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## FIRST ANNUAL SAM RISTICH FORAY

Middlesex Cty, July 23, 78 .... The Helmetta car caravan following the day's honored friend and teacher, Sam Ristich, left Two Guys and exited from Route 18 at Cranbury Rd. Then going on Cranbury Rd until a left turn onto Helmetta Blvd., the caravan made the next right leading to a sandy pitch pine and bracken fern area. The sand was dry but faces were moist ... wet with perspiration on the 95 day with high humidity. Thank you all who came so promptly and braved the weather to honor Sam.

The trail on the left side of the road led to Helmetta lake or bog where the ground was wet. After collecting it was decided to go straight to a park at Jamesburg for picnicking instead of going to Farrington Lake.

Breads, salads, pickles, nuts, vegetables, mushrooms, clams on the halfshell, tarts and cakes and even mulberry ice cream made from goat's milk was served. Thanks to all for this bountiful repast.

Sam was honored with a beautiful afghan crocheted by Grete and a picture of Stropharia rugoso-annulata made by Neal and framed by Jim. Sam was also made an honorary member of NJMA. We all love Sam and we'll miss him but those going to Frost Valley in Sept. will see him. Sam can also be reached after Aug. at [redacted].

Some of the interesting specimens found were a slime mold Cribraria, Hygrophorus marginatus, a sticky stemmed Hygrophorus, Hydnum fragilissima (?) a thin orange shoe string only on the undersides of logs with resupinate teeth, Hydnochaete olivacea with setae on the teeth, and Muscilago, another slime mold. Dave Patterson noted that the common red capped, 'hot' Russula is probably R. silvicola. R. emetica is now considered rare and found only in wet areas in moss. Sam noted that if you find Tricholomopsis platyphylla BE SURE and DIG them out carefully from the wood to see the rhizomorphs - - a diagnostic character.

## AUG. 13 SCEEC

10:00 Leader - Dorothy Smullen There are no picnic facilities. We will have to tailgate it in the parking lot. In the afternoon at 2:00, there will be a walk open to the public led by several NJMA members. The club's walk will have to be on a different trail to be sure!

Directions: Take 287 to exit 26A - Basking Ridge; Make a right turn from the exit ramp onto N. Maple Av. Follow through blinking light, at center of town veer left onto S. Maple Ave. Take S. Maple (passing Lord Stirling Riding Stables) to Lord Stirling Rd. There is a small sign saying EEC- one mile. Turn left onto Lord Stirling Rd and follow to center on the left side. Call [redacted] if there is any question.

## AUG. 27 CHANGE TO .... COOK NATURE AREA

Vic Gambino has obtained permission for our group to foray in the Grace Cook Nature Study Area at Princeton. This will be our first foray in this part of New Jersey.

Directions: Approach Princeton on Route 1 South - Exit onto Ridge Road North towards Kingston. Go 1 mile on Ridge Road - look for Grace Cook Nature Study Area on the right hand side. There is no parking lot but plenty of street parking is available.

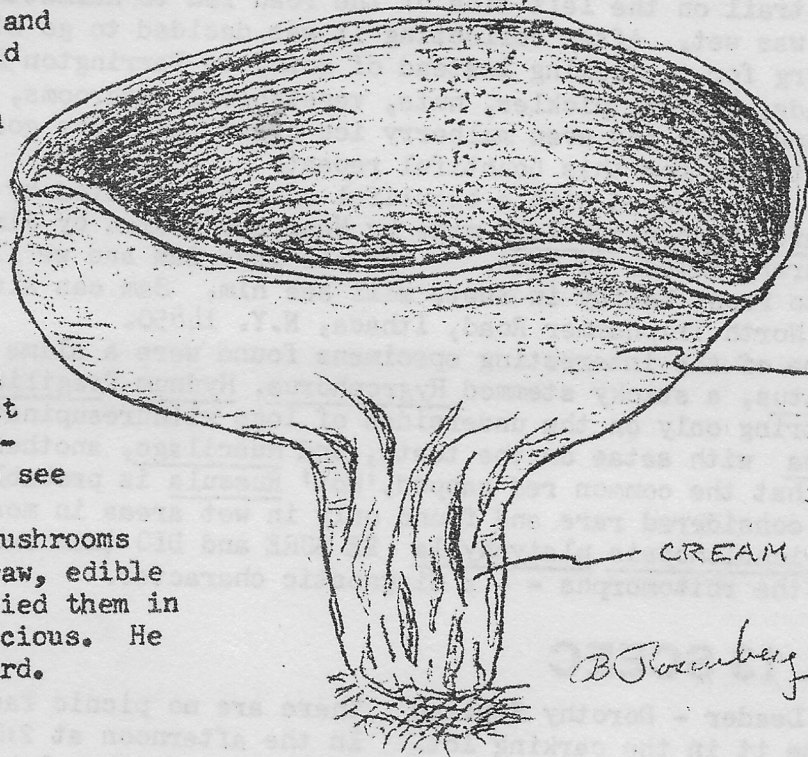
## NOTES FROM MEMBERS

Bruce Rosenberg of Atlantic City writes "during the first week of June near Lititz, Pa. ( 7 miles north of Lancaster) I found 20 large specimens of Peziza acetabulum." (Ed. note: also known as Helvella acetabula according to Miller and Farr, 75)

