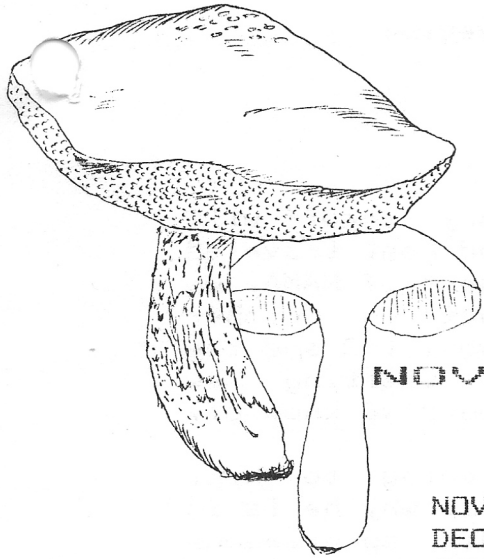


NJMA NEWS

New Jersey Mycological Assn.



Leccinum sp.

Circulation: Sue Kibby
Jim Richards
Editor: Vic Gambino
Art Editor: Bernice Fatto
Guest Artist: Gertrude Espenscheid

NOV — DEC 1985 VOL. XV NO. 6

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER 3	MEMBERSHIP MEETING
DECEMBER 8	MEMBERSHIP MEETING
JANUARY 5	MEMBERSHIP MEETING
FEBRUARY 2	MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MARCH 2	MEMBERSHIP MEETING
APRIL 6	MEMBERSHIP MEETING

ALL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS ARE HELD THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH, FROM NOVEMBER TO APRIL, AT 2:00 PM AT THE SOMERSET ENVIROMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER (SCEEC), BASKING RIDGE, NJ.

DRIVING INSTRUCTIONS

From Route 287 take exit 26-A (Basking Ridge). Take a right turn from exit ramp onto North Maple Avenue, past AT&T into Basking Ridge. At center of town, veer left onto South Maple Avenue, past Lord Sterling Riding Stables on the left, to Lord Sterling Road and follow about a mile to Enviromental Center on the left.

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NOVEMBER 3

Lecturer: Tina Gillian Davies

One of our favorite mycologists returns to provide an interesting slide lecture on a fascinating family of mushrooms, the *Marasmius* genus, shriveling when dry, to revive when moistened to shed spores. The most notable member of the family is the familiar fairy ring mushroom.

Please note that the lecture must start promptly at 2:00 as Ms. Davies has traveling arrangements! Please arrive early.

Before or shortly after the lecture, Sue Kibby will accept entries for the Photo Contest. This is the final date by which entries must be submitted.

Following the lecture, members of the NJMA Executive Committee will convene. This will be an open meeting. ALL members are invited to stay and participate.

DECEMBER 8

Scheduled for our meeting are the following events:

NJMA PHOTO CONTEST
Election of officers
NJMA Christmas Party

It is with pleasure that we announce that Gary Lincoff will judge our photo contest. He must be the busiest and best traveled mycologist we know of. Aside from being president of NAMA, we note that he will be at the MycoMedia conference on October 25-27, the Wild Mushroom Conference Oct. 31, Nov. 1-3 and the Halley's Comet & Mushroom Study Tour April 3-20, visiting New Zealand & Australia. And these are only the tours we know of, without consulting with him on his schedule.

Those of us who have had the pleasure of listening to him, out on field walks and in the lecture hall, realize why he is in such demand, and delight in anticipation of his spontaneous comments which mix botanical & mycological erudition with lively commentary.

Immediately following the contest, we will take a break and enjoy our Christmas party. This is a covered dish affair, with some of the best chefs in the country (our members) contributing their best efforts, sharing their delights with other members.

JANUARY 5, 1986

Happy New Year! Celebrating our fifteenth year (Eleventh year as the NJMA), will be three of our steadfast friends. Geoffrey Kibby, will give a talk (subject yet to be selected). Bob Peabody will follow with his slide show on the "Fearless Four", so often a feature at Fungus Fest, answering requests that he give this presentation in a lecture hall where the light and sound will heighten rather than detract, and where the audience can sit down and see the pictures and hear his talk.

