

NJMAnews

Volume 33 #5

September – October 2003

The official newsletter of the New Jersey Mycological Association

NJMA Officers

President - Susan Hopkins

Vice-President - MaryAnne Carletta

Secretary - Ania Boyd

Treasurer - Bob Peabody

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NJMAnews

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Deadline - 10th of even numbered months. Send **only** newsletter submissions to the editors.

* **All other correspondence** to NJMA should be sent to the secretary.

Ania Boyd

NJMA website: www.njmyco.org

- Bob Hosh & Steve Gleason

NJMA Calendar of Events

9/07

Stephens State Park

9/11-14

Sam Ristich Foray (NEMF) Deposit, NY

9/20

Audubon Inventory -see pg 2

9/28

Scherman-Hoffman Sanctuary

10/05

Grete Turchick Foray & Picnic, Stokes

10/12

Hickory Run St. Pk. White Haven, PA

10/19

Fungus Fest at SCEEC

10/26

Mahlon Dickerson Reservation

11/02

Washington's Crossing St. Park

Lebanon State Forest

11/16

now called Brendan Byrne

First Winter meeting at SCEEC

12/7

Tina Ellor, Phillips Mushroom Farms

Photography Contest, Elections

Holiday Party - **New Location**

USET Headquarters, Gladstone, NJ

COME OUT and HELP

FUNGUS FEST 2003

Sunday, October 12, 11-4:00

See Page 4 inside

November 16, Tina Ellor, Mycologist Phillips Mushroom Farms

Tina Ellor is Technical Director of Phillips Mushroom Farms, the largest producer, packer, and shipper of specialty mushrooms in North America. The farm is located in the "Mushroom Capital of the World", Kennett Square, Pennsylvania. Tina holds a BS in Biology from California State College at Stanislaus, and an MS in Botany and Plant Pathology from the University of Maine at Orono. Undergraduate projects included growing oyster mushrooms on rice straw in the central valley of CA, and her graduate project was on growing oyster mushrooms on paper mill waste in Maine. She has been working in the mushroom industry in various capacities for 15 years and lives in Kennett Square with her two kids, one dog, 4 cats, 15 chickens, a hamster, and a bunny.

COMA CANCELS 2003 FORAY

Unfortunately, there will be no COMA mushroom foray this year. We truly regret not being able to provide this annual event for our members and other interested mycophiles, but circumstances are such that we cannot find a suitable facility in time to hold our event. The situation is this: the venue we have enjoyed for many years in central Connecticut cancelled our 2003 foray reservation unexpectedly this spring, and will not offer their facility again due to a complete change in their program policy. This surprise sent us scrambling to find a comparable facility, but the options available at such short notice did not present our club with the best choices. COMA officers and board therefore decided not to hold the foray. While we regret this decision, we also feel it is truly in the best interests of the club, given the limited choices in these unexpected circumstances.

N.J. Audubon Inventory -- SHWS

Sept. 20, 10:00 - 3:30 - Restricted to 10 members

This outing will be the first of many creating an inventory list of the macrofungi at the Scherman-Hoffman Wildlife Sanctuary in Bernardsville, NJ. We will foray in the morning and use microscopes to identify in the afternoon. Bring a bag lunch. You **MUST** call Dorothy Smullen at [redacted] to register if you are interested in participating.

Identification of *Galerina nana*, an Unusual Fungus

By Ray Fatto

A call was received from Richard Balsley on June 5 for help in identifying a small, brown-spored mushroom, possibly an *Inocybe*, which seemed new to his moss putting-green back yard. Two specimens had been collected on May 31. The dried material indeed resembled dried *Inocybe lacera*, however when fresh, Richard reported the small caps seemed striate rather than fine scaly or fibrillose.

Microscopically the gill cystidia were the typical metuloids, thick walled, ventricose, with a rounded crystallized apex, found on many *Inocybe*, and of the size found on *I. lacera*, however the walls were yellowish in KOH. The ellipsoid spores were 8-12 x 4.8-6.0 um, mostly 10.4 x 5.0 um, but were not smooth, as on *I. lacera*, but rather lightly warted as in the Cortinariaceae. *Galerina* was the suspected genus but there was no obvious plage on the spores. Caulocystidia were abundant but of an unusual shape not previously observed on *Inocybe* and unfamiliar to me.

