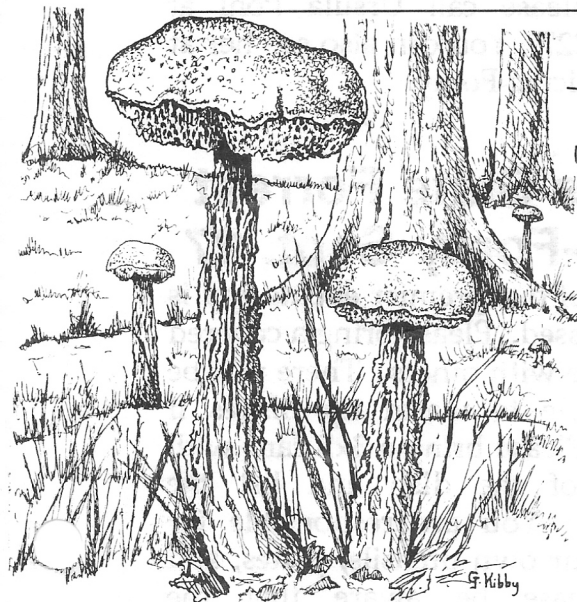


# NJMA news

VOL. 22 #5

Sept.- Oct.1992

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY MYCOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION



*Boletellus russelli*

OFFICERS:

Gene Varney, President  
Hanna Tschekunow, Vice President  
Grete Turchick, Treasurer  
Michele Stewart, Secretary

CIRCULATION:  
EDITOR:

Sue Hopkins  
Michael Rubin

DUES:

Family: \$15.00/year  
Individual: \$10.00/year  
Mail checks (payable to NJMA) to:  
Grete Turchick,

NEWSLETTER  
DEADLINES:

Feb.10, April 10, June 10  
Aug. 10, Oct. 10, Dec. 10

## CALENDAR

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| Sept. 13 | Cheesequake   |
| Sept. 27 | Stokes State Forest<br>Annual Picnic<br>Please bring a dish to share with others! |
| Oct. 4   | Fungus Fest   |
| Oct. 11  | Washington's Crossing State Park  |
| Oct. 18  | Lebanon State Forest  |
| Nov. 8   | Gary Lincoff at SCEEC - 2:00 p.m.   |
| Nov. 29  | SCEEC-- Holiday Party!!!! - 2:00 p.m.<br>Election of Officers<br>Photo Contest    |
| Dec. 29  | Dr. Homola at SCEEC - 2:00 p.m.   |

See Newsletter #3 for Foray directions.

**Directions to SCEEC (Somerset County Park Commission Environmental Education Center 908-766-2489).** Route 287 to the North Maple Ave. Basking Ridge exit. Follow N. Maple Ave. till it bends left and becomes S. Maple Ave. in town. Follow S. Maple Ave. past the horse stable (Lord Stirling Park) until you come to Lord Stirling Rd. Make a left onto Lord Stirling Rd. (look for the sign to the Great Swamp) and follow until you come to SCEEC on the left (about a mile).

## **Newsletter Editor Wanted!!!!**

Due to increased responsibilities at work, an increased academic workload and greater responsibilities at home, I regretfully inform our members that I must resign as newsletter editor. I no longer feel that I can provide the membership with the quality newsletter they are accustomed to receiving. I still intend to be an active member of NJMA but after three years as newsletter editor, two years as president and two years as vice-president I must refocus my energies toward school.

I would like to thank Sue Hopkins for her tireless assistance in getting the newsletter published. I would also like to thank Ray and Bernice Fatto, Bruce and Jan Vansant and Bob Peabody for their efforts as well.

O.K. so who wants to be newsletter editor? There are many advantages to being editor. You find out all sorts of information before everyone else. You will receive newsletters from clubs around the nation (many of our articles are copied in other newsletters) and you will be providing a valuable service to the membership of the club. You don't need all kinds of fancy computer equipment to do this all you need is a typewriter. Of course if you have a word processor the task becomes that much easier. If you are interested contact Gene Varney at

Sincerely ,

Michael Rubin

## **Fungus Fest Sunday October 4**

Volunteers are needed to help set up on Saturday October 3. Volunteers are also needed to help guide mushroom walks, pass out membership packets, run slide shows, help with identification, clean up, and many other jobs. If you are interested please call Ursula Pohl at

You can also see her at the Stokes Picnic-Foray.