Viola Spock, on the other hand would be nervous in front of a large audience, but is willing to make a concession for her many friends who have asked her to repeat her demonstration on "dyeing with mushrooms". She has agreed to go to a small corner, and repeat this craft demonstration.

FEBRUARY 2

MYCOPHAGY SESSION

Traditionally our most popular winter meeting. Jim Richards, Grete Turchick, Bob Hosh, and Artie Grimes! NJMA chafing dishes! Steaming dishes of Wild Mushrooms! Pretty girls pushing carts up and down the aisles. The thought is enough to bring June to February.

MARCH 2

Lecturer: Ray Fatto

APRIL 6

Lecturer: Curre Marr

Details on these two lectures will be published later.

NJMA 6TH ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST

Our annual photo contest will be held during the December membership meeting.

CATAGORIES

PICTORIAL

Photographs of mushrooms, preferably in natural habitat, to be judged for their artistic merit.

TECHNICAL

Photographs showing as many indentifying features as possible. A series of photos will be accepted as a single entry.

These slides will be judged primarily for their usefulness in field identification. The characteristics illustrated are to be indicated on a separate piece of paper accompanying the photo entry.

ACTIVITIES

Photos of people in serious or humorous mushroom related activities.

CONTEST RULES

The contest is open to NJMA Members only.

Only colored slides will be acceptable.


Previous NJMA photo contest winning slides are not eligible.

Slides may be entered in any of the three catagories.

Your name and catagory entered must appear on the entry.

All slides will be shown and evaluated by Gary Lincoff, President of the NAMA, and author of several field guides to mushroom identification, who has graciously consented to judge this year's contest.

Forward all entries to:

Mrs. Susan Kibby


The deadline for submission of entries will be during the November 3rd membership meeting.

We look forward to your particapation in the event.

Spirits were high to make this year's Fungus Fest a success, and although it hadn't rained once in two weeks, we somehow managed to fill tables with mushroom displays, and although the ravishing hordes that were there last year were not quite hordes this year, there were still over 300 people who attended - interested, curious, fascinated and satisfied at the variety and scope of the information provided by our club members.

What was different this year? Featured - a very large, very lovely art exhibit organized by Audrey and Neal Macdonald. Occupying the larger part of one auditorium, it featured the work of Bernice Fatto, Geoffrey Kibby, Neal Macdonald, Dorothy Smullen, Melinda Hosh and stained glass by Sue Kibby. Crafts in the same room were by Sue Kibby and Nancy Huykman. A hands on demonstration of dyeing with mushrooms was provided by Viola Spock. To prove the success of that work shop, at mid-week I was asked to supply any kind of mushroom so that a friend could proceed with experiments in dyeing. The results of which yielded a beautiful soft pink, two warm yellows, a blue grey and a bland-was-this-a-dye (?) color. Never-the-less, the enjoyment was high, and the seminars stayed filled. Plans are underway to include this demonstration after one of our winter meetings. We look forward to others becoming interested and continuing experiments and work in this field.

In addition to the more expanded features of the fair were the displays and presentations given with that mixture of professionalism, generosity and mycological zeal for which our club is noted. Vic Gambino did an introduction to mushrooming for the novice, Ed Hansbury provided a lecture on better nature photography, Bob Peabody held forth on his slide show on the Fearless Four and for once, without the din, I could hear and enjoy part of it.

Our chefs Artie Grimes and Bob Hosh prepared a seemingly never-ending array of dishes that made our mouth water and the heart sigh. Handing them out to the visitors with appropriate identification with aplomb and flair, were Lynn Mason, Barbara and David Ecker, and Genya Hosh.

Books sold well. Jim Richards had an excellent variety of books, posters, recipes and calendars which with the help of Kenneth Gilberg were displayed and available for all levels of mushroom or nature enthusiasts.

On the taxonomic end of things, Erica Frank and Dorothy Smullen taught basic microscopic techniques, Geoffrey Kibby and Ray Fatto identified all incoming mushrooms. Anna Gerenday and her biology class of 15, in a surprise visit, provided a basketfull of fleshy fungi in a year in which we were unearthing dried polypores so that there might be something on the tables! Meanwhile Al Northup and Joe Kusinski traveled 3-10 mountain ranges to increase what was already becoming a decent mushroom display to an interesting and somewhat miraculous display of fresh, wet, soft, fleshy fungi, sometimes quite large specimens.