My American literature had meager keys for *Galerina* and did not help in identification. Singer's Agaricales separated the genus into 9 sections, one section - *Inocyboides* - contained two species, *G. nana* and *G. heimansii*, with thick walled incrustated pleurocystidia. Using Moser's Keys to Agarics, the microscopic data keyed to *Galerina nana*. An illustration of this species was found in Courtecuisse's Mushrooms & Toadstools of Britain & Europe which Richard said his fresh specimen closely resembled. Reinspection of the spores in various reagents confirmed that a clear plage did exist on some of the spores.

Once again we find that a microscope and an extensive library are necessary to identify unusual specimens but were surprised that we were successful without a genus monograph.

Ray Fatto

HOLIDAY YEAR END DINNER

The Holiday Party (Photo Contest, Elections) has moved to a new location due to a scheduling conflict at SCEEC in Nov. and Dec. It will be held on Sunday, Dec. 7 at the USET, United States Equestrian Team, Headquarters in Gladstone, NJ which is just off route 206. This is about 5 miles north of the 287 -78 intersection in Bedminster, NJ. We have a chance to make this a special event by having an organized pot luck dinner for the whole club. Bob Hosh will coordinate the food. There will be a small fee to cover beverages and paper goods. More info to follow.

P.S. The club is still looking for a Hospitality Chair at our winter meetings (coffee pot, etc.) Call Susan at [redacted]

PHOTO CONTEST

(Deadline November 16)

The 2003 photography contest will be held on Sunday, **December 7**, at our holiday party. This is the event where every mushroom lover is urged to share with us slides you have taken. There is still time to get some fine shots before the season is over, assuming some good rains finally reach New Jersey. **Get out and start clicking!** Even if you have only one slide to submit, please send it to Gene so that he receives it before the November 16 deadline. If you are hesitant about putting your valuable slides in the mail, bring them to the meeting on November 16 at SCEEC.

We anticipate that **Patti Murray**, professional photo-naturalist and world traveler, will serve as judge again this year. Patti is widely published in books, magazines, calendars, and ads.

Basic rules are as follows:

Eligibility: The contest is open to all NJMA members. Slides that have previously won prizes should not be submitted again.

Closing Date: All entries must be received by the contest coordinator (Gene Varnev. _____)

sunday, November 16.

Categories:

Technical: The slide should show all features of the mushroom needed for field identification. Subjects may be photographed in the field, laboratory or studio and arranged in any manner to show the desired features. Photomicrographs and close-ups of single features are acceptable. The correct identification of the mushroom will also be considered by the judge.

Pictorial: Slides that illustrate the beauty of form and color of mushrooms are candidates for this category. The judge will consider both technical (focus, depth of field, exposure, lighting, color, and lack of distracting elements) and artistic (composition, color,

background, lighting) aspects. Correct identification of the mushroom is not a major consideration.

Judge's Option: Following the lead of NAMA, the category we formerly listed as "Activities" has been changed to "Judge's Option." This category has been expanded to include any slides that do not fit one of the other two categories. For example, a time-lapse series, photos of fungi with animals, ecological relationships, and people enjoying fungi. This is the opportunity to add some humor to the program! Each slide should include a title describing the activity.

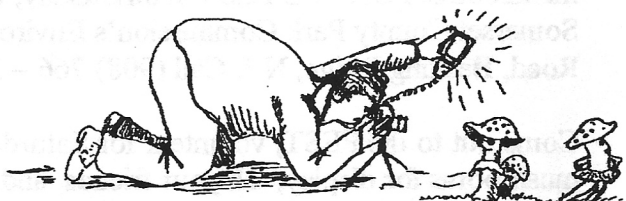
Number of Entries: Entries are limited to a total of 15 for each contestant. A series of 3 slides is counted as 3 of the 15 maximum.

Format: Color transparencies that will fit into an 80-slide carousel are acceptable. Glass mounts usually do not fit.

