buy mushroom spawn.

The remaining two ways to get pure cultures are for the dedicated do-it-yourself mushroom grower. The mushrooms you find on your own are not identical to the commercial varieties you can buy. They may be superior in some way, they certainly are proven to thrive in your climate, and you can observe just what sort of substrate and environment they like. If you are going to make your own pure cultures from mushrooms you find yourself, you can use tissue culture or spore germination. Tissue culture is easier.

An out of body experience

Tissue culture is the art of growing cells in vitro, free of the body. It works great for most mushrooms but it's not so easy for small animals or people. You need to use sterile technique but there are simple approaches to this, after all, sterile technique was invented in 18-something-or-other when they did not have fancy clean rooms etc. You will need: A lighter, some tweezers (called forceps) and culture plates. To make culture plates you will need a pressure canner, empty petri dishes and pre-formulated agar medium. Making and inoculating culture plates is a detailed procedure, and a subject perhaps is best left for it's own discussion another day (if there is reader interest). Lets just

summarize by saying I prefer PDYA (Potato Dextrose Yeast Extract Agar). Also, antibiotic laden media can eliminate bacteria and is very useful.

To make a tissue culture start by picking a very fresh very young specimen. Get all your gear ready and sterilize the forceps by holding them in the lighter flame. Tear open the mushroom to reveal an untouched inner section of cap or stem. Do not cut open the mushroom. As the knife passes through the specimen it drags contaminants from the surface to the interior.

Pick a sliver of tissue out of the center with the sterile forceps and transfer it to the center of the culture dish. Close, tape, and label the dish.

Culture clash

If mushroom gods are smiling on you, the tissue sliver will fuzz over in a few days. The fuzz will reach out and start to grow along the agar surface in about a week. If a slimy wet colony appears then the culture is contaminated with. If the bacteria colony is just in one spot you may be able to save your culture by transferring a piece of fuzzy mycelium from the opposite side of the colony to a fresh culture plate.

If you see more than one kind of mycelium in the plate, that's big trouble. If you have, for example, a nice white fluffy colony and a green powdery one then you are growing a green mold and should start over. The culture and identification of molds can be interesting but it won't get you mushrooms. Cheese makers use molds all the time. Roquefort cheese comes from *Penicillium roquefortii*.

Spore Wars

To get a pure culture from mushroom spores one starts by getting a sterile spore print. This is done by preparing and sterilizing a spore collecting chamber. You can make one from any temperature stable trash you may have lying around (for example a Pyrex measuring cup). The collecting chamber has a piece of sterile paper towel on the bottom to collect the spores, a hunk of bent coat hanger suspended from the rim on which to hang the mushroom, and an aluminum foil cover.

To use your Spore Chamber assemble it and sterilize it with the collecting paper already in place. Next find your perfect specimen mushroom. One just starting to sporulate is best as there will be few bugs and other contaminants. Cut the stem and hang the mushroom on the wire, then close the chamber with foil. As soon as you can see a spore deposit on the paper discard the mushroom and transfer the

paper to a sterile container.

Spores sealed in a cool dry place can remain viable for decades. To use your sterile spore print just snip a wedge of the paper with sterile scissors and drop it onto a culture dish. In a week or two you should notice a developing mycelium.

How do you go from cultures to mushrooms?

Cultures themselves are usually not sufficient to inoculate a log or a bag of substrate and get mushrooms. It's like trying to light a log with a match. You need an intermediate step. Mushroom spawn is the intermediate step. If you had purchased mushroom spawn like I advised two pages ago you would already be at this step, but oh no, you had to take the scenic route.

I can describe making mushroom spawn from pure cultures in a later issue if there is anyone still awake. To use mushroom spawn you jam it into holes in logs or mix it with prepared mushroom substrate. Since you are putting in a big bunch of your target organism into an environment uncolonized by competitors you can grow a dominant mycelium of your choosing. In the industry this is called the spawn run.

Finally, you make your mycelium fruit (make mushrooms). There are usually specific environmental signals that tell the mycelium to fruit. Sometimes a cold shock followed by warmer temperatures will work. Sometimes running out of nutrients in the substrate is the trigger, in a few cases symbiotic bacteria help, and in many cases the stimulus is unknown.

Wild mushroom growing has not been well studied. There is plenty of territory where the fearless mushroom tamer can make discoveries. And, as a side benefit, you can eat the products of your efforts. What could be better?