## **Stokes State Forrest Picnic-Foray Sept. 27**

This is one of our premier events and is not to be missed. Please bring a covered dish to share with others. There will be fires available to warm up dishes if necessary. Please bring a 3x5 card with the name of the dish and list the ingredients. You are responsible for bringing your own utensils, plates, and cups. Please be aware that the temperature has been brisk (40-50°F) when we arrive so dress warm!!! Directions were in previous newsletter.

This year there will be a special surprise!!!!

## **News from the Northeast Foray**

This years NEMF at Quinapiac College in Hamden, Conn. was only the second Northeast Foray I have attended. As with the first I was impressed by how smoothly and professionally the whole affair was run. Some of the highlights included awards given to NJMA members. These included the prestigious EXIMA award to one of our

members who "has tirelessly immersed himself over the past 15-20 years...in the taxonomic study of the family Amanitaceae". Who else but Rod Tullos could have been described this way. Congratulations to Rod for recognition long over due.

The *Semper Beneficus*, always helpful, award was given to Gene Yetter for his help in selecting foray sites at past forays and for ambitiously involving himself in compiling a mycological data base for the Northeast Forays.

A gift certificate from Lubrecht and Cramer was presented to "favorite NEMF son" also affectionately called "the candy man", Joe K (How about that?,Joe).

## Adirondack Mushroom Weekends

Alan and Arleen Bessette are planning to host two mycological related weekends (Thursday dinner through Sunday noon)in 1993. One will emphasis mushrooms and the other lichens. The dates have not been set as of yet but they would like to get an idea of who would be interested in attending. The weekends boast of lectures, forays, and workshops all accompanied by fine dinning and quality accommodations provided by the Hotel Saranac. All this in the beautiful setting of the 6 million acre Adirondak Park. Highlights also included mushroom tasting and a wine and cheese party. If you are interested please write to Dr. Alan Bessette, Biology Dept., Utica College of Syracuse University, 1600 Burrstone Road, Utica, N.Y. 13502. Please include your level of expertise (beginner,intermediate or advanced) and

any topics you would be interested in seeing presented.

## Photo Contest

Please mail submissions to Gene Varney,  
08873. Deadline November 8, 1992.

Rules:

1. All entrees must be labelled with submitter's name, category and identification of mushroom (if possible).
2. All entries must be 35mm slides
3. Categories
  - A. Technical- The slide should show all features of the mushroom required for identification purposes or show a specific feature unique to this mushroom.
  - B. Pictorial- The slides can show any representation of mushrooms (excluding those considered in the technical and activity categories).
  - C. Activities- The slides should show mushroom related activities (i.e. people on forays, photographing mushrooms, cooking mushroom, etc.) **NOTE: These photos must include a caption describing the activity** (The judge is particularly fond of clever captions).
4. Please limit entries to 15 slides per contestant.
5. **All members are encouraged to enter.** This is for fun as well as recognition.
6. Slides will be presented at the November 29 meeting and holiday party.





## Make that...1002 Uses for Fungi

{from Science 257:1049 Random samples edited by Richard Stone}

Various cultures have employed "magic" mushrooms as medicines or as substances to induce hallucinations for religious rites. But the shaman of the Tlingit, Haida, and other indigenous peoples who lived in the U.S.'s Northwest Coast appear to have used one kind of fungus to induce magic less directly: They carved them into spiritual figurines to cure the sick and protect the dead.

This novel mystical use of mushrooms was discovered when a team of botanists recently noted a peculiar piece of "wood" in a routine evaluation of wood deterioration in objects at the American Museum of Natural History. Plant pathologist Robert A. Blanchette of the University of Minnesota subsequently identified the material as a species of fungus called *Fomitopsis officinalis* that had been treated with a brownish grease. After the first find, Blanchette and several colleagues tracked down another ten fungal figurines at museums throughout the nation. They describe their results in a recent issue of *Mycologia*.