Marking and Labeling: Please mark each slide with a projection dot at the lower left corner of the mount when viewed right-side-up out of the projector. In the past we have found that only the photographer knows the correct orientation of some entries! Label each slide, on the same side as the dot, with your initials, category initial (T, P or J) and slide number (for example, EHV-T-1).

Cropping: If cropping is necessary, use tape manufactured for that purpose. Do not use thick or sticky tape such as electrical tape. A jammed projector will bring the program to a halt!

Reproduction: Entry in the contest grants the permission of the photographer to allow NJMA to reproduce 1 slide of each winning slide for NJMA's slide library. All rights remain the entrant's and further reproduction is prohibited.



MONT ALTO HAPPENINGS

Over 190 species were identified at the recent Eastern Penn Mushroomers (EPM) Mont Alto, PA foray in memorial for Helen Miknis.

The foray sites were crowded with mushrooms. Many NJ members helped in the identifications. Bob Hosh identified most of the boletes including the "chocolate" pored *Boletus vermiculosus* and *Tylophilus atronicotianus*. Jack Barnett worked on many *Lactarius*. Glenn and Ania Boyd helped with *Amanita* and *Russula*. Susan Hopkins identified 3 *Hydnellums*. Of particular beauty was *Leptonia incana* identified by John Plischke (yellow with blue-green bruising). There were 4 specimens of the delicate, purple *Gymnopus iocephalus* identified by Dorothy Smullen.

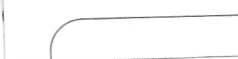
Saturday evening after a slide lecture by Dorothy, Bob Hosh prepared several dishes to sample using collected Black Trumpets, Golden Chanterelles, and *Lactarius*. This site will most likely be the location of the NEMF 2005 which NJMA will co-host with EPM and WPMC.

Fungus Fest 2003

"Come Out to the Fest – and Bring a Friend"

Fungus Fest is our club's major public outreach program for the year. It's our chance to show people how much fun mushrooms can be. It's also our biggest source of new members.

Club members will demonstrate cooking with wild mushrooms. Mushrooms brought to the Fest by the public and members will be identified (hopefully!), and displayed on taxonomy tables. Visitors will see how mushrooms can be cultivated, used for dyeing fabrics, or made into textured paper. They can view mushrooms under a microscope, enjoy slide shows, and join guided outdoor mushroom walks. Additionally, they can learn about the "foolproof four" edible mushrooms, mushrooms and the environment, medicinal mushrooms, and poisonous mushrooms. For younger visitors, there will be a children's corner featuring coloring pages, clay, giant jigsaw puzzles, and games.

NJMA provides a wealth of activities and information during Fungus Fest. But it takes people-power to make it work! We need volunteers for walks, admissions, food prep ... you name it. Set-up takes place on Saturday, October 11, the day before Fungus Fest. Mushroom specimens are needed for indoor display and for placement on the trail walks provided for the public on Sunday (please donate on Saturday). To help make Fungus Fest fabulous, call Glenn Boyd, Fest Coordinator, at  or Sue Hopkins, NJMA President, at (908) 439 – 3639.

Whether you volunteer or not, visit the Fest and immerse yourself in the world of mushrooms. FUNGUS FEST is on Sunday, October 12 from 11 am to 4 pm at the Somerset County Park Commission's Environmental Education Center, Lord Stirling Road, Basking Ridge, N.J. Call (908) 766 – 2489 for directions.

Come out to the FEST, volunteer for Saturday set-up or Sunday activities, bring mushrooms for display, tell your friends, and put up flyers (see the next page). Lots of club members help out each year, and we all have a great time. Join us!