Resources

Mycology@egroups.com

Tack American Type Culture Collection www.atcc.org

Hobby companies - www.mykoweb.com

University <http://mushroomspawn.cas.psu.edu/>

Books

[Shiitake Growers Handbook: The Art and Science of Mushroom Cultivation](#) by Paul Przybylowicz, John Donoghue

[Mushroom Cultivation with Special Emphasis on Appropriate Techniques for Developing Countries](#) P. Oei
[Growing Gourmet and Medicinal Mushrooms](#) By Paul Stamets. www.fungi.com

Editors Note: Mark Spear is a club member and professional mushroom culturist.

WALKS & FORAYS by John Plischke III

May 19 - 10:00-12:00(?), **Blue Run Trail**, Allegheny County. Meet **Dick Dougall** and **Mary Woehrel** at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve and then proceed to Blue Run Trail. See directions on back of page.

June 2 - 10:00-12:00 (?) Mushroom Factory and Mushroom Farm, Armstrong County Meet professional mushroom cultivationists **Mark Spear, Rebecca Miller, and Mark Begin** Take a tour of a mushroom farm and a mushroom factory. Registration is limited to 30 people. **Club members only.** Call *82-724-834-2358 or email wpamushroomclub@aol.com to reserve a spot. You must pre-register to attend. Directions: Take Rt. 28 to the intersection with Rt. 422. Head West on 422 to the second exit. No exit number on sign, but this is the West Hills exit. Cross overpass and take a left at the intersection. Take first left onto South Park Road. Farm is first building on left.

June 16 - 10:00-12:00 (?) North Park, Allegheny County. Meet **Jack Baker** and **Roger Hummel** and **Dorothy Fornof** at Swimming Pool parking lot. Will go to secret location. See directions on back of page.

June 16 - 1:00- 5:00, Oil Creek State Park, Venango County. Meet the **Plischke** family at the Petroleum Centre Amphitheater. The main entrance to the park is off of PA Route 8 past Oil City, one mile north of the Borough of Rouseville. The entrance is on the right, then three miles to the office.

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/o-crek.htm>

June 24 - 10:00-1:00 Miller's Tract, Butler County Meet preeminent mycologist, **Dr. Sam Ristich** and **John Plischke III** From Slippery Rock exit of I-79, proceed north on Rt. 108 to Slippery Rock. At the light in town, turn left on Rt. 258. Go one block, and turn left on Water Street. Follow Water for app. 2 mi. It crosses an iron bridge over the creek. After the bridge look for a small parking area on left at the head of a dirt lane. Please do not block the lane. Parking is quite limited. No rest room.

July 5-8, NAMA Foray, Collegetown, Minnesota. Information in newsletter.

July 6-7 - Cook's Forest State Park, Clarion County. Meet **John Plischke** and **John Plischke III**. From Clarion take Rt. 66 north to the park. Friday, July 6 - 9:00 p.m. will be a slide show at the park amphitheater. Meet Saturday, July 7 - 1:00 -5:00, at Shelter #2 for a walk and identification. We are going to camp for the weekend. Cook's Forest is one of the premier mushroom spots in western PA with a wide variety of species found there. <http://www.allegheny-online.com/>

July 13-15 - Mont Alto Foray, Meet the **Eastern Penn Mushroomers**. E-mail Helen Miknis at Hmiknis@juno.com or write to her at 3119 Parker Drive, Lancaster, PA 17610 for information. The price is \$145, which includes most meals and lodging. It is located in southeastern Franklin County in the center of the state, about as far south as you can get. We believe several of our members are going to get their own lodging (tents) and their own food, which would reduce to cost to \$15 per person plus food and tenting.

July 14 - 10:00-12:00 (?) North Park, Allegheny County. Meet **Jack Baker** and **Roger Hummel** and **Dorothy Fornof** at Swimming Pool parking lot. See directions to North Park on back of page. Will go to secret location.