The stamp cancellers were there, Lenny Frank's 3-D and other world wide mushroom stamps were as fascinating as ever.

And who who was leading those field walks with curious, thirsty, and sometimes more adventurers along: Paul Meyer and his trusty duo of Joe Spock and Joe Kuyzinski. Michael Friel also led walks when he wasn't doing something important for the chefs or posting signs along the roads. The Van Sants kept slide shows and whatever else was needed to run smoothly running that way.

And where did it start? At the front desk with the hospitality, patience and friendliness of those who take on whatever chores needed to be taken. Linda Meyer, Danny Marilovich, Sue Kibby, Bernice Fatto, Rudy Peterson and Grace Gambino all showed a flexibility and pitch-in-itness that made this Fungus Fest a pleasure to attend. For their and everyone elses help I'm indebted.

And what did I do? I had taken on publicity. Eight to ten newspapers and six radio stations did features on the fair, sending reporters and photographers. But mostly I said my prayers - hoping for rain, hoping for mushrooms, hoping for people to attend and after all, glad that we had such a good time doing what we do so well - sharing some of that interest, love and knowledge of mushrooms. Congratulations to all and thank you.

CONGRATULATIONS !

To Long time member and past president Robert Peabody, recipient of the Amateur Mycologist of The Year award at the 1985 Northeastern Mycological Foray for his contributions to amateur mycology.

AMAZON* HALLEY'S COMET* ANDES* MUSHROOM* PLANT FORAY***1986***

Gerry Miller and Gary Lincoff report that their last four Amazon forays were so enjoyable and the mushroom and plant collecting was so successful that they have decided to offer two other trips to these areas and have added the attraction of veiwing Halley's Comet from near the Equator - the best place to see it, this coming January and February. A 15 and a 21 day tour are planned with registration limited to 12 participants.

For complete details, write or call:

Amazon Foray
c/o Gerry Miller
P.O. Box 125
E

BOSTON MYCOLOGICAL CLUB DATA

Twenty years of collection frequency data on 250 common mushrooms of the Northeast have been put into a 24 page report. Each species is in a form of a bar chart, detailing finds from 1964-1983. The cost is \$4.00, send your check to:

Ron Trail
Boston, MA 02118

NJMA CULINARY GROUP

'Tis no wonder that the culinary group is one of the most popular adjuncts of the NJMA, especially when we get reports like this one from our club president Selena Whitefeather:

"After a morning foray and a leisurely identification session on the front lawn of SCEEC, we drove across town to Mildred di Simone's house for a get-together of the culinary group.

What a house! Mildred led us on a small guided tour through this room and that which elicited oohs and ahhs at the beautiful and varied quilts and antiques. There was even a lovely quilt by our own Viola Spock. After this bonus tour, we gathered outside under clear blue skies and got serious about food.

To start, jalapeno finger sandwiches with cream cheese and chives and a little mushroom, leek, zucchini quiche which only quickened the appetite. Then - around the picnic table for cheese and bread, pasta salad, authentic Texas-style pork and beef barbeque, potato salad, bean salad, fresh tomatoes with basil, and chicken-walnut celery supreme. Delicious!

And if that was not enough, wonderful deserts: fruit salad, homemade peach ice cream, apple, cherry, and peach pies. Accompanied with light chilled wine, beer or sun tea and a delightful time was had by all."

The publishing schedule of this newsletter does not permit us to provide timely information regarding upcoming culinary events. To get information on how and when to join the next dinner group, call Jim Richards (201-852-1647), Dorothy Smullen (201-647-5740) or Bob Hosh (201-738-7473) for scheduling and menu information. All club members and their guests are welcome, if there is room.

* * * * *

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Our annual reminder that with the coming year, it's again time to renew your membership. Before you forget, please send your check to:

NJMA
C/O Mrs. Grete Turchick

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP	\$15.00
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP	\$10.00

The NJMA is affiliated with the North American Mycological Association (NAMA). Accordingly, our members are entitled to reduce their membership dues to that organization by \$3.00. If you would like to take advantage of this discount, send a SEPARATE Check for \$12.00, made out to NAMA along with your NJMA dues. Please be sure to identify yourself with name, address and telephone number.

