



# NJMA NEWS

## New Jersey Mycological Assn.

May - June 1983

Volume XIV

No. 3

### Foray Notes

#### WILD FOODS FORAY

Once again Bob Peabody, our expert in wild foods, mushrooms and many other things, will be the leader of our foray at Sundance Stables on June 5th. Under his supervision we will be gathering some edible wild plants to be prepared for all to sample. In addition we are asking everyone to bring a dish to share to ensure a bountiful lunch. Dishes prepared with wild edibles are preferred, but not absolutely necessary.

The foray site has no picnic tables. You may wish to bring blankets, chairs etc. to sit on.

#### PEEC WEEKEND

Have a PEEC experience! Come to the NJMA weekend at the Pocono Environmental Education Center June 24-26. Where else can you hike on scenic trails past sparkling waterfalls through woods lush with wildflowers and (of course) mushrooms? Where else can you sit at the feet of the irrepressible Dr. Sam Ristich as he discourses on Boletes? Then after a luxurious soak in your sunken bathtub, join fellow NJMA members for wine and cheese and (of course) mushrooms prepared by our reknown Mycophagists. Cap the Saturday evening festivities with a lively square dance on the spectacular iridescent heart-shaped dance floor.

All this - and more can be yours for the modest sum of \$50 per person. To make your reservations send a check for the complete amount to: William M. Rokicki, [REDACTED] 07016. Checks payable to NJMA.

Rhoda Roper

### NJMA Mushroom Calendar

Sunday	May 1	Jenny Jump State Forest	Bill Rokicki
Saturday	May 7	Hacklebarney State Park	Anna Gerenday
Sunday	June 5	Sundance Stables - Wild Foods	Bob Peabody
Saturday	June 18	Tourne Co. Park - Hiram Korn Foray	Paul Meyer
	June 24 - 26	PEEC WEEKEND	Dr. Sam Ristich

Sunday	July 10	Shark River Co. Park	Ray Fatto
Sunday	July 17	Meadow Woods Co. Park	Rhoda Roper
Sunday	July 24	Mahlon Dickerson Co. Park	Sue Hopkins
Sunday	August 7	Lebanon State Forest	Mitch Goldman

August 11 - 14                      NORTHEAST FORAY, ORONO, MAINE

Sunday	August 21	SCEEC	Dorothy Smullen
Saturday	August 27	Echo Hill Co. Park	Gertrude Espenscheid
Sunday	September 4	Worthington State Park	-- open --
Sunday	September 11	Stevens State Park	Jim Richards
Sunday	September 18	Herontown Woods Co. Park	Neal MacDonald
Sunday	September 25	Stokes State Forest - annual picnic	Grete Turchick

Sunday                      October 2                      FUNGUS FEST '83 - SCEEC

Saturday	October 8	Schooleys Mountain Co. Park	John Wanelik
Sunday	October 16	Cheesequake State Park	Bob Hosh
Sunday	November 6	SCEEC - First Winter Meeting	

## Foray Sites

### JENNY JUMP

Take I-80 West to Route 521 South (Hope exit). In the center of Hope make a left onto Route 519 North. A small sign on the right side of the road will indicate the right turn toward Jenny Jump State Forest. Follow the sign, and at the first fork in the road turn right in front of the house. Continue past the swings to the parking field on the right.

### HACKLEBARNEY

Take Rt. 206 to Chester. From 206 take 24 West to the Black River. Once over the bridge, make a sharp left onto Hacklebarney Road which parallels the river. Follow this road to the park entrance.

### SUNDANCE STABLES

Take Rt. 46 West thru Hackettstown. One quarter mile west of town turn right onto Petersburg Road. Proceed 1 1/2 miles to Sundance Stables on the right.

### TOURNE

Take I-287 to Boonton exit (Rt. 202). From exit ramp turn left crossing over I-287. Just past the over-pass, make a right onto Fanny Rd. and follow it to fork about 3/4 mile. Take the left fork, Elcock Ave., for about two blocks. The entrance to the park is on the left. Proceed to the second parking lot.

### PEEC

From I-80 in Pa. take exit 52 (Marshall's Creek) to Rt. 209 North. Follow Rt. 209 to the North to the blinking light in the village of Bushkill. About seven miles past the light is a sign for PEEC. Make a left and follow it uphill. At the fork of the road bear right. The center will be visible.

# Lecture on Collybia

Sunday, March 13 we had the pleasure of listening to a very fine lecture on the genus Collybia given by Dr. Roy Halling of the Farlow Herbarium, Harvard University. Dr. Halling began studying this genus when working on his doctorate thesis under Dr. Bigelow, and now he has been studying it for seven years.

Collybia was first recognized as a genus in the 1800's. Until then its species were placed under Agaricus and Marasmius. It is a complicated genus, "the collection of whatever was left after other fungi were keyed out," it is best studied under the microscope.

Dr. Halling showed slides of Marasmius and other related genera which were at one time included in Collybia. Some of the slides illustrated the characteristics which eliminate them from that genus - the pear shaped surface cells of Marasmius oreades, setae on the cap of Flammulina velutipes, and the warty, amyloid spores of Melanoleuca.