The figurines adorned the graves of shamans and were meant to "relay a clear message to the people that the area was occupied by spirits and should never be approached," the researchers write. And these weren't the only supernatural powers attributed to the fungi: According to a Haida myth, the only way that the mystical hero Raven could paddle his canoe close to shore (in order to "capture female genitalia") was

if Fungus Man paddled in the stern. According to the researchers, "only the Fungus Man had the supernatural powers to successfully bring Raven to his destination."

## NJMA ART SHOW SCEEC 9/7-10/2

Stop by and see what your fellow club members have created or collected. The exhibition will include original paintings, prints, photos and other types of art displaying a fungi theme.

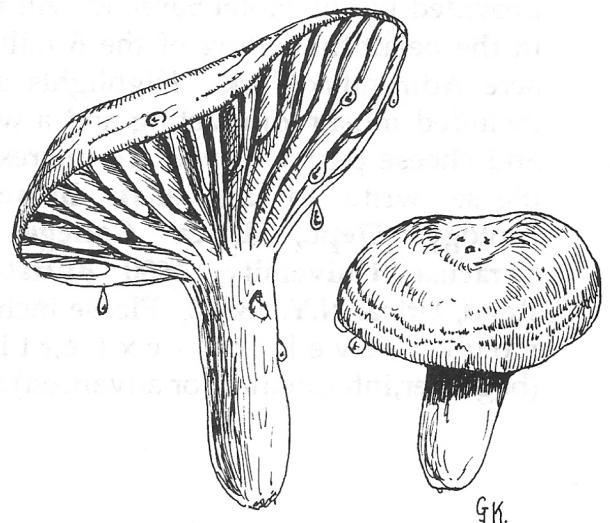
## HOT OFF THE PRESS.....

### Nov. 8 at SCEEC - Gary Lincoff

The world renown author of The Audobon Field Guide to North American Mushrooms will present a lecture on "Simplifying the Honey Mushroom Complex" at our first winter meeting.

### Dec. 29 at SCEEC - Dr. Richard Homola

Our old friend Dick Homola will once again graciously appear during the holiday season. This year's topic is "Variations in Closely Related Boletes."