" I did not know what they were, as I did not have my mushroom library along. Speaking of libraries, I went to the small library in Lititz later in the day to see if they had any mushroom references and I was told by the librarian, "Mushrooms? Oh, no, we don't have any books on such a dangerous subject! " I was so shocked by this reply that the librarian was off on her lunchbreak and out of sight before I could come up with a rational response. I see this as a worthwhile cause for the NJMA - - suggesting good texts for local libraries."

After reaching home and identifying the specimens, Bruce noticed that on holding a specimen in the air toward the light and a relatively dark background, it was possible to see a spray of spores.

One text noted these mushrooms were "poisonous if eaten raw, edible if well cooked." Bruce fried them in butter and found them delicious. He had no indigestion afterward.



SPRAY OF SPORES

OLIVE-BROWN

CREAM WHITE

B Rosenberg '78

Helvella acetabula (L. ex Fr.) Quel.

"reticulated peziza" actual size

## PEEC REPORT

June 23-25, 1978 by Vic Gambino

Thirty-three sparkling people gathered at PEEC Friday evening. Mother nature dealt us a double deal; on the first hand, no improvement of the weather could be imagined. There were blue skies and low 80's during the day and starfilled nights cool enough to make sleeping a treat. On the other hand, the weather was so dry that mushroom pickings were skimpy.

This was our club's first weekend run on our own resources. The program had been planned by Bill Rokicki and the foray committee to emphasize fun first and mushroom collecting a close second.

Saturday's hiking was a delight. It was impossible to work up a sweat even on the orange trail. After lunch a dip in the pool added zest to the afternoon. There was also a Mycophagy session with Grete Turchick and Paul Meyer leading an epicurian feast. The evening's fun included a wine and cheese party and a square dance. Everyone, and we mean everyone, friends and strangers, children, parents and grandparents mixed together and enjoyed each other's company. The good fellowship that earmarks this club was evident throughout this weekend.

It was good to have old friends such as Jean (Tippy) Michaelis rejoin us. Jean was one of the original charter members of our club, whose health had forced her to resign a few years ago.

Sunday morning the foragers went by caravan to Dingman's Falls and Child's Park combining sightseeing and foraging.

Neal Macdonald and Jim Richards worked on taxonomy with help from Sam Ristich, Dave Patterson and Dorothy Smullen who came only on Saturday.

Sun. afternoon there were firm resolves to do it again.

PEEC SPECIMENS 1976 -- Taxonomy group identification • - found in 1977

SLIME MOLDS

- *Fuligo septica*
- *Trichia scabra*

ASCOMYCETES

- *Apiosporina morbosa* (Dibotryon)
- Cordyceps militaris*
- Mitruula paludosa*
- Rhizinia undulata*
- *Xylaria polymorpha*
- Xylaria sp.*

GILLED MUSHROOMS

- Amanita flavorubescens*
- A. rubescens*
- A. muscaria*
- A. strangulata*
- *A. vaginata* var. *fulva* and *plumbea*
- Clitocybe clavipes*
- C. irina*
- *Collybia dryophila* and aborted form  
--*Christiansenia*
- Conocybe lactea* (*Bolbitius tener*)
- Coprinus sp.*
- Flammula sp.*
- Galera sp.*
- Hygrophorus cantharellus*
- H. chlorophanus*
- H. psittacinus*
- Hypholoma fasciculare*
- Inocybe radiata*
- Laccaria amethystea*
- L. laccata*
- *Lacterius camphoratus*
- L. spp.*
- Marasmius epiphyllus* ?
- Melanoleuca sp.*

- *Mycena galericulata* ?
- M. leaiana*
- Oudemansiella radicata*
- *Pluteus cervinus*
- P. flavofuliginus*
- *P. longistriatus*
- Psathyrella rugocephala* (*Hypholoma*)
- Russula mariae*
- R. paludosa* ? (decolorans group)
- R. ochroleuca*
- *Schizophyllum commune*
- Stropharia coronilla* ?
- *Tricholomopsis platyphylla*
- *T. rutilans*

BOLETES

- Boletus badius* ?
- B. chrysenteron*
- Leccinum sp.* (*aurantiacum* ?)
- Tylopilus felleus*
- T. ferrugineus*

"POLYPORES"

- *Favolus alveolaris*
- *Ganoderma applanatum*
- *G. tsugae*
- *Piptoporus betulinus*
- Polyporus elegans*
- P. perennis* (*Coltrichia*)

CORAL

- Clavulina cinerea*

"LEATHER"

- Tremellodendron sp.*