Collybia has white or pinkish spores which have dextranoid or non-amyloid reaction in Melzer's solution. The pileal tissues, which do not react in Melzer's, are composed of radially cylindrical hyphae, and the basidiocarp surfaces lack differentiated elements such as found in Flammulina and in Marasmius.

## Taxonomy

The first taxonomy meeting of the season will be held on Saturday, May 21, 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. at Cook College in the Plant Pathology building. Early part of the day we will be working on the herbarium, filing catalogued specimens. The afternoon will be spent on identification. Please bring fresh fungi. Microscopes will be available for our use. Bring lunch if you are planning to stay all day.

Since the building is kept locked, you must let us know if you are planning on attending. Call Dorothy Smullen on [REDACTED]

## Culinary Banquet

Melanie and Jim are already planning our second Culinary Banquet. The date to mark on your calendar is Saturday, July 23. Mushrooms should be abundant.

## Congratulations

Our congratulations to Rhoda Roper, the winner of our patch competition. Rhoda has become a member of NJMA for life.

The winning design, selected by Juror Toshiko Takaezu, was one of many beautiful entries all of which will be displayed at our Fungus Fest in October.

The winning entry is a Boletus edulis against a brown background with "NJMA" printed across it in navy blue lettering. The containing circle is also outlined in navy blue. It is very beautiful. We will be proud to wear it.



## Important Notice

Bored and frustrated from not having enough to do? You do not feel included in our activities? Volunteer, and help is on its way.

NJMA needs your help!

Your newsletter needs collators, contributors - writers and illustrators - and it needs an editor. No experience, just willingness to share with us two or three hours of your time every two months is necessary. To volunteer, call your president-editor-reporter-collator Anna Gerenday on 822-1465.

Mark October 2 on your calendar. Fungus Fest '83 time! Help will be needed to man booths, to lead walks, to clean up and to take care of numerous other chores. To sign up, call Sue Hopkins on [REDACTED]

## Cancer Causing Substances in Mushrooms

Research scientists at the University of Nebraska Medical Center discovered a few years ago that certain substances in edible, commercially sold mushrooms were cancer causing in laboratory animals. Their studies deserve the attention of intelligent consumers.

The fungus Gyromitra esculenta, which is eaten by thousands of Americans and Hundreds of thousands of North Europeans, for instance, contains the stable, heat-resistant chemicals N-Methyl-N-formylhydrazine (0.05%) and methylhydrazine (0.0014%). These compounds have caused cancer in eleven organs, such as lungs, liver, gall bladder, etc., of mice and hamsters.

Consumption of Gyromitra esculenta should be entirely discontinued and related varieties, other Gyromitra, Helvella, and Verpa species, should be subjected to scientific scrutiny. At the same time, warning must be issued against the consumption of uncooked mushrooms in general.

Research scientists have found unstabel carcinogenic chemicals in Agaricus bisporus: up to 0.07% agaritine and 06ppm diazonium ion. In salt form, these chemicals induce stomach, lung, and other cancers in mice. Diazonium ion is especially carcinogenic. Both compounds break down during cooking, however, and are thus rendered harmless.

The commercially cultivated mushroom of the Western Hemisphere, Agaricus bisporus is consumed at the approximate rate of 300 to 350 million pounds a year in the United States. As a popular ingredient of salads, it is frequently eaten raw. The necessity to avoid this gourmet treat is suggested by the Nebraska scientists.

Marie Tamas

From Bela Toth, "mushrooms and Cancer," McIlvainea 5:2 (1982), pp. 151 .



# Morels! Morels! Morels!

It is known that morels grow in old apple orchards. I usually find the best fruiting under dead trees. What it is that makes the soil favorable for morels under apple trees is not known, but it has been observed that morels prefer alkaline soil. This preference on their part prompted people to spread lime and wood ash in their backyards. Whether anyone has been successful in producing morels this way, I do not know.

Morels also fruit in disturbed soil. The type of disturbance that produce them are varied: bulldozed areas, trees which have toppled over, burnt areas—they all had produced morels, some in unheard of quantities.

If you are one of those unfortunate souls who cannot see morels anywhere, do not loose heart. Your larder may yet be full of this elusive treat of the fungus world. A scientist at San Francisco State University had successfully cultured morel mycelium which, under strict light, temperature and humidity conditions produced fruiting bodies.

Just think! No more crawling thru bramble bushes and poison ivy for a few specimens. Just walk down to your cellar, and harvest a generous fruiting from the "spawn" bought from your very favorite supply house.

"When asked where you find your mushrooms, lie about the location unless a real mushroom fan asks you. Tell him the truth because he'll think you are lying and will never look there anyway. Wear a disguise when going mushrooming. Take along a fishing pole or gun so others won't know your true mission. Spy on other mushroomers, but be wary for they will spy on you too."

From Spore Prints, March 1983 as quoted from Mycena News

At our last indoor meeting on April 10th one of our members, Arty Grimes reported that he had already found eleven morels. He found them growing at the cement foundation of an house long gone. There are morels after all! And with all the snow around they should be easily seen.