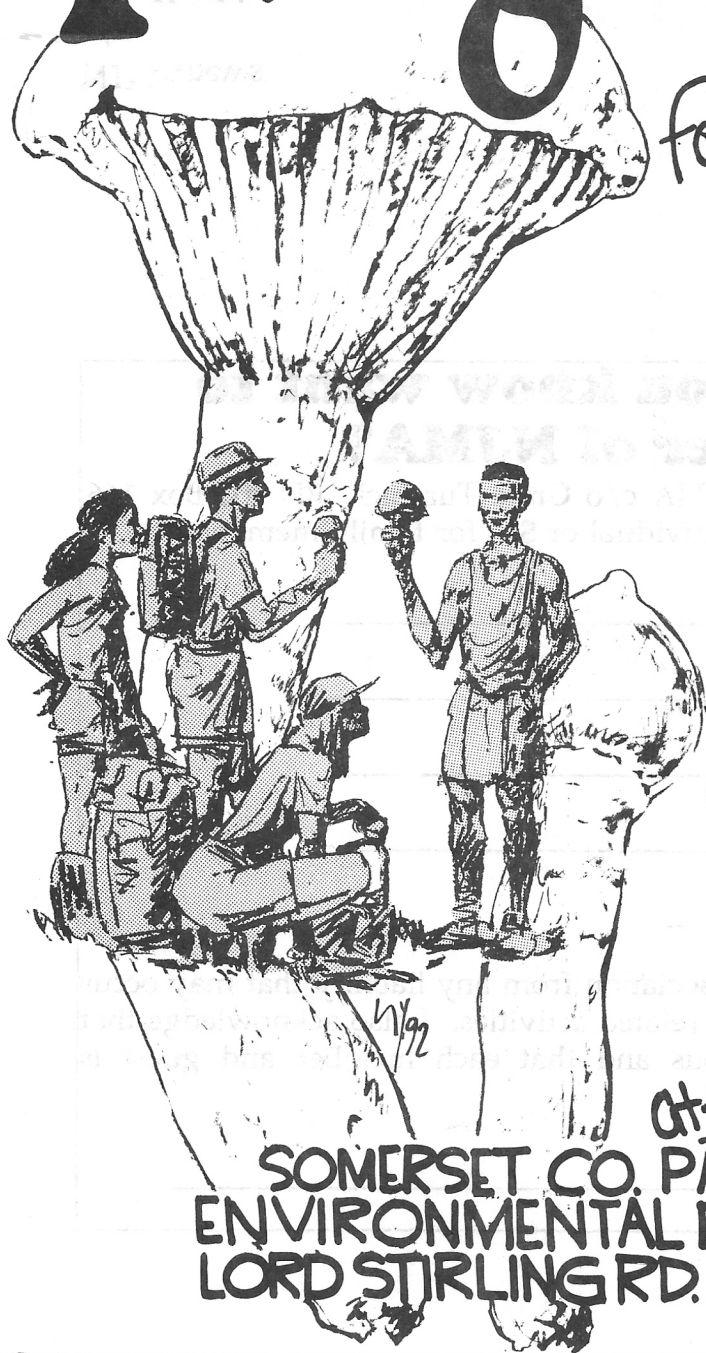
the new jersey mycological association

presents

# Fungus Fest '92

featuring

cooking demonstrations -  
guided mushroom walks -  
your mushrooms identified -  
fresh local fungi displayed -  
lectures - books - slides -  
natural dyes from mushrooms -  
cultivation of mushrooms -  
plus fungus fest station  
cancellation



SUNDAY  
OCTOBER 4TH  
11AM to 4PM

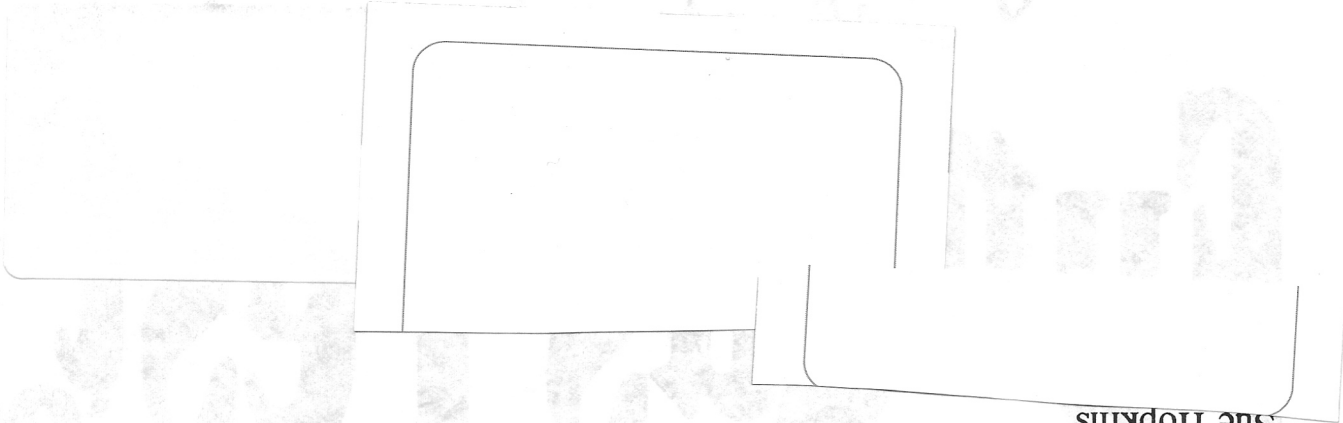
SUGGESTED  
DONATIONS

ADULTS  
\$1.50  
UNDER 16

at the  
SOMERSET CO. PARK COMMISSION  
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER  
LORD STIRLING RD., BASKING RIDGE, NJ

.75

FIRST CLASS MAIL



NJMAnews  
c/o  
Sue Hopkins

## Do you or someone you know want to become a member of NJMA?

If so fill out the form below and mail it to: NJMA c/o Grete Turchick, \_\_\_\_\_  
Enclose a check (\$10 for individual or \$15 for family membership).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby release the New Jersey Mycological Association from any liability that may occur as a result of meetings, forays, or any other club related activities. I also acknowledge that eating wild mushrooms is inherently dangerous and that each member and guest is responsible for their own actions.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_