July 21-22 - Pymatuning State Park, PA, Crawford County. Meet **John Plischke** and **John Plischke III**. Saturday, July 21 at 8:30 p.m. is a slide program at the Jamestown Amphitheater and Sunday, July 22 at 10:30 a.m. mushroom walk at the Jamestown Amphitheater. From Pittsburgh, take 79 north to Mercer, exit I-80 west. Drive 4 mi. on 80 west, take exit 2, Mercer Exit, north 19 to Mercer. Follow 58 west out of Mercer to Greenville. Go through Greenville to Rt. 322 west to Jamestown. Continue through Jamestown past the park office to the campground. The amphitheater is just a little beyond the park office. We are going there on Saturday morning to scout the area and will be tenting Saturday evening. This park gets very busy so make a reservation if you plan to stay the weekend. Bring your fishing pole because Pymatuning Lake provides some of the best fishing in the state. http://parec.com/state_parks/pymastpk.htm

July 28 - 12:00-4:00, Mingo Creek, Washington County. Meet **John Plischke** and **John Plischke III** for a program and walk. I 70 to Exit 9 Eighty Four/Glyde. Take Rt. 519 N for 2 miles. At a red light turn right onto Rt. 136. Go 4.4 miles and turn left at a sign to Mingo Creek Park. Follow signs to the park. Turn right then cross a covered bridge that is just before the Park Office. Meet at Shelter # 5 (S-5). Bring your membership card, if members work this event it will be free to members. **Fee for non-members.**

<http://www.washpatourism.org/parks.html>

For all walks and forays, bring water and food. Dress for the weather. Bring basket, wax bags, whistle, compass, chair, hand lens, and books for identification. Come 15-30 min early and socialize. Check web site or Yahoo Groups for changes. Bring your membership card and a friend or two.

Meetings/Programs

Meetings/Programs begin at 7:00 pm at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve.

May 15: Robert Boice, club Identifier and award winning mushroom photographer, will show us slides and talk about mushrooms. Robert has won many mushroom photography awards from the North American Mycological Association and has hunted mushrooms for many years.

June 19: Paul Goland, club member from West Virginia. He will speak on how to grow shitakes in your backyard and about medicinal mushrooms. Paul is also a bookseller. I understand that he will have copies of Bessette, Bessette, and Roody Boletes of North America for the discount price of \$70. Paul also sells numerous other mushroom related items including dried mushrooms.

July 17: Kim Plischke, Workshop Chairman & **Becky Plischke**, Newsletter Editor. They will lead a hands-on workshop on paper making with mushrooms. You don't have to be crafty to learn to do this. Put on a pair of jeans and roll up your sleeves, we're going to have fun! All equipment will be provided. Members free, non-members \$5. Non-members must pre-register by email to wpamushroomclub@aol.com two weeks prior to the meeting or call *82-834-2358.

DIRECTIONS

DIRECTIONS to Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve: (<http://www.aswp.org/beechwood.html>)

12 minutes from PA Turnpike Exit 5, Allegheny Valley (New Kensington/Pittsburgh) after tollbooth go south 1.2 miles on Freeport Road towards Pittsburgh. At the fourth stoplight (Eat'n'Park Restaurant on the right) turn right onto Guys Run Road. Go 4.1 miles to the second stop sign. Notice, part way on your journey Guys Run Road becomes Fox Chapel Road without any notification. Fox Chapel Road dead ends into Dorseyville Road. Turn left on Dorseyville and go .7 of a mile to Beechwood, on the right.

DIRECTIONS to North Park <http://www.county.allegheny.pa.us/parks/parkphon.asp> From Pittsburgh go north on Rt. 8. Turn left onto Wildwood Road onto the Yellow Belt (Ford Dealer and Boston Market on the right). Go 1.3 mi. to a red light; go straight (W Hardies). Continue another 1.6 mi. to a red light at North Park Entrance, road name changes to Ingomar Road at this intersection, Turn left on Babcock Blvd. Follow the signs to the Swimming Pool parking lot and find the car with a yellow ribbon on the antenna.

UPDATES ON WEB AND GROUPS

We have updated information on the club's website and added a few things. There are several new Photo Galleries, showing both pictures of club activities as well as beautiful mushroom pictures. In addition, we have added Club Mycological Recorder Bob Lucas's species list. Twelve new walks and forays have been added so that you have more opportunities to learn mushrooms.

This is one of the fastest growing most used mushroom club websites on the net with over 1000 hits in the first ten weeks of operation. We will be adding even more information as time goes on. Visit the site often and put it on your favorites list.

<http://www.wpmc4.homestead.com/index.html>

Major changes have been made on our Yahoo groups to make it easier for you to read the messages and to view the files. Now all you have to do is click on Messages or Files to view

them. Check the picture files that show the morel photos from the newsletter in color.

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

This is an excellent place for club members to share information or get up to the minute additions or cancellations of club activities. Sign up and report your mushroom findings. Tell other club members when you find your first morel, share a story, or ask questions about fungi.