## MORELS

by Robert Quinn

Lert Bender has grown too old  
To track down mushrooms.  
One spring he found 58 grays,  
First of the season,  
Surrounding a dying elm,  
Moist and trembling, not more  
Than half an hour old.  
Forty-odd years ago  
Cutting through the orchard  
Returning from Bulrush Pond  
He heaped his bait bucket  
And straw hat with sponges  
As big as your fist. Some bigger.

And talk about snakeheads!  
One steamy morning in May  
He found 300 or more  
In a swampy stretch of woods.  
And how about the time  
He was climbing the creekbank  
Below the railroad trestle  
And discovered 29 huge  
Yellows in the tall grass?  
Lert Bender can sit by the hour  
Gathering mushrooms  
And never move from his chair.

from Country Journal Magazine, May 1983



# Northeastern Mycological Foray 1983

The eighth annual Northeastern Mycological Foray will be held this year at the University of Maine in Orono, Maine, from August 11 through 14. The University offers a combination of good siting, excellent dorms, fine collecting areas, good facilities for sorting and displaying the collections, and, according to the planning committee, excellent food courteously served.

Dr. Richard Homola, the Foray Senior Mycologist, leads a very cooperative group from the University along with Dr. Alan Bessette; and all signals seem ready for the best Northeastern Foray ever. The collecting areas include some of the most scenic spots in the state: Acadia National Park, Mt. Desert Island, extensive paper company woodlands, and a large area burned a few years ago near Mt. Katahdin where fungi are flourishing in abundance.

Dormitory accommodations are double occupancy with some singles available on a first-come, first-served basis. All rooms are in elevator buildings; bathroom facilities are available on each wing. There are accessible washers, dryers, exercise rooms and saunas. No more than three people can occupy a room. An additional fee of \$5 will be charged for the third bed.

The cost of the Foray is \$100 per person. This includes lodging beginning Thursday evening (linens, blankets, soap, towels, pillows); three meals on Friday and Saturday and one meal on Sunday; all day as well as morning and afternoon forays; lectures; mycophagy sessions; etc. A lobster or steak dinner on Saturday night will be highlighted. Day participants (no lodging) may join the Foray for activities and meals at a cost of \$80 per person.

Members of NAMA and the sponsoring societies will be given first priority as space is limited.

Full payment must accompany your reservation. We look forward to seeing you.

Pat and Jim Kronick

THE 1983 NORTHEASTERN MYCOLOGICAL FORAY  
August 11-14, 1983

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Names of other people for whom you are registering

	#of People	Total
Plan A at \$100	_____	_____
Plan B at \$80	_____	_____

Late fee of \$10 per person will be charged after August 1, 1983.

Make checks (payable in full) to Northeastern Mycological Foray.

Mail to Northeastern Mycological Foray  
PO Box 533  
Merrick, NY 11566

The hosting organizations do not assume liability for persons becoming lost or injured or for loss or damage to personal property.

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Are you looking for things to do the week after? Consider joining the Rancocas Nature Club staff in their "mostly - terrestrial natural history exploration of Acadia National Park". It will be held Sunday, August 14 thru Friday, August 19.

Participants will be housed at the College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor. Cost is \$220, meals not included. Kitchen facilities will be available. For further information, contact Karl Anderson at Rancocas Nature Center, 609-261-2495.

## Mushroom Happenings

August 19-23

The 1983 NAMA Foray will be held in Granby, Colorado from August 19 to 23. Accommodations vary from motel-like rooms to camp sites, and the price (of course) varies accordingly. Registration forms are available from Anna Gerenday, 822-1465.

August 25-26

Third Annual Telluride Conference for persons interested in the study and cultivation of wild mushrooms will be held August 25-26. Major consideration will be given to the cultivation of diverse mushroom species emphasizing practical principles and techniques. For further information contact: Fungophile, P.O. Box 5503, Denver, Colorado, 80217-5503.

September 1-16

Czechoslovakia Foray is being planned for September 1-16, 1983. Dr. Orson K. Miller will be leading the foray into the High Tatras of the Carpathian Mountains. Cost is \$1,983.00. Tour size limited to 35. Inquiries should be sent to: Czechoslovakia Foray, c/o N. Bourso-Leland, 22 Seneca Road, Winchester, Ma. 01890.

October 3-24

Mushroom study tour of the People's Republic of China is planned for October 3-24. Tour leaders: Gary Lincoff, Andrew Weil, M.D. and Emanuel Salzman, M.D. For further information write to: Dr. Emanuel Salzman, c/o Fungophile, P.O. Box 5503, Denver, Colorado, 80217-5503.



These checks (payable in full) to Northeastern Mycological Society

Mail to Northeastern Mycological Society

PO Box 525

Meriden, CT 06450

The hosting organization is not assuming liability for persons receiving food or  
injured or for loss of items to persons receiving.

attend. Consider joining the Northeastern  
Mycological Society, please sign up  
Sunday, August 15, 1988.

of the Society is not a member. Cost  
tickets will be available. For further  
information contact, contact the Society.

New Jersey Mycological Association  
c/o Anna Gerenday, President

Mushroom Lovers

# peec JUNE 24-26