NEW JERSEY MYCOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

presents

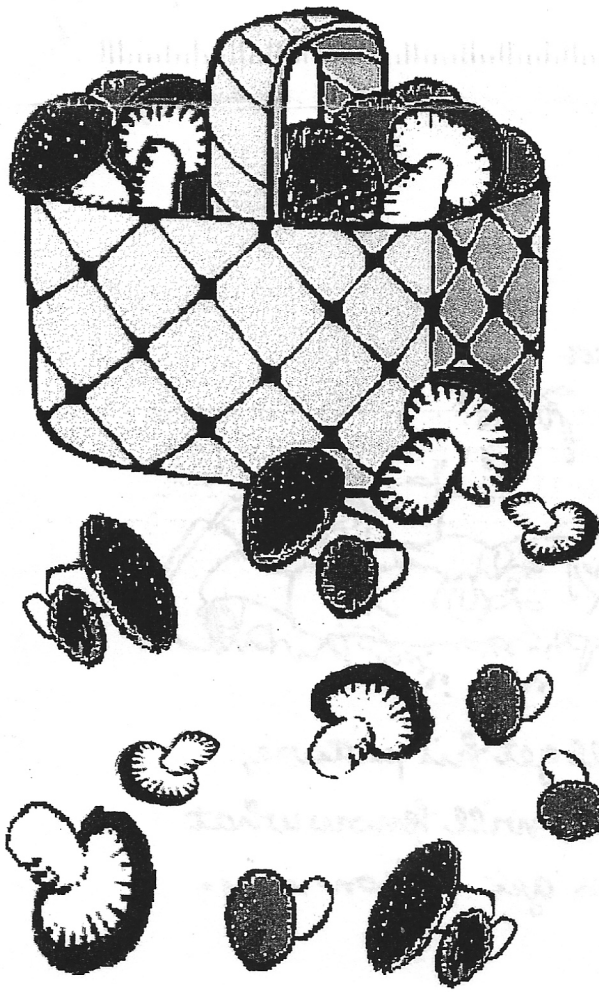
FUNGUS FEST

Sunday, October 12, 2003 11 am to 4pm

**SOMERSET COUNTY PARK COMMISSION ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER
LORD STIRLING ROAD, BASKING RIDGE, NJ**

Suggested donation
Adults \$2.00 Under 16 \$1.00

Join in guided walks ~ Bring mushrooms to be identified~ Watch live cooking demonstrations~ Attend slide shows and lectures~ Learn how to cultivate mushrooms~ Speak to experts on dyeing and papermaking with mushrooms~ Books and fascinating arts and crafts for sale~ Bring the kids- we have a children's corner



For information or directions call (5) or www.njmyco.org

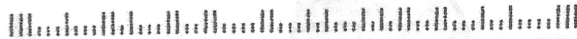
NJMA news
c/o Susan Hopkins



First Class Mail

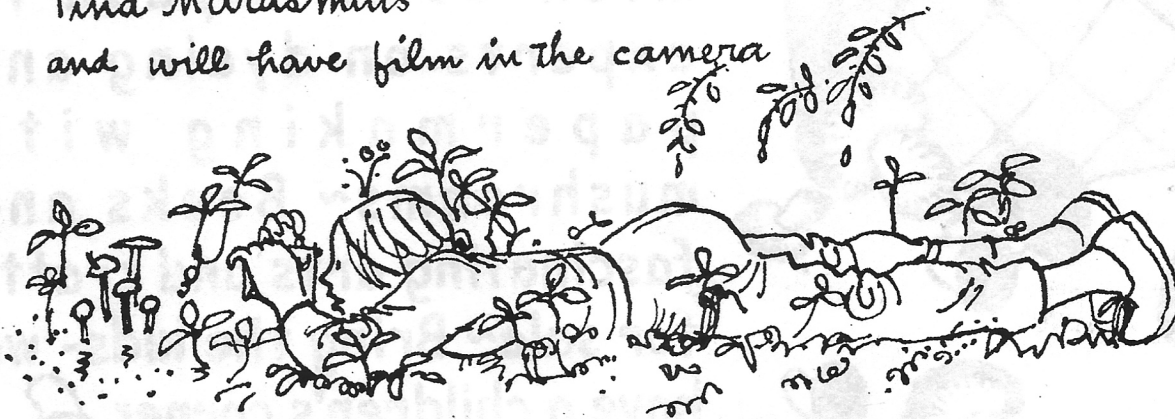
New idea

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Tina Marasmius

and will have film in the camera



----- whereas, Al Lyenberger will get his picture,
won't cover himself with mud, will know what
mushroom it is and won't even get poison ivy.