Signing up is easy. All you have to do is click on "Register" in the top right hand corner. Fill out the form, choosing an ID and password of your choice. Then post a message.

The official email for the club is:

wpamushroomclub@aol.com

These are the only official club Internet sites.

Some members have commented that another Yahoo Mushroom Group has been sending them emails they don't wish to receive. To stop them, go back to that site and unsubscribe. That should stop the emails.

NEMF - August 16 - 19, 2001
University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA
Registration

<u>Category</u>	<u>No.</u>		<u>Cost/person</u>	<u>Total</u>
Double Occupancy#: Thurs thru Sun, 8 meals **	_____	@	\$295	\$ _____
Double Occupancy#: Friday thru Sun, 6 meals*	_____	@	\$250	\$ _____
Single Occupancy: Thurs thru Sun, 8 meals**	_____	@	\$380	\$ _____
Single Occupancy: Friday thru Sun, 6 meals*	_____	@	\$305	\$ _____
Triple or Quadruple+: Thurs thru Sun, 8 meals**	_____	@	\$255	\$ _____
Triple or Quadruple+: Friday thru Sun, 6 meals*	_____	@	\$215	\$ _____
Commuter: Thurs thru Sunday, 8 meals**	_____	@	\$185	\$ _____
Commuter: Friday thru Sunday, 6 meals*	_____	@	\$170	\$ _____
Commuter, no meals	_____	@	\$105	\$ _____
Totals	_____			\$ _____

Please indicate roommate(s) below. Will you need us to assign you a roommate? ___ M or F?
 **8 meals: Thursday dinner through Sunday breakfast, including Fri night Bar-B-Q and Sat. banquet.
 *6 meals: Friday lunch through Sunday breakfast, including Fri night Bar-B-Q and Saturday banquet.
 # one or two beds + two double beds Number of beds preferred: 1 or 2 _____

For your name tag(s): Please list all in your party:
 Name or nickname: _____ Hometown, Club or organization _____

Name and address (Please type or print clearly, or use an address sticker)

Telephone: _____ Special needs? _____
 e-mail: (We promise not to send you any junk mail!): _____

Liability Waiver: (All must sign): By signing below I release the Northeast Mycological Federation, Inc. and the Boston Mycological Club, their officers and members from any and all liability and loss arising from any accident, injury or illness which may result from activities of the year 2001 NEMF Foray.
 Sign and date: _____

Sign and date: _____
 All fees must be paid in full with this registration. Make checks payable to NEMF and mail with this form, signed, to: NEMF/ Marcia Jacob 118 Presidents Lane Quincy MA 02169

A late fee of \$30. per person applies to all registrations received after July 15. For all cancellations received up to July 15, we will refund all fees minus \$30. per person. No refunds are possible for cancellations received later than July 15.

Any questions? Call Marcia at (617) 471-1093, e-mail: mjacob@earthlink.net
 Or call Ellen Penso at (617)332-8366 evenings, (617)628-3710 daytime, e-mail epenso@massmed.org

**The Dr. Clyde Christensen
Memorial Foray
At St. John's University
Collegeville, MN
July 5-8, 2001**

NAMA Goes Back to College

Conference Registration Form	
Name 1:	Address:
Name 2:	City/State/Zip:
Phone:(Day) _____ (Evening) _____	Fax: () _____
E-mail: _____	Local Club Affiliation: _____
Roommate: _____	Deadline for Regular Registration is June 1, 2001

	Per Person	# of People	Extension
FORAY: Thursday, July 5, - Sunday, July 8.			
WITH ON CAMPUS ACCOMMODATIONS			
Price includes accommodations for 3 nights, food from dinner Thursday through breakfast Sunday.			
Double Occupancy (Limited Availability) Must specify roommate!	\$260 each	_____	\$ _____
Single Occupancy:	\$280 each	_____	\$ _____
<hr/>			
WITH OFF CAMPUS ACCOMMODATIONS			
Price includes dinner Thursday, lunch and dinner Friday and Saturday			
<hr/>			
TRUSTEES' MEETING: Tuesday, July 3 – Thursday, July 5. Price includes accommodations for 2 nights, food from dinner Tuesday through lunch Thursday.			
Double occupancy (Limited Availability) Specify roommate!	\$120 each	_____	\$ _____
Single occupancy :	\$135 each	_____	\$ _____
Children under 10; must stay with parents.	\$ 60 each	_____	\$ _____
<hr/>			
T-SHIRTS: There is a special Minnesota MMS/NAMA T-shirt available for \$16 each.			
Size(s) Wanted: M _____ L _____ XL _____	\$16 each	_____	\$ _____
<hr/>			
AIRPORT SHUTTLE to and from airport.	\$45	_____	\$ _____
<hr/>			
LATE FEE: \$30 (Reservations received after June 30th)			
Late registrations will be accepted on a space available basis. Call (612) 625-5759 to determine availability:	\$30 each	_____	\$ _____
<hr/>			
Please carry forward to next page.	PAGE TOTAL	\$	