FUNGAL FOSSILS, FUNGAL FAUNA OF PREHISTORIC TIMES

By Charles Frede

In recent years various discoveries have dramatically altered our view of dinosaurs; we now have evidence to suggest that they were probably enenergetic and warm blooded, a startling contrast to the letargic image protrayed in movies and children's books only a few years ago. The latest theory regarding the end of the Age of Reptiles is that some catastrophic event such as a large meteor striking the earth or vast volcanic eruption caused the end of these creatures in a relatively short period of time about 65 million years ago. The sudden demise of this life form has intrigued scientists, while on the other hand fungal history of this period as been considered uncommon and unimportant in the fossil record. Therefore when a student of the fungi wishes to learn of their history, that person will usually find either nothing or some brief unrevealing paragraph. The purpose of this series of articles is to discuss the important role they played then as well as they are playing now.

In attempting to trace fungal history there are discouraging blank spaces which demonstrate the point that the formation of fossils is a chance event, the product of various combined conditions. First the organism must be structually hardy to endure the rigors of physical decomposition. Thus, only hard parts such as bark, bone or shell rements usually leave traces in rock formations. Secondly, an organism must be covered quickly to prevent scavengers, bacteria and saprophytes from gaining immediate access to the remains. It is for this reason that most fossil sites were maritime areas.

Fossilization occurs in many ways. Petrification in which minerals replace organic material, often produces beautiful fossils such as the fossil trees of Arizona. This is not to be confused with another form of fossiliation where an organism leaves a mold of itself in sedimentary material which is later filled with more sediment creating a cast, which hardens into rock, remaining to survive as a fossil for ensuing ages.

Bearing in mind the conditions necessary for fossil formation, not much in the way of fossil record can be expected as fungi are not hardy and decompose quickly. In this series of articles I will attempt to summarize what is currently known or theorized about fungi during the prehistoric ages.

* * * * *

On Life Everlasting

*The mushroom and a flower vie
In showing life will never die;
They rise above the woodland duff
To show that life is very tough.*

*The dandelion can sink its root
Wherever dropped by parachute;
The toadstool widely spreads its spores
To any spot that's out of doors.*

*The tree trunk that supports the two
Thought when it fell that it was through;
But all about the forest floor
Are things that live forevermore.*

Mycophagist's Corner

It seems only yesterday, but it was June 1979, At the first Northeast Mycological Foray at PEEC, that in a pile of wood chips we came across the **STROPHARIA RUGOSO-ANNULATA**, for the first time. The guide books in our possession at that time did not help us to identify this dinner plate sized mushroom. We had many guesses, as the features were confusing. It looked like an **Agaricus**, but the gills were not free!

To our rescue came Gary Lincoff, who correctly identified it, and reported that it was probably the only **Stropharia** that was safe to eat.

Undoubtly, it's a beautiful mushroom, with a deep maroon cap and radially arranged yellow, cottony patches on the lower surfaces of the unopened veil. It has an excellent flavor and can be used in all your favorite recipes, or gently sauteed. Try it in the following recipe:

MUSHROOM CUTLETS

10 large flat mushroom caps	4 tsp flour
1/2 tsp. salt	4 tsp. butter
1 egg	bread crumbs

Wash mushrooms thoroughly in cold water. Dry carefully, beat egg adding flour and salt. Dip mushrooms in egg mixture, then cover in bread crumbs and fry until tender and golden brown.

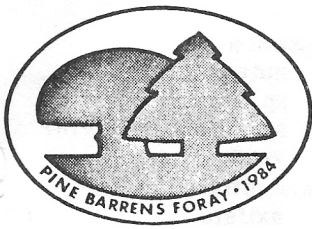
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Stropharia rugoso-annulata

We wish to thank Gertrude Espenscheid for the illustrations in this newsletter, and for her many years in being the first in line whenever volunteers were called for. She has always been devoted to the club, and has served in many capacities without enough credit.

Regretfully for us, she has announced that she is moving to the Rocky Shores of Maine, and while we're sure that she will stay in contact, and will continue to contribute a drawing or cartoon once in a while, we will be without her good counsel and impeccable taste. She will be missed.