CANCELLATION FEE: \$50 - MMS will issue refunds, minus the cancellation fee, if we receive notice of cancellation prior to June 20, 2001. No refunds will be made for cancellations received after June 20, 2001.

NAMA FORAY:

MAKE YOUR CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Minnesota Mycological Society
SEND TO: Peggy Laine, 1552 229th Lane NE, Bethel, MN 50005-9748

If you plan on going, please write or email Peggy for the release form that is required.
 Thank you.



2002



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA MUSHROOM CLUB

The purpose of the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club is to promote the enjoyment, study, and exchange of information about wild mushrooms. Everyone who has an interest in wild mushrooms is welcome to become a WPMC member. Members are entitled to:

- The WPMC newsletter
- Nine monthly WPMC meetings
- Free participation in WPMC Walks
- Fee discount for WPMC Forays
- Fee discount on WPMC sponsored merchandise

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Interests: _____ Learning Mushrooms _____ Microscopy _____ Club Committees
 _____ Eating Wild Mushroom _____ Toxicology _____ Cultivating Mushrooms
 _____ Mushroom Walks _____ Books _____ Dyeing With Mushrooms
 _____ Mushroom Photography _____ Taxonomy _____ Mushroom Paper Making
 _____ Other _____

Dues enclosed: \$ _____ (\$20 Family, \$15 Individual, \$10 Full time student)

RELEASE

I (We) realize that when engaged in wild mushroom activities, that serious physical injury and personal property damage may accidentally occur. I (We) further realize that there is always the possibility of having an allergic reaction to or being poisoned by the eating of wild mushrooms and that these adverse reactions to eating wild mushrooms range from mild indigestion to fatal illness. **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 officer or member thereof, 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, walk, foray, field trip, excursion, meeting or dining, sponsored by the club.**

Signature _____ Date: _____

Signature _____ Date: _____

Return completed signed and dated form with check payable to W PA Mushroom Club to:

Jack Baker, 1413 Parkmont Rd, Allison Park, PA 15101

Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club

Name: _____ Phone: _____ e-mail _____

Address: _____

WE NEED YOUR HELP

WHAT AREA WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP WITH?

PLEASE CHECK THREE POSSIBLE ITEMS OF INTEREST

- Scout for walk locations
- Help organize forays
- Lead walks
- Work on newsletter committee
- Contribute articles, photos, etc. to newsletter
- Assemble and mail newsletters
- Help with web page
- Line up speakers for meetings
- Collect membership dues and record them
- Record meetings, discussions, events
- Maintain contact with other mushroom clubs
- Publicize meetings, forays, events
- Club Historian
- Recruit members, maintain list of members
- Outreach-- speak to other clubs, nature centers
- Call or e-mail members
- Give a program at Club monthly meeting
- Produce or acquire teaching materials, resources, handouts for meetings
- Welcome and orient new members
- Coordinate coffee/refreshment
- Participate in special projects
- Record mushrooms that are found
- Conduct research on questionable mushrooms
- Help with mycophagy (mushroom cooking)
- Help with sign in at walks and meetings
-

Find something you would like to do. Check the appropriate boxes. We can have a lot of Fungi, Fun, and Friends but it takes your participation to make it happen.

Return completed form to: Jack Baker, 1413 Parkmont Road, Allison Park, PA 15101

CLUB OFFICERS

President: **John Plischke** 724-834-2358
morelbp@aol.com 129 Grant Street, Greensburg, PA 15601
Vice President: **Dick Dougall** 412-486-7504
rsdme@imap.pitt.edu 202 Wadsworth Dr, Glenshaw, PA 15116
Treasurer: **Jack Baker** 412-367-7696
1413 Parkmont Road, Allison Park, PA 15101
Secretary: **Valerie Baker** vbbaker8@hotmail.com

COMMITTEES

Cultivation Chairman: **Mark Spear** 724-297-3371
mspear@penn.com RR4, Box 237E, Kittanning, PA 16201
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marigold@sgi.net 43 Meadowvale Dr, Cheswick, PA 15024
Refreshment Chair: **Moni Wesner** 412-731-7393
moniwesner@aol.com 3844 Henley Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15235
Walk & Foray Chair: **John Plischke III** 724-832-0271
fungi01@aol.com 201 Culbertson Ave, Greensburg, PA 15601
Welcoming Chairman: **Jerry Price** 724-444-6472
2805 Florence Drive, Gibsonia, PA 15044
Workshop Chair: **Kim Plischke** 724-832-0271
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5933 Wellesley Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Scientific Advisor: **Walt Sturgeon**

WILD MUSHROOM COOKBOOK FOR SALE

The Mushroom Cookbook of the WPMC is completed and ready for sale. This 40-page soft cover book is 5 1/2 by 8 1/2 inches in size. It is packed full of 50 great wild mushroom recipes. Thanks to everyone who submitted recipes to make this project a success.

The first section covers baskets, knives, walking sticks and field cleaning mushrooms.

The second section is on preparing, home cleaning, freezing, drying, marinating and canning.

The third section contains 50 wild mushroom recipes. Some of the recipes are: Morels Stuffed with Crabmeat, Black Trumpet Dip, Stuffed Horse Mushrooms, Unfried Breaded Oyster Mushrooms, Pleurotus Ostreatus Won Ton, Sparassis Roast of Beef, and Puffball Lasagna.

You can have your Mushroom Cookbook for \$6, tax included, plus shipping and handling of \$1.50. Club member's cost is \$5, tax included, plus shipping and handling of \$1.50. Please send a check payable to the Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club to Kim Plischke, 129 Grant Street, Greensburg, PA 15601.

You can save the shipping and handling charges by picking up a copy of the cookbook at one of our club meetings or at some of our club walks or events.

The cookbook can also be purchased at the Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve at their wonderful nature store.

BOOKS DONATED LIBRARY STARTED

Elaine and Bobby Boice have donated two books to WPMC. Roger Phillip's, Mushrooms of North America and Gary Lincoff, Lessee and DelConte's The Mushroom Book. These are two excellent books to aid in mushroom identification. Thank you Elaine and Bobby.

Last year Arleen and Alan Bessette donated a copy of their book Mushrooms of Northeastern North America.

Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve, our headquarters and WPMC have come to an agreement where these books will be semi-permanently loaned to Beechwood's library. They will remain club property, but will be available for all to use at the library. To take the books out you must be a member of Beechwood.

"Largest Mushroom Club in the Five-State Area"

Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club
1413 Parkmont Road
Allison Park, PA 15101

MUSHROOM CULTIVATION

MUSHROOM EXPERT VISITS

WALKS & FORAYS

COOKBOOK FOR SALE

Fresh Morel Soup

By Becky Plischke

8 oz small morels	2 Tbs flour
3 Tbs butter	4 C chicken broth
1 Tbs chopped onion	1 C half & half
1 sprig thyme	tarragon
1 bay leaf	

Melt the butter in a large pot. Sauté the onions, and then add the morels. Add a sprig of thyme and a bay leaf. Cover, sweat over low heat for 3-5 minutes. Uncover and discard the thyme and bay leaf. Sauté for 3 minutes. Sprinkle with flour and blend well. Stirring, add the broth slowly. Cover and simmer for 30 minutes.

Slowly add the half and half while stirring constantly. Heat, making sure the soup does not come to a boil. Ladle into bowls and sprinkle with a little tarragon, if desired.

ARTICLES WANTED

We will welcome your article, recipe, joke, puzzle, story or cartoon for the newsletter.

Email or mail them to Becky Plischke today.
morelbp@aol.com or mail to 129 Grant St,
Greensburg, PA 15601.

Proposed By-Law Changes

The following are proposed by-law changes that will be acted upon at the next meeting.

- 1) The last 3 past presidents of the WPMC will automatically hold a seat on the Executive Board as advisors, who are there to give advice and assistance to the current president. Past presidents should remember that they are past presidents.
- 2) At the end of the term of the president. \$200 should be set aside to assist the new president in getting his/her programs started. Any additional money left over at the end of the president's term should be put in club reserves. No principle from those reserves should ever be used. In case of emergency, only the interest generated in the current year can be used to assist with the emergency.
- 3) The new president must propose a budget for the approval of the Executive Board within three months being elected.

We Need Help

If you would like to get more involved with the club, please contact club president John Plischke.