Collected Species

BASIDIOMYCETES

Agaricus

arvensis
placomycetes

Amanita

abrupta
bisporigera
brunnescens v.
brunnescens
cylindrispora
daucipes
fulva
gemmata
inaurata
komarekensis
longipes
mutabilis
onusta
sp. NJ 24
sp. NJ 25
sp. NJ 26
sp. NJ 4
sp. NJ 5
subsolitaria v.
furcataphylla
virosa
volvata v. volvata

Armillariella

tabescens

Astreus

hygrometricus

Austroboletus

betula
subflavidus

Boletus

affinis v. affinis
affinis v. maculosus
bicolor v. bicolor
bicolor v.
subreticulatus
fraternus
frostii
griseus
illudens
longicurvipes
morrissii
ornatipes
pallidus
parasiticus
pseudosensibilis
pulverulentus
sensibilis
separans
subglabripes
variipes

Bondarzewia

berkelyi

Callistosporium

luteo-olivaceum

Calocera

cinnabarina
cornea

Calvatia

craniiformis

Cantharellus

americanus
cibarius
cinnabarinus
minor

Chlorophyllum

molybdites

Chlorosplenium

chlora

Ciboria (=Rutstroemia)

peckiana
aurantio-cinnabarina
aurantio-cinnabarina
v. amoena
pyxidata

Ciavulina

cinerea
cristata

Clitocybe

highlandensis
odora
stromboides

Clitopilus

prunulus

Collybia

alba (=Podabrella)
butyracea
dichrous
dryophila
dysodes
iocephala
luxurians
subnuda

Coltricia

cinna momea
montagnei v. greenei
montagnei v. montagnei
perennis

Conocybe

lactea

Coriolus

hirsutus
velutinus
versicolor

Cortinarius

iodes
semisanguineus
violaceus

Craterellus

fallax

Crucibulum

laeve

Cryptoporus

volvatus

Daedalea

quercina

Daedaliopsis

confragosa
confragosa (la mellate)

Entoloma

cfr. mammosus
murrain
salmoneum
strictus

Exidia

glandulosa

Favolus

alveolaris

Fistulina

hepatica

Galerina

sp.

Ganoderma

applanatum
lobatum
lucidum

Geastrum

indicum

Gerronea

chrysophylla

Gloeoporus

dichrous

Gyroporus

castaneus

Hohenbuehelia

geogenia

Hydnellum

serobiculatum
serobiculatum v.
zonatum
spongiosipes

Hydnochaete

olivaceum

Hydnum

repandum

Hygrophorus

cantharellus
coccineus
laetus
marginatus
marginatus v. concolor
miniatus
miniatus v.
sphagnophilus

Hymenochaete

tabacina

Inonotus

cuticularis
hispidus

Irpex

lacteus

Laccaria

laccata
ochropurpurea
trullisata

Lactarius

camphoratus
chrysorheus
corrugis
gerardii
hygrophoroides
imperceptus
lignyotus
peckii
piperatus
piperatus v.
glaucescens
subdulcis complex
subpurpureus
vellereus
volemus

Laetiporus

sulphureus
sulphureus v.
semialbinus

Leccinum

griseum
rugosiceps

Lentinus

spretus

Lenzites

betulina

Lepiota

americana
phaeosticta
procera

Lycoperdon

perlatum
pyriforme

Marasmiellus

opacus
sp. (on Smilax twig)

Marasmius

fulvoferrugineus
nigrodiscus

Meripilus

giganteus

Meruliopsis

spissus

Merulius

incarnatus
tremellosus

Mutinus

caninus
elegans

Naematoloma

fasciculare

Glassboro, N.J., Aug. 16-19

Nolanea	Rickenella	Trichobolus	Physarum
lutea	fibula	zukalii	nutans
murrain	Russula	Tricholomopsis	sp.
Omnia	aquosa	decora	sp. (cf. globulifera)
tomentosa	brevipes	platyphylla	viride
Oudemansiella	compacta	Tylopilus	Stemonitis
radicata	crustosa	ballouii	axifera
Panellus	cyanoxantha	eximius	fusca
stipticus	grisea	felleus	sp.
Panus	krombholzii	fumosipes	Trichia
rudis	mariae	indecisus	farogenia
Paxillus	parazurea	indecisus v.	Tubifera
atromentosus	pulverulenta	subpunctipes	ferruginosa
subtomentosus	silvicola	plumbeoviolaceus	
Pezoloma	variata	rubrobrunneus	
sp.	ventricosipes	Tyromyces	ASCOMYCETES
Phaeolus	virescens	albellus	Apiosporina
schweinitzii	xerampelina	spraguei	morbosea
Phallus	Sarcodon	Xerocomus	Daldinia
ravenelii	atroviride	castanellus	concentrica
Phanerochaete	scabrosus	Xeromphalina	Diatrype
chrysorhiza	Schizophyllum	campanella	stigma
Phellinus	commune		Elaphomyces
gilvus	Schizopora		sp.
robustus	paradoxa		Geoglossum
Phellodon	Scleroderma		difforme
confluens	areolatum		glabrum
niger v. alboniger	citrinum		simile
Phylloporus	flavidum		Hymenoscyphus
rhodoxanthus	geaster		epiphyllus
rhodoxanthus v.	Serpula		Hypocrea
foliiporus	sp.		avellanea (on Collybia)
Piptoporus	Spongipellis		Hypomyces
betulinus	pachydon		chrysospermus
Pisolithus	Stereum		hyalinus
tinctorius	hirsutum		Hypoxyton
Pleurotus	ostrea		confluens
pulmonarius	striatum		Hysterium
Pluteus	Strobilomyces		angustatum
cervinus	confusus		Lachnum
petasatus	floccopus		niveum
Porodisculus	Suillus		virgineum
pocula (=pendulus)	decipiens		Leotia
Psathyrella	granulatus		lubrica
candolliana	Tephroclybe		viscosa
Pseudoagerita	palustris		Microthyrium
candida	Thelephora		sp.
Psilocybe	terrestris		Rhizina
coprophila	vialis		undulata
Pycnoporus	Tremella		Scutellinia
cinnabarinus	mesenterica		scutellata
Ramaria	Tremellodendron		sp.
fennica	candidum		Trichoglossum
Ramariopsis	pallidum		farlowii
fusiformis	Trichaptum		hirsutum
kunzei	abietinum		Xylaria
Rhizopogon	biformis		polymorpha
sp.			

A Report on the September Taxonomy Meeting

by Geoffrey Kibby

Despite the very bad weather conditions (thick fog and rain) seven members arrived at Dorothy Smullen's home for this meeting, mushrooms in hand and ready to delve into the mysteries of mycological taxonomy.

There were microscopes enough that several projects could be going on at one time so that in one corner there were numerous Russula species being looked at while in another the intricacies of the basidia on a Stropharia were being examined. The latter was treated with a solution of ammonia which makes certain special cells on the gill surface turn bright yellow. These are called chrysocystidia and are peculiar to certain mushroom groups and are very easy to see by this simple test.

Other tests demonstrated included the staining of special cells on the surface of the cap of Russulas. These are treated with a rather exotic mixture of Sulphuric acid and pure vanilla crystals (sulphovanillin) which turns the cells deep purple-black to bluish-black when the test is positive, otherwise no color change takes place. This is one of the crucial tests in differentiating the species of this very difficult group of mushrooms. Ray Fatto struggled to perfect the art of preparing perfect, thin sections of a mushroom with a razor blade - and proved the oft made point of a very fresh blade being necessary for the best results.

A collection of a large Gymnopilus species turned out to be very interesting in having a mild rather than bitter taste, thus it could not be G.spectabilis. Instead it proved to be G.validipes, a new record for New Jersey. The G.spectabilis group is very often mis-identified with the true spectabilis being very uncommon in the North-east States.

The evening was further enlightened by the gracious hospitality of our hosts Dorothy and Bill Smullen who provided refreshments and food as well as very comfortable conditions in which to work. An interesting highlight was the cooking of some enormous specimens of Stropharia rugoso-annulata collected by Al Northrup, everyone thought them delicious and well worth experimenting with. I hope this wets the appetite of anyone who has considered attending a meeting but hasn't made the effort, they are not all intense work, every level of interest is catered for as well as being a very lively, friendly and social evening. Our thanks once again to the Smullens for sharing their home with us for these meetings.

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Tria Marasmicus

Name Dropping



Gomphus clavatus by any other name just doesn't smell as